

## Wayne County



Wayne County is the third smallest county in Utah, with a 2020 Census population of 2,486.<sup>1</sup> Between 2010 and 2020, Wayne County declined by 292 residents, primarily driven by out-migration.

Wayne County's population is projected to grow from 2,490 on July 1, 2020 to 3,028 in 2060. The median age is projected to rise from 42.5 in 2020 to 42.7 in 2060. Additional details on age groups are included below.

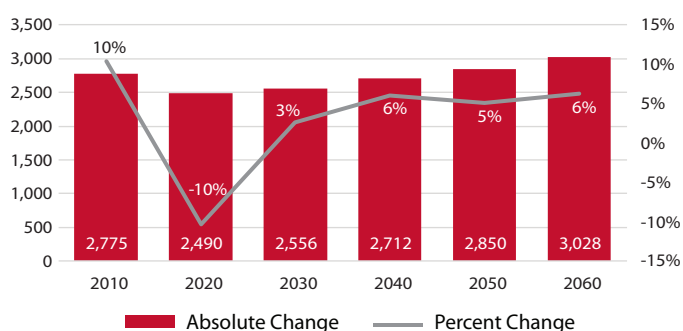
Wayne County's economy ranks among Utah's less economically diverse economies in the state. Analysts expect the economy to grow, driven by population growth and tourism assets.

## Key Findings

- **Historical population context** – Between 2010 and 2020, Wayne County declined by 292 residents. Driven by out-migration, this resulted in a 2020 Census population of 2,486, the 3rd smallest in Utah.
- **Regional context** – Wayne County shares an economic link with Piute, Millard, Sevier and Sanpete counties. This five-county economic region functions largely as a single consumer market and labor market.
- **Population growth** – Wayne County's population is projected to grow from 2,490 on July 1, 2020 to 3,028 in 2060. Wayne County's overall population is projected to remain at third smallest in the state between 2020 and 2060.
- **Components of change** – Net migration is projected to be the primary driver of growth starting in 2028.
- **Age composition** – Wayne County's population ages over the projection horizon. The share of the total population age 65 and older is projected to increase from 22.8% in 2020 to 23.6% in 2060. The share of the population under 18 is projected to remain fairly stable, shifting from 21.3% in 2020 to 22.3% in 2060. The median age is projected to rise from 42.5 in 2020 to 42.7 in 2060.

- **Economic growth** – Wayne County's employment is projected to increase from 1,903 in 2020 to 2,688 in 2060. Growth sectors include accommodation and food services, construction, health care and social services, and arts, entertainment and recreation, contributing 74% of growth over the projection period.

