Section Two

Teton view landscape and its people

What Lies Beneath[3]

Text from the section What Lies Beneath is excerpted from Windows Into the Earth: The Geologic Story of Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks

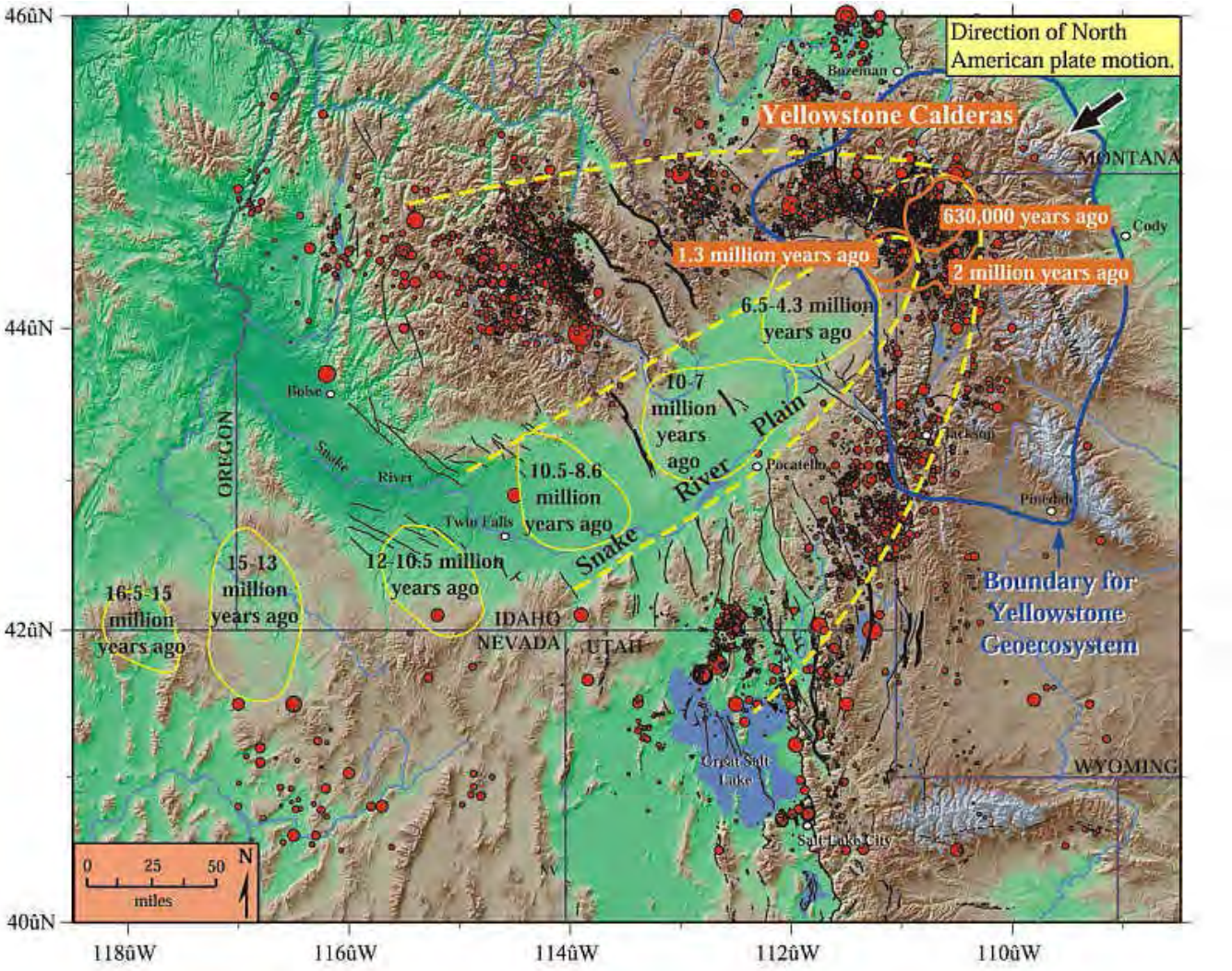
The combination of geologic processes at work in the Yellowstone-Teton region is not seen anywhere else on Earth on such a large scale and with such vivid manifestations. Hotspots help shape Earth's surface as they release heat from the Earth's interior through volcanic eruptions and hydrothermal activity, which is the activity of hot water in geysers, hot springs, and steam vents. The Yellowstone Hotspot is the largest hotspot under a continent and among the largest of some 30 active hotspots on Earth.

The North American plate of Earth's crust has drifted southwest over the Yellowstone Hotspot at a rate of about 1 inch per year (see graphic below). The ground at Yellowstone emits 30 to 40 times more heat than the average for North America. The subterranean movements of hot water and molten rock only occasionally emit lava onto the surface and rarely explode in a violent caldera-forming eruption. The last known eruption was 174,000 years ago.

Yellowstone already sat high in the Rocky Mountains before it was pushed to loftier heights – above 7,700 feet – atop the hotspot's broad, upward bulge. The high elevation and resulting climate have helped determine the plants and wildlife that thrive in [and around] Yellowstone.

The lofty heights also helped to form a 3,500-foot-thick icecap atop the Yellowstone Plateau during at least three global glacial episodes within the past 250,000 years to 2 million years. The Yellowstone ice field was so large it covered most of Yellowstone and Grand Teton parks – an area extending more than 100 miles north-south and 70 miles east-west. After volcanism shaped Yellowstone's landscape and the Teton fault produced the terrain of the Teton Range and Jackson Hole, the Ice Age glaciers left their own marks.

