

Demographic Characteristics of Salt Lake City In-Migrants

In 2022, Salt Lake City attracted approximately 44,000 in-migrants. These new residents represent 21% of the city's total population (204,653). This is much larger than the 3% state-wide share of in-migrants. The most recent American Community Survey (ACS) data provides insights into these new Salt Lake City residents.

Geography

Two-thirds of Salt Lake City's in-migrants moved from other areas within Utah, while one-third moved from another state or country. The largest domestic sources of Salt Lake City in-migrants outside of Utah are California and Texas, while the largest international sources of migrants were Northern Europe and Mexico.

While Salt Lake City in-migrants largely moved from within Utah, the largest share of these in-migrants were born in another state or country. About 40% were born in another state, 35% were born in Utah, and almost a quarter were born abroad. The most prominent places of birth of Salt Lake City in-migrants, besides Utah, were California (8% of in-migrants) and Mexico (6% of in-migrants).

Table 1: Top Domestic and International Sources of Salt Lake City In-Migrants, 2022

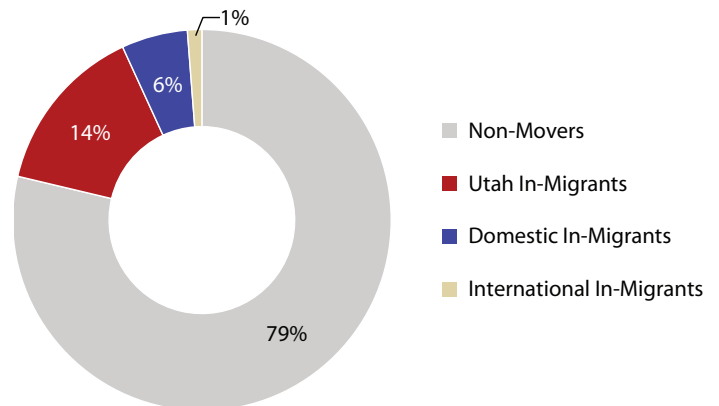
Previous Geography of Residence	In-migrants
Utah	30,000
Domestic	
California	2,300
Texas	1,500
Hawaii	800
Maryland	600
Florida	600
International	
Northern Europe	400
Mexico	400

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2022 American Community Survey, 1-year estimates-PUMS

METHODOLOGY

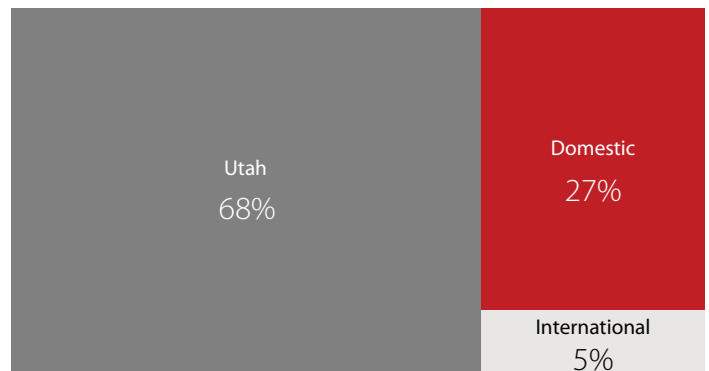
This report utilizes subcounty geographies that approximate the Salt Lake City boundaries but are not exact (see Figure 11 at the end of the report). However, almost all of Salt Lake City is included, along with Emigration Canyon. Generally, percentages are shown rather than numbered estimates and are a good representation of Salt Lake City's in-migrants.

