

Utah at a Glance

Utah's population surpassed the three million mark in the fall of 2015. The state possesses distinctive demographics, including the nation's youngest population and largest household size. Utah also has a relatively urban population with the vast majority of residents living in the northern metropolitan counties. The state economy is growing rapidly compared to other states and includes a mix of industries. A hallmark of the Utah economy is globalization, both in terms of international exports and visitors. These and other economic and demographic indicators are highlighted in this Fact Sheet.

UTAH'S POPULATION

- **July 1, 2015** – Utah's population was 2,996,754.¹
- **Fifth fastest** – Utah experienced the fifth fastest population growth rate in the nation since the 2010 Census, adding an estimated 232,034 people as of July 1, 2015.
- **Natural increase** – From 1990 to 2015, approximately two-thirds of Utah's growth can be attributed to natural increase (births minus deaths). While Utah births have declined from a high in 2008, Utah continues to have the highest fertility rate in the nation.
- **Migration** – Approximately one-third of Utah's growth from 1990 to 2015 occurred because of net in-migration.
- **Migrants and their offspring** – Migrants to Utah are usually young and often have children once they relocate. If we consider the births to residents who have moved to the state, the full contribution of migrants to the state's population growth since 1990 is closer to one-half.²
- **Down to the minute** – From July 1, 2010 to July 1, 2015, Utah's population increased by approximately one person every 12 minutes. A baby was born every 10 minutes, someone died every 33 minutes, and someone moved into the state every 55 minutes.

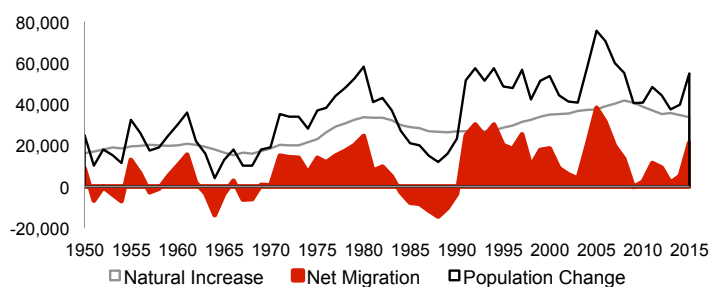
- **Young** – Utah has the lowest median age in the country at 30.7 in 2015, compared to 37.8 nationally. Like the nation, median age is increasing. Children under 18 years comprise 30.5 percent of Utah's total population in 2015, the highest in the country. The national share is 22.9 percent.
- **Large household size** – Utah has the largest household size in the country at 3.16 persons per household in 2014 compared to 2.65 nationally. Both are trending down since 1960.

Table 1
Fastest Growing States or Equivalent

2014-2015			2010 Census-2015		
Rank	State	Change	Rank	State	Change
1	North Dakota	2.3%	1	North Dakota	12.5%
2	Colorado	1.9%	2	D.C.	11.7%
3	D.C.	1.9%	3	Texas	9.2%
4	Nevada	1.9%	4	Colorado	8.5%
5	Florida	1.8%	5	Utah	8.4%
6	Texas	1.8%	6	Florida	7.8%
7	Utah	1.7%	7	Nevada	7.0%
8	Washington	1.5%	8	Arizona	6.8%
9	Arizona	1.5%	9	Washington	6.6%
10	Oregon	1.5%	10	South Carolina	5.9%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division

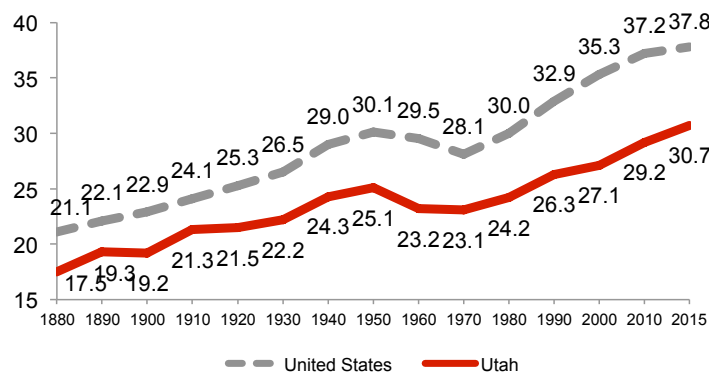
Figure 1
Utah Components of Population Change



Sources: Utah Population Estimates Committee (1950-2009); DemographyUTAH Population Committee (2010-2015)