[3] *Windows into the Earth: The Geologic Story of Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks. Robert B. Smith and Lee J. Siegel, Oxford University Press, 2000. Text and graphic excerpted from pages 9-10; 15-17; 110*

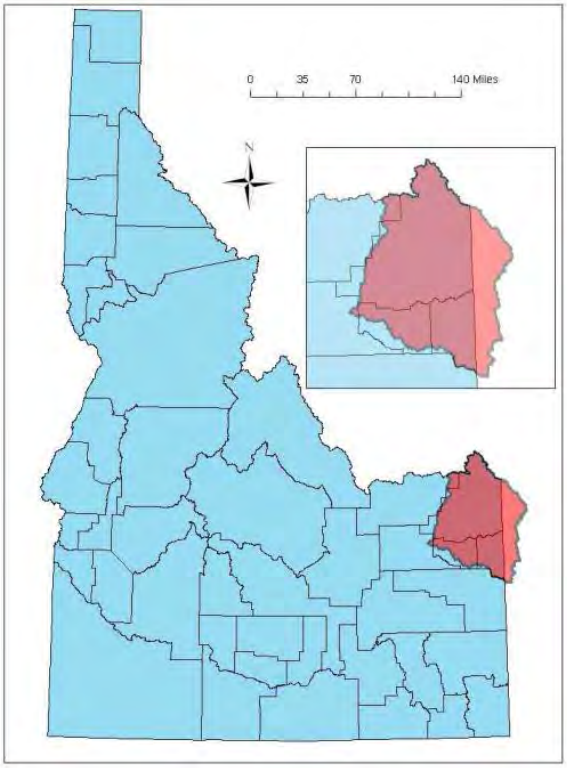


They shaped the spires of mountains and carved valleys such as those occupied by the Snake and Yellowstone rivers. The glaciers excavated smaller lakes at the base of the Teton Range and deepened Yellowstone and Jackson lakes.

Path of the Yellowstone Hotspot. Yellow and orange ovals show volcanic centers where the Hotspot produced one or more caldera eruptions – essentially "ancient Yellowstones" during the time periods indicated. As North America drifted southwest over the hotspot, the volcanism progressed northeast, beginning in northern Nevada and southeast Oregon 16.5 million years ago and reaching Yellowstone National Park 2 million years ago. A bow-wave or parabola-shaped zone of mountains (browns and tans) and earthquakes (red dots) surrounds the low elevations (greens) of seismically quiet Snake River Plain. The greater Yellowstone "geoecosystem" is outlined in blue. Faults are black lines.[4]

[4] *Windows into the Earth: The Geologic Story of Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks. Robert B. Smith and Lee J. Siegel, Oxford University Press, 2000. Text and graphic excerpted from pages 9-10; 15-17; 110*

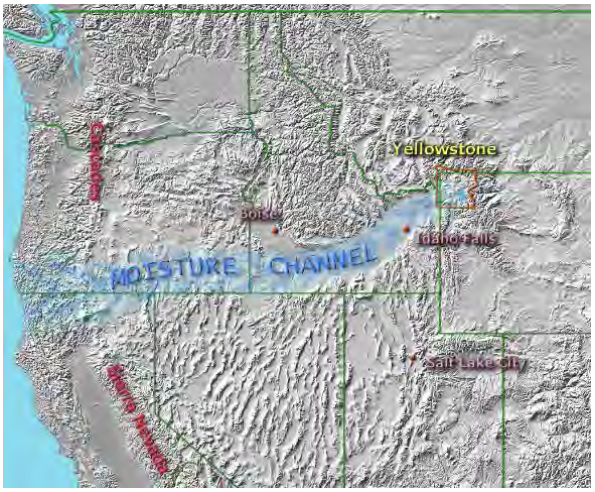
Of all the geological processes fostered by the Yellowstone hotspot, earthquakes are the most dominant on a human timescale. Today in the U.S, only faults in California produce more earthquakes than in the area around Yellowstone. This also includes the Teton fault… that became active in its present form about 13 million years ago. Since then, a few thousand major earthquakes have lifted the Teton Range into its towering setting while simultaneously making the valley of Jackson Hole sink…by a total of 13,000 feet.

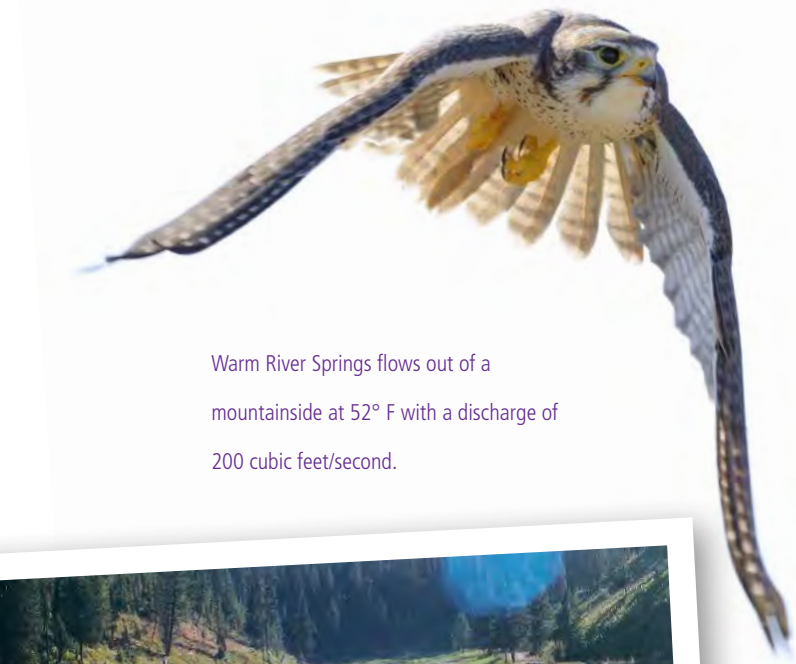


Henry's Fork Basin

THE TETONS AND YELLOWSTONE PLATEAU CAPTURE MOISTURE FOR THE REGION

Moisture from the Pacific Ocean streams onshore in the Pacific Northwest in the form of clouds and humid air. It passes through the gap between the Sierra and Cascade mountain ranges and into the Snake River Plain, where it is channeled through southern Idaho with no high plateaus or mountain ranges to impede its progress. Clouds finally encounter upslope conditions at the head of the Snake River Valley in Ashton and Island Park, at the Teton Range east of Driggs, and on the Yellowstone Plateau inside Yellowstone National Park where the channeled moisture falls as rain and snow. The result is a localized climate that is similar to a climate on the western slope of the Cascades or the northern Sierras. The head of the Snake River Valley, the Tetons, and the Yellowstone Plateau receive much more precipitation than other areas of the region and the area is known for its many streams and abundant winter snows.





Warm River Springs flows out of a mountainside at 52° F with a discharge of 200 cubic feet/second.

The Henry's Fork watershed in eastern Idaho captures much of the moisture that falls west of the Continental Divide and on the west slope of the Tetons. The basin encompasses 1.7 million acres and is underlain by four major aquifers.

