# Utah's Population Growth: State, County, and City Changes 2000-2010 

## HIGHLIGHTS

- During the past decade, Utah was the third fastest growing state in the nation, growing by $23.8 \%$, or 530,716 people.
- The four fastest growing states in the nation are all Mountain states - Nevada (35.1\%), Arizona (24.6\%), Utah (23.8\%), and Idaho (21.1\%).
- Utah's county population growth for this last decade continues a long trend of increasing urbanization along the Wasatch Front. Today, over three out of every four Utahns live in the four most populous counties: Salt Lake, Utah, Davis, and Weber.
- Utah's fastest growing cities during the last decade reflect trends similar to the growth of the state's counties, showing significant growth along the Wasatch Front. Nine of the ten fastest growing cities with populations over 9,000 are located in either Salt Lake, Utah, Davis, or Weber counties. Six of the top ten were in rapidly-growing Utah County.
- Utah's racial and ethnic composition is changing, with marked growth over the past decade in the Hispanic population.
- The annual growth rate of Utah's 65 and older age group is projected to increase from between $2 \%$ to $4 \%$ during the past decade to about $5 \%$ in 2012, and remain near a $5 \%$ growth rate through 2020.
- Though Utah's school-age population will continue to grow for some years, the rate of growth is projected to slow considerably over the coming decade.

The federal government conducts the constitutionallyrequired census of the United States population every ten years. In addition to providing data for apportionment of congressional seats, the decennial census provides information on demographic trends. Using 2010 Census data released during the last year, this briefing paper examines population trends at various levels of detail, including trends by state, county, city, racial/ethnic background, and age.

## UTAH \& NATIONAL POPULATION TRENDS

According to the U.S. Census, Utah's population reached 2,763,885 in 2010 (see Figure 1). This is an increase of $23.8 \%$ and a numeric increase of 530,716 over the 2000 Census count. Utah ranked third among the 50 states in percentage population increase. ${ }^{1}$

Figure 1
Utah Total Population, 1900 to 2010


Source: 2011 Economic Report to the Governor, U.S. Census Bureau
Despite this impressive rate of increase, Utah is far from the big leagues in accounting for the nation's total numeric population growth over the last decade (see Figure 2). Three states - Texas ( 4.3 million, $15.7 \%$ of U.S. growth), California ( 3.4 million, $12.4 \%$ of U.S. growth), and Florida ( 2.8 million, $10.3 \%$ of U.S. growth) - each had a population increase during the past decade that exceeds Utah's entire 2010 population.

Figure 2
U.S. Census Bureau National and State Population Counts: 2000 and 2010 Population Counts

| Area | 2000 Census Population | $\begin{aligned} & 2000 \\ & \text { Rank } \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | 2010 Census Population | $\begin{aligned} & 2010 \\ & \text { Rank } \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} 2000-2010 \\ \text { Numeric } \\ \text { Change } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | Percent of U.S. Numeric Change | Rank Based on Numeric Change | $\begin{gathered} \text { 2000-2010 } \\ \text { Percent } \\ \text { Change } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | Rank Based on Percent Change |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| U.S. | 281,421,906 | na | 308,745,538 | na | 27,323,632 | na | na | 9.7\% | na |
| Region |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Northeast | 53,594,378 | 4 | 55,317,240 | 4 | 1,722,862 | 6.3\% |  | 3.2\% | 4 |
| Midwest | 64,392,776 | 2 | 66,927,001 | 3 | 2,534,225 | 9.3\% | 3 | 3.9\% | 3 |
| South | 100,236,820 | 1 | 114,555,744 | 1 | 14,318,924 | 52.4\% | 1 | 14.3\% | 1 |
| West | 63,197,932 | 3 | 71,945,553 | 2 | 8,747,621 | 32.0\% | 2 | 13.8\% | 2 |
| State |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Texas | 20,851,820 | 2 | 25,145,561 | 2 | 4,293,741 | 15.7\% | 1 | 20.6\% | 5 |
| California | 33,871,648 | 1 | 37,253,956 | 1 | 3,382,308 | 12.4\% | 2 | 10.0\% | 20 |
| Florida | 15,982,378 | 4 | 18,801,310 | 4 | 2,818,932 | 10.3\% | 3 | 17.6\% | 8 |
| Georgia | 8,186,453 | 10 | 9,687,653 | 9 | 1,501,200 | 5.5\% |  | 18.3\% | 7 |
| North Carolina | 8,049,313 | 11 | 9,535,483 | 10 | 1,486,170 | 5.4\% | 5 | 18.5\% | 6 |
| Arizona | 5,130,632 | 20 | 6,392,017 | 16 | 1,261,385 | 4.6\% | 6 | 24.6\% | 2 |
| Virginia | 7,078,515 | 12 | 8,001,024 | 12 | 922,509 | 3.4\% | 7 | 13.0\% | 16 |
| Washington | 5,894,121 | 15 | 6,724,540 | 13 | 830,419 | 3.0\% | 8 | 14.1\% | 13 |
| Colorado | 4,301,261 | 24 | 5,029,196 | 22 | 727,935 | 2.7\% | 9 | 16.9\% | 9 |
| Nevada | 1,998,257 | 35 | 2,700,551 | 35 | 702,294 | 2.6\% | 10 | 35.1\% | 1 |
| Tennessee | 5,689,283 | 16 | 6,346,105 | 17 | 656,822 | 2.4\% | 11 | 11.5\% | 19 |
| South Carolina | 4,012,012 | 26 | 4,625,364 | 24 | 613,352 | 2.2\% | 12 | 15.3\% | 10 |
| Utah | 2,233,169 | 34 | 2,763,885 | 34 | 530,716 | 1.9\% | 13 | 23.8\% | 3 |
| Maryland | 5,296,486 | 19 | 5,773,552 | 19 | 477,066 | 1.7\% | 14 | 9.0\% | 23 |
| Pennsylvania | 12,281,054 | 6 | 12,702,379 | 6 | 421,325 | 1.5\% | 15 | 3.4\% | 42 |
| llinios | 12,419,293 | 5 | 12,830,632 | 5 | 411,339 | 1.5\% | 16 | 3.3\% | 43 |
| Oregon | 3,421,399 | 28 | 3,831,074 | 27 | 409,675 | 1.5\% | 17 | 12.0\% | 18 |
| Indiana | 6,080,485 | 14 | 6,483,802 | 15 | 403,317 | 1.5\% | 18 | 6.6\% | 31 |
| New York | 18,976,457 | 3 | 19,378,102 | 3 | 401,645 | 1.5\% | 19 | 2.1\% | 47 |
| Missouri | 5,595,211 | 17 | 5,988,927 | 18 | 393,716 | 1.4\% | 20 | 7.0\% | 29 |
| Minnesota | 4,919,479 | 21 | 5,303,925 | 21 | 384,446 | 1.4\% | 21 | 7.8\% | 26 |
| New Jersey | 8,414,350 | 9 | 8,791,894 | 11 | 377,544 | 1.4\% | 22 | 4.5\% | 38 |
| Alabama | 4,447,100 | 23 | 4,779,736 | 23 | 332,636 | 1.2\% | 23 | 7.5\% | 27 |
| Wisconsin | 5,363,675 | 18 | 5,686,986 | 20 | 323,311 | 1.2\% | 24 | 6.0\% | 34 |
| Oklahoma | 3,450,654 | 27 | 3,751,351 | 28 | 300,697 | 1.1\% | 25 | 8.7\% | 24 |
| Kentucky | 4,041,769 | 25 | 4,339,367 | 26 | 297,598 | 1.1\% | 26 | 7.4\% | 28 |
| Idaho | 1,293,953 | 39 | 1,567,582 | 39 | 273,629 | 1.0\% | 27 | 21.1\% | 4 |
| Arkansas | 2,673,400 | 33 | 2,915,918 | 32 | 242,518 | 0.9\% | 28 | 9.1\% | 22 |
| New Mexico | 1,819,046 | 36 | 2,059,179 | 36 | 240,133 | 0.9\% | 29 | 13.2\% | 15 |
| Massachusetts | 6,349,097 | 13 | 6,547,629 | 14 | 198,532 | 0.7\% | 30 | 3.1\% | 44 |
| Ohio | 11,353,140 | 7 | 11,536,504 | 7 | 183,364 | 0.7\% | 31 | 1.6\% | 48 |
| Connecticut | 3,405,565 | 29 | 3,574,097 | 29 | 168,532 | 0.6\% | 32 | 4.9\% | 36 |
| Kansas | 2,688,418 | 32 | 2,853,118 | 33 | 164,700 | 0.6\% | 33 | 6.1\% | 33 |
| Hawaii | 1,211,537 | 42 | 1,360,301 | 40 | 148,764 | 0.5\% | 34 | 12.3\% | 17 |
| Mississippi | 2,844,658 | 31 | 2,967,297 | 31 | 122,639 | 0.4\% | 35 | 4.3\% | 39 |
| lowa | 2,926,324 | 30 | 3,046,355 | 30 | 120,031 | 0.4\% | 36 | 4.1\% | 41 |
| Nebraska | 1,711,263 | 38 | 1,826,341 | 38 | 115,078 | 0.4\% | 37 | 6.7\% | 30 |
| Delaware | 783,600 | 45 | 897,934 | 45 | 114,334 | 0.4\% | 38 | 14.6\% | 11 |
| Montana | 902,195 | 44 | 989,415 | 44 | 87,220 | 0.3\% | 39 | 9.7\% | 21 |
| Alaska | 626,932 | 48 | 710,231 | 47 | 83,299 | 0.3\% | 40 | 13.3\% | 14 |
| New Hampshire | 1,235,786 | 41 | 1,316,470 | 42 | 80,684 | 0.3\% | 41 | 6.5\% | 32 |
| Wyoming | 493,782 | 51 | 563,626 | 51 | 69,844 | 0.3\% | 42 | 14.1\% | 12 |
| Louisiana | 4,468,976 | 22 | 4,533,372 | 25 | 64,396 | 0.2\% | 43 | 1.4\% | 49 |
| South Dakota | 754,844 | 46 | 814,180 | 46 | 59,336 | 0.2\% | 44 | 7.9\% | 25 |
| Maine | 1,274,923 | 40 | 1,328,361 | 41 | 53,438 | 0.2\% | 45 | 4.2\% | 40 |
| West Virginia | 1,808,344 | 37 | 1,852,994 | 37 | 44,650 | 0.2\% | 46 | 2.5\% | 46 |
| North Dakota | 642,200 | 47 | 672,591 | 48 | 30,391 | 0.1\% | 47 | 4.7\% | 37 |
| District of Columbia | 572,059 | 50 | 601,723 | 50 | 29,664 | 0.1\% | 48 | 5.2\% | 35 |
| Vermont | 608,827 | 49 | 625,741 | 49 | 16,914 | 0.1\% | 49 | 2.8\% | 45 |
| Rhode Island | 1,048,319 | 43 | 1,052,567 | 43 | 4,248 | 0.0\% | 50 | 0.4\% | 50 |
| Michigan | 9,938,444 | 8 | 9,883,640 | 8 | -54,804 | -0.2\% | 51 | -0.6\% | 51 |