**Historic and Projected Growth in Wayne County**



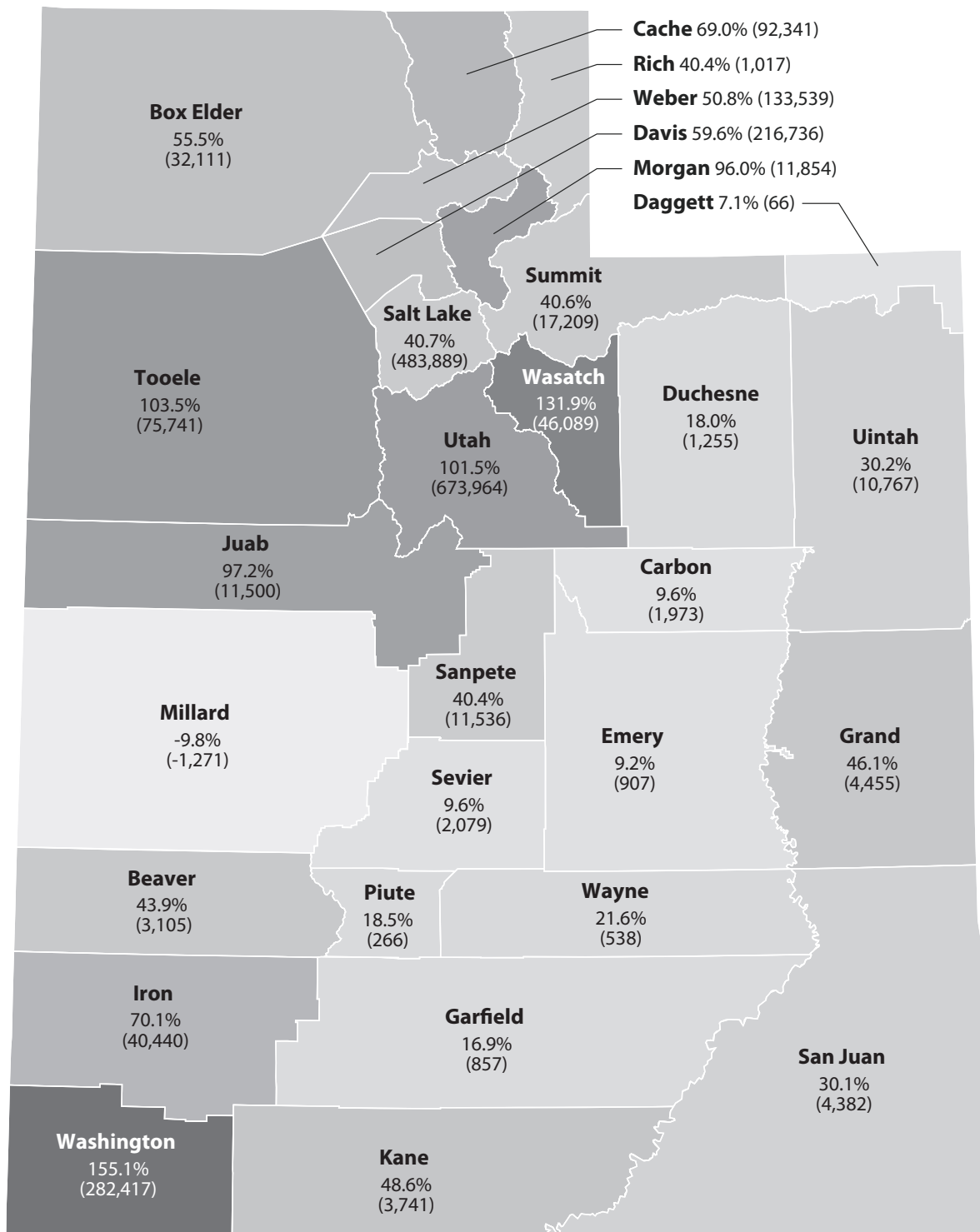
Source: Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute, 2020-2060 Projections

# Assumptions

- **Fertility** – The estimated 2020 Total Fertility Rate (TFR) for Wayne County is 2.11. The TFRs in all regions are predicted to decline, resulting in a TFR of 1.89 in Wayne County in 2060. Statewide, the TFR is projected to decline from 1.99 in 2020 to 1.78 in 2060.
- **Life expectancy** – The estimated 2020 life expectancy for Wayne County males is 75.9 and 80.3 for females. Based on historical trends, we project it to rise to 81.7 for males and 85.5 for females by 2060.
- **Resource constraints and policy choices** – These projections for Wayne County assume no land (including slopes, flood plains, and soils), water, or other resource constraints. Policy choices such as land use, community preferences, and opportunity zones are considered as part of the local review process.

# Utah Projected County Population

## Absolute and Percent Change, 2020 to 2060



Source: Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute, 2020-2060 Projections

