

2009

Utah At-A-Glance

EDCUTAH
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION OF UTAH

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Utah At-A-Glance



ECONOMIC OVERVIEW

Utah's long-term economic and demographic projections point to robust growth over the next 50 years. Utah's population is expected to more than triple from 2000 to 2060, up to 6.8 million people. The education and health care and mining and natural resources industries all experienced positive employment growth during 2008. Utah's GDP increased 5.3% during 2007, the highest growth rate in the nation. Utah's travel and tourism industry saw the fifth consecutive year of record-breaking skier visits and visitation at national parks increased as well.¹

¹ Source: *Economic Report to the Governor, 2009 edition*

POPULATION TRENDS

Utah's population grew by 58,225 people from 2007 to 2008, a 2.2% total increase. A record level of natural increase of 55,357 births accounted for roughly 71% of the growth, with net in-migration accounting for the remaining proportion. Utah continues to have a distinctive demographic profile, including the nation's youngest population, highest fertility rate, largest household size and lowest mortality rates. Here is data for Utah's largest counties and their respective population changes during 2008.²

Utah's Largest Counties and Associated Population Changes

Rank	County	Growth Rate 2007 to 2008	Numeric Change 2007-2008	Total Population 2008
1	Salt Lake	1.1%	11,615	1,030,519
2	Utah	3.5%	18,185	519,632
3	Davis	1.9%	5,886	301,915
4	Weber	1.7%	3,755	224,536
5	Washington	2.6%	3,802	144,710

Source: Utah Population Estimates Committee, 2008 estimates

According to the Utah Population Estimates Committee, the following counties had the highest population growth rates from 2007 to 2008:

Utah's Largest Population Growth Areas by Increased Growth Rate

Rank	County	Growth Rate 2007 to 2008	Numeric Change 2007-2008	Total Population 2008
1	Uintah County	5.7%	1,640	30,446
2	Rich County	5.4%	116	2,278
3	Piute County	4.5%	62	1,447
4	Morgan County	4.1%	380	9,645
5	Wasatch County	4.1%	894	22,845

Source: Utah Population Estimates Committee, 2008 estimates

² Source: Economic Report to the Governor, 2009 edition

UTAH DEMOGRAPHIC SUMMARY

	2000 Census	% Change	2008 Estimate	% Change	2013 Forecast	
Population	2,233,169	18.9%	2,654,463	9.7%	2,910,733	
Households	701,281	21.2%	850,107	10.6%	940,305	
Average Household Size	3.13	-1.9%	3.07	0.01%	3.04	
Age	2000 Census	%	2008 Estimate	%	2013 Forecast	%
0 to 4	209,378	9.40%	259,865	9.8%	286,779	9.9%
5 to 14	385,321	17.3%	442,782	16.7%	498,843	17.1%
15 to 19	216,278	9.7%	208,031	7.8%	215,548	7.4%
20 to 24	225,152	10.1%	226,494	8.5%	211,815	7.3%
25 to 34	327,064	14.6%	435,036	16.4%	469,714	16.1%
35 to 44	299,536	13.4%	325,734	12.3%	375,533	12.9%
45 to 54	237,710	10.6%	296,955	11.2%	307,495	10.6%
55 to 64	142,508	6.4%	221,151	8.3%	266,999	9.2%
65 to 74	101,548	4.5%	126,786	4.8%	159,283	5.5%
75 to 84	66,923	3.01%	79,725	3.0%	85,805	2.9%
85+	21,751	1.0%	31,998	1.2%	33,112	1.1%
Median Age	27.1		29.0		30.3	
Ethnicity	2000 Census	%	2008 Estimate	%	2013 Forecast	%
White	1,992,975	89.2%	2,362,991	89.0%	2,587,941	88.9%
Black	17,657	0.8%	24,427	0.9%	28,604	1.0%
American Indian / Alaska Native	29,684	1.3%	28,618	1.1%	27,880	1.0%
Asian / Pacific	52,253	2.3%	73,695	2.8%	86,940	3.0%
Some Other Race	140,600	6.3%	105,691	4.0%	118,400	4.1%
Two or More Races	140,600	6.3%	59,041	2.2%	60,968	2.1%
Hispanic Population	2000 Census	%	2008 Estimate	%	2013 Forecast	%
Hispanic	201,559	9.0%	314,298	11.8%	384,759	13.2%
Household Income	2000 Census	%	2008 Estimate	%	2013 Forecast	%
\$0 - \$14,999	75,857	10.8%	62,335	7.3%	60,127	6.4%
\$15,000 - \$24,999	83,057	11.8%	73,669	8.7%	64,321	6.8%
\$25,000 - \$34,999	93,012	13.3%	84,949	10.0%	82,882	8.8%
\$35,000 - \$49,999	133,286	19.0%	137,461	16.2%	133,862	14.2%
\$50,000 - \$74,999	158,292	22.6%	193,658	22.8%	211,294	22.5%
\$75,000 - \$99,999	79,569	11.4%	122,767	14.4%	143,694	15.3%
\$100,000 - \$149,999	52,579	7.5%	113,445	13.3%	150,232	16.0%
\$150,000 +	25,629	3.7%	61,823	7.3%	93,893	10.0%
Average Household Income	\$57,052		\$66,491		\$73,602	
Median Household Income	\$45,752		\$57,167		\$64,023	

