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Utah Economic Overview

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# Utah Economic and Business Review

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## Highlights

- Utah gained over half a million people (530,716) over the last decade, increasing from 2,233,169 in 2000 to 2,763,885 in 2010. Nationally, only 12 other states added more population over the decade than did Utah. This 23.8 percent increase was the third fastest in the nation, as Utah was outpaced by only its neighbors Arizona and Nevada.
- Natural increase (births minus deaths) contributed 381,181 or 72 percent of the increase, while net in-migration (gross in-migration minus gross out-migration) contributed the other 149,535 or 28 percent. Total population growth was 20,397 greater than the increase of the 1990s, but the rate of growth has decelerated. Net migration contributed less, in both absolute and relative terms, to the 2000–2010 increase than in the 1990s.
- All counties gained population over the decade, which has not always been the case. Salt Lake County surpassed 1 million, reaching 1.03 million and contributing one-fourth of the state population increase from 2000 to 2010. Its share of the state declined to 37 percent. Utah County added 148,028 persons and surpassed half a million with 516,564, contributing nearly 28 percent of total state population growth. Wasatch County increased 55 percent over the decade, which was the most rapid of all counties, while Washington County ranked second, with an increase of 53 percent.
- Utah, along with the rest of the nation, is becoming more ethnically and racially diverse, with much of this diversity resulting from recent immigrants and their children. In the 2010 Census, over one-third of the nation's population is classified as minority, while Utah's share reached one-fifth. Nationally, the adult population is 33 percent minority while youth are nearly "minority majority," with a 47 percent share. In Utah, minorities are 17.4 percent of the adult population and nearly one-fourth of youth. Nationally, 92 percent of the population growth from 2000 to 2010 came from an increase in the minority population, while the contribution in Utah was 40 percent.
- Utah retains many of its signature demographics, but its connections to the outside world and its status as a net in-migration state mean that it will continue to trend toward the nation. For example, Utah still has the youngest median age among all states, but the median age is increasing, as it is nationally. Similarly, the minority share of the Utah population is lower than that of the nation, but also increasing.

## Census 2010 – A First Look at Utah Results

Pamela S. Perlich, Senior Research Economist  
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### Introduction

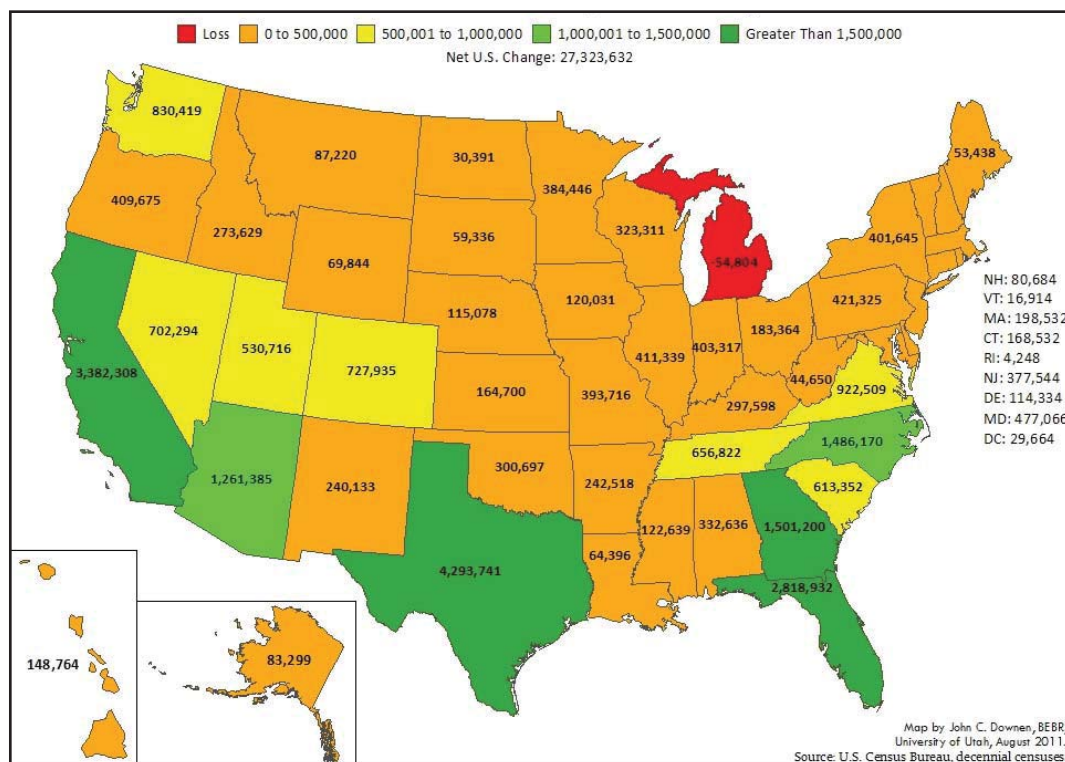
Early results from the long-awaited 2010 Census are revealing the outlines of the more detailed portrait that will not be available for at least a couple more years. This essay reviews the top-level population change and geographic distribution results primarily from the redistricting data set.<sup>1</sup> We concentrate on state- and county-level results. This redistricting data from Census 2010 again confirm that Utah is located in a growth region of the nation. Within the state, Salt Lake County has maintained its position as the most populous, but Utah County gained most residents in the 2000–2010 period. Certainly Utah retains many of its signature demographics, but it continues to trend toward the nation. As is true of the nation, Utah continues to become more racially and ethnically diverse, with youth on the leading edge of this transition.

### Population: Counts and Change – State and National Results

When the state-level apportionment results were released in December, we learned that Utah had gained over half a million people (530,716), increasing from 2,233,169 in 2000 to 2,763,885 in the 2010 enumeration<sup>2</sup> (Figure 1). As has been anticipated since the near miss in Census 2000, the relative numeric growth was sufficient to qualify Utah for another seat in Congress in the reapportionment process. Nationally, only 12 other states added more population from 2000 to 2010 than did Utah. Utah again ranked 34th in population size in the 2010 count, coming within 89,233 of Kansas and just exceeding Nevada by 63,334. Utah ranked third among states for ten-year rate of growth, outpaced only by neighboring states Nevada and Arizona (Figure 2).

From 2000 to 2010, the population of the nation increased by 27.3 million, or 9.7 percent, to reach 308.7 million. This ten-year growth rate is comparable with that of the 1980s (9.8 percent), but represents a deceleration from the 1990s (13.2 percent). Continuing the trend that prevailed for most of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, population growth (in both absolute and relative terms) in the West and South outpaced that of the Northeast and Midwest.<sup>3</sup> The South accounted for over half (52.4 percent) of the nation's population growth in the 2000s, increasing by 14.3 million (or 14.3 percent) to

**Figure 1**  
**Absolute Population Change by State, 2000 to 2010**



Nevada, and Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming remain significantly less populous (Figure 3). Nevada added 702,294 persons from 2000 to 2010, very nearly reaching the Utah 2010 population. Intermountain states continue to be a relative growth region within the nation. Utah's 23.8 percent population increase from 2000 to 2010 was the third most rapid among all states, as its growth rate was outpaced only by neighboring states Arizona (24.6 percent) and Nevada (35.1 percent). While Utah was just less than 1 percent of the nation's population in 2010, it contributed 2 percent of the nation's population growth over the previous decade. The additional 530,716 Utah residents from 2000 to 2010 was the largest ten-year numeric increase ever recorded

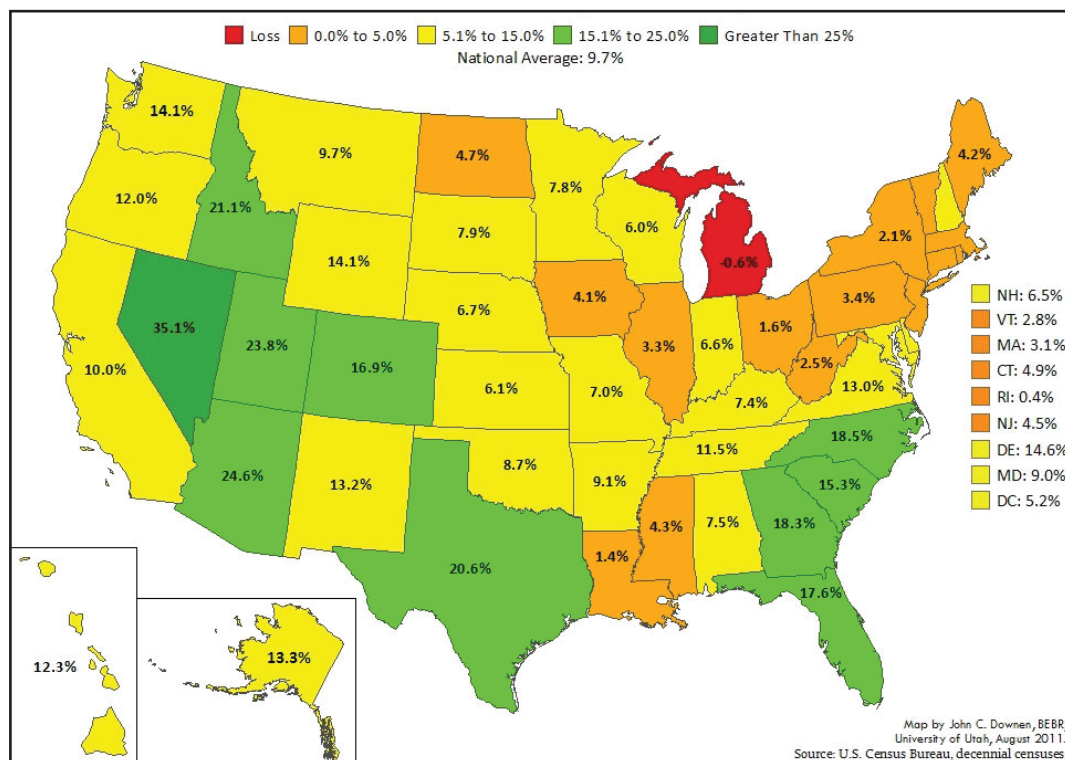
reach 114.6 million, meaning that over one-third (37.1 percent) of the nation's population resides in this region. In comparison, the population of the West increased by 8.7 million (or 13.8 percent) to reach 71.9 million. Almost one-third (32.0 percent) of the nation's population increase in the 2000s was in the West. And the 2010 Census was the first enumeration in which the population of the Western region exceeded that of the Midwest. Together, the West and South accounted for over four out of five (84.4 percent) new residents from 2000 to 2010, and are now home to three of every five (60.4 percent) people in the U.S. Meanwhile, the population of the Midwest increased by 2.5 million (or 3.9 percent) over the 2000s to reach 66.9 million. Population in the Northeast was 55.3 million in the 2010 census, a ten-year increase of 1.7 million (or 3.2 percent).<sup>4</sup>

Within the Intermountain region, Arizona and Colorado continue to be significantly more populous than Utah and

for the state, but the rate of change was a deceleration compared with the 1990s and especially the 1970s (Figure 4).

With a combined population of 11.4 million in 2010, Arizona and

**Figure 2**  
**Relative Population Change by State, 2000 to 2010**

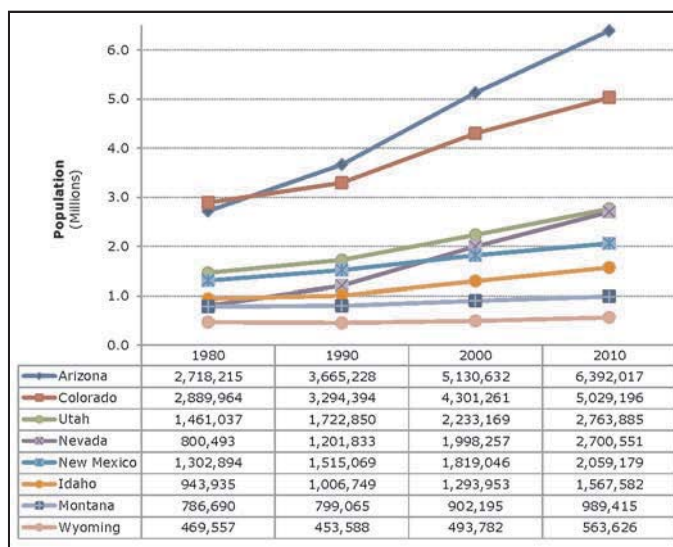


Colorado together are home to half (51.8 percent) of the 22.1 million residents of the Intermountain region.<sup>5</sup> In the 1940 Census, Colorado had a population of 1.1 million, while Arizona, Utah, New Mexico, Idaho, and Montana all had populations around half a million. Wyoming had a quarter of a million, while Nevada was home to just over 110,000 residents. The population of the entire region was 4.2 million in 1940. In the post-WWII era, the federal government invested heavily in the West in the interstate highway system, large-scale water projects (including dam construction), military and aerospace industries, and research facilities. These projects and operations, in combination with the development and proliferation of air conditioning and generalized national economic growth, facilitated the settlement and urbanization of the West.<sup>6</sup> By 1990, Arizona's population of 3.7 million surpassed that of Colorado (3.3 million), and Utah, Nevada, New Mexico and Idaho all had populations in excess of one million. From 1980 to 2010, the Intermountain region nearly doubled in population, increasing from 11.4 million to 22.1 million. By 2010, Wyoming finally surpassed half a million, Montana approached one million, and, as noted above, the region was home to the three most rapidly growing states in the nation.

### Utah Components of Population Change

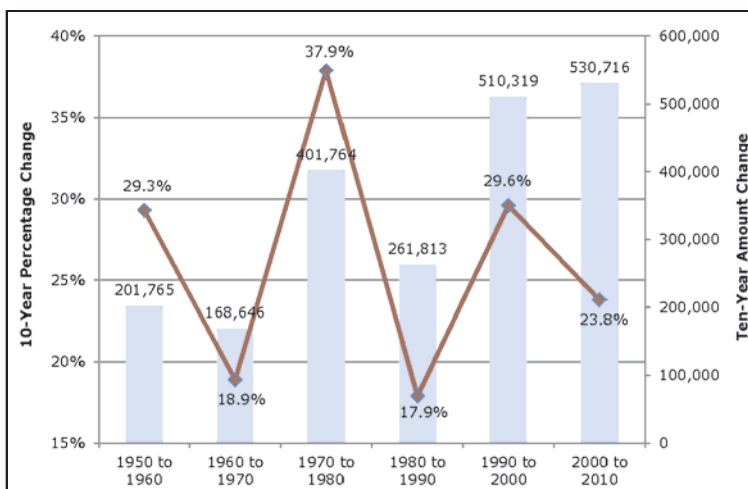
The relatively young population and high birth rate in Utah have historically resulted in a positive natural increase component, meaning that annual births have exceeded annual deaths. Net migration (gross in-migration minus gross out-migration) has been much more volatile. In the decades prior to 1970, Utah had periods of both sustained net out-migration and net in-migration. This was because the economy of the state was quite small and dependent upon a few very cyclical industries. Since 1970, Utah has experienced more steady economic growth at the same time

**Figure 3**  
**Intermountain State Populations, 1980–2010**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010, <http://2010.census.gov/2010census/data/apportionment-pop-text.php>, downloaded 7/12/2010.

**Figure 4**  
**Utah 10-Year Population Changes, 1950–2010**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010, <http://2010.census.gov/2010census/data/apportionment-pop-text.php>, downloaded 7/12/2010.

that it has become more economically diversified. The result is that, with the exception of a period in the mid-1980s, it has experienced positive net in-migration since 1970. Because young adults are both most likely to migrate for economic opportunity and to have babies, these sustained periods of net in-migration have resulted in a “youth movement” to the state, and have reinforced Utah’s young demographics. The decomposition of population change into natural increase and net migration, therefore, is a bit of a false dichotomy. This is because young adults moving to the state are in-migrants and their children born in Utah are counted in natural increase. To characterize births as “homegrown” population growth obscures the contribution of in-migrants to Utah’s relative youth and natural increase.

From 1940 to 2010, the population of Utah grew from about 550,310 to 2,763,885, a fourfold increase of 2,213,575. Over this 70-year period, 1.7 million or 78 percent of the growth was contributed by natural increase. Nearly half a million more persons moved into Utah than moved out over the same period. Again, these were

generally young adults in prime childbearing years. In both the 1940s and 1950s, net migration was positive, but accounted for only 6 percent of the state’s population increase. In the 1960s, the state lost migrants, as more people moved from than moved to Utah. This means that natural increase provided all the population growth that occurred in the 1960s. The same was true of the 1980s. Net in-migration was an estimated 149,095 in the 1970s, which was nearly as large as in the 2000–2010 period (Figure 5). This great wave of in-migration resulted in record births in the early 1980s and set in motion the waves of school-age population growth in the 1980s and college-age population in the 1990s. This birth boom began to have children in the late 1990s, and set new records for Utah births beginning in 1997.<sup>7</sup>

In the 1970s, net in-migration accounted for 37 percent of Utah’s population increase, a proportion that was surpassed in the 1990s,

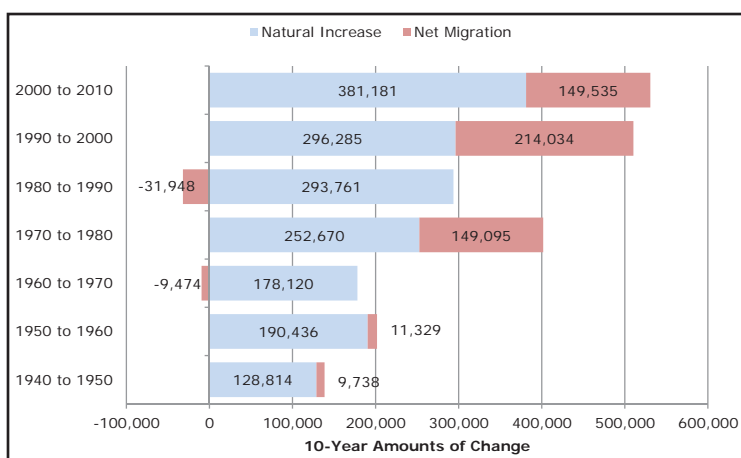


when net in-migration contributed 42 percent of the population growth of the state. Again in the 2000–2010 decade, net migration was positive, but the estimated net migration of 149,535 was less than the estimated 214,034 net in-migration of the 1990s, and consequently contributed just 28 percent of total population growth (Figure 6). Still, this long period of sustained net in-migration to the state seems to indicate that the migration dynamic of Utah subsequent to 1970 is significantly different from that prior. Even as Utah has experienced declines in the amount of employment in the last ten years, people have continued to move here. This is a significant break with the past.<sup>8</sup>

## County Population Change

In the 2010 count Salt Lake County surpassed 1 million, increasing by 131,268 and contributing nearly one-quarter (24.7 percent) of the state's population growth between 2000 and 2010. Salt Lake County remained the most populous county, although its share of the total declined over the decade from 40.2 percent to 37.3 percent. Utah County added even more population, 148,028, and surpassed half a million with 516,564 residents counted in the 2010 Census. Utah County increased its share of the state population from 16.5 to 18.7 percent, and contributed nearly 28 percent of the ten-year growth for the state. Davis County maintained its position as the third most populous county, with a 2010 count of 306,479, having gained 67,485 residents since 2000. Weber County again ranked fourth in population, with 231,236 residents, an increase of 34,703. Washington County gained 47,761 residents to reach a 2010

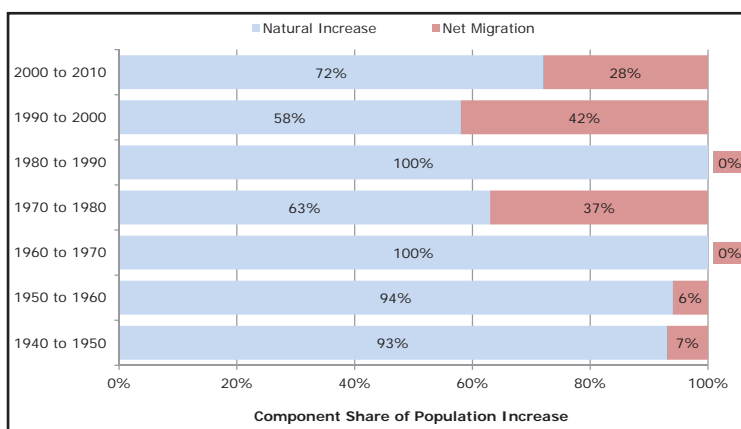
**Figure 5**  
**Utah 10-Year Components of Population Change**



Note: Populations are April 1 counts.