# Projected Wayne County Growth by Category, 2020–2060

Year	Population				Employment			Households			
	Population	Absolute Change	Annual Growth Rate	Median Age	Employment	Absolute Change	Annual Growth Rate	Households	Absolute Change	Annual Growth Rate	Persons Per Household
2020	2,490	n/a	n/a	42.5	1,917	n/a	n/a	1,064	n/a	n/a	2.3
2021	2,504	14	0.6%	42.3	1,981	64	3.3%	1,064	0	0.0%	2.3
2022	2,508	4	0.2%	42.7	2,008	27	1.4%	1,075	11	1.0%	2.3
2023	2,514	6	0.2%	43.1	2,082	74	3.7%	1,089	14	1.3%	2.3
2024	2,524	10	0.4%	43.5	2,142	60	2.9%	1,099	10	0.9%	2.3
2025	2,525	1	0.0%	43.9	2,163	21	1.0%	1,107	8	0.7%	2.3
2026	2,526	1	0.0%	44.3	2,177	14	0.6%	1,110	3	0.3%	2.3
2027	2,530	4	0.2%	44.6	2,191	14	0.6%	1,113	3	0.3%	2.3
2028	2,536	6	0.2%	44.7	2,204	13	0.6%	1,120	7	0.6%	2.3
2029	2,545	9	0.4%	44.7	2,223	19	0.9%	1,128	8	0.7%	2.3
2030	2,556	11	0.4%	44.6	2,240	17	0.8%	1,121	-7	-0.6%	2.3
2031	2,569	13	0.5%	44.4	2,249	9	0.4%	1,128	7	0.6%	2.3
2032	2,582	13	0.5%	44.2	2,258	9	0.4%	1,132	4	0.4%	2.3
2033	2,595	13	0.5%	43.8	2,267	9	0.4%	1,136	4	0.4%	2.3
2034	2,610	15	0.6%	43.5	2,276	9	0.4%	1,134	-2	-0.2%	2.3
2035	2,626	16	0.6%	43.4	2,287	11	0.5%	1,138	4	0.4%	2.3
2036	2,643	17	0.6%	43.5	2,296	9	0.4%	1,140	2	0.2%	2.3
2037	2,661	18	0.7%	43.6	2,311	15	0.7%	1,149	9	0.8%	2.3
2038	2,678	17	0.6%	43.6	2,321	10	0.4%	1,145	-4	-0.3%	2.3
2039	2,695	17	0.6%	43.5	2,334	13	0.6%	1,144	-1	-0.1%	2.4
2040	2,712	17	0.6%	43.4	2,347	13	0.6%	1,149	5	0.4%	2.4
2041	2,729	17	0.6%	43.3	2,363	16	0.7%	1,157	8	0.7%	2.4
2042	2,745	16	0.6%	43.3	2,374	11	0.5%	1,159	2	0.2%	2.4
2043	2,762	17	0.6%	43.2	2,389	15	0.6%	1,171	12	1.0%	2.4
2044	2,777	15	0.5%	43.2	2,404	15	0.6%	1,176	5	0.4%	2.4
2045	2,792	15	0.5%	43.2	2,422	18	0.7%	1,187	11	0.9%	2.3
2046	2,805	13	0.5%	43.3	2,440	18	0.7%	1,189	2	0.2%	2.4
2047	2,818	13	0.5%	43.5	2,460	20	0.8%	1,201	12	1.0%	2.3
2048	2,829	11	0.4%	43.7	2,480	20	0.8%	1,210	9	0.7%	2.3
2049	2,840	11	0.4%	43.9	2,502	22	0.9%	1,220	10	0.8%	2.3
2050	2,850	10	0.4%	43.9	2,525	23	0.9%	1,223	3	0.2%	2.3
2051	2,861	11	0.4%	43.9	2,541	16	0.6%	1,238	15	1.2%	2.3
2052	2,871	10	0.3%	43.9	2,557	16	0.6%	1,250	12	1.0%	2.3
2053	2,883	12	0.4%	44.0	2,572	15	0.6%	1,264	14	1.1%	2.3
2054	2,895	12	0.4%	44.0	2,586	14	0.5%	1,276	12	0.9%	2.3
2055	2,911	16	0.6%	43.9	2,600	14	0.5%	1,281	5	0.4%	2.3
2056	2,928	17	0.6%	43.8	2,614	14	0.5%	1,294	13	1.0%	2.3
2057	2,949	21	0.7%	43.5	2,628	14	0.5%	1,311	17	1.3%	2.2
2058	2,973	24	0.8%	43.2	2,646	18	0.7%	1,320	9	0.7%	2.2
2059	2,999	26	0.9%	43.0	2,667	21	0.8%	1,337	17	1.3%	2.2
2060	3,028	29	1.0%	42.7	2,688	21	0.8%	1,356	19	1.4%	2.2

Source: Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute, 2020–2060 Projections

## Endnote

1 The decennial census count is as of April 1, 2020. Projections are as of July 1 of each year.