Source: Decision Data Resources

EDUCATION

Utah has 972 public schools with approximately 537,995 students enrolled in grades K-12 and 221 private and charter schools with over 16,000 enrolled students. The public schools provide a 20:1 student-to-teacher ratio and the private schools provide a 14:1 student-to-teacher ratio. Most western states have a low enrollment number in private schools. Utah has nine public colleges and universities and four private institutions of higher education with an enrollment over 190,000 students. Of these institutions, three are renowned research universities and two have nationally-ranked law schools and business schools. Utah also offers training in an array of fields through its Utah College of Applied Technology (UCAT) program. The UCAT program offers a variety certificates at each of its nine campus locations throughout the state and currently boasts an enrollment of 60,000+ students. Here are some key rankings for Utah's educational system:

- Utah leads the nation in its literacy rate according to the U.S. Census and American Community Surveys.
- Utah ranks 6th nationally with 90.2% of persons age 25+ with at least a high school diploma. And, Utah ranks 18th nationally with 28.7% of persons age 25+ with a Bachelor's degree.
- On average, Utah students outperform the nation on advanced placement (AP) testing, ranking 3rd nationally for passing AP exams. More Utah students earn college credit through AP courses at the secondary education level compared to the nation.³
- Six of the top 20 employers in the state of Utah are educational institutions and are categorized into the education sector.

INDUSTRY DATA⁴

Industry Growth

Economic development activity played a key role in expanding Utah's economic base over the past several years and is helping to mitigate the current national economic contraction. Seven of Utah's 11 major industries posted an annual increase in employment during 2008.

Mining & Natural Resources

With an increase of 1,370 jobs, a 12.4% increase, the mining and natural resources industry experienced the largest percentage increase in job growth. The value of Utah's nonfuel mineral and energy production reached a record high in 2008 because of 1) increased base metal production and relatively high base metal prices, 2) significantly higher precious metal prices that offset lower production, 3) record high industrial mineral values and production levels, 4) increased coal prices despite lower coal production, 5) increased uranium production, and 6) increased crude oil and natural gas production and prices.

High Technology

In 2007, Utah's employment in its high technology sector increased by 3,125 to 66,127 employees, a 5.0% increase. In comparison, all non-agricultural employment in the state of Utah increased by 4.0% during this same time period. Nearly half of Utah's technology employment is concentrated in three industries: 1) computer systems design, which employed 14,611 in 2007 (22% of all technology workers), 2) aerospace products, employing 8,359 workers, and 3) engineering services, employing 3,094 people. As a whole, high technology jobs are higher paying, accounting for 9.2% of total non-agricultural wages paid in Utah during 2007 while only equating to 5.3% of all jobs in the state.

³ Source: The College Board, "Advanced Placement Report to the Nation," 2007 results

⁴ Source: Economic Report to the Governor, 2009 edition

Tourism, Travel & Recreation

Utah's travel and tourism sector saw improvements in 2008 with an estimate of non-resident tourism arrivals into Utah surpassing 2007 levels by 1.0%, which equates to 20.4 million visitors. It is estimated that the number of domestic travelers grew 0.7% to 19.6 million, while the international visitors grew by 1.4% to 800,000. Hotel occupancies were up 0.5% during 2008 to 68.9%. And, the 2007-2008 ski season experienced its fifth consecutive record-breaking year for skier visits, surpassing the 4 million visitors mark for the third year in a row.

Exports

Utah's merchandise exports grew from \$7.8 billion in 2007 to a record-high estimated \$10.8 billion in 2008, a 37.9% increase. Exports of computers and electronics and gold contributed the most to the overall increase. After reaching this record high, Utah's export activity is expected to decline 2.1% in 2009 to \$10.5 billion.