These three states with the greatest numeric growth accounted for over $38 \%$ of the nation's growth between 2000 and 2010 , or about 10.5 million out of a total increase of 27.3 million. If Georgia ( 1.5 million, $5.5 \%$ of U.S. growth), North Carolina ( 1.5 million, $5.4 \%$ of U.S. growth), and Arizona ( 1.3 million, $4.6 \%$ of U.S. growth) are added, these top six states accounted for nearly $54 \%$ (or 15 million) of the nation's increase.

Utah's population increase of 0.5 million accounted for $1.9 \%$ of the total national increase, which ranked 13th in terms of numeric growth. The 37 states with less numeric growth than Utah each accounted for $1.7 \%$ or less of the nation's population increase.

The U.S. Census Bureau divides the nation into four major regions: Northeast, South, Midwest, and West. ${ }^{2}$ The two most rapidly growing regions of the nation are the South and West. The South accounted for $52.4 \%$ of U.S. growth over the past decade (increase of 14.3 million people, $14.3 \%$ growth rate). The West came in second, accounting for $32.0 \%$ of the growth (increase of 8.7 million people, $13.8 \%$ growth rate).

Conversely, the Northeast and Midwest contributed significantly less to the nation's population growth. The Midwest ranked third, providing $9.3 \%$ of the nation's growth (increase of 2.5 million people, $3.9 \%$ growth rate). The Northeast came in last, providing only $6.3 \%$ of the total increase (increase of 1.7 million people, $3.2 \%$ growth rate). Clearly, the trend of rapid growth in the South and West regions, which started in the post-World War II period, continues.

## Mountain States Lead in Population Growth

The four fastest growing states (in percentage terms) in the nation during the past decade were all Mountain states. ${ }^{3}$ Nevada led the nation with a population increase of $35.1 \%$; Arizona came in second, increasing by $24.6 \%$; Utah ranked third, increasing by $23.8 \%$; and Idaho placed fourth, growing by $21.1 \%$. Combined, the seven Mountain states grew by a rapid $22.0 \%$ during the decade. The other Mountain states grew as follows: Colorado $16.9 \%$, Wyoming $14.1 \%$, and New Mexico $13.2 \%$. Numerically, the Mountain states grew from a population of 17.3 million to 21.1 million, or by 3.8 million. This is a larger numeric increase than either the Northeast or Midwest. In other words, the Mountain region (a sub region of the West) had a larger numeric increase than either of two major regions - the Midwest and Northeast.

## Utah's County Population Trends

## Super Two \& Big Four

Utah's county population growth for this last decade continues a long trend of increasing urbanization along the Wasatch Front (see Figures 3 and 4). For several decades, Salt Lake County has had the largest numeric growth of any county in the state. This growth has been followed by the rapid growth of Utah and Davis counties. During this past decade, however, Utah County came in first, growing by $40.2 \%$, and accounting for $27.9 \%$ of the state's increase. Its population increased from 368,536 to 516,564 , or by nearly 150,000 . Salt Lake County came in second, increasing by $14.6 \%$, and accounting for $24.7 \%$ of the state's population increase. Its population swelled from 898,387 to $1,029,655$, an increase of over 130,000 . Combined, these two counties grew by about 280,000 and accounted for about $53 \%$ of the state's population increase for the decade.

Davis County grew by $28.2 \%$, or nearly 68,000 ( $12.7 \%$ of state growth), well behind Salt Lake and Utah counties, but still the third largest increase in the state. Over two-thirds of the state's population (67\%) now lives in these three urban counties.

Weber County, the state's fourth most populous county, increased in population by nearly 35,000 , from 196,533 to 231,236 . It accounted for $6.5 \%$ of the state's growth during the decade. When Weber County is added to Salt Lake, Utah, and Davis counties, a whopping $75.4 \%$ of the state's total population is accounted for. In other words, three of every four Utahns lives along a short, narrow stretch of land along the Wasatch Front, running approximately from Ogden (Weber County) to Santaquin (Utah County).

## Washington County - St. George Second Fastest Growing Metro Area in U.S.

Washington County is the one exception to the state's increasing concentration of population along the Wasatch Front. For the last three decades, this southern Utah county has been growing faster in percentage terms than any of the four populous Wasatch Front counties. Since 1980, Washington County has grown from 26,065 to 138,115 , or by about 112,000 . This is a total increase of $430 \%$. No county in the state has grown nearly this fast in percentage terms over the past 30 years. Washington was the second fastest growing county in percentage terms for the past decade.

Figure 3
County Population and Population Change by Decade, Sorted by Numeric Increase Between 2000 and 2010

