



KEM C. GARDNER POLICY INSTITUTE

*We are an honest broker of*  
INFORMED  
RESEARCH

*that guides*  
INFORMED  
DISCUSSIONS

*and leads to*  
INFORMED  
DECISIONS™

January 2025

Dear friends,

Westerners understand the meaning of the term “whitewater.” It stems from our experiences floating rugged, remote, and remarkable western rivers. The rapids carry names like Cataract Canyon, Skull Rapid, Disaster Falls, Hell’s Half Mile, The Big Drop, and Sock-It-To-Me. The names prompt memories of steep gradients, protruding rocks, high velocity, and risk.

In many ways, “whitewater” is a good term for the state of our world and nation right now. Yes, there are abundant opportunities, but globalization, the digital revolution, two dramatic recessions, a pandemic, regional wars, and other forces have taken their toll and created significant unrest and uncertainty.

Utah is not immune but does stand as a vanguard. Our high levels of social capital, upward mobility, income equality, innovation, fiscal responsibility, entrepreneurship, and economic success serve as an example to others. Yes, we have challenges – housing, water, and energy loom large – but we also elect leaders who still prevent and solve problems. Our values sustain us, and our institutions still work. We approach the “whitewater” better equipped than any state in the nation.

In Utah Informed, we share 80 pages of compelling charts, quotes, maps, phrases, and schematics that help us better understand our changing state, nation, and world. We call it “visual intellection” and invite you to consider how this information can help.

The Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute serves as an honest broker of informed research, which guides informed discussions, and leads to INFORMED DECISIONS.™ We hope this edition of Utah Informed helps you navigate the waters that lie ahead.

Thanks for your interest and service,



Natalie Gochnour  
Director, Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute



Kurt Dirks  
Dean, David Eccles School of Business



Derek Miller  
President & CEO, Salt Lake Chamber

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“HOPE IS THE  
THING WITH FEATHERS  
THAT PERCHES IN THE SOUL,  
AND SINGS THE TUNE  
WITHOUT THE WORDS,  
AND NEVER STOPS AT ALL.”

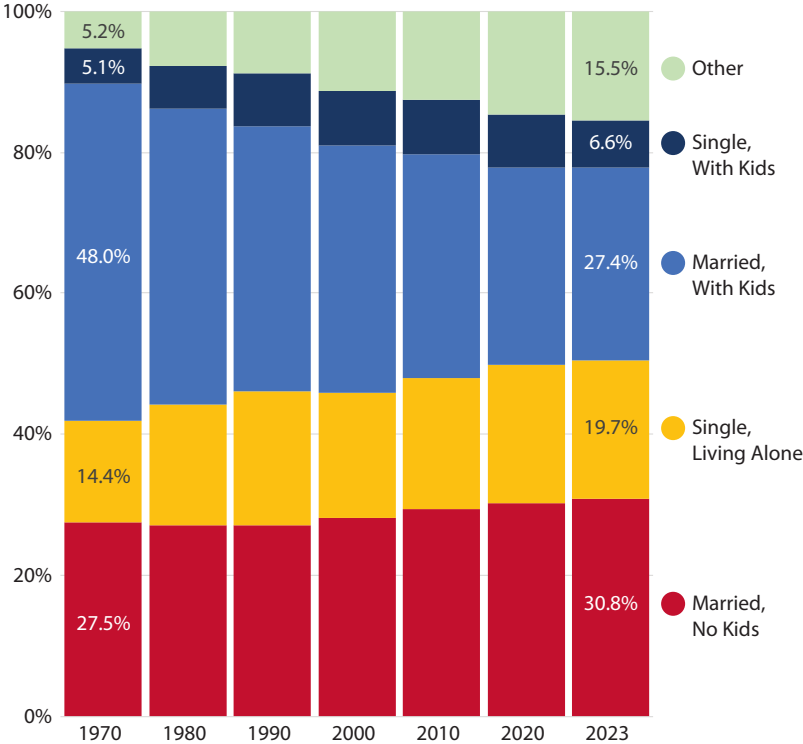
- Emily Dickinson

# Words and phrases to know in 2025

- **Algorithmic bias:** Occurs when an algorithm makes systemic and repeated errors that disadvantage certain groups of people. *The technology used to review the job applicant resumes exhibited algorithmic bias because it unfairly eliminated people in the early stages of the hiring process.*
- **Attention economy:** A concept describing how human attention has become a valuable resource in the digital era, where there is constant content and information overload. *In an attention economy, social media influencers help brands capture people's interest.*
- **Cultural whitewater:** The challenge of living during a time of social, political, and economic upheaval. *Families struggle with the cultural whitewater impacting our nation.*
- **Delulu:** Slang term for "delusional," describing someone who has unreasonable or unrealistic expectations. *In hindsight, fans were delulu thinking that their team would be undefeated.*
- **Friendshoring:** Prioritizing production and trade with geopolitical allies or countries that share similar political values. *By encouraging the import of oil from Canada instead of Iran, the United States practices friendshoring.*
- **Glow-up:** A positive transformation or evolution in a person's appearance, confidence, or lifestyle over a period of time. *A glow-up often involves personal growth, enhanced self-care, and a significant increase in self-esteem.*
- **Illuminators:** A human typology describing someone who is genuinely curious about others; they shine the brightness of their care on people and make them feel bigger, deeper, and respected. *David Brooks reminds us that the world needs more illuminators.*
- **Relentless incrementalism:** A growth mindset that emphasizes persistent, small, committed, and intentional steps towards achieving a long-term goal. *Much like hiking to a summit, improving health outcomes requires the relentless incrementalism of ongoing, dedicated, small purposeful steps.*
- **Underconsumption core:** A social media trend that emphasizes minimalism and simplicity by encouraging individuals to purchase only what they truly need and to fully utilize their possessions before replacing them. *I am embracing underconsumption core by not buying the latest viral water bottle; the one I already have is good enough.*
- **Vibe check:** A slang term that means to make sure someone is having a good time or to assess their mood. *You might ask a friend, "Vibe check?" instead of "How are you?".*
- **Virtual influencer:** An AI or computer-generated social media personality. *Major brands are willing to use virtual influencers to promote their products because they can be quickly and inexpensively modeled to meet their needs across different platforms.*

# Family matters

Utah Household Composition, 1970-2023



Over **50%** of Utah households consist of single or married individuals without children.

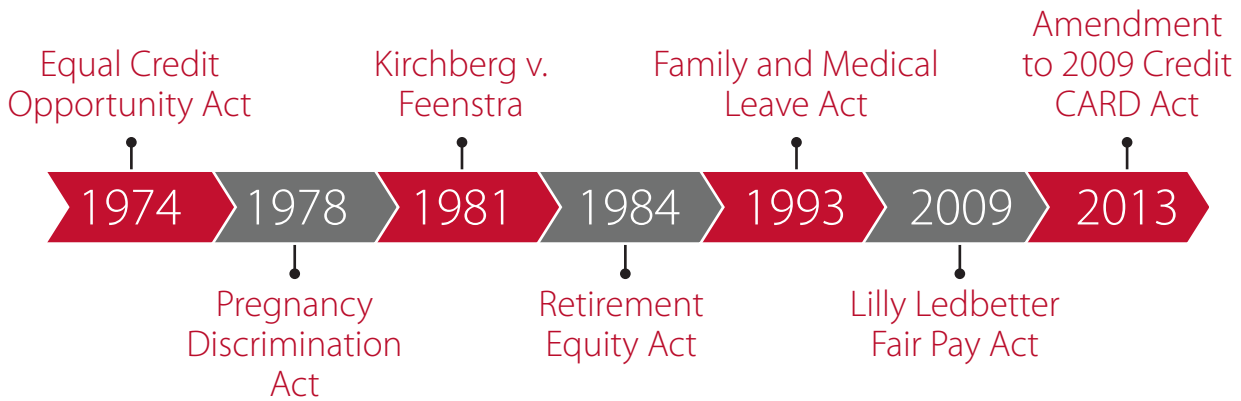
In 2023, **34%** of Utah households included a child living with their parent(s), compared with **53%** in 1970.

Note: "Other" includes unmarried individuals living with roommates or family members other than a spouse or their own child.  
 Source: IPUMS NHGIS, University of Minnesota, www.nhgis.org (1970-2000); U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2020 Decennial Census Reports, 2023 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates

# Relentless incrementalism

## Fifty Years of Financial Milestones

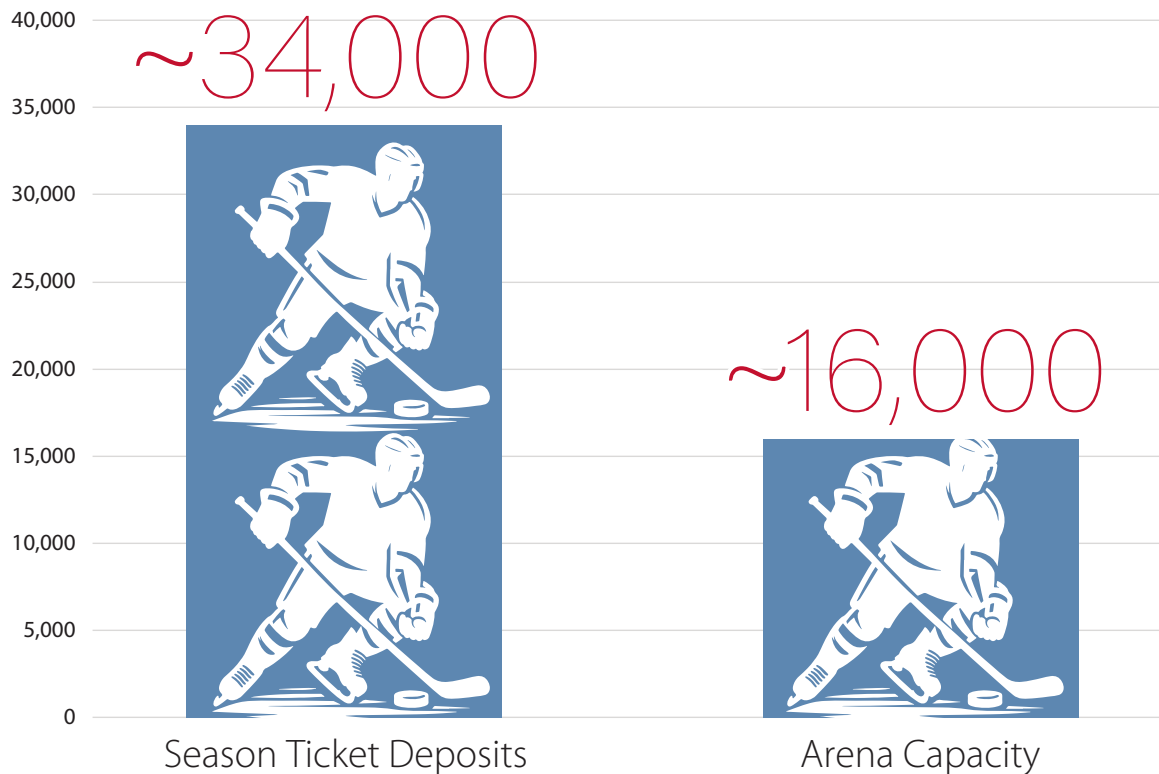
2024 marks the 50th anniversary of the Equal Credit Opportunity Act



Source: U.S. News & World Report

# Flooding the ice

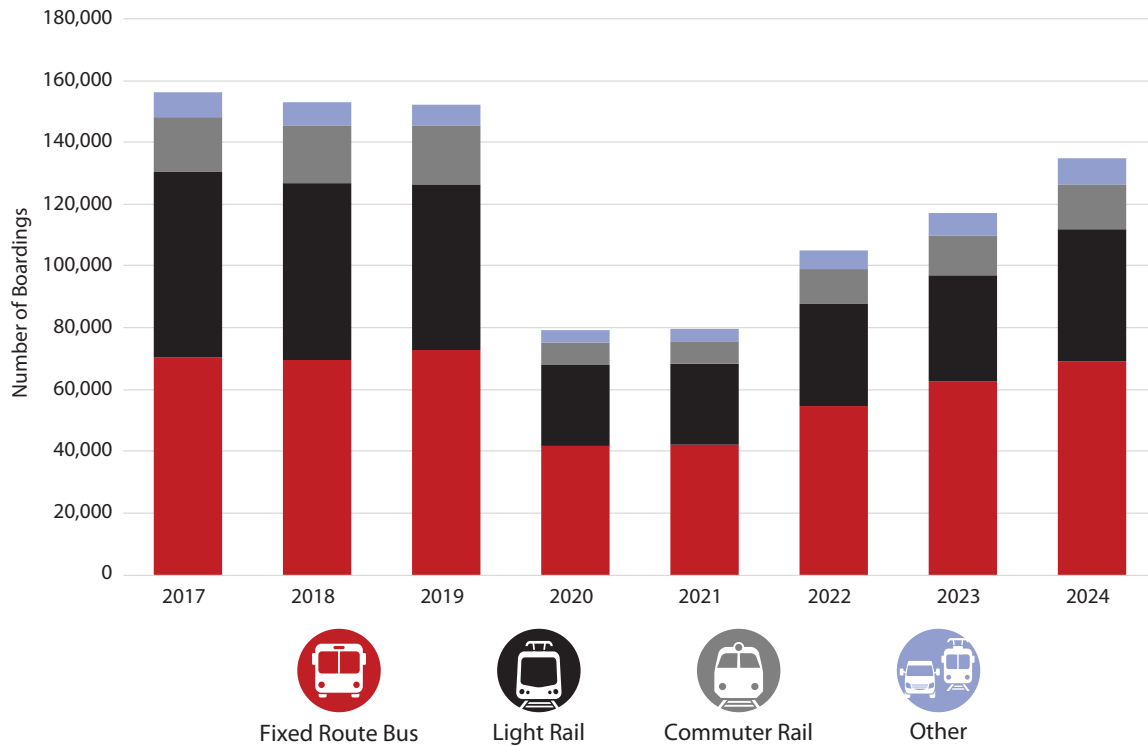
## Utah Hockey Club Arena Capacity and Season Ticket Deposits, 2024



Note: Utah welcomed an NHL team in the 2024-2025 season to play in the Delta Center. Delta Center seating capacity varies by event type. As of 2024, Delta Center NHL events allow seating for up to 16,000, with roughly 10,000 unobstructed seats. Prior to coming to Utah, the former Arizona Coyotes competed in the Mullett Arena, with a seating capacity of 4,500.  
Source: The New York Times

# All aboard

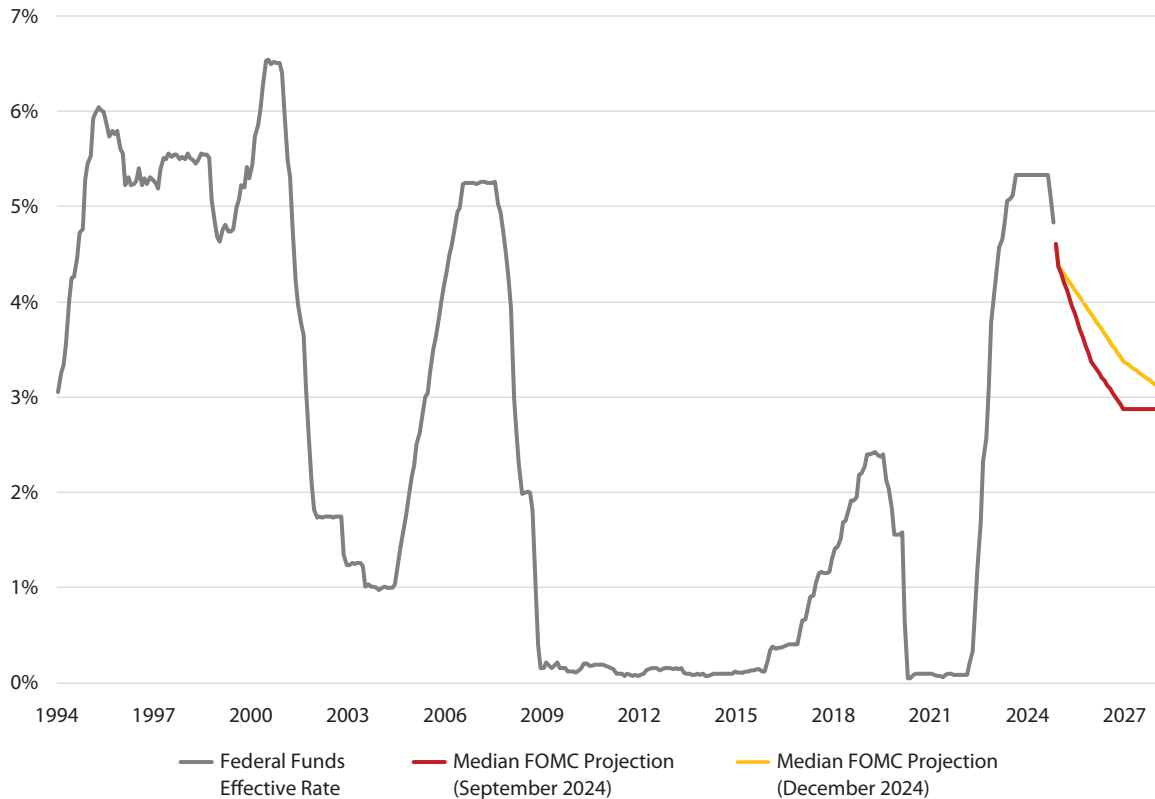
**Average Monthly UTA Transit Boardings, 2017-2024**



Note: "Fixed Route Bus" includes Rapid, Express, Regular, Ski, and Route Deviations. "Other" includes VanPool, Street Car, Paratransit, and Mobility Management. Definitions can be found at <https://rideuta.com/Rider-Tools/dashboard-definitions>. Data are through November 2024. Source: UTA

# Have we landed?

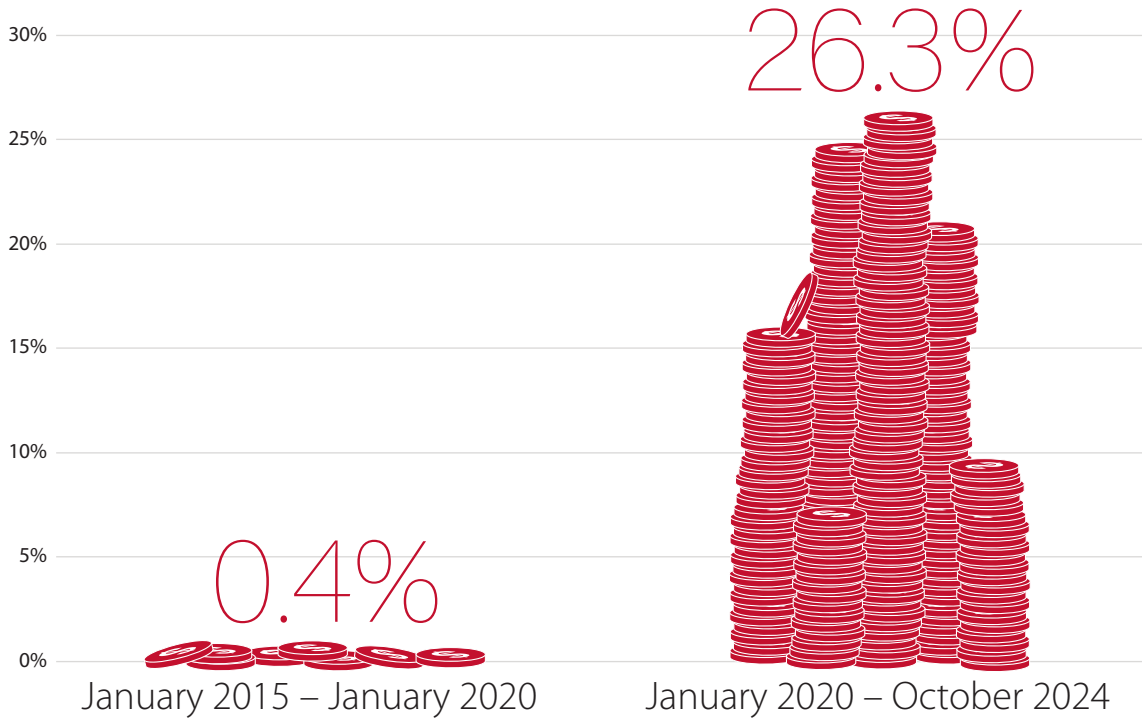
**Federal Funds Effective Rate, Historical and Projected, 1994-2027**



Note: Projections represent the median midpoints from the Federal Reserve's September 2024 and December 2024 dot plots. FOMC is the Federal Open Market Committee.  
Source: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System

# Fed up

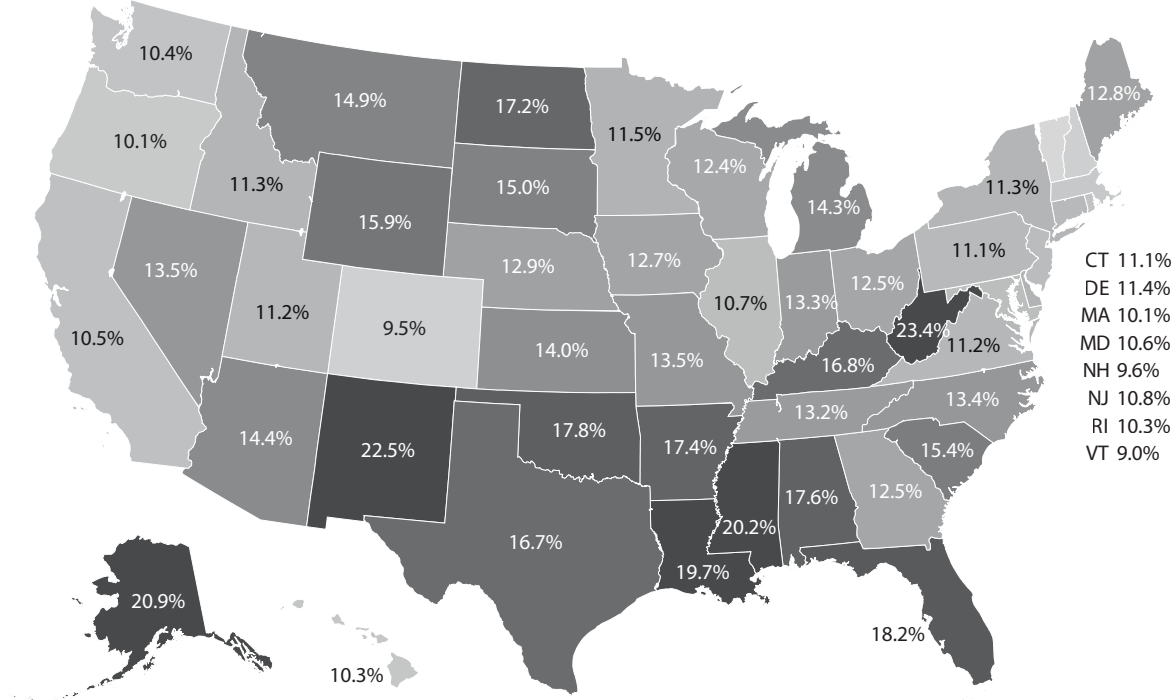
## Cumulative Percent Change in U.S. Grocery Prices



Note: Values derived using U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' Consumer Price Index.  
Source: Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute analysis of U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics data

# Vulnerable foundations

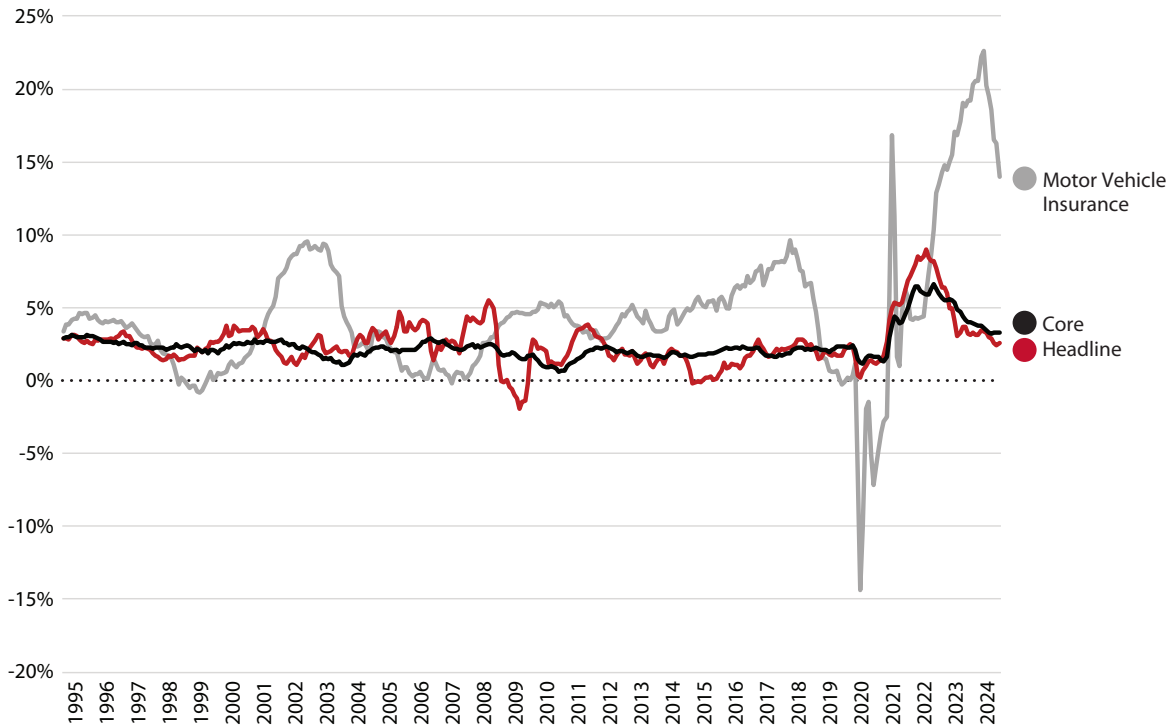
Share of U.S. Households Without Meaningful Homeowners Insurance, 2023



Note: Estimates represent the share of households without meaningful homeowners insurance, defined as homeowners paying less than \$100 annually for coverage. Source: Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute analysis of U.S. Census Bureau, 2023 American Community Survey, 1-Year Estimates data

