

July/August 2011

Trendlines

Perspectives on Utah's Economy

Utah Wage Data PLUS Census Data

Types of Households in Utah

POPulation Culture:
Facts about the 2010 Census



What are
Utah's Highest
Paying Jobs?



Department of Workforce Services

Trendlines

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Trendlines

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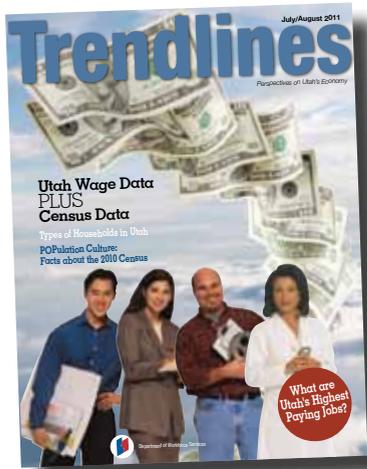
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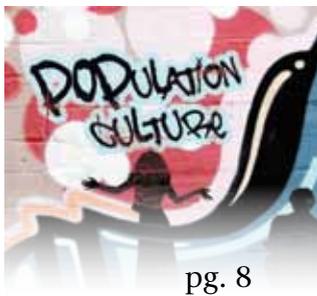
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Occupational
Wage Data
and
Census Data
For Utah



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Types of Households in Utah



The 2010 Census shows that married couples have dropped below half of all households in the United States for the first time in history. The demographic trend of fewer family households has been documented by each Census since WWII. In 2010, married couples represented 48 percent of households in the U.S. compared to 55 percent in 2000, and considerably below the 78 percent of households recorded in the 1950 Census.

If you define a “traditional family” as being a married couple with children less than 18 years of age, just 20 percent of households would qualify in 2010 compared to 25 percent a decade ago and 43 percent in 1950.

Some of the societal trends that help explain the changing composition of U.S. households include: less rigid gender roles, increased labor force participation of women, increased educational attainment, lower fertility rates, higher divorce rates with rising numbers of single parent households, delaying the age of marriage, and rising income inequality. In addition, with people living longer there is an ever growing number of elderly people living alone or in non-family households.

Within Utah all of these national trends are evident and have changed the composition of Utah families and households. Yet Utah continues to display its unique demographic characteristics, the youngest population with a median age of 29.7 (the U.S. median age 35.8),

and the largest household and family sizes of any state. In Utah, married couples comprise 61 percent of households and 32 percent have such families with children under 18.

Among Utah’s counties there is substantial variation in the percentage of family households. Morgan County has the highest percent of married-couple families with 79.2, while Utah County leads them for the highest percentage of households that are married-couples with children. Grand County has the lowest percentage of married-coupled households or such households with children. Notably, Grand County has the highest percentage (30.7 percent) of single person households in the state. The state average for single person households is 18.7 percent.

The Census Bureau has released a profile of characteristics gleaned from the 2010 Census for the full range of geographic detail in the United States including states, counties, cities, and towns. These data include the relationships of individuals living in households whether they are family or non-family households. Each decennial census chronicles the changing population in the different regions and communities of Utah.

2010 Census results are available at the American Fact-Finder: <http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml>. 

2010 Census Married-Couple Households as a Percent of Total Households

County	Percent Married-Couple Households	County	Percent Married-Couple Households with Children Under 18
Morgan	79.2	Utah	41.7
Rich	71.4	Morgan	40.3
Utah	69.9	Davis	37.4
Wasatch	68.7	Juab	37.1
Juab	68.5	Tooele	36.9
Davis	68.0	Wasatch	36.5
Emery	67.9	Cache	35.0
Millard	67.7	Box Elder	33.8
Box Elder	67.4	Duchesne	32.5
Sevier	65.4	Beaver	32.1
Cache	65.2	Statewide	31.7
Piute	65.1	Uintah	31.5
Sanpete	65.1	Millard	31.3
Duchesne	64.7	Sanpete	30.7
Washington	64.6	Emery	30.5
Tooele	64.5	Rich	30.1
Beaver	63.2	Sevier	30.1
Uintah	61.7	Summit	30.0
Wayne	61.2	Iron	29.7
Statewide	61.0	Salt Lake	27.7
Summit	60.7	Weber	27.4
Iron	60.6	Washington	26.9
Daggett	59.6	Wayne	26.5
Garfield	59.3	San Juan	26.4
Kane	56.8	Piute	24.1
Weber	56.7	Garfield	21.7
San Juan	55.1	Carbon	21.6
Salt Lake	54.8	Daggett	20.4
Carbon	54.5	U.S.	20.2
U.S.	48.4	Kane	19.1
Grand	44.7	Grand	16.6

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

If a “traditional family” is a married couple with children under 18, just 20 percent of households would qualify in 2010 compared to 43 percent in 1950.