| $\begin{aligned} & \text { Size } \\ & \text { Rank } \end{aligned}$ | County | $\begin{aligned} & 1980 \\ & \text { Census } \end{aligned}$ | 1980 <br> Share of the State Population | $\begin{gathered} 1990 \\ \text { Census } \end{gathered}$ | 1990 <br> Share of the State Population | Numeric increase for decade | $\begin{gathered} 2000 \\ \text { Census } \end{gathered}$ | 2000 <br> Share of the State Population | Numeric increase for decade | $\begin{gathered} 2010 \\ \text { Census } \end{gathered}$ | 2010 <br> Share of the State <br> Population | Numeric <br> increase <br> for <br> decade | Percent increase for decade | Percent of <br> state total increase <br> for decade | Cumulative percent increase for decade | Total numeric increase since 1980 | Total increase as percent state since 1980 | Cumulative <br> percent <br> increase <br> since 1980 | Percent <br> increase <br> since <br> 1980 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2 | Utah | 218,106 | 14.9\% | 263,590 | 15.3\% | 45,484 | 368,536 | 16.5\% | 104,946 | 516,564 | 18.7\% | 148,028 | 40.2\% | 27.9\% | 27.9\% | 298,458 | 22.9\% | 22.9\% | 136.8\% |
| 1 | Salt Lake | 619,066 | 42.4\% | 725,956 | 42.1\% | 106,890 | 898,387 | 40.2\% | 172,431 | 1,029,655 | 37.3\% | 131,268 | 14.6\% | 24.7\% | 52.6\% | 410,589 | 31.5\% | 54.4\% | 66.3\% |
| 3 | Davis | 146,540 | 10.0\% | 187,941 | 10.9\% | 41,401 | 238,994 | 10.7\% | 51,053 | 306,479 | 11.1\% | 67,485 | 28.2\% | 12.7\% | 65.3\% | 159,939 | 12.3\% | 66.7\% | 109.1\% |
| 5 | Washington | 26,065 | 1.8\% | 48,560 | 2.8\% | 22,495 | 90,354 | 4.1\% | 41,794 | 138,115 | 5.0\% | 47,761 | 52.9\% | 9.0\% | 74.3\% | 112,050 | 8.6\% | 75.3\% | 429.9\% |
| 4 | Weber | 144,616 | 9.9\% | 158,330 | 9.2\% | 13,714 | 196,533 | 8.8\% | 38,203 | 231,236 | 8.4\% | 34,703 | 17.7\% | 6.5\% | 80.9\% | 86,620 | 6.6\% | 81.9\% | 59.9\% |
| 6 | Cache | 57,176 | 3.9\% | 70,183 | 4.1\% | 13,007 | 91,391 | 4.1\% | 21,208 | 112,656 | 4.1\% | 21,265 | 23.3\% | 4.0\% | 84.9\% | 55,480 | 4.3\% | 86.2\% | 97.0\% |
| 7 | Tooele | 26,033 | 1.8\% | 26,601 | 1.5\% | 568 | 40,735 | 1.8\% | 14,134 | 58,218 | 2.1\% | 17,483 | 42.9\% | 3.3\% | 88.2\% | 32,185 | 2.5\% | 88.7\% | 123.6\% |
| 9 | Iron | 17,349 | 1.2\% | 20,789 | 1.2\% | 3,440 | 33,779 | 1.5\% | 12,990 | 46,163 | 1.7\% | 12,384 | 36.7\% | 2.3\% | 90.5\% | 28,814 | 2.2\% | 90.9\% | 166.1\% |
| 13 | Wasatch | 8,523 | 0.6\% | 10,089 | 0.6\% | 1,566 | 15,215 | 0.7\% | 5,126 | 23,530 | 0.9\% | 8,315 | 54.7\% | 1.6\% | 92.1\% | 15,007 | 1.2\% | 92.0\% | 176.1\% |
| 11 | Uintah | 20,506 | 1.4\% | 22,211 | 1.3\% | 1,705 | 25,224 | 1.1\% | 3,013 | 32,588 | 1.2\% | 7,364 | 29.2\% | 1.4\% | 93.5\% | 12,082 | 0.9\% | 93.0\% | 58.9\% |
| 8 | Box Elder | 33,222 | 2.3\% | 36,485 | 2.1\% | 3,263 | 42,745 | 1.9\% | 6,260 | 49,975 | 1.8\% | 7,230 | 16.9\% | 1.4\% | 94.8\% | 16,753 | 1.3\% | 94.3\% | 50.4\% |
| 10 | Summit | 10,198 | 0.7\% | 15,518 | 0.9\% | 5,320 | 29,736 | 1.3\% | 14,218 | 36,324 | 1.3\% | 6,588 | 22.2\% | 1.2\% | 96.1\% | 26,126 | 2.0\% | 96.3\% | 256.2\% |
| 12 | Sanpete | 14,620 | 1.0\% | 16,259 | 0.9\% | 1,639 | 22,763 | 1.0\% | 6,504 | 27,822 | 1.0\% | 5,059 | 22.2\% | 1.0\% | 97.0\% | 13,202 | 1.0\% | 97.3\% | 90.3\% |
| 16 | Duchesne | 12,565 | 0.9\% | 12,645 | 0.7\% | 80 | 14,371 | 0.6\% | 1,726 | 18,607 | 0.7\% | 4,236 | 29.5\% | 0.8\% | 97.8\% | 6,042 | 0.5\% | 97.7\% | 48.1\% |
| 21 | Morgan | 4,917 | 0.3\% | 5,528 | 0.3\% | 611 | 7,129 | 0.3\% | 1,601 | 9,469 | 0.3\% | 2,340 | 32.8\% | 0.4\% | 98.3\% | 4,552 | 0.3\% | 98.1\% | 92.6\% |
| 20 | Juab | 5,530 | 0.4\% | 5,817 | 0.3\% | 287 | 8,238 | 0.4\% | 2,421 | 10,246 | 0.4\% | 2,008 | 24.4\% | 0.4\% | 98.6\% | 4,716 | 0.4\% | 98.4\% | 85.3\% |
| 15 | Sevier | 14,727 | 1.0\% | 15,431 | 0.9\% | 704 | 18,842 | 0.8\% | 3,411 | 20,802 | 0.8\% | 1,960 | 10.4\% | 0.4\% | 99.0\% | 6,075 | 0.5\% | 98.9\% | 41.3\% |
| 23 | Kane | 4,024 | 0.3\% | 5,169 | 0.3\% | 1,145 | 6,046 | 0.3\% | 877 | 7,125 | 0.3\% | 1,079 | 17.8\% | 0.2\% | 99.2\% | 3,101 | 0.2\% | 99.2\% | 77.1\% |
| 14 | Carbon | 22,179 | 1.5\% | 20,228 | 1.2\% | -1,951 | 20,422 | 0.9\% | 194 | 21,403 | 0.8\% | 981 | 4.8\% | 0.2\% | 99.4\% | -776 | -0.1\% | 99.1\% | -3.5\% |
| 22 | Grand | 8,241 | 0.6\% | 6,620 | 0.4\% | -1,621 | 8,485 | 0.4\% | 1,865 | 9,225 | 0.3\% | 740 | 8.7\% | 0.1\% | 99.5\% | 984 | 0.1\% | 99.2\% | 11.9\% |
| 24 | Beaver | 4,378 | 0.3\% | 4,765 | 0.3\% | 387 | 6,005 | 0.3\% | 1,240 | 6,629 | 0.2\% | 624 | 10.4\% | 0.1\% | 99.7\% | 2,251 | 0.2\% | 99.3\% | 51.4\% |
| 25 | Garfield | 3,673 | 0.3\% | 3,980 | 0.2\% | 307 | 4,735 | 0.2\% | 755 | 5,172 | 0.2\% | 437 | 9.2\% | 0.1\% | 99.7\% | 1,499 | 0.1\% | 99.5\% | 40.8\% |
| 17 | San Juan | 12,253 | 0.8\% | 12,621 | 0.7\% | 368 | 14,413 | 0.7\% | 1,792 | 14,746 | 0.5\% | 333 | 2.3\% | 0.1\% | 99.8\% | 2,493 | 0.2\% | 99.6\% | 20.3\% |
| 27 | Rich | 2,100 | 0.1\% | 1,725 | 0.1\% | -375 | 1,961 | 0.1\% | 236 | 2,264 | 0.1\% | 303 | 15.5\% | 0.1\% | 99.9\% | 164 | 0.0\% | 99.7\% | 7.8\% |
| 26 | Wayne | 1,911 | 0.1\% | 2,177 | 0.1\% | 266 | 2,509 | 0.1\% | 332 | 2,778 | 0.1\% | 269 | 10.7\% | 0.1\% | 99.9\% | 867 | 0.1\% | 99.7\% | 45.4\% |
| 29 | Daggett | 769 | 0.1\% | 690 | 0.0\% | -79 | 921 | 0.0\% | 231 | 1,059 | 0.0\% | 138 | 15.0\% | 0.0\% | 99.9\% | 290 | 0.0\% | 99.7\% | 37.7\% |
| 28 | Piute | 1,329 | 0.1\% | 1,277 | 0.1\% | -52 | 1,435 | 0.1\% | 158 | 1,556 | 0.1\% | 121 | 8.4\% | 0.0\% | 100.0\% | 227 | 0.0\% | 99.8\% | 17.1\% |
| 19 | Emery | 11,451 | 0.8\% | 10,332 | 0.6\% | -1,119 | 10,860 | 0.5\% | 528 | 10,976 | 0.4\% | 116 | 1.1\% | 0.0\% | 100.0\% | -475 | 0.0\% | 99.7\% | -4.1\% |
| 18 | Millard | 8,970 | 0.6\% | 11,333 | 0.7\% | 2,363 | 12,405 | 0.6\% | 1,072 | 12,503 | 0.5\% | 98 | 0.8\% | 0.0\% | 100.0\% | 3,533 | 0.3\% | 100.0\% | 39.4\% |

Figure 4
Utah Counties by Size, 2010 Census Count


Source: 2011 Economic Report to the Governor, U.S. Census Bureau

Despite this rapid growth, Washington County still trails the three most populous counties in numeric growth. Since 1980, Salt Lake County has increased by about 410,000 , Utah County by nearly 300,000 , and Davis County by about 160,000 . However, Washington County's thirty-year growth of 112,000 does exceed the growth of Weber County, which has grown by nearly 87,000 since 1980.

St. George, in Washington County, was the second fastest growing metro ${ }^{4}$ area in the nation. During the decade, the St. George metro area grew by $53 \%$. Palm Coast, Florida was the nation's fastest growing metro area, increasing by $92 \%$. Interestingly, Utah County's Provo-Orem metro area was the sixth fastest growing metro area in the nation, increasing by $40 \%$ during the decade.

## Cache County

Cache County has not shown the impressive growth of Washington County, but has, nevertheless, grown steadily over the last three decades. In 1980, this northern county had a population of 57,176 . The 2010 census recorded a population of 112,656 , an increase of about 55,000 or $97 \%$. In the past decade, Cache County increased by over 21,000, the sixth largest numerical growth in the state.