# More green for the gecko

Headline, Core, and Motor Vehicle Insurance Inflation, Year-Over CPI, 1995-2024

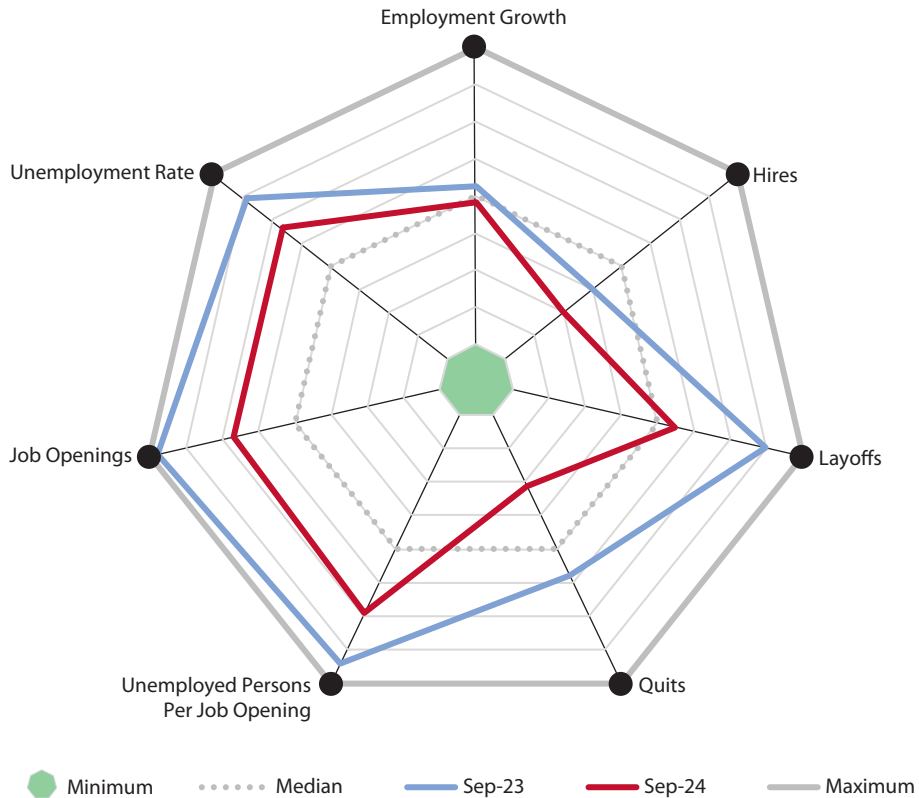


Note: Data are seasonally adjusted and are through September 2024. Headline inflation refers to all items while core inflation refers to all items less food and energy. Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

# Employers take the wheel

## Utah Labor Market Distributions Spider Chart, September 2023 vs September 2024

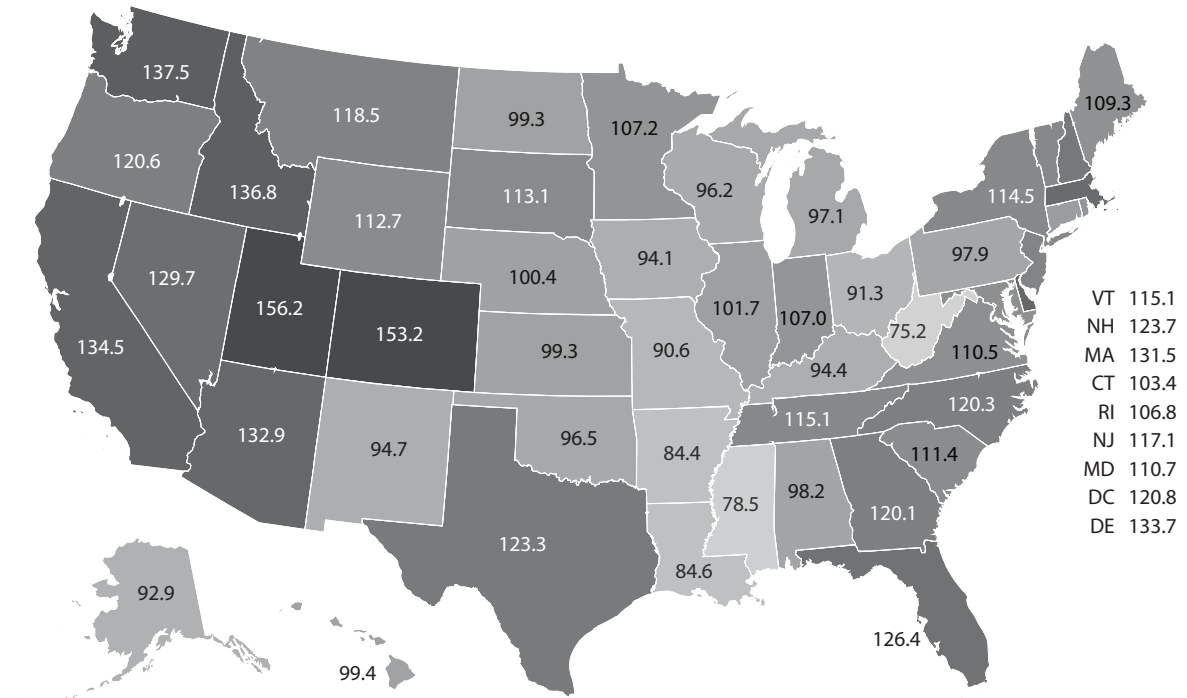
Data since January 2001



Note: Values nearer the maximum line indicate strong or tight labor markets. Conversely, values nearer the minimum line indicate weaker labor markets. These data exclude outliers to better illustrate year-to-year differences.  
 Source: Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute analysis of U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics data

# Innovation capital

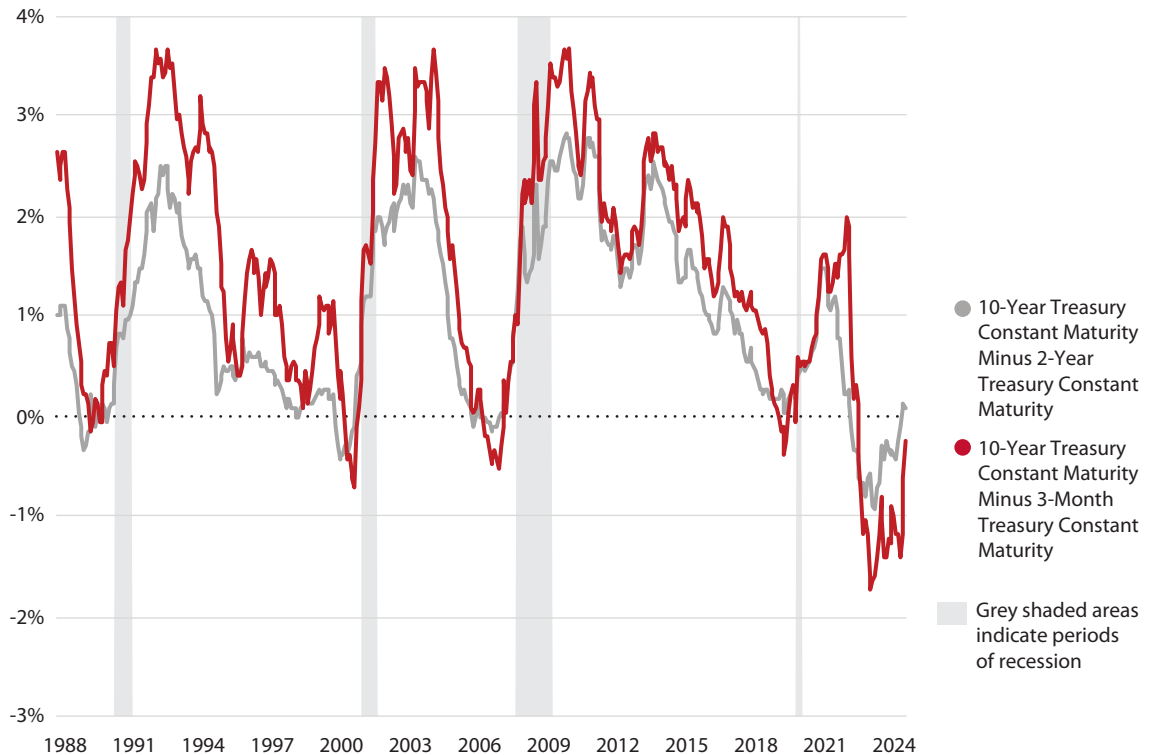
## Headline Innovation Intelligence Index by State, 2023



Note: The headline innovation intelligence index measures innovation inputs and outputs using five core indexes: human capital and knowledge creation, business dynamics, business profile, employment and productivity, and economic well-being.  
Source: Indiana Business Research Center, 2024

# Pay attention to the yield sign

**10-Year Treasury Constant Maturity Minus 2-Year and 3-Month Treasury Constant Maturity, 1988-2024**



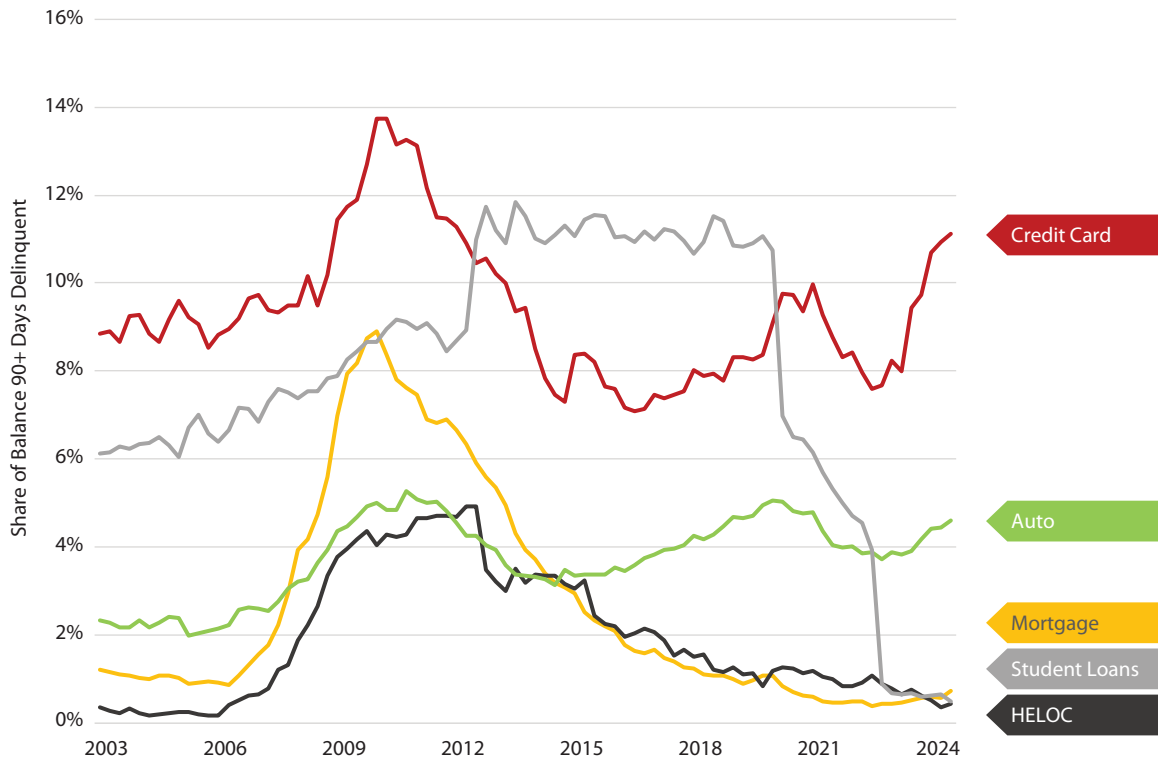
Note: Inverted yield curves, where short-term interest rates exceed long-term rates, have preceded most U.S. recessions since the 1960s.

Data are through November 2024.

Source: U.S. Treasury Department and Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis

# Swipe now, pay...later?

Transition into Serious Delinquency (90+) by Loan Type, U.S., 2003-2024 Q3

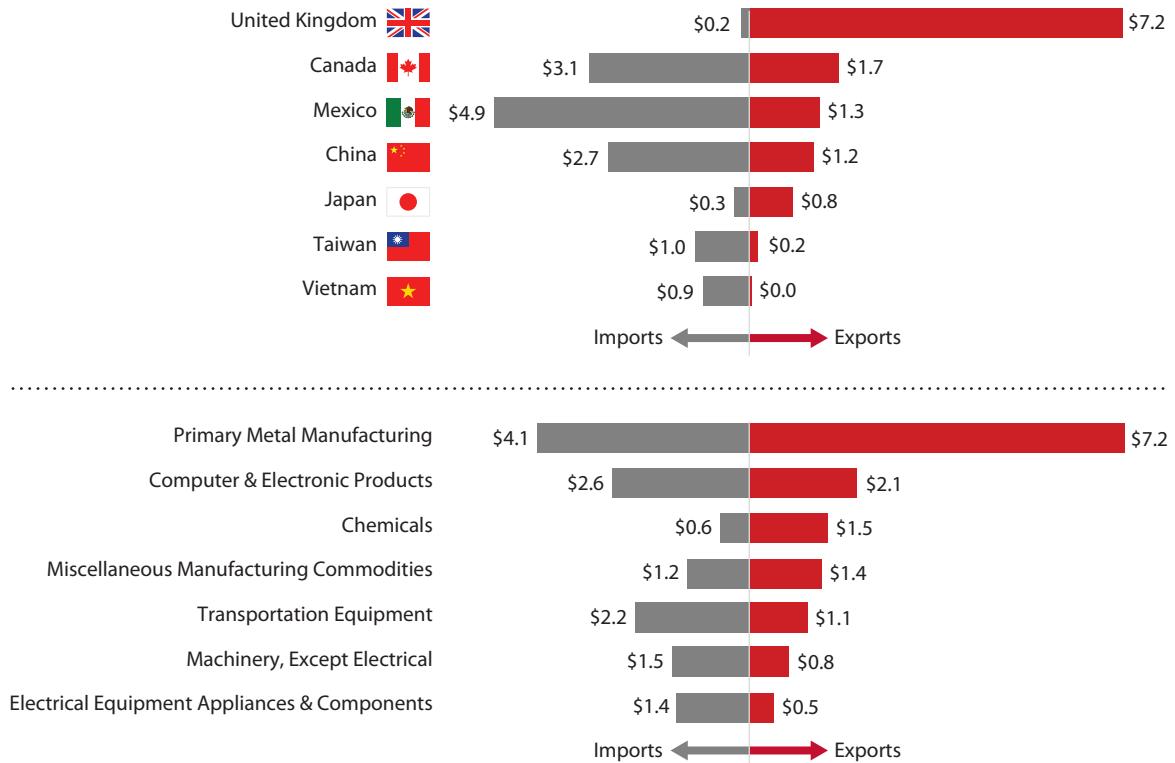


Note: Student loan data are not reported prior to 2004 due to uneven reporting.  
Source: Federal Reserve Bank of New York

# Tariffing prospects

## Utah's Top Exports and Imports, Goods and Countries, 2023

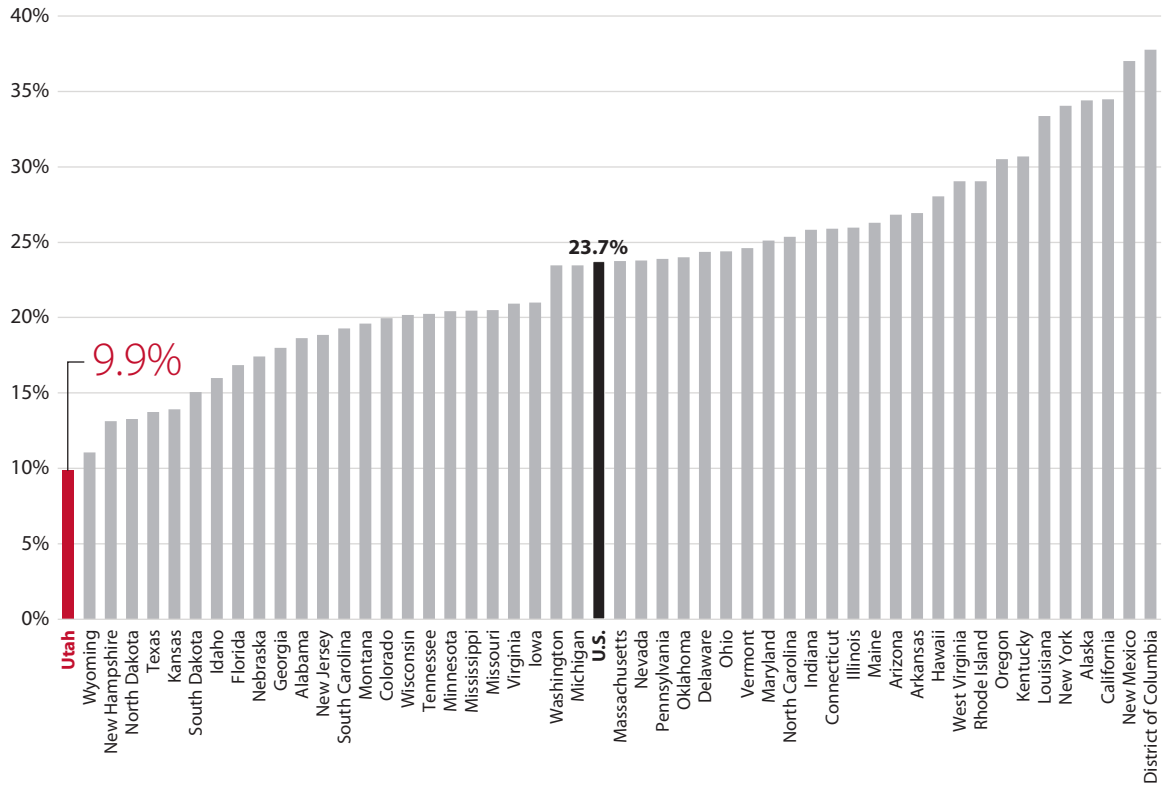
Dollars in Billions



Source: U.S. Census Bureau and USA Trade Online

# Lowest in the nation

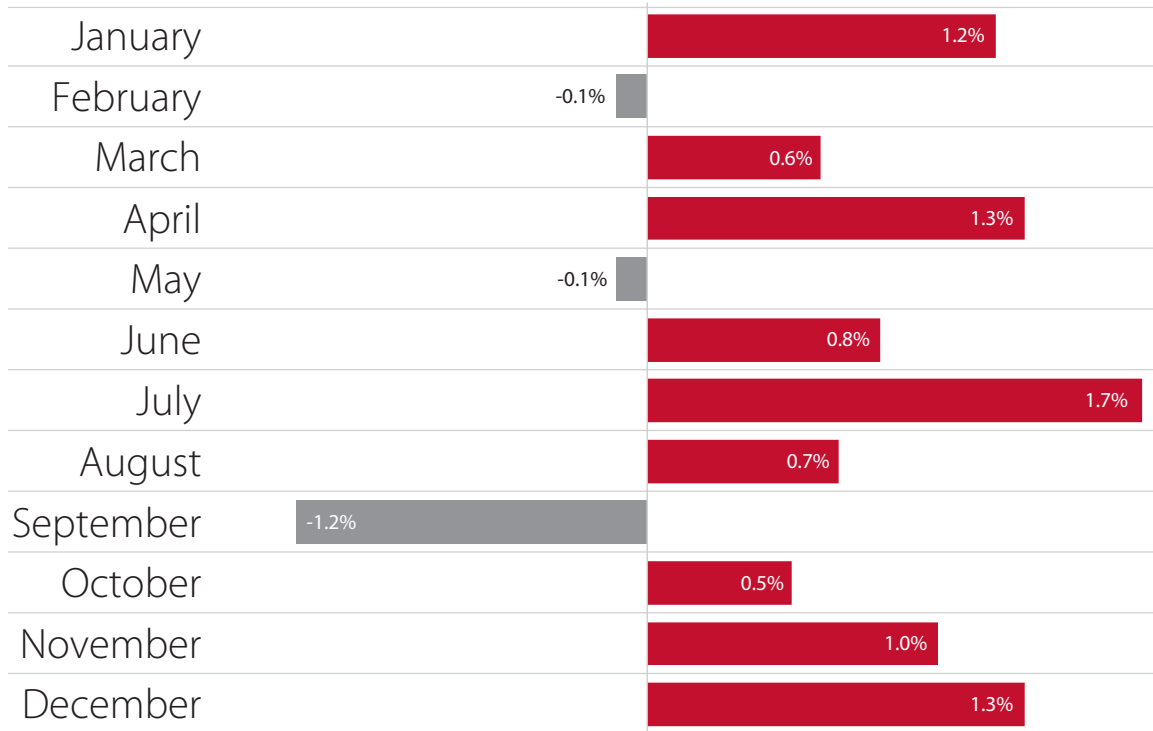
Share of Population Enrolled in Medicaid by State, August 2024



Source: Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services and U.S. Census Bureau

# Wake me up when September ends

## S&P 500 Average Monthly Return Since 1928

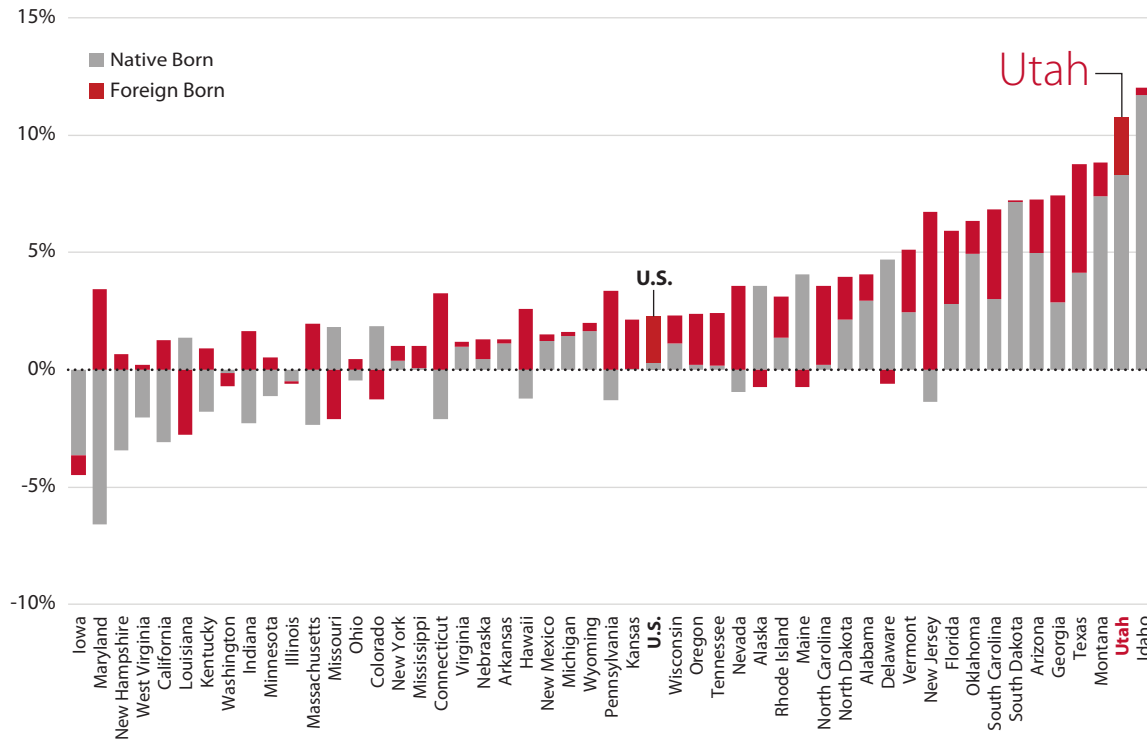


Note: Data are through August 2024.