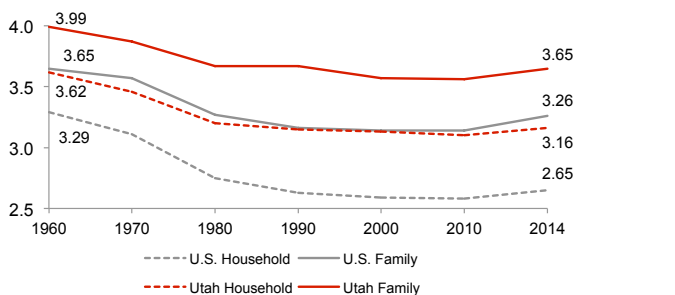
- **Fertility rate** – Utah has the highest fertility rate in the country at 2.33 births per woman in 2014 compared to 1.86 nationally. These rates have declined significantly since 1960.
- **Educational Attainment** – Utah’s percent of population over the age of 25 with a high school diploma in 2014 was 91.4 percent, which ranks 12th and the percent with a Bachelor’s degree and higher was 31.1 percent, which ranks 16th.
- **Race and Ethnicity** – Utah’s population continues to become more diverse. The minority population in Utah has increased from 14.7 percent in 2000 to 19.4 percent in 2010 and 21.0 percent in 2015.

Figure 2
Median Age for Utah and United States



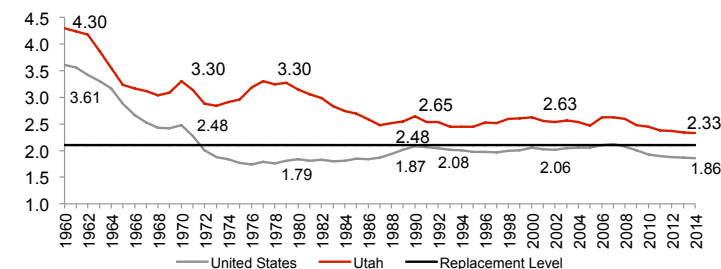
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Decennial Census; U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division

Figure 3
Average Household and Family Size for Utah and United States



Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, Decennial Census; U.S. Census Bureau 2014 American Community Survey

Figure 4
Total Fertility Rate for Utah and the United States



Note: The Replacement Level is the fertility level (2.1) at which the current population is replaced.
Source: National Center for Health Statistics

Table 2
Educational Attainment for the Population 25 Years and Over: 2014

High School Graduates			Bachelor's Degree or Higher		
Rank	State	Percent	Rank	State	Percent
	United States	91.4%		United States	30.1%
1	Alaska	92.9%	1	D.C.	55.0%
2	Minnesota	92.6%	2	Massachusetts	41.2%
2	Montana	92.6%	3	Colorado	38.3%
2	Wyoming	92.6%	4	Maryland	38.2%
5	New Hampshire	92.2%	5	Connecticut	38.0%
5	North Dakota	92.2%	6	New Jersey	37.4%
12	Utah	91.4%	16	Utah	31.1%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014 American Community Survey

Table 3
Utah Race and Hispanic Origin

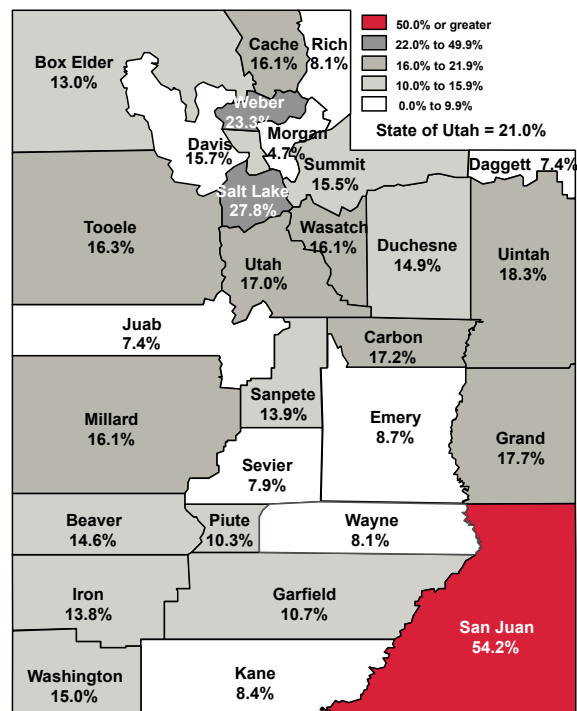
	2010 Census		2015 Estimate	
	Population	Percent of Total	Population	Percent of Total
Total Population	2,763,885	100.0%	2,995,919	100.0%
Not Hispanic or Latino	2,405,545	87.0%	2,584,776	86.3%
White	2,226,363	80.6%	2,367,093	79.0%
Black	26,328	1.0%	31,430	1.0%
AIAN	27,228	1.0%	29,206	1.0%
Asian	54,794	2.0%	70,971	2.4%
NHPI	24,183	0.9%	27,809	0.9%
Two or More Races	46,649	1.7%	58,267	1.9%
Hispanic	358,340	13.0%	411,143	13.7%
Total Minority*	537,522	19.4%	628,826	21.0%