Source: BEBR computations from Bureau of the Census and Utah Population Estimates Committee data.

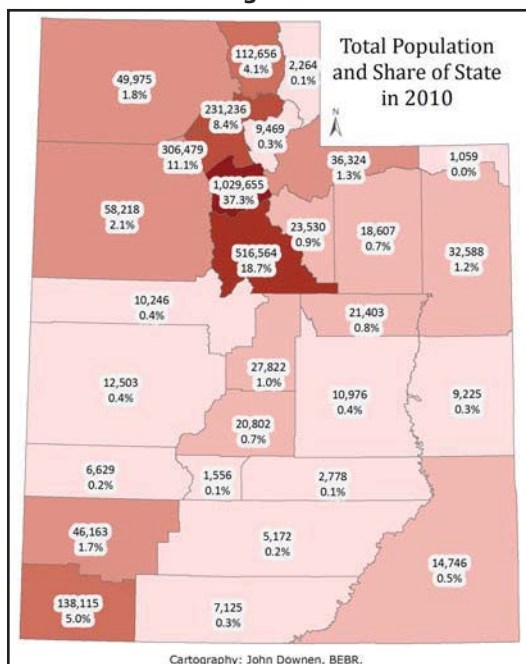
**Figure 6**  
**Utah Population Change Components: Contributions**



Note: Populations are April 1 counts.

Source: BEBR computations from Bureau of the Census and Utah Population Estimates Committee data.

**Figure 7**



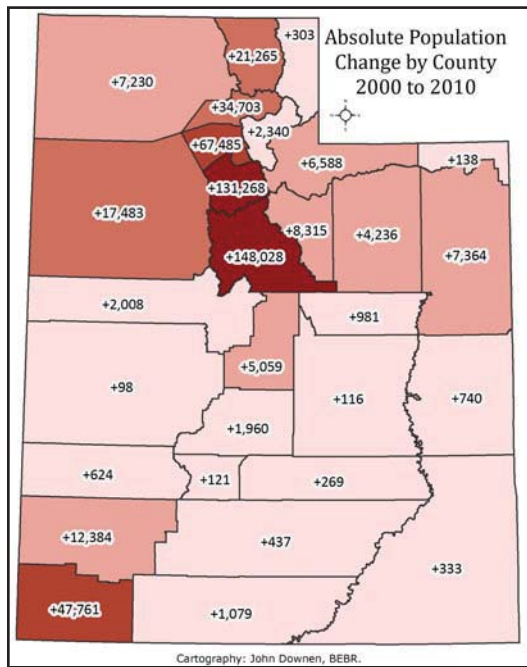
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census Redistricting File.

population of 138,115, exceeding the 112,656 count in Cache County, and making Washington the fifth largest county in Utah. This was a ten-year increase of 52.9 percent. Only Wasatch County had a more rapid rate of increase, 54.7 percent, growing from 15,215 in 2000 to 23,530 in 2010. It ranked 13th in population size among all counties in 2010 (Figures 7 through 9).

The combined population of Weber, Davis, Salt Lake and Utah counties in 2010 was just over 2 million (2,083,934), accounting for 75.4 percent of the population of Utah. This represents a decline from the counties' 76.2 percent share in 2000. Among the four largest counties, Davis and Utah exceeded the growth rate of the state, while Salt Lake and Weber grew at slower rates. On a percentage change basis, other rapid growth counties from 2000 to 2010 were Tooele (42.9 percent), Iron (36.7 percent), and Morgan (32.8 percent).

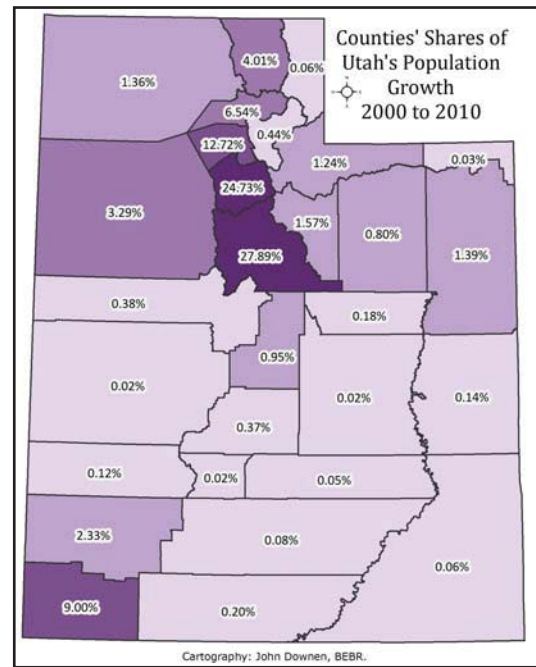
All of Utah's counties had more population in the 2010 Census than in the 2000 Census. This of course has not always been the case from one enumeration to the next. Considering the 1940–2010 period, several major trends in population change and net migration emerge (Tables 1 through 3). With few exceptions, rural counties have had net out-migration<sup>9</sup> cumulatively for the 70-year period, while counties located in or on the periphery of expanding urban areas have experienced net in-migration. The rural counties with cumulative net out-migration (Beaver, Box Elder, Carbon, Daggett, Duchesne, Emery, Garfield, Juab, Millard, Piute, Rich, San Juan, Sanpete, Sevier, and Wayne) have depended economically upon a few industries that have historically been quite

Figure 8



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census SF1 and 2010 Census Redistricting File.

Figure 9



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census SF1 and 2010 Census Redistricting File.

**Table 1**  
**Census Counts and Change Metrics for Counties in Utah, 1940–2010**

County	1940	1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	Ratio 2010 to 1940	Type
Beaver County	5,014	4,856	4,331	3,800	4,378	4,765	6,005	6,629	1.32	1
Box Elder County	18,832	19,734	25,061	28,129	33,222	36,485	42,745	49,975	2.65	2
Cache County	29,797	33,536	35,788	42,331	57,176	70,183	91,391	112,656	3.78	2
Carbon County	18,459	24,901	21,135	15,647	22,179	20,228	20,422	21,403	1.16	1
Daggett County	564	364	1,164	666	769	690	921	1,059	1.88	1
Davis County	15,784	30,867	64,760	99,028	146,540	187,941	238,994	306,479	19.42	3
Duchesne County	8,958	8,134	7,179	7,299	12,565	12,645	14,371	18,607	2.08	2
Emery County	7,072	6,304	5,546	5,137	11,451	10,332	10,860	10,976	1.55	1
Garfield County	5,253	4,151	3,577	3,157	3,673	3,980	4,735	5,172	0.98	1
Grand County	2,070	1,903	6,345	6,688	8,241	6,620	8,485	9,225	4.46	3
Iron County	8,331	9,642	10,795	12,177	17,349	20,789	33,779	46,163	5.54	3
Juab County	7,392	5,981	4,597	4,574	5,530	5,817	8,238	10,246	1.39	1
Kane County	2,561	2,299	2,667	2,421	4,024	5,169	6,046	7,125	2.78	2
Millard County	9,613	9,387	7,866	6,988	8,970	11,333	12,405	12,503	1.30	1
Morgan County	2,611	2,519	2,837	3,983	4,917	5,528	7,129	9,469	3.63	2
Piute County	2,203	1,911	1,436	1,164	1,329	1,277	1,435	1,556	0.71	1
Rich County	2,028	1,673	1,685	1,615	2,100	1,725	1,961	2,264	1.12	1
Salt Lake County	211,623	274,895	383,035	458,607	619,066	725,956	898,387	1,029,655	4.87	3
San Juan County	4,712	5,315	9,040	9,606	12,253	12,621	14,413	14,746	3.13	2
Sanpete County	16,063	13,891	11,053	10,976	14,620	16,259	22,763	27,822	1.73	1
Sevier County	12,112	12,072	10,565	10,103	14,727	15,431	18,842	20,802	1.72	1
Summit County	8,714	6,745	5,673	5,879	10,198	15,518	29,736	36,324	4.17	3
Tooele County	9,133	14,636	17,868	21,545	26,033	26,601	40,735	58,218	6.37	3
Uintah County	9,898	10,300	11,582	12,684	20,506	22,211	25,224	32,588	3.29	2
Utah County	57,382	81,912	106,991	137,776	218,106	263,590	368,536	516,564	9.00	3
Wasatch County	5,754	5,574	5,308	5,863	8,523	10,089	15,215	23,530	4.09	3
Washington County	9,269	9,836	10,271	13,669	26,065	48,560	90,354	138,115	14.90	3
Wayne County	2,394	2,205	1,728	1,483	1,911	2,177	2,509	2,778	1.16	1
Weber County	56,714	83,319	110,744	126,278	144,616	158,330	196,533	231,236	4.08	3
State of Utah	550,310	688,862	890,627	1,059,273	1,461,037	1,722,850	2,233,169	2,763,885	5.02	3

Note: The growth typology has been computed by first calculating the ratio of the 2010 population and the 1940 population. If this ratio is less than 2, it is defined as "Slow or No Growth," (Type 1) and the population in 2010 is less than twice the size of that in 1940. "Substantial Growth" (Type 2) is a ratio from 2 through 4. This means population has at least doubled and as much as quadrupled from 1940 to 2010. "Significant Growth" (Type 3) is a ratio of greater than 4, meaning that the population more than quadrupled.

Source: BEBR computations from U.S. Census Bureau data.

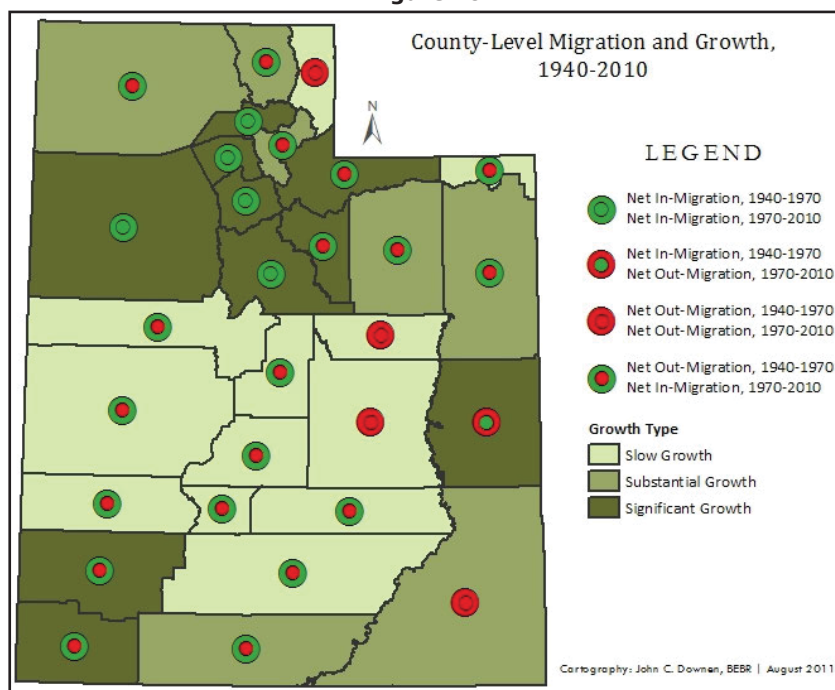
**Table 2**  
**Population Change by Decade for Utah Counties, 1940–2010**

County	1940s	1950s	1960s	1970s	1980s	1990s	2000s	1940–2010
Beaver County	–158	–525	–531	578	387	1,240	624	1,615
Box Elder County	902	5,327	3,068	5,093	3,263	6,260	7,230	31,143
Cache County	3,739	2,252	6,543	14,845	13,007	21,208	21,265	82,859
Carbon County	6,442	–3,766	–5,488	6,532	–1,951	194	981	2,944
Daggett County	–200	800	–498	103	–79	231	138	495
Davis County	15,083	33,893	34,268	47,512	41,401	51,053	67,485	290,695
Duchesne County	–824	–955	120	5,266	80	1,726	4,236	9,649
Emery County	–768	–758	–409	6,314	–1,119	528	116	3,904
Garfield County	–1,102	–574	–420	516	307	755	437	–81
Grand County	–167	4,442	343	1,553	–1,621	1,865	740	7,155
Iron County	1,311	1,153	1,382	5,172	3,440	12,990	12,384	37,832
Juab County	–1,411	–1,384	–23	956	287	2,421	2,008	2,854
Kane County	–262	368	–246	1,603	1,145	877	1,079	4,564
Millard County	–226	–1,521	–878	1,982	2,363	1,072	98	2,890
Morgan County	–92	318	1,146	934	611	1,601	2,340	6,858
Piute County	–292	–475	–272	165	–52	158	121	–647
Rich County	–355	12	–70	485	–375	236	303	236
Salt Lake County	63,272	108,140	75,572	160,459	106,890	172,431	131,268	818,032
San Juan County	603	3,725	566	2,647	368	1,792	333	10,034
Sanpete County	–2,172	–2,838	–77	3,644	1,639	6,504	5,059	11,759
Sevier County	–40	–1,507	–462	4,624	704	3,411	1,960	8,690
Summit County	–1,969	–1,072	206	4,319	5,320	14,218	6,588	27,610
Tooele County	5,503	3,232	3,677	4,488	568	14,134	17,483	49,085
Uintah County	402	1,282	1,102	7,822	1,705	3,013	7,364	22,690
Utah County	24,530	25,079	30,785	80,330	45,484	104,946	148,028	459,182
Wasatch County	–180	–266	555	2,660	1,566	5,126	8,315	17,776
Washington County	567	435	3,398	12,396	22,495	41,794	47,761	128,846
Wayne County	–189	–477	–245	428	266	332	269	384
Weber County	26,605	27,425	15,534	18,338	13,714	38,203	34,703	174,522
State of Utah	138,552	201,765	168,646	401,764	261,813	510,319	530,716	2,213,575

Source: BEBR computations from U.S. Census Bureau and Utah Population Estimates Committee data.

cyclical. Those counties having cumulative net in-migration from 1940 to 2010 included those that are now in the urban core and within commuting range of growing economic opportunities (Davis, Salt Lake, Utah, and Weber) or on the periphery of these urban counties (Tooele, Wasatch, Summit, and Morgan), university counties (Cache, Iron, and Utah), or southern Utah destination counties (Washington, Iron, Grand, and Kane). Uintah County's cumulative net in-migration of 7 is essentially an estimate of zero net migration.

**Figure 10**



Source: BEBR computations from U.S. Census Bureau and Utah Population Estimates Committee data.

Only Davis County has had net in-migration for every single decade from the 1940s through the 2000s. Until 1970 almost all rural counties experienced net out-migration and many of these rural counties actually lost population.

The only counties with cumulative net in-migration from 1940 to 1970 were the urban counties of Davis, Salt Lake, Utah, Weber and rural Tooele and Grand counties (Figure 10). During this era, Tooele County had federal defense installations while Grand County experienced a uranium boom in the 1950s.

**Table 3**  
**Implied Net Migration by Decade for Utah Counties, 1940–2010**

County	1940s	1950s	1960s	1970s	1980s	1990s	2000s	1940–2010
Beaver County	-1,168	-1,409	-882	-17	-132	752	-2	-2,859
Box Elder County	-3,297	654	-2,292	-100	-2,723	1,530	1,510	-4,719
Cache County	-2,814	-5,785	-848	3,699	-1,010	5,941	1,716	899
Carbon County	1,783	-8,587	-7,073	4,073	-4,798	-1,107	-119	-15,828
Daggett County	-229	711	-680	-23	-215	190	68	-178
Davis County	9,264	20,007	15,924	21,703	8,911	17,519	23,583	116,908
Duchesne County	-2,602	-2,961	-1,052	2,411	-2,827	33	1,981	-5,018
Emery County	-1,784	-1,750	-943	4,831	-3,448	-579	-834	-4,507
Garfield County	-2,105	-1,321	-824	40	-243	449	141	-3,864
Grand County	-508	3,419	-1,080	482	-2,596	1,390	281	1,387
Iron County	-683	-1,398	-395	1,837	-35	8,596	5,891	13,814
Juab County	-2,416	-2,275	-418	162	-553	1,618	795	-3,087
Kane County	-737	-217	-650	1,024	515	502	791	1,227
Millard County	-2,157	-3,383	-1,561	706	317	-10	-826	-6,914
Morgan County	-565	-299	622	168	-125	967	1,404	2,172
Piute County	-734	-742	-409	76	-111	131	101	-1,687
Rich County	-634	-182	-265	186	-810	113	113	-1,480
Salt Lake County	14,221	29,186	-3,218	61,522	-9,850	57,052	-3,021	145,891
San Juan County	-263	1,671	-1,945	19	-2,383	-355	-1,060	-4,317
Sanpete County	-4,443	-4,541	-725	2,067	-518	4,616	2,688	-857
Sevier County	-2,368	-3,731	-1,263	2,666	-1,390	1,958	199	-3,928
Summit County	-3,336	-2,183	-618	3,142	3,375	11,422	2,419	14,221
Tooele County	2,667	-1,323	-267	284	-3,332	9,894	9,391	17,315
Uintah County	-2,005	-1,519	-1,179	4,177	-3,142	180	3,494	7
Utah County	9,709	160	6,183	28,182	-12,621	38,114	52,572	122,298
Wasatch County	-1,461	-1,460	-218	1,324	86	3,612	5,488	7,370
Washington County	-1,510	-1,764	1,642	8,584	16,652	33,613	32,606	89,822
Wayne County	-701	-879	-408	209	-7	167	107	-1,511
Weber County	10,612	3,229	-4,635	-4,334	-8,936	15,730	8,063	19,729
State of Utah	9,738	11,329	-9,474	149,095	-31,948	214,034	149,535	492,308

Methodology note: Total population change for each decade was computed using decennial census counts on April 1. The vital records series from the Utah Population Estimates Committee was used to compute natural increase by decade. Because the UPEC series is a fiscal year series centered on July 1, the vital records series was adjusted to compensate. At the beginning of each decade, one-quarter of the natural increase for the last year in the previous decade was added to the subsequent decade. One-quarter of the natural increase in the last year of the decade was subtracted from the series. These adjusted natural increase amounts for each decade were then subtracted from the total population change series to result in cumulative net migration for each decade.