Source: Dow Jones Market Data, accessed via Wall Street Journal

# The strength of the labor market

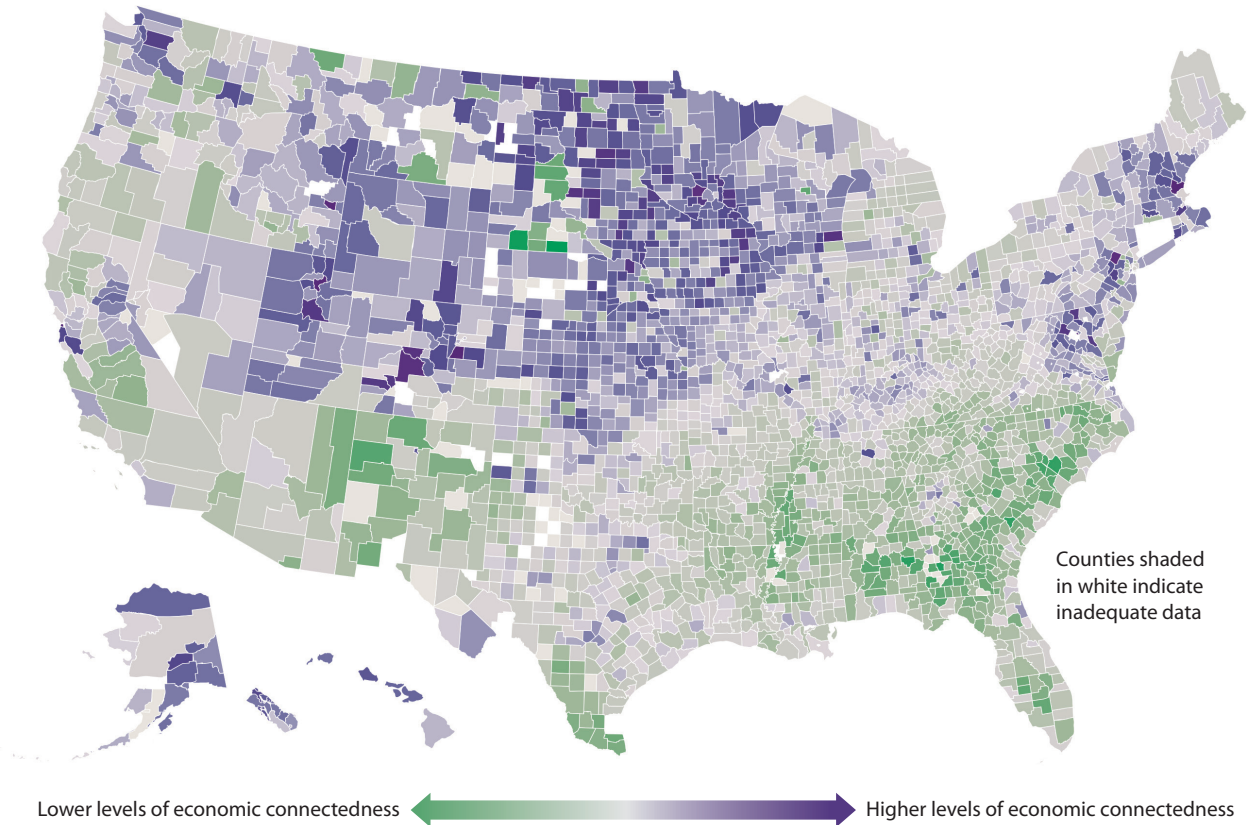
Percent Change in Overall Employment by Place of Birth and State, January 2020-July 2024



Note: Estimates are based on annual averages of nonseasonally adjusted data for the 12-month periods ending in January 2020 and July 2024. Overall employment change estimates based on CPS data differ from payroll employment estimates because the sources of data and estimation methods are distinct. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, accessed via Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis

# You've got a friend in me

## Economic Connectedness Index by State, 2022



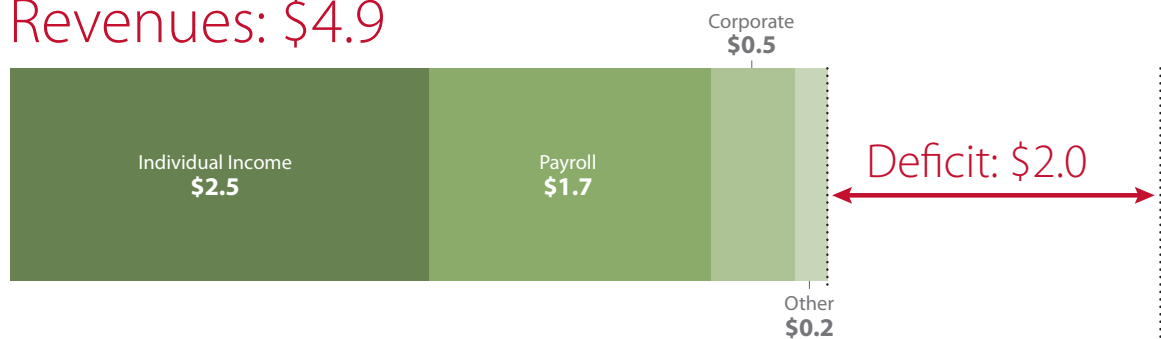
Note: Economic connectedness measures “the share of high socioeconomic status (SES) friends among individuals with low socioeconomic status” using measures such as neighborhood income and educational attainment. A higher value represents higher levels of economic connectedness. According to several studies, economic connectedness is “among the strongest predictors of upward income mobility identified to date... If children with low-SES parents were to grow up in counties with economic connectedness comparable to that of the average child with high-SES parents, their incomes in adulthood would increase by 20% on average.” Chetty et al. Social Capital I: Measurement and Associations with Economic Mobility. Data rely on U.S. Census Bureau 5-year ACS income data (2014-2018) and Facebook data (2022). Source: *Social Capital I: Measurement and Associations with Economic Mobility*, Raj Chetty et al, accessed via Nature.com

# Preset priorities

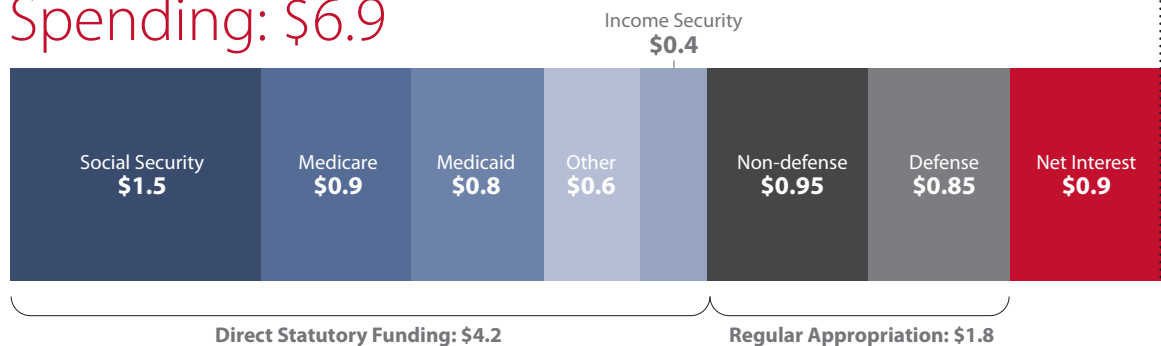
## The Federal Budget, FY 2024

Dollars in Trillions

### Revenues: \$4.9



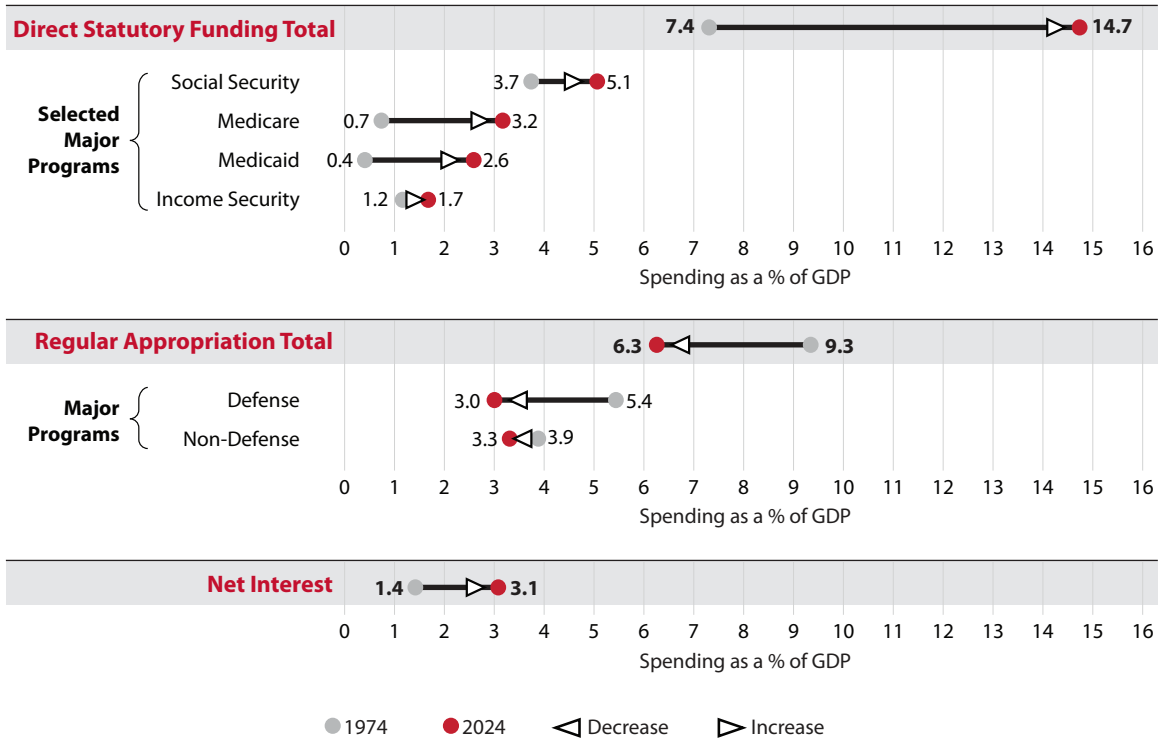
### Spending: \$6.9



Source: Congressional Budget Office

# Mandatory momentum

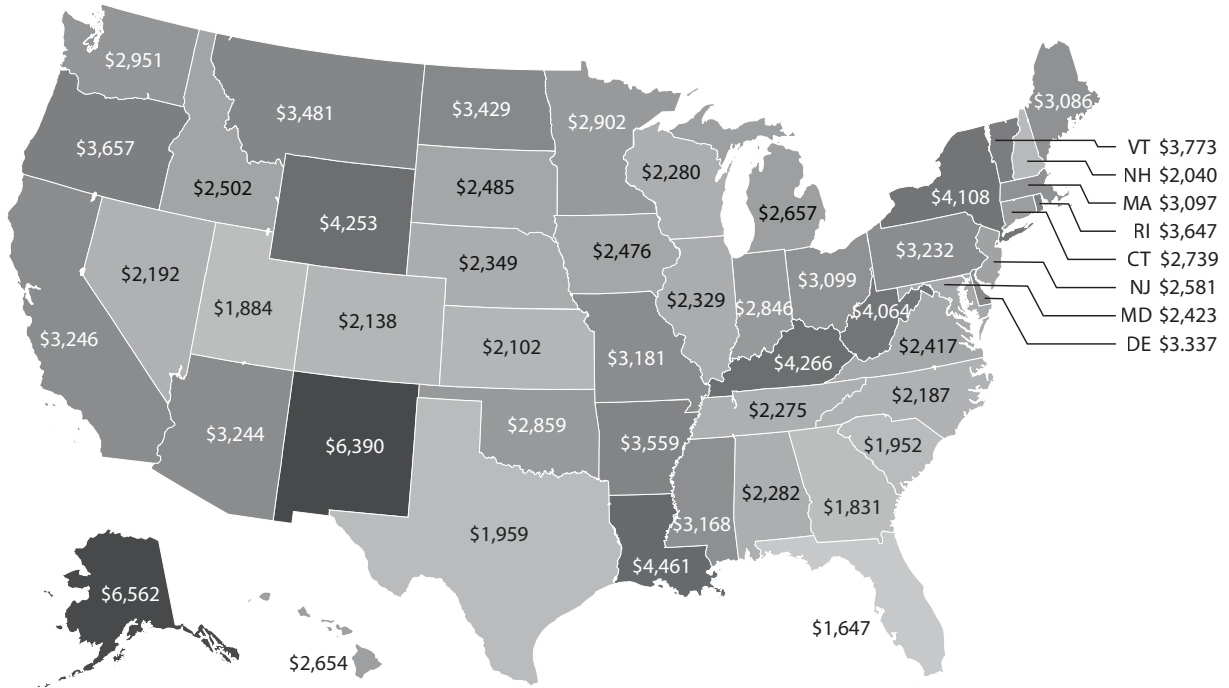
Federal Direct Statutory Funding and Regular Appropriation Spending as Share of GDP, FY 1974-2024



Source: Congressional Budget Office

# Who is Uncle Sam's favorite?

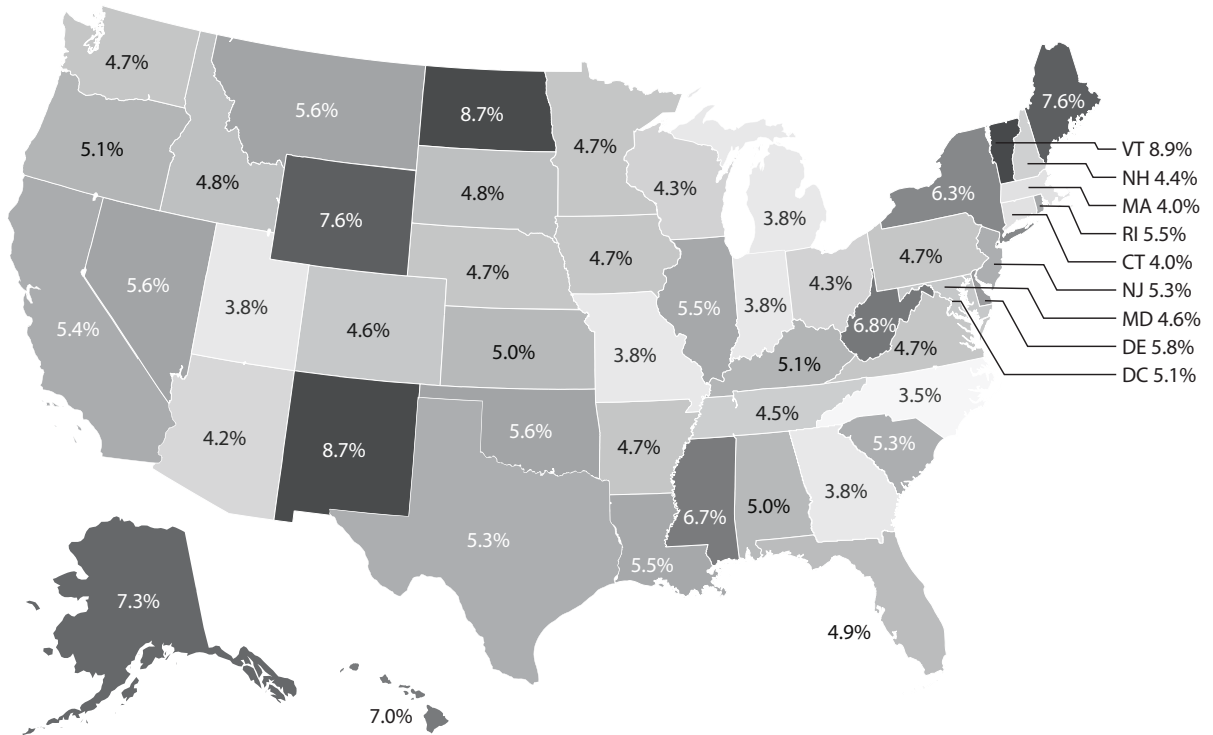
## Federal Grants per Capita by State, FY 2024



Note: Calculations account for roughly 90% of federal grant funding, largely excluding benefits that flow more directly to individuals such as Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Pell Grants. Some states received large infusions from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), which are included in calculations.  
 Source: Federal Funds Information for States

# Feeling tax-tastic

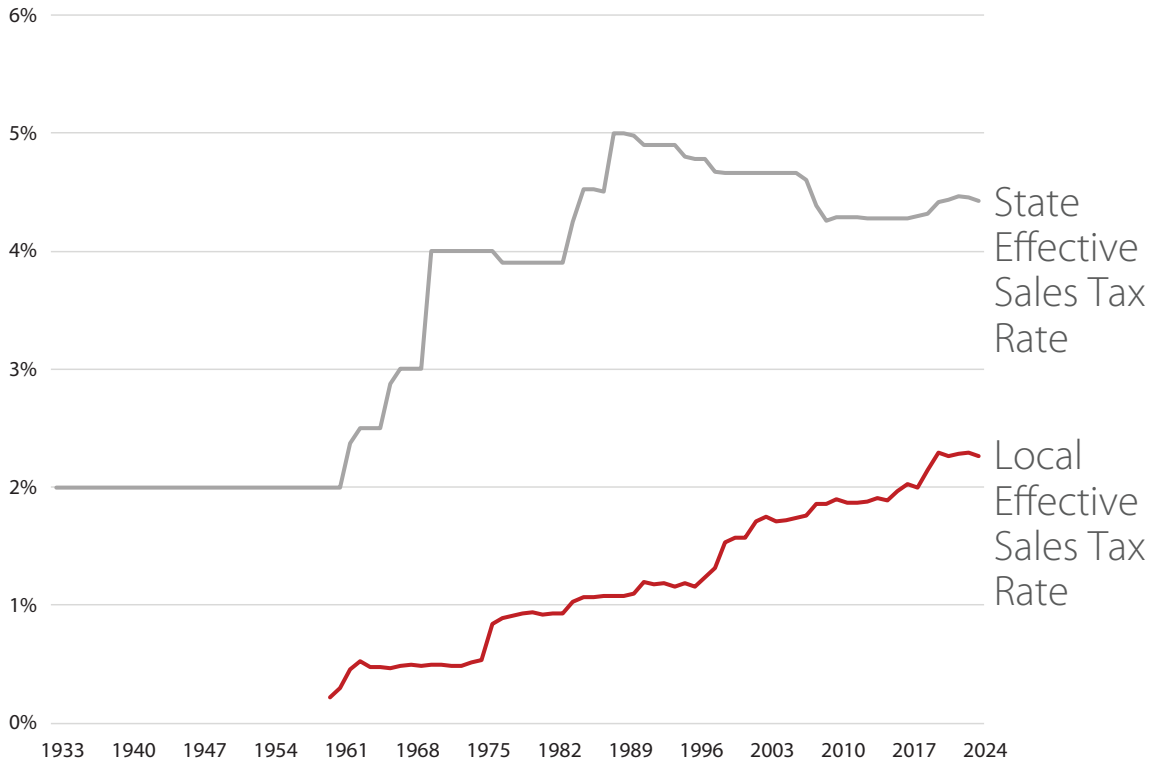
State and Local Total Business Tax Collections as Percentage of Private Sector State GDP, FY 2022



Source: Federal Funds Information for States

# Your dollar in your district

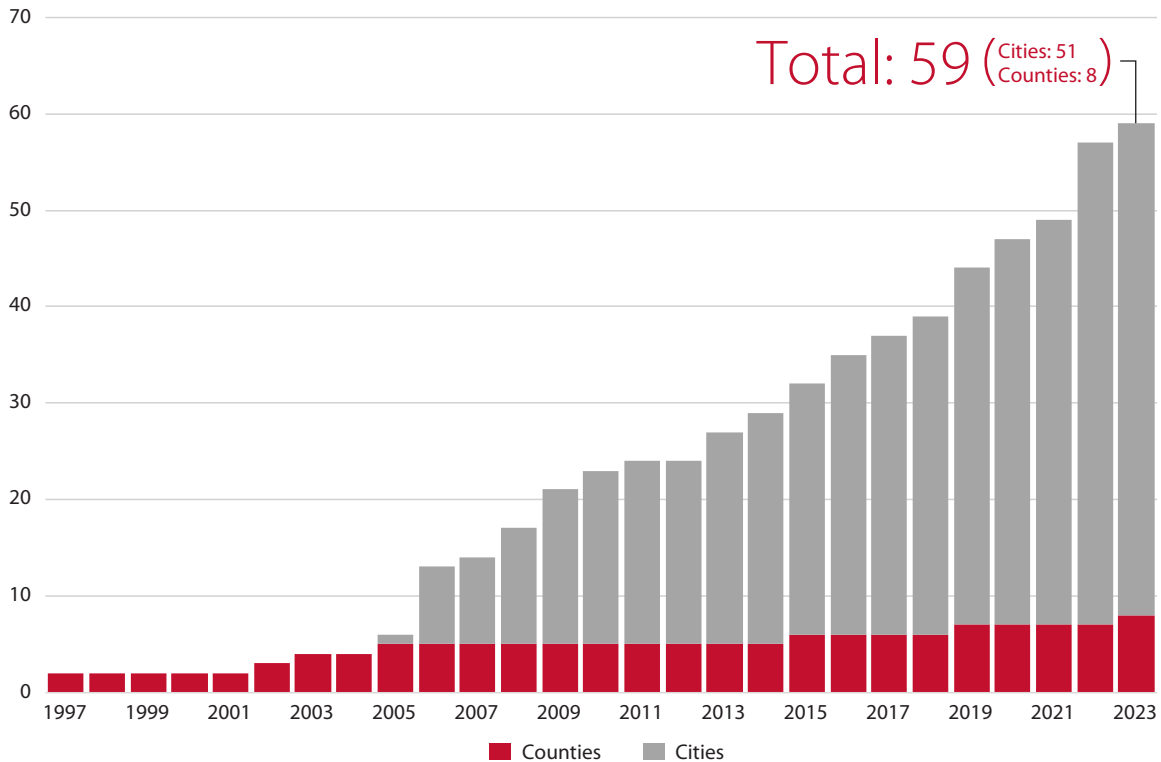
Utah State and Local Effective Sales Tax Rates, FY 1933-2024



Source: Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute analysis of Utah State Tax Commission data

# Lions, tigers, and taxes... oh my!

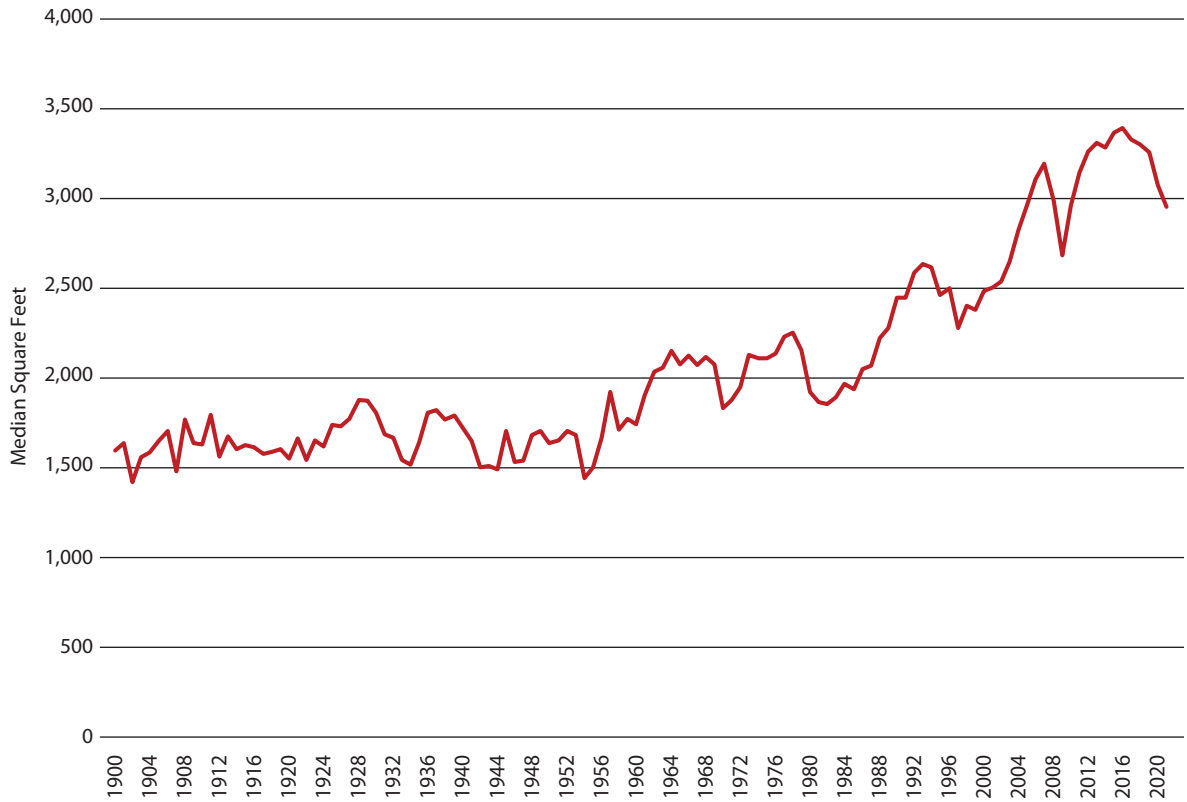
**Number of Utah Local Governments Imposing the Zoo, Arts, and Parks (ZAP) Tax, FY 1997-2023**



Note: More formally known as the Botanical, Cultural, Recreational, and Zoological tax, different cities and counties refer to it by a variety of names, including the recreation, arts, and parks (RAP) tax or recreation, arts, museum, and parks (RAMP) tax. This tax imposes a 0.1% levy on most taxable goods and services, and the revenues support botanical, cultural, recreation, and zoological organizations. In the 2024 general election, 79.0% of Salt Lake County voters approved the tax for another 10 years. Voters in other cities and counties also reapproved the tax in the most recent election (including Weber County, with 66.6% of voters in support). The eight counties imposing the ZAP tax include Cache, Morgan, Salt Lake, Summit, Uintah, Wasatch, Washington, and Weber.  
Source: Utah State Tax Commission

# Movin' on up

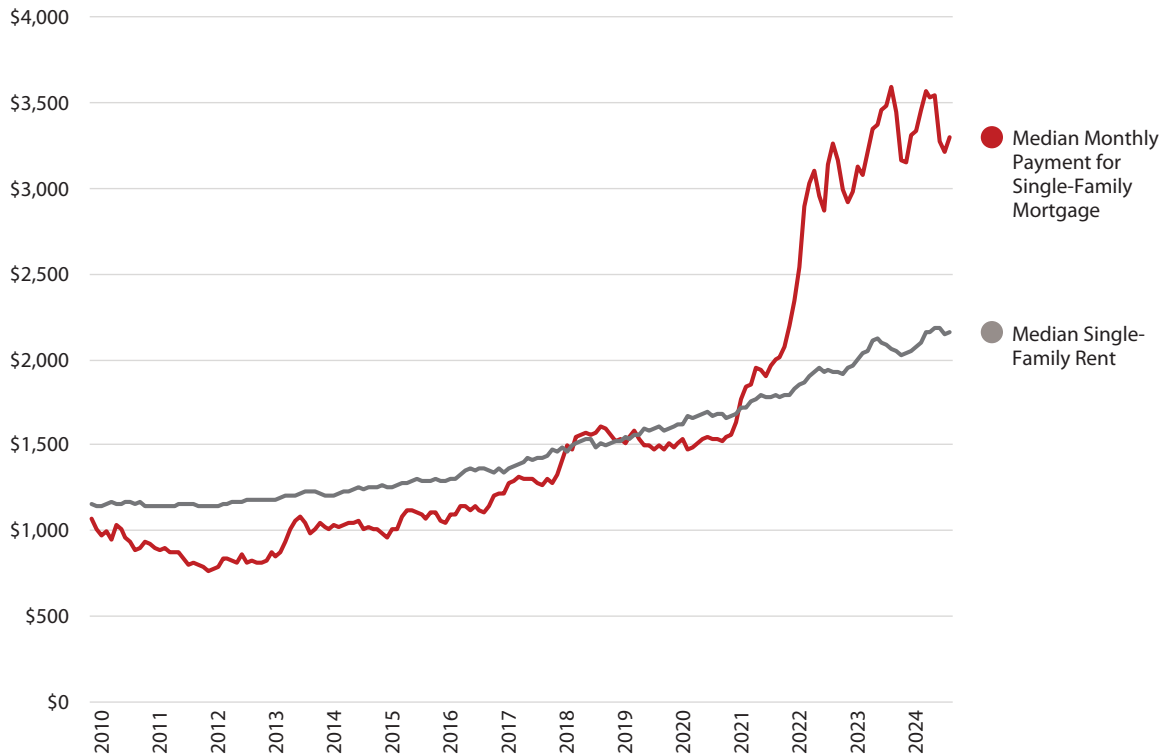
**Median Size of a Single-Family Home by Year Built, Wasatch Front, 1900-2021**