Unemployment Rates

National economic pressures are expected to lead to a further decline of 19,000 jobs in 2009 and the state's unemployment rate is forecasted to increase from 3.7% to 5.5%, remaining much lower than surrounding states and the nation.

Date	Utah	Arizona	California	Colorado	New Mexico	United States
November 2008	3.7%	6.3%	8.4%	5.8%	4.3%	7.2%

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, November 2008

Utah's Major Employers (10,000+ Employees)

Number	Company Name	Location	Estimated Annual Sales	Industry
1	AlSCO, Inc.	Salt Lake City	Over \$1 billion	Uniform supply service
2	Altiris, Inc.	Lindon	\$100 to \$500 million	Computer software
3	Autoliv North America, Inc.	Ogden	Over \$1 billion	Auto parts & supplies
4	First American Exchange Company	Salt Lake City	Over \$1 billion	Title company
5	First American Residential	Sandy	Unknown	Real estate appraisers
6	Flying J, Inc.	Ogden	Over \$1 billion	Gas and oil stations
7	Utah Governor's Office	Salt Lake City	Unknown	State government
8	Huntsman Corporation	Salt Lake City	Over \$1 billion	Chemicals manufacturing
9	Net Deposit, Inc.	Salt Lake City	Unknown	Banking systems and service
10	Shaw Beneco, Inc.	Midvale	Unknown	Construction management
11	Shaw Nap Tech, Inc.	Clearfield	Unknown	Pipe manufacturing
12	Sky West, Inc.	St. George	Over \$1 billion	Airline company
13	Smith's Food & Drug Centers, Inc.	Salt Lake City	Over \$1 billion	Retail grocery stores
14	Spectrum	St. George	Over \$1 billion	Newspaper publisher
15	Teleperformance USA	Salt Lake City	Unknown	Telemarketing services
16	Wolf Coach	West Jordan	Unknown	Television station equipment
17	Zions Bancorporation	Salt Lake City	Over \$1 billion	Banking services

Source: InfoUSA, January 2009

COST OF LIVING INDEX

4th Quarter 2008 Cost of Living Data

Major Utah Cities	Composite Index	Housing	Grocery Items	Utilities	Transportation	Health Care	Misc. Goods
Cedar City, UT	92.0	89.5	98.7	80.1	97.2	87.7	94.2
Logan, UT	91.5	75.8	103.4	82.5	93.8	94.3	102.3
Salt Lake City, UT	99.7	99.9	104.2	71.8	101.6	101.6	105.4
St. George, UT	96.9	103.3	99.4	74.1	99.0	89.9	97.4
Neighboring Cities	Composite Index	Grocery Items	Housing	Utilities	Transportation	Health Care	Misc. Goods
Phoenix, AZ	101.1	100.1	103.4	90.9	100.2	99.4	104.8
San Francisco, CA	172.1	292.9	128.6	98.6	113.4	120.3	130.5
Denver, CO	105.0	110.3	108.5	96.3	97.2	105.8	104.0
Boise, ID	95.8	87.7	94.4	91.0	102.5	102.8	101.7
Las Vegas, NV	107.9	129.1	101.0	93.8	102.6	104.3	98.2

Source: ACCRA Cost of Living Index, 4th quarter 2008 data

TRANSPORTATION HIGHLIGHTS

- The Salt Lake City International Airport, located just 5 miles from downtown Salt Lake City, is within 2.5 hours from half of the nation's population. In 2007, the airport served over 22 million passengers, making it the 17th largest connecting hub airport in the U.S.⁵
- With over 700 trucking companies based in the state, Utah is a great location for product distribution. I-80 (extending east to New York City and west to San Francisco), I-15 (extending north to Canada and south to Mexico) and I-70 (extending east to Denver) provide the entire state with great accessibility.
- About 1,400 miles of railroad track stretch throughout Utah; all lines converge in the Salt Lake and Ogden metropolitan areas allowing second-morning service to 90% of the western U.S.
- Salt Lake City is the western-most point from which all west-coast cities can be directly served without backtracking.