Source: BEBR computations from U.S. Census Bureau and Utah Population Estimates Committee data.

Population was shifting from the rural to urban areas in Utah, just as it was nationally. Counties experiencing a population decline from 1940 to 1970 included Beaver, Carbon, Duchesne, Emery, Garfield, Juab, Kane, Millard, Piute, Rich, Sanpete, Sevier, Summit, and Wayne. A new pattern of population change has emerged since 1970. With the exception of the 1980s, population increased for all counties in all other decades since the 1970s. The only counties in which the cumulative net migration was negative for the 1970–2010 period were Carbon, Emery, Grand, Rich, and San Juan. On an average population basis, the counties experiencing the highest rates of in-migration in the 2000s were Washington, Wasatch, Tooele, Morgan, and Iron. These experienced amounts of net migration per 100 average population in the 2000s of 28.5, 28.3, 19.0, 16.9, and 14.7 respectively.<sup>10</sup>

Over the 1940–2010 period, natural increase (when the number of births exceeds the number of deaths) provided all of the population increase in 14 of Utah's 29 counties: Beaver, Box Elder, Carbon, Daggett, Duchesne, Emery, Juab, Millard, Rich, San Juan, Sanpete, Sevier, Uintah, and Wayne (Table 4). In the face of widespread net out-migration from the 1940s through the 1960s, several rural counties were able to maintain population growth

only through natural increase. Cache, Iron, and Uintah relied on natural increase to avoid population decline in all three decades of the period. In Box Elder, San Juan, Tooele, and Washington counties, natural increase provided all of the population gain in two of the three decades. Statewide, an excess of births over deaths accounted for 93 percent of Utah's population growth in the 1940s, 94 percent in the 1950s, and 100 percent in the 1960s. In the 1980s, when only six counties experienced net in-migration, natural increase accounted for all of the population growth in 17 of the state's counties. In the 1990s and 2000s all of Utah's counties saw their populations increase. In only four counties in the 1990s and six in the 2000s was this due solely to natural increase: Carbon, Emery, Millard, and San Juan in both decades, plus Beaver and Salt Lake in the 2000s.

### Race and Ethnic Origin

Utah, along with the rest of the nation, is becoming more ethnically and racially diverse, with much of the diversity resulting from recent immigrants and their children (Figure 11). In the 2010 Census, over one-third (36.3 percent) of the nation's



population is designated as “minority,” while Utah’s share has reached one in five (19.6 percent). Minority populations have grown much more rapidly than the rest of the population. This is in part because of immigration, but also because these populations are younger and have therefore contributed higher rates of natural increase than would otherwise have been the case. Hispanics are now the nation’s largest minority group, having surpassed Black or African Americans in total population. Toward the end of the 2000s, immigration slowed significantly as labor market conditions deteriorated with the Great Recession. Consequently, the major component of Hispanic population growth nationally shifted from immigration to natural increase over the course of the decade.<sup>11</sup> This also appears to be the case in Utah. In 2009 there were nearly 9,000 births to Hispanic mothers, while net migration to the state for this year is estimated to have been negligible.<sup>12</sup>

The official definition of “minorities” that was used in the 2010

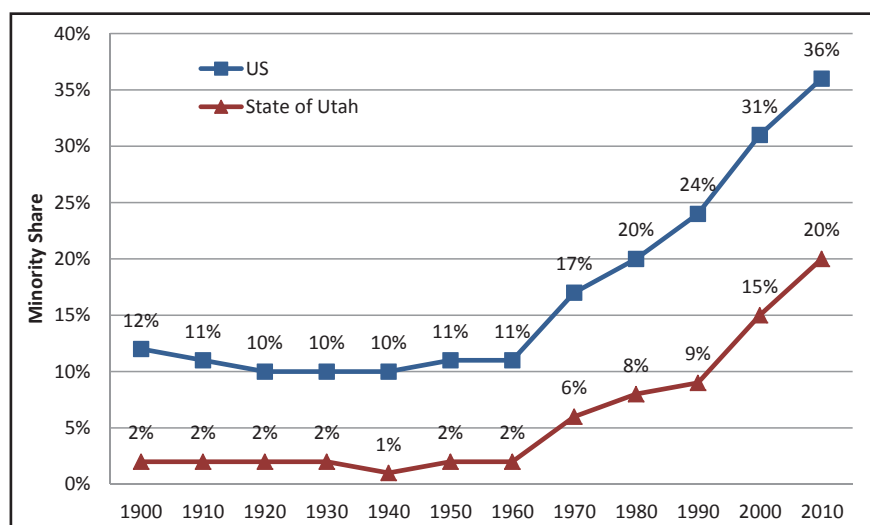
**Table 4**  
**Natural Increase Contribution to Population Growth by Decade for Utah Counties, 1940–2010**

County	1940s	1950s	1960s	1970s	1980s	1990s	2000s	1940–2010
Beaver County	N/A	N/A	N/A	100%	100%	39%	100%	100%
Box Elder County	100%	88%	100%	100%	100%	76%	79%	100%
Cache County	100%	100%	100%	75%	100%	72%	92%	99%
Carbon County	72%	N/A	N/A	38%	N/A	100%	100%	100%
Daggett County	N/A	11%	N/A	100%	N/A	18%	51%	100%
Davis County	39%	41%	54%	54%	78%	66%	65%	60%
Duchesne County	N/A	N/A	100%	54%	100%	98%	53%	100%
Emery County	N/A	N/A	N/A	23%	N/A	100%	100%	100%
Garfield County	N/A	N/A	N/A	92%	100%	41%	68%	N/A
Grand County	N/A	23%	100%	69%	N/A	25%	62%	81%
Iron County	100%	100%	100%	64%	100%	34%	52%	63%
Juab County	N/A	N/A	N/A	83%	100%	33%	60%	100%
Kane County	N/A	100%	N/A	36%	55%	43%	27%	73%
Millard County	N/A	N/A	N/A	64%	87%	100%	100%	100%
Morgan County	N/A	100%	46%	82%	100%	40%	40%	68%
Piute County	N/A	N/A	N/A	54%	N/A	17%	17%	N/A
Rich County	N/A	100%	N/A	62%	N/A	52%	63%	100%
Salt Lake County	78%	73%	100%	62%	100%	67%	100%	82%
San Juan County	100%	55%	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Sanpete County	N/A	N/A	N/A	43%	100%	29%	47%	100%
Sevier County	N/A	N/A	N/A	42%	100%	43%	90%	100%
Summit County	N/A	N/A	100%	27%	37%	20%	63%	48%
Tooele County	52%	100%	100%	94%	100%	30%	46%	65%
Uintah County	100%	100%	100%	47%	100%	94%	53%	100%
Utah County	60%	99%	80%	65%	100%	64%	64%	73%
Wasatch County	N/A	N/A	100%	50%	95%	30%	34%	59%
Washington County	100%	100%	52%	31%	26%	20%	32%	30%
Wayne County	N/A	N/A	N/A	51%	100%	50%	60%	100%
Weber County	60%	88%	100%	100%	100%	59%	77%	89%
State of Utah	93%	94%	100%	63%	100%	58%	72%	78%

Note: N/A means that the county lost population during the period.

Source: BEBR computations from U.S. Census Bureau and Utah Population Estimates Committee data.

**Figure 11**  
**Minority Share of the Population:**  
**Utah and the U.S., 1900–2010**



Note: The definition of minorities has changed significantly since 1900.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census data.

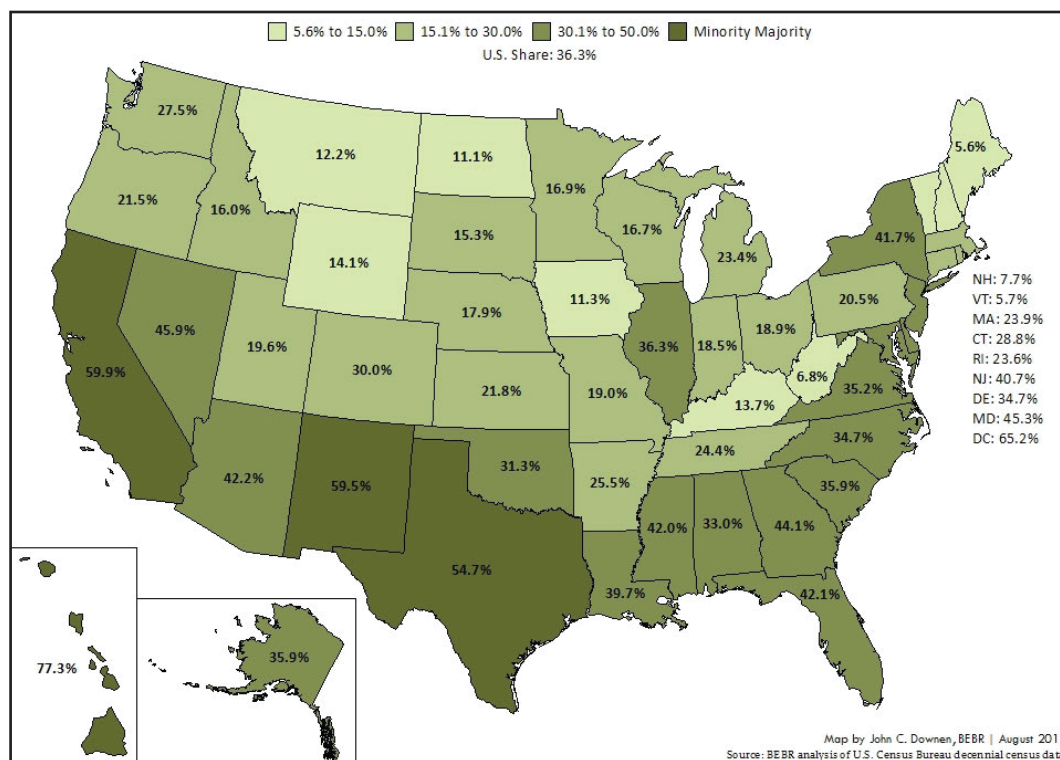
Census is equivalent to that used in Census 2000. However, the definition has changed dramatically for decennial enumerations going back to 1790.<sup>13</sup> At present, the Office of Management and Budget defines the standards for race and ethnic categories used in federal statistics. According to the most recent directive, “The racial and ethnic categories set forth in the standards should not be interpreted as being primarily biological or genetic in reference. Race and ethnicity may be thought of in terms of social and cultural characteristics as well as ancestry.”<sup>14</sup> This most recent revision provides for self-identification of both categories, with major race groups defined as American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, Black or African American, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, White, and Some Other Race. Individuals are able to select more than one race. Ethnicity is limited to two choices: Hispanic or Latino, which includes people who are from Spanish-speaking regions, regardless of race,<sup>15</sup> and Not Hispanic or Latino, which is everybody else, also regardless of race. The *Harvard Encyclopedia of American Ethnic Groups*, widely regarded as a classic on the subject,

identified some 120 ethnic groups in 1980. Among these was an entry for “Mormons – perhaps the only American ethnic group whose principal migration began as an effort to move out of the United States.”<sup>16</sup>

The definition of “minorities” is one of exclusion. In the present classification system, a “minority” is any individual *except* those who define themselves as “White Alone and also not Hispanic or Latino.” Minorities include all non-White and multiracial persons, regardless of ethnicity, and also all who identify themselves as Hispanic or Latino, regardless of race. It is important to understand that many groups generally recognized as being “minorities” in popular

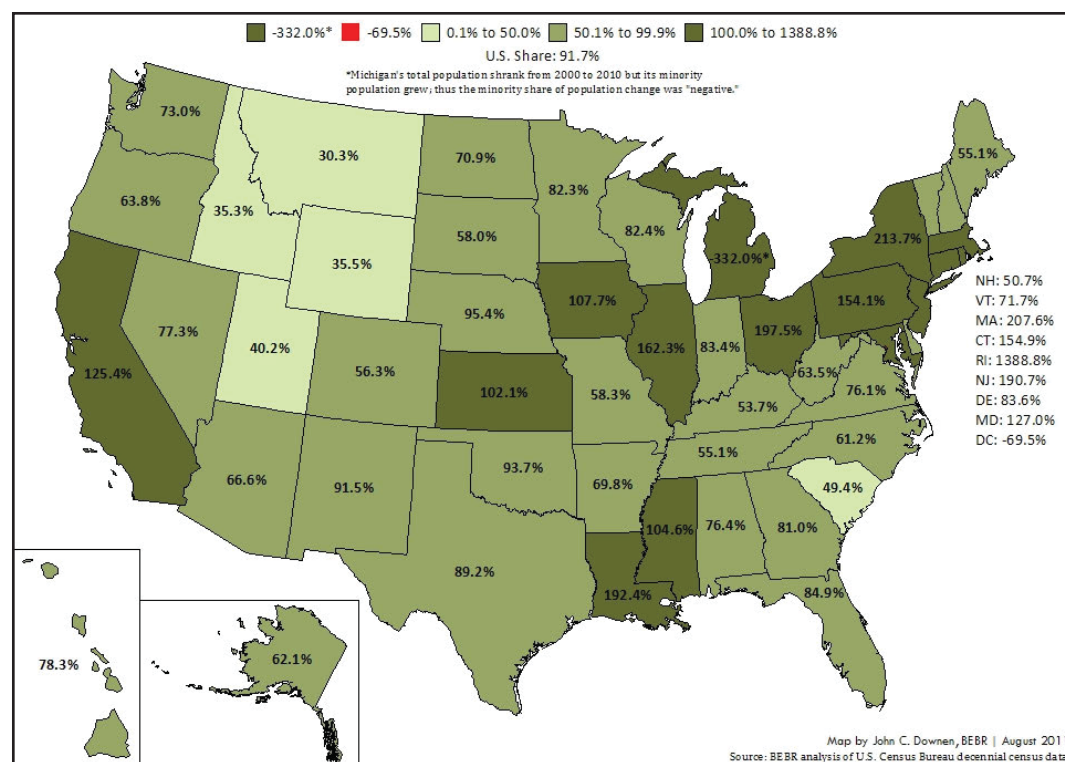
culture are not visible in this system. For example, people who are Arab or of Middle Eastern descent are instructed to classify themselves as White Alone and Not Hispanic or Latino. The same is true of recent immigrants from non-English-speaking

**Figure 12**  
**Minority Share of the 2010 Population by State**



countries like Bosnia or Serbia. So, these categories understate the ethnic, linguistic, and cultural diversity in our communities. Because the wave of immigration from 1980 to 2010 was so large in magnitude and vast in scope, this official definition of ethnicity fails to capture the tremendous increase in cultural, ethnic, and

**Figure 13**  
**Minority Share of 2000–2010 Population Change by State**



linguistic diversity over the past 30 years.<sup>17</sup> In the absence of ethnic identification, the “White alone” category does not contain the same populations as it did in the middle of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Just over half of persons who identified themselves as Hispanic or Latino also indicated that they were White alone on the race question in the 2010 Census.<sup>18</sup>

The minority share of the U.S. population grew from 30.9 percent in 2000 to 36.3 percent in 2010. At the state level, minority population shares in 2010 ranged from 5.6 percent in Maine to 77.3 percent in Hawaii (Figure 12). Other “minority majority” states were California (59.9 percent), New Mexico (59.5 percent), and Texas (54.7 percent). The District of

**Table 5**  
**Population Change and Sources of Growth by Race and Ethnicity: United States, 2000–2010**

	Population		2000–2010 Change		Sources of Growth
	2000	2010	Absolute	Relative	
<b>Total</b>	281,421,906	308,745,538	27,323,632	9.7%	100%
<b>Not Hispanic or Latino</b>					
White alone	194,552,774	196,817,552	2,264,778	1.2%	8.3%
Black or African American alone	33,947,837	37,685,848	3,738,011	11.0%	13.7%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	2,068,883	2,247,098	178,215	8.6%	0.7%
Asian alone	10,123,169	14,465,124	4,341,955	42.9%	15.9%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	353,509	481,576	128,067	36.2%	0.5%
Some Other Race alone	467,770	604,265	136,495	29.2%	0.5%
Two or more races	4,602,146	5,966,481	1,364,335	29.6%	5.0%
<b>Ethnicity</b>					
Hispanic or Latino	35,305,818	50,477,594	15,171,776	43.0%	55.5%
<b>Minority</b>	86,869,132	111,927,986	25,058,854	28.8%	91.7%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 SF1 and 2010 Census Redistricting Data.

**Table 6**  
**Population by Race, Ethnicity, and Age Group: Utah, 2000 and 2010**

	2000						2010					
	Total Population	Under 18		18 and Older		Total Population	Under 18		18 and Older			
		Number	Share	Number	Share		Number	Share	Number	Share		
Total	2,233,169	718,698	32.2%	1,514,471	67.8%	2,763,885	871,027	31.5%	1,892,858	68.5%		
Not Hispanic or Latino												
White alone	1,904,265	592,083	31.1%	1,312,182	68.9%	2,221,719	658,151	29.6%	1,563,568	70.4%		
Black or African American alone	16,137	5,591	34.6%	10,546	65.4%	25,951	9,544	36.8%	16,407	63.2%		
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	26,663	10,305	38.6%	16,358	61.4%	27,081	8,643	31.9%	18,438	68.1%		
Asian alone	36,483	8,903	24.4%	27,580	75.6%	54,176	12,418	22.9%	41,758	77.1%		
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	14,806	6,243	42.2%	8,563	57.8%	23,909	9,190	38.4%	14,719	61.6%		
Some other race alone	1,948	840	43.1%	1,108	56.9%	3,724	1,438	38.6%	2,286	61.4%		
Two or more races	31,308	16,538	52.8%	14,770	47.2%	48,985	27,797	56.7%	21,188	43.3%		
Ethnicity												
Hispanic or Latino	201,559	78,195	38.8%	123,364	61.2%	358,340	143,846	40.1%	214,494	59.9%		
Minority	328,904	126,615	38.5%	202,289	61.5%	542,166	212,876	39.3%	329,290	60.7%		

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 SF1 and 2010 Census Redistricting Data.