Source: Wasatch Front Regional Council Housing Unit Inventory

# Mortgage madness

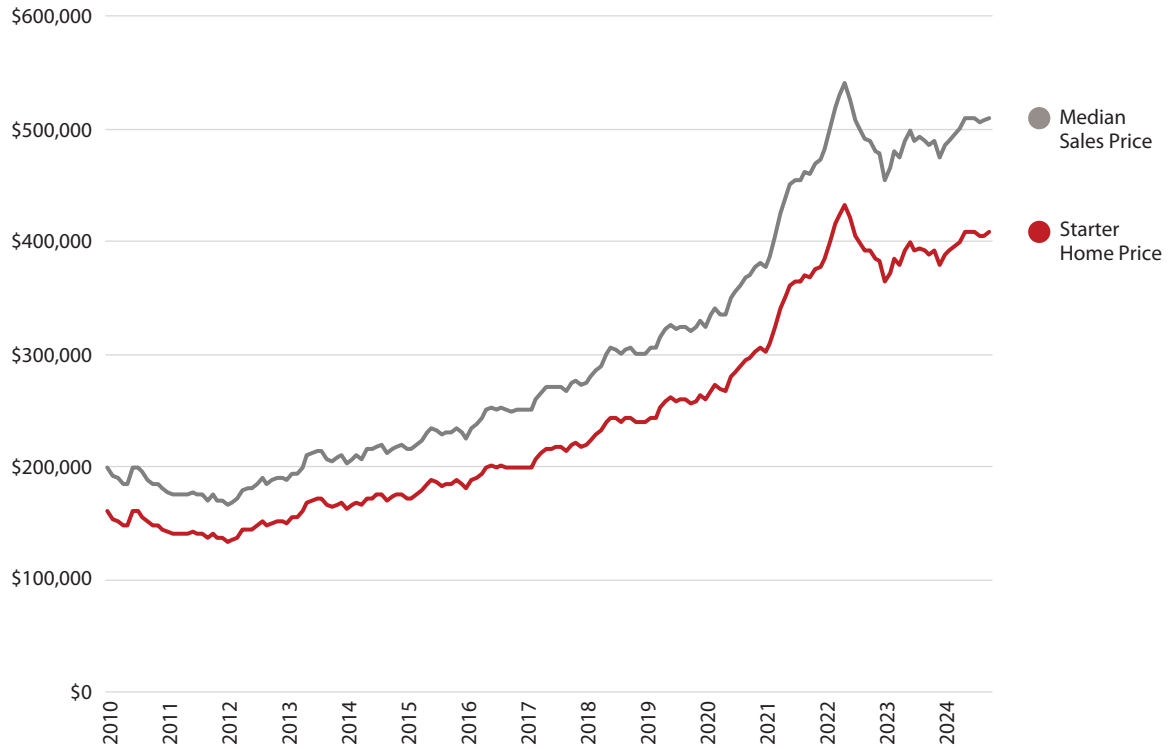
Wasatch Front Premium/Discount to Buy a Home vs. Rent, 2010-2024



Note: New mortgage payment assumes a 10% down payment and rate from FreddieMac monthly average mortgage rate survey. Does not include property taxes or insurance. Data are through October 2024.  
Source: Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute analysis of RentRange and UtahRealEstate.com data

# Off to a slow start

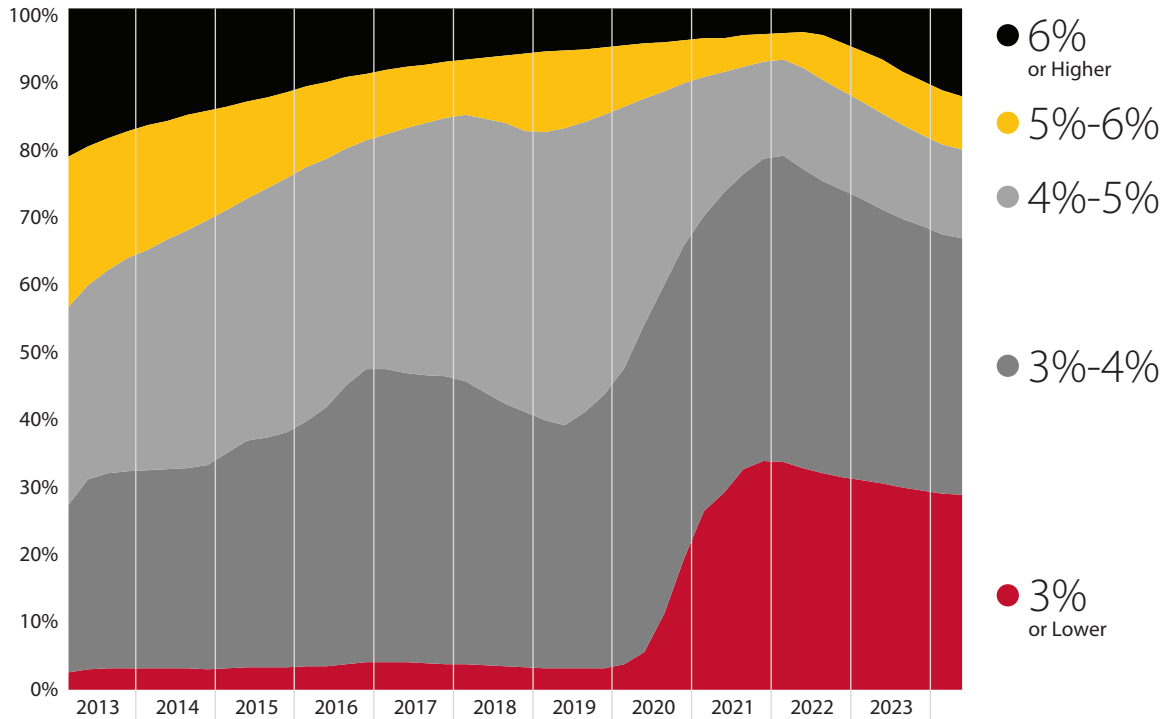
## Price of Utah Starter Home, 2010-2024



Note: Data are through October 2024. Starter home price is assumed at 80% of median sales price.  
Source: Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute analysis of UtahRealEstate.com data

# Timing is everything

Share of Existing Utah Mortgages by Interest Rate, 2013-2024Q2

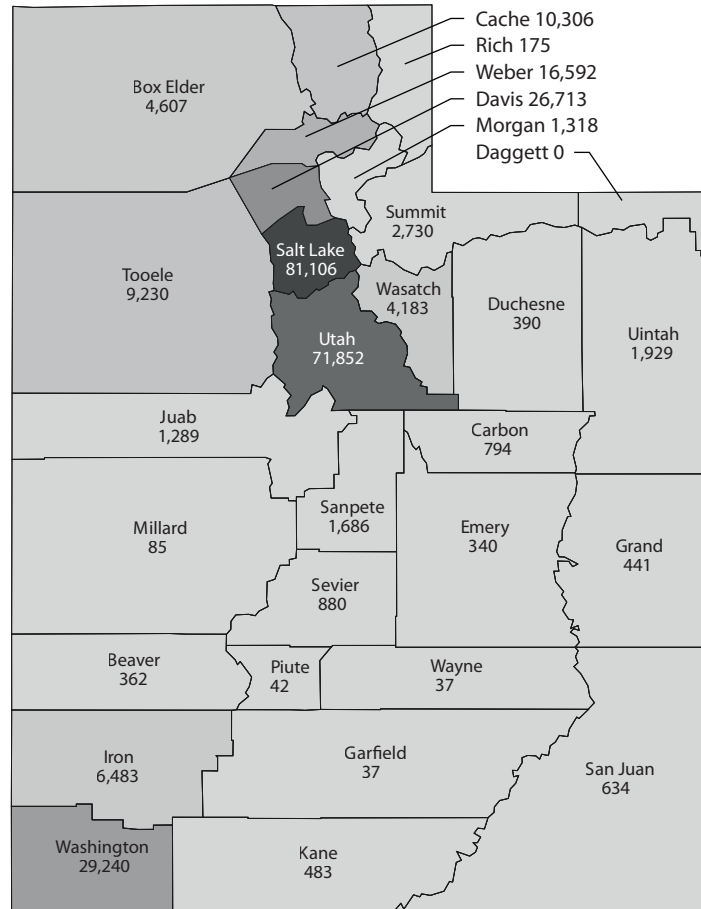


Source: The Federal Housing Finance Agency: National Mortgage Database 2024 Q2 Release

# Growing at an Olympic pace

## Utah Projected Household Growth, 2024-2033

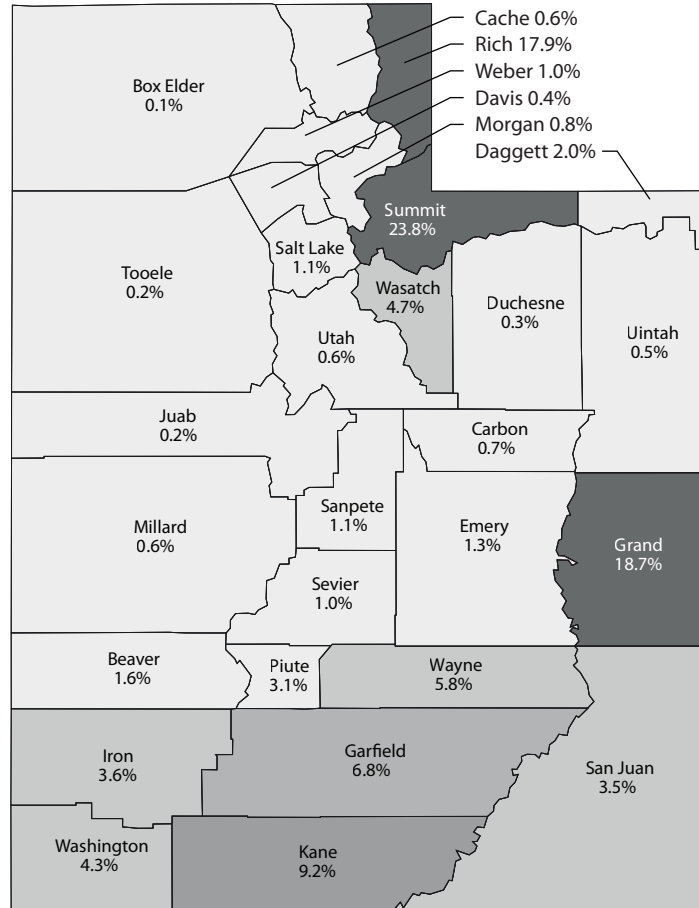
Total Projected  
Household Growth:  
**273,991**



Source: Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute

# Vacation destinations

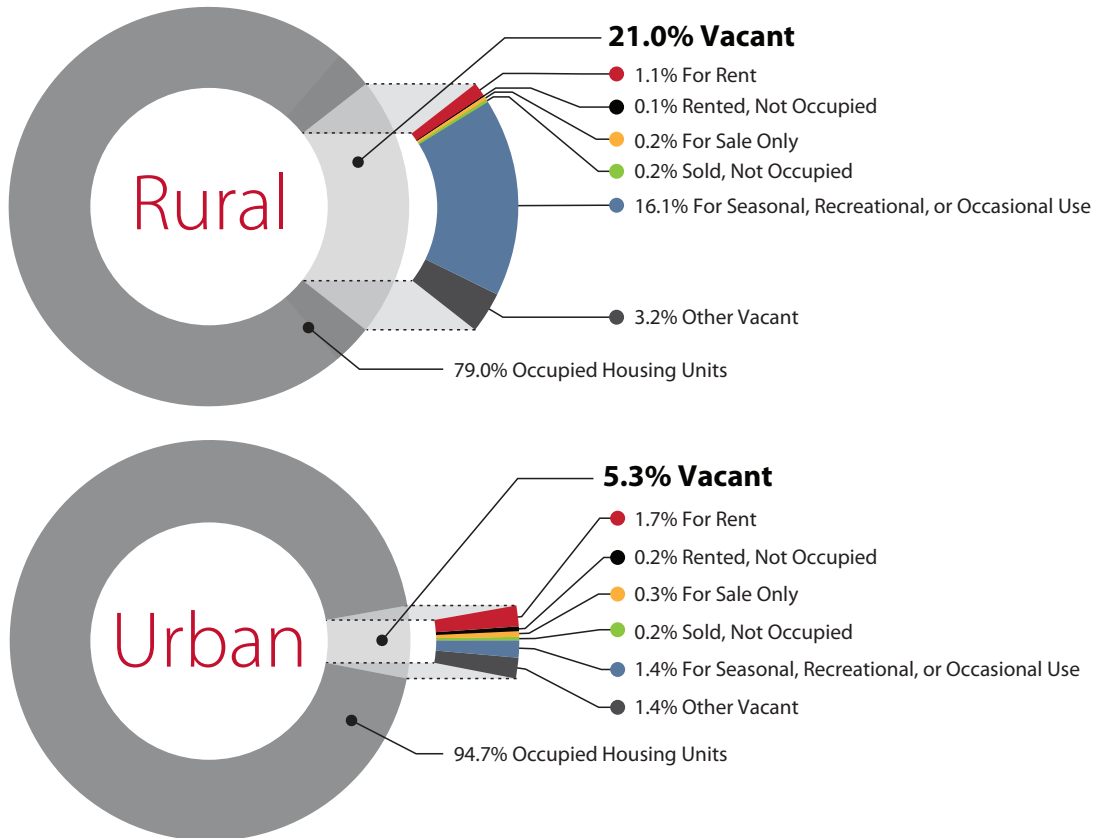
## Short-Term Rentals as a Share of Total Housing Units by County, 2023



Source: Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute analysis of Lighthouse and U.S. Census Bureau data

# Ghost towns

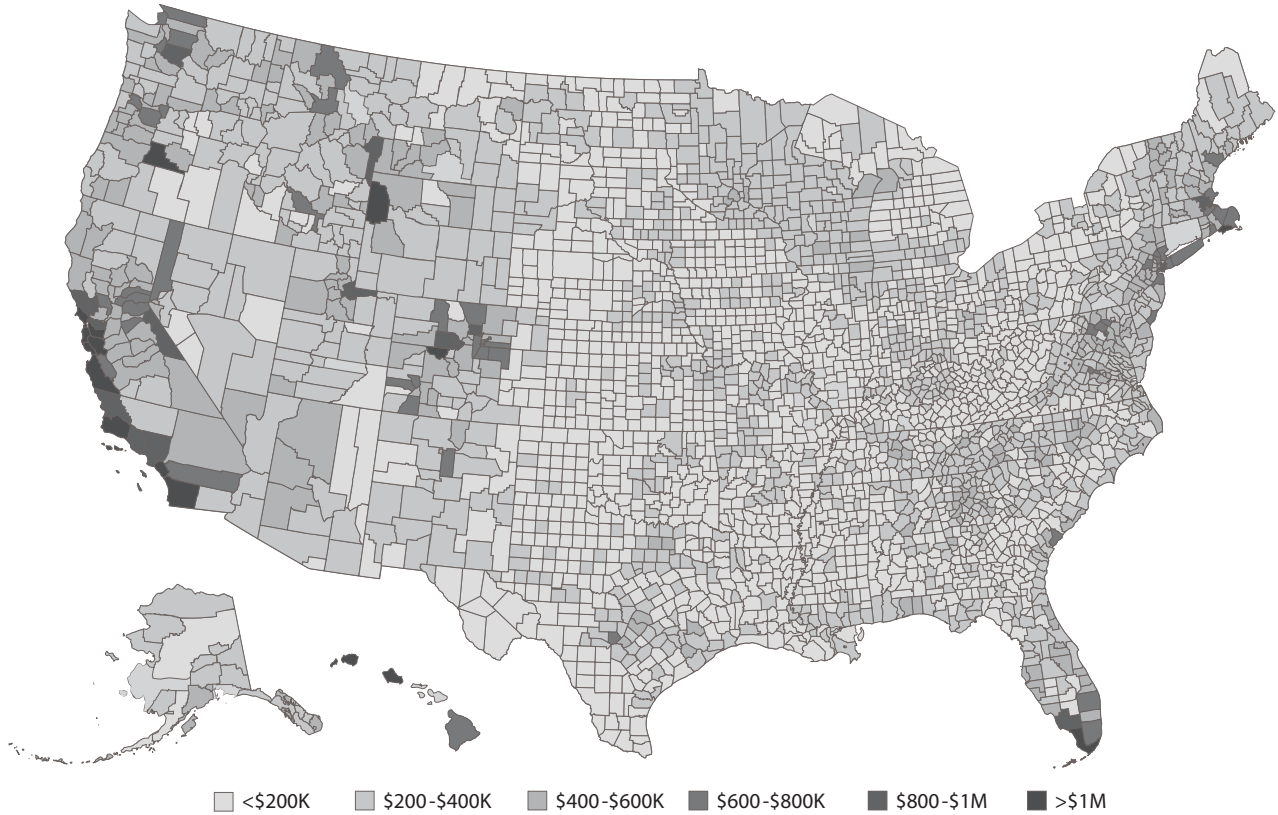
Utah Rural and Urban Housing Units by Vacancy Type, 2023



Note: Urban Utah represents housing units in Census Bureau defined urban areas. Rural housing units are located outside of urban areas. More detail concerning Census Bureau definitions can be found at <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/geography/guidance/geo-areas/urban-rural.html>. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2023 American Community Survey, 1-Year Estimates

# Western wave

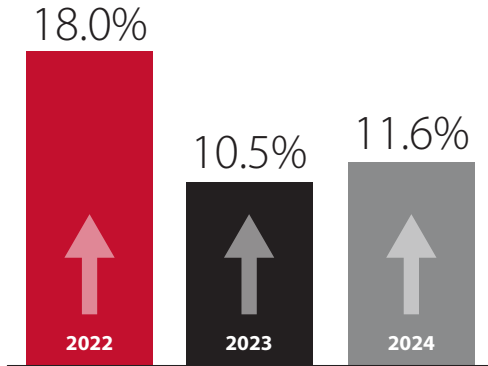
Median Home Sale Price by County, 2024Q2



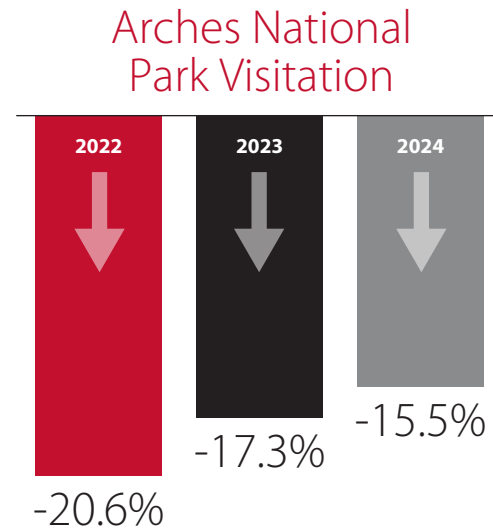
Source: National Association of Realtors

# Maybe timed entry means more time for spending...?

## Grand County Real Visitor Spending & Arches National Park Visitation, 2022-2024 vs 2019



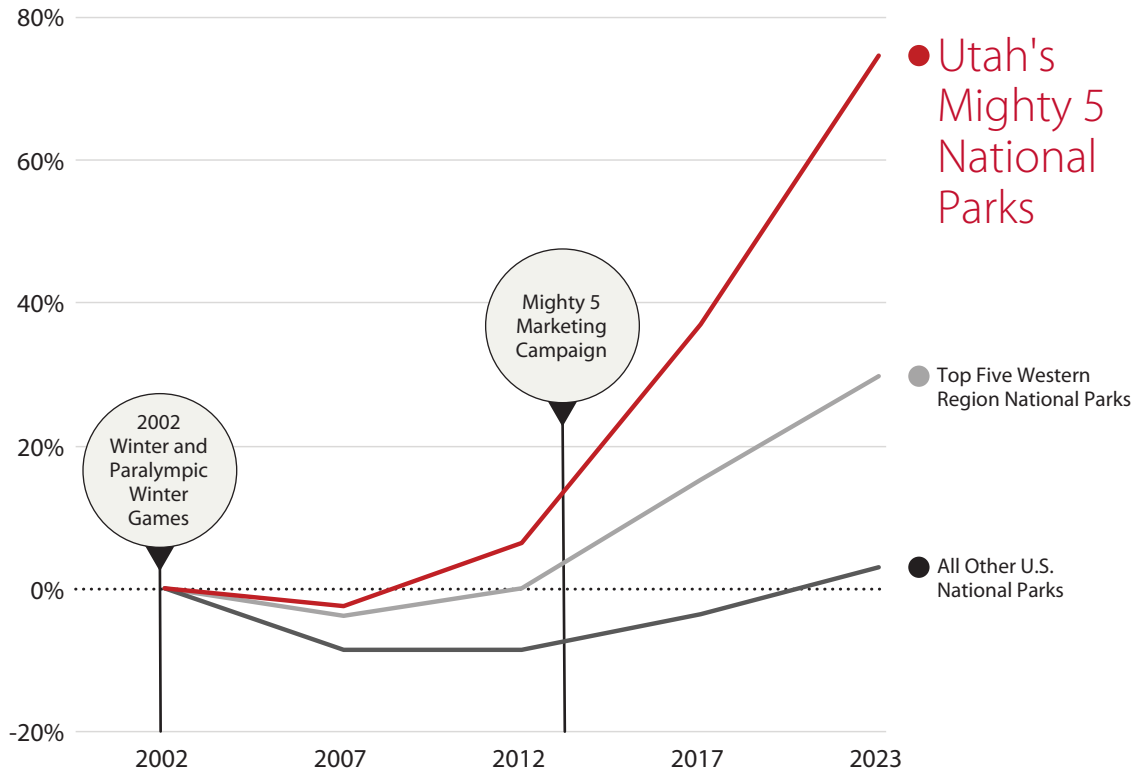
Lodging and Restaurant Sales in Grand County



Note: Lodging and restaurant sales are inflation adjusted to 2024 dollars; includes April through August of each year.  
Source: Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute analysis of Utah State Tax Commission and National Park Service data

# Mighty 5 parks lead the pack

Average National Park Visitation, Cumulative Percent Change, 2002-2023



Note: Top five Western Region National Parks based on highest annual visitation; parks include Grand Canyon, Joshua Tree, Rocky Mountain, Yosemite, and Yellowstone.  
Source: Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute analysis of National Park Service data

# Destination: Utah!

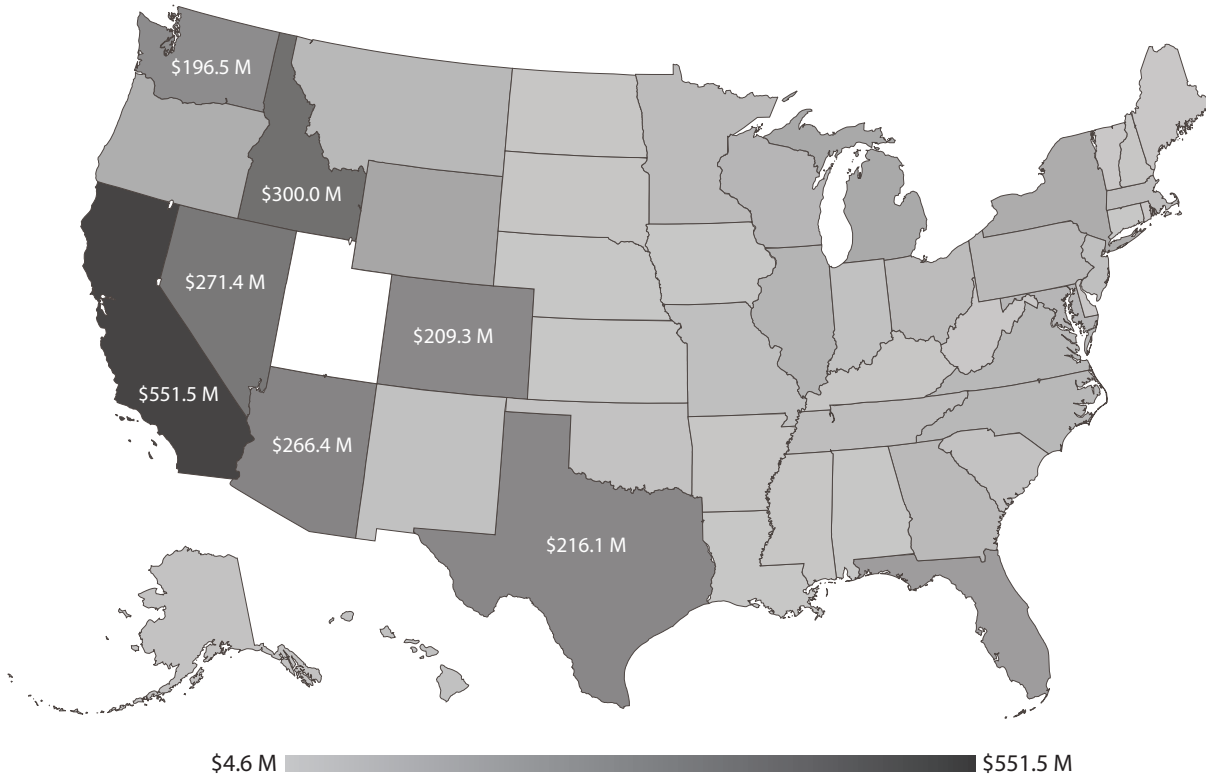
Utah Skier/Snowboarder Origin, 2023/2024 Season



Source: Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute analysis of RRC Associates data

# Who's spending in Utah?

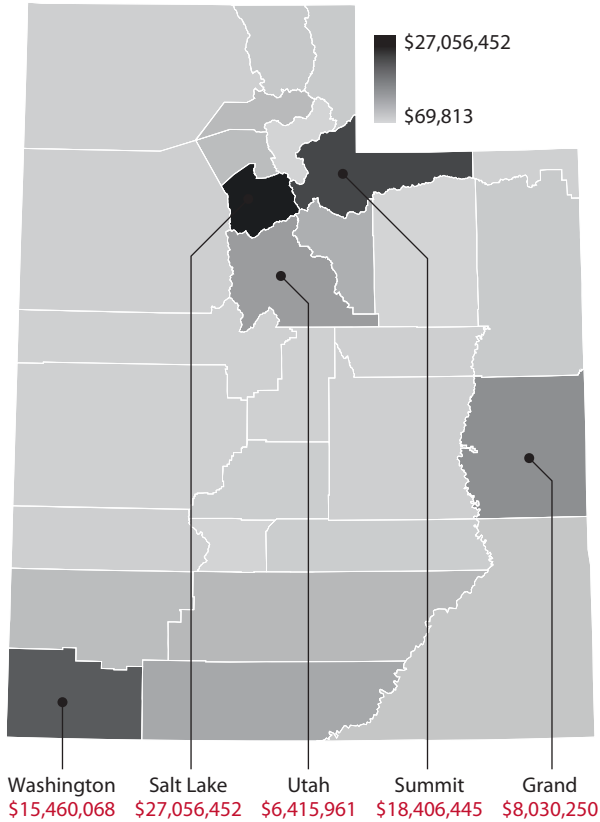
Nonresident Visa Spending in Utah by State, 2023



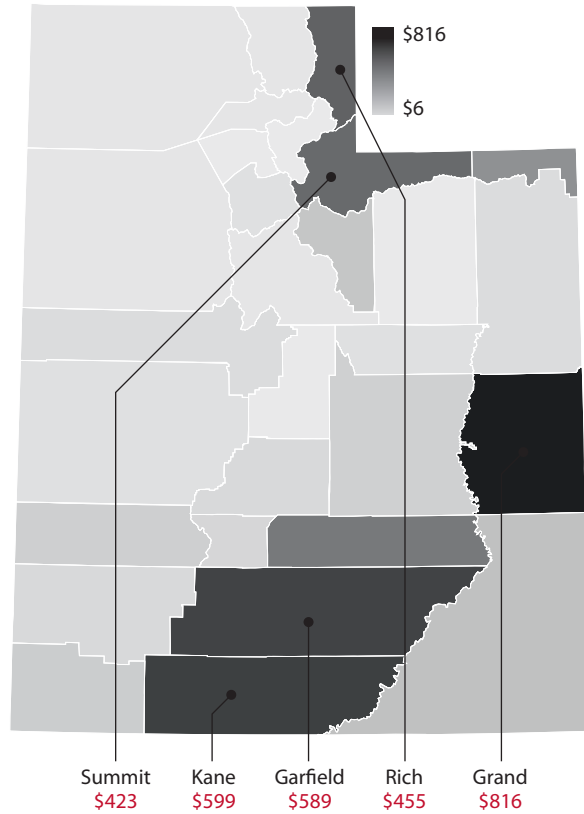
Note: Includes consumer and business Visa spending; does not include international visitor spending.  
Source: Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute analysis of Visa Destination Insights data