Figure 1: Salt Lake City Residents by Migration Status, 2022



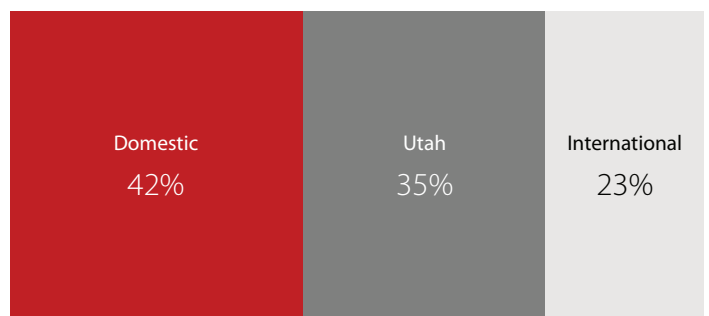
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2022 American Community Survey, 1-year estimates-PUMS

Figure 2: Salt Lake City In-Migrants' Place of Residence 1 Year Ago, 2022



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2022 American Community Survey, 1-year estimates- PUMS

Figure 3: Place of Birth of Salt Lake City In-Migrants, 2022



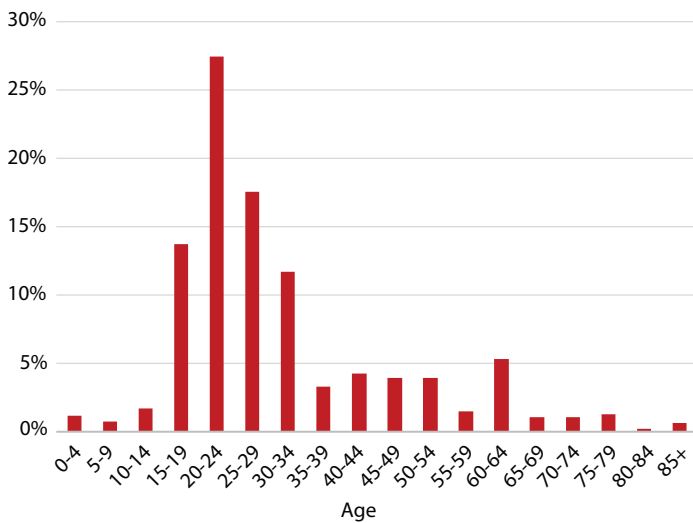
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2022 American Community Survey, 1-year estimates-PUMS

Demographic Characteristics

Salt Lake City's in-migrants are very young, with about half between the ages of 15 and 29. This is an expected trend due to the University of Utah, and Salt Lake City's status as the mean center of population and employment in the Greater Salt Lake economic region.¹ Salt Lake City in-migrants have a similar racial and ethnic makeup to the city's residents, with 63% identifying as White, non-Hispanic, and 20% identifying as Hispanic or Latino. Asian and Two or More Races are the next largest racial or ethnic groups, each making up 6% of the in-migrant population.

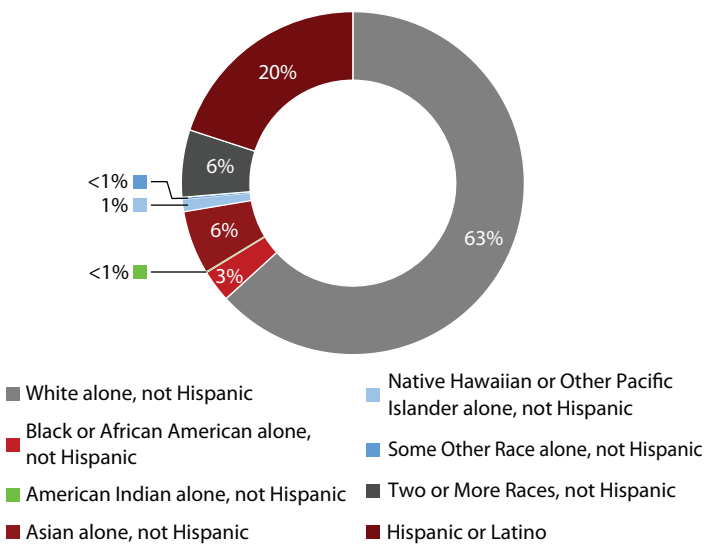
Salt Lake City migrants' employment differs from Utah's state level in-migrants. Approximately 75% of Salt Lake City's in-migrants ages 16 and over are employed, with only 17% not in the labor force. This differs from the statewide figure of approximately 65% employed and 30% not in the labor force.