*Minority is the total population less White, not Hispanic or Latino

Note: AIAN = American Indian or Alaska Native; NHPI = Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division

Figure 5
Minority Share of Population: July 1, 2015



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates

COUNTY POPULATION

Table 4
Fastest Growing Counties in Utah

2014-2015			2010 Census-2015		
Rank	County	Change	Rank	County	Change
1	Wasatch County	4.6%	1	Wasatch County	21.6%
2	Utah County	3.2%	2	Morgan County	17.0%
3	Morgan County	2.8%	3	Uintah County	14.8%
4	Washington Co.	2.7%	4	Utah County	13.3%
5	Iron County	2.5%	5	Washington Co.	11.9%
6	Cache County	2.5%	6	Duchesne Co.	11.9%
7	Piute County	2.4%	7	Davis County	9.7%
8	Juab County	2.3%	8	Tooele County	8.7%
9	Davis County	1.9%	9	Summit County	8.1%
10	Tooele County	1.7%	10	Cache County	8.1%

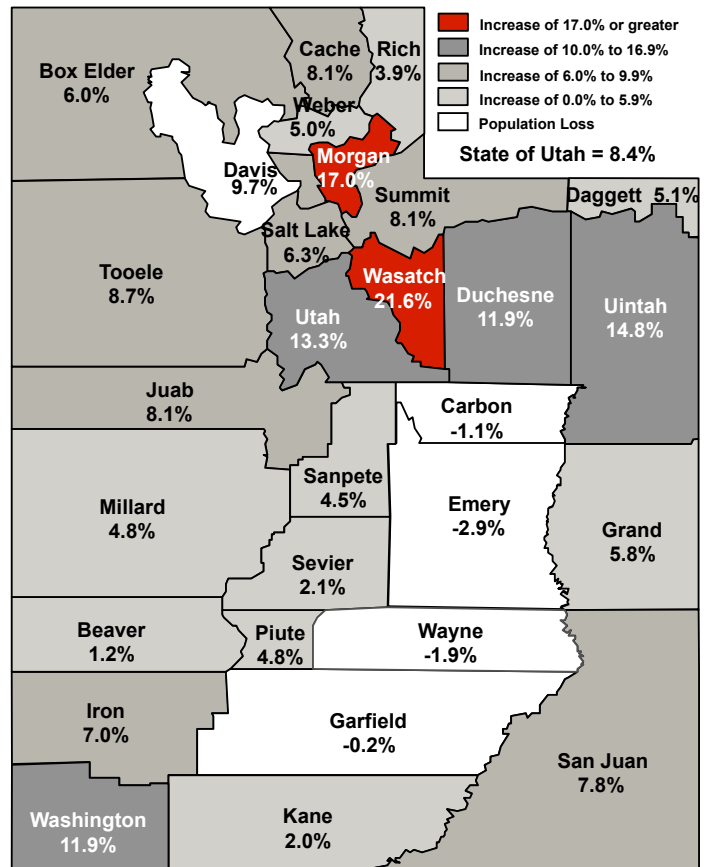
Source: U.S. Census Bureau; DemographyUTAH Population Committee

Table 5
Largest Counties in Utah

2010 Census			2015 Estimate		
Rank	County	Pop.	Rank	County	Pop.
1	Salt Lake County	1,029,655	1	Salt Lake County	1,094,289
2	Utah County	516,564	2	Utah County	585,480
3	Davis County	306,479	3	Davis County	336,090
4	Weber County	231,236	4	Weber County	242,737
5	Washington Co.	138,115	5	Washington Co.	154,580
6	Cache County	112,656	6	Cache County	121,803
7	Tooele County	58,218	7	Tooele County	63,262
8	Box Elder Co.	49,975	8	Box Elder Co.	52,973
9	Iron County	46,163	9	Iron County	49,406
10	Summit County	36,324	10	Summit County	39,277