# Stay the night

### Total County Transient Room Tax Revenue, 2023



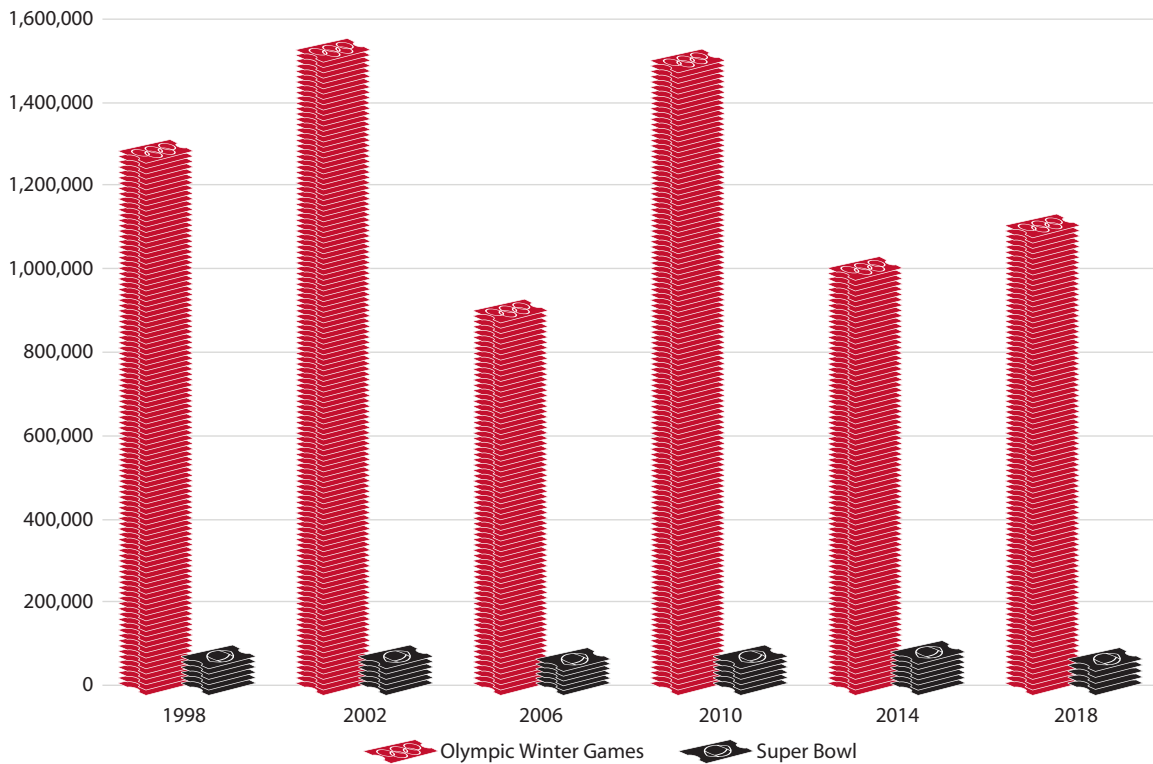
### County Transient Room Tax Revenue per Capita, 2023



Source: Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute analysis of Utah State Tax Commission and U.S. Census Bureau data

# A Super Bowl a day... for 16 days!

**Tickets Sold at Olympic Winter Games and the Super Bowl, 1998-2018**

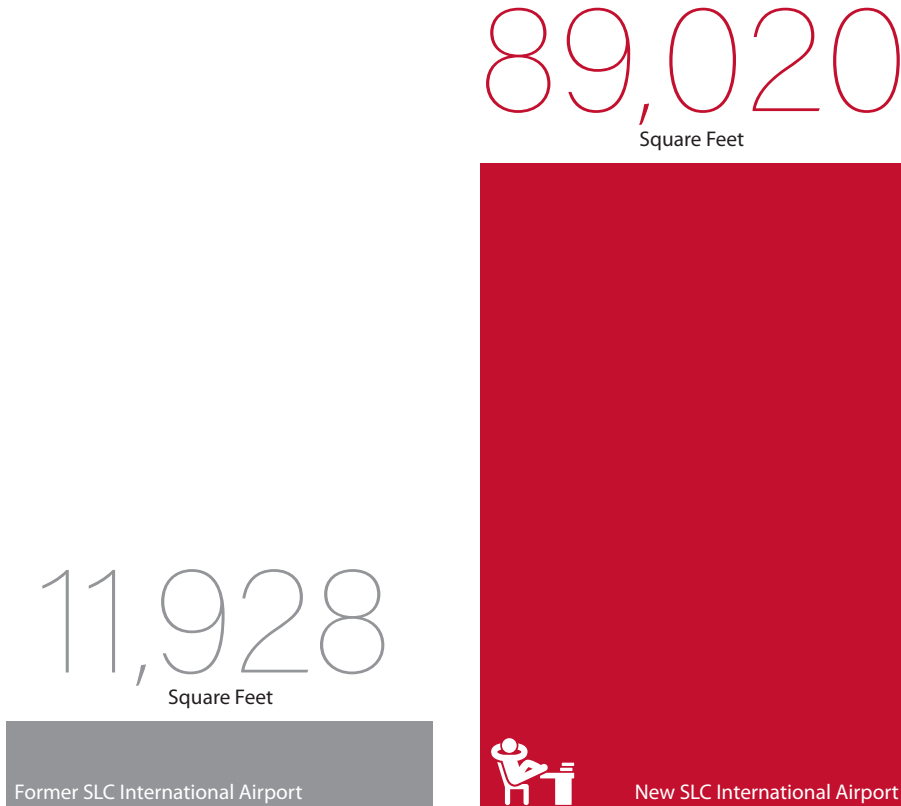


Note: The Winter Olympic Games take place every four years and the Super Bowl takes place every year.  
Ticket sales were unavailable for the 2022 Winter Olympic Games due to COVID-19 countermeasures.  
Source: Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute analysis of International Olympic Committee and Football Database data

# Take a load off before lift-off!

## SLC International Airport Lounge Square Footage

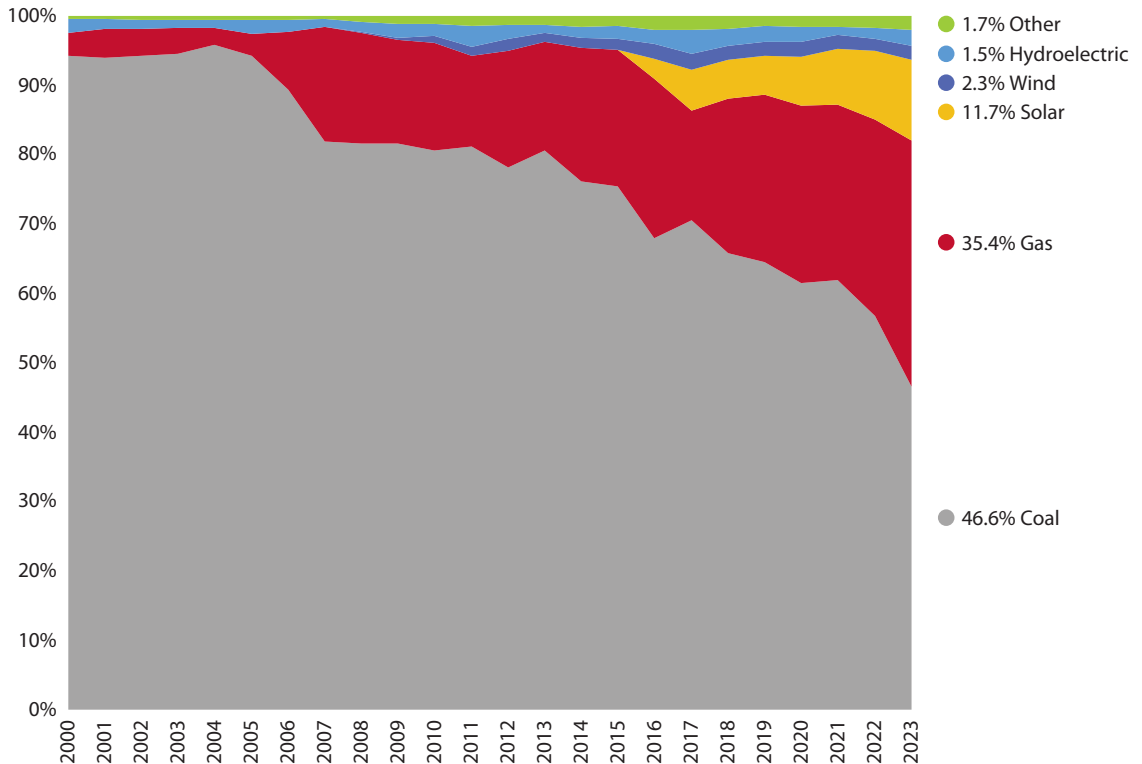
Former vs New SLC International Airport



Source: Salt Lake City International Airport

# Power dynamics

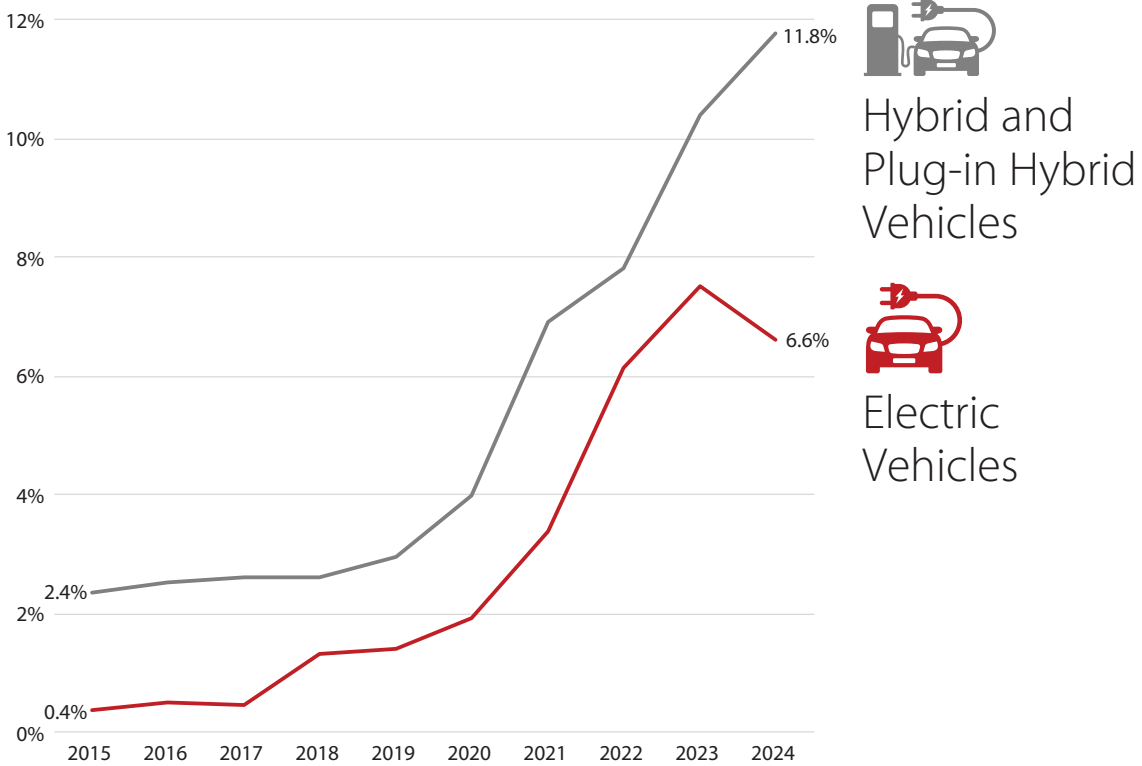
Utah Net Power Generation by Source, 2000-2023



Note: Gas includes natural gas and other gases. Other includes geothermal, other biomass, pumped storage, and other.  
Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration

# Shifting gears

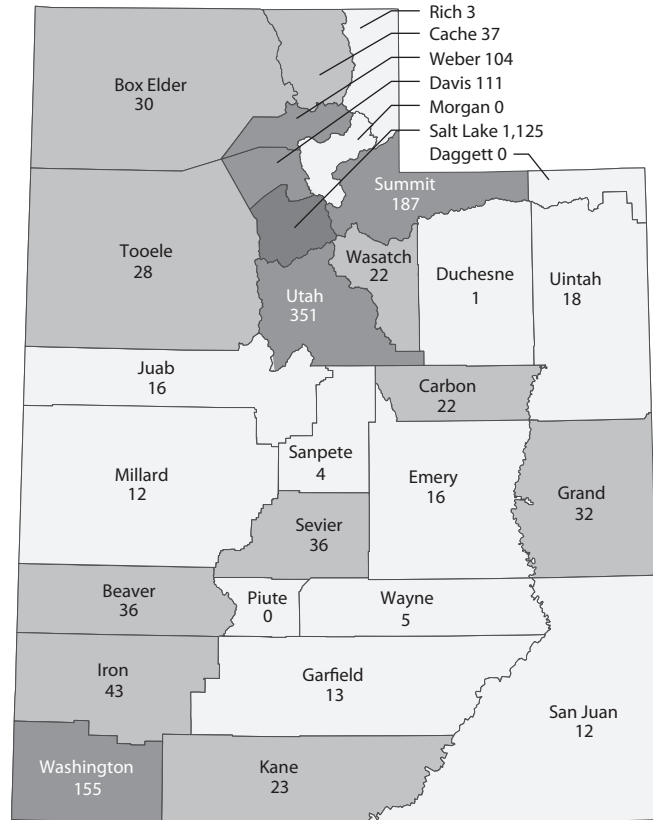
Utah Electric and Hybrid Vehicle Sales, 2015-2024



Note: Data are through September 2024.  
Source: Utah State Tax Commission

# Plugged in

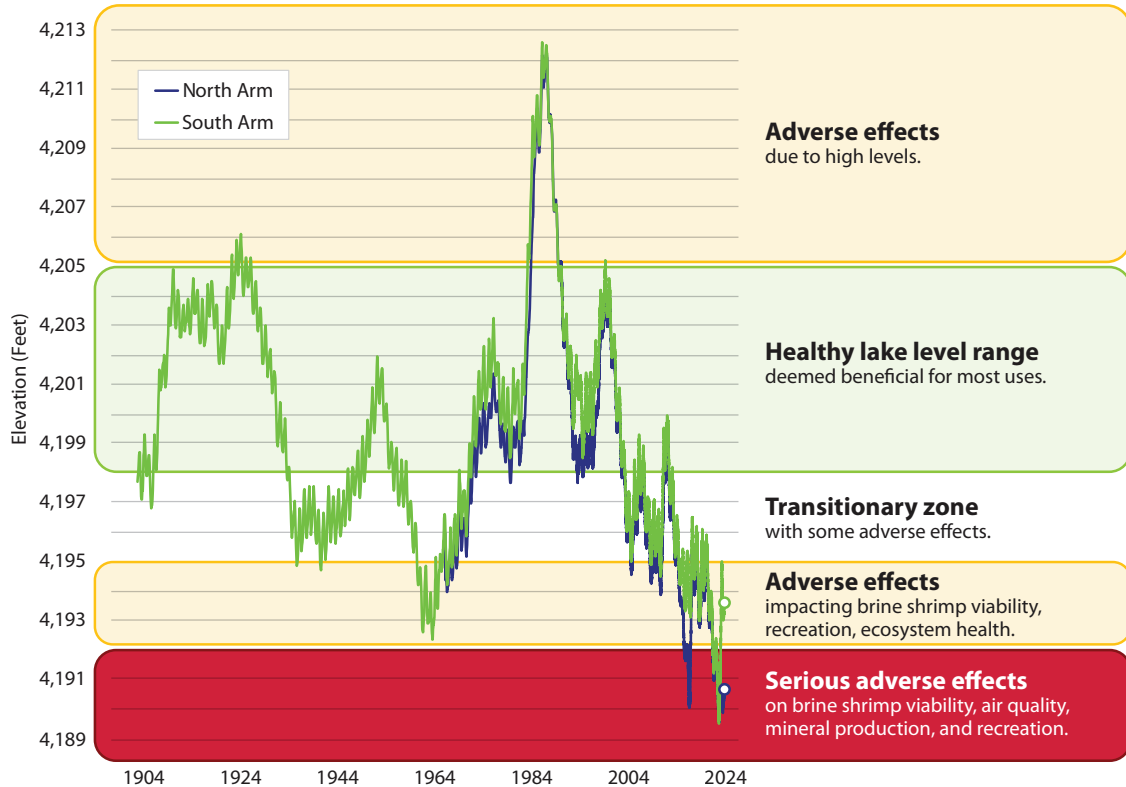
## Public Electric Vehicle Charging Stations in Utah, 2024



Source: U.S. Department of Energy, Alternative Fuels Data Center

# A clarion call for conservation

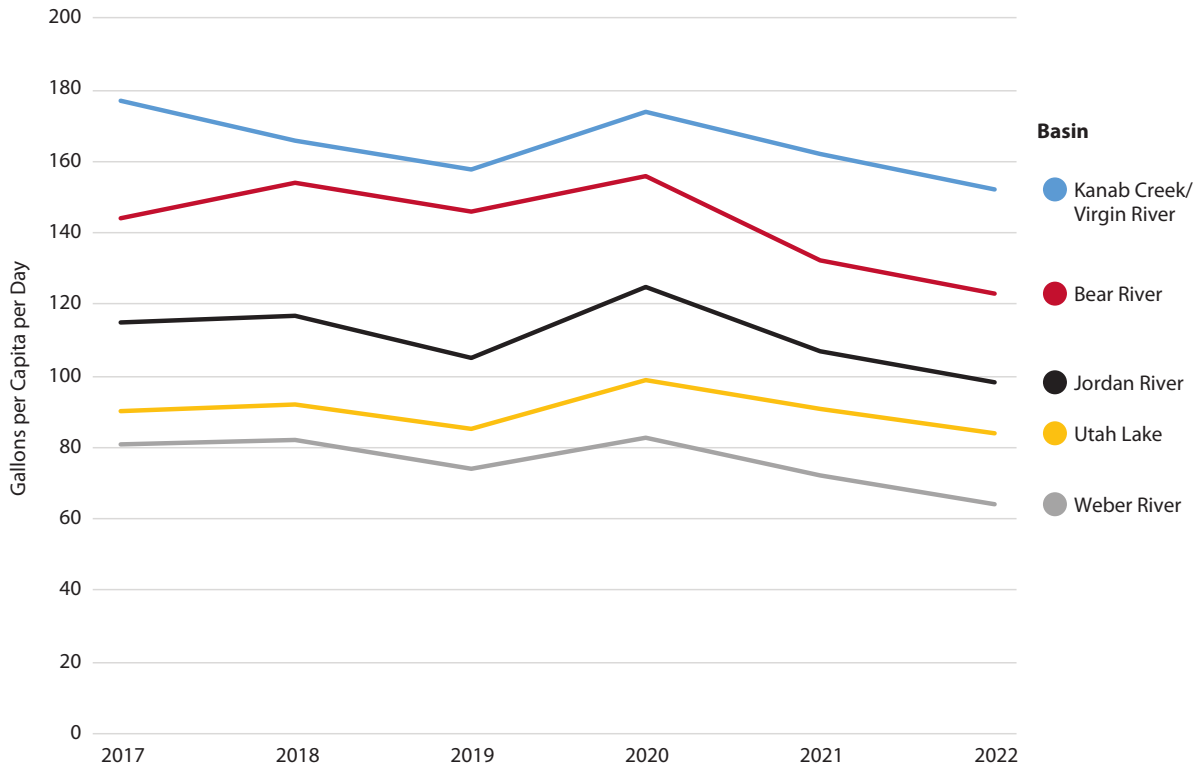
## Great Salt Lake Water Year-End Level, 1903-2024



Note: Water year refers to the 12-month period that runs from October 1 to September 31 and is named for the calendar year it ends in.  
Source: U.S. Geological Survey

# Water stewardship

**Residential Potable Water Consumption, Gallons per Capita per Day, 2017-2022**



Note: Jordan River covers Salt Lake County; Bear River covers Cache and Rich counties; Weber River covers Davis, Weber, and Morgan counties; Kanab Creek/Virgin River covers Washington County and part of Kane County.  
Source: Utah Division of Water Resources

# Stretching every drop

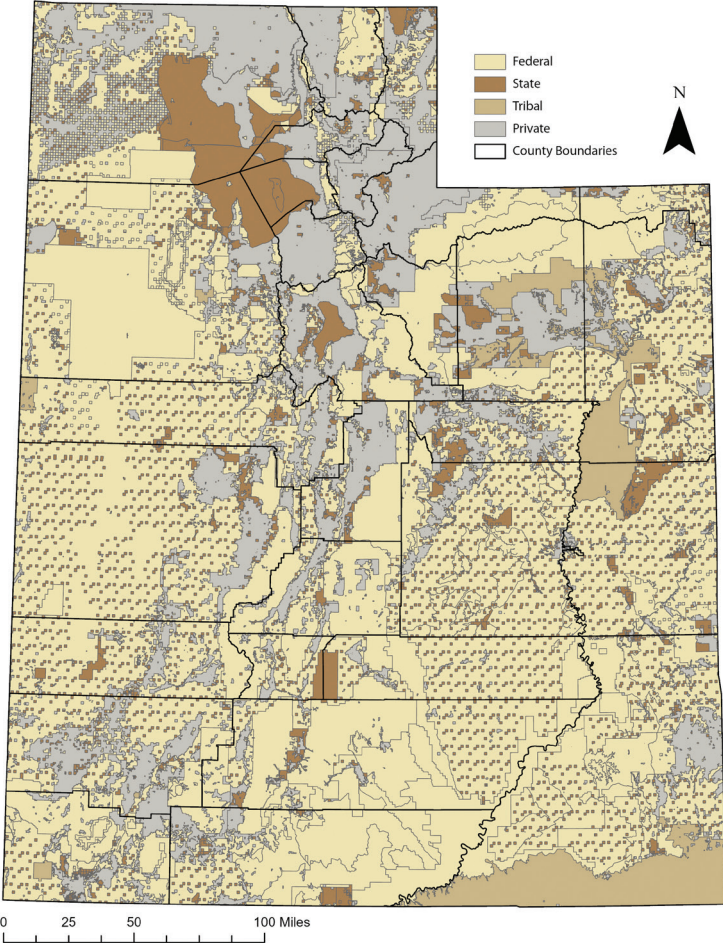
**Market Value of Agriculture Products Sold per Acre-Foot of Water Depleted, 2017-2022**



Note: The Census of Agriculture is released every four years. The market value of agriculture products between 2017 and 2022 was linearly interpolated.  
Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, 2022 Census of Agriculture, and Utah Division of Water Resources

# Uncle Sam's backyard

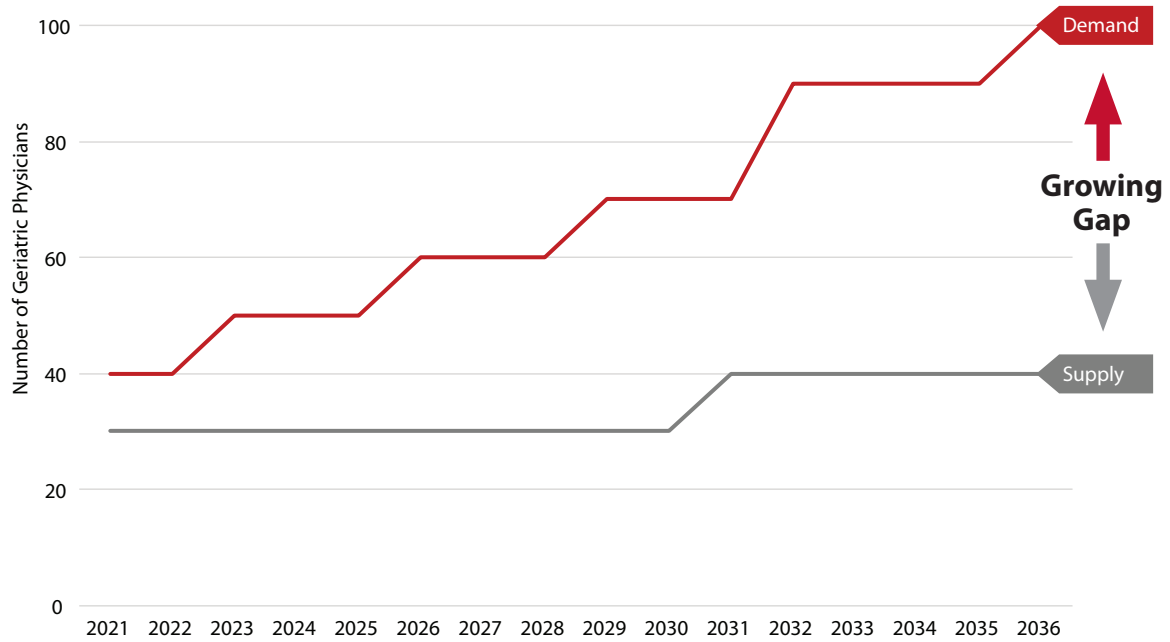
Land Ownership by Type in Utah, 2024



Source: Utah Geospatial Resource Center

# Golden years, shortage fears

Utah's Projected Geriatric Physician Supply and Demand, 2021-2036

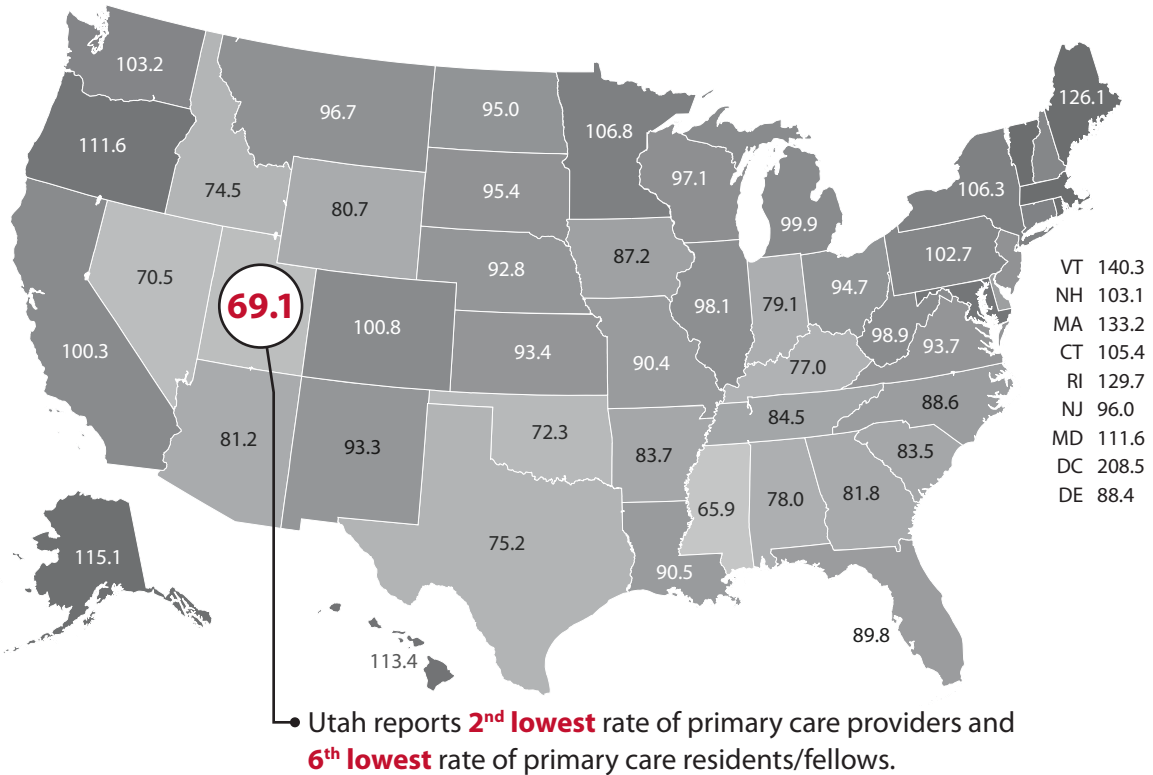


Note: Geriatric physicians specialize in the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of diseases and disability in older adults.