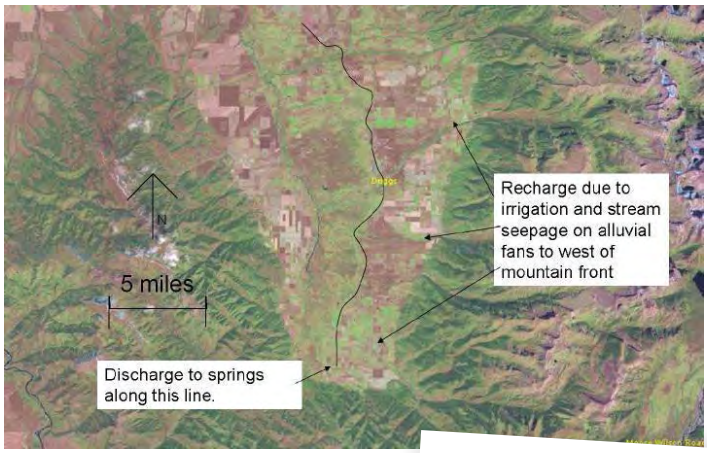
The Yellowstone Plateau Aquifer is recharged by snowmelt and is approximately 150 to 900 feet thick. This aquifer discharges hundreds of thousands of acre-feet of water annually into the headwaters of the Henry's Fork drainage at Big Springs, Buffalo River Springs, and Warm River Springs. It is estimated that nearly half of the discharge of the Henry's Fork (about 500,000 acre-feet per year) at Ashton comes from this aquifer. It responds to changes in recharge on the scale of two to three years, and the groundwater residence times vary from 10 to 100 years.

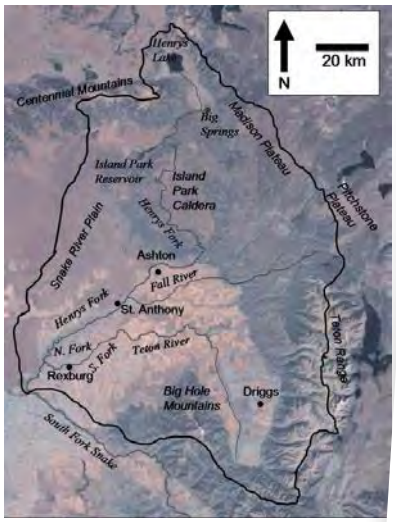
The Eastern Snake River Plain Aquifer lies west of the Henry's Fork and downstream of Ashton. This aquifer is situated in basalt and the interbedded sediments of the Snake River Plain. Its residence time is 100+ years and it responds to change on a time scale of around 20 years.

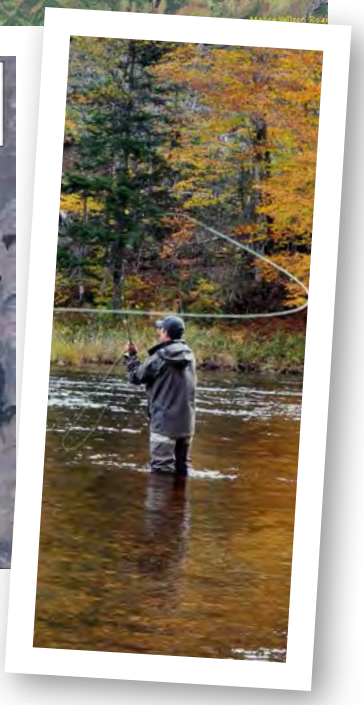
The Teton Valley Aquifer covers around 90 square miles and ranges in depth from 100 to 800 feet. Historically recharge naturally occurred from stream channel seepage, but currently seepage from irrigation canals back into the ground and infiltration from direct irrigation application dominates recharge.

There is a fourth unnamed aquifer located northwest of the Big Hole Mountains and Teton Canyon. Historical recharge occurred primarily from snowmelt in the low-relief glacial drift east and south of Ashton. Modern recharge occurs due to seepage from irrigation canals and direct application of irrigation water from flood irrigation. Discharge appears to occur along the banks of the Henry's Fork at the bottom of the terraces from St. Anthony all the way to the mouth as well as along the lower Teton River, downstream from Rexburg.[5]

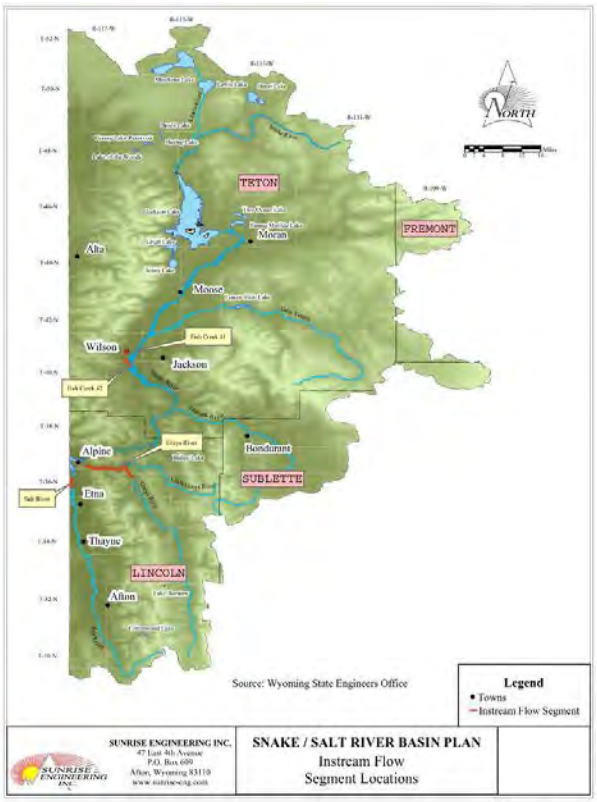
Back on the surface, the Henry's Fork Basin contains more than 3,000 miles of rivers, streams and canals. Canals divert water from the Henry's Fork, Fall River, Teton River and smaller tributaries, and dams built on Henry's Lake Outlet and the Henry's Fork (Island Park Reservoir) store irrigation water. Over 235,000 acres of farmland are irrigated from surface or groundwater sources in the Basin; potatoes and grains are the primary crops. Other important sectors of the economy relying on this water include recreation in the form of angling and boating services, plus municipal usage all across southern Idaho, and the southeast corner of Yellowstone National Park.