TRAVEL & TOURISM HIGHLIGHTS⁶

- 20.4 million non-resident travelers visited Utah in 2008, up 1.0% from 2007 levels
- Travelers' spending rose an estimated 6.2% during 2008 to \$7.1 billion, generating an estimated \$631 million in state and local tax revenues
- 76% of Utah's visitors came from the Western U.S. and spent on average \$101 per night, staying 4.95 nights
- International visitors accounted for 3.77% with an estimated 740,000 visits during 2008
- 5.6 million visits were made to Utah's five national parks; 3.0 million visits occurred at Utah's seven national monuments and two national recreation areas; and 4.5 million visits happened at Utah's 41 state parks

⁵ Source: Salt Lake City International Airport

⁶ Source: Utah Office of Tourism

ARTS & CULTURE HIGHLIGHTS

- Performing arts organizations include Ballet West, Mormon Tabernacle Choir, Pioneer Theater Company, Repertory Dance Theatre, Tuacahn Amphitheatre, Ririe Woodbury Dance Company, Odyssey Dance Utah, and Utah Symphony and Opera.⁷
- Cedar City’s annual Shakespearean Festival is recognized as one of the finest in the country, winning the 2000 Tony Award for Best Regional Theater.
- The Utah Arts Council represents more than 400 organizations for performing, visual and literary arts.
- The Intermountain West’s only collection of world art is on display at the Utah Museum of Fine Arts on the campus of the University of Utah.
- Other attractions include the Clark Planetarium, the Children’s Museum of Utah, the Museum of Natural History and the Museum of Ancient Life, the largest dinosaur museum in the world. This museum is home to more than 50 dinosaur skeletal displays.

PROFESSIONAL SPORTS TEAMS⁸

- **Ogden Raptors** – Minor League Baseball, A Affiliate of the Los Angeles Dodgers
- **Orem Owlz** – Minor League Baseball, A Affiliate of the Los Angeles Angels
- **Real Salt Lake** – Professional Soccer, Major League Soccer
- **Salt Lake Bees** – Minor League Baseball, AAA Affiliate of the Anaheim Angels
- **Utah Blaze** – Arena Football, Arena Football League
- **Utah Blitz** – Professional Soccer, Professional Soccer League
- **Utah Grizzlies** – Professional Hockey, American Hockey League
- **Utah Jazz** – Professional Basketball, National Basketball Association
- **Utah Salt Ratz** – Professional Soccer, Men’s Premier Soccer League
- **Utah Snowbears** – Professional Basketball, American Basketball Association
- **Utah Spiders** – Professional Soccer, Women’s Premier Soccer League

RECREATION HIGHLIGHTS⁹

- **Winter Sports** – Utah boasts 13 world-class winter resorts and receives an average of 500 inches of “The Greatest Snow on Earth” every winter season.
- **Parks** – Utah offers a combined total of 41 heritage, scenic and recreation state parks, five national parks, seven national monuments, two national recreation areas, and six national forest areas that cover over nine million acres of land.
- **Recreational Activities** – Top recreation activities throughout Utah include: biking, boating, camping, fishing, golfing, hiking, horseback riding, hunting, mountain climbing, rappelling, riding all-terrain vehicles, river rafting, running, skiing, snowboarding, snowmobiling, and snowshoeing.

⁷ Source: Salt Lake Chamber

⁸ Source: Utah Sports Commission

⁹ Source: Utah Travel & Adventure

CLIMATE¹⁰

Utah has a four-season climate with an average of 237 sunny days a year. Utah's terrain ranges from the Great Salt Lake Desert, to the sandstone in southern Utah, to the forested Uintah Mountains. Here are a few climate facts about the state of Utah:

- **Elevation** – 2,200 feet to 13,500 feet
- **Average Annual Precipitation** – 17.75 inches, with May receiving the most precipitation with 2.31 inches and August receiving the least precipitation with 0.64 inches
- **Average January High and Low Temperatures** – 39 degrees and 25 degrees, respectively
- **Average July High and Low Temperatures** – 89 degrees and 67 degrees, respectively

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION OF UTAH (EDCUtah)

The Economic Development Corporation of Utah (EDCUtah) is a private, statewide, non-profit organization formed in 1987 to provide a unified and professionally managed economic development program promoting the state of Utah.

EDCUtah is an investor-based organization with more than 230 private sector businesses, organizations, chambers of commerce, municipalities and counties. Through these partnerships, EDCUtah facilitates an ongoing effort to develop and nurture a thriving business climate throughout Utah.

EDCUtah specializes in assisting companies considering Utah for a business relocation or expansion. The corporate recruitment team of EDCUtah coordinates all of the information key decision makers and economic development/site consultants need as they evaluate Utah as a site location.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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¹⁰ Source: *Western Regional Climate Center*

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