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; DemographyUTAH Population Committee

Figure 6
Utah Population Growth Rates by County:
April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2015



Source: DemographyUTAH Population Committee

CITY POPULATION

Table 6
Fastest Growing Cities in Utah (Population 5,000+)

2014-2015			Census 2010-2015		
Rank	City	Change	Rank	City	Change
1	Bluffdale	10.4%	1	Bluffdale	43.9%
2	Herriman	7.7%	2	Saratoga Springs	42.9%
3	South Jordan	6.0%	3	Herriman	41.5%
4	Heber	4.9%	4	South Jordan	32.2%
5	Eagle Mountain	4.6%	5	Washington	29.5%
6	Saratoga Springs	4.3%	6	Eagle Mountain	27.6%
7	Pleasant View	4.2%	7	Heber	25.9%
8	Washington	4.1%	8	Farmington	23.5%
9	Farr West	4.1%	9	Lehi	23.4%
10	Nibley	4.0%	10	Vernal	23.2%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division

Table 7
Largest Cities in Utah

2010 Census			2015 Estimate		
Rank	City	Pop.	Rank	City	Pop.
1	Salt Lake City	186,440	1	Salt Lake City	192,672
2	West Valley City	129,480	2	West Valley City	136,208
3	Provo	112,488	3	Provo	115,264
4	West Jordan	103,712	4	West Jordan	111,946
5	Orem	88,328	5	Orem	94,457
6	Sandy	87,461	6	Sandy	93,613
7	Ogden	82,825	7	Ogden	85,444
8	St. George	72,897	8	St. George	80,202
9	Layton	67,311	9	Layton	74,143
10	Taylorsville	58,652	10	South Jordan	66,648

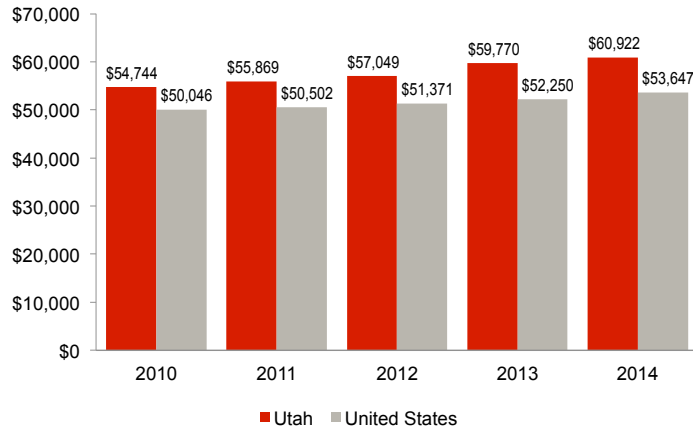
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division

INCOME AND PAY

Median Household Income – Utah’s 2014 median household income was 13.6 percent higher than the national median, and the 14th highest in the nation.

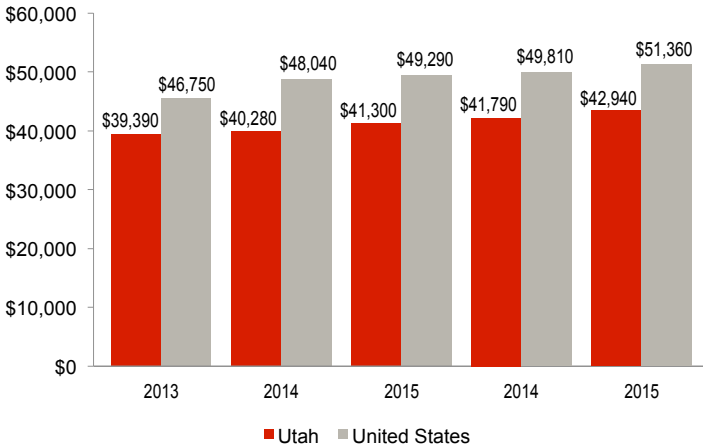
Average Annual Pay – At \$42,940, Utah’s 2014 average annual wage per employee was 16.3 percent lower than the national average, and the 15th lowest in the nation.