[5] *The Influences of Geology and Water Management on Hydrology and Fluvial Geomorphology in the Henry's Fork of the Snake River, Eastern Idaho and Western Wyoming. Garrett B. Bayrd, Idaho State University Master's Thesis in Geology, 2006. Excerpts and graphics from pages 21-35; 52*



SNAKE RIVER HEADWATERS

On the east side of Teton Range in Wyoming, the headwaters of the Snake River originate in the southeast corner of Yellowstone National Park and flow through Grand Teton National Park and the Bridger-Teton National Forest. The main stem and most of its tributaries, totaling 388 river miles, were included in the Snake River Headwaters Legacy Act of 2009 (PL 111-11) and are among the most pristine in the nation. Jackson Lake was created by Jackson Lake Dam, which raised the lake level to store irrigation water for Idaho farmers. In normal years the lake level affords season-long boating both on the lake and downstream through the park. However, during dry years Idaho farmers, who own senior water rights to the water, may draw water from the lake to use for irrigation if not mitigated by reservoir storage down stream.

Recreational fishing and boating are hallmarks of a Jackson Hole summer experience with the Teton Mountain Range serving as pure inspiration through Grand Teton National Park. .

Forests, Meadows and Wildlife

State wildlife agencies in Idaho and Wyoming develop Strategic Wildlife Action Plans to identify species of concern and the priority habitats that are essential to wildlife survival. Whether this habitat lies on private lands, state lands or federal lands (managed by the U.S. Forest Service, the National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service), the fish and wildlife existing within each state legally belong to its residents.[6]

Two "ecoregions" – large areas of land or water that contain geographically distinct assemblages of natural communities – overlap the four-county Teton View Region. Within these two ecoregions are three smaller distinct ecological units. Ecological units that cover the four-county, Teton View region are as follows:[7]

YELLOWSTONE HIGHLANDS ECOLOGICAL SECTION – EASTERN IDAHO AND WESTERN WYOMING

Geomorphology. The Yellowstone Plateau was formed from two volcanic episodes. The area includes high rugged mountains with ridges and cirques at higher elevations and narrow to broad valleys. Much of this area has been glaciated, and moraines are common. Elevation ranges from 6,000 to 13,000 feet in the mountains, and 2,500 to 6,500 feet in the basins and valleys. This Section lies within the Middle Rocky Mountains physiographic province.

Potential Natural Vegetation. Vegetation in this area includes wheatgrass-needlegrass-shrub steppe in drier, lower elevation valleys (55%), and Douglas-fir forest and western spruce-fir forest (45%) between 5,500 and 9,500 feet. Lodgepole pine is the common cover type, with an understory of grouse whortleberry, pine grass, heartleaf arnica, or Oregon grape. Alpine vegetation, including whitebark pine and subalpine fir, occurs above 9,500 feet. Sheep fescue, alpine bluegrass, and American bistort are common grass and forb species.

Fauna. Birds are typical of the forested portions of the northern Rocky Mountains, including Steller's jay, black-capped chickadee, and pine siskin. Specialist bird species include white pelican, trumpeter swan, and (black) rosy finch; while other typical species include harlequin duck, Barrow's goldeneye, Swainson's hawk, bald eagle, osprey, sage grouse, sandhill crane, Franklin's gull, American dipper, Townsend's solitaire, yellow-rumped warbler, and Brewer's sparrow. Typical herbivores and carnivores include bison, mule deer, pronghorn, elk, moose, black bear, bobcat, and cougar. Smaller common herbivores include the snowshoe hare and the northern flying squirrel. Less abundant species include the grizzly bear, gray wolf, wolverine, fringed myotis (bat), pygmy shrew, pygmy rabbit, Preble's shrew, and Uinta chipmunk. Spotted frog, prairie rattlesnake, rubber boa, boreal toad, and blotched tiger salamander can also be found.

[6,7] *Excerpts from Ecological Regions of the United States, USDA Forest Service - Chapters 43 and 48*

Climate. The climate of this area is cold, moist and continental. Precipitation ranges from 20 to 45 inches annually; most occurs during fall, winter and spring, mostly as snow above 6,000 feet. Rain is common during the growing season. Temperature averages 35 to 47°F. The growing season lasts 25 to 120 days, although it is shorter at some higher elevations.

OVERTHRUST MOUNTAINS ECOLOGICAL SECTION – IDAHO AND WYOMING

Geomorphology. The Overthrust Mountains Section is part of western Wyoming, southeastern Idaho, and north-central Utah. Mountain ranges in this four-county region include the Teton and Salt River Ranges in Wyoming, and the Snake River (Big Holes) in Idaho. Anticlinal and synclinal structures and thrust fault zones control development of linear valleys and ridges in the northern part of this Section. Some ranges are bound by thrust faults that dip west. The Snake River Mountains are mostly steep, rugged mountains with narrow to broad valleys, while the Teton Range is the highest in this Section. Higher altitude areas have been glaciated, with a few active glaciers and snow fields in the Teton Range. Mass movements are common and helped form the Wyoming Range. Elevation ranges from 5,000 to 13,000 feet, while local relief ranges from 3,000 to 7,000 feet.

Potential Natural Vegetation. Vegetation types include lodgepole pine-subalpine forest, and Douglas-fir forest with outer fringes of sagebrush steppe in the northern portion of the Section. About 50% is Douglas-fir forest. Vegetation zones are controlled by a combination of altitude, latitude, slope exposure, and prevailing winds. Areas of alpine tundra exist on the highest mountains, subalpine zones have spruce – fir forests, and ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir forest are found in montane zones. Sagebrush occurs at the lower elevations.

Fauna. This Section was once characterized by bison, bighorn sheep, and large carnivores such as the gray wolf and grizzly bear. These species have been reduced, primarily due to man-made causes, to isolated areas within their historic range. Large ungulates found today include Rocky Mountain elk, mule deer, and moose; cougar and black bear comprise the large predators. Historical and present-day herpetofauna include the western toad and Great Basin spadefoot; spotted and northern leopard frogs; tiger salamander; short-horned and sagebrush lizards; the gopher snake, rubber boa, racer, several species of garter, and the western rattlesnake. Habitats in this ecological section support a rich and diverse populations of neotropical migratory land birds, waterfowl and terrestrial bird species. One subspecies of inland cutthroat trout (Yellowstone) are found in the Section, along with rainbow, brown, brook, and hybrid trout.

Climate. Precipitation ranges from 16 to 40 inches annually; most occurs during fall, winter and spring. It occurs mostly as snow above 6,000 feet. The semiarid steppe regime is where precipitation falls mostly in the winter, with large amounts falling as snow. Climate is influenced by prevailing winds and the general north-south orientation of the mountain ranges. Summers are dry with low humidity. Temperature averages 35 to 45 °F, but may be as high as 50 °F in the valleys. The growing season lasts 80 to 120 days.