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, Health Workforce Projections

# A primary concern

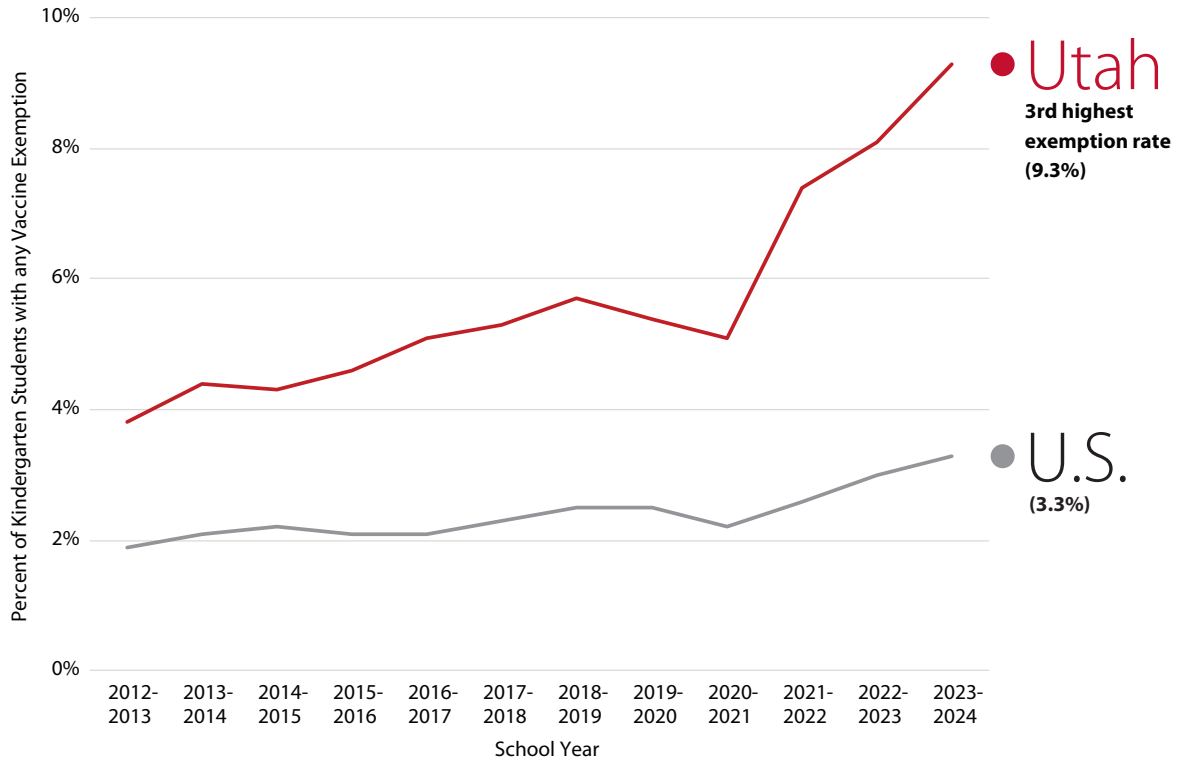
## Primary Care Physician Rate per 100,000 Population by State, 2021



Note: Primary care physician data include Internal Medicine, Family Medicine/General Practice, Pediatrics, Obstetrics & Gynecology, and Geriatrics.  
Source: Primary care physician rate data from Area Health Resource File, Health Resources and Services Administration, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Resident/Fellow data from 2021 State Physician Workforce Data Report.

# Kindergarten vaccination exemptions

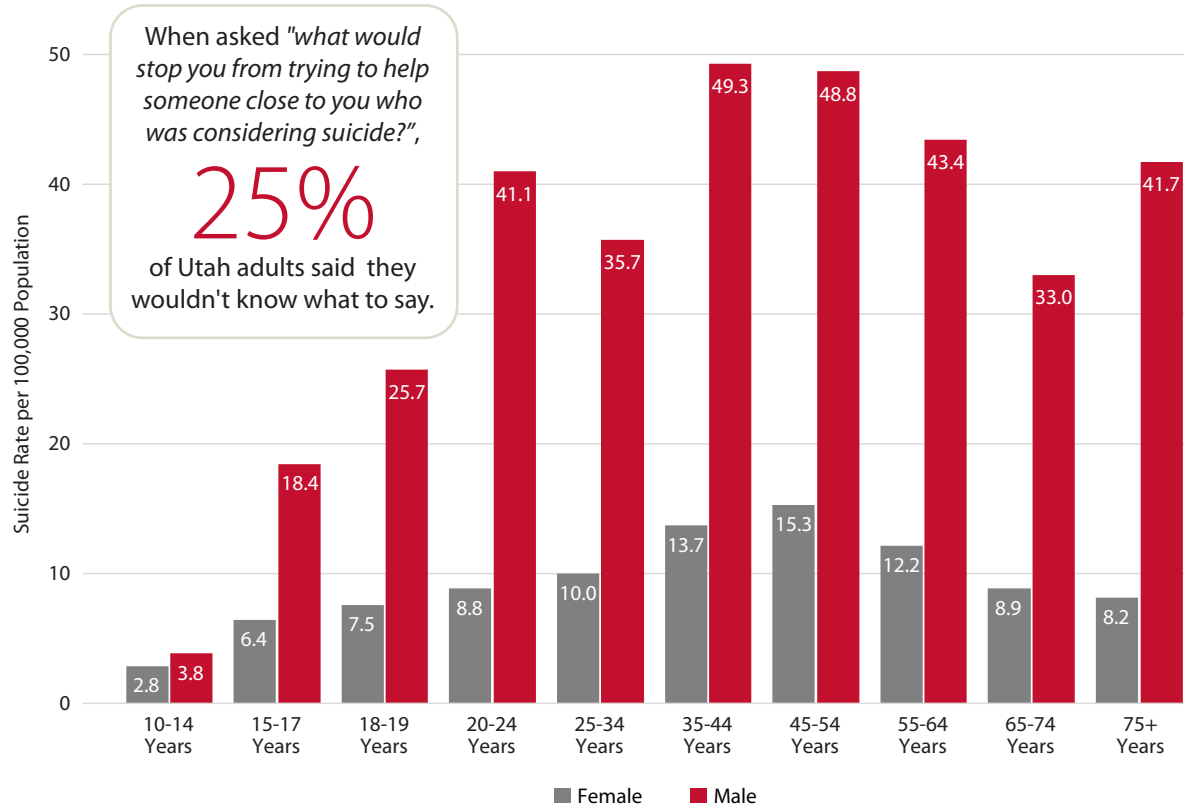
Vaccination Exemptions Among Kindergartners, Utah and U.S., 2012-13 to 2023-24 School Years



Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Data on school vaccination coverage and exemptions from the School Vaccination Assessment Program for kindergartners at the national and state levels.

# A troubling statistic for Utah males

Utah Suicide Rate per 100,000 Population by Age Group and Sex, 2021-2023 (combined)

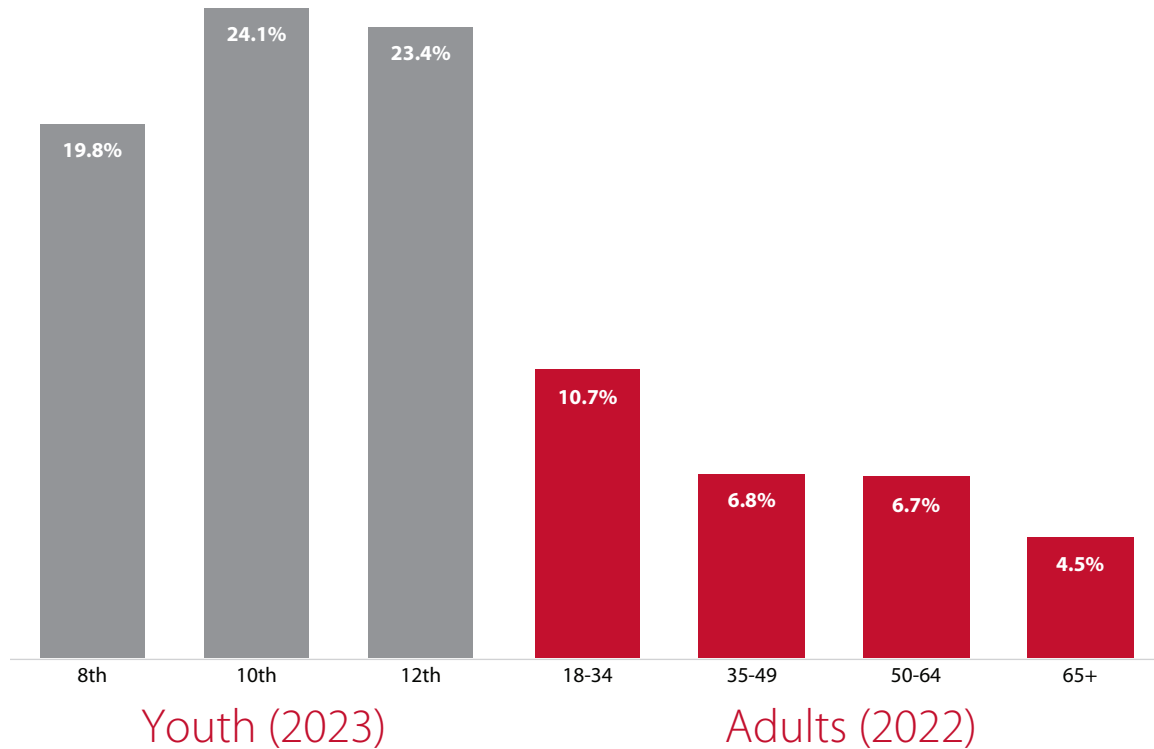


Note: Suicides are determined using ICD-10 codes X60-X84, Y87.0, \*U03.

Source: Suicide rate data from Utah Death Certificate Database, Office of Vital Records and Statistics, Utah Department of Health and Human Services. Population estimates from Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute. Suicide helping data from Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute analysis of Utah Statewide Suicide Prevention 2023 Comparative General Survey Results.

# Social isolation exists among all age groups...

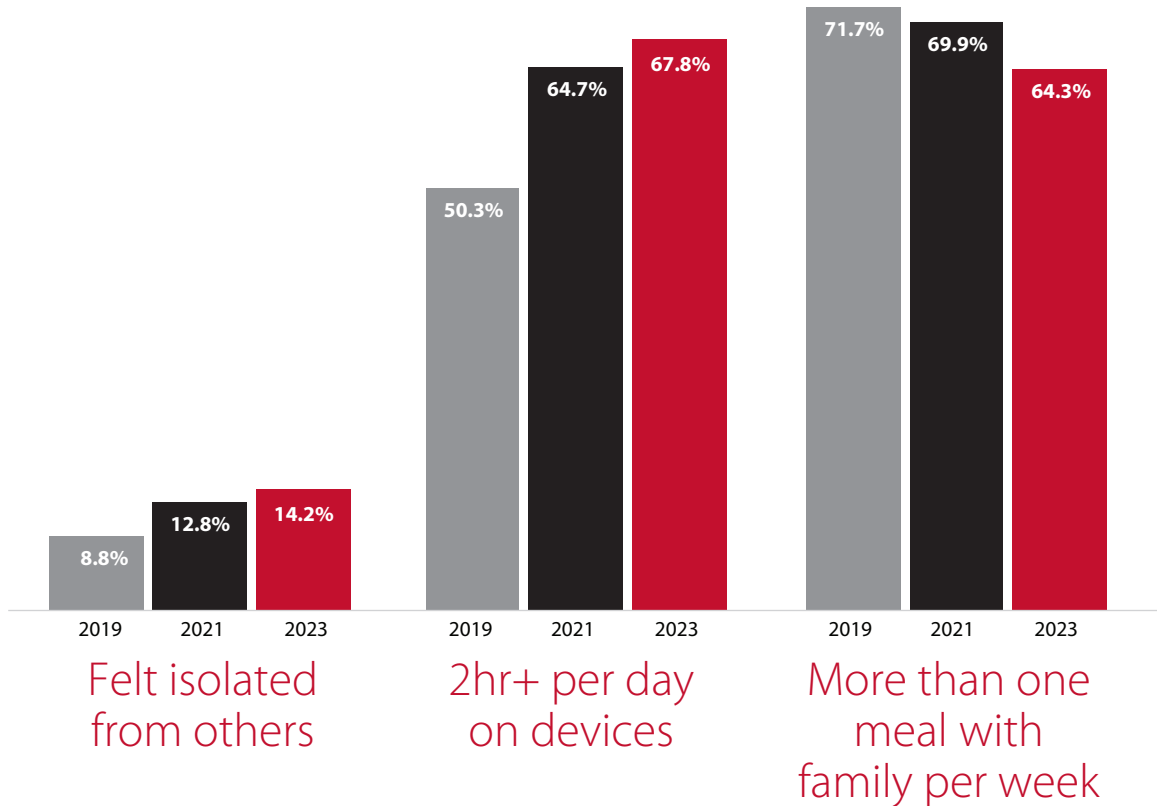
Share of Utahns Reporting Social Isolation by Grade (Youth) and Age Group (Adults), 2022 and 2023



Source: Youth data from SHARP Prevention Needs Assessment. Adult data from Utah Department of Health and Human Services Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System.

... and it starts early

Share of Utah 6th Graders by Select Measures of Device Use and Social Isolation, 2019-2023

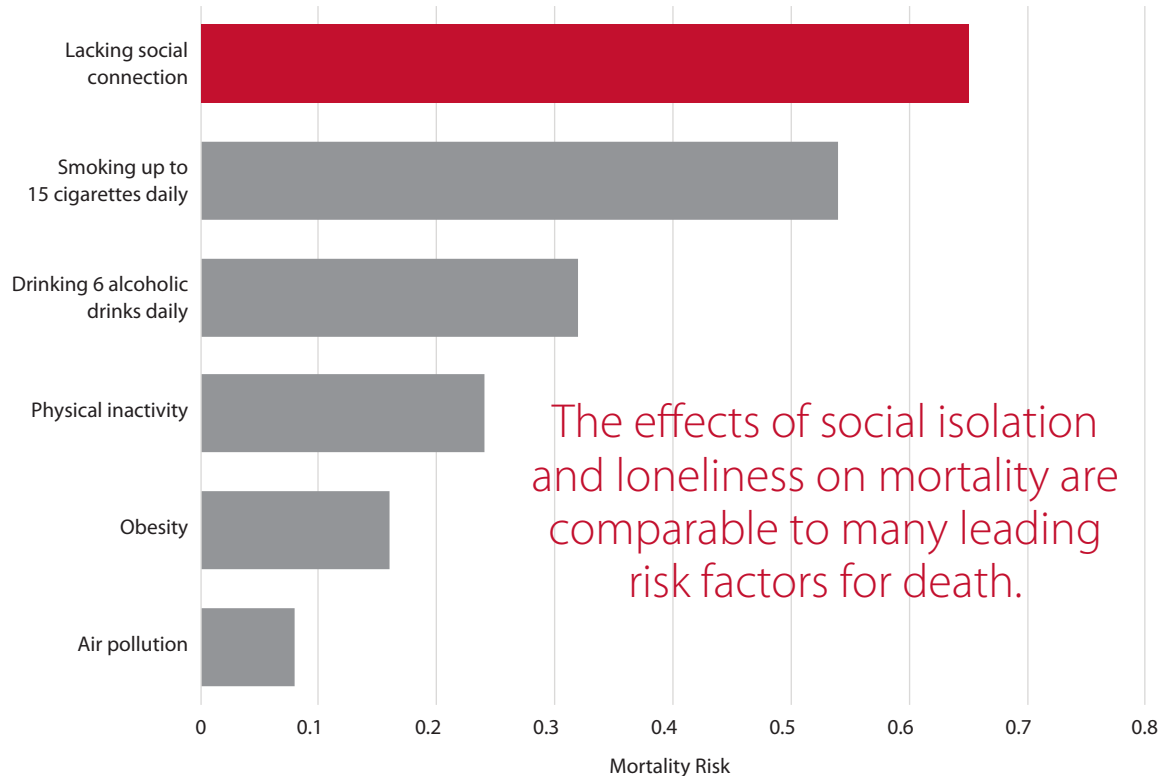


Note: Utah Department of Health and Human Services added measures on device use and social isolation in 2019.

Source: 2023 Student Health and Risk Prevention Results, Office of Substance Use and Mental Health, Utah Department of Health and Humans Services

# The deadly effects of loneliness

## Comparison of Decreased Mortality Across Social Connection and Leading Health Indicators



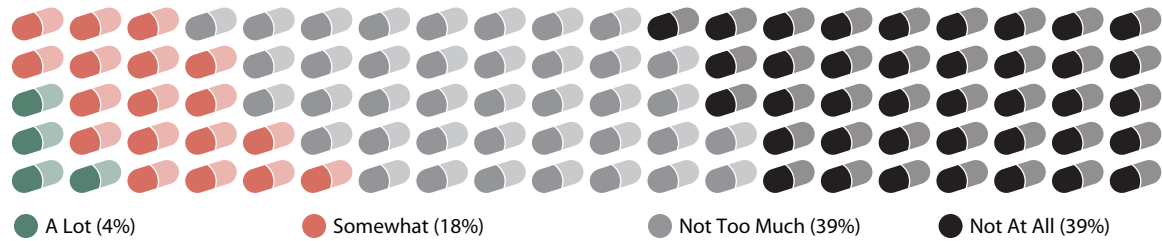
Note: Effect size of zero indicate no effect. The effect sizes were estimated from a meta analysis. Comparison groups include complex measures of social integration: high vs low; not smoking vs smoking <15 cigarettes daily; alcohol abstinence vs drinking >6 alcoholic drinks daily; physical activity vs inactivity; low BMI vs high BMI; low air pollution vs high air pollution.

Source: Holt-Lunstad J, Robles TF, Sbarra DA. Advancing social connection as a public health priority in the United States. *Am Psychol.* 2017;72(6):517-530.

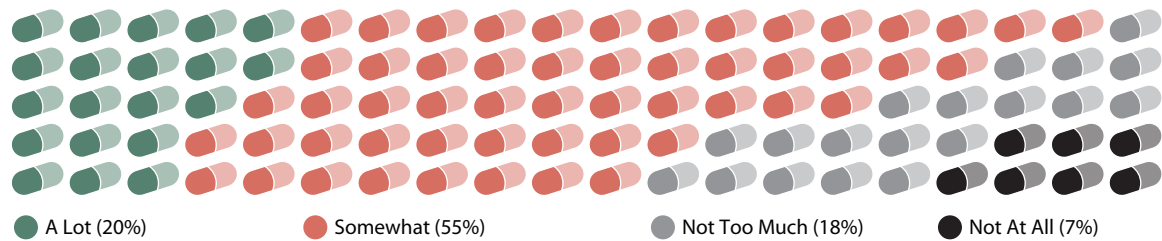
# Trusted to heal, not to bill

## How Much Do You Trust Pharmaceutical Companies to...?

### Price their products fairly



### Develop new, effective drugs



Source: Kaiser Family Foundation (KFF) Health Tracking Poll, 2023

# Debt on the menu

## Average School Meal Debt per Student by District, 2024

**\$2.8 Million**

Total Statewide School Meal Debt

Five Highest:

**North Summit**

\$43.64/Student

**Tooele**

\$22.90/Student

**Daggett**

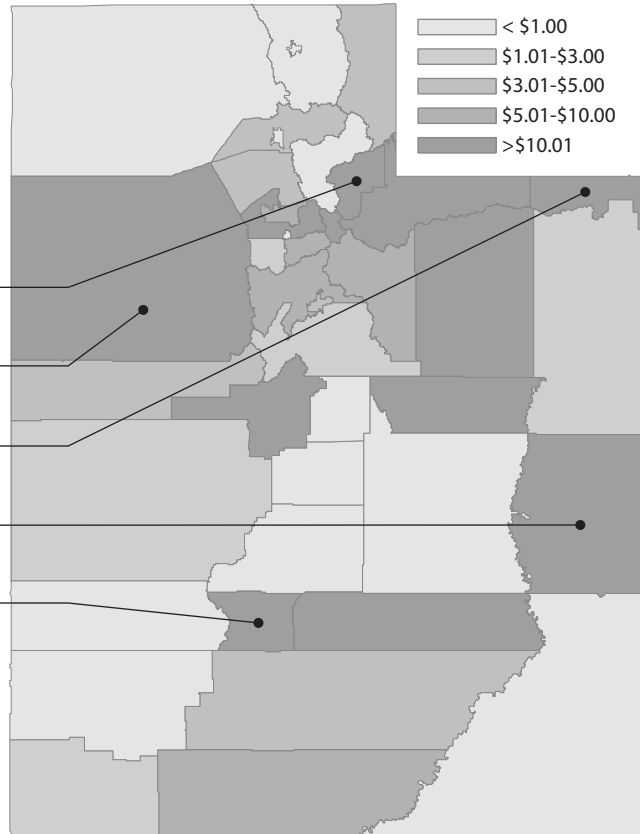
\$20.26/Student

**Grand**

\$16.34/Student

**Piute**

\$17.42/Student



Source: Individual Utah school districts collected by Fox13 News

# School or scroll?

97%

of students with phones use them during school hours<sup>1</sup>

35%

of teens admit to using their smartphone to cheat<sup>2</sup>

10-15 minutes

is the time it takes students to lose focus in class with their phones present<sup>3</sup>

237

notifications are received by teens on their smartphones daily<sup>4</sup>

72%

of high school teachers report cell phone distractions as a major issue<sup>5</sup>

Student loneliness

has doubled since 2012, correlating with rise of smartphones<sup>6</sup>

When smartphones were limited in the classroom...



