

Boise

You'll be amazed!

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LIVABILITY

<https://livability.com/best-places/top-100-best-places-to-live/2019/id/boise>

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2019 Top 100 Best Places to Live

Boise, ID

Population: 214,196

LIV
SCORE

674



Take a walk around this year's #1 city and ask people where they're from, and chances are you'll meet a lot of recent transplants from places like Portland, the Bay Area and New York.

That's no coincidence.

[Boise](#) has [become a magnet](#) for people looking for a tight-knit community, great job opportunities, easy access to the outdoors — and perhaps most importantly, a much lower cost of living than many larger and comparably sized cities.

Young families are drawn to Boise because it's one of the safest cities in the world. In addition, Boise's combination of affordability and do-it-yourself spirit make it the perfect place for creatives (check out the [awesome comedy scene](#)), entrepreneurs and startups. The tech scene here is growing fast, with new talent flocking to the city, eager to find a work-life balance that allows for plenty of fresh air and adventure.

Boise has appeared on Livability's Top 100 Best Places to Live ranking every year since the list's inception, but this is the city's first — and well-deserved — appearance in the #1 spot.

“

“I moved to Boise from Washington, DC, and thought there might not be much to do, but because of how accessible everything is in Boise, the opposite is true. You literally can ski in the morning at a world-class resort, and play golf in the same afternoon, and I actually do it every year. Accessibility and affordability is what it is all about here — everything you can imagine is actually within the city limits, not hours away. Boise is young, hip, entrepreneurial, outdoorsy, and one of the kindest places on earth. I like to think Boise has all the good things you want in a major city, without all the bad stuff.”

Bill Connors
President & CEO of the Boise Metro
Chamber of Commerce

Boise, ID Ranking Data

Civic	82
Demographics	47
Economy	82
Education	67
Health	69
Housing	43
Infrastructure	73

LIVABILITY (continued)

Local Obsession: [Albertsons Stadium](#), home of the blue turf and [Boise State Broncos](#)

Climate Described in 6 Words Or Less: Four seasons — sometimes in one day

Top Industries and Employers: Healthcare, technology and agriculture are the top industries. Micron, St. Luke's Medical Center, HP and Simplot are among the city's top employers.

Local Dream Job: Fly fishing guide at [Idaho Angler](#), leading excursions on the Boise River as well as other dream fishing destinations around the world.

Quintessential Meal: [Boise Fry Company](#) fries with blueberry ketchup

Favorite Weekend Activity: The perfect Boise Saturday? Floating the river, exploring the foothills and finishing the day with a Boise State football game.

After-Work Meetup Spot: [Bardenay](#), a restaurant distillery with a menu of handcrafted cocktails and Northwest cuisine.

Best Brewery: [Payette Brewing](#), a company run by “passionate, rebellious beer pioneers.” (We're obsessed with their guava and hibiscus sour ale.)

Beloved Bookstore: [Rediscovered Books](#)

Free Way to Have Fun: Hiking. The trails around the city are amazing, with plenty of options for seasoned hikers looking for a challenge and newbies who just want to appreciate a pretty view.

Truly Hidden Gem: [Freak Alley](#), an alleyway in downtown Boise that was turned into a space displaying murals and graffiti art.