Figure 4: Age Distribution of Salt Lake City In-Migrants, 2022



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2022 American Community Survey, 1-year estimates-PUMS

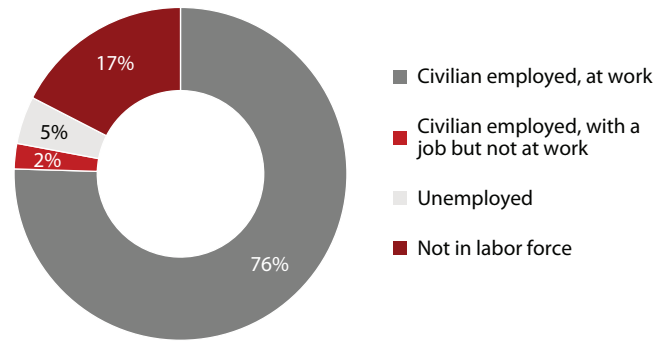
Figure 5: Race and Hispanic Origin of Salt Lake City In-Migrants, 2022



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2022 American Community Survey, 1-year estimates-PUMS

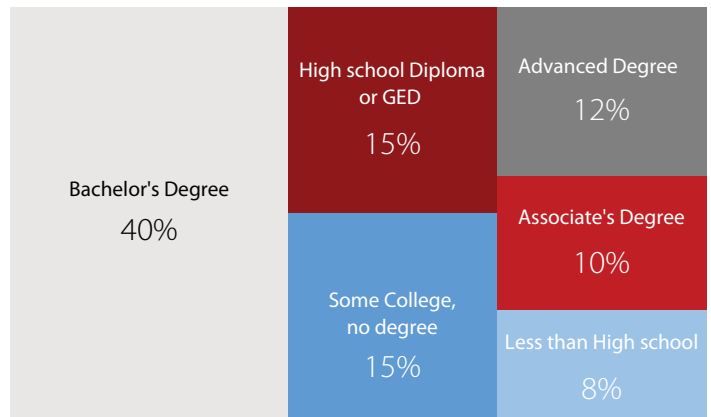
Half of Salt Lake City's in-migrants, aged 25 or over, have either bachelor's or advanced degrees, and approximately 15% have some college experience but no degrees. Approximately 40% of Salt Lake City's in-migrants are between 18 and 24 years old, the traditional college age group. A little less than two-thirds of those in the college age group attend undergraduate or graduate programs, while the other third do not.

Figure 6: Employment Status of Salt Lake City In-Migrants, Ages 16 and Older, 2022



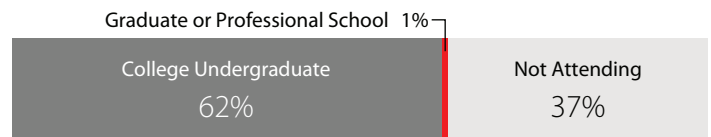
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2022 American Community Survey, 1-year estimates-PUMS

Figure 7: Educational Attainment of Salt Lake City Migrants, Ages 25 and Older, 2022



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2022 American Community Survey, 1-year estimates-PUMS

Figure 8: School Attendance of Salt Lake City In-Migrants, Ages 18-24, 2022



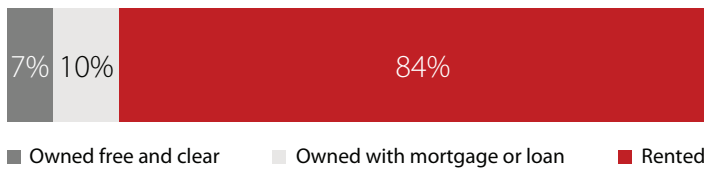
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2022 American Community Survey, 1-year estimates-PUMS

Household Characteristics

Within the first year of moving to Utah, only 17% of Salt Lake City in-migrants own their new residence, while the other 84% rent. This pattern differs from in-migrants statewide, where approximately 40% own their residence within the first year and slightly more than half rent.²

