



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

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH AND GENERAL COUNSEL

HIGHLIGHTS

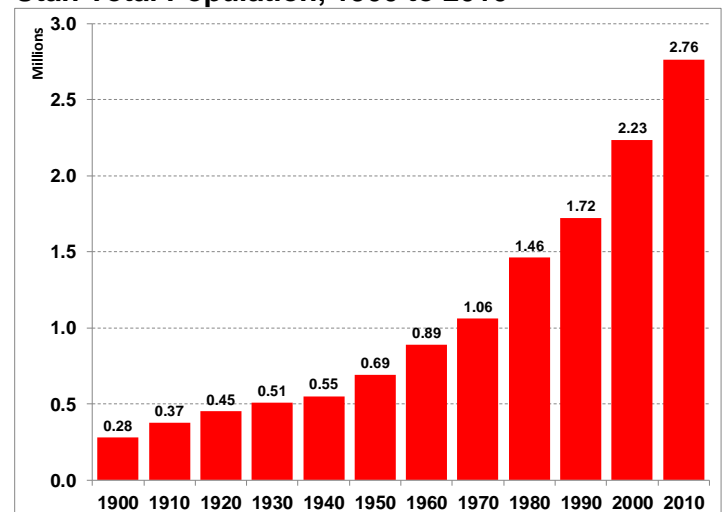
- During the past decade, Utah was the third fastest growing state in the nation, growing by 23.8%, or 530,716 people.
- The four fastest growing states in the nation are all Mountain states - Nevada (35.1%), Arizona (24.6%), Utah (23.8%), and Idaho (21.1%).
- Utah's county population growth for this 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 constitutionally-required 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	2000 Rank	2010 Census Population	2010 Rank	2000-2010 Numeric Change	Percent of U.S. Numeric Change	Rank Based on Numeric Change	2000-2010 Percent Change	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%	4	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%	4	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
Illinois	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
Iowa	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

Utah's County Population Trends

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.

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.