TOP SCHOOLS

<https://www.greatschools.org/idaho/boise/>

Top schools

College Success Award winners

Elementary

9/10

Collister Elementary School

Boise Independent District

Public, PK-6 | 248 students

10 reviews ★★★★★

9/10

Highlands Elementary School

Boise Independent District

Public, PK-6 | 343 students

9 reviews ★★★★★

9/10

Roosevelt Elementary School

Boise Independent District

Public, PK-6 | 332 students

16 reviews ★★★★★

9/10

Sage International Charter School

Sage International School Of Boise

Charter, K-12 | 919 students

19 reviews ★★★★★

Middle

9/10

Sage International Charter School

Sage International School Of Boise

Charter, K-12 | 919 students

19 reviews ★★★★★

8/10

Lowell Scott Middle School

West Ada School District

Public, 6-8 | 1000 students

33 reviews ★★★★★

7/10

North Junior High School

Boise Independent District

Public, 7-9 | 889 students

27 reviews ★★★★★

7/10

East Junior High School

Boise Independent District

Public, 7-9 | 634 students

7 reviews ★★★★★

High

10/10

Timberline High School

Boise Independent District

Public, 10-12 | 1118 students

13 reviews ★★★★★

9/10

Boise Senior High School

Boise Independent District

Public, 9-12 | 1549 students

30 reviews ★★★★★

9/10

Sage International Charter School

Sage International School Of Boise

Charter, K-12 | 919 students

19 reviews ★★★★★

7/10

Capital Senior High School

Boise Independent District

Public, 9-12 | 1312 students

14 reviews ★★★★★

6/10

Centennial High School

West Ada School District

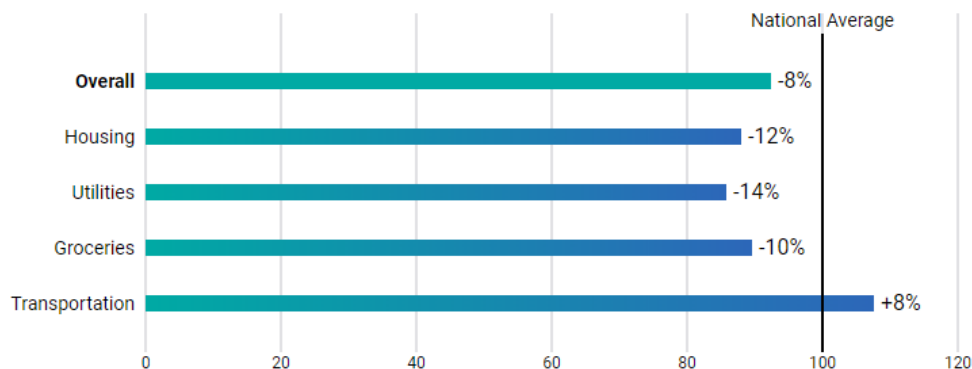
Public, 9-12 | 1738 students

28 reviews ★★★★★

COST OF LIVING

<https://www.payscale.com/cost-of-living-calculator/Idaho-Boise>

Cost of Living in Boise, Idaho by Expense Category



Housing, Utilities & Transportation

Boise's housing expenses are 12% lower than the national average and the utility prices are 14% lower than the national average. Transportation expenses like bus fares and gas prices are 8% higher than the national average.



MEDIAN HOME PRICE

\$305,013



MEDIAN RENT

\$955.47 / month



ENERGY BILL

\$143.68 / month



PHONE BILL

\$153.16 / month



GAS

\$2.81 / gallon

Food & Grocery

Boise has grocery prices that are 10% lower than the national average.



LOAF OF BREAD

\$2.98



GALLON OF MILK

\$1.74



CARTON OF EGGS

\$1.62



BUNCH OF BANANAS

\$3.01



HAMBURGER

\$3.79

Healthcare

Healthcare in Boise is 3% higher than the national average.



DOCTOR'S VISIT

\$114.47



DENTIST VISIT

\$98.34



OPTOMETRIST VISIT

\$107.27



RX DRUG

\$455.99



VETERINARY VISIT

\$48.07

HEALTH

www.movoto.com/guide/boise-id/7-best-places-to-live-in-boise-idaho-for-top-healthcare/

Having landed on the [Huffington Post](#)'s list of Best Cities for exercise, Boise, Idaho is a healthy place to live in general. It is an outdoor adventurer's dream with opportunities all around to hike, bike, kayak, and ski. The Greenbelt winding through the city along the Boise River offers a place get some outdoor exercise without even leaving town. Additionally, with a major hospital, several medical clinics, numerous health clubs, and an abundance of health food stores and pharmacies scattered throughout the city, you can take your pick of the [best places to live in Boise Idaho](#) if healthcare and staying healthy is a top priority for you.

1. Downtown Boise

If you want to live in the middle of it all, Downtown Boise with its variety of shops, restaurants, and literally thousands of businesses, is the right choice. When you are choosing among the best places to live in Boise Idaho based on the healthcare advantages, Downtown is still at the top of the list. [St. Luke's Boise Medical Center](#) is located downtown, and you couldn't do much better for your health. With skillful, experienced specialists and a welcoming layout planned to facilitate healing, it is the state's largest healthcare provider and the place you'll find St. Luke's Heart Center, Children's Hospital, Center for Minimally Invasive Surgery, and the Mountain States Tumor Institute's biggest clinic. Additionally, you will have easy access to the downtown Rite Aid Pharmacy on State Street to fill prescriptions or pick up vitamins and natural remedies.

2. Southeast Boise

It is not just students, faculty, and staff of [Boise State University](#) who want to live in Southeast Boise. That is the part of the city where BSU is located, but many people appreciate the architecture of the older homes in that area. It also happens to be one of the best places to live in Boise Idaho for staying fit and healthy. If you need urgent care, you will find it in Southeast Idaho at [Emergency Medicine of Idaho](#). The area is also home to one of the two Boise locations of [Johnny's Fit Club](#), a no-contract 24-hour fitness club that offers classes, cardio, and weight and fitness equipment. You also won't have to travel far to find a pharmacy when you live in Southeast Boise. Walgreens and Fred Meyers both have pharmacies on Federal Way, just down the road from Johnny's.