## Iron County

Just to the north of fast-growing Washington County sits Iron County, home of Southern Utah University and the award-winning Shakespearean Festival. This county has been growing sufficiently fast that its share of the state's population, though still small, has been increasing steadily for the last two decades. Since 1980, Iron County has grown from a population of 17,349 to 46,163 , an increase of nearly 29,000 or
$166 \%$. This is the fourth fastest growth rate of the state's 29 counties over that period.

## Tooele County Adding to Concentration of Utah's Population

As Salt Lake County's western neighbor, Tooele County has benefitted from Salt Lake County's growth. In the last 20 years, Tooele's population has increased from 26,601 to 58,218 , or by nearly $119 \%$. This rapid growth is adding to the concentration of the state's population along the Wasatch Front.

## Wasatch Back

Also adding to the concentration of Utah's population along the state's urban core are three counties often called the Wasatch Back, because they are all adjacent to (and east of) one of the four Wasatch Front counties. These counties are Summit, Wasatch, and Morgan. Combined, these three counties grew from 52,080 to 69,323 , or by over $33 \%$. In percentage terms, Wasatch was the state's fastest growing county over the past decade. It increased in population from 15,215 to 23,530 , or by $55 \%$. Though still small when compared to the big four counties, these three Wasatch Back counties did add more than 17,000 to the state's largest urban area.

## The Uintah Basin

The Uintah Basin consists of two counties: Uintah and Duchesne. These two counties experienced their strongest growth since the 1970s, when increased energy production brought rapid population increases. The story is much the same today. Uintah County grew from a population of 25,224 in 2000 to 32,588 in 2010, an increase of over 7,000 or $29 \%$. Duchesne County also showed solid growth this last decade. Its population increased from 14,371 to 18,607 or by about 4,000 or nearly $30 \%$.

## Rural Utah - Little to No Growth

By comparison to the strong growth along the Wasatch Front and in Washington County, much of the state has shown comparatively slow numeric growth. In 2010, 17 of the state's 29 counties each individually accounted for less than $1.0 \%$ of the state's population, and combined they account for only $6.4 \%$ of the state's population. These seventeen counties are in order of size: Wasatch, Carbon, Sevier, Duchesne, San Juan, Millard, Emery, Juab, Morgan, Grand, Kane, Beaver, Garfield, Wayne, Rich, Piute, and Daggett.

Two counties - Carbon and Emery - have populations that are smaller now than in 1980. Carbon has declined from 22,179 to 21,403 , or down by 776 . Emery has declined from 11,451 to 10,976 , or down by 475 .

## Utah's City Population Trends

## Utah's Fastest Growing Cities

Utah's fastest growing cities during the last decade reflect trends similar to those discussed in the growth of the state's counties (see Figures 5 and 6). Nine of the ten fastest growing cities with populations over 9,000 are located in either Salt Lake, Utah, Davis, or Weber counties. Six of the top 10 were in rapidly growing Utah County. Saratoga Springs (Utah County) stole the show, growing from 1,003 in 2000 to 17,781 by 2010 , or by $1,673 \%$. Herriman (Salt Lake County) followed close behind, with an increase from 1,523 to 21,785 , or by $1,330 \%$. Another Utah County city, Eagle Mountain, also showed remarkable growth, from 2,157 to 21,415 , or by $893 \%$.

While no other Utah city grew at the pace of Saratoga Springs, Herriman, or Eagle Mountain, there were several cities that showed impressive increases in population. Cedar Hills (Utah County) increased from 3,094 to 9,796 ( $217 \%$ ). Syracuse (Davis County) grew from 9,398 to 24,331 (159\%). Lehi (Utah County) increased from 19,028 to 47,407 (149\%). Washington was the only other city, and only non-Wasatch Front city, to increase by more than $100 \%$. This Washington County city increased from 8,186 to 18,761 ( $129 \%$ ). Figure 5 shows the growth rate in these fast-growing cities.

Figure 5
10 Fastest Growing Cities (Pop 9K+), 2000 to 2010


Source: Governor's Office of Planning \& Budget, U.S. Census Bureau

Figure 6
Fastest Growing Cities (Pop 9K+), 2000 to 2010 Ranked by \% Change

| 2010 <br> Rank | City/Town | County | 2000 | 2000-2010 <br> Percent <br> Change |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\mathbf{1}$ | Saratoga Springs | Utah | 1,003 | 17,781 | $1673 \%$ |
| 2 | Herriman | Salt Lake | 1,523 | 21,785 | $1330 \%$ |
| 3 | Eagle Mountain | Utah | 2,157 | 21,415 | $893 \%$ |
| $\mathbf{4}$ | Cedar Hills | Utah | 3,094 | 9,796 | $217 \%$ |
| 5 | Syracuse | Davis | 9,398 | 24,331 | $159 \%$ |
| 6 | West Haven | Weber | 3,976 | 10,272 | $158 \%$ |
| 7 | Lehi | Utah | 19,028 | 47,407 | $149 \%$ |
| 8 | Washington | Washington | 8,186 | 18,761 | $129 \%$ |
| 9 | Highland | Utah | 8,172 | 15,523 | $90 \%$ |
| 10 | Santaquin | Utah | 4,834 | 9,128 | $89 \%$ |
| 11 | North Salt Lake | Davis | 8,749 | 16,322 | $87 \%$ |
| 12 | Holladay | Salt Lake | 14,561 | 26,472 | $82 \%$ |
| 13 | Spanish Fork | Utah | 20,246 | 34,691 | $71 \%$ |
| 14 | South Jordan | Salt Lake | 29,437 | 50,418 | $71 \%$ |
| 15 | Draper | Salt Lake | 25,220 | 42,274 | $68 \%$ |
| 16 | Hurricane | Washington | 8,250 | 13,748 | $67 \%$ |
| 17 | Clinton | Davis | 12,585 | 20,426 | $62 \%$ |
| 18 | West Point | Davis | 6,033 | 9,511 | $58 \%$ |
| 19 | Heber | Wasatch | 7,291 | 11,362 | $56 \%$ |
| 20 | Riverton | Salt Lake | 25,011 | 38,753 | $55 \%$ |

Source: Governor's Office of Planning \& Budget, U.S. Census Bureau

Figure 7 shows Utah's twenty fastest growing cities in terms of numeric growth. The municipalities with the most numeric growth are concentrated along the Wasatch Front (especially in Salt Lake and Utah counties) and southwest Utah. West Jordan led the way with an increase of over 35,000 due to both population growth and annexation. Other cities with growth over 15,000 include Lehi, St. George, South Jordan, West Valley City, Herriman, Eagle Mountain, Draper, and Saratoga Springs.

## Figure 7

Fastest Growing Cities (Pop 9K+), 2000 to 2010 Ranked by Numeric Change

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 2010 |  |  |  |  | $2000-2010$ |
| Rank | City/Town | County | 2000 | 2010 | Change |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1 | West Jordan | Salt Lake | 68,336 | 103,712 | 35,376 |
| 2 | Lehi | Utah | 19,028 | 47,407 | 28,379 |
| 3 | St. George | Washington | 49,663 | 72,897 | 23,234 |
| 4 | South Jordan | Salt Lake | 29,437 | 50,418 | 20,981 |
| 5 | West Valley City | Salt Lake | 108,896 | 129,480 | 20,584 |
| 6 | Herriman | Salt Lake | 1,523 | 21,785 | 20,262 |
| 7 | Eagle Mountain | Utah | 2,157 | 21,415 | 19,258 |
| 8 | Draper | Salt Lake | 25,220 | 42,274 | 17,054 |
| 9 | Saratoga Springs | Utah | 1,003 | 17,781 | 16,778 |
| 10 | Syracuse | Davis | 9,398 | 24,331 | 14,933 |
| 11 | Spanish Fork | Utah | 20,246 | 34,691 | 14,445 |
| 12 | Riverton | Salt Lake | 25,011 | 38,753 | 13,742 |
| 13 | Murray | Salt Lake | 34,024 | 46,746 | 12,722 |
| 14 | Holladay | Salt Lake | 14,561 | 26,472 | 11,911 |
| 15 | Washington | Washington | 8,186 | 18,761 | 10,575 |
| 16 | Pleasant Grove | Utah | 23,468 | 33,509 | 10,041 |
| 17 | Tooele | Tooele | 22,502 | 31,605 | 9,103 |
| 18 | Springville | Utah | 20,424 | 29,466 | 9,042 |
| 19 | Layton | Davis | 58,474 | 67,311 | 8,837 |
| 20 | Cedar City | Iron | 20,527 | 28,857 | 8,330 |

Source: Governor's Office of Planning \& Budget, U.S. Census Bureau

## Race and Ethnicity

Of Utah's 2010 Census population of $2,763,885$, the vast majority ( $80.4 \%$ ), or $2,221,719$ are white, nonHispanic. ${ }^{5}$ This is a decline from the 2000 Census, which shows the white, non-Hispanic population of 85.3\%.