**Table 7**  
**Population Change and Sources of Growth by Race, Ethnicity, and Age Group: Utah, 2000–2010**

	2000–2010 Population Change						Sources of Growth		
	Total Population		Under 18		18 and Older		Total	Under 18	18 and Older
	Absolute	Relative	Absolute	Relative	Absolute	Relative			
<b>Total</b>	530,716	23.8%	152,329	21.2%	378,387	25.0%	100%	100%	100%
<b>Not Hispanic or Latino</b>									
White alone	317,454	16.7%	66,068	11.2%	251,386	19.2%	59.8%	43.4%	66.4%
Black or African American alone	9,814	60.8%	3,953	70.7%	5,861	55.6%	1.8%	2.6%	1.5%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	418	1.6%	-1,662	-16.1%	2,080	12.7%	0.1%	-1.1%	0.5%
Asian alone	17,693	48.5%	3,515	39.5%	14,178	51.4%	3.3%	2.3%	3.7%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	9,103	61.5%	2,947	47.2%	6,156	71.9%	1.7%	1.9%	1.6%
Some other race alone	1,776	91.2%	598	71.2%	1,178	106.3%	0.3%	0.4%	0.3%
Two or more races	17,677	56.5%	11,259	68.1%	6,418	43.5%	3.3%	7.4%	1.7%
<b>Ethnicity</b>									
Hispanic or Latino	156,781	77.8%	65,651	84.0%	91,130	73.9%	29.5%	43.1%	24.1%
<b>Minority</b>	213,262	64.8%	86,261	68.1%	127,001	62.8%	40.2%	56.6%	33.6%

Source: Bureau of Economic and Business Research analysis of U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 SF1 and 2010 Census Redistricting Data.

Columbia had the highest minority share in the continental U.S. at 65.2 percent. Utah lies somewhere in the middle of the distribution with a minority share of 19.6 percent in 2010. Utah's largest minority group is Hispanic or Latino, which reached a share of 13.0 percent of the Utah population in 2010, compared with 16.3 percent nationally.

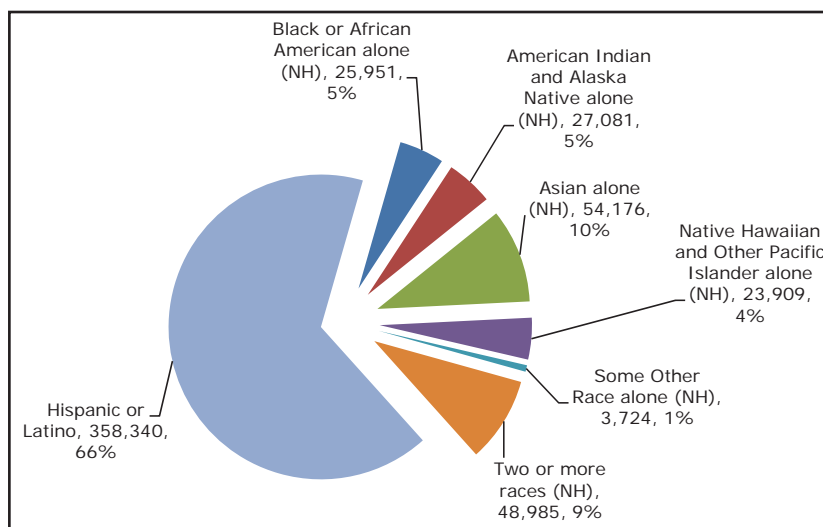
Minority population growth accounted for 91.7 percent of the country's total population growth between 2000 and 2010, with growth in the non-Hispanic White population contributing only 8.3 percent (Table 5). Minorities accounted for significant shares of population growth in all states (Figure 13, above). Only in Washington, DC did the minority population shrink, by 5.0 percent.<sup>19</sup> Elsewhere, the *smallest* contribution to population growth was in Montana, where minorities accounted for 30.3 percent of the state's growth. In 14 states, *all* of the population growth was due to an increase in the minority population, while the non-Hispanic White alone population decreased. These states ranged across all major regions of the country, from California to Massachusetts and Michigan<sup>20</sup> to Louisiana. Minorities contributed 40.2 percent of Utah's population growth over the decade. States with the highest concentrations of Hispanics are found in the Southwest. Hispanics accounted for over half of the nation's population growth over the past decade. In Utah, this proportion was just under a third (29.5 percent).

The minority population of the state increased from 328,904 in the 2000 Census to 542,166 in the 2010 count, an increase of 213,262 or 64.8 percent (Tables 6 and 7). From 2000 to 2010, the Hispanic or Latino population in Utah grew from 201,559 to 358,340, an increase of 156,781 or 77.8 percent. The non-Hispanic "some other race" category grew at a more rapid rate, but is the smallest of all categories, increasing from 1,948 in 2000 to 3,724 in 2010. After Hispanics, the next largest minority population in Utah is Asian alone, not Hispanic or Latino, which numbered 54,176 in 2010, up by 17,693 or nearly 50 percent since 2000. The state's next largest minority group is the non-Hispanic multiracial population, numbering 48,985 in 2010, as compared with 31,308 in 2000, an increase of 56.5 percent. Non-Hispanic Black or African American alone persons totaled 25,951 in 2010, up from 16,137 in 2000, just over a 60 percent increase. There were 27,081 non-Hispanic American Indian and Alaska Native alone persons counted in the 2010 Census in Utah, an increase of just 418 persons from 2000. Non-Hispanic Native Hawaiian and

Other Pacific Islanders alone increased by 9,103 or 61.5 percent from 2000 to 2010, growing from 14,806 to 23,909.

The composition of Utah's minority population differs from that of the nation as a whole. Hispanics or Latinos are nearly two-thirds (66 percent) of Utah's minority population (Figure 14), while they are less than half (45 percent) of all minorities nationally (Figure 15). Within the minority population, Utah's shares of three non-Hispanic populations exceeded those of the nation: American Indian and Alaska Native alone (5 percent of Utah's minorities and 2 percent of U.S. minorities), Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone (4 percent versus less than 1 percent), and multiracial (9 percent of Utah minorities and 5 percent of national minorities). Non-Hispanic Asians alone were a smaller share of Utah's minority population than of the national population in 2010, while those of some other race alone, not Hispanic or Latino, represented about the same shares of state and national minority populations.

**Figure 14**  
**Minority Populations of Utah, 2010**



Note: The race groups shown above are not Hispanic.  
Source: BEBR computations from U.S. Census Bureau data.

As noted, minority populations are generally younger than the rest of the population. Nationally, minorities are 36.3 percent of the total population, 33.0 percent of the adult population, and 46.5 percent of the youth population (less than 18 years old).<sup>21</sup> Similarly, minorities were 19.6 percent of the total Utah population in the 2010 Census, 17.4 percent of the adult population, and 24.4 percent of the youth population. As previously noted, Utah's total population increased by 530,716 from 2000 to 2010. The

state's minority population increased by 213,262, contributing 40.2 percent of the state's total population increase. The adult population increased by 378,387, of which 127,001 or a third of population growth (33.6 percent) was accounted for by minority growth. In comparison, 56.6 percent of the increase in Utah's youth population (or 86,261 of the 152,329 total change) was minority growth. Growth in the Hispanic or Latino population contributed 29.5 percent of the total state population increase from 2000 to 2010. Among adults, this share was 24.1 percent and among youth it was 43.1 percent. So, while about a quarter of the growth of the adult population was due to Hispanics or Latinos, more than two-fifths of the growth in the youth population was contributed by Hispanics or Latinos. Considering total, youth, and adult populations of all major race and ethnic groups, all increased from 2000 to 2010 in Utah except one. The youth population of American Indian and Alaska Native alone (not Hispanic or Latino) declined from 10,305 to 8,643, a loss of 1,662 or 16.1 percent.



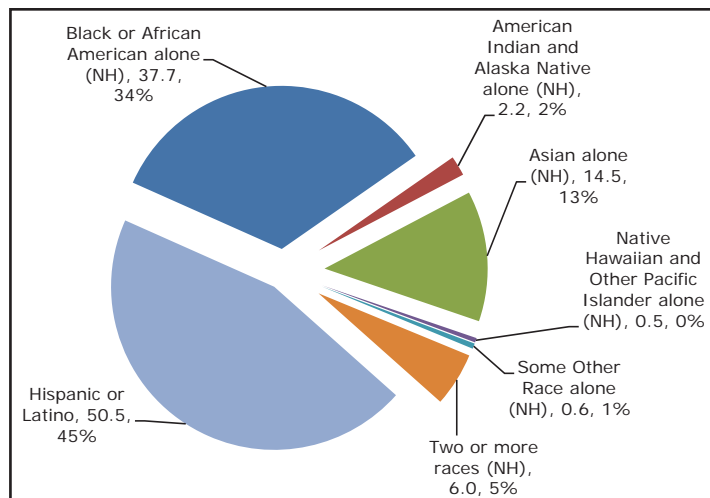
The wave of diversity that is transforming our state and nation is most profoundly impacting our youth. As the more racially and ethnically homogeneous elders of the population are lost to death, the much more diverse younger generations will reach adulthood. Certainly our concepts of “minority” and “ethnicity” will continue to evolve, making the current official definitions obsolete. The application of this existing accounting system to a cohort analysis of the future points to our national “minority-majority” future, occurring sometime in the 2040s. Nationally, births were minority-majority in 2010, identifying the leading edge of the minority-majority generation. Just less than half (46.5 percent) of the nation’s youth are minorities. Utah is about two generations behind the nation in this trend, and the changes are occurring at different rates within the state.

### County-Level Results

San Juan County is Utah’s only minority-majority county, with 56.1 percent of its population self-identifying as minority, and half the county’s population identifying as Native American or Alaska Native (the Navajo). Salt Lake County’s minority population share was 26.0 percent, ranking it second highest among all counties. While Salt Lake County was home to 37.3 percent of the residents in Utah in the 2010 enumeration, it was home to nearly half (49.4 percent) of all minorities. Weber County ranked third, with a minority share of 21.9 percent, while Uintah (17.2 percent minority) ranked fourth and Grand (15.9 percent) ranked fifth. Counties with the lowest minority shares were Morgan (3.9 percent), Daggett (5.6 percent), and Rich (5.9 percent) (Figure 16).

All counties in Utah gained minority population from 2000 to 2010, with the exceptions of San Juan (decline of 431) and Daggett (decline of 9). Millard County would have lost population if not for the increase in minority population, as its total population increase of 98 was completely accounted for by a 677-person increase in the minority population. Nearly three-quarters of the

**Figure 15**  
**Minority Populations of the U.S., 2010**  
(Millions)

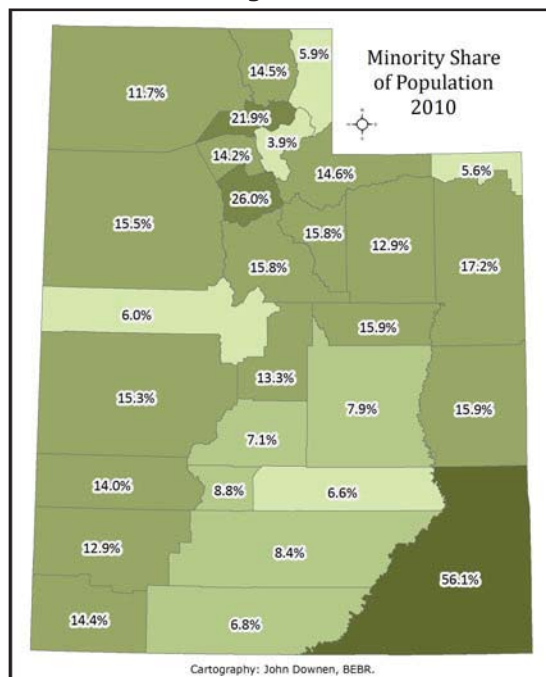


Note: The race groups shown above are not Hispanic.  
Source: BEBR computations from U.S. Census Bureau data.

Census, 60.5 percent of youth in San Juan County were minorities as compared with 53.8 percent of adults (18 years and older). In Salt Lake County, the adult minority share was 22.8 percent while that of youth was 33.9 percent. In Weber County the proportion for adults was 18.9 percent and for youth it was 28.8 percent.

Similar age differences exist for all counties in the state (Figure 18).

**Figure 16**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census Redistricting File.

### Age and Sex Composition

Just as in Census 2000, Utah has the youngest median age among all states in the 2010 count. The national median age rose from 35.3 in 2000 to 37.2 in 2010. Utah’s median age rose from 27.1 in 2000 to 29.2 in 2010. The next youngest states in the 2010 Census are Texas (33.6), Alaska (33.8), and Idaho (34.6). States with the highest median ages in the 2010 Census are Maine (42.7), Vermont (41.5), West Virginia (41.3), New Hampshire (41.1), and Florida (40.7).<sup>22</sup>

Utah also has a higher sex ratio than the nation. This is the ratio of the number of males to females in the population. In Utah the ratio was 1.009 males per female as compared with 0.967 males per female nationally. It

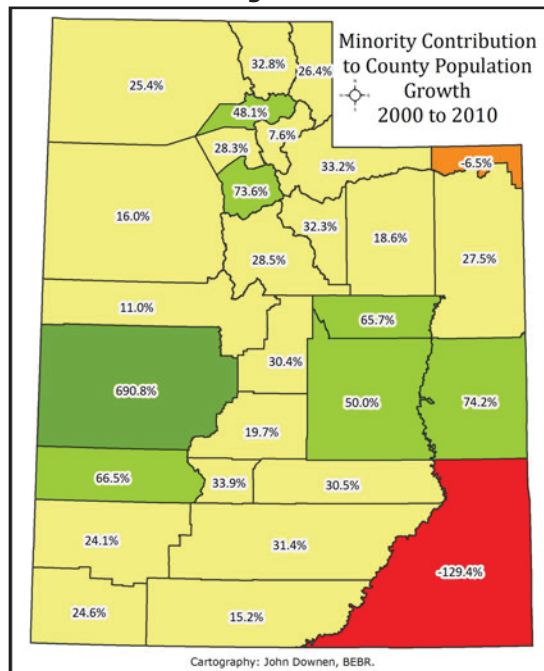
can also be expressed as 100.9 males per 100 females for Utah, as compared with 96.7 males per 100 females nationally. States with the highest male-to-female ratios are Alaska (108.5 males per 100 females), Wyoming (104.1), North Dakota (102.1), Nevada (102.0), Utah (100.9), Montana (100.8), Colorado (100.5), and Idaho (100.4).<sup>23</sup> A relatively high male-to-female population is

associated with younger populations, male-dominated group quarters, and also regions with job markets that employ males in temporary work (e.g., energy development, heavy construction projects, etc.).

At birth, males outnumber females by a ratio of approximately 1.05 to 1. Mortality rates for males are higher than for females, so that by age 46 in Utah and age 35 in the U.S., the numbers of males and females are nearly the same. At all ages beyond these, the sex ratio favors females to a greater and greater extent. For persons aged 85 and older, there are twice as many women as men nationally. In Utah, the ratio is 1.74 females for every male.

Utah's sex ratio by age is quite similar to the national ratio until the age of 19, when the ratio plunges to 0.89, and age 20, when the ratio falls further to 0.79 males per female. By age 21, the number of males per female in Utah increases to 0.97, still below that of the nation. The sex ratio of the nation in the 2010 data is 1.04 males per female for all three ages. By age 22, Utah's sex ratio rises to 1.09, surpassing the national ratio. For all ages from 22 and older, there are more males relative to females than there are nationally<sup>24</sup> (Figure 19). The great divergence in the sex ratio in ages 19 through 21 is principally explained by males in this age group leaving Utah to serve religious missions. The overall higher male-

**Figure 17**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census SF1 and 2010 Census Redistricting File.

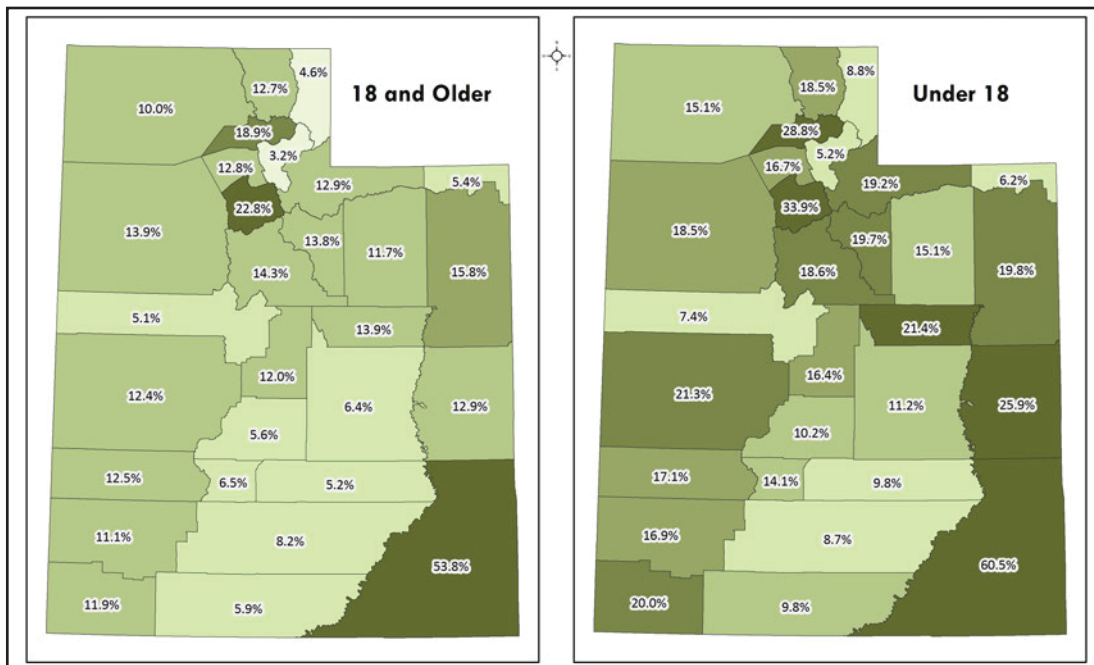
to-female ratio at all ages 22 and older is a result of lower mortality rates for Utah males as compared with all males nationally. These lower mortality rates also are evident in the life expectancy of Utahns, which also exceeds that of the nation.<sup>25</sup>

Population pyramids are commonly used to illustrate the age and sex structure of the population. The combined pyramid for 2000 and 2010 shows that population has increased for all five-year age groups of both sexes over the decade (Figure 20). Utah's relative youth is shown by the relatively "fat bottom" as compared with the nation. The five-year age groups with the largest numeric increase include those less than 10 years old, evidence of the run of record births in the state. Next are large relative and absolute increases in the three five-year age groups from 25

through 39. This is evidence of the 10-year advance in age of the previous Utah birth boom that peaked in the early 1980s, as well as the presence of young economic in-migrants and returning missionaries. Finally, large percentage increases of 40 to 70 percent occurred in all five-year age groups from 50 to 70 years old, an indication of the aging of Utah's post-WWII Baby Boom population.