Students scored a full letter grade and a half higher<sup>7</sup>

A+

Test scores increased up to 14% among the lowest-achieving students<sup>8</sup>



Bullying incidents were reduced by 43% among boys and 46% among girls<sup>9</sup>



Psychologist-related visits significantly dropped, with nearly 60% fewer specialist consultations among girls<sup>10</sup>

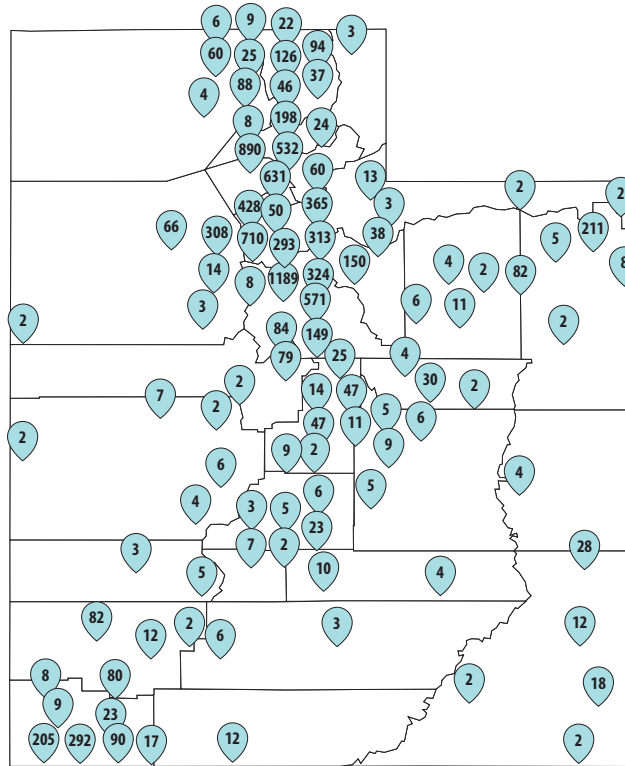
Source: 1. Common Sense Media; 2. Common Sense Media; 3. Computers in Human Behavior Journal; 4. Common Sense Media; 5. Pew Research Center; 6. Journal of Adolescence; 7. Communication Education Journal; 8. Education Psychology Journal; 9. Norwegian Institute of Public Health; 10. Norwegian Institute of Public Health. Curated by The Policy Project

# Far-reaching opportunities

## Utah Fits All Scholarship Applicants, 2024-25 School Year

**27,270**  
student applicants  
from 15,914  
households

**10,000**  
recipients

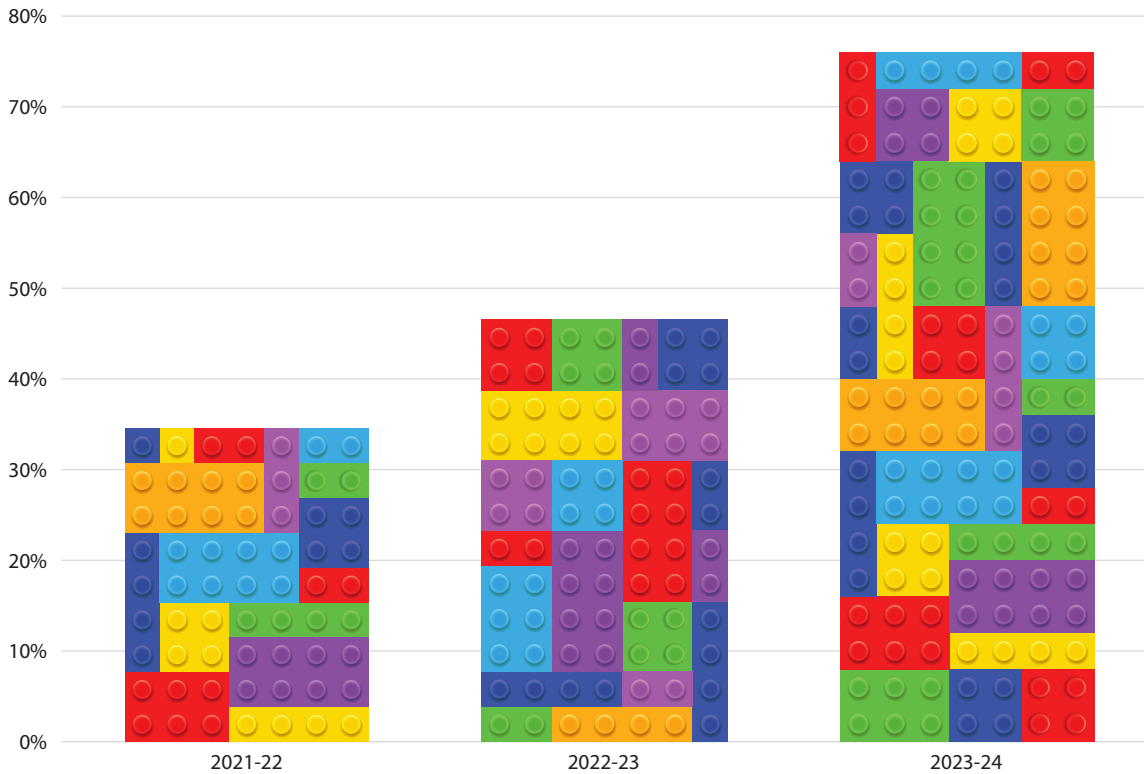


**99%**  
of recipients  
lived in households  
at 200% of the  
poverty level  
or less

Note: The Utah Fits All Scholarship Program is a state-funded initiative that provides up to \$8,000 for 10,000 K-12 student in Utah for the 2024-25 academic year. These funds can be used for various educational expenses, including private school tuition, homeschooling materials, tutoring, and other approved services. The scholarship prioritizes lower-income households (99% of recipients live in households earning 200% of the poverty level or less). Source: ACE Scholarships

# Utah leaps into full-day kindergarten

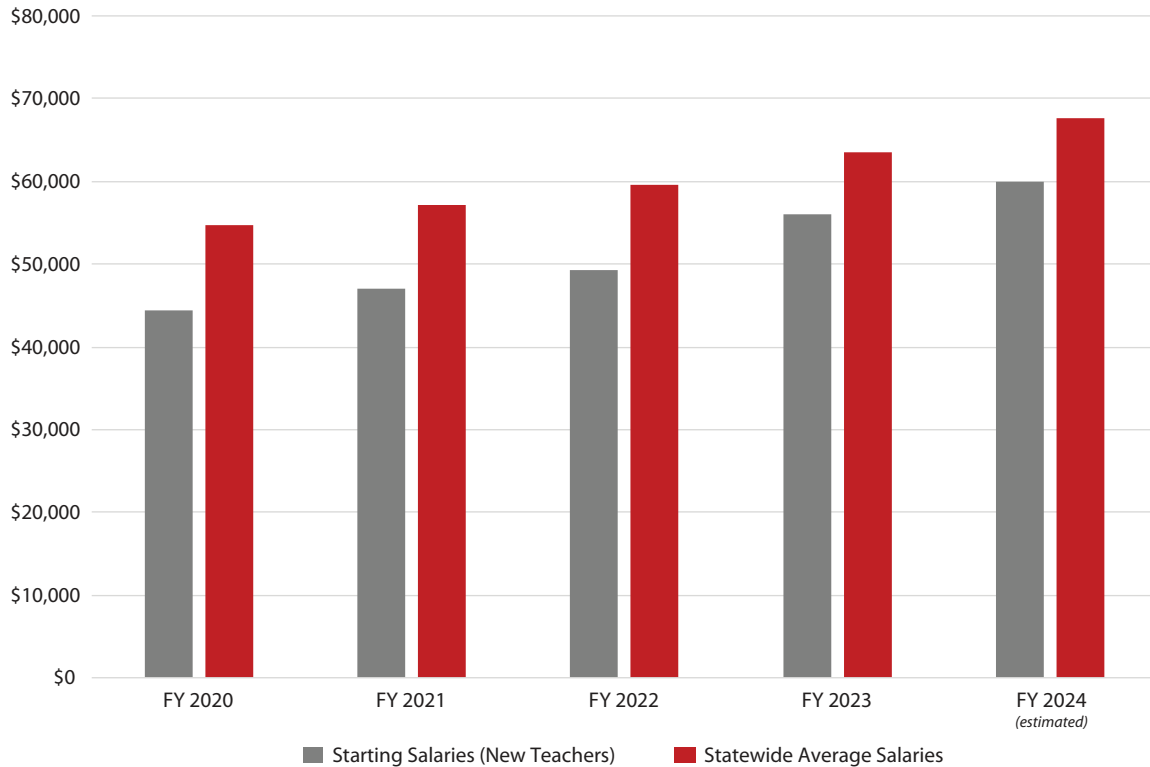
Utah Participation in Full-day Kindergarten, 2021-22 to 2023-24 School Years



Note: Kindergarten participation measured as the share of kindergarten classes that are full-day or extended day.  
Source: Utah State Board of Education

# Paycheck progress

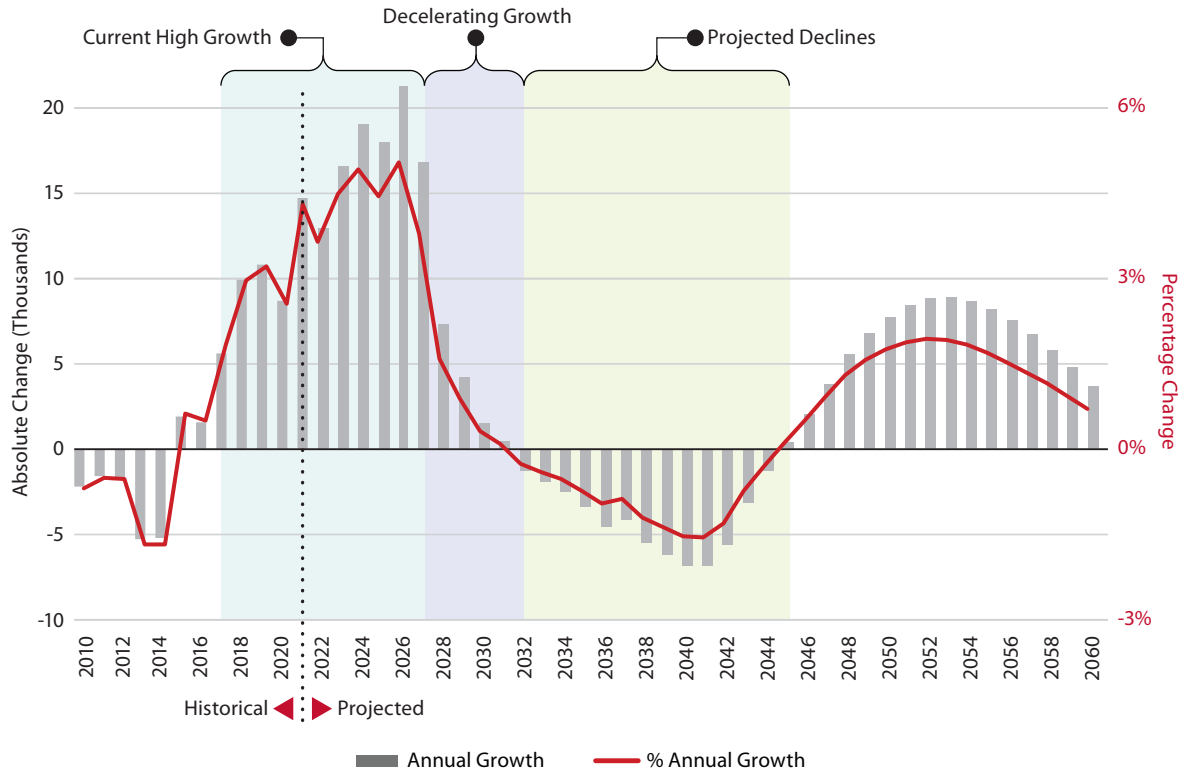
## Utah Public Teacher Salaries, FY2020-2024



Source: Utah Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst

# Utah's demographic cliff is a dip

**Annual Absolute and Percent Change in Utah's College-age Population, 2010-2060**

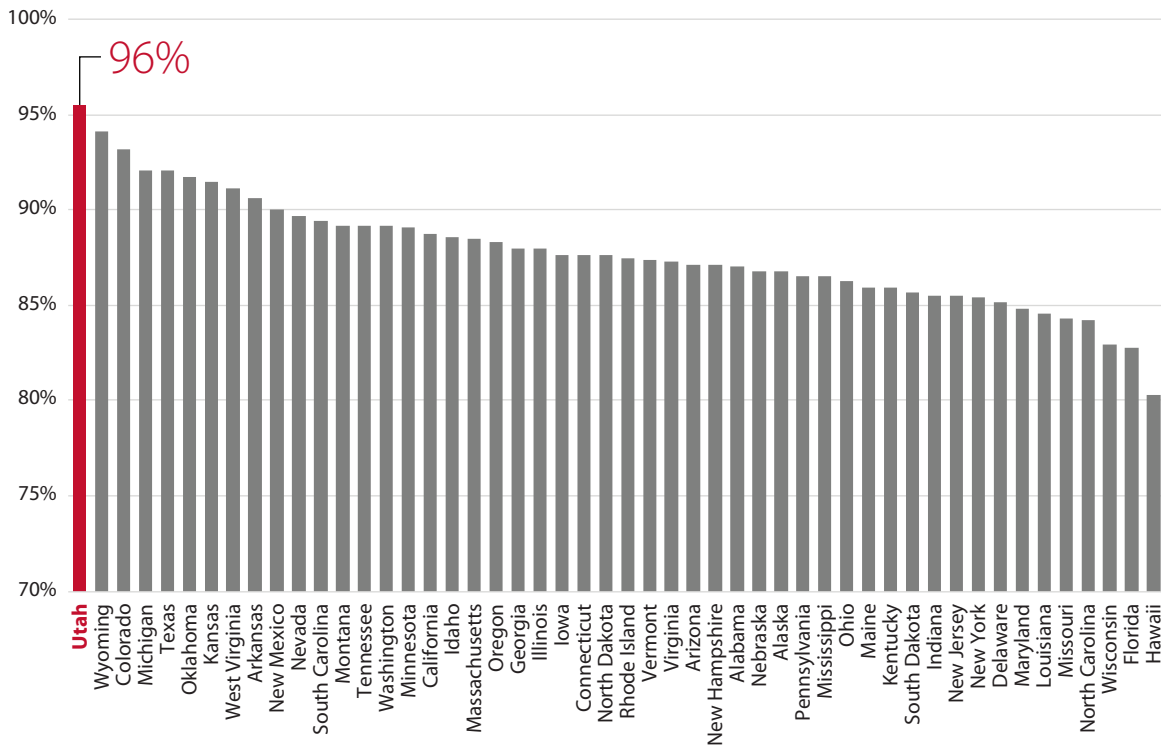


Note: College-age reflects the population ages 18 to 24.

Source: Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute State and County Projections 2020-2060 and State and County Estimates 2010-2019

# Top of the class

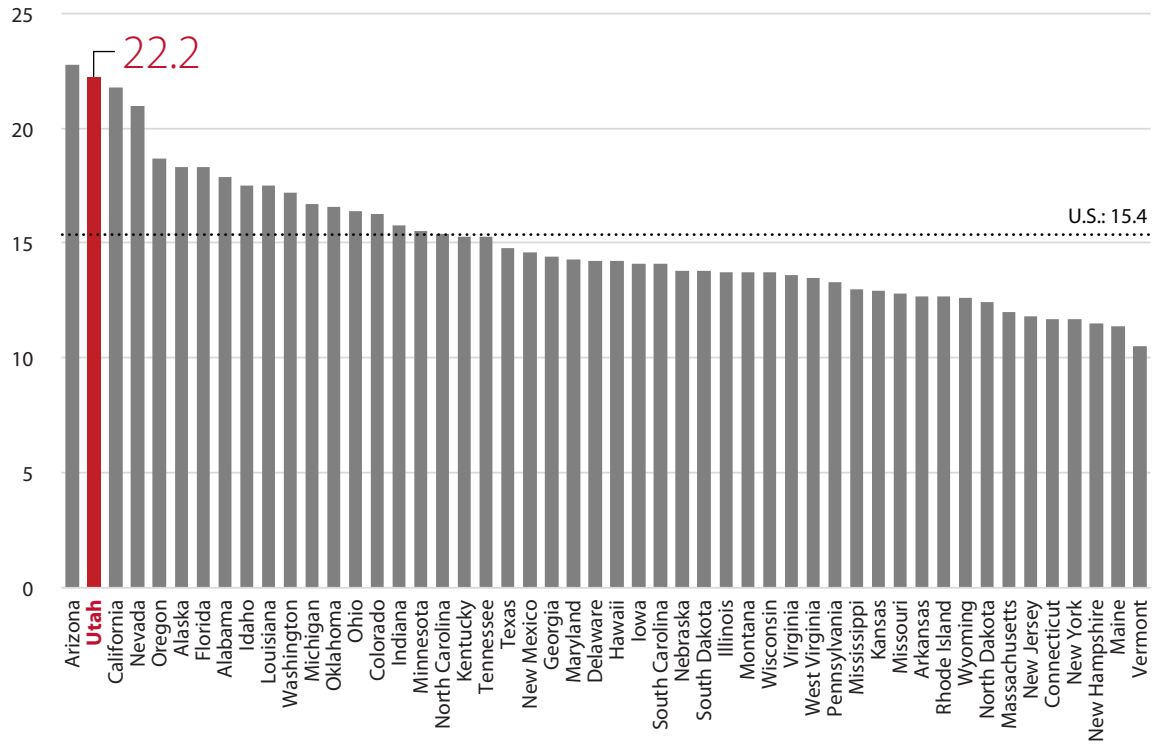
Share of K-12 Students Enrolled in Public School by State, 2023-24 School Year



Source: Data provided by Edchoice.org, sourced from NCES, EdChoice, NAPCS, and Angela Watson (Johns Hopkins University)

# Crowded classrooms

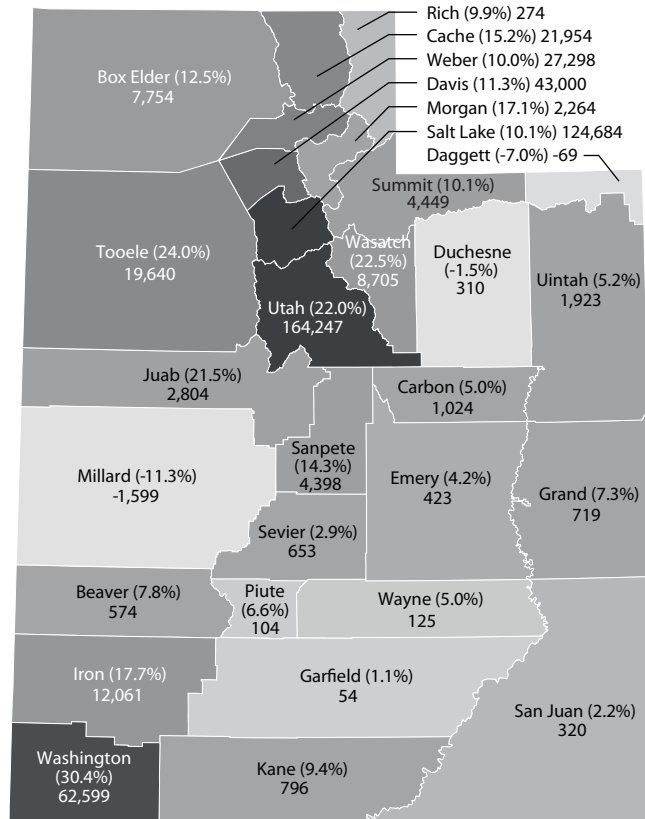
Pupil/Teacher Ratio by State, 2022-23 School Year



Source: National Center for Education Statistics

# Half a million in 10 years

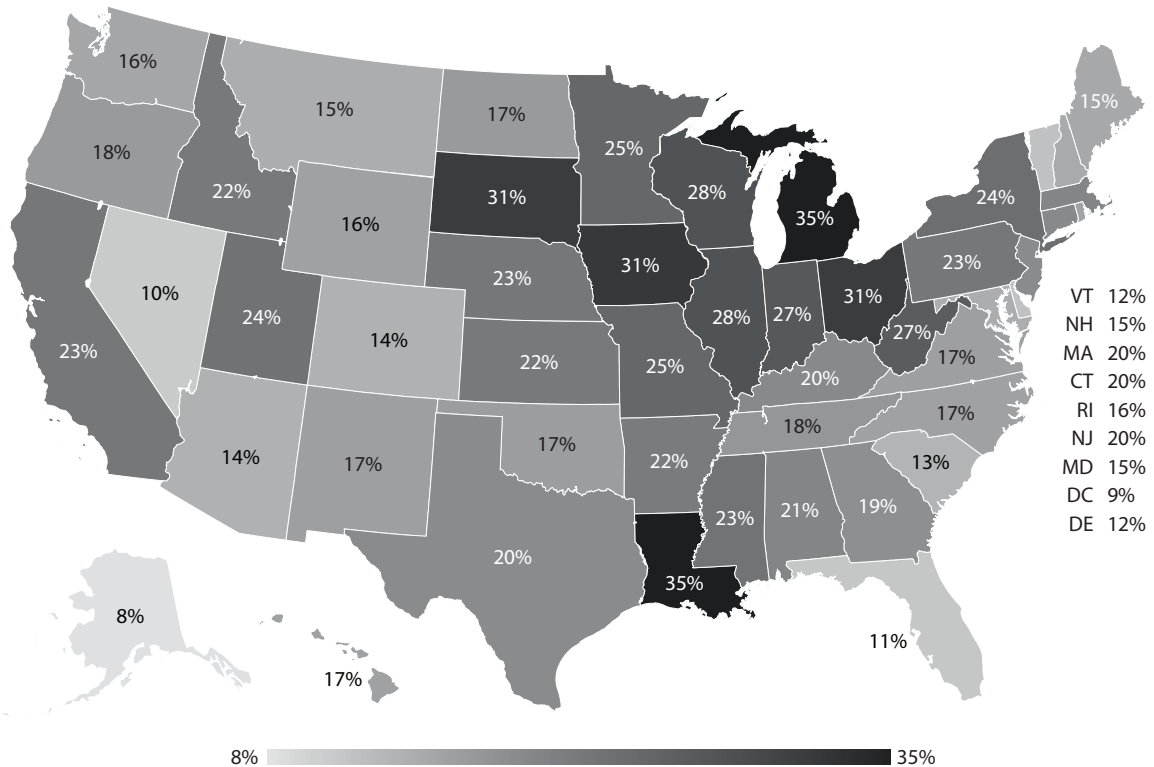
## Projected Population Change by County, 2024-2033



Source: Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute, 2024-2033 Short-Term Planning Projections

# Glad to have you back

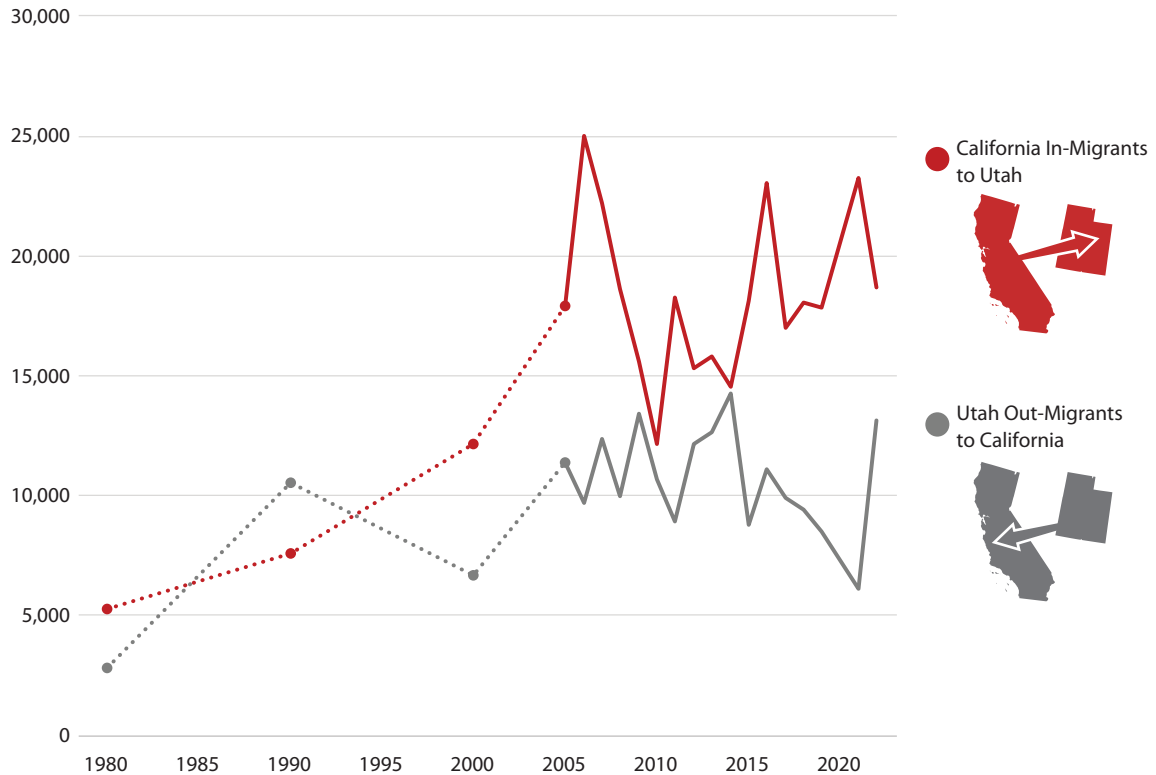
## Share of Out-of-State Migrants Returning to their Place of Birth, 2023



Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2023 1-Year American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Series

# In-n-out

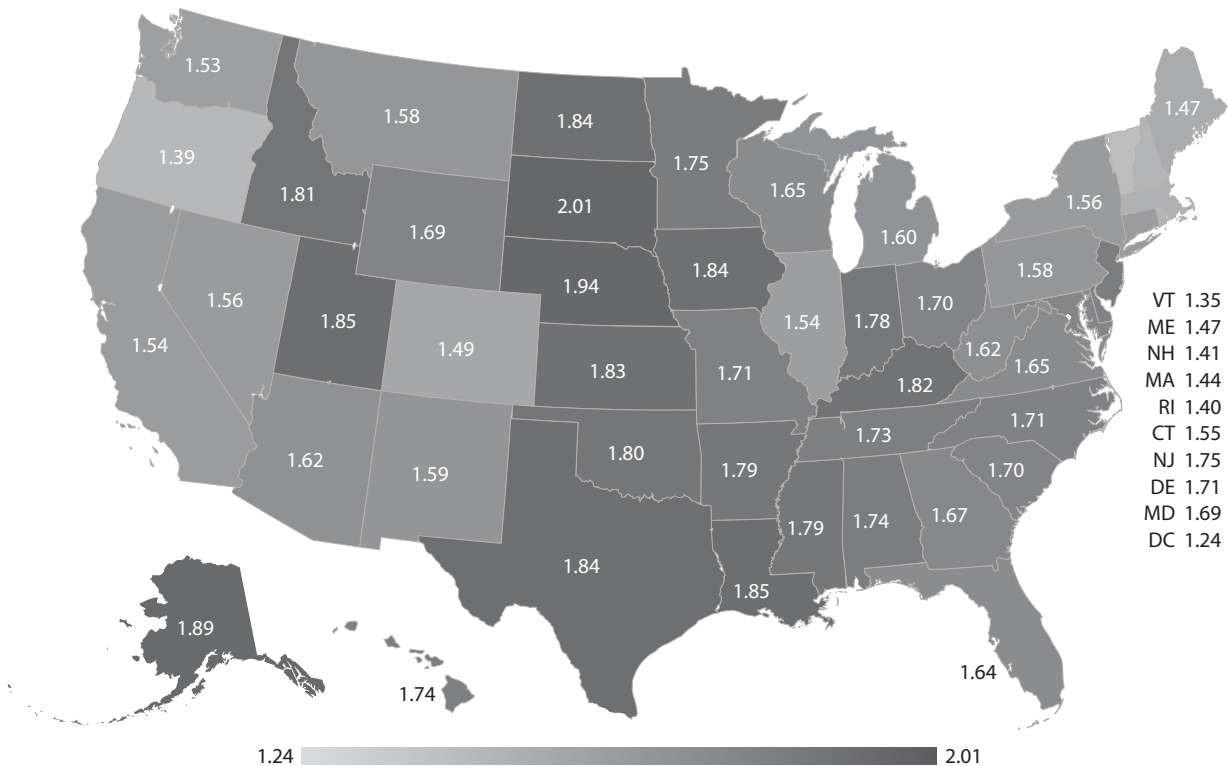
California Migrants to Utah & Utah Migrants to California, 1980, 1990, 2000, 2005-2022



Source: Decennial Census Data 5% file, 1980, 1990, 2000; U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-year estimates, 2005-2022