Figure 9
Median Household Income



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates

Figure 10
Average Annual Pay



Sources: Utah Department of Workforce Services; Bureau of Economic Analysis

EMPLOYMENT

Largest Employers – Six of the top 10 employers in the state are in the public sector, including four school districts and two higher education institutions.

Industry Employment – Utah’s economy is diverse, with employment distributed across industries. Trade, transportation, and utilities have the most employees (18.7 percent of total); Natural resources and mining have the least (0.8 percent of total).

Table 10
Employment by Industry: 2015

Employment Industry	2015	Percent of Total
Natural Resources & Mining	11,400	0.8%
Construction	87,100	6.1%
Manufacturing	126,700	8.9%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	265,900	18.7%
Information	38,100	2.7%
Financial Activities	81,600	5.7%
Professional & Business Services	202,800	14.3%
Education & Health Services	186,300	13.1%
Leisure & Hospitality	141,700	10.0%
Other Services	39,900	2.8%
Government*	239,000	16.8%
Total Employment	1,420,500	100.0%
Unemployment Rate	3.7%	

*Includes public education

Source: Utah Department of Workforce Services

Table 11
Largest Employers: 2014

Employer	Industry	Employment Range
Intermountain Healthcare	Health Care	20,000 +
State of Utah	State Government	20,000 +
University of Utah (+ Hospital)	Higher Education	20,000 +
Brigham Young University	Higher Education	15,000-19,999
Wal-Mart Associates	Supercenters	15,000-19,999
Hill Air Force Base	Federal Government	10,000-14,999
Davis County School District	Public Education	7,000-9,999
Granite School District	Public Education	7,000-9,999
Utah State University	Higher Education	7,000-9,999
Smith’s Food and Drug Centers	Grocery Stores	7,000-9999
U.S. Department of Treasury	Federal Government	5,000-6,999
Alpine School District	Public Education	5,000-6,999
Jordan School District	Public Education	5,000-6,999
Salt Lake County	Local Government	5,000-6,999
Utah Valley University	Higher Education	5,000-6,999
U.S. Postal Service	Federal Government	4,000-4,999
Zions Bank Mangement Services	Banking	4,000-4,999
The Canyons School District	Public Education	4,000-4,999
The Home Depot	Home Centers	4,000-4,999

Source: Utah Department of Workforce Services

LAND USE

Urban – Utah has the 9th highest urban population in the nation at 90.6 percent, meaning that the population is concentrated in urban areas. Maine is the least urban state with 38.7 percent. An area is considered urban if the core census block groups or blocks have a population density of at least 1,000 people per square mile and the surrounding census blocks have an overall density of at least 500 people per square mile.

Wasatch Front – Just over 75 percent of the population in Utah is concentrated in the four counties along the Wasatch Front: Salt Lake, Utah, Davis, and Weber.

Population Density – There are 37 persons per square mile in Utah (calculation uses all land area and 2015 DemographyUTAH Population Committee estimates). Salt Lake County (1,484 persons per sq. mile) and Davis County (1,104 persons per sq. mile) are the most densely populated counties in the state.

Table 8
Ten Most Urban States or Equivalent

2000 Census			2010 Census		
Rank	State	Percent	Rank	State	Percent
1	D.C.	100.0%	1	D.C.	100.0%
2	New Jersey	94.7%	2	California	95.0%
3	California	93.2%	3	New Jersey	94.7%
4	Massachusetts	91.1%	4	Nevada	94.2%
5	Rhode Island	90.9%	5	Massachusetts	92.0%
6	Nevada	90.6%	6	Hawaii	91.9%
7	Hawaii	90.0%	7	Florida	91.2%
8	Florida	89.3%	8	Rhode Island	90.7%
9	Connecticut	87.9%	9	Utah	90.6%
10	Illinois	87.3%	10	Arizona	89.9%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Table 9
Utah Land Ownership as a Percent of Total Land

Rank	Owner	Acres	Percent of Total
1	Federal	34,988,617	63.6%
2	Private	11,427,184	21.2%
3	State	5,450,793	10.1%
4	Indian Reservations	2,448,831	4.5%

