

# U.S. Census Bureau Estimates by Metropolitan and Micropolitan Areas, 2022

Each year, the Census Bureau produces population estimates at varying levels of geography. Part of the Census Bureau's most recent release on May 18, 2023 provides population estimates for metropolitan areas and micropolitan areas in the United States and Puerto Rico.

## The Nation and Utah

The U.S. metropolitan areas saw a 0.4% population increase between 2021 and 2022. Approximately two-thirds of the 384 U.S. metro areas experienced population increases between 2021 and 2022.

This release highlighted one Utah metropolitan statistical area and one Utah micropolitan area as ranking in the top 10 nationally:

- St. George metropolitan area ranked 7th in the national percentage growth rankings with a high growth rate of 3.24% (6,204 people) increase.
- Cedar City micropolitan area ranked 6th in the national percentage growth rankings (3.15%) and 9th in the national absolute growth rankings (1,907 people).

## Utah's Metropolitan and Micropolitan Area Highlights

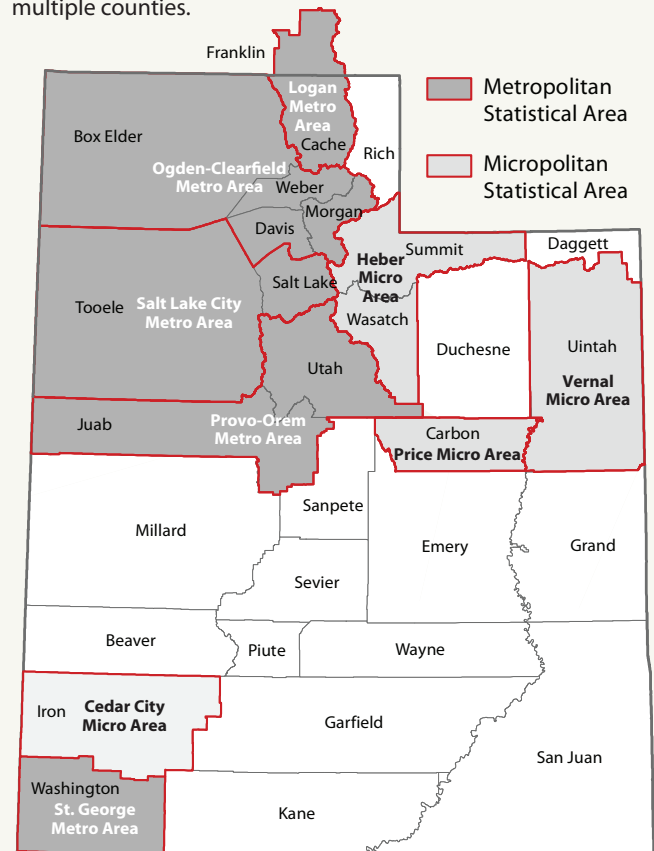
Utah population growth moderated in 2022, resulting in lower and slower population growth across the metro and micro areas. Provo-Orem had the largest increase in population between 2021 and 2022 (17,003 people), followed by Ogden-Clearfield (7,445 people) and St. George (6,204 people). The Salt Lake metro area had the lowest percent change, increasing by only 0.2%.

For Logan, St. George, Provo-Orem, and Salt Lake, growth was mostly driven by a single county in the metropolitan area. However, Tooele County drove all the Salt Lake metro area's growth this year rather than Salt Lake County. With four contributing counties, Ogden-Clearfield had two counties (Weber and Davis) driving almost 75% of the metro's growth.

Of the four micropolitan areas, Cedar City had the largest absolute and percentage growth with a 3.2% increase (1,907 people). Vernal increased by 909 people (2.5%), and Heber and Price experienced 1.0% or lower increases in population. No micropolitan areas had population declines this year.

## What are Metropolitan and Micropolitan Areas?

Metropolitan and micropolitan areas are statistical boundaries delineated by the United States Office of Management and Budget and named after the largest city (or cities) in the region. County boundaries provide the basis for both types of statistical areas, with some of the larger metropolitan areas including multiple counties.



**Metropolitan areas** include at least one urbanized area with 50,000 or more inhabitants.

**Micropolitan areas** are smaller and include at least one urban cluster of at least 10,000 but less than 50,000 inhabitants.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau TIGER Database

**Table 1: 2022 Census Bureau Estimates, Utah Metropolitan and Micropolitan Statistical Areas**

METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS				
Area	Associated County(s)	2022 Estimate	2021 to 2022 Change	
			Absolute	Percent
Logan, UT-ID	Cache, Franklin (ID)	155,362	3,257	2.1%
Ogden-Clearfield, UT	Weber, Davis, Morgan, Box Elder	713,839	7,445	1.1%
Provo-Orem, UT	Utah, Juab	715,001	17,003	2.4%
St. George, UT	Washington	197,680	6,204	3.2%
Salt Lake City, UT	Salt Lake, Tooele	1,266,191	3,017	0.2%

MICROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS				
Area	Associated County(s)	2022 Estimate	2021 to 2022 Change	
			Absolute	Percent
Cedar City, UT	Iron	62,429	1,907	3.2%
Heber, UT	Summit, Wasatch	79,655	227	0.3%
Price, UT	Carbon	20,571	210	1.0%
Vernal, UT	Uintah	37,141	909	2.5%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Vintage 2022 Population Estimates

**Table 2: County Share of Metropolitan Statistical Area Growth, Utah, 2021-2022**

Ogden-Clearfield		Provo-Orem		Salt Lake City		Logan, UT-ID	
Weber	39.9%	Utah	97.8%	Salt Lake	0.0%	Cache (UT)	84.2%
Davis	33.6%	Juab	2.2%	Tooele	100.0%	Franklin (ID)	15.8%
Morgan	2.2%						
Box Elder	24.2%						

Note: St. George metro area is comprised of only one county (Washington County) and not included in this table.

Source: Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute analysis of U.S. Census Bureau, Vintage 2022 Population Estimates