SNAKE RIVER BASALTS ECOLOGICAL SECTION IN IDAHO

Geomorphology. Most of this Section is characterized by nearly horizontal sheets of basalt laid down in the Snake River drainage to form a plain. Lava flows range from less than 100 feet thick to several thousand feet thick. Block-faulted mountains are also included in this Section. The Section is about 60 miles wide and is essentially flat; however, the eastern portions of the Section are much higher in elevation. Shield volcanoes, cinder cones, and squeezed-up lava ridges are common. Elevation ranges from 3,000 to 6,000 feet. Lava plain and hills are nearly level to steeply sloping.

Potential Natural Vegetation. Vegetation types in this Section predominantly include sagebrush steppe. The U.S. Soil Conservation Service identifies the area as having a sagebrush-grass potential natural vegetation.

Fauna. This Section was once characterized by bison and bighorn sheep, and large carnivores such as the grizzly bear and gray wolf. These species have been reduced, primarily due to man-made causes, to isolated areas within their historic range. Currently, large ungulates include Rocky Mountain elk, mule deer, and pronghorn. Cougar, bobcat, black bear and coyote constitute a portion of the predator component. Historical and present-day herpetofauna include the western toad, Great Basin spadefoot; short-horned and sagebrush lizards; and the gopher snake, rubber boa, racer, and several species of garter snakes. Habitats in this Section support a rich and diverse avifauna of neotropical migratory land birds, waterfowl, and terrestrial species. Yellow pine chipmunk, Great Basin pocket mouse, and the dark phase pika, are endemic to this Section. Salmonid species include rainbow, brown, and brook, as well as hybrid trout.

Climate. Precipitation ranges from 5 to 12 inches annually; it is evenly distributed throughout the fall, winter, and spring, but is low in the summer. Summers are dry with low humidity. Temperature averages 40 to 58 °F. The growing season ranges from 60 to 165 days, decreasing from west to east and with elevation.

Population of the Teton View Region

Below is an excerpt from the Regional Analysis of Impediments (RAI-Appendix C.1) summarizing population statistics for the Teton View Region (TVR). Extensive 4-county analyses of household condition, employment and income data, and commuting patterns is presented in Appendix C.1 and thus will not be replicated here.

According to the 2013 U.S. Census, about 82,920 persons resided in the Teton View Region (TVR). About 45% lived in Madison County, Idaho, 27% in Teton County, Wyoming, and the rest in Fremont (16%) and Teton counties (12%) in Idaho. [8]

The region added about 33,000 persons between 1990 and 2010, growing at a rate of 29% during both decades. About 42% of these persons were added in Madison County; 34% in Teton County, Wyoming; 21% in Teton County, Idaho; and 6% in Fremont County. The rates of growth in each county show significant variation:

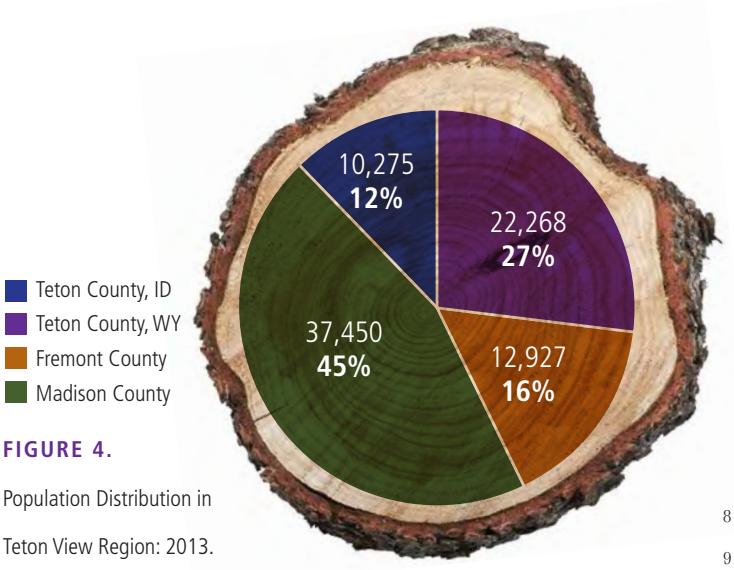


FIGURE 4.

Population Distribution in Teton View Region: 2013.

SOURCE: *2013 Census Population Estimates*

- Teton County, Idaho, grew at the fastest rate – over 70% during each decade. This was fueled by increased jobs, growth in the Grand Targhee Resort area, and demand from workers in Teton County, Wyoming, looking for more affordable homes. Victor grew over 560%, from under 300 persons in 1990 to over 1,900 today.
- Madison County showed modest growth in the 1990s (16%), but then picked up in the 2000s (37%), with 81% of this growth occurring within the city of Rexburg. BYU-I fueled rapid growth in the 2000s.
- The population in Teton County, Wyoming, grew by 63% in the 1990s. The growth rate dropped to 17% in the 2000s. Due to fear of losing the community's character, the County adopted land-development regulations in 1994 to manage the significant growth that was occurring. Land regulations and the increased scarcity of developable private land (97% of the County is federal land) limited growth in the 2000s.[9]
- Fremont County had the slowest growth rate, increasing 12% in the 2000s. The City of Island Park experienced the most growth, increasing over 33% in each decade; however, this equates to only 127 additional persons.

The year-round, permanent population is unevenly distributed throughout the region. As shown on the following map:

[8] *2013 Census Population Estimates*

[9] *Student enrollment increased from about 8,900 in 2000 to over 15,000 in the fall of 2013. Enrollment is projected to increase to about 20,600 students in 2018 (or by about 1,000 students per year).*

- The area north of Ashton in Fremont County and much of the unincorporated area in Teton County, Wyoming average less than five permanent residents per square mile. According to the Fremont County Transportation Plan (2000), 25 percent of Fremont County residential units are "Summer homes" for non-permanent residents. At the same time, the Teton County Wyoming Comprehensive plan estimates that summer resident counts can swell to twice the number of October residents because of summer home residents and vacation home rentals.
- The most populated area of Fremont County is in and around St. Anthony, with between 88 and 250 persons per square mile. The City of St. Anthony is of sufficient size and density to qualify as an urban cluster (a Census Bureau category).
- The most populated area in Teton County, Wyoming, is in and near the town of Jackson.
- Rexburg in Madison County has the densest population in the Teton View Region.