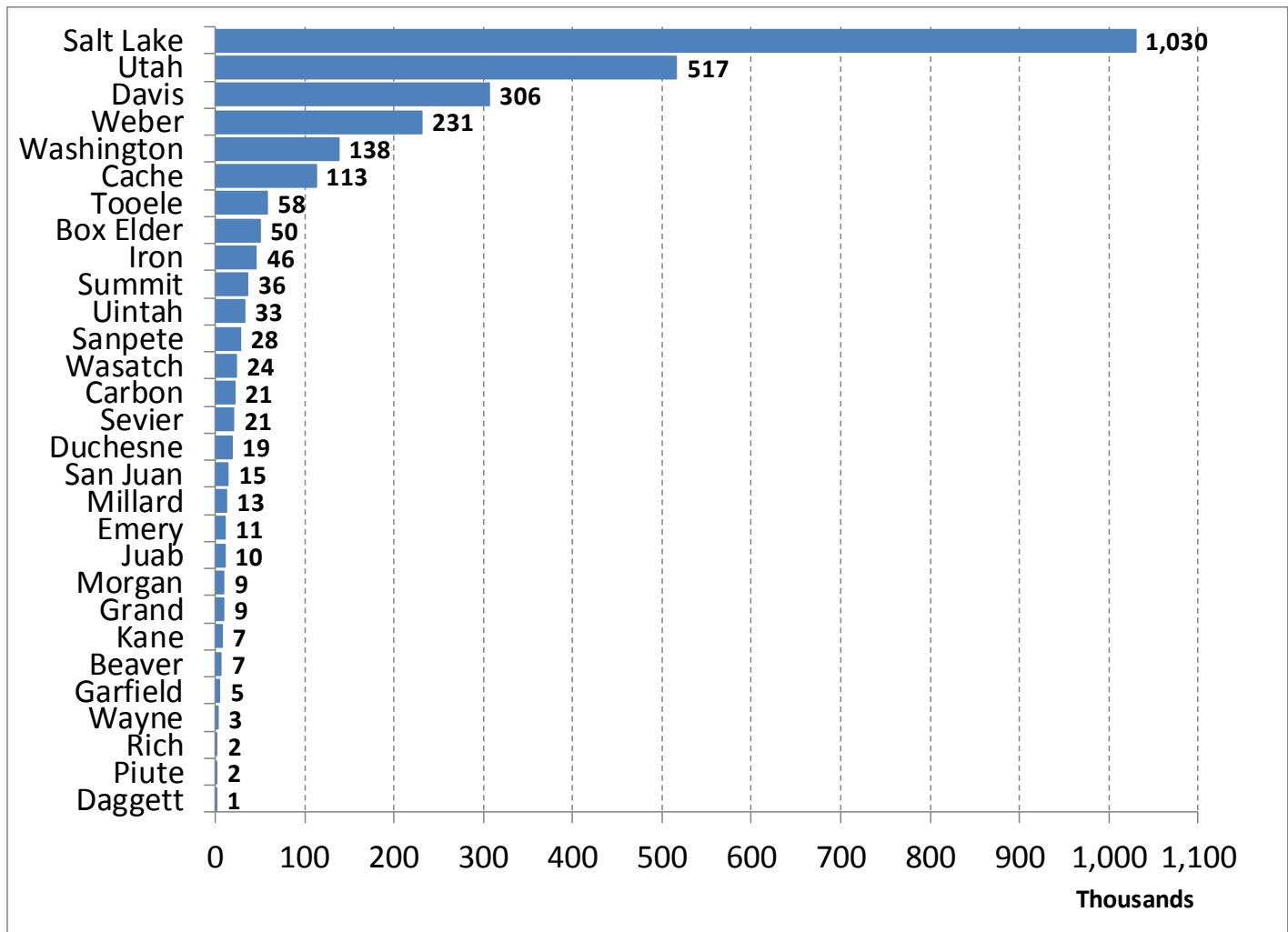
Washington County is the one exception to the state's increasing concentration of population along the Wasatch Front. For the last three decades, this southern Utah county has been growing faster in percentage terms than any of the four populous Wasatch Front counties. Since 1980, Washington County has 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

Size Rank	County	1980 Census	1980 Share of the State Population	1990 Census	1990 Share of the State Population	Numeric increase for decade	2000 Census	2000 Share of the State Population	Numeric increase for decade	2010 Census	2010 Share of the State Population	Numeric increase for decade	Percent increase for decade	Percent of state total increase for decade	Cumulative percent increase for decade	Total numeric increase since 1980	Total increase as percent state since 1980	Cumulative percent increase since 1980	Percent increase since 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%

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

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 metro⁴ 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.

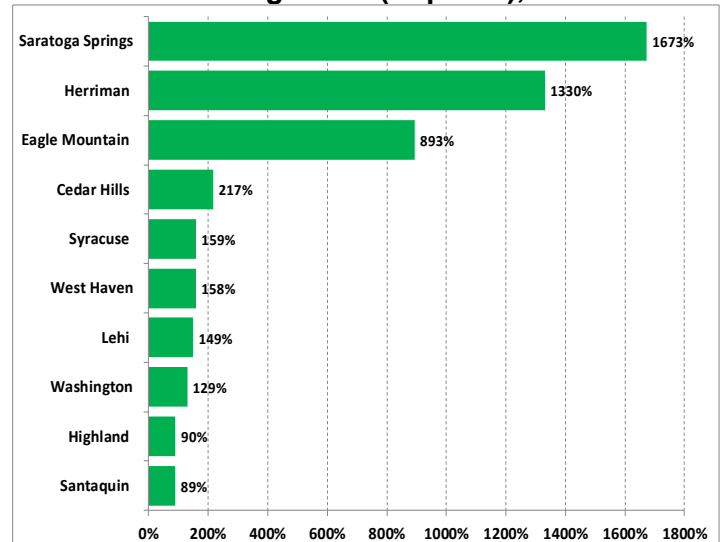
Utah's City Population Trends

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 Rank	City/Town	County	2000	2010	2000-2010 Percent Change
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%
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 Rank	City/Town	County	2000	2010	2000-2010 Numeric 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, non-Hispanic.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								Two or More Races	Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	White Not Hispanic or Latino
		One Race										
		Total One Race	White	Black or African American	American Indian and Alaska 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 10
Dependency Ratios for States: 2010 Census