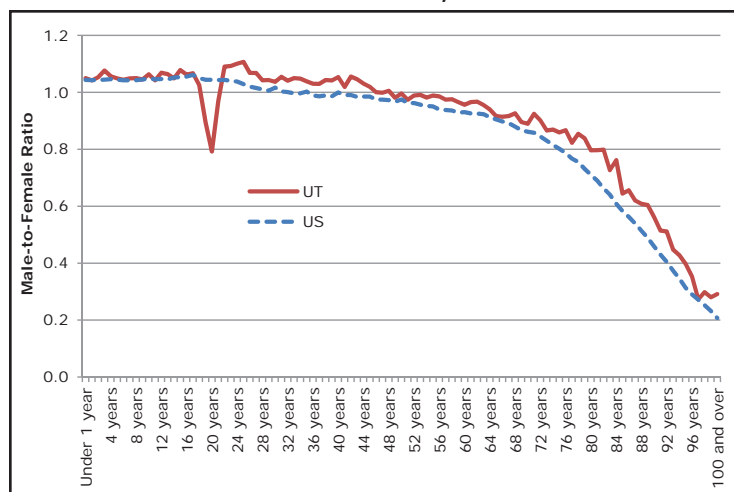
Table 8 gives median ages and sex ratios for the nation, State of Utah, and counties in Utah for 2010. The youngest counties are

**Figure 18**  
**2010 Minority Share of the Population by Age Group**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census Redistricting File.

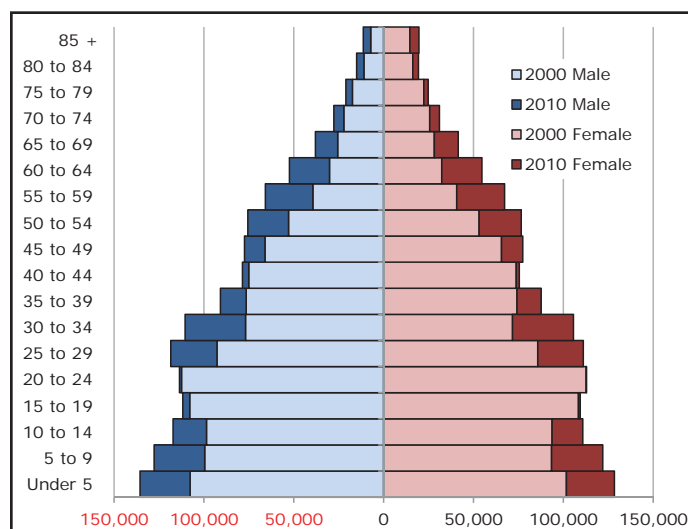
**Figure 19**  
**Single-Year-of-Age Ratios of Males to Females:**  
**Utah and the U.S., 2010**



Source: BEBR computations from SF1 file of Census 2010.

Utah (median age 24.6), Cache (25.5), Iron (26.8), and Sanpete (28.4). These are all counties with colleges or universities as a relatively large presence. Counties with the highest median ages are Kane (44.5), Daggett (42.8), Piute (40.5), and Grand (39.9). All are rural counties, and in the case of Grand County, there is an overrepresentation of Baby Boomers compared with the state. Counties with high ratios of males to females include Daggett (129.2 males per 100 females), Sanpete (109.8), Garfield (107.1), and Rich (106.9). At the other end of the spectrum are Kane (97.7), Washington (97.8), Carbon (98.4), and Cache (98.8). Extreme sex ratios can be indicators of age structure (older populations have more females relative to males), institutions (e.g., gender-specific correctional facilities), or temporary employment opportunities that favor one gender over the other (e.g., heavy construction).

**Figure 20**  
**Utah Population by Age and Sex: 2000 and 2010**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 and 2010 Censuses.

## Conclusion

Census 2010 confirms that Utah is part of a larger net immigration growth region centered in the Intermountain West. It has gained sufficient population relative to other states to warrant an additional seat in Congress. Decennial results also provide evidence that Utah retains many of its signature demographic characteristics but is trending in the same direction as the nation. For example, it continues to have the youngest median age among all states, but has increased from 27.1 years in 2000 to 29.2 in 2010. The state's ethnic and racial diversity are increasing, although its minority share of 19.6 percent is less than the nation's 36.3 percent. Minority population growth in Utah, as in the nation, outpaces the rest of the population. And youth continue to be the forefront of this change. The implications of this new evidence for the future depend upon whether the state continues to generate sufficient economic opportunity to attract young adults. If so, growth rates will continue to be relatively strong, the population will maintain its youthfulness, and racial and ethnic diversity will continue to increase. Like other regions

**Table 8**  
**Median Ages and Sex Ratios for the U.S., Utah,**  
**and Counties in Utah: 2010**

	Median Age	Sex Ratio		
United States	37.2	96.7		
State of Utah	29.2	100.9		
Counties in Utah			Rank Among Counties	
			Median Age	Sex Ratio
Beaver	31.9	105.9	15	6
Box Elder	30.6	101.6	19	16
Cache	25.5	98.8	28	26
Carbon	34.4	98.4	9	27
Daggett	42.8	129.2	2	1
Davis	29.2	100.8	24	21
Duchesne	29.7	103.3	21	13
Emery	32.8	103.7	11	10
Garfield	39.0	107.1	5	3
Grand	39.9	101.5	4	19
Iron	26.8	98.9	27	25
Juab	29.3	104.2	23	8
Kane	44.5	97.7	1	29
Millard	33.7	103.8	10	9
Morgan	32.0	101.6	14	17
Piute	40.5	104.7	3	7
Rich	34.7	106.9	8	4
Salt Lake	30.8	101.2	17	20
San Juan	29.9	100.8	20	22
Sanpete	28.4	109.8	26	2
Sevier	32.8	101.8	11	15
Summit	37.1	106.4	6	5
Tooele	29.6	101.5	22	18
Uintah	29.1	103.4	25	11
Utah	24.6	100.4	29	24
Wasatch	31.6	103.4	16	12
Washington	32.5	97.8	13	28
Wayne	37.1	102.2	6	14
Weber	30.7	100.8	18	23

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census SF1.

and communities across the nation, Utah will maintain many of its demographic idiosyncrasies, but its connections to the outside world will also mean that most standard demographic indicators will continue to trend in the same direction as the nation.

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## Endnotes

1. The redistricting data are the first release of data from the decennial census. They are used for defining legislative districts and provide block-level population counts by race and ethnicity for the total population and for the population aged 18 and older. Redistricting data also include block-level housing unit counts by occupancy.
2. Census Day was April 1, 2010. Public Law 94-171 requires that the Bureau of the Census must provide state-level redistricting data within a year of the Census Day.
3. The regions referenced in this paper are defined by the U.S. Census Bureau. The West comprises Alaska, California, Hawaii, Oregon, and Washington in the Pacific division, and Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming in the Mountain division. The South is defined as Washington, D.C. and these 16 states: Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia. The Midwest comprises Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin. The Northeast is the remaining nine states.
4. Paul Mackunn and Steven Wilson (2011) *Population Distribution and Change: 2000 to 2010*, C2010BR-01, U.S. Bureau of the Census. Frank Hobbs and Nicole Stoops (2002) *Demographic Trends in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century*, CENSR-4, U.S. Bureau of the Census.
5. For the purposes of this report, the Intermountain region includes, in descending order of 2010 population, Arizona, Colorado, Utah, Nevada, New Mexico, Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming.
6. Gerald D. Nash (2001) *A Brief History of the American West Since 1945*, Fort Worth: Harcourt College Publishers.
7. Pamela S. Perlich (2006) "Utah's Place in the Macro-Demographics of the U.S. in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century," *Utah Economic and Business Review*, Vol. 66 Nos. 3 & 4.
8. Computations are based on the time series maintained by the Utah Population Estimates Committee (UPEC), which has produced annual July 1 population estimates since 1940. Adjustments were made to the UPEC series to compensate for the three-month difference in the UPEC series and the April 1 decennial counts. Total population change for each decade was computed using decennial census counts on April 1. Because the UPEC series is a fiscal year series centered on July 1, the UPEC natural increase series was adjusted at the beginning year and ending year of each decade. This captures the three months of births prior to the July 1 start of the UPEC series, and then eliminates the excess three months of natural increase in the last year of each decade. Specifically, at the beginning of each decade, one-quarter of the natural increase for the last year in the previous decade was added to the cumulative natural increase of the subsequent decade. One-quarter of the natural increase in the last year of the decade was subtracted from the series. Population change from one point in time to another is the sum of natural increase (births minus deaths) and net migration (gross in-migration minus gross out-migration) over the entire period. These adjusted natural increase amounts for each decade were subtracted from the total population change series to produce an estimate of cumulative net migration for each decade.
9. Again, net migration is calculated by subtracting gross out-migration from gross in-migration, measured between two points in time. Net in-migration means that gross in-migration exceeded gross out-migration, while net out-migration is the reverse.
10. These rates are the implied net migration for the 2000s divided by the average of the 2000 and 2010 enumerations, with the result multiplied by 100.
11. Pew Hispanic Center (2011) *The Mexican-American Boom: Births Overtake Immigration*.
12. Utah Office of Vital Records and Statistics (2011) *Utah Vital Statistics—Births and Deaths: 2009*, Table A8.
13. Pamela S. Perlich (2002) *Utah Minorities: The Story Told by 150 Years of Census Data*, Bureau of Economic and Business Research, University of Utah, [http://www.bebr.utah.edu/Documents/studies/Utah\\_Minorities.pdf](http://www.bebr.utah.edu/Documents/studies/Utah_Minorities.pdf).
14. Office of Management and Budget, *Revisions to the Standards for the Classification of Federal Data on Race and Ethnicity*, available online: <http://www.census.gov/population/www/socdemo/race/Ombdir15.html>.
15. This includes those who are Mexican, Cuban, Puerto Rican, Spanish-speaking South or Central Americans, as well as those from other Spanish-speaking regions.
16. Dean L. May (1980) "Mormons," pages 720–731 in Stephan Thernstrom, ed., *Harvard Encyclopedia of American Ethnic Groups* (Cambridge, Massachusetts: Harvard University Press).
17. Mary C. Waters and Reed Ueda, editors (2007) *The New Americans: A Guide to Immigration Since 1965*, (Cambridge, Massachusetts: Harvard University Press). This volume is an update to the earlier *Harvard Encyclopedia of American Ethnic Groups*.
18. See Table 6 on page 14 of Sharon R. Ennis, Merarys Rios-Vargas, and Nora G. Albert (2011) *The Hispanic Population: 2010*, U.S. Bureau of the Census, C2010BR-04.
19. The minority population also declined in Puerto Rico.
20. Although Michigan saw a net population loss over the decade of 0.6 percent, its minority population grew by 8.5 percent.
21. Computations made from Tables P2 and P4 of the 2010 Census National Summary File of Redistricting Data.
22. Lindsay M. Howden and Julie A. Meyer (2011) *Age and Sex Composition: 2010*, 2010 Census Brief, C2010BR-03.
23. *Ibid.*
24. The rates do nearly converge at ages 49, 51, and 97.
25. Center for Health Data, Utah Department of Health, *PHOM Indicator Profile Report of Life Expectancy at Birth*, last updated 12/07/2010, downloaded from [http://ibis.health.utah.gov/phom/view/LifeExpect.UT\\_USSexYear.html](http://ibis.health.utah.gov/phom/view/LifeExpect.UT_USSexYear.html) on 09/16/2011.



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# Utah Economic and Business Review

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## Highlights

- The increasing need to understand trends at small-area geographies is coupled with an ongoing dearth of detailed neighborhood-level data from national sources due to the loss of the U.S. Census long form. The Utah Community Data Project has just been launched at the University of Utah and will, when built out, provide a suite of data, profiles, community indicators, and neighborhood-focused research projects to fill this void.

### Case Study: Neighborhood Contrasts in the Salt Lake City Census 2010 Atlas

- From 1990 to 2010, the White alone, non-Hispanic population of Salt Lake City declined by 9,766, while the minority population increased by 36,268.
- Two-thirds of the Hispanic population resides in City Council Districts 1 and 2.
- Council Districts 1 and 2 represent 29.4 percent of the total population of Salt Lake City, but 43.2 percent of the city's youth population.
- About one-in-four preschool-age children in Utah are minorities, while that share is 35 percent in Salt Lake County, 49 percent for the nation, and 50 percent in Salt Lake City.

### Case Study: Application of Community-Level Data in Salt Lake City Schools

- Last year, the Salt Lake City School District was selected as one of only 61 finalists nationwide in the Race to the Top – District grant competition. However, SLCSDD was not selected as one of the 16 grantees, who received awards ranging from \$10 million to \$40 million over a four-year period.
- Over one-third of the point deductions were for data-related reasons. Community indicators describing other factors that affect student achievement – such as housing, transportation, health, and other socioeconomic indicators – could complement school data to provide a more detailed and holistic context for academic growth projections.
- The point deductions related to sustainability and data could have covered the 14.3 additional points needed to win one of the \$10–\$40 million Race to the Top grants.

*Note: There was no issue number 4 of volume 72. We apologize for any inconvenience this causes.*

## Community Data for Policy, Planning, and Community Investment: Salt Lake City Case Studies

Pamela S. Perlich, Director, Utah Community Data Project  
Darius Li, Research Analyst

We are witnesses to and participants in a great demographic, economic, and cultural transformation. The dynamics driving this change originate from our increasing interconnectedness with the rest of the world, principally through markets, technology, and migrations of people. Although markets are often portrayed as mechanical processes, in reality they are ways of organizing complex networks of human actions and interactions. Our expanding connections to global financial, product, and labor markets result in our deepening global interdependencies along many dimensions. Similarly, the advance of digital technologies allows for ever-greater capacity to generate, manage, mine, and analyze information. Expanding networks of near-instantaneous communication connect us to people and ideas globally. Finally, the greater frequency and volume of long-distance migrations of people have introduced cultural, ethnic, linguistic, and intellectual diversity that has catalyzed creative synergies and new cross-cultural collaborations. However, the confluence and interplay of all these dynamics is coincident with increasing economic inequality.

Importantly, patterns of this emerging complexity and diversity vary dramatically by neighborhood and community. Statewide or even city-level averages do not capture the wide range of socioeconomic conditions or demographic characteristics. Because people experience their lives in neighborhoods, an understanding of current and changing conditions that impact individual life opportunities and outcomes requires high-quality data at ever smaller geographies. Similarly, appropriate and effective policies, practices, and investments in education, housing, public health, transportation, and other areas require a sound foundation of data at the neighborhood level. There is high demand across a broad spectrum of entities for accurate and contemporaneous community-level data to guide decision making and investment strategies as well as to evaluate the impacts of investments and policies after implementation.

Simultaneously, the era of “big data” has dawned, with an explosion in the volume of digital data that is generated. Fortunately, our analytical tools and computational capacity have also advanced

significantly. Enormous datasets are often available, but most people and organizations lack the technical resources to collect and analyze these ever-expanding masses of data. Datasets are generally difficult to integrate across topics, organizations, and disciplines. Further, some key datasets that had previously been supplied by the public sector are no longer being produced. Given the high demand for timely, frequent, and accurate small-area demographic, housing, and socioeconomic data, many communities have responded by creating online community-indicator information systems which are often housed at universities.

Although there are dozens of examples across the nation, Utah currently has no such system. The Utah Community Data Project has just been launched at the University of Utah and will, when built out, provide a suite of data, profiles, community indicators, and neighborhood-focused research projects to fill this void.

This paper explains the rationale for creating the Utah Community Data Project as well as broad outlines for the products and content that we will produce. We include excerpts from the *Salt Lake City Census 2010 Atlas* as an illustration of the great diversity of neighborhoods emerging in Utah and as an example of the type of information that UCDP will produce on an ongoing basis. We include a discussion of potential applications of our neighborhood data in policy planning by referencing an existing collaboration with Salt Lake City's initiative, A Capital City Education. Finally, we identify current sources of startup funding for the Utah Community Data Project and make the case that core UCDP products should be sustained as a "public good" into the future in order to democratize data and to better understand our evolving communities.

## Changes in the Data Universe

The single most important and enduring source of neighborhood data is the decennial census. It has been conducted by the federal government every ten years since 1790, and it informs congressional apportionment and redistricting efforts. It also generates our most accurate neighborhood-level enumeration of people, households, and housing units. The 2010 Census comprised only ten questions and was essentially the "short form" used in prior enumerations. There were questions about the age, gender, race, and ethnicity of individuals residing at specific addresses. Additional persons living together in a household were also asked about their relationship to each other. Housing units were counted in the census and were classified by occupancy (vacant or occupied) and tenure (rented or owned). Persons residing in the community but outside households were classified as part of the group quarters population. This includes homeless persons as well as those residing with others in settings such as college dormitories or correctional facilities.

Prior to the 1940 Census, there was only one questionnaire for all respondents. It included the basic information on demographics and housing units just explained, as well as dozens of questions about socioeconomics and housing. Although the contents changed over time, these questions provided detailed information about individuals (such as birthplace, ancestry, prior residence, disability, education, income, occupation, and commuting) and housing units (such as year built, number of rooms, number of

units in structure, and costs of occupancy). Beginning in 1940, all respondents answered "short form" questions and only a subset was required to answer the entire "long form" questionnaire. This practice was continued until the 2010 enumeration, when the long form was discontinued altogether. The 2010 Census included only the short-form questions.

The intended replacement for the long form is the American Community Survey (ACS), which is a continuous monthly survey that produces rolling-period estimates. These are quite different from point-in-time enumerations or estimates. Annually, the ACS generates 1-year estimates (for census geographies with populations of at least 65,000), 3-year estimates (for census geographies with populations of at least 20,000), and 5-year estimates (for neighborhoods, which are classified as census tracts and block groups). Period estimates are averages of conditions over the period and cannot be centered on the midpoint of the timespan. At the neighborhood level, where changes can occur very rapidly, average conditions over a five-year period do not, for example, capture the details of housing or economic cycles. Interpretation of 60 months of data is conceptually challenging for most people and analytically problematic for researchers who have generally been trained to utilize the point-in-time cross-sectional data that had been available in every census back to 1790.