A Perspective on Construction

Utah's construction industry's worst days are behind it, but employment levels have yet to make any kind of "healing" rebound. Utah construction jobs have increased by 900 over the past 12 months, but keep in mind that this rise is from a rock bottom loss of some 40,000 construction jobs* over the past three-plus years.

The industry does not need those 40,000 jobs to return to be healthy. It can be argued that it was an excess of jobs that made it unhealthy in the first place. Historically, construction accounts for around 6 percent of the Utah employment base. At the height of the construction boom in 2007, that proportion had risen to over 8 percent. In hindsight, we will have to label that as both unsustainable and unhealthy.

Currently, construction has receded to around 5.5 percent of Utah's employment foundation. This implies there is room for construction's job share to move higher to regain its potential contribution. But it doesn't have to increase dramatically to do that (about 5,000 additional construction jobs would propel this industry to approximating a 6-percent employment share). Going forward, if the Utah economy were to return to its long-term 3.2-percent annual overall growth rate, and construction re-established and maintained its 6-percent share of overall employment, it would take approximately 13 years to replace those departed 40,000 jobs. That offers some perspective as to how inflated the construction industry had become in Utah.

How could Utah increase its construction employment level so far above its historic norm? By borrowing workers from elsewhere. Many of the homebuilding workers of the recent boom were transitory, out-of-state types who came here for a job. Many of them have since left. The point is that Utah does not need to re-create 40,000 construction jobs to re-employ 40,000 unemployed Utah construction workers. Utah only needs enough new jobs to re-employ the idled who remain. ⓘ

**Bureau of Labor Statistics seasonally-adjusted series.*





Honestly, I've struggled to write this article. It's not that I don't love delving into the Census 2010 data; I do. It's not that there isn't enough to write about. There is. What's my problem? So much data, so little space to write about it. In the end, I've just decided to whet your appetite with a few of the interesting facts about Utah revealed by the 2010 Census.

But first, let's do a little review. The 2010 Census form was one of the shortest in history. The Census Bureau only asked Americans ten questions related to name, gender, age, race, ethnicity, relationship, and whether they rented or owned their home. In other words, no one was asked income, employment, or other detailed demographic information (questions previously on the "long form"). If you are waiting for that type of information to be released from the 2010 Census, stop waiting! Detailed demographic statistics are now available on a regular basis from the American Community Survey (conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau).

The Census Bureau is steadily releasing data from the 2010 Census. As I write, data profiles for states, counties, and "places" are available. Information for smaller geographies (such as Census tracts) should be released later this summer. These data releases can be accessed at

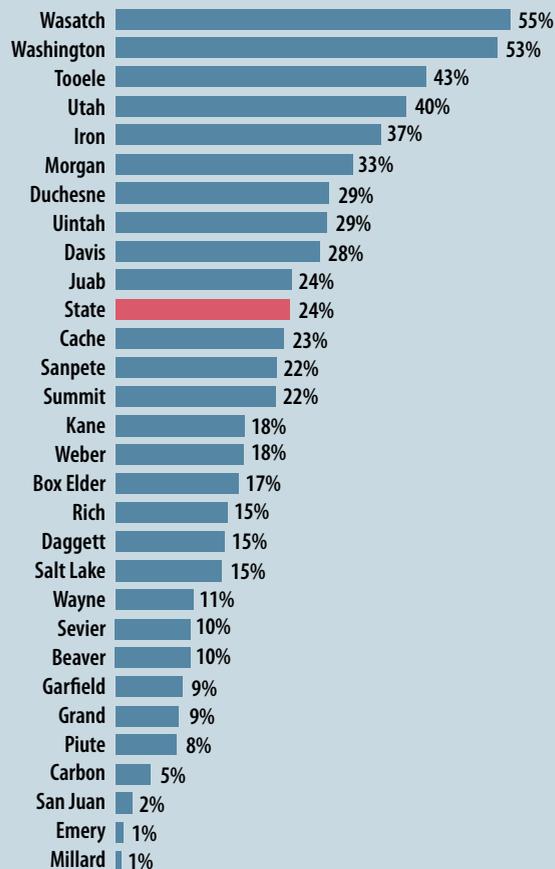
the Census Bureau's "New American Factfinder" web site (<http://factfinder2.census.gov>). I'll warn you right now, the interface is not all that user-friendly, but the site does include tutorials. Plus, the data is certainly worth the effort. Here are those few fascinating Census 2010 facts to spark your interest:

- Although Utah's median age increased from 27.1 in 2000 to 29.2 in 2010 (thanks to aging baby boomers—it is all about us), Utah is still the youngest state in the nation. (In Maine, the median age is a whopping 42.7 years.) In addition, Utah still shows the largest share of population under the age of 18 (32 percent).
- Utah exhibits the second lowest percentage of population in the 65-years-and-older category (9 percent). Only Alaska maintains a smaller share of seniors—7.7 percent.
- Between 2000 and 2010, Utah population ranked as the third fastest growing in the nation (24 percent). And, it was surrounded by other fast-growers—Nevada (fastest), Arizona (second), and Idaho (fourth). Incidentally, Nevada has been the fastest growing state in the nation for five straight decades.

2000—2010 Population Growth

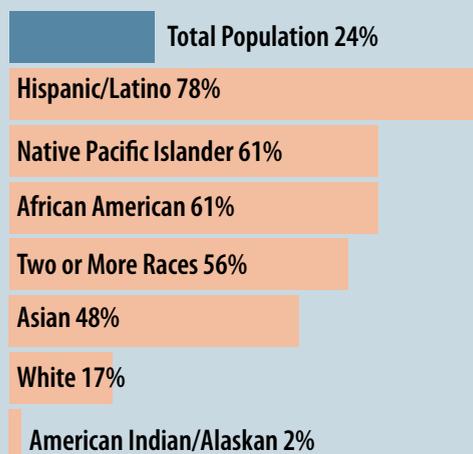
- Two of Utah’s Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) ranked among the fastest-growing in the country. The St. George MSA—Washington County—ranked second, and the Provo-Orem MSA—Utah and Juab counties—ranked sixth.
- Five of Utah’s counties—Salt Lake, Davis, Utah, and Washington—added 40,000 or more residents to their populations between 2000 and 2010.
- Hispanics and Latinos comprise Utah’s largest ethnic/racial minority—13 percent of the population. (Just a reminder—the Hispanic/Latino designation represents an ethnic group not a race. Individuals classified in this category can be a member of any racial group.) Asians—with just 2 percent of total population—make up the next largest minority group.
- Utah’s Hispanic/Latino population has exploded over the last decade with a 78-percent growth rate. In fact, almost all minority classifications experienced more rapid population growth than the majority “white” population. This is probably due not only to in-migration but differences in birth/death rates. Interestingly, Utah’s Native American Indian population barely changed between 2000 and 2010.
- Which Utah county shows the largest minority population? It is San Juan County with its large share of Native American residents. Roughly 56 percent of San Juan County’s population can be considered an ethnic or racial minority. (Once a group accounts for more than half the population, can it truly be considered a minority?) Morgan County shows the least racial/ethnic diversity—less than 4 percent of its population belongs to a minority group.
- Nationally, roughly 35 percent of the population can be categorized as a racial or ethnic minority. Statewide, minorities made up almost 20 percent of the population in 2010. While we may not think of Utah as particularly diverse, 13 states have even less diverse populations.
- Utah has the smallest share of population in institutionalized group quarters (0.8 percent) of any state in the nation. This population group includes people under formally authorized, supervised care or custody in institutions such as prisons, detention centers, nursing homes, mental hospitals, residential care facilities, live-in schools, etc.
- Who has the largest families in the nation? Yes, it is Utah with an average of 3.56 persons per family. However, California ranks a close second with 3.45 persons per family.

