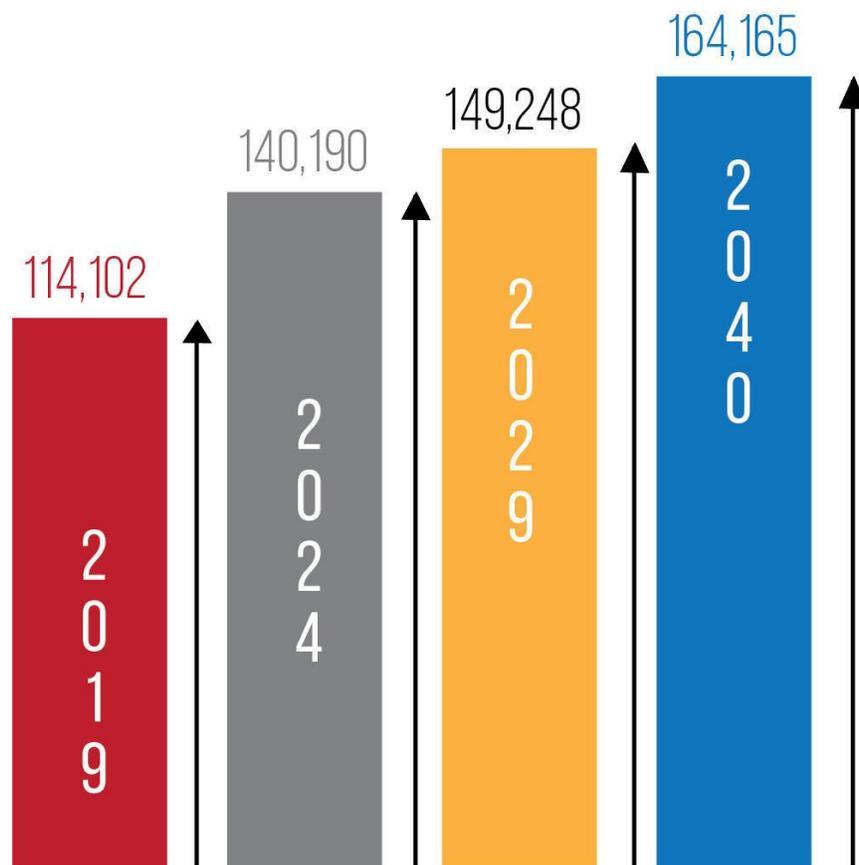


https://www.idahopress.com/meridian/news/government/meridian-expects-residents-by/article_c253ea76-68ca-54ae-9288-73e8b624b8ba.html

Meridian expects 150,000 residents by 2030

By PATTY BOWEN pbowen@idahopress.com Apr 19, 2019

CITY OF MERIDIAN PROJECTED POPULATION GROWTH



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MERIDIAN — It's not a secret how fast Meridian is growing.

Last May, the Community Planning Association of Southwest Idaho, or Compass, estimated Meridian, the second-largest city in Idaho, had grown to more than 100,000 residents. Almost a year later, city staff estimate Meridian has reached 114,102 residents.

"There is no normal right now for the city of Meridian," Meridian Chief Financial Officer Todd Lavoie said in an email. "We are experiencing phenomenal growth."

The growth is exceeding city staff's own projections. In June, staff estimated the city would reach 150,000 residents by 2040, according to a recent presentation to City Council.

City officials estimate Meridian will reach almost 150,000 residents by 2029, Lavoie said.

"Nobody predicted that the city of Meridian would be within the top five growing cities in the nation for the past 10 years," Lavoie wrote.

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In the same June 2018 presentation, city staff estimated Meridian would reach roughly 132,000 residents by 2025. Now, city staff estimate the city will reach that by 2022.

Lavoie said the city is projecting the growth will slow down over the next couple of years, "as we do not feel the current growth rate is sustainable."

The city's population in 2000 was 34,919.

Lavoie said city staff have been calculating their population using internal development data, Census data and data from Compass to develop annual population and growth estimates.



Housing is under construction at the Little Creek Subdivision, on the southeast corner of Locust Grove Road and East Fairview Avenue in Meridian, on Oct. 23, 2018.

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Patty Bowen is the Meridian Press reporter. You can reach her at pbowen@idahopress.com or follow her on Twitter @pattybowenMP.

Population growth

Meridian city staff estimate population growth of:

2020 - 121,126

2021 - 126, 812

2022 - 132,163

2023 - 136,845

2024 - 140,190

2029 - 149,248

2040 - 164,165

Last June, city staff estimated population growth of:

2025 - 132,660

2030 - 139,400

2035 - 145,180

2040 - 149,770

Source: Meridian Chief Financial Officer Todd Lavoie