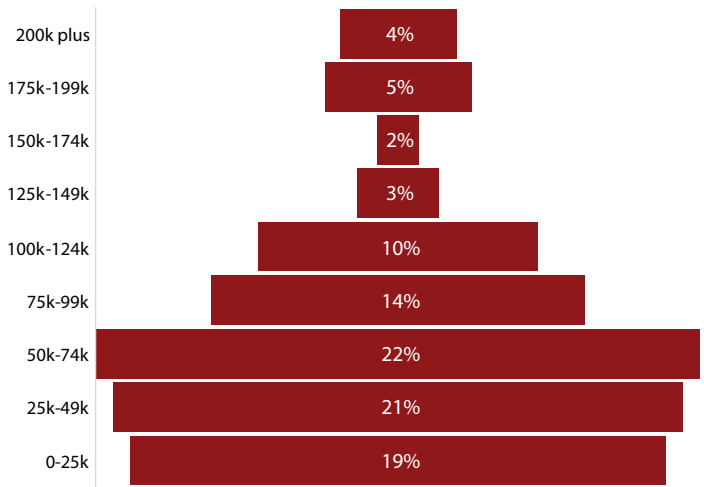
Household income is one factor that contributes to homeownership. Approximately 40% of Salt Lake City in-migrant households have household incomes of \$50,000 or less, and 75% of Salt Lake City in-migrants household incomes make less than \$100,000.

Figure 9: Housing Tenure of Salt Lake City In-Migrant Households, 2022



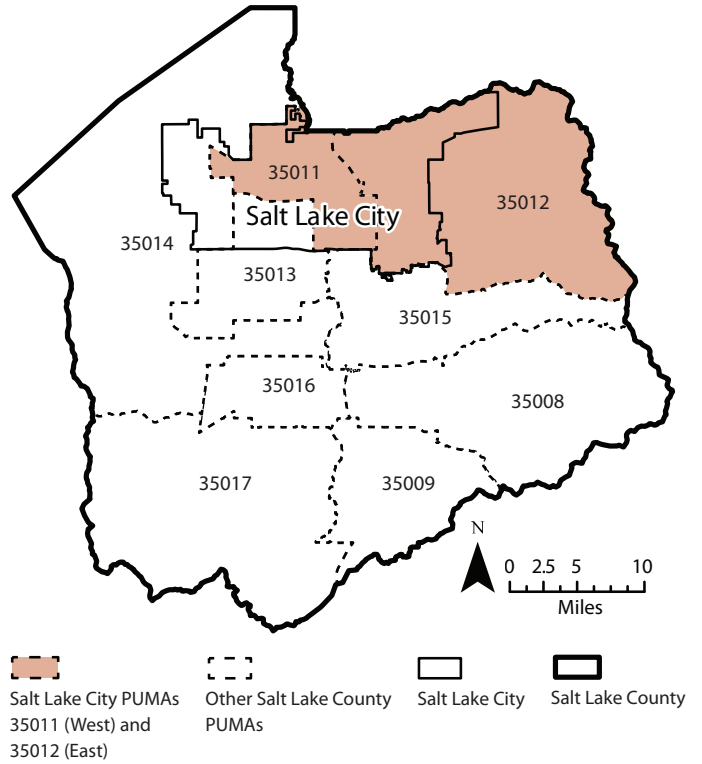
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2022 American Community Survey, 1-year estimates-PUMS

Figure 10: Household Income of Salt Lake City In-Migrant Households, 2022



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2022 American Community Survey, 1-year estimates-PUMS

Figure 11: Salt Lake City Municipal and PUMA Boundaries Reference Map



Note: The official 2022 ACS estimate for Salt Lake City is 204,653. However, the two PUMAs used in this analysis estimates a population of 207,723. This is due to PUMA boundaries that do not perfectly match the Salt Lake City municipality boundary. Only a small amount of Salt Lake City's population is in the 35013 and 35014 PUMAs. Additionally, Emigration Canyon is included in the 35012 Salt Lake City (East) boundary.

Endnotes

- 1 Albers, E. 2024. Mean Centers of Population and Employment in Utah's Economic Regions. Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute. Accessed at <https://d36oiwf74r1rap.cloudfront.net/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/Mean-Pop-Center-FS-Jun2024.pdf>
- 2 Harris, E. 2023. Characteristics of Utah's Migrants: A 2021 Update. Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute. Accessed at <https://d36oiwf74r1rap.cloudfront.net/wp-content/uploads/Migrant-Charac-FS-Jun2023.pdf>

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