Table 1. Teton View Regional Population: 1990 to 2013 – Counties and Incorporated Cities/Towns

	1990	2000	2010	2013	% Change 1990-00	% Change 2000-10
WGYC Region	**49,222**	**63,536**	**82,242**	**82,920**	**29%**	**29%**
Fremont County, ID	10,937	11,819	13,242	12,927	8%	12%
Ashton	1,114	1,129	1,127	1,084	1%	0%
Island Park	159	215	286	276	35%	33%
St. Anthony	3,010	3,342	3,542	3,465	11%	6%
Madison County, ID	23,674	27,467	37,536	37,450	16%	37%
Rexburg	14,302	17,257	25,484	26,520	21%	48%
Teton County, ID	3,439	5,999	10,170	10,275	74%	70%
Driggs	846	1,100	1,660	1,657	30%	51%
Victor	292	840	1,928	1,938	188%	130%
Teton County, WY	11,172	18,251	21,294	22,268	63%	17%
Jackson	4,472	8,647	9,577	10,135	93%	11%

SOURCE: *1990, 2000, 2010 US Census; 2013 Census population estimates*

AGE OF POPULATION

The proportion of residents between the ages of 5 and 24 declined in the TVR between 2000 and 2010, whereas the proportion of residents under 5 and over 25 increased. The largest percentage increase occurred at the two extremes – for persons age 5 and under (59% increase) and those age 65 and over (38% increase). Compared to data for the entire states of Idaho and Wyoming:

- The percentage of college-aged residents (between 18 and 24) is high (21%). About 10% of residents in both Idaho and Wyoming are in this age group;
- The percentage of residents between 45 and 64 is low (19%) compared to the states of Idaho (25%) and Wyoming (28%) as a whole; and
- The percentage of seniors age 65 and over is low (8%). About 12% of the population in both Idaho and Wyoming are seniors. There are variations within the region; for example, Fremont County has a higher percentage of seniors.

When evaluated by area, it is apparent that:

- The high proportion of college-aged residents (18 to 24) in the area is related to the students in Rexburg (49% of the population). The town of Jackson also attracts this age group (14%) through seasonal park, ski resort and other tourism-related jobs. The proportion of the population in this age group in all other areas is similar to the state averages (10%);

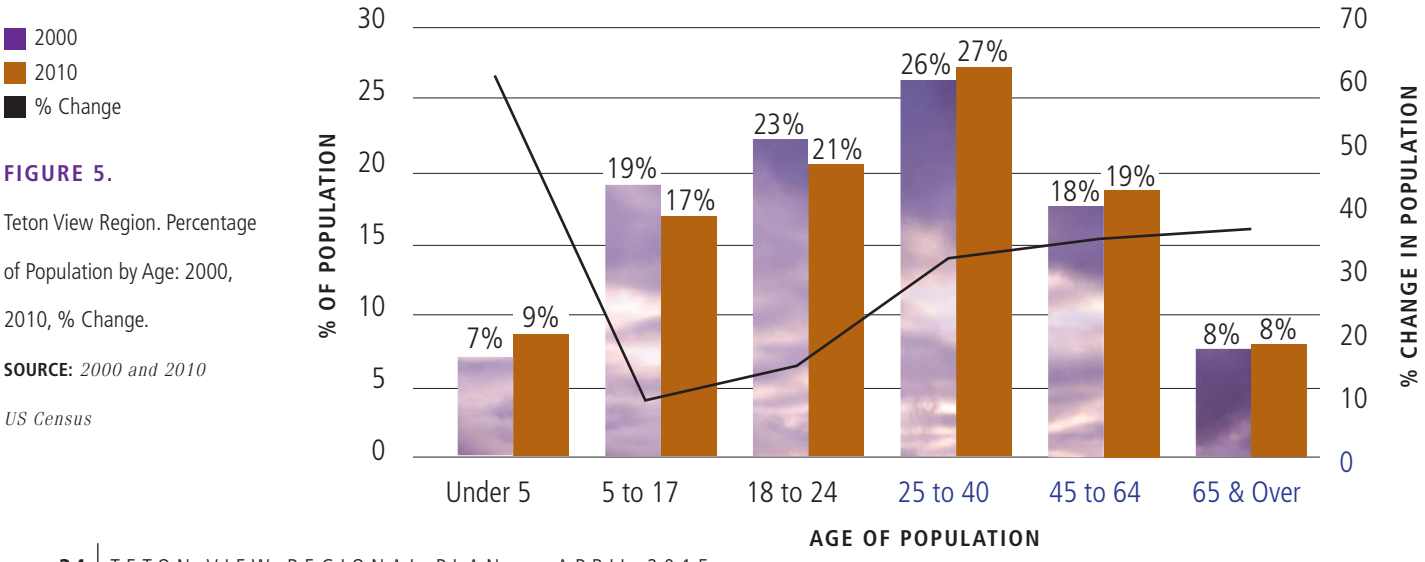


FIGURE 5.

Teton View Region. Percentage of Population by Age: 2000, 2010, % Change.

SOURCE: *2000 and 2010 US Census*

- Between 2000 and 2010 the percentage of residents under 5 increased faster than the population as a whole in all counties and cities/towns, with the cities of Victor (205% increase) and Rexburg (138% increase) topping the list;
- Not surprisingly, young adult residents, age 25 to 44, also increased the most in Victor (165%) and Rexburg (147%) from 2000 to 2010, as these households are the most likely to have young children. Victor has been attracting young families employed in Teton County, Wyoming, due to comparatively lower housing prices;
- All three major cities in Fremont County and all of Teton County, Wyoming, lost residents between the ages of 5 and 24 between 2000 and 2010. These populations increased in both Madison County and Teton County, Idaho, although at slower rates than the population as a whole in each county;
- The population of seniors age 65 and over grew at a faster rate than the corresponding population in both Fremont County (26% vs. 12%) and Teton County, Wyoming (66% vs. 17%) between 2000 and 2010. Within incorporated communities, only the town of Jackson (18% increase) and the City of Island Park (55%) show similar trends. This can be attributed in part to an aging population and second homeowners retiring to their homes in Teton County, Wyoming, and the Island Park area;
- Fremont County has the highest percentage of seniors of all counties in the region (14%). About 16% of the population in the City of Ashton, City of Island Park and the unincorporated county are seniors.

All cities, towns and census-designated places (CDPs) in the area were analyzed to determine where the highest concentrations of seniors reside in the TVR. This is important because it can affect the types of housing and services needed, such as access to nursing and medical care and alternative transportation options.