Utah's racial make-up (see Figure 8) is as follows: White ( $86.1 \%$ ), Asian ( $2.0 \%$ ), American Indian and Alaska Native (1.2\%), Black or African American (1.1\%), and Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander ( $0.9 \%$ ). Two other categories, Some Other Race (6.0\%) and Two or More Races (2.7\%) account for the balance of racial categories.

In addition to racial categories, respondents could choose Hispanic or Latino as an ethnicity. This is the only ethnic category on the census form. In Utah, 358,340 persons ( $13 \%$ of the state's population) claimed Hispanic ethnicity. This is a marked increase from previous census counts. In 1990, nearly 5\% of Utah residents claimed Hispanic ethnicity, and by 2000 it had increased to $9 \%$.

The state's most populous counties, not surprisingly, are also the counties with the largest Hispanic populations. Salt Lake County has 176,015 Hispanics, amounting to $17.1 \%$ of the county's population. Salt Lake County accounts for $37.2 \%$ of the state's population, but it accounts for $49.1 \%$ of the state's Hispanic population.

The other Wasatch Front counties also have large numbers of Hispanics. Utah County claims the second most Hispanics with 55,793 , or $10.8 \%$ of its population. Weber County ranks third with 38,711 Hispanics, but second only to Salt Lake when measured as a percent of county population. In Weber, Hispanics amount to $16.7 \%$ of the county's population.

The best way to summarize the concentration of Hispanics along the Wasatch Front may be to point out that the four big counties account for $75.4 \%$ of the state's population but $82.7 \%$ of the state's Hispanic population.

Figure 8
Total County Population by Race in Utah: 2010 Census

| Age | Total Population | Race |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Hispanic or Latino (of any race) | White <br> Not <br> Hispanic <br> or Latino |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | One Race |  |  |  |  |  |  | Two or More Races |  |  |
|  |  | Total One Race | White | Black or <br> African <br> American | American <br> Indian <br> and <br> Alaska <br> Native | Asian | Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander | Some Other Race |  |  |  |
| State Total | 2,763,885 | 2,688,367 | 2,379,560 | 29,287 | 32,927 | 55,285 | 24,554 | 166,754 | 75,518 | 358,340 | 2,221,719 |
| Percent of Total | 100\% | 97.3\% | 86.1\% | 1.1\% | 1.2\% | 2.0\% | 0.9\% | 6.0\% | 2.7\% | 13.0\% | 80.4\% |
| Beaver | 6,629 | 6,536 | 5,900 | 16 | 76 | 70 | 19 | 455 | 93 | 716 | 5,700 |
| Box Elder | 49,975 | 48,858 | 45,861 | 172 | 412 | 443 | 84 | 1,886 | 1,117 | 4,152 | 44,109 |
| Cache | 112,656 | 110,511 | 100,397 | 697 | 690 | 2,122 | 436 | 6,169 | 2,145 | 11,216 | 96,283 |
| Carbon | 21,403 | 20,898 | 19,757 | 93 | 252 | 125 | 23 | 648 | 505 | 2,659 | 18,007 |
| Daggett | 1,059 | 1,048 | 1,016 | 4 | 8 | 4 | 1 | 15 | 11 | 33 | 1,000 |
| Davis | 306,479 | 298,234 | 275,956 | 3,702 | 1,424 | 5,416 | 1,813 | 9,923 | 8,245 | 25,753 | 263,049 |
| Duchesne | 18,607 | 18,069 | 16,589 | 44 | 842 | 52 | 51 | 491 | 538 | 1,117 | 16,211 |
| Emery | 10,976 | 10,881 | 10,309 | 26 | 78 | 38 | 9 | 421 | 95 | 654 | 10,108 |
| Garfield | 5,172 | 5,128 | 4,869 | 22 | 85 | 61 | 10 | 81 | 44 | 234 | 4,740 |
| Grand | 9,225 | 9,041 | 8,207 | 29 | 381 | 77 | 3 | 344 | 184 | 881 | 7,759 |
| Iron | 46,163 | 45,084 | 41,848 | 227 | 1,019 | 349 | 139 | 1,502 | 1,079 | 3,563 | 40,226 |
| Juab | 10,246 | 10,096 | 9,831 | 25 | 90 | 22 | 15 | 113 | 150 | 379 | 9,631 |
| Kane | 7,125 | 7,030 | 6,816 | 16 | 104 | 31 | 1 | 62 | 95 | 263 | 6,639 |
| Millard | 12,503 | 12,310 | 10,950 | 12 | 125 | 76 | 15 | 1,132 | 193 | 1,603 | 10,589 |
| Morgan | 9,469 | 9,378 | 9,234 | 16 | 18 | 34 | 10 | 66 | 91 | 226 | 9,098 |
| Piute | 1,556 | 1,535 | 1,474 | 2 | 5 | 6 | 2 | 46 | 21 | 109 | 1,419 |
| Rich | 2,264 | 2,236 | 2,196 | 0 | 16 | 7 | 1 | 16 | 28 | 96 | 2,131 |
| Salt Lake | 1,029,655 | 997,361 | 836,074 | 16,404 | 9,157 | 33,987 | 15,781 | 85,958 | 32,294 | 176,015 | 761,885 |
| San Juan | 14,746 | 14,407 | 6,759 | 25 | 7,431 | 37 | 5 | 150 | 339 | 649 | 6,474 |
| Sanpete | 27,822 | 27,333 | 25,158 | 229 | 305 | 150 | 138 | 1,353 | 489 | 2,619 | 24,109 |
| Sevier | 20,802 | 20,483 | 19,734 | 39 | 230 | 67 | 36 | 377 | 319 | 932 | 19,325 |
| Summit | 36,324 | 35,727 | 32,890 | 154 | 122 | 446 | 38 | 2,077 | 597 | 4,190 | 31,012 |
| Tooele | 58,218 | 56,599 | 52,804 | 406 | 563 | 374 | 220 | 2,232 | 1,619 | 6,661 | 49,174 |
| Uintah | 32,588 | 31,830 | 28,232 | 121 | 2,509 | 166 | 74 | 728 | 758 | 2,330 | 26,999 |
| Utah | 516,564 | 502,528 | 461,775 | 2,799 | 3,074 | 7,032 | 3,905 | 23,943 | 14,036 | 55,793 | 434,708 |
| Wasatch | 23,530 | 23,204 | 21,275 | 79 | 127 | 181 | 29 | 1,513 | 326 | 3,184 | 19,818 |
| Washington | 138,115 | 134,946 | 123,914 | 790 | 1,869 | 982 | 1,078 | 6,313 | 3,169 | 13,486 | 118,282 |
| Wayne | 2,778 | 2,732 | 2,634 | 2 | 13 | 19 | 4 | 60 | 46 | 116 | 2,596 |
| Weber | 231,236 | 224,344 | 197,101 | 3,136 | 1,902 | 2,911 | 614 | 18,680 | 6,892 | 38,711 | 180,638 |

Source: 2011 Economic Report to the Governor, U.S. Census Bureau

## Population by Age

## Utah and U.S. Age Categories Show Significant Differences

As shown in Figure 9, Utah and the United States differ significantly in the distribution of its population by age. This table separates populations into four age groups: under five, 5-17, 18-64, and 65 and over. In all four groups Utah is at the ends - either first, last, or close there to. Utah ranks first in the nation in both the percent of population under age five and the percent of population ages 5-17. When combined, these two age groups account for $31.5 \%$ of the state's population. The national average for these two groups is $24.0 \%$ - well below that of Utah.

Utah is at the other end of the spectrum when older age groups are ranked. Utah ranks 51st among the states and the District of Columbia in the percent of population ages 18-64, and ranks 50th in the percent of population ages 65 and over.

Such dramatic extremes should not come as a surprise. If a state is at the extremes in two categories, it is difficult for it to be anywhere else than the opposite extremes in the other two categories. The last column in Figure 8 shows the ranking of states in median age. Not surprisingly, with $31.5 \%$ of its population under 18 years of age, Utah has the youngest median age in the country at 29.2. The median age of the nation is 37.2. The nation has a median age that is 8.0 years older than that of Utah.