Rank	State	Preschool-Age (under age 5) per 100 of Working Age	State	School-Age (5-17) per 100 of Working Age	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	Iowa	24.3	Arkansas	63.4
6	Kansas	11.7	Mississippi	29.7	Montana	23.7	Iowa	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	Iowa	10.8	Michigan	28.3	Rhode Island	22.4	Michigan	60.0
18	Indiana	10.8	Iowa	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

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

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.

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.

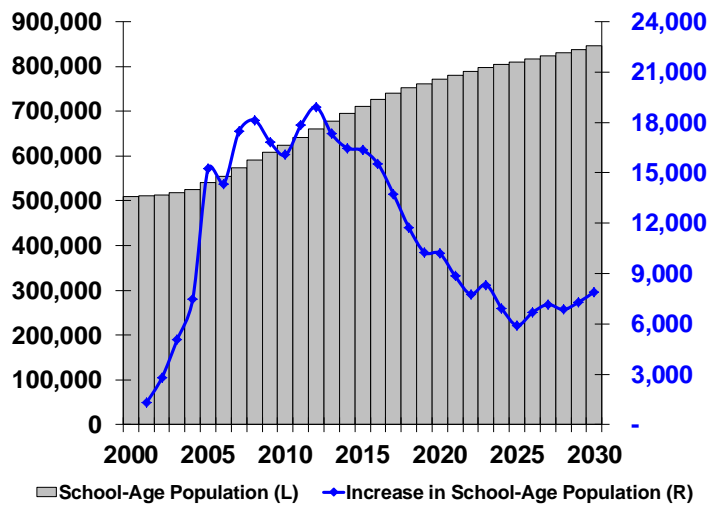
Elderly Population. The second demographic trend that will change Utah's population make-up is the rapidly increasing growth of the elderly population (see Figure 12).

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.

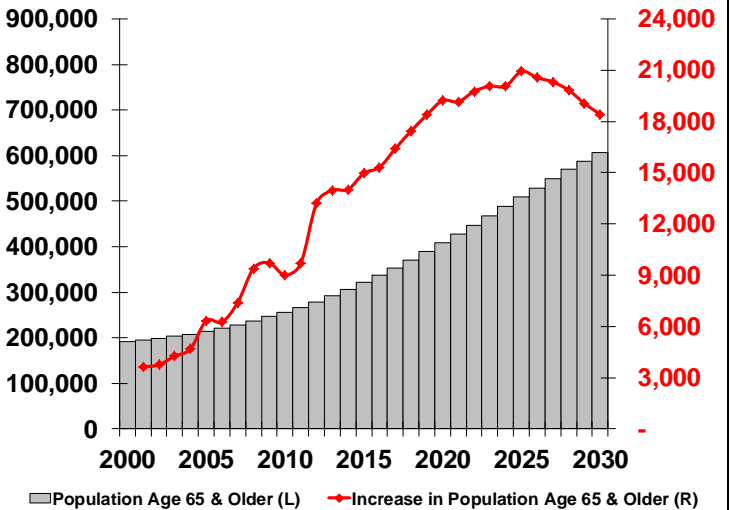
As with the changes in school-age population, this demographic shift will have a significant impact on the state. For example, it may lead to more demands for health care services, for assisted living housing, and senior citizens centers.

Figure 11
Growth in School Age Population 2000 to 2030



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

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 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.

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.