Now your data appetite should be thoroughly stimulated. So dig in and enjoy! 🍷



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

2000—2010 Growth in Utah’s Population by Race and Ethnicity



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

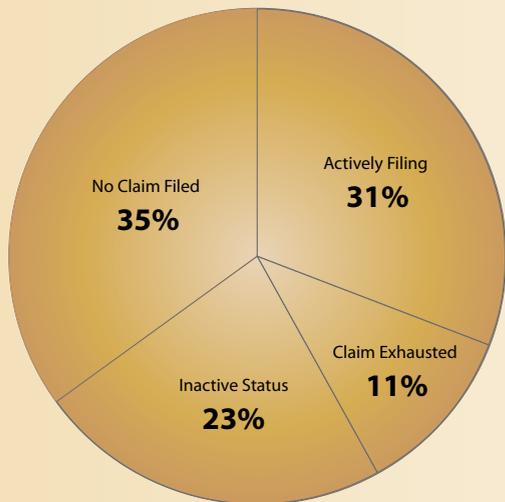


Utah is Getting Back to Work

To date, 795 Utah employers have enrolled to participate in the Back to Work Program.

In July 2010, Utah's Department of Workforce Services initiated the Back to Work hiring incentive program. Back to Work (BTW) was designed to help preserve the Unemployment Insurance (UI) trust fund and stimulate job growth by providing eligible employers with up to \$2,000 for each eligible participant they hire and retain for at least three months. This cash incentive can be combined with the federal Work Opportunity Tax Credits and the Bonding program when appropriate, which can amount to a great deal of revenue and savings for hiring the right applicants. In a recessionary job market where there is no shortage of talented workers, this has been an amazing opportunity for Utah employers to literally cash in. To date, 795 Utah employers have enrolled to participate in BTW.

Back to Work Participant Claim Status



Enrolled in Back to Work Program	5,389
Unemployment claimants	3,506
Claimants with inactive status	1,261
Potential savings to UI Trust Fund	\$2,287,741

A recent evaluation of BTW has shown there are 3,506 Utah UI claimants enrolled in the Back to Work program before or during their unemployment benefit year. They constitute 65 percent of the total program enrollments; the remaining 35 percent are enrolled in a BTW Youth version of the program. Of these individuals, 1,261 have an unexpired claim with an available balance that they are not actively filing against.

The potential savings to the employer-funded UI Trust Fund based on their remaining claim balance equals \$2,287,741. There is also a potential savings to the federally-funded Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC) program, should these individuals maintain their employment. 

For more information on the Back to Work Program and how to enroll visit:

- <http://jobs.utah.gov/btw/employer.html>
- <http://jobs.utah.gov/btw/jsclaimant.html>

Employment Services Industry

Temporary Help as a Leading Indicator of Total Employment



In the ebb and flow of the economy, wouldn't it be nice to foresee a downturn or recession? The temporary help services industry can be that canary in the coal mine.

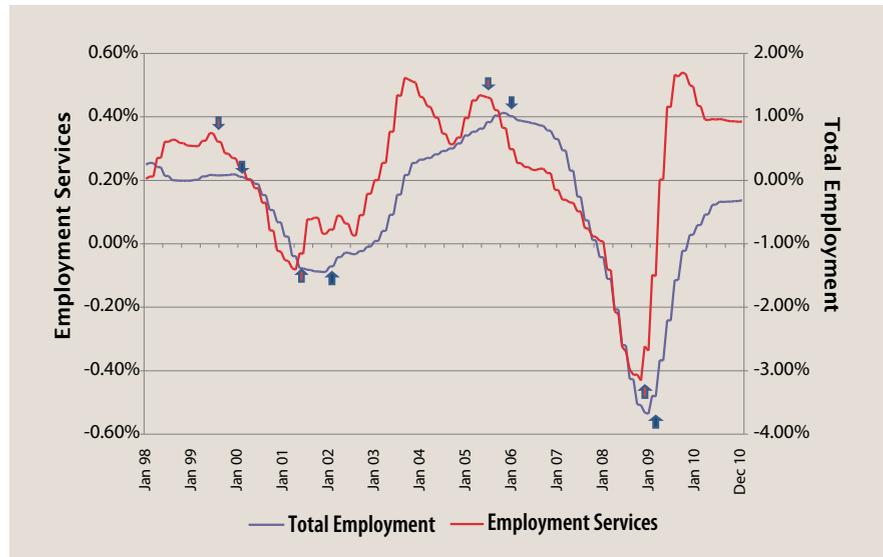
Temp help services is not only an important and reliable means for employers to supplement and balance their workforces, it has also emerged as a leading employment indicator. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the temporary help services industry is considered an indicator of the overall economy because movements in temp employment often have been a precursor to changes in the broader labor market.¹ In 2009 the American Staffing Agency commissioned a study to statistically test the strength of this relationship. The study concluded that particularly in the current decade temporary help employment was strong as both a one- and two-quarter leading indicator of nonfarm employment.²