Figure 9
Rankings of States by Selected Age Groups as a Percent of Total Population: 2010

|  | All Ages |  | Under Age 5 |  |  | Ages 5 to 17 |  |  | Ages 18 to 64 |  |  | Ages 65+ |  |  | State | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Median } \\ \text { Age } \\ \hline \end{array}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Rank | State | Population | State | Population | Percent of Total | State | Population | Percent of Total | State | Population | Percent of Total | State | Population | Percent of Total |  |  |
|  | United States | 308,745,538 | United States | 20,201,362 | 6.5\% | United States | 53,980,105 | 17.5\% | United States | 194,296,087 | 62.9\% | United States | 40,267,984 | 13.0\% | United States | 37.2 |
| 1 | California | 37,253,956 | Utah | 263,924 | 9.5\% | Utah | 607,103 | 22.0\% | District of Columbia | 432,099 | 71.8\% | Florida | 3,259,602 | 17.3\% | Maine | 42.7 |
| 2 | Texas | 25,145,561 | Idaho | 121,772 | 7.8\% | Texas | 4,937,351 | 19.6\% | Alaska | 467,915 | 65.9\% | West Virginia | 297,404 | 16.0\% | Vermont | 41.5 |
| 3 | New York | 19,378,102 | Texas | 1,928,473 | 7.7\% | Idaho | 307,300 | 19.6\% | Vermont | 405,430 | 64.8\% | Maine | 211,080 | 15.9\% | West Virginia | 41.3 |
| 4 | Florida | 18,801,310 | Alaska | 53,996 | 7.6\% | Alaska | 133,382 | 18.8\% | Colorado | 3,253,962 | 64.7\% | Pennsylvania | 1,959,307 | 15.4\% | New Hampshire | 41.1 |
| 5 | Illinois | 12,830,632 | South Dakota | 59,621 | 7.3\% | Georgia | 1,804,767 | 18.6\% | New Hampshire | 850,968 | 64.6\% | lowa | 452,888 | 14.9\% | Florida | 40.7 |
| 6 | Pennsylvania | 12,702,379 | Nebraska | 131,908 | 7.2\% | Arizona | 1,173,299 | 18.4\% | Virginia | 5,170,410 | 64.6\% | Montana | 146,742 | 14.8\% | Pennsylvania | 40.1 |
| 7 | Ohio | 11,536,504 | Kansas | 205,492 | 7.2\% | Mississippi | 544,599 | 18.4\% | Massachusetts | 4,225,982 | 64.5\% | Vermont | 91,078 | 14.6\% | Connecticut | 40.0 |
| 8 | Michigan | 9,883,640 | Wyoming | 40,203 | 7.1\% | Kansas | 521,447 | 18.3\% | Maryland | 3,712,946 | 64.3\% | North Dakota | 97,477 | 14.5\% | Montana | 39.8 |
| 9 | Georgia | 9,687,653 | Arizona | 455,715 | 7.1\% | California | 6,763,707 | 18.2\% | Rhode Island | 676,730 | 64.3\% | Rhode Island | 151,881 | 14.4\% | Rhode Island | 39.4 |
| 10 | North Carolina | 9,535,483 | Mississippi | 210,956 | 7.1\% | New Mexico | 373,691 | 18.1\% | Washington | 4,315,509 | 64.2\% | Arkansas | 419,981 | 14.4\% | Massachusetts | 39.1 |
| 11 | New Jersey | 8,791,894 | Georgia | 686,785 | 7.1\% | Indiana | 1,174,223 | 18.1\% | New York | 12,435,230 | 64.2\% | Delaware | 129,277 | 14.4\% | New Jersey | 39.0 |
| 12 | Virginia | 8,001,024 | Oklahoma | 264,126 | 7.0\% | Nebraska | 327,313 | 17.9\% | California | 23,712,402 | 63.7\% | Hawaii | 195,138 | 14.3\% | Michigan | 38.9 |
| 13 | Washington | 6,724,540 | New Mexico | 144,981 | 7.0\% | Illinois | 2,293,602 | 17.9\% | Georgia | 6,164,066 | 63.6\% | South Dakota | 116,581 | 14.3\% | Delaware | 38.8 |
| 14 | Massachusetts | 6,547,629 | Nevada | 187,478 | 6.9\% | Oklahoma | 665,540 | 17.7\% | Wyoming | 358,134 | 63.5\% | Connecticut | 506,559 | 14.2\% | Ohio | 38.8 |
| 15 | Indiana | 6,483,802 | Louisiana | 314,260 | 6.9\% | Louisiana | 803,755 | 17.7\% | Oregon | 2,431,088 | 63.5\% | Ohio | 1,622,015 | 14.1\% | Hawaii | 38.6 |
| 16 | Arizona | 6,392,017 | Colorado | 343,960 | 6.8\% | Michigan | 1,747,782 | 17.7\% | Maine | 842,748 | 63.4\% | Missouri | 838,294 | 14.0\% | Wisconsin | 38.5 |
| 17 | Tennessee | 6,346,105 | California | 2,531,333 | 6.8\% | Nevada | 477,530 | 17.7\% | Nevada | 1,711,184 | 63.4\% | Oregon | 533,533 | 13.9\% | Oregon | 38.4 |
| 18 | Missouri | 5,988,927 | Arkansas | 197,689 | 6.8\% | Arkansas | 513,786 | 17.6\% | Hawaii | 861,345 | 63.3\% | Arizona | 881,831 | 13.8\% | lowa | 38.1 |
| 19 | Maryland | 5,773,552 | Minnesota | 355,504 | 6.7\% | South Dakota | 143,176 | 17.6\% | North Dakota | 425,243 | 63.2\% | Massachusetts | 902,724 | 13.8\% | Kentucky | 38.1 |
| 20 | Wisconsin | 5,686,986 | Indiana | 434,075 | 6.7\% | Colorado | 881,649 | 17.5\% | North Carolina | 6,019,769 | 63.1\% | Michigan | 1,361,530 | 13.8\% | Maryland | 38.0 |
| 21 | Minnesota | 5,303,925 | lowa | 202,123 | 6.6\% | Minnesota | 928,559 | 17.5\% | Kentucky | 2,737,769 | 63.1\% | Alabama | 657,792 | 13.8\% | New York | 38.0 |
| 22 | Colorado | 5,029,196 | North Dakota | 44,595 | 6.6\% | Ohio | 2,009,895 | 17.4\% | Illinois | 8,092,240 | 63.1\% | Wisconsin | 777,314 | 13.7\% | Tennessee | 38.0 |
| 23 | Alabama | 4,779,736 | North Carolina | 632,040 | 6.6\% | New Jersey | 1,524,194 | 17.3\% | West Virginia | 1,168,172 | 63.0\% | South Carolina | 631,874 | 13.7\% | Alabama | 37.9 |
| 24 | South Carolina | 4,625,364 | Washington | 439,657 | 6.5\% | Alabama | 827,502 | 17.3\% | Louisiana | 2,857,500 | 63.0\% | New Hampshire | 178,268 | 13.5\% | Missouri | 37.9 |
| 25 | Louisiana | 4,533,372 | South Carolina | 302,297 | 6.5\% | North Carolina | 1,649,595 | 17.3\% | New Jersey | 5,540,687 | 63.0\% | New York | 2,617,943 | 13.5\% | South Carolina | 37.9 |
| 26 | Kentucky | 4,339,367 | Missouri | 390,237 | 6.5\% | Missouri | 1,035,199 | 17.3\% | South Carolina | 2,913,016 | 63.0\% | Oklahoma | 506,714 | 13.5\% | Virginia | 37.5 |
| 27 | Oregon | 3,831,074 | Illinois | 835,577 | 6.5\% | lowa | 525,870 | 17.3\% | Tennessee | 3,996,642 | 63.0\% | Nebraska | 246,677 | 13.5\% | Arkansas | 37.4 |
| 28 | Oklahoma | 3,751,351 | Kentucky | 282,367 | 6.5\% | Wisconsin | 981,049 | 17.3\% | Connecticut | 2,250,523 | 63.0\% | New Jersey | 1,185,993 | 13.5\% | Minnesota | 37.4 |
| 29 | Connecticut | 3,574,097 | Tennessee | 407,813 | 6.4\% | Connecticut | 614,909 | 17.2\% | Minnesota | 3,336,741 | 62.9\% | Tennessee | 853,462 | 13.4\% | North Carolina | 37.4 |
| 30 | lowa | 3,046,355 | Hawaii | 87,407 | 6.4\% | Tennessee | 1,088,188 | 17.1\% | Wisconsin | 3,570,180 | 62.8\% | Kentucky | 578,227 | 13.3\% | Washington | 37.3 |
| 31 | Mississippi | 2,967,297 | Alabama | 304,957 | 6.4\% | Maryland | 988,476 | 17.1\% | Delaware | 562,892 | 62.7\% | New Mexico | 272,255 | 13.2\% | Indiana | 37.0 |
| 32 | Arkansas | 2,915,918 | Virginia | 509,625 | 6.4\% | Kentucky | 741,004 | 17.1\% | Pennsylvania | 7,950,917 | 62.6\% | Kansas | 376,116 | 13.2\% | North Dakota | 37.0 |
| 33 | Kansas | 2,853,118 | Maryland | 364,488 | 6.3\% | Washington | 1,141,697 | 17.0\% | Montana | 619,110 | 62.6\% | Indiana | 841,108 | 13.0\% | South Dakota | 36.9 |
| 34 | Utah | 2,763,885 | Montana | 62,423 | 6.3\% | Wyoming | 95,199 | 16.9\% | Alabama | 2,989,485 | 62.5\% | North Carolina | 1,234,079 | 12.9\% | Wyoming | 36.8 |
| 35 | Nevada | 2,700,551 | Wisconsin | 358,443 | 6.3\% | South Carolina | 778,177 | 16.8\% | Michigan | 6,178,042 | 62.5\% | Minnesota | 683,121 | 12.9\% | New Mexico | 36.7 |
| 36 | New Mexico | 2,059,179 | Ohio | 720,856 | 6.2\% | Virginia | 1,344,052 | 16.8\% | Texas | 15,677,851 | 62.3\% | Mississippi | 380,407 | 12.8\% | Illinois | 36.6 |
| 37 | West Virginia | 1,852,994 | Delaware | 55,886 | 6.2\% | Delaware | 149,879 | 16.7\% | Ohio | 7,183,738 | 62.3\% | Illinois | 1,609,213 | 12.5\% | Nevada | 36.3 |
| 38 | Nebraska | 1,826,341 | Oregon | 237,556 | 6.2\% | New Hampshire | 217,428 | 16.5\% | Indiana | 4,034,396 | 62.2\% | Wyoming | 70,090 | 12.4\% | Nebraska | 36.2 |
| 39 | Idaho | 1,567,582 | New Jersey | 541,020 | 6.2\% | Oregon | 628,897 | 16.4\% | Missouri | 3,725,197 | 62.2\% | Idaho | 194,668 | 12.4\% | Oklahoma | 36.2 |
| 40 | Hawaii | 1,360,301 | Michigan | 596,286 | 6.0\% | New York | 3,169,107 | 16.4\% | Mississippi | 1,831,335 | 61.7\% | Washington | 827,677 | 12.3\% | Colorado | 36.1 |
| 41 | Maine | 1,328,361 | New York | 1,155,822 | 6.0\% | Montana | 161,140 | 16.3\% | Oklahoma | 2,314,971 | 61.7\% | Louisiana | 557,857 | 12.3\% | Kansas | 36.0 |
| 42 | New Hampshire | 1,316,470 | Pennsylvania | 729,538 | 5.7\% | Pennsylvania | 2,062,617 | 16.2\% | New Mexico | 1,268,252 | 61.6\% | Maryland | 707,642 | 12.3\% | Mississippi | 36.0 |
| 43 | Rhode Island | 1,052,567 | Florida | 1,073,506 | 5.7\% | Massachusetts | 1,051,836 | 16.1\% | Florida | 11,539,617 | 61.4\% | Virginia | 976,937 | 12.2\% | Arizona | 35.9 |
| 44 | Montana | 989,415 | Connecticut | 202,106 | 5.7\% | Hawaii | 216,411 | 15.9\% | Nebraska | 1,120,443 | 61.3\% | Nevada | 324,359 | 12.0\% | Louisiana | 35.8 |
| 45 | Delaware | 897,934 | West Virginia | 104,060 | 5.6\% | Rhode Island | 166,508 | 15.8\% | Kansas | 1,750,063 | 61.3\% | District of Columbia | 68,809 | 11.4\% | Georgia | 35.3 |
| 46 | South Dakota | 814,180 | Massachusetts | 367,087 | 5.6\% | North Dakota | 105,276 | 15.7\% | lowa | 1,865,474 | 61.2\% | California | 4,246,514 | 11.4\% | California | 35.2 |
| 47 | Alaska | 710,231 | Rhode Island | 57,448 | 5.5\% | Florida | 2,928,585 | 15.6\% | Arkansas | 1,784,462 | 61.2\% | Colorado | 549,625 | 10.9\% | Idaho | 34.6 |
| 48 | North Dakota | 672,591 | District of Columbia | 32,613 | 5.4\% | Vermont | 97,281 | 15.5\% | South Dakota | 494,802 | 60.8\% | Georgia | 1,032,035 | 10.7\% | Alaska | 33.8 |
| 49 | Vermont | 625,741 | New Hampshire | 69,806 | 5.3\% | Maine | 205,013 | 15.4\% | Arizona | 3,881,172 | 60.7\% | Texas | 2,601,886 | 10.3\% | District of Columbia | 33.8 |
| 50 | District of Columbia | 601,723 | Maine | 69,520 | 5.2\% | West Virginia | 283,358 | 15.3\% | Idaho | 943,842 | 60.2\% | Utah | 249,462 | 9.0\% | Texas | 33.6 |
| 51 | Wyoming | 563,626 | Vermont | 31,952 | 5.1\% | District of Columbia | 68,202 | 11.3\% | Utah | 1,643,396 | 59.5\% | Alaska | 54,938 | 7.7\% | Utah | 29.2 |