3. The Southwest Area

Though the Southwest area of Boise was once sprawling farmland, it is now filled with subdivisions and is one of the fastest growing areas of the city. It offers picturesque parks for plenty of outdoor exercise, such as Peppermint Park, Jullion Park, and Nottingham Park. The residents in Southwest Boise have close access to the freeway, so they're just a few minutes' drive from St. Luke's Downtown. However, in case of emergency, urgent care is available at [Primary Health Medical Group](#) on Myrtle Street. Plus, it is no problem to fill a prescription or buy over the counter medicines or nutraceuticals. Walmart, Walgreens, and Fred Meyers all have pharmacies on Overland Road.

4. Northwest Boise

If you enjoy hiking, you may want to settle in Northwest Boise. Positioned right against the Boise Foothills, it also has access to the Boise Greenbelt. [McMillan Medical Center](#) urgent care clinic is in the area, if you have an emergency. Residents in Northwest Boise can choose to patronize pharmacies at Fred Meyers, Walgreens, and Savon, but they have their own health food store, too. If you need vitamins, supplements including protein and muscle-building products, herbs, or homeopathic remedies, you will find them at the [Vitamin Shoppe](#) on Milwaukee Street.

5. Boise Bench

Once a barren desert, the Boise Bench is now one of the trendiest and best places to live in Boise Idaho, mostly for its stately views of the Boise Valley and its quick access to Downtown Boise. That puts it close enough to St. Luke's, if you want to drive that far, but [St. Alphonsus Medical Group](#) is on the Bench, though located back several blocks from the rim. If you choose to live on the Bench, you can do your healthy food shopping at Chase's Natural Foods Market on Overland Road.

6. The North End

Full of subdivisions, North Boise is the place for suburban living and, with Historic Hyde Park nearby, you can hike the trails there or just enjoy some fresh air at the annual [Street Fair](#). If you prefer getting your exercise indoors, there is an [Idaho Athletic Club](#) on Lakeharbor Lane. While St. Luke's is easily accessible from most areas in Boise including the North End, it may be quicker to visit the Primary Health Medical Group urgent care facility on State Street if you have an emergency. Also, you will not have far to go to fill prescriptions and stock up on vitamins and other nutraceuticals. Both Rite Aid and Savon have pharmacy locations on State Street, too. is now filled with subdivisions and is one of the fastest growing areas of the city. It offers picturesque parks for plenty of outdoor exercise, such as Peppermint Park, Jullion Park, and Nottingham Park. The residents in Southwest Boise have close access to the freeway, so they're just a few minutes' drive from St. Luke's Downtown. However, in case of emergency, urgent care is available at [Primary Health Medical Group](#) on Myrtle Street. Plus, it is no problem to fill a prescription or buy over the counter medicines or nutraceuticals. Walmart, Walgreens, and Fred Meyers all have pharmacies on Overland Road.

7. Warm Springs

Warm Springs is one of the more elite neighborhoods in Boise, with its mix of old, historic and new luxury homes. It is a bit off the beaten path of many facilities but, with freeway access to St. Luke's Downtown, you won't be far from medical care when you need it. There is a Savon Pharmacy less than 10 minutes away on Parkcenter Boulevard. Plus, ladies living in the Warm Springs area do not have far to go for a workout. Located on Boise Avenue, [Curves](#) is just as close as the pharmacy.

MORE INFO

Listed as the Livability's 2019 number one on the top 100 places to live - Boise, ID is a fast-growing city that offers a variety of natural beauty, culture and career opportunities. With a low unemployment rate of 2.9%, which is 1.5% lower than the national average, The Wall Street Journal recently praised Boise as having one of the nation's fastest-growing job markets.

In a city of roughly 215,000 residents, you will be pleasantly surprised to know that crime is nearly non-existent, leaving Boise as the eighth safest city in the country. Boise is comprised of great schools, friendly people and easy access to truly any outdoor activity you could ever dream of from river floating, hiking, skiing, cycling, whitewater rafting, hunting and fishing.

Are you intrigued yet? Boise absolutely offers it all to its residents and Diversified Fluid Solutions is no different for its employees! Here is some information for you to review:

Idaho Scenic Byways Brochure:

https://issuu.com/dfsolutionshr/docs/idaho_scenic_byways_brochure

Idaho Children's Brochure:

https://issuu.com/dfsolutionshr/docs/idaho_childrens_brochure

Visit Idaho 2019 Travel Guide:

https://issuu.com/dfsolutionshr/docs/visit_idaho_2019_travel_guide

Idaho Roadsider:

https://issuu.com/dfsolutionshr/docs/idaho_roadsider

2019 Directory of Idaho Guided Outdoor Adventures:

https://issuu.com/dfsolutionshr/docs/2019_directory_of_idaho_guided_outdoor_adventures

2019 Idaho Wine Commission Brochure:

https://issuu.com/dfsolutionshr/docs/2019_idaho_wine_commission_brochure

Idaho Brewer's Trail Map:

https://issuu.com/dfsolutionshr/docs/idaho_brewers_trail_map

Southwest Idaho Travel Guide:

https://issuu.com/dfsolutionshr/docs/southwest_idaho_travel_guide