Can we observe this indicator in employment trends for Utah? We took seasonally adjusted employment data from the Current Employment Statistics program (CES) and calculated the month-over percentage change for the Employment Services (5613) industry and total employment. Our time span covers two recessionary periods: March 2001 to Nov 2001 and December 2007 to June 2009. We observed several points where employment services appeared to be out ahead of changes in

The temporary help services industry is considered an indicator of the overall economy because movements in temp employment often have been a precursor to changes in the broader labor market.

Employment Services Industry as a Leading Indicator of Utah's Total Employment

total employment in periods of both growth and decline. In July of 1999, you can see employment services employment began to fall seven-months before total employment started declining in February 2000. In June 2001 employment services started growing eight-months before total employment started to increase. Likewise in July 2005, employment services started to decline six-months prior to a decline in total employment in January 2006. Employment services employment also began to grow in February 2009 two-months prior to growth in total employment in April 2009.



Source: Current Employment Statistics, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Can we conclude that the employment services/temporary help services industry in Utah acts as a leading indicator of the overall labor market? Yes, the chart demonstrates that this relationship exists. ¹

Notes

¹Tian Luo, Amar Mann, and Richard Holden, "The expanding role of temporary help services from 1990 to 2008", Monthly Labor Review Online, Aug. 2010, pp. 1.

²American Staffing Association. (June 2009). Staffing jobs as economic and employment indicators. Alexandria, VA: American Staffing Association on the Internet at www.americanstaffing.net/statistics/pdf/Staffing_Jobs_as_Indicators.pdf.



Recession

Keeps More Americans in Place

Numbers of people moving are down; but most of those who did move still reside in the same county.

Between 2009 and 2010, 37.5 million people in the U.S. moved at least once to new quarters. This amounts to 12.5 percent of all people 1 year of age or older.

Most people who moved, 27.0 million or 69.3 percent of movers, still reside in the same county. The 10.6 million who moved by 2010 to a new county, comprise about 3.5 percent of the population. This is the lowest percentage of out-of-county migrants since the U.S. Census Bureau began keeping such records in 1947. The previous year, 11 million people moved to a different county. Between 2004 and 2005 for example, when the economy was flourishing, 15.8 million people moved to a new county.

The enduring effects of the recession—relatively high unemployment, housing difficulties of foreclosures and falling prices, and slow job growth—have restrained the mobility of Americans.

Mobility information collected by the Census Bureau from its monthly Current Population Survey has shown over the years that during times of recession with less economic opportunity, domestic migration slows. The lack of mobility in our

current economy is worse than usual. Often, when there is a U.S. recession, while some parts of the country experience economic difficulties there are other areas that are doing well. This last, so called “great recession,” which contained a severe financial crisis, touched all areas of the country.

There are about 80 tables provided by the Census Bureau that highlight other demographic and economic characteristics related to the mobility of Americans, including:

- The mover rate varies considerably by region of the country with Westerners (14.7 percent moving) more likely to change address.
- The unemployed (19.8 percent) have a greater propensity to move than the employed (12.4 percent), while 9.5 percent of those not in the labor force were movers.
- People who had incomes below the poverty level (23.5 percent) change address more frequently than those above the poverty level (10.7 percent).
- Differences between racial/ethnic groups revealed that Blacks had the highest mover rate at 16.7 percent, followed by Hispanics (15.6 percent), Asians (13.9 percent) and Whites not Hispanic (10.8 percent).



Mobility in the United States Reason for Move: 2009 to 2010

Total Movers (Population 1+ years in thousands)	37,540
Family Reason	
Change in marital status	7.3%
To establish own household	11.2%
Other family reason	11.7%
Job Related	
New job or job transfer	7.8%
To look for work or lost job	2.6%
To be closer to work/easier commute	4.2%
Retired	0.5%
Other job related reason	1.3%
Housing Reason	
Wanted own home, not rent	4.6%
Wanted new or better home/ apartment	15.5%
Wanted better neighborhood /less crime	4.1%
Wanted cheaper housing	10.8%
Other housing reason	8.7%
Other Reasons	
To attend or leave college	2.7%
Change of climate	0.6%
Health reasons	1.5%
Natural disaster	0.3%
Other reasons	4.4%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey.