Source: 2011 Economic Report to the Governor, U.S. Census Bureau

## Dependency Ratios

Using dependency ratios is another way to compare age distribution differences between states. A dependency ratio compares the number of nonworking age persons (younger than 18 and 65 or older) per 100 persons of working-age (18 to 64).

As can be seen in Figure 10, Utah has both the largest preschool-age (under 5) dependency ratio and the largest school-age (5-17) dependency ratio in the nation. At the other end of the age groups, Utah ranks 50th, only ahead of Alaska, in the smallest retirementage dependency ratio.

Viewing these dependency ratios, it should come as no surprise that Utah faces real challenges in funding its public schools (K-12) compared to other states. In Utah, there are 36.9 school-age dependents (5-17) for every 100 working-age (18-64) adults. The national average is 27.8 school-age dependents per 100
working-age adults. Another way of looking at this is to say that every 100 working-age adults in Utah must support 9.1 more school-age persons (roughly 25\%) than the national average. This is a significant burden for Utah's working-age adults.

Utah's retirement-age dependency ratio is the second smallest in the nation, only ahead of Alaska. This means that this age group imposes a much lighter burden in Utah than nationally. It is important to understand that these two dependent groups are supported much differently by public funds. The major sources of public support for the retirement-age population come from federal taxes and are federally administered - Social Security and Medicare. The major burden coming from the school-age population is education, which is funded and administered by state and local governments primarily through state and local tax dollars.