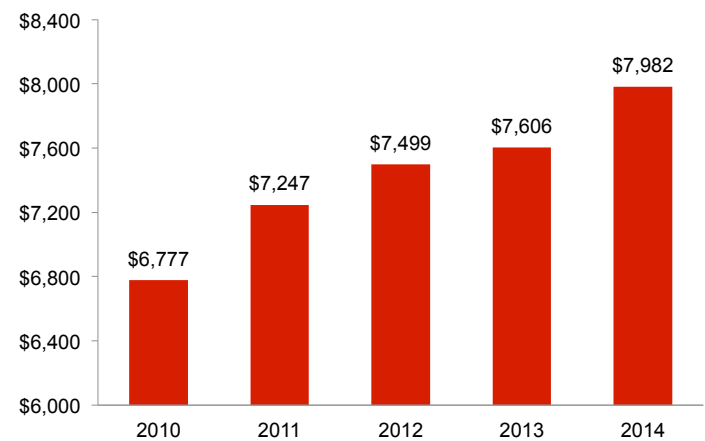
Source: Governor's Office of Management and Budget

TOURISM

Visitor Spending – The tourist industry brought in an estimated 7.9 billion dollars to the state in 2014. The industry continues to grow with visitor spending increasing 17.8 percent since 2010.

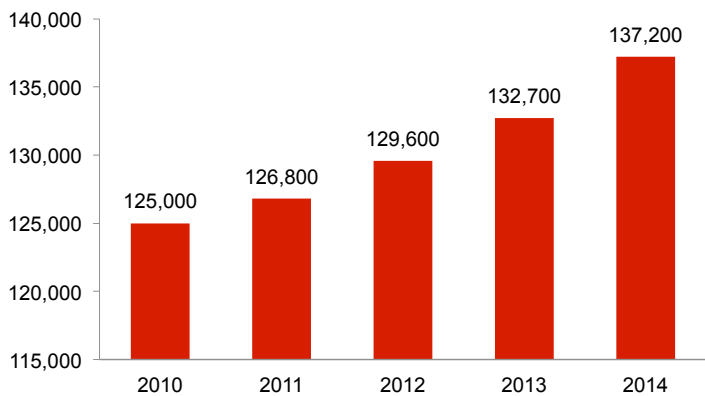
Tourism Jobs – A total of 137,200 jobs were supported by the tourist industry in 2014, this is an increase of 12,200 jobs since 2010.

Figure 7
Total Visitor Spending (Millions of 2014 Dollars)



Source: Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute analysis of TNS Global data

Figure 8
Total Tourism-Generated Jobs*



*Direct, indirect, and induced

Source: Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute analysis of Utah Department of Workforce Services data

Table 12
Total Visitor Spending by Spending Category, 2014 (In Millions)

Category	Nonresident	Resident	Total
Auto Transportation (Gasoline, car rental, parking, etc.)	\$2,112	\$549	\$2,661
Public Transportation (airfare, train, bus, taxi, etc.)	\$1,568	\$117	\$1,685
Lodging	\$1,149	\$113	\$1,262
Food/Beverage/Dining (excluding groceries)	\$1,050	\$148	\$1,198
Shopping/Gifts/Souvenirs	\$393	\$99	\$492
Groceries	\$209	\$76	\$285
Entertainment/Admissions	\$120	\$47	\$167
Other	\$123	\$9	\$132
Amenities (golf fees, spa, health club, ski passes, etc.)	\$87	\$13	\$100
Total	\$6,811	\$1,171	\$7,982

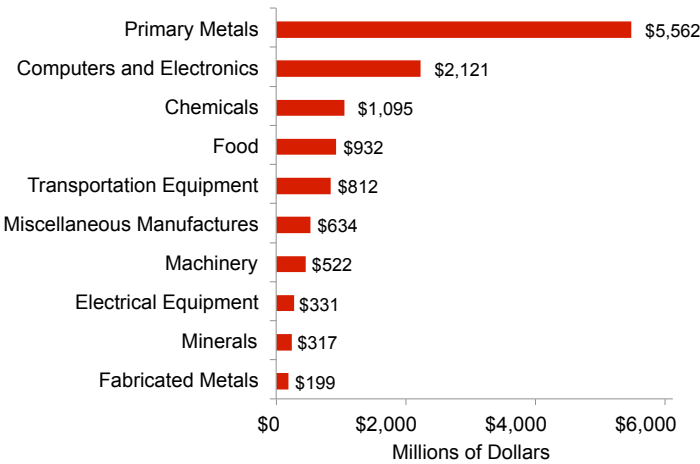
Source: TNS Global

EXPORTS

Trading across the World– Six of Utah’s top ten purchasing countries for merchandise exports in 2015 were in Asia, two in Europe, and two in North America.