The advantage of the ACS is that data are available more frequently than every ten years as well as on a more timely basis, with data releases less than a year after collection (compared with years for previous long-form data). The quality of responses is an improvement from the long form. The tradeoff is accuracy, with relatively larger sampling errors. An additional challenge is the greater sampling error for small populations as compared with the long-form data of the 2000 Census. The bottom line is that for large populations and geographies, the ACS is valuable. But for small populations or at small geographies, the sampling error results in estimates that are so imprecise that they cannot be used. For example, in census tract 1028.01 in Salt Lake City, the number of persons indicating Somalian as their primary ancestry over the five-year period from 2007 through 2011 is estimated to be 0 with a margin of error of  $\pm 89$ . The 2006–2010 5-year ACS provided a similarly unreliable estimate of  $98 \pm 161$ .<sup>1</sup> These data are clearly not useful given the negative lower bounds of the confidence intervals. This means that we no longer have reliable estimates for small populations at the neighborhood level. Now invisible at the neighborhood level are details of school attendance, veteran status, disability, income distributions, occupations, educational attainment, housing characteristics, characteristics of commuters, migration origins, and all of the other detailed data formerly available from the long form.<sup>2</sup>

One strategy to address the loss of neighborhood-level data is to utilize administrative and other data to construct alternative socioeconomic indicators. Administrative data is collected by

1. Table BO4001 from both the 2007–2011 and the 2006–2010 American Community Survey, accessed on American Factfinder on May 1, 2013.

2. *Using the American Community Survey: Benefits and Challenges: Panel on the Functionality and Usability of Data from the American Community Survey*, Constance F. Citro and Graham Kalton, eds., National Research Council, available online from: [www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record\\_id=11901](http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=11901).

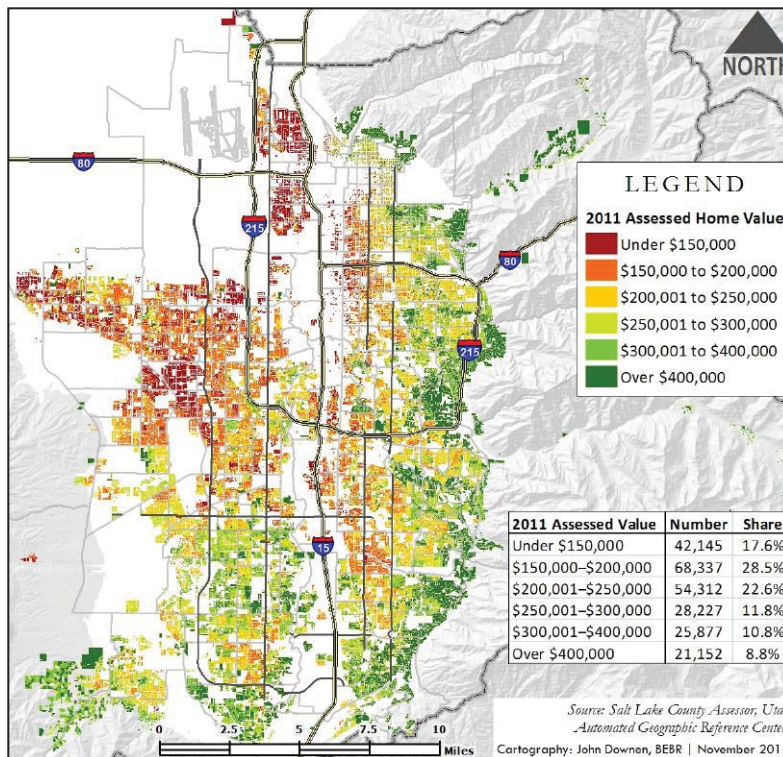


entities as part of their operating practices. These data were never intended to be used for demographic or other analytical purposes. But, when care is taken to protect the privacy of individuals, aggregations from this data can be used to construct community indicators. Examples of potentially useful administrative data are vital records from the Department of Health, student-level data from school districts, property assessment data from the county assessor, and a wide range of other data. This is the strategy the Utah Community Data Project is beginning to implement and that community indicator projects across the country have successfully utilized.

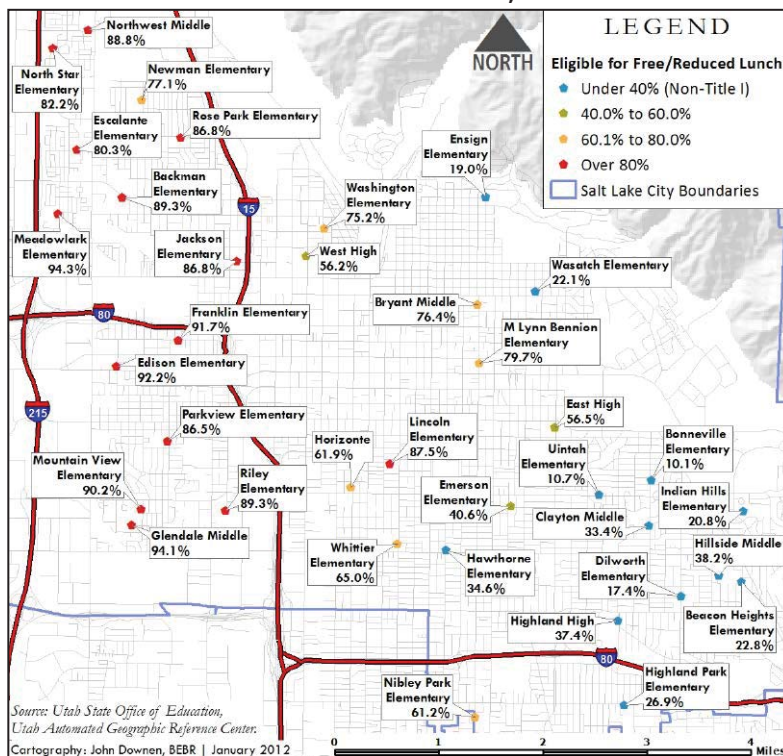
## Socioeconomic Indicators – Administrative Data

As explained above, the loss of the census long form combined with the inadequacy of the American Community Survey has meant that neighborhood socioeconomic data are no longer generated in the ways they have been in the past. The Utah Community Data Project will produce community indicators using administrative data. Two examples that illustrate how these administrative datasets may be repurposed to reveal neighborhood-level socioeconomic conditions are assessor data and school data. Figure 1 shows assessed property values for areas within Salt Lake County. Figure 2 displays the shares of school populations in Salt Lake City that are

**Figure 1**  
**Salt Lake County Assessed Single-Family Home Values, 2011**



**Figure 2**  
**Share of Salt Lake City Students Eligible for Free and Reduced Lunch, 2011**



eligible for meal assistance. In both cases, there is a spatial correlation between the presence of newly arrived populations, who are more often racial and ethnic minorities, and affordable housing and high proportions of participation in meal assistance programs.

## Neighborhood Data Highlights Contrasts – Salt Lake City Case Study<sup>3</sup>

### Context

Salt Lake City has long been the central location of Utah's major religious, cultural, commercial, financial, medical, and educational institutions. Every day, people come to the city to work, conduct business, attend school, worship, shop, play, or visit. The residential, or nighttime, population is about half that of the daytime, and the two populations have contrasting demographic and socioeconomic characteristics.

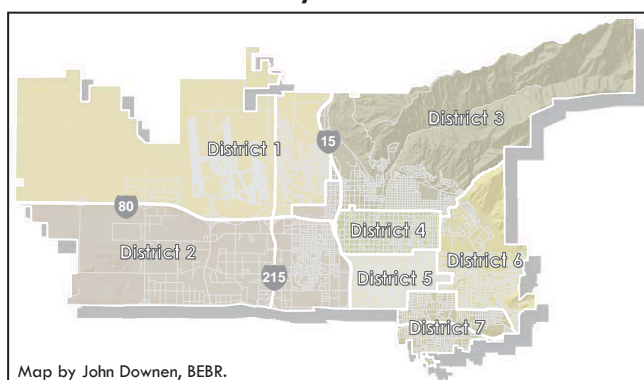
Our recently completed *Salt Lake City Census 2010 Atlas* illustrates and analyzes the age structure, race and ethnic composition, household types, group quarters populations, and housing unit tenure of neighborhoods in Salt Lake City. The main maps display data for census blocks, which are the smallest unit of geography for which data are available, serving as the building blocks of larger census geographic units (such as block groups, tracts,

3. Much of this section was taken from John C. Downen and Pamela S. Perlich, *Salt Lake City Census 2010 Atlas*, Bureau of Economic and Business Research, University of Utah, February 2013; available online at [www.ucdp.utah.edu/?page\\_id=36](http://www.ucdp.utah.edu/?page_id=36).

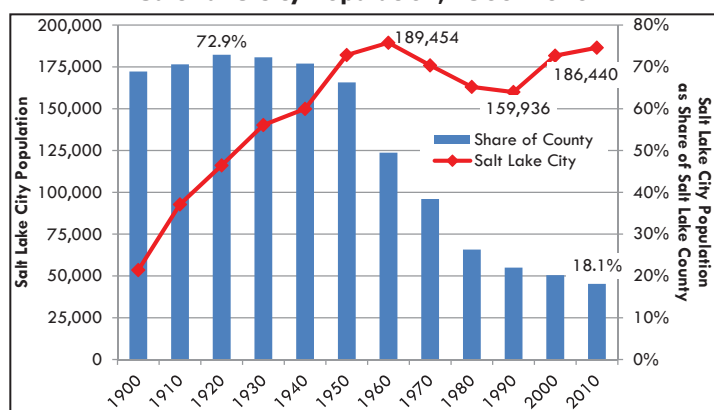


places, and counties). Data in the *Atlas* are also aggregated to each of the seven Salt Lake City Council Districts (Figure 3) and eight occupied Master Plan Areas. What emerges from this analysis is the wide range in characteristics depending upon neighborhood. There is no single Salt Lake City – there is a tapestry of many communities that create Salt Lake City. The *Atlas* highlights how the River District (the parts of Salt Lake City to the west of Interstate 15) has become a gathering place for many of the newly arriving populations. Schools in the River District report over 100 languages spoken in the homes of their students. The depth and extent of the cultural, linguistic, ethnic, and intellectual diversity of the River District are unprecedented in Utah. The greater Salt Lake City metropolitan area has emerged as a global city.

**Figure 3**  
**Salt Lake City Council Districts**



**Figure 4**  
**Salt Lake City Population, 1900–2010**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census data.

Early in the 20th century, nearly three-quarters of Salt Lake County and one-quarter of state residents lived in Salt Lake City (Figure 4). Population grew from 53,531 in 1900 to 116,110 in 1920 (73 percent of the county total), and to nearly 150,000 (149,934) by 1940. Population growth decelerated significantly in the 1950s as it shifted to suburban areas of the county. Consequently, Salt Lake City's share of the county population declined significantly to one-half and its share of the state population declined to 21 percent in 1960. The capital city's population peaked in the 1960 Census at 189,454 and then began a 30-year decline to reach 159,936 in the 1990 Census. Population then rebounded in both the 2000 and 2010 enumerations, reaching 186,440 in 2010, but has not returned to the historic high of 1960. In 2010, the city represented 18 percent of the county and less than 7 percent of the state.

### Age Structure

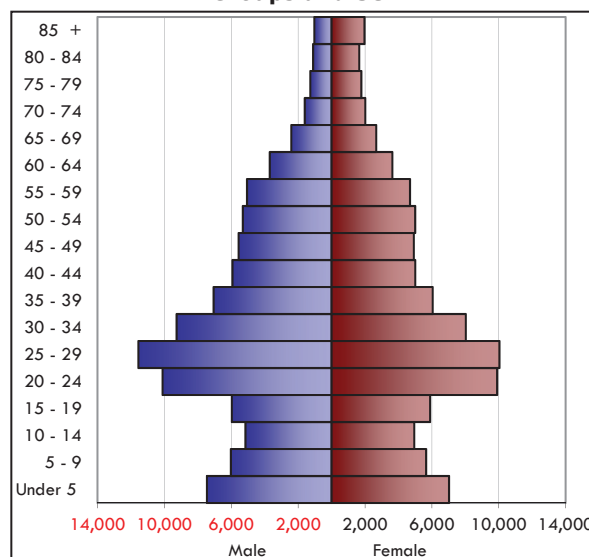
Salt Lake City has relatively more young adults (20- to 40-year-olds) and a greater share of elderly (75 years and older) in its 2010 population than does Salt Lake County (Figure 5 and Table 1).

This means that, compared with the age distribution of the county, Salt Lake City has a smaller proportion of its population that is persons younger than 20 years old and adults aged 40 to 75 years old. Compared with the state age structure (Figure 6 and Table 1), Salt Lake City also has a smaller youth share (less than 20 years old) but a larger share of working-age persons (20 to 65 years old) and elderly (80 years and older). Salt Lake City accounts for 18.1 percent of the Salt Lake County population, but 25.0 percent of

the county's 20- through 24-year-old population, an indicator of the presence of the university student population. Over two-thirds (68.1 percent) of the Salt Lake City population is working age (18 to 65 years old),<sup>4</sup> compared with 62.2 percent for Salt Lake County and 59.5 percent for the state. The retirement-age share of the Salt Lake City population (9.4 percent) and median age (30.9) exceed those of the county and state.

Dependency ratios are summary measures of age structure. Each is the ratio of the number of persons of a given age group per 100 persons of working age, defined here as 18 to 65 years old. Because the Salt Lake City working-age population share exceeds that of both the state and county, it has lower youth, retirement, and total dependency ratios. The youth dependency ratio for Salt

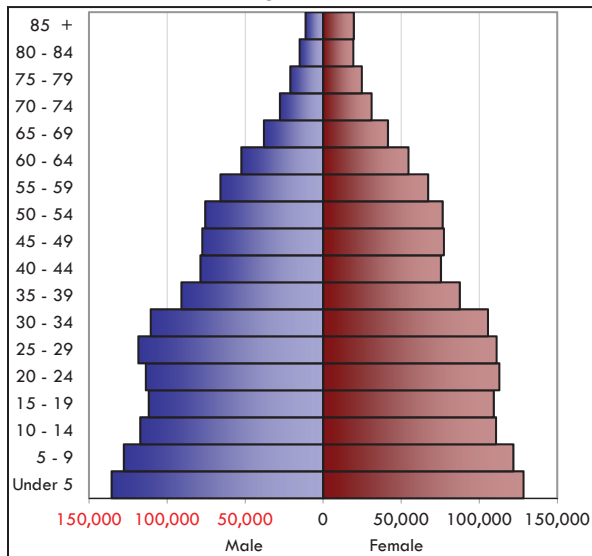
**Figure 5**  
**Salt Lake City 2010 Population by 5-Year Age Groups and Sex**



Source: Computations by the Bureau of Economic and Business Research based on Census 2010 SF1 data compiled by The DIGIT Lab, University of Utah.

4. Because of different data aggregations, we have two slightly different definitions of youth and working age. The five-year age groups lead to a definition of youth as those persons under 20 years of age and working-age as those persons aged 20 through 64. The standard aggregations, as used in the maps in the *Atlas*, define youth as those persons under 18 years of age and working age as those persons aged 18 through 64.

**Figure 6**  
**State of Utah 2010 Population by 5-Year Age Groups and Sex**



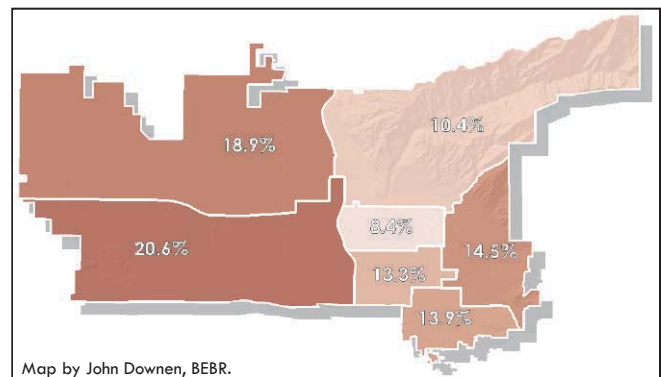
Source: Computations by the Bureau of Economic and Business Research based on Census 2010 SF1 data.

Lake City is 33.1, compared with 46.8 for Salt Lake County and 53.0 for the state. The retirement-age dependency ratio is 13.8 for Salt Lake City, 14.0 for Salt Lake County, and 15.2 for Utah. The combined dependency ratios are 46.9, 60.8, and 68.2, respectively.

City Council Districts 1 and 2 have the highest youth shares of their populations, highest youth dependency ratios, and lowest

median ages among all districts. The two districts together represent 29.4 percent of the total population of Salt Lake City, but 43.2 percent of the city's youth population (Figures 7 and 8). District 4 has the largest share of college-age (18 through 24 years old; Figure 9) and working-age people of all districts. The working-age population share is also relatively high in Districts 3 and 5. Districts 3 and 6 have the highest shares of retirement-age persons and the largest retirement dependency ratios among the districts. Together, they make up 28.3 percent of the city population but 37.1 percent of the city's retirement-age population (Figure 10). The contrasts in age distributions among the council districts are particularly

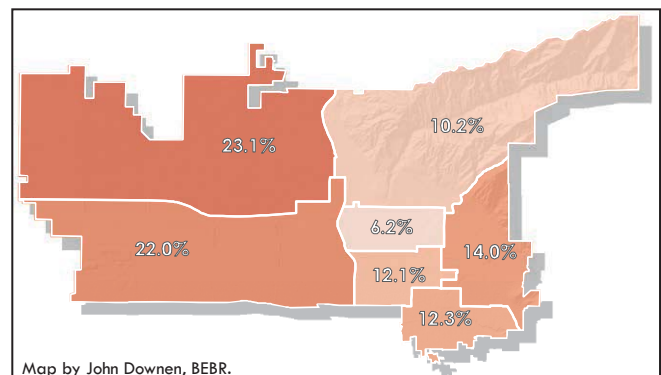
**Figure 7**  
**Council District Shares of Salt Lake City's Under-5 Population, 2010**



Map by John Downen, BEBR.

Source: Computations by the Bureau of Economic and Business Research based on Census 2010 SF1 data compiled by The DIGIT Lab, University of Utah.

**Figure 8**  
**Council District Shares of Salt Lake City's School-Age Population, 2010**



Map by John Downen, BEBR.

Source: Computations by the Bureau of Economic and Business Research based on Census 2010 SF1 data compiled by The DIGIT Lab, University of Utah.