For the TVR, where 8% of the population is 65 or older, concentrations (as defined by HUD) occur where the proportion is 18% or more. Other findings include the following:

- There are no notable concentrations of seniors in the region. The populations in Warm River and Drummond in Fremont County are each over 33% seniors; however, only seven (7) seniors reside in these communities in total. About 18% of the population in Teton Village, Wyoming, are seniors (61 total). These areas combined comprise only 1% of seniors in the region.
- No areas in Madison County exceed 10% seniors, including the census tracts, and all areas in Teton County, Idaho, are 7% or below.
- About 17% of the population in the unincorporated area of Teton County, Wyoming, are seniors. While not technically high enough to be defined as a concentration, this equates to 29% of the senior population in this county.
- No census tract in the Town of Jackson exceeds 12% seniors.

Table 2. Percentage of Population by Age: 2000, 2010 and % Change

2000	Under 5	5 to 17	18 to 24	25 to 44	45 to 64	65 & Over
Fremont County, ID	8%	25%	9%	25%	20%	12%
Ashton	8%	25%	8%	25%	17%	17%
Island Park	4%	15%	11%	27%	28%	13%
St. Anthony	10%	23%	10%	27%	18%	11%
Madison County, ID	7%	19%	40%	16%	12%	6%
Rexburg	6%	12%	57%	12%	8%	5%
Teton County, ID	9%	23%	8%	34%	19%	7%
Driggs	8%	23%	11%	35%	16%	8%
Victor	10%	22%	7%	38%	16%	8%
Teton County, WY	5%	15%	10%	38%	25%	7%
Jackson	5%	13%	14%	44%	18%	6%
2010	**Under 5**	**5 to 17**	**18 to 24**	**25 to 44**	**45 to 64**	**65 & Over**
Fremont County, ID	9%	23%	8%	24%	23%	14%
Ashton	9%	24%	7%	24%	21%	16%
Island Park	6%	13%	6%	24%	34%	16%
St. Anthony	11%	21%	10%	27%	21%	10%
Madison County, ID	10%	16%	36%	21%	11%	6%
Rexburg	10%	11%	49%	20%	7%	4%
Teton County, ID	10%	20%	7%	34%	23%	7%
Driggs	10%	20%	9%	34%	21%	7%
Victor	13%	19%	6%	43%	15%	4%
Teton County, WY	6%	13%	8%	35%	28%	10%
Jackson	7%	11%	12%	44%	21%	6%
% Change 2000-2010	**Under 5**	**5 to 17**	**18 to 24**	**25 to 44**	**45 to 64**	**65 & Over**
Fremont County, ID	17%	3%	-7%	7%	28%	26%
Ashton	4%	-4%	-7%	-4%	21%	-9%
Island Park	89%	15%	-25%	19%	61%	55%
St. Anthony	15%	-5%	6%	8%	18%	-3%
Madison County, ID	84%	18%	25%	77%	31%	26%
Rexburg	138%	28%	27%	147%	34%	11%
Teton County, ID	93%	46%	37%	73%	104%	48%
Driggs	87%	30%	29%	48%	95%	30%
Victor	205%	96%	114%	165%	111%	11%
Teton County, WY	36%	4%	-5%	8%	29%	66%
Jackson	33%	-3%	-7%	11%	25%	18%

SOURCE: *2000 and 2010 US Census*

Table 3. Population by Race: 2000 and 2010

	2000		2010		% Change
TVR Region	#	%	#	%	2000-2010
TOTAL Population	**63,536**	**100%**	**82,242**	**100%**	**29%**
White	59,594	93.8%	74,620	90.7%	25%
Black or African American	121	0.2%	305	0.4%	152%
American Indian and Alaska Native	280	0.4%	338	0.4%	21%
Asian	309	0.5%	664	0.8%	115%
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	77	0.1%	95	0.1%	23%
Some other race	2,437	3.8%	4,974	6.0%	104%
Two or more races	718	1.1%	1,246	1.5%	74%

SOURCE: *2000 and 2010 US Census*

The TVR has never had a racially diverse population. In 2010, about 91% of the population was white, down from about 94% in 2000. Asian, American Indian/Alaska Native, and Black/African American residents combined comprise 1,300 residents, or 1.6% of the population in the region.

PERSONS OF HISPANIC/LATINO ORIGIN

The Hispanic/Latino population has historically constituted a very small percentage of the population in Idaho and Wyoming, including the TVR. Until the 1990s, Idaho and Wyoming were predominately white (over 95%). In the TVR, less than 4% of the population (under 2,000 persons) was Hispanic/Latino in 1990. No county in the TVR had more than 762 Hispanic/Latino persons in 1990. Teton County, Wyoming, only had 158 persons of Hispanic/Latino origin in 1990, yet it now has the highest number of Hispanic/Latino persons in the region (near 3,200 total).

Persons of Hispanic or Latino origin are now more prevalent. Where this population used to reside only seasonally in the area, persons of Hispanic/Latino origin have been making the TVR their permanent home in recent decades. The Hispanic/Latino population increased from under 4% in 1990 to 11% in 2010. This is very similar to the growth rate seen in the state of Idaho as a whole. In Idaho this population increased from 5% in 1990 to 11% by 2010;[10] growth in Wyoming was slower, increasing from 6% in 1990 to 9% in 2010. A study by the University of Idaho, Idaho Commission on Hispanic Affairs, reported that, as of 2008, most of Idaho's Hispanic residents were born in the United States. Just 10% of the state's total Hispanic population moved to the U.S. in the last decade.[11]

[10] *This growth prompted Mexico to open its first Idaho consulate in 2008. See http://consulmex.sre.gob.mx/boise/*

[11] *University of Idaho, Idaho Commission on Hispanic Affairs, "Hispanics: An Overview," June 2010. See also State of Idaho, "2011 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice," May 2012, Sec. II p. 3.*

While the growth of this population was greater in the 1990s than during the following decade, this population still more than doubled in the 2000s, accounting for 25% of the population growth in the region, which is similar to state trends.[12] By area,

- The strongest growth has been in Teton County, Wyoming. About 66% of the total population growth in the 2000's were persons of Hispanic descent.
- The City of Victor has had the strongest growth of all cities and towns in the region and presently houses about 14% of its population.
- The growth of this population picked up in Madison County in the 2000s after comparatively modest growth in the 1990s.

