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# Population Data – Sources & Uses

Government Operations Interim Committee

September 18, 2024

# Uses of Population Data



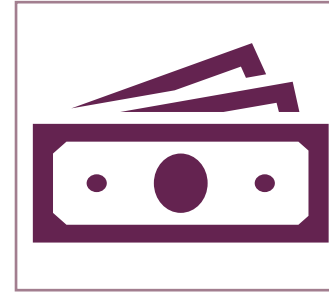
## Planning

Land use  
Transportation



## Redistricting

Congressional districts  
Legislative districts  
School board districts



## Funding

Sales tax distribution  
Roads



## Regulating

Municipal and county  
classification



# Sources of Population Data

## U.S. Bureau of the Census (Census)

- Conducts the decennial enumeration
- Prepares annual state population estimates

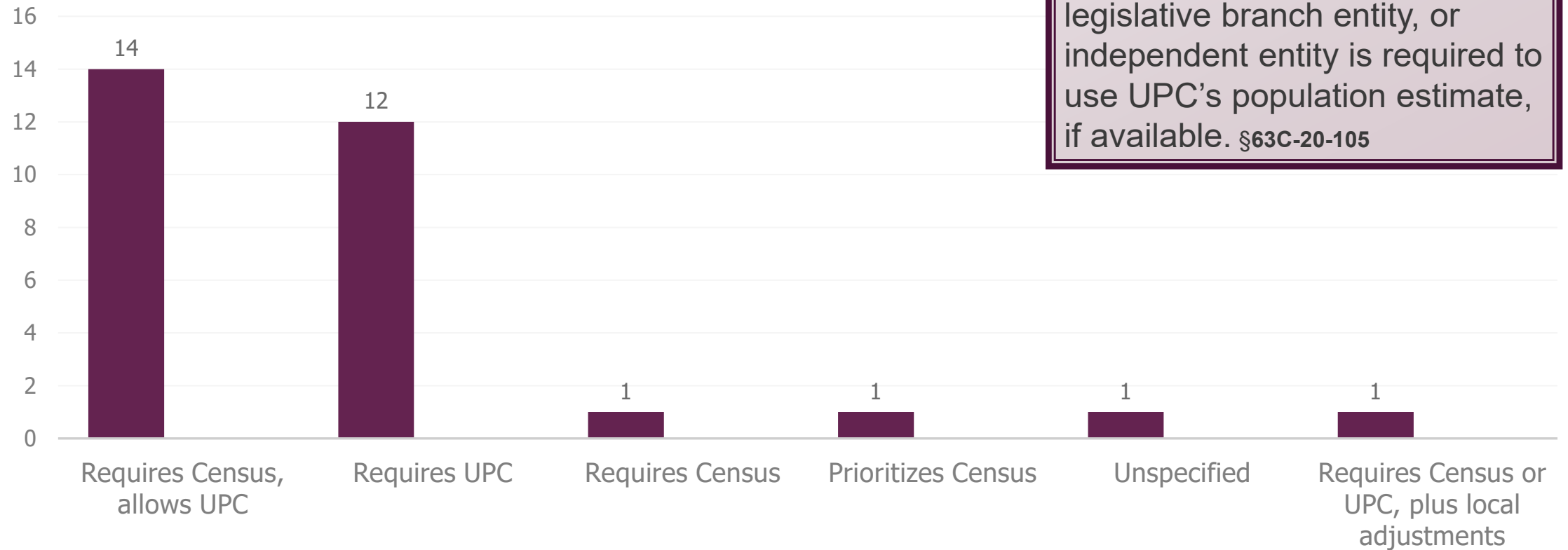
## Utah Population Committee (UPC)

- Created by statute
- Prepares annual state and county population estimates



# Statutorily Required Sources

Except as otherwise provided, an executive branch entity, legislative branch entity, or independent entity is required to use UPC's population estimate, if available. §63C-20-105



# Problem

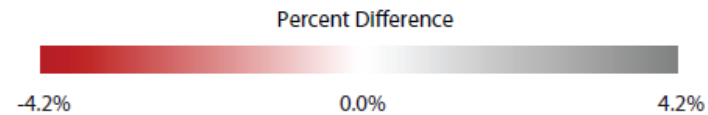
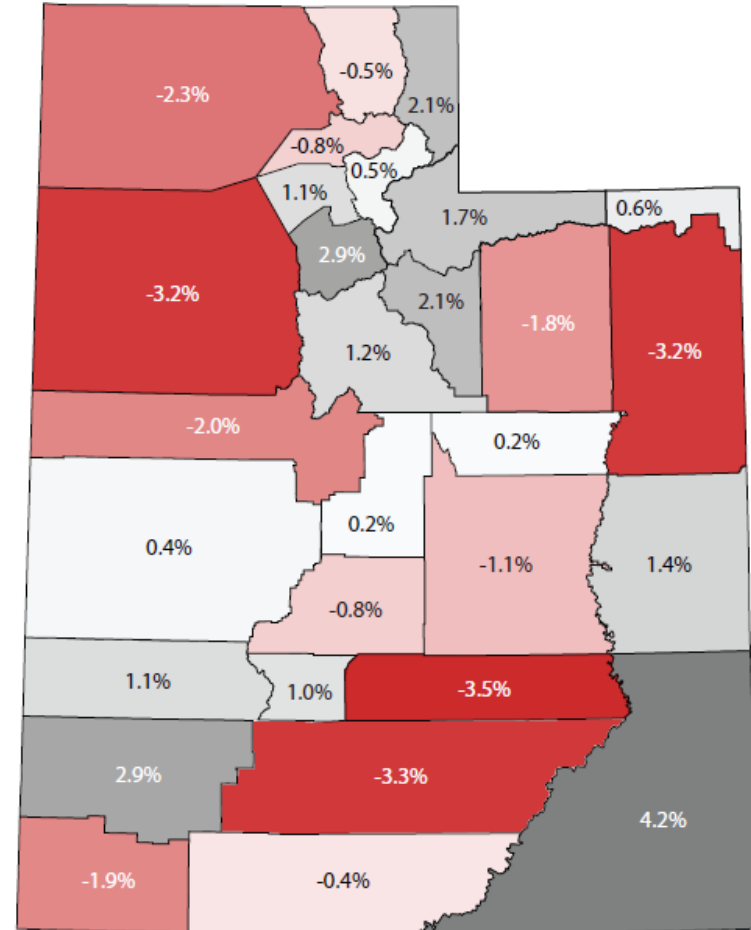
- Growing divergence between the Census and UPC estimates
- UPC recommended for Utah-only purposes
- Census recommended for comparing to other areas of the U.S.

# Question

- Should UPC's estimates be the primary source in statute?

# Considerations

- Utah Constitution likely requires that Census data be used for congressional and state legislative redistricting, but otherwise the Legislature may specify a source by statute



Source: U.S. Census Bureau Population Division, Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute. Calculations by Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute.





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