**Table 1**  
**Age and Sex Distribution of the Salt Lake City Population**

Age	Male	Female	Sex Ratio	Share	Share of County	Share of State
Under 5	7,461	7,022	1.06	7.8%	16.1%	5.5%
5-9	6,026	5,650	1.07	6.3%	13.7%	4.7%
10-14	5,155	4,941	1.04	5.4%	12.8%	4.4%
15-19	5,969	5,890	1.01	6.4%	15.9%	5.4%
20-24	10,111	9,896	1.02	10.7%	<b>25.0%</b>	<b>8.8%</b>
25-29	11,561	10,037	1.15	11.6%	<b>23.8%</b>	<b>9.4%</b>
30-34	9,273	8,024	1.16	9.3%	<b>20.0%</b>	<b>8.0%</b>
35-39	7,059	6,043	1.17	7.0%	<b>18.2%</b>	<b>7.3%</b>
40-44	5,930	5,002	1.19	5.9%	17.4%	<b>7.1%</b>
45-49	5,567	4,915	1.13	5.6%	16.8%	<b>6.8%</b>
50-54	5,313	4,998	1.06	5.5%	16.9%	<b>6.8%</b>
55-59	5,060	4,686	1.08	5.2%	18.1%	<b>7.3%</b>
60-64	3,701	3,632	1.02	3.9%	17.6%	<b>6.8%</b>
65-69	2,412	2,667	0.90	2.7%	17.5%	6.4%
70-74	1,608	2,015	0.80	1.9%	17.7%	6.2%
75-79	1,278	1,777	0.72	1.6%	<b>19.6%</b>	6.7%
80-84	1,108	1,650	0.67	1.5%	<b>22.0%</b>	<b>8.0%</b>
85+	1,034	1,967	0.53	1.6%	<b>25.6%</b>	<b>9.7%</b>
Total	95,626	90,812	1.05	100%	18.1%	6.7%
Share 60 years +	<b>13.3%</b>				<b>19.0%</b>	<b>7.0%</b>
Median Age	<b>30.9</b>					

Note: The 55-59 and Total counts do not match official Census counts due to boundary differences. If a cell is shaded yellow with bold red type, this indicates that the city's share of the county or state for the given category exceeds the city's share of total population in the county or state. Blue shading indicates a male-to-female ratio greater than one.

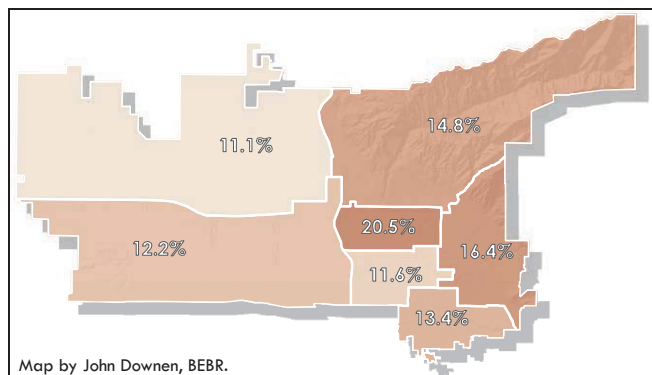
Source: Computations by the Bureau of Economic and Business Research based on Census 2010 SF1 data compiled by the DIGIT Lab, University of Utah.

clear when examining population pyramids. For example, the pyramid for Council District 1 (Figure 11) characteristically represents a population with young families and their children and relatively few elders. In contrast, the predominance of young adults, many of whom are University of Utah students, is clear in District 4's pyramid (Figure 12).

### Race and Ethnicity

Race has been part of the census since 1790, although the race categories as well as methods of data collection have changed significantly over time. Census 2010 race and ethnicity categories

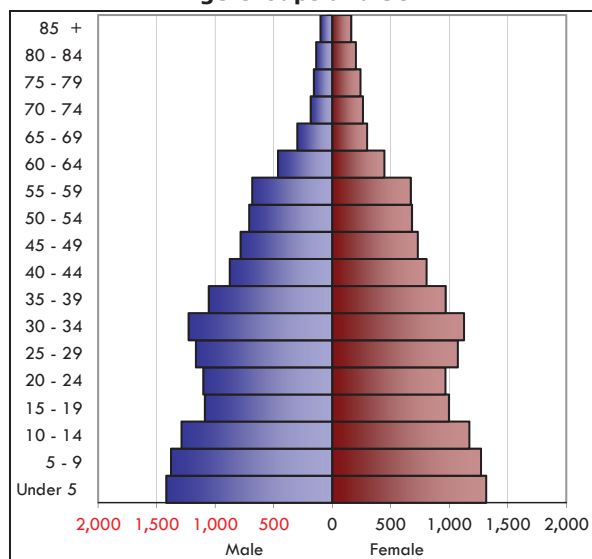
**Figure 9**  
Council District Shares of Salt Lake City's  
College-Age Population, 2010



Source: Computations by the Bureau of Economic and Business Research based on Census 2010 SF1 data compiled by The DIGIT Lab, University of Utah.

are the same as in 2000. Respondents selected from among five major race categories: White, Black or African American, American Indian and Alaska Native, Asian, Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander, and Some Other Race. More than one race could be selected. The only officially recognized ethnicity is Hispanic or Latino, which may be of any race. For this article, population is first classified into two groups: Hispanic or Latino and not Hispanic or Latino. Those who are not Hispanic or Latino are further classified into White alone, Black or African American

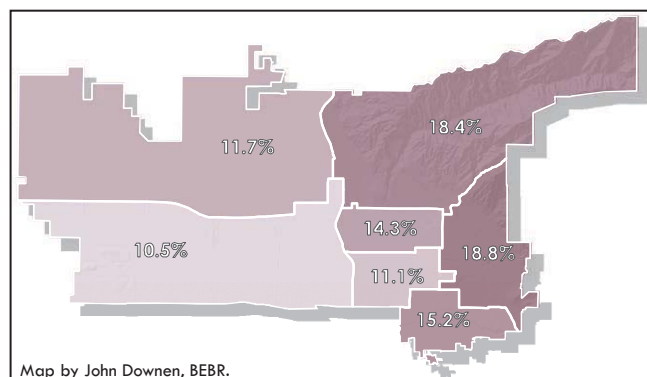
**Figure 11**  
Council District 1 2010 Population by 5-Year  
Age Groups and Sex



alone, American Indian and Alaska Native alone, Asian alone, Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone, and All Others (which includes Some Other Race alone and two or more races). The categories are mutually exclusive and exhaustive. According to this classification system, minorities are those who do not consider themselves non-Hispanic White alone. Alternatively, minorities are all persons who self-identify as Hispanic or Latino plus those non-Hispanics who are any race except White alone.

After a three-decade decline, the population increased in Salt Lake City by 21,807 residents from 1990 to 2000 and by 4,695 from 2000 to 2010 (Table 2). Minority population growth, attributable to natural increase (births exceeding deaths) and net in-migration (gross in-migration minus gross out-migration) accounts for all of this growth. From 1990 to 2010, the White alone, non-Hispanic

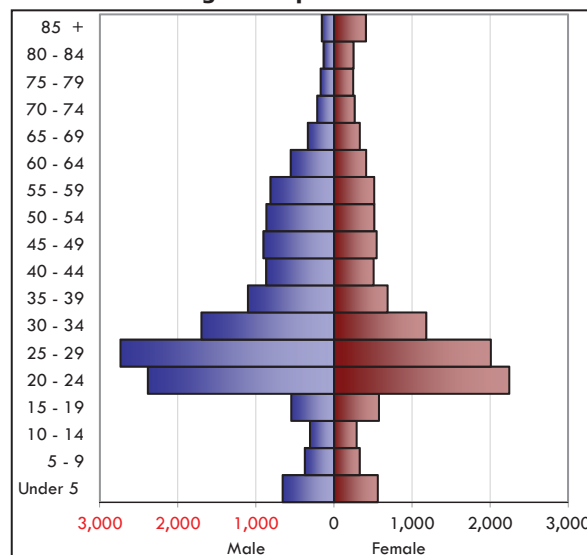
**Figure 10**  
Council District Shares of Salt Lake City's  
Retirement-Age Population, 2010



Source: Computations by the Bureau of Economic and Business Research based on Census 2010 SF1 data compiled by The DIGIT Lab, University of Utah.

population of Salt Lake City declined by 9,766, while the minority population increased by 36,268. Over this period, the minority share of the Salt Lake City population increased from 17.4 percent to 34.4 percent, while the Hispanic share increased from 9.7 percent to 22.3 percent. Hispanics accounted for 72 percent (or 26,129) of the period's minority population increase. In fact, this is the case for the northern and western sections of Salt Lake County in general. Increases in minority populations account for all of the recent growth in the populations of Salt Lake City, South Salt Lake, West Valley City, Taylorsville, Kearns, and Midvale, as well as in Sandy, White City, and Granite, which saw net

**Figure 12**  
Council District 4 2010 Population by 5-Year  
Age Groups and Sex





population losses (Figure 13).

The 1990s were a period of significant immigration to Utah, with about half of these migrants having been foreign born. The major origin of these immigrants was Latin America, and most of them identified their ethnicity as Hispanic or Latino in the enumeration. Not all immigrants identify as racial or ethnic minorities (e.g., persons of Middle Eastern descent), but many do self-identify as something other than White alone and not Hispanic. It is the coming of these minority immigrants and the subsequent births of their children that account for much of the 1990 to 2010 population increase in Salt Lake City.

Historical and projected minority shares of the population are shown in Figure 14. Minority shares have increased for all areas shown, with Salt Lake City shares nearly equal to the nation. Minority populations are geographically concentrated within Salt Lake County, as shown in Figure 15, and minority shares have increased particularly within these areas. This has resulted in quite different ethnic compositions across the county and within Salt Lake City (Figure 16).

Salt Lake City's population is more racially and ethnically diverse than that of Salt Lake County or the state. Over one-third of the city's population is minority (34.4 percent), compared with 26.0 percent in the county and 19.6 percent for the state. While Salt Lake

Year	Population					Shares of Total		
	Total	White alone, not Hispanic	Minority	Hispanic	Non-Hispanic Minorities	Minority	Hispanic	Non-Hispanic Minorities
1990	159,936	132,090	27,846	15,508	12,338	17.4%	9.7%	7.7%
2000	181,743	128,377	53,366	34,254	19,112	29.4%	18.8%	10.5%
2010	186,438*	122,324*	64,114*	41,637	22,477	34.4%	22.3%	12.1%
<b>Changes</b>								
1990 to 2000	21,807	-3,713	25,520	18,746	6,774			
2000 to 2010	4,695	-6,053	10,748	7,383	3,365			
1990 to 2010	26,502	-9,766	36,268	26,129	10,139			

Note: Minority is defined as total population minus the population that is White alone and not Hispanic. Multirace responses were first available in the 2000 Census.  
 \* These totals differ from the official 2010 Census counts due to boundary differences.  
 Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1990 Census of the Population (Table 6, page 22 from 1990 CP-1-46: General Population Characteristics – Utah); Census 2000 and 2010 Summary File 1, DP-1 (American Factfinder); and computations by the Bureau of Economic and Business Research, University of Utah.

City is home to 18.1 percent of the total Salt Lake County population, it has nearly a third (31.5 percent) of the county's Black or African American population, nearly a quarter of the county's Hispanic, American Indian, Asian, and Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander

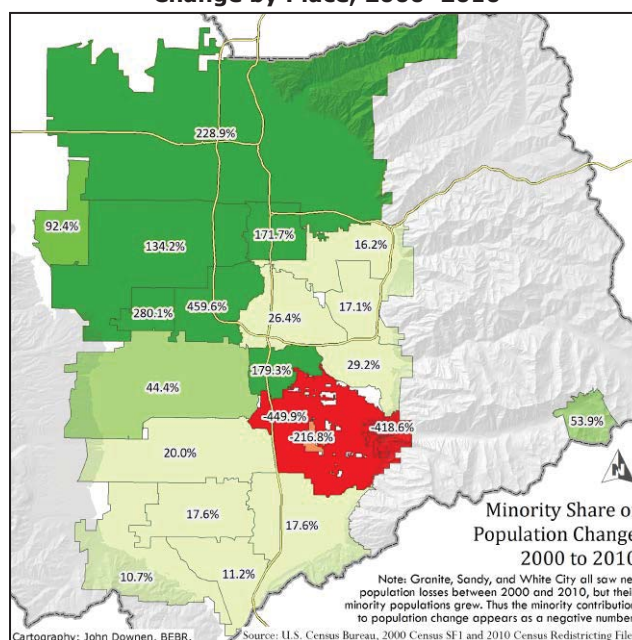
populations, and one-fifth of the county's multiracial and other minority populations.

There were 64,114 minorities counted in Census 2010 in Salt Lake City (Table 3). Hispanics and Latinos (of any race) accounted for nearly two-thirds (65 percent) of all minorities in 2010, and numbered 41,637. Asian alone (not Hispanic or Latino) was the second largest minority population in 2010 with 8,150 persons. The other major non-Hispanic minority groups were enumerated as follows: Black or African American alone – 4,613; Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone – 3,706; American Indian or Alaska Native alone – 1,624; and all others – 4,384. Salt Lake City's minority population

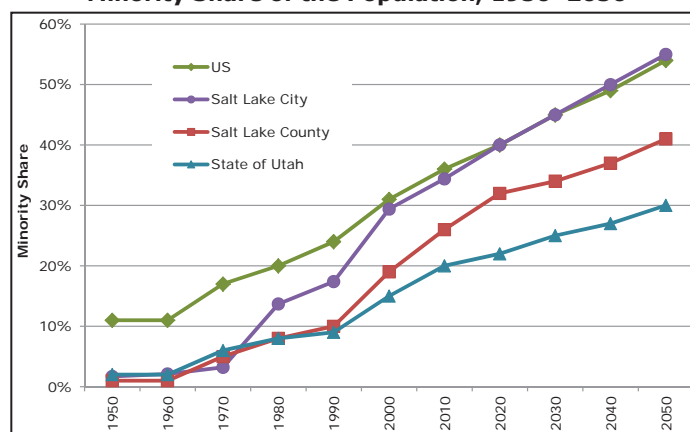
is geographically concentrated in Districts 1 and 2 (Figure 17), both of which are minority-majority districts (Figure 18). Over half (56.4 percent) of Salt Lake City's minorities live in these two districts (Figure 19). Districts 6 and 7 are the least diverse of all districts, with the minority share at about 15 percent. Two-thirds of the Hispanic population resides in Districts 1 and 2 (Figure 20).

The increasing diversity of our population is concentrated in our youth. This generational shift is illustrated in Figure 21,

**Figure 13**  
**Minority Share of Salt Lake County Population Change by Place, 2000–2010**



**Figure 14**  
**Minority Share of the Population, 1950–2050**



Source: Bureau of Economic and Business Research, University of Utah and BEBR calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau decennial censuses and national projections, 2012 series.

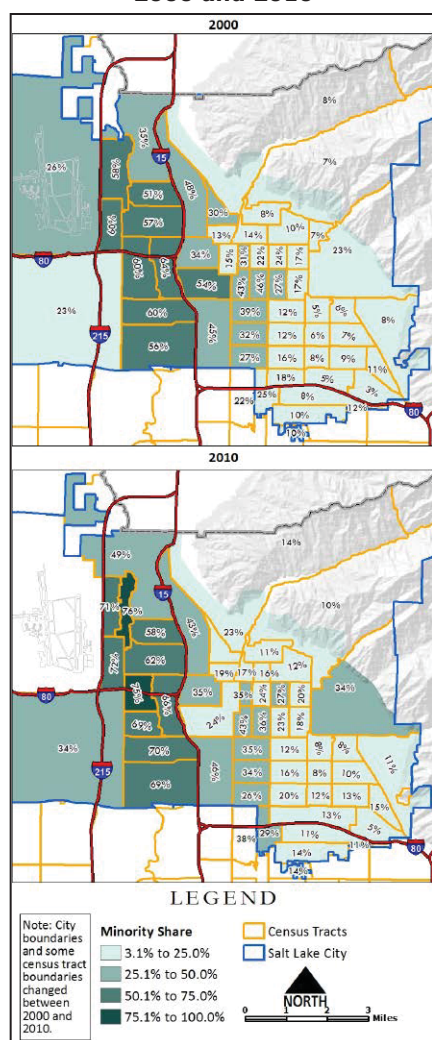


which shows minorities as a share of the population by 5-year age group. As shown in the graph, youth are much more diverse than elders, and there is much variation in minority composition by location. About one-in-four preschool-age children in Utah are minorities, while that share is 35 percent in Salt Lake County, 49 percent for the nation, and 50 percent in Salt Lake City. As we have seen, minorities are particularly concentrated in the River District (Council Districts 1 and 2), where about three-quarters of youth are minorities. In all these areas, adult populations are much less ethnically and racially diverse.

### Household Composition

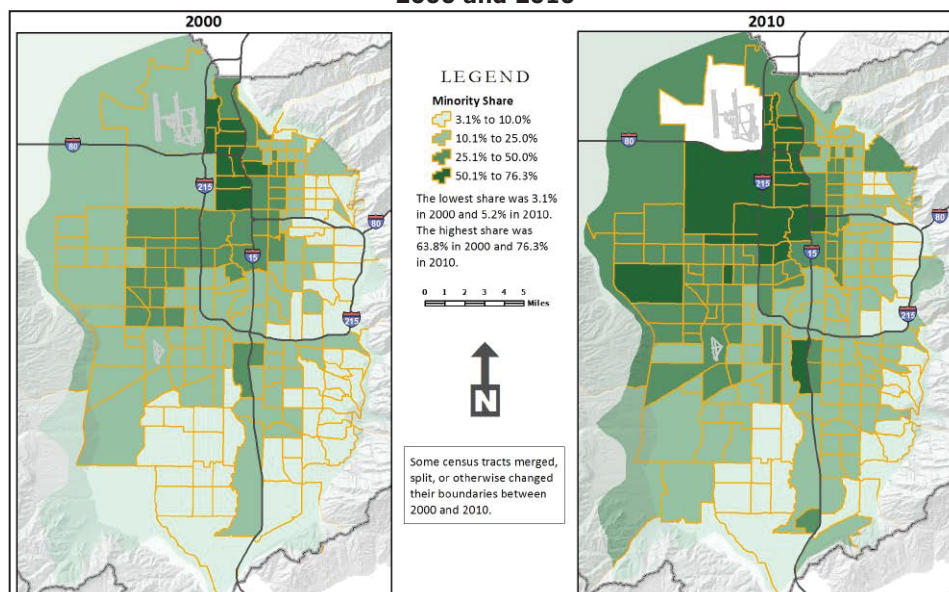
Living arrangements are classified in the 2010 Census according to household and

**Figure 16**  
**Minority Share of the Salt Lake City Population by Census Tract, 2000 and 2010**



Map by John Downen, BEBR.  
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 and 2010 Censuses; State of Utah, SGID.