Comparing the distribution of the Hispanic/Latino population in the region to the overall population distribution by county, we find that:

- Madison County has significantly fewer Hispanic/Latino persons relative to its share of the overall population in the TVR – 25% versus 46%, respectively;
- The two Teton counties have disproportionately more persons of Hispanic descent than their share of the population in the region; and
- Fremont County has a similar percentage of the two populations.

[12] *The WGYA is similar to both the state of Idaho and the state of Wyoming with respect to this figure. The Hispanic/Latino population accounted for 27% of the population growth in each of these states during this same period. Source: 2000 and 2010 US Census.*

Table 4. Population of Hispanic/Latino Ethnicity by Area: 1990, 2000, 2010

	1990	2000	2010	% Change 90-00	% Change 00-10
Teton View Region	1,910	4,223	8,824	121%	109%
Fremont County, ID	762	1,255	1,694	65%	35%
Ashton	149	157	198	5%	26%
Island Park	5	9	19	80%	111%
St. Anthony	179	514	741	187%	44%
Madison County, ID	753	1,078	2,218	43%	106%
Rexburg	441	697	1,435	58%	106%
Teton County, ID	237	705	1,721	197%	144%
Driggs	74	226	525	205%	132%
Victor	4	90	435	2150%	383%
Teton County, WY	158	1,185	3,191	650%	169%
Jackson	81	1,024	2,607	1164%	155%

SOURCE: *1990, 2000, 2010 US Census*

The following pages provide more discussion of the drivers behind these statistics.

The relative distribution of persons of Hispanic/Latino ethnicity among the counties the TVR is due first to employment opportunities, and second to access to housing they can afford.[13, 14] While agriculture was a primary driver of the Hispanic/Latino population to this area originally, as economies in the TVR have diversified, this has permitted many previously seasonal workers to move to the area on a year-round basis.[15] Idaho counties with the highest proportion of Hispanic/Latino residents (greater than 20%) have economies that rely on agriculture and food processing (i.e., mostly south-central Idaho).[16]

Growth in non-agricultural jobs in the TVR in which Hispanic/Latino residents are predominately employed has been strongest in Teton County, Wyoming, and Teton County, Idaho. Spanish speaking residents are predominately employed in construction and landscaping jobs (36%) and service sector jobs, including janitorial/housekeeping (29%), food service (24%) and lodging (21%), followed by agriculture (19%). Hispanic residents of Idaho overall were mostly employed in these same professions, with the addition of manufacturing (mainly food manufacturing) and education, health and social assistance.[17] Correspondingly, growth in the Hispanic/Latino population has also been strongest in these counties. Job growth has been more modest in Fremont County and this county has had the slowest growth in this population in the region in the past decade. In Madison County, while jobs for this population have shown little growth, BYU-I enrollment has increased since 2000, helping to increase this population.[18]

[13] *2014 Housing Survey, see Appendix 3. The State of Idaho, "2011 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice," May 2012, report similarly found that there were not strong correlations between affordability and Hispanic presence in a county; rather Hispanic presence may be more strongly related to employment industries. See Sec. I, p. 9.*

[14] *Madison County Comprehensive Plan, 2008, p. 13. Available at: http://www.co.madison.id.us/index.php/depts/planning-a-zoning/62-comprehensive-plan*

[15] *See 2009 Fremont County Comprehensive Plan. See also the Economic section of this report for more information on economic trends in each county.*

[16] *University of Idaho, Idaho Commission on Hispanic Affairs, "Hispanics: An Overview," June 2010; State of Idaho, "2011 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice," May 2012, Sec. 1, p. 4; University of Idaho, College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, "Community Level Impacts of Idaho's Changing Dairy Industry," 2009, available at: http://icha.idaho.gov/docs/Uof%20I%20Dairy%20Report%20Community_Level_Impacts(10_13_09).pdf*

[17] *See the Economic section of this report. See University of Idaho, Idaho Commission on Hispanic Affairs, "Idaho at a Glance Hispanics: Labor Force & Economy," Nov. 2010.*

[18] *Madison County Comprehensive Plan, 2008, p. 13. Available at: http://www.co.madison.id.us/index.php/depts/planning-a-zoning/62-comprehensive-plan*

The two Teton Counties are the two most expensive counties in which to live in terms of housing costs,[19] yet the Hispanic/Latino population comprises the largest percentage of the population in these counties. When asked why they live in their present community, Hispanic/Latino respondents to the 2014 Housing Survey (Spanish language version) predominately responded that they live there for work or jobs, followed by housing costs/ availability and family. Similar to the population as a whole, some workers live in Teton County, Idaho, yet work in Teton County, Wyoming, for the comparatively cheaper housing costs. Likewise, some who are employed in Madison County reside within Fremont County. These

factors – jobs, then housing and family – have been the primary drivers of where Hispanic/ Latino residents live in the region.[20]

[19] *See the Housing Profile and Conditions section of this report.*

[20] *See 2014 Spanish Housing Survey comments, Appendix 3 of this report.*

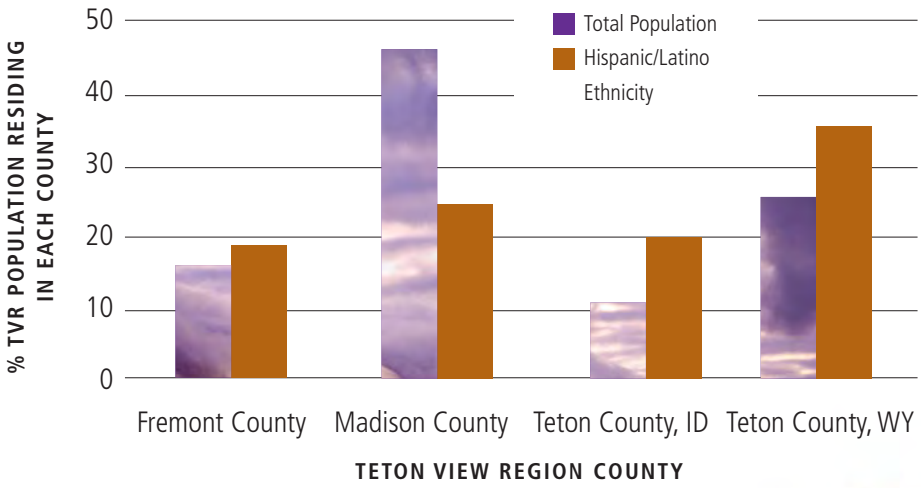


FIGURE 6

Distribution of Population by Hispanic/Latino Ethnicity: Teton View Region Counties, 2010.

SOURCE: *2010 US Census*