The complete series of statistical tables from *Geographic Mobility: 2010* that detail types, distances, characteristics, and reasons that people change address can be found on the Census Bureau web site:

<http://www.census.gov/hhes/migration/data/cps/cps2010.html>



Total Movers (in thousands) 37,540

Where did they Move:

Same County	26,017	69.3%
Different County		
Same State	6,252	16.7%
Different State	4,326	11.5%
Abroad	946	2.5%

Mobility in the United States Destination: 2009 to 2010

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey.



Pay in Utah

The highest-paid professions in Utah in 2010 were doctors, dentists, lawyers, and engineering managers. The state's lowest paid positions included hosts and hostesses, counter attendants in food service, food preparation workers, dishwashers, and fast-food cooks.

This information is from the annual Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) Survey, which produces estimates of wages for workers in about 600 occupations and nine geographic areas in Utah. Some 4,000 employers are surveyed annually to collect this important information. The highest-paid workers in Utah are in healthcare with medical doctors of different specialties median annual earnings of \$100,000 to \$200,000. Engineering managers, sales engineers, chief executives, pharmacists, and computer and information systems managers all had median annual earnings of \$100,000 to \$130,000.

Hourly rates for the lowest paid included mostly service workers, such as dining room and cafeteria attendants (\$8.36), fast-food cooks (\$8.43), dishwashers (\$8.45), combined food preparation and service workers (\$8.46), and hosts and hostesses (\$8.61). Obviously most workers fall in between the highest and lowest paid. Here are the median hourly wages for some recognizable occupations not in the highest or lowest paid list, but those we can all identify with listed at the right.

Accountants & Auditors	\$27.17
Automotive Service Technicians & Mechanics	18.70
Bookkeeping, Accounting, & Auditing Clerks	14.93
Carpenters	17.78
Cashiers	8.89
Childcare Workers	8.99
Computer Programmers	31.44
Dental Hygienists	32.51
Pharmacists	53.83
Plumbers, Pipefitters, & Steamfitters	\$20.72
Registered Nurses	28.41
Retail Salespersons	10.23
Secretaries & Admin. Assistants, except Legal, Medical, & Executive	13.68
Shipping, Receiving, & Traffic Clerks	13.24
Telemarketers	11.20
Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	19.12

Wages vary by geographic area. The pay figures on page 16 are statewide median wages. Wage information is available for nine geographic areas* in Utah. For example, registered nurses made \$26.07 per hour in Cache County compared to \$29.23 per hour in Salt Lake City.

Also, wage levels vary by labor market area. To the right is a listing of the median wages for each of the nine sub-state areas. Many factors are at play that can cause area pay differentials. A primary one is the composition and size of industries in an area. Concentrations of employment—areas that have most of the jobs—will typically have higher median wages with the exceptions of areas where high pay industries have a much larger share of employment than do others. Box Elder County is an example of the latter. Over 30 percent of Box Elder’s employment is concentrated in the high-paying manufacturing sector.

The types or categories of wage data include the inexperienced wage, average wage, median wage, and the middle range of wages for each occupation. Which wage measure should you use? For the newly employed, with little or no experience, you would use the “inexperienced” wage. For someone with experience and training, use the average or median wage. The average is the wage weighted by employment in the occupations. When the wages of all persons in an occupation are ordered from the lowest to highest, the median wage is simply the wage of the middle worker in that list, and the middle range of wages is the wage range of the middle 50 percent of workers.

You can get wage rates two ways. One is by accessing the wage tables available online at <http://jobs.utah.gov/jsp/wi/utalmis/gotoOccwage.do>, select the geographic area you are interested in, click the continue box and then select at the top portion of the page a list of all occupations for the area. These are alphabetical listings of occupations with wages by geographic area. The other method is a customer-driven computer access through the Department of Workforce Services web site’s Utah Economic Data Viewer (UEDV) at <http://jobs.utah.gov/jsp/wi/utalmis/gotoOccwage.do>. Select a geographic area then select a job title you wish, then click continue. ⓘ



Included here are estimates of wages for workers in about 600 occupations and nine geographic areas. Some 4,000 employers are surveyed annually to collect this information.