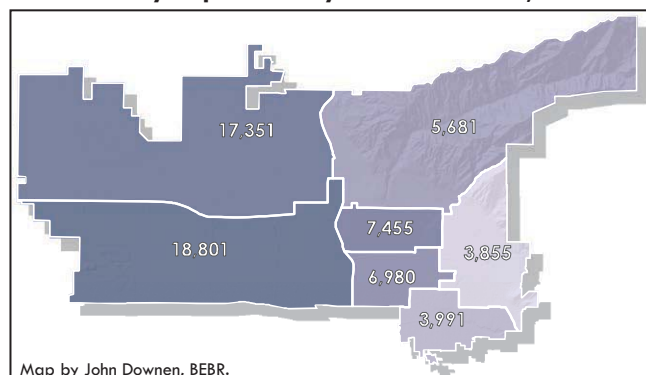
**Figure 15**  
**Minority Share of the Salt Lake County Population by Census Tract, 2000 and 2010**



Map by John Downen, BEBR.  
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 and 2010 Censuses; State of Utah, SGID.

group quarters populations. Persons living either alone or together in housing units are defined as the household population. The rest of the population is classified as group quarters populations. Family households are composed of people who are related by birth, marriage, or adoption. Nonfamily

**Figure 17**  
**Minority Population by Council District, 2010**



Map by John Downen, BEBR.  
Source: Computations by the Bureau of Economic and Business Research based on Census 2010 SF1 data compiled by The DIGIT Lab, University of Utah.

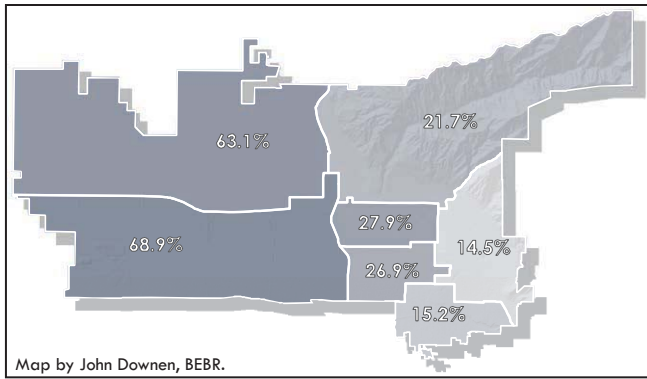
**Table 3**  
**Race and Ethnicity of the Salt Lake City Population, 2010**

	Population	Share	Share of County	Share of State
<b>Total</b>	<b>186,438</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>18.1%</b>	<b>6.7%</b>
<b>Not Hispanic or Latino</b>				
White alone	144,803	77.7%	17.0%	6.0%
Black or African American alone	4,613	2.5%	<b>31.5%</b>	<b>17.8%</b>
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	1,624	0.9%	<b>24.7%</b>	6.0%
Asian alone	8,150	4.4%	<b>24.4%</b>	<b>15.0%</b>
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	3,706	2.0%	<b>24.0%</b>	<b>15.5%</b>
All Others	4,384	2.4%	<b>20.2%</b>	<b>8.3%</b>
<b>Ethnicity</b>				
Hispanic or Latino	41,637	22.3%	<b>23.7%</b>	<b>11.6%</b>
<b>Minority</b>	64,114	34.4%	<b>23.9%</b>	<b>11.8%</b>

Note: If a cell is shaded yellow and has bold red type, this indicates that the city's share of the county or state for the given category exceeds the city's share of total population in the county or state.

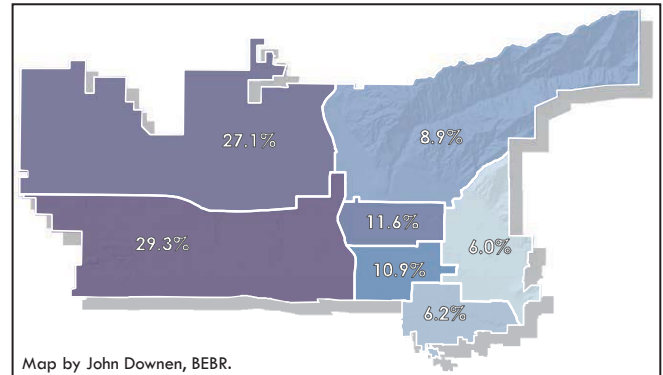
Source: Computations by the Bureau of Economic and Business Research based on Census 2010 SF1 data compiled by the DIGIT Lab, University of Utah.

**Figure 18**  
Minority Share by Council District, 2010



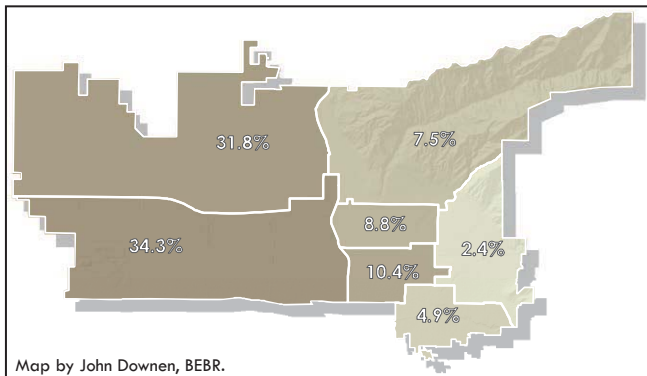
Source: Computations by the Bureau of Economic and Business Research based on Census 2010 SF1 data compiled by The DIGIT Lab, University of Utah.

**Figure 19**  
Council District Shares of Salt Lake City's Minority Population, 2010



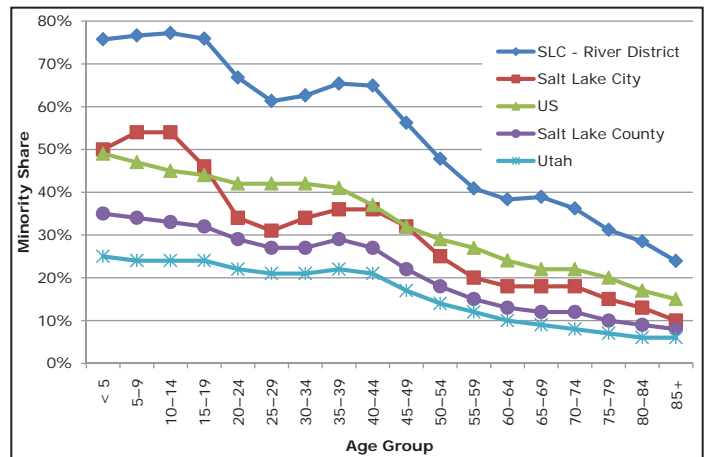
Source: Computations by the Bureau of Economic and Business Research based on Census 2010 SF1 data compiled by The DIGIT Lab, University of Utah.

**Figure 20**  
Council District Shares of Salt Lake City's Hispanic Population, 2010



Source: Computations by the Bureau of Economic and Business Research based on Census 2010 SF1 data compiled by The DIGIT Lab, University of Utah.

**Figure 21**  
Minority Share by 5-Year Age Group, 2010



households are defined as people either living alone or living with other unrelated individuals.

In Salt Lake City, 97.4 percent of the population lived in households in the 2010 Census enumeration. About half (52.5 percent) of Salt Lake City households were family households, compared with over two-thirds (70.8 percent) for Salt Lake County and three-quarters (75.2 percent) for the state (Table 4). One-fourth (24.8 percent) of households in Salt Lake City were family households with their own children under 18 years old, and 17.4 percent were married husband-wife families with their own

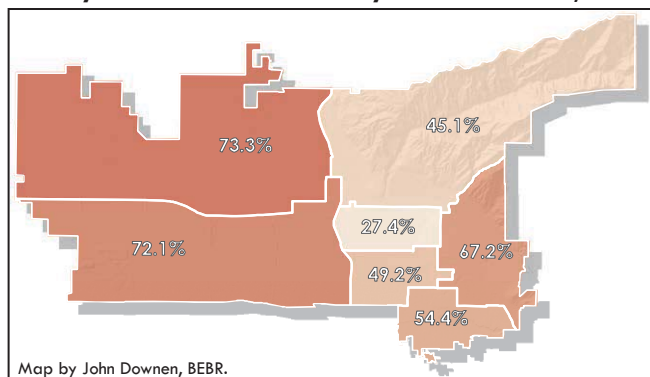
**Table 4**  
Distribution of Households by Type in 2010: Salt Lake City, Salt Lake County, and the State

Household Type	Salt Lake City	Salt Lake County	Utah
Total households	100%	100%	100%
Family households (families)	52.5%	70.8%	75.2%
With own children under 18 years	24.8%	36.2%	39.5%
Husband-wife family	37.9%	54.8%	61.0%
With own children under 18 years	17.4%	27.7%	31.7%
Male householder, no wife present	4.8%	5.1%	4.4%
With own children under 18 years	2.1%	2.5%	2.2%
Female householder, no husband present	9.7%	10.9%	9.7%
With own children under 18 years	5.3%	6.0%	5.5%
Nonfamily households	47.5%	29.2%	24.8%
Householder living alone	34.6%	21.9%	18.7%
Male	17.7%	10.2%	8.6%
65 years and over	2.6%	1.8%	1.8%
Female	17.0%	11.7%	10.0%
65 years and over	5.8%	4.7%	4.6%
Households with individuals under 18 years	27.5%	40.3%	43.3%
Households with individuals 65 years and over	18.0%	18.9%	20.0%
Average household size	2.44	2.96	3.10
Average family size	3.25	3.51	3.56

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Census 2010, Summary File 1, DP-1.

children present. This latter group represented 27.7 percent of households in Salt Lake County and 31.7 percent in the state. Nonfamily households make up a much larger share of the total in Salt Lake City (47.5 percent) than in the county (29.2 percent) or the state (24.8 percent). The average household size in Salt Lake City was 2.44 persons, significantly smaller than households in the county (2.96 persons) and the state (3.10 persons). Similarly, Salt Lake City's average family size of 3.25 is smaller than those of the county (3.51) and the state (3.56).

**Figure 22**  
**Family Share of Households by Council District, 2010**



Source: Computations by the Bureau of Economic and Business Research based on Census 2010 SF1 data compiled by The DIGIT Lab, University of Utah.

Within Salt Lake City, Council Districts 1 and 2 have the highest proportions of family households (73.3 percent and 72.1 percent, respectively; Figure 22) and the greatest number of persons per household (3.42 and 3.50, respectively), exceeding county and state averages. Council District 6 is next with two-thirds of all households being family households and an average household size of 2.60 persons. Between 45 and 55 percent of all households in Districts 3, 5, and 7 are family households, with persons per household ranging from 2.05 to 2.33. Just over a quarter (27.4 percent) of all households in Council District 4 are family households, and the average household size is 1.76. The districts are ranked inversely for nonfamily households. District 4 has 10,239 nonfamily households, which is 72.6 percent of its total and 28.9 percent of the city's total nonfamily households. Nearly three-quarters (73.8 percent or 7,554 persons) are people living alone and about a fifth of these (19.1 percent or 1,444 persons) are 65 or older. Council District 3 has the next largest population of one-person households (5,151), with 1,088 of these being persons 65 years or older. Districts 1 and 2 have the highest proportions of family households with their own children present – 41.2 and 41.1 percent, respectively. At the other extreme, Council Districts 3 and 4 have only 17.6 and 10.3 percent, respectively, of total households in this category.

### Application of Community-Level Data – Salt Lake City Schools Case Study

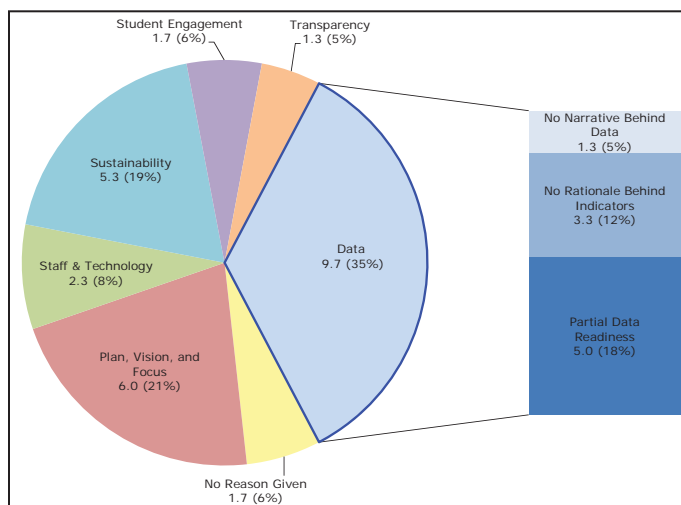
Last year, the Salt Lake City School District was selected as one of only 61 finalists nationwide in the Race to the Top – District grant competition. However, SLCS D was not selected as one of the 16 grantees, who received awards ranging from \$10 million to \$40 million over a four-year period. The district's grant application score was only 14.3 points below that of the lowest-scoring winner. Figure 23 shows the total point deductions disaggregated by reason based on the Race to the Top technical review form.

About one-third, 35 percent, of the overall point deductions were for data-related reasons. More specifically, the grant reviewers noted that projected performance measures for student subgroups (based on race/ethnicity, disability status, socioeconomic status, and English language proficiency) did not include any rationale detailing specific goals. However, the achievement and goals of

student subgroups are influenced by the neighborhoods in which they live. Given that SLCS D is a choice district, in which school enrollment is not restricted by residency either within or outside the district boundaries, school-level data alone may not justify projected performance measures for different student subgroups. Community indicators describing other factors that affect student achievement – such as housing, transportation, health, and other socioeconomic indicators – could complement school data to provide a more detailed and holistic context for academic growth projections. Thus, a community-level data system with demographic estimates and projections would be necessary to account for changes in student subgroup populations. Furthermore, neighborhood-level estimates of socioeconomic indicators based on administrative data could factor into some projected performance measures. However, this level of data development is beyond the purview of any school district and is perhaps an indication that the grant reviewers were looking for genuine cross-institutional collaboration beyond the required letters of support.

The lack of community data also affected non-data areas of the grant application. Most of the point deductions related to plan, vision, and focus were in fact associated with comments that the grant application focused too narrowly on science. If an online community-level data system had existed during the preparation of this grant application, the school district and community partners could have visited a single site to access a broad suite of neighborhood-level data, including employment data showing Utah's diverse industry clusters in science, technology, and engineering fields. This would have helped support the district's focus on science education. Thus, even the point deductions related to plan, vision, and focus were partly due to the absence of an online community-level data system integrating disparate data sources. In fact, SLCS D scored full or nearly full marks on all grant sections related to reform vision, implementation approach, teaching, and other areas strictly under the purview of school districts.

**Figure 23**  
**Analysis of SLCS D Race to the Top Grant Application Point Deductions**



Source: Computations by the Bureau of Economic and Business Research, University of Utah.



Furthermore, the judges lauded A Capital City Education as a valuable partnership that has secured stakeholder engagement, providing a framework for sustaining educational and community programs beyond grant funding. A Capital City Education is Salt Lake City's college, career, and civic readiness initiative under the partnership of the Salt Lake City Mayor's Office, Salt Lake City Council, Salt Lake City School District, University Neighborhood Partners, and the Utah Community Data Project. Despite the grant reviewers' praise of the city's cross-institutional partnership, nearly a fifth of the point deductions in the Race to the Top application were associated with the uncertainty of program sustainability due to funding availability. The point deductions related to sustainability and data could have covered the 14.3 additional points needed to win one of the \$10–\$40 million Race to the Top grants. Thus, the development of an online community-data system could lead to potentially large returns on investment for the entire community through major grant awards like Race to the Top. Given that the point deductions in the Race to the Top application came from areas beyond the immediate responsibility of school districts, it becomes even more imperative to increase collaboration across institutions to meet the heightened demands of community-level data.

The Utah Community Data Project's commitment to democratizing data and A Capital City Education's multisector partnership are widely applicable across various industries in supporting data-driven decision making, quantifying metrics for grant applications, and tracking indicators alongside community investments.

### **National League of Cities**

Community-level data has become a focal point not only at the local level but also on the national front. Following the school district's Race to the Top efforts, A Capital City Education expanded its national outreach to complement local community partnerships. Salt Lake City was recently selected to become a member of the Postsecondary Success City Action Network (P-SCAN), a peer network of 18 cities focused on postsecondary access and completion. P-SCAN is an initiative led by the National League of Cities (NLC), an organization that provides resources to municipalities nationwide. In addition to its P-SCAN membership, Salt Lake City was selected as one of only five cities nationwide to receive technical assistance from NLC through the support of a two-year grant from the Lumina Foundation. During this initial phase of technical assistance, community-level data was identified as a top priority. This will allow the Utah Community Data Project to tap into a large national network of peer cities to exchange ideas and resources on data development, especially in the broader context of municipal governance and community development.

### **Utah Community Data Project – Work Program and Funding**

As explained above, the plan for the Utah Community Data Project is to build an information system and research program that will enable us to uncover insights into our changing communities and to provide topical analyses on underlying trends. The increasing need for understanding trends at small-area

geographies is coupled with an ongoing dearth of detailed neighborhood-level data from national sources due to the loss of the U.S. Census long form. While many states and communities throughout the nation have programs similar to what we are building, no such system currently exists in Utah. UCDP will fill this void. The development of UCDP's online data system is a collaborative effort across multiple units at the University of Utah, with principal design and management functions at the Bureau of Economic and Business Research (BEBR) in the David Eccles School of Business.

UCDP will collect, store, and disseminate an ever-expanding collection of community data in an online system that will be rich in customized cross-tabulations, dynamic data visualizations, and interactive geospatial representations.

Although this will be a significant advance for Utah, it is not sufficient. We will continue to work with community partners to design and implement a suite of community indicators that will better inform strategic planning processes as well as program performance evaluations. Our work program includes demographic metrics as well as community indicators tracking economic stability, educational equity, health disparities, affordable housing opportunities, and other quantifiable measures. These types of community indicators are necessary in order to identify and evaluate the effectiveness of community investments. Federal and other funding increasingly requires data-driven justifications and validation. Therefore, the existence of current, high-quality community indicators will result in higher success rates for funding applicants.

Centralization of this function at the University of Utah will free resources in user organizations (which are under budgetary stress) and will ensure state-of-the-practice, consistent, and timely technical work. Private vendors do produce estimates, but these are very expensive, based on federal datasets, and assume "one size fits all" methodologies for the entire nation. Our "public good" model will allow ordinary citizens as well as large institutions to have access to the same information.

Our UCDP team is inspired to "democratize data" by providing our core data products to the public at no charge. In order for this model to work, we obviously need funding to design, build, maintain, and expand the system. While we have secured some start-up funding, our progress will be much more rapid with additional resources. Our initial funding has been through a HUD Sustainable Communities Grant and the central administration at the University of Utah. With this seed funding we have built a proof-of-concept web site with limited functionality at [www.ucdp.utah.edu](http://www.ucdp.utah.edu). We continue to seek funding partners to accelerate our progress.

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