## Figure 10

Dependency Ratios for States: 2010 Census

| Rank | Preschool-Age (under age 5) per 100 of <br> State <br> Working Age |  | State | $\begin{array}{r} \text { School-Age } \\ (5-17) \text { per } 100 \text { of } \\ \text { Working Age } \\ \hline \end{array}$ | State | Retirement-Age (65 \& over) per 100 of Working Age | State | Total Non-Working Age per 100 of Working Age |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | United States | 10.4 | United States | 27.8 | United States | 20.7 | United States | 58.9 |
| 1 | Utah | 16.1 | Utah | 36.9 | Florida | 28.2 | Utah | 68.2 |
| 2 | Idaho | 12.9 | Idaho | 32.6 | West Virginia | 25.5 | Idaho | 66.1 |
| 3 | Texas | 12.3 | Texas | 31.5 | Maine | 25.0 | Arizona | 64.7 |
| 4 | South Dakota | 12.0 | Arizona | 30.2 | Pennsylvania | 24.6 | South Dakota | 64.5 |
| 5 | Nebraska | 11.8 | Kansas | 29.8 | lowa | 24.3 | Arkansas | 63.4 |
| 6 | Kansas | 11.7 | Mississippi | 29.7 | Montana | 23.7 | lowa | 63.3 |
| 7 | Arizona | 11.7 | New Mexico | 29.5 | South Dakota | 23.6 | Kansas | 63.0 |
| 8 | Alaska | 11.5 | Georgia | 29.3 | Arkansas | 23.5 | Nebraska | 63.0 |
| 9 | Mississippi | 11.5 | Nebraska | 29.2 | Delaware | 23.0 | Florida | 62.9 |
| 10 | New Mexico | 11.4 | Indiana | 29.1 | North Dakota | 22.9 | New Mexico | 62.4 |
| 11 | Oklahoma | 11.4 | South Dakota | 28.9 | Arizona | 22.7 | Oklahoma | 62.0 |
| 12 | Wyoming | 11.2 | Arkansas | 28.8 | Hawaii | 22.7 | Mississippi | 62.0 |
| 13 | Georgia | 11.1 | Oklahoma | 28.7 | Ohio | 22.6 | Missouri | 60.8 |
| 14 | Arkansas | 11.1 | California | 28.5 | Connecticut | 22.5 | Indiana | 60.7 |
| 15 | Louisiana | 11.0 | Alaska | 28.5 | Missouri | 22.5 | Ohio | 60.6 |
| 16 | Nevada | 11.0 | Illinois | 28.3 | Vermont | 22.5 | Texas | 60.4 |
| 17 | lowa | 10.8 | Michigan | 28.3 | Rhode Island | 22.4 | Michigan | 60.0 |
| 18 | Indiana | 10.8 | lowa | 28.2 | Michigan | 22.0 | Alabama | 59.9 |
| 19 | California | 10.7 | Louisiana | 28.1 | Nebraska | 22.0 | Montana | 59.8 |
| 20 | Minnesota | 10.7 | Ohio | 28.0 | Alabama | 22.0 | Pennsylvania | 59.8 |
| 21 | Colorado | 10.6 | Nevada | 27.9 | Oregon | 21.9 | Delaware | 59.5 |
| 22 | North Carolina | 10.5 | Minnesota | 27.8 | Oklahoma | 21.9 | Wisconsin | 59.3 |
| 23 | North Dakota | 10.5 | Missouri | 27.8 | Wisconsin | 21.8 | Minnesota | 59.0 |
| 24 | Missouri | 10.5 | Alabama | 27.7 | South Carolina | 21.7 | Connecticut | 58.8 |
| 25 | South Carolina | 10.4 | New Jersey | 27.5 | Kansas | 21.5 | Tennessee | 58.8 |
| 26 | Illinois | 10.3 | Wisconsin | 27.5 | New Mexico | 21.5 | South Carolina | 58.8 |
| 27 | Kentucky | 10.3 | North Carolina | 27.4 | New Jersey | 21.4 | New Jersey | 58.7 |
| 28 | Tennessee | 10.2 | Connecticut | 27.3 | Massachusetts | 21.4 | Louisiana | 58.6 |
| 29 | Alabama | 10.2 | Tennessee | 27.2 | Tennessee | 21.4 | West Virginia | 58.6 |
| 30 | Washington | 10.2 | Colorado | 27.1 | Kentucky | 21.1 | Illinois | 58.6 |
| 31 | Hawaii | 10.1 | Kentucky | 27.1 | New York | 21.1 | Kentucky | 58.5 |
| 32 | Montana | 10.1 | South Carolina | 26.7 | New Hampshire | 20.9 | North Carolina | 58.4 |
| 33 | Wisconsin | 10.0 | Delaware | 26.6 | Indiana | 20.8 | North Dakota | 58.2 |
| 34 | Ohio | 10.0 | Maryland | 26.6 | Mississippi | 20.8 | Hawaii | 57.9 |
| 35 | Delaware | 9.9 | Wyoming | 26.6 | Idaho | 20.6 | Nevada | 57.8 |
| 36 | Virginia | 9.9 | Washington | 26.5 | North Carolina | 20.5 | Maine | 57.6 |
| 37 | Maryland | 9.8 | Montana | 26.0 | Minnesota | 20.5 | Oregon | 57.6 |
| 38 | Oregon | 9.8 | Virginia | 26.0 | Illinois | 19.9 | Wyoming | 57.4 |
| 39 | New Jersey | 9.8 | Pennsylvania | 25.9 | Wyoming | 19.6 | Georgia | 57.2 |
| 40 | Michigan | 9.7 | Oregon | 25.9 | Louisiana | 19.5 | California | 57.1 |
| 41 | Florida | 9.3 | New Hampshire | 25.6 | Washington | 19.2 | New York | 55.8 |
| 42 | New York | 9.3 | New York | 25.5 | Maryland | 19.1 | Washington | 55.8 |
| 43 | Pennsylvania | 9.2 | Florida | 25.4 | Nevada | 19.0 | Rhode Island | 55.5 |
| 44 | Connecticut | 9.0 | Hawaii | 25.1 | Virginia | 18.9 | Maryland | 55.5 |
| 45 | West Virginia | 8.9 | Massachusetts | 24.9 | California | 17.9 | Massachusetts | 54.9 |
| 46 | Massachusetts | 8.7 | North Dakota | 24.8 | Colorado | 16.9 | Virginia | 54.7 |
| 47 | Rhode Island | 8.5 | Rhode Island | 24.6 | Georgia | 16.7 | New Hampshire | 54.7 |
| 48 | Maine | 8.2 | Maine | 24.3 | Texas | 16.6 | Colorado | 54.6 |
| 49 | New Hampshire | 8.2 | West Virginia | 24.3 | District of Columbia | 15.9 | Vermont | 54.3 |
| 50 | Vermont | 7.9 | Vermont | 24.0 | Utah | 15.2 | Alaska | 51.8 |
| 51 | District of Columbia | 7.5 | District of Columbia | 15.8 | Alaska | 11.7 | District of Columbia | 39.3 |

[^0]Coming Changes in Utah's Demographic Make-up Two significant demographic trends are beginning to emerge that will significantly impact Utah. These trends relate to Utah's school-age (5-17) population and 65 and older population.

School-age Population. The first major trend is the projected gradual decline in the rate of growth in the state's school-age population.

For the past several years, this age group (5-17) has been growing at annual rates between $2.5 \%$ and $3.2 \%$. However, over the next several years, these growth rates are projected to start to fall and fall steadily for some time. By 2015, the annual school-age growth rate is projected to be about $2.0 \%$; by 2020 about $1.0 \%$; by 2025, 0.7\%.

Between 2010 and 2030, Utah's school-age population is projected to increase from about 625,000 to 850,000 , an increase of about 225,000 .

This declining growth rate in the school-age population could have a significant impact on the demand public education places on the state and the local school districts. Figure 11 displays both the projected trends in numerical growth as well the total school-age population.

Figure 11
Growth in School Age Population 2000 to 2030


Source: 2010 Economic Report to the Governor, U.S. Census Bureau

It is important to be clear that a declining growth rate does not mean declining numeric growth. Utah's school-age population will continue to grow, but is projected to grow at a much slower rate than in recent years.

Elderly Population. The second demographic trend that will change Utah's population make-up is the rapidly increasing growth of the elderly population (see Figure 12).

The annual growth rate of Utah's 65 and older age group is projected to increase from growth rates in the range of $2 \%$ to $4 \%$ over the past decade to $5 \%$ in 2012 and remain at about 5\% through 2020.

This means that Utah's elderly population is projected to grow from 250,000 in 2010 to 600,000 in 2030, an increase of about 350,000.

As with the changes in school-age population, this demographic shift will have a significant impact on the state. For example, it may lead to more demands for health care services, for assisted living housing, and senior citizens centers.

Figure 12
Growth in Population Age 65+ 2000 to 2030


Source: 2010 Economic Report to the Governor, U.S. Census Bureau

## SUMMARY

During the past decade, Utah was the third fastest growing state in the nation, growing by $23.8 \%$, or 530,716 people.

The four fastest growing states in the nation are all Mountain states and are, in order of growth: Nevada (35.1\%), Arizona ( $24.6 \%$ ), Utah ( $23.8 \%$ ), and Idaho (21.1\%).

Utah's county population growth for this last decade continues a long trend of increasing urbanization along the Wasatch Front. Today, over three out of every four Utahns live in the four most populous counties: Salt Lake, Utah, Davis, and Weber.

Utah's fastest growing cities during the last decade reflect trends similar to the growth of the state's Wasatch Front. Nine of the ten fastest growing cities with populations over 9,000 are located
in either Salt Lake, Utah, Davis or Weber counties. Six of the top ten reside in rapidly growing Utah County.

Utah's racial and ethnic composition is changing, with marked growth over the past decade in the Hispanic population. Utah's Hispanic population has increased from $5 \%$ of the state's population in 1990 to $13 \%$ in 2010.

The annual growth rate of Utah's 65 and older age group is projected to increase to $5.0 \%$ in 2012 and stay at this higher rate through 2020. Though Utah's school-age population will continue to grow for some years, the rate of growth is projected to slow considerably over the coming decade.

Understanding Utah current population trends and projections of Utah's future population changes can help Utah's elected policymakers better understand many of the issues they face in the public policy arena today, as well as plan for Utah's future.

[^1]
[^0]:    Source: 2011 Economic Report to the Governor, U.S. Census Bureau

[^1]:    ${ }^{1}$ The Census Bureau's latest population estimate for the period April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2011 shows that Utah's population grew to 2,817,222. This is an increase of $1.93 \%(53,000)$, ranking third in population growth rate, only behind Washington D.C. ( $2.7 \%$ ) and Texas ( $2.1 \%$ ).
    ${ }^{2}$ Each of the four major regions has sub regions. The sub regions of the Northeast are: New England and Middle Atlantic. The sub regions of the South are: South Atlantic, East South Central, and West South Central. The sub regions of the Midwest are: West North Central, and East North Central. The sub regions of the West are: Mountain and Pacific.
    ${ }^{3}$ The Mountain States, as they are called by the U.S. Bureau of Census, are a sub-region of the West, one of the four major regions of the country. In addition to the Mountain States, the West includes the Pacific Coast states of Washington, Oregon, and California, and Alaska and Hawaii.
    ${ }_{5}^{4}$ A metro area is defined by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget as a core urban area with a population of 50,000 or more.
    ${ }^{5}$ The 2010 census is the second national census wherein respondents were allowed to select more than one race. The six racial categories are: White, black or African American, American Indian or Alaska native, Asian, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, and Some Other Race. In addition, respondents could choose one of two ethnic categories: Hispanic or Latino, or Not Hispanic or Latino.