Median Annual Wage

by Area in Utah (2010)

STATEWIDE \$31,290

Salt Lake City MSA (*Salt Lake, Summit, Tooele*) \$32,870

Box Elder/Rich Counties \$32,130

Eastern Utah (*Carbon, Daggett, Duchesne, Emery, Grand, San Juan, Uintah, Wasatch*) \$31,730

Ogden-Clearfield MSA (*Davis, Morgan, Weber*) \$30,320

Provo-Orem MSA (*Juab, Utah*) \$29,780

Central Utah (*Millard, Piute, Sanpete, Sevier, Wayne*) \$28,000

Washington County MSA \$27,790

Cache County MSA \$27,620

Southwest (*Beaver, Garfield, Iron, Kane*) \$27,200

*Nine geographical areas:

- Box Elder and Rich Counties
- Central and Western Rural Counties
- Eastern Rural Counties,
- Logan Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)
- Ogden-Clearfield MSA
- Provo-Orem MSA
- St. George MSA
- Salt Lake City MSA
- Southwestern Rural Counties

Occupational

Wage Data

Published in the Utah Economic Data Viewer



One of the most important considerations to make when recruiting for a new job or accepting a new job is the pay rate associated with that job.

Businesses need to provide a competitive wage to attract workers with the qualities they need, while paying attention to their bottom line. Job applicants have a variety of budgetary concerns contributing to their salary requirements and want to be fairly compensated.

Since it is not common to have specific knowledge of what competitors pay or what colleagues earn, the data can be surprising. Some businesses pay unusually high or low wages compared to other firms, and this might influence the expectations of each group. Luckily for everyone in the labor market, Utah's Department of Workforce Services provides a valuable data source that can serve all interests.

Each year, the Department of Workforce Services gathers wages from employers through the Occupational Employment Statistics Survey. This information can be found in the Utah Economic Data Viewer's Occupational Wages feature: <http://jobs.utah.gov/jsp/wi/utalmis/gotoOccwage.do>. Occupational wage data, that can guide businesses and job seekers in their decision-making, have just been released and are available for several sub-state areas.



Find wages listed for jobs by keyword or title in the Occupational Explorer at jobs.utah.gov:

- <http://jobs.utah.gov/jsp/wi/utalmis/gotoOccinfo.do>
- View the wage data for individual jobs posted at <http://jobs.utah.gov>.

Wages for occupations in the state of Utah or in certain sub-state areas, can be viewed using this data tool. It contains the inexperienced wage, or the average of the bottom third of the wages, in the distribution; the average wage of all workers within each occupation; the median, or center of the distribution; and the range of wages paid to the middle 50 percent of the workers in each occupation.

This information allows job seekers to gauge whether the advertised pay rates are within the market range, to negotiate pay, and to influence the pursuit of one possible career over another because of better economic prospects. It also allows businesses to measure whether they should adjust what they offer for each occupation they employ depending on their business strategy. ⓘ

For more information on Utah or national occupational wages and how wage data are gathered, visit:

- <http://stats.bls.gov/oes/current/oesrcst.htm>
- http://stats.bls.gov/oes/oes_emp.htm

Go to jobs.utah.gov click on Utah Economic Data



What's your LOCATION Quotient?

The release of the 2010 occupational employment estimates for the nation, state of Utah, and Utah's metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs), presents a fresh opportunity for analyzing our state's occupational composition. An interesting occupational statistic that is worthy of evaluation is the location quotient. A location quotient is the ratio of one area's employment concentration to the concentration of employment in a given reference area. This article considers Utah's state and area occupational employment with respect to the national employment mix.

In the analysis below, a location quotient larger than one reflects a greater than average occupational presence, whereas a location quotient of less than one indicates the occupation is less represented in an area than it is nationally.

As can be seen in the accompanying tables, some of Utah's most represented occupations are above the \$21.35 national average wage and \$16.27 national median wage for all occupations. High location quotients are generally driven by clusters of like business activities that require many of the same occupation, and may also be reflected in an area's industrial make-up. For example, the Salt Lake City MSA has a relatively large healthcare, and professional, technical and scientific influence, thus spawning occupations like medical appliance technicians and biomedical engineers. Manufacturing is a predominant industry in northern Utah, demanding employment in occupations such as aircraft mechanics, electrical equipment repairers, and food batchmakers. While construction projects in St. George are not near what they used to be, lingering employment

in construction occupations such as masons, drywall installers and bench carpenters contribute to the high occupational location quotients in the area. Meanwhile, two of the Provo-Orem MSA's top five occupations stem from strong post-secondary education employment in the region.