# Higher than most, but still low

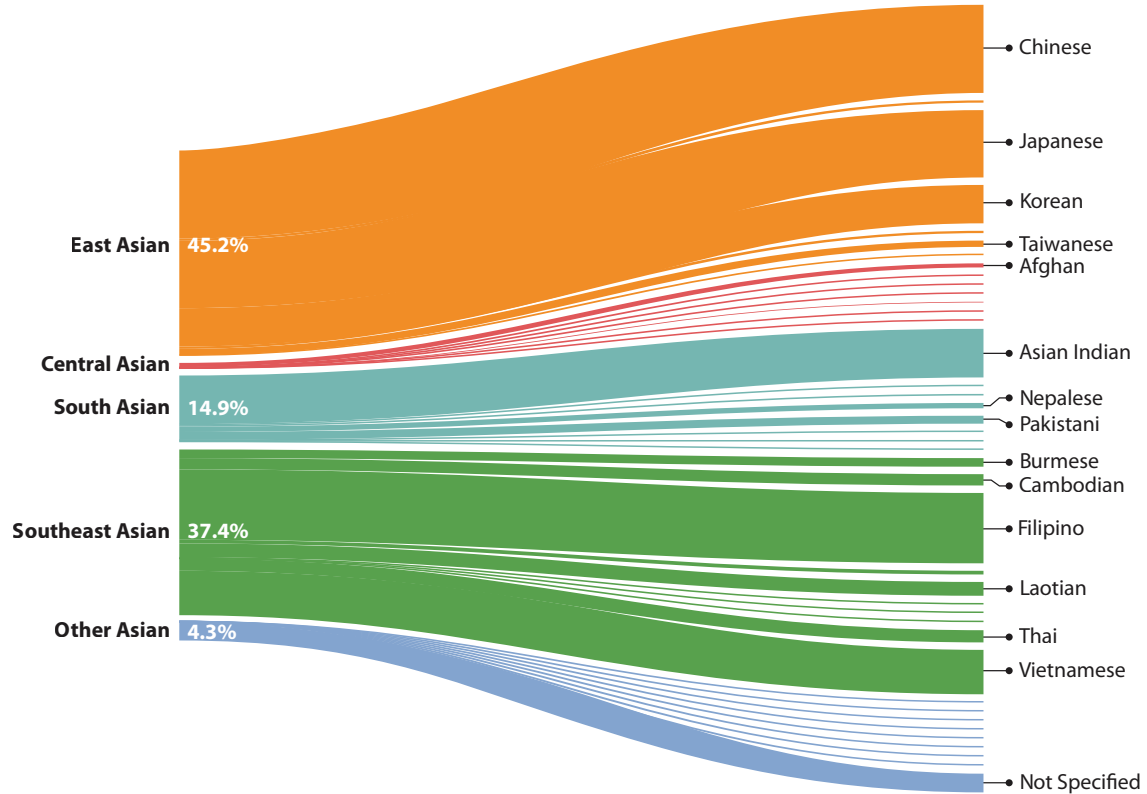
Total Fertility Rate by State, 2022



Note: The total fertility rate (TFR) represents the average number of children a woman is expected to have over her lifetime, based on current age-specific fertility rates. A replacement fertility rate is the level of fertility at which a population replaces itself from one generation to the next, without migration. This rate is generally considered to be 2.1 children per woman. No U.S. state met or surpassed the replacement rate in 2022.  
Source: National Center for Health Statistics

# Utah's Asian population

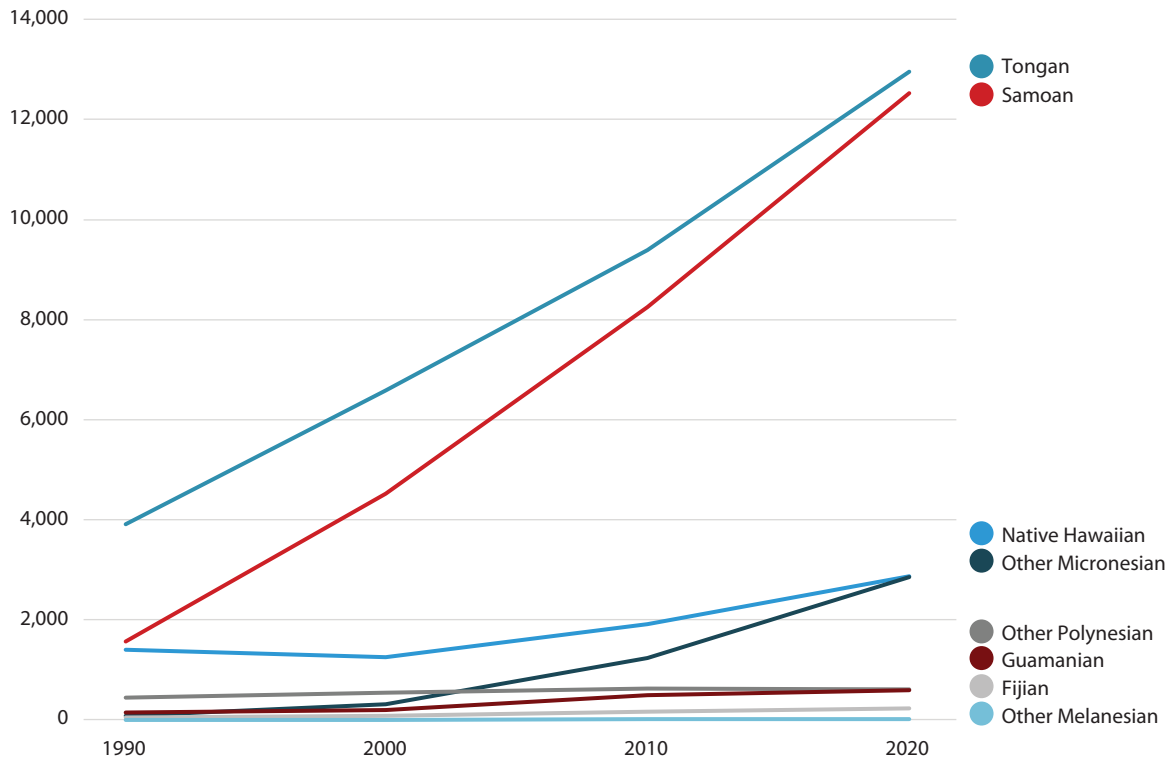
Utah's Asian Population by Regional Group and Detailed Origin, 2020



Note: Data reflects alone or in combination populations. Individuals who reported multiple detailed Asian races are tallied multiple times in this figure.  
 Made using Sankeymatic.com.  
 Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2020 Census Detailed Demographic and Housing Characteristics File A (DDHC-A)

# Growth in Utah's Pacific Islander population

Utah's Detailed Pacific Islander Alone Group Populations, 1990-2020

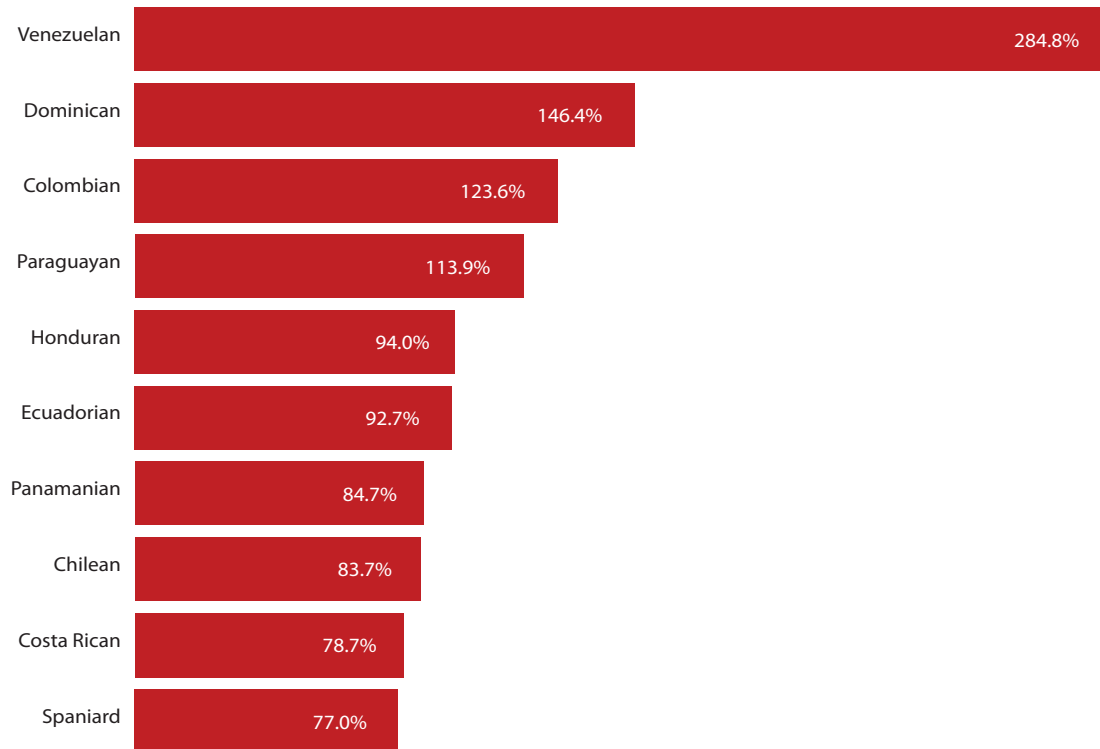


Note: Figure displays single race alone population. All detailed Pacific Islander groups with available data to 1990 are shown.

Source: IPUMS NHGIS, University of Minnesota, [www.nhgis.org](http://www.nhgis.org), U.S. Census Bureau 2010 Census Summary File 1 (SF 1), 2020 Census Demographic and Housing Characteristics File (DHC)

# Growth in Utah's Hispanic or Latino population

## Utah's 10 Fastest Growing Hispanic or Latino Detailed Origin Groups, 2010 to 2020

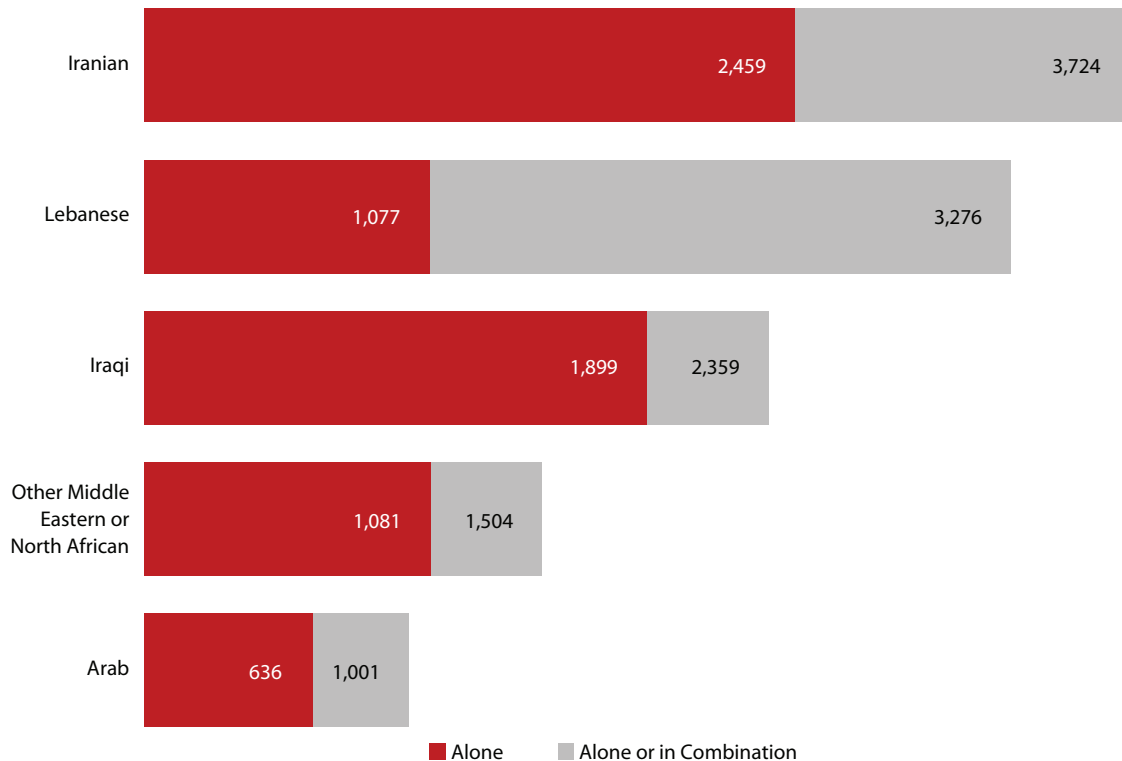


Note: The 10 fastest growing are a subset of the 20 detailed Hispanic or Latino race groups with available data.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census Summary File (SF2), 2020 Census Detailed Demographic and Housing Characteristics File A (DDHC-A)

# Utah's Middle Eastern and North African population

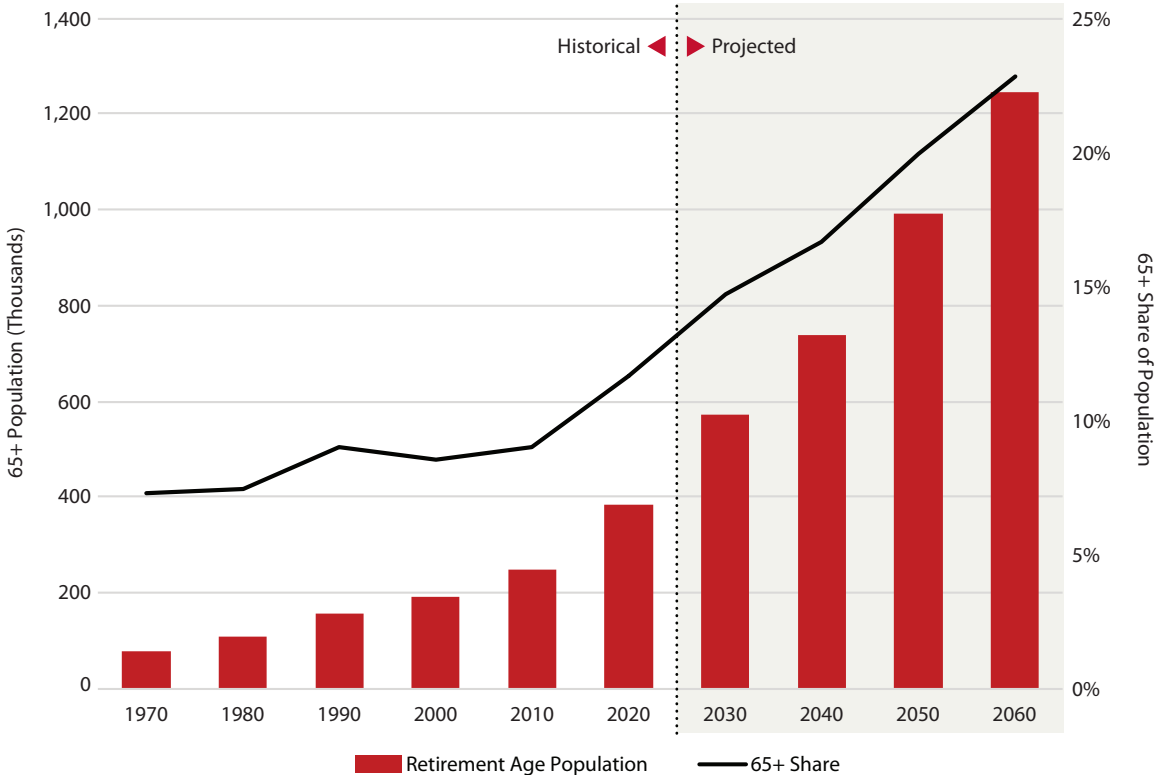
Utah's Largest Middle Eastern and North African Detailed Race Groups, 2020



Note: Alone or in combination counts include individuals who identify as a single race alone as well as those who identify as multiple detailed races.  
Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2020 Census Detailed Demographic and Housing Characteristics File A

# Graying of Utah

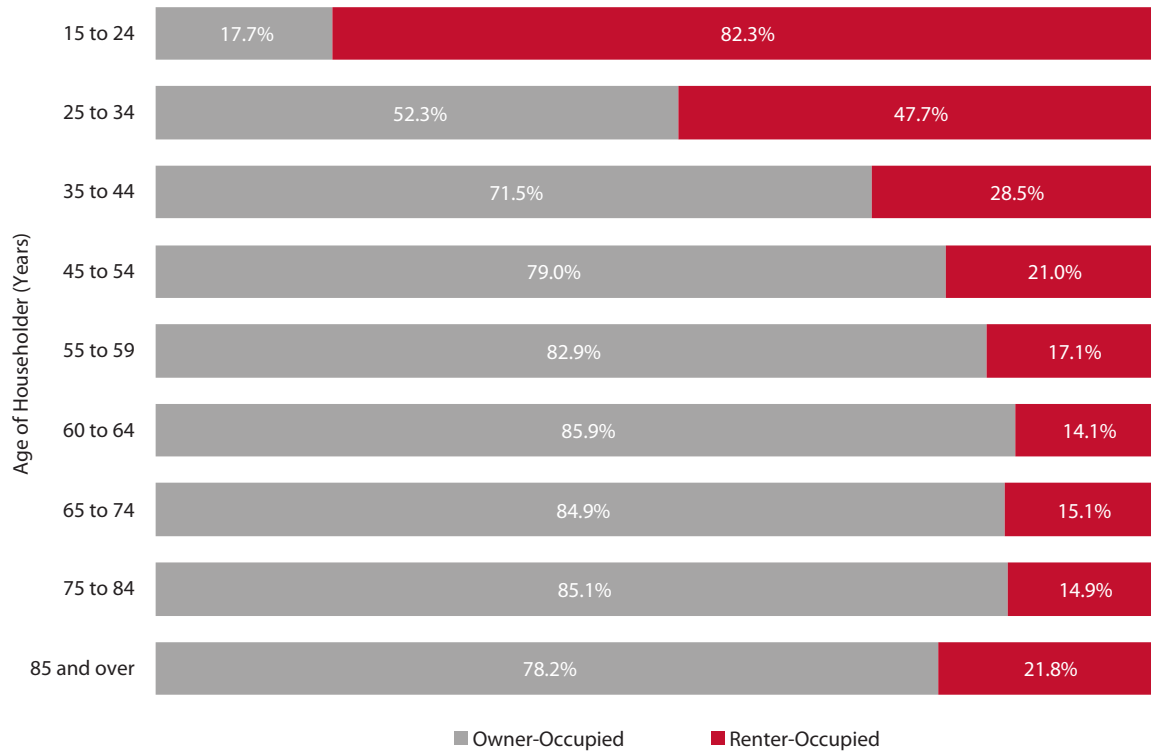
Utah's Retirement Age Population, 1970-2060



Source: 1970-2020: U.S. Census Bureau, Decennial Census; 2030-2060: Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute Long-Term Population Projections, 2020-2060, Baseline Scenario

# Own or rent?

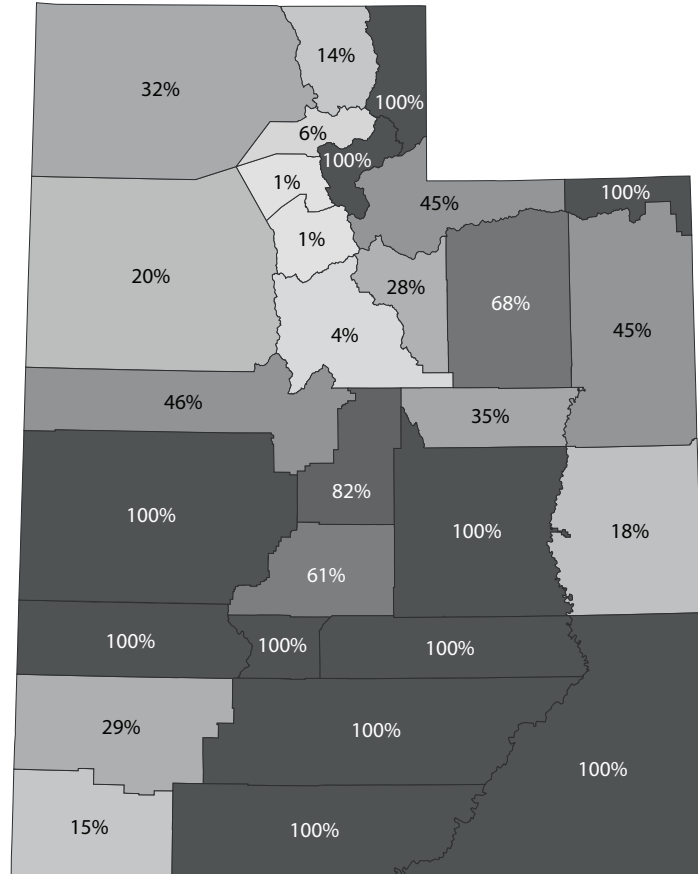
Utah Housing Tenure by Age of Householder, 2023



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2023 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates

# Home on the range

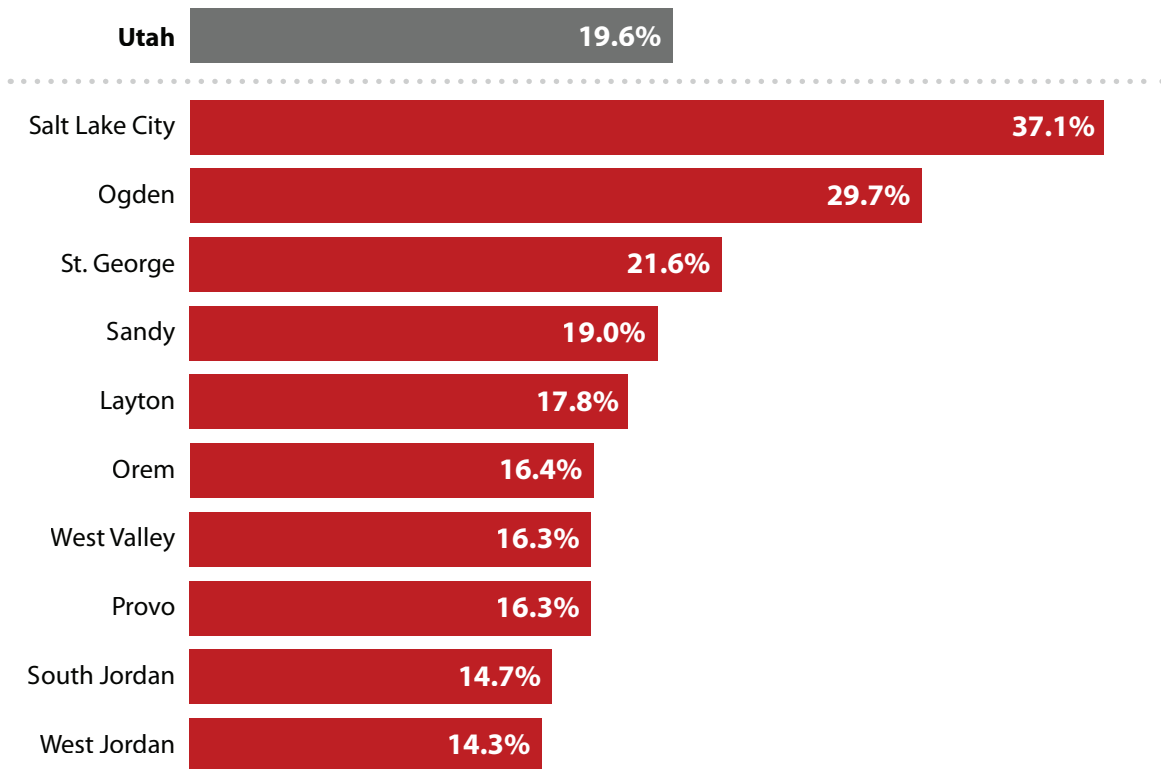
Percent of County Population Living in a Rural Area, 2020



Note: Urban populations reside in urban areas, as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau. Rural populations live in any area outside these urban areas. More detail concerning Census Bureau definitions can be found at <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/geography/guidance/geo-areas/urban-rural.html>. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 Decennial Census

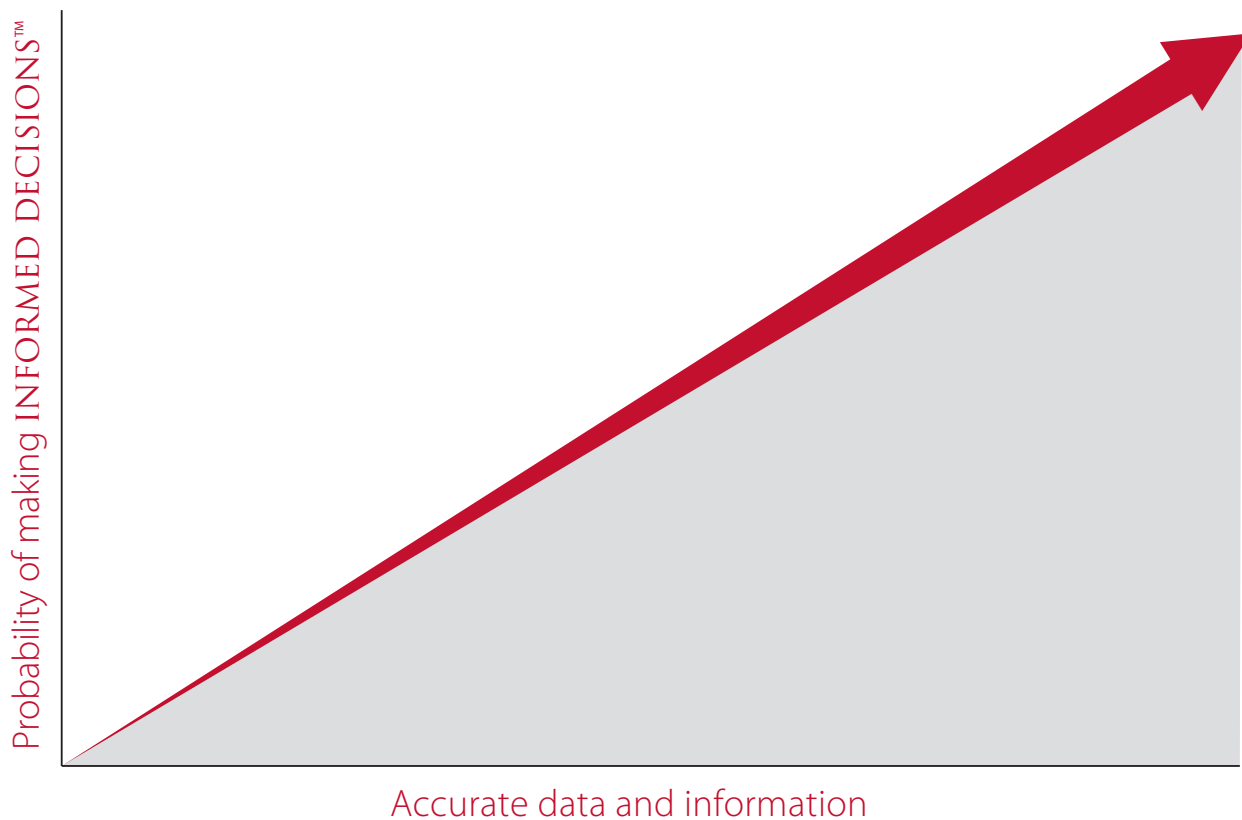
# The single life

Share of 1-Person Households in Utah and Utah's 10 Largest Cities, 2020



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 Demographic and Housing Characteristics File (DHC)

## The whole point



## KEM C. GARDNER POLICY INSTITUTE STAFF AND ADVISORS

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Juliette Tennert, Community-at-Large

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