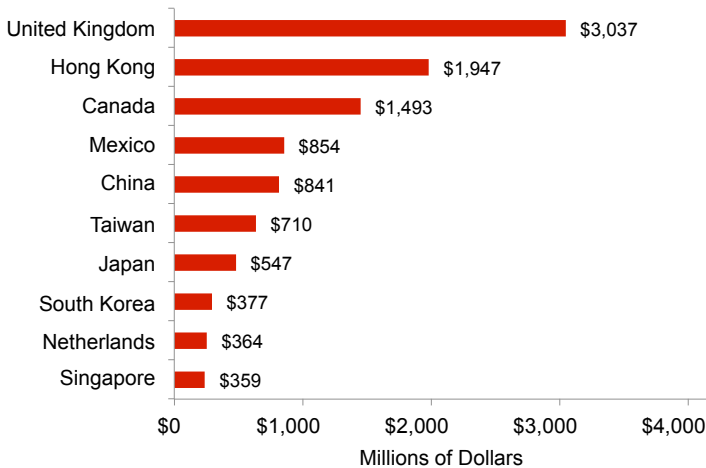
Metals – Primary metals (\$5.6 billion) were Utah’s top industry for merchandise export in 2015 followed by computers and electronics (\$2.1 billion), and chemicals (1.1 billion).

Figure 11
Utah's Top Ten Industries for Merchandise Export – 2014



Sources: U.S. Census Bureau

Figure 12
Utah's Top Ten Purchasing Countries for Merchandise Exports – 2014



Sources: U.S. Census Bureau

UTAH BUDGET

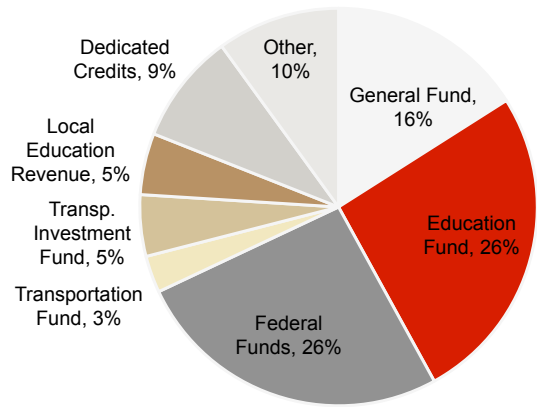
Education Revenue – Education fund revenues, which are comprised of individual and corporate income-taxes, make up about 26 percent of Utah’s budget. General Fund revenues, which are comprised mainly of sales taxes, make up 16 percent of the budget.

Education Spending – Spending on public education accounts for 42 percent of Utah’s total budget.

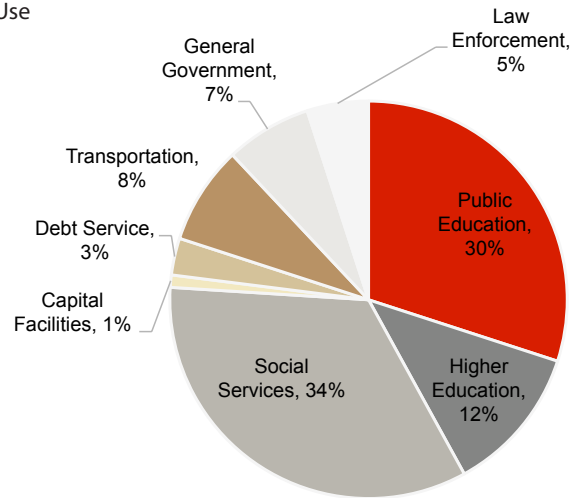
Social Services – Spending on social services, including Medicaid, accounts for 34 percent of all expenditures.

Figure 13
Utah Budget by Fund Source and Use: FY 2017

By Fund Source



By Use



Source: Office of Legislative Fiscal Analysts

Endnotes:

1. This Fact Sheet includes two primary sources for population estimates: The U.S. Census Bureau and the DemographyUtah Population Committee. The former is used for state-by-state comparisons, city (place) estimates, and decennial census counts. The latter is used for July 1 estimates at the state and county level. Any additional sources are noted.
2. Hollingshaus, M., & Perlich, P. S. (2016). Migrant Today, Parent Tomorrow: A Zero Migration Simulation. Salt Lake City, UT: Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute, University of Utah. http://gardner.utah.edu/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/20160316_3Million.pdf



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