Occupations in Utah with some of the lowest location quotients are music directors and meat cutters and trimmers. It is likely that employment opportunities exist in occupations with high location quotients; however, location quotients do not take into account the supply of labor. Consequently, an occupation could witness large employment numbers in a given geography, but if qualified jobseekers outweigh occupational demand, then opportunities in the field could be fewer than expected. 

Utah's Greatest Occupational Location Quotients, by Area, 2010

STATEWIDE				
Occupation	Employment	Location Quotient	Mean Wage	Median Wage
Reservation and Transportation Ticket Agents and Travel Clerks	5,090	4.642	\$13.12	\$12.22
Forest and Conservation Technicians	1,290	4.436	\$15.67	\$13.46
Tax Examiners and Collectors, and Revenue Agents	2,240	3.624	\$21.98	\$21.14
Multiple Machine Tool Setters, Metal and Plastic	2,040	3.256	\$14.70	\$14.00
Telemarketers	7,220	2.768	\$11.81	\$11.20

SALT LAKE CITY METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA				
Occupation	Employment	Location Quotient	Mean Wage	Median Wage
Medical Appliance Technicians	640	10.305	\$15.80	\$15.68
Reservation and Transportation Ticket Agents and Travel Clerks	4,970	8.797	\$13.12	\$12.22
Biomedical Engineers	380	5.349	\$35.30	\$34.81
Multiple Machine Tool Setters, Metal and Plastic	1,210	3.738	\$15.04	\$14.09
Occupational Health and Safety Technicians	150	3.217	\$22.87	\$22.38



Utah's Greatest Occupational Location Quotients Cont.

PROVO-OREM METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA

Occupation	Employment	Location Quotient	Mean Wage	Median Wage
Tile and Marble Setters	300	7.172	\$23.34	\$23.06
Residential Advisors	460	5.271	\$12.61	\$10.60
Law Teachers, Postsecondary	100	4.983	\$127,170 (Annual)	\$112,050 (Annual)
Computer Science Teachers, Postsecondary	170	3.938	\$87,590 (Annual)	\$85,530 (Annual)
Helpers--Masons, and Tile and Marble Setters	160	3.933	\$16.46	\$16.71

OGDEN-CLEARFIELD METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA

Occupation	Employment	Location Quotient	Mean Wage	Median Wage
Audio-Visual and Multimedia Collections Specialists	100	8.587	\$16.82	\$15.49
Logisticians	980	6.277	\$34.55	\$34.19
Aircraft Mechanics and Service Technicians	970	5.488	\$25.47	\$25.79
Electrical and Electronics Repairers, Commercial Equipment	550	5.470	\$27.11	\$27.02
Plasterers and Stucco Masons	210	5.329	\$13.42	\$12.99

LOGAN METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA

Occupation	Employment	Location Quotient	Mean Wage	Median Wage
Food Batchmakers	340	9.401	\$13.46	\$13.78
Electrical and Electronic Equipment Assemblers	490	7.239	\$14.42	\$11.89
Packaging and Filling Machine Operators and Tenders	920	7.140	\$14.18	\$14.36
Helpers--Carpenters	120	6.573	\$10.26	\$9.52
Drywall and Ceiling Tile Installers	150	4.894	\$16.73	\$17.02

ST. GEORGE METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA

Occupation	Employment	Location Quotient	Mean Wage	Median Wage
Plasterers and Stucco Masons	140	14.563	\$15.01	\$15.39
Brickmasons and Blockmasons	110	4.366	\$24.18	\$26.48
Social and Human Service Assistants	530	4.188	\$10.61	\$10.46
Drywall and Ceiling Tile Installers	110	3.653	\$14.74	\$13.70
Cabinetmakers and Bench Carpenters	110	3.628	\$13.66	\$13.05

Note: Statewide location quotients are for occupations with a minimum employment of 1,000 and publishable wage data. MSA location quotients are for occupations with a minimum employment of 100 and publishable wage data.

If You Thought
Wages Go Down in a Recession

Think Again



Contrary to common thought, wages in the state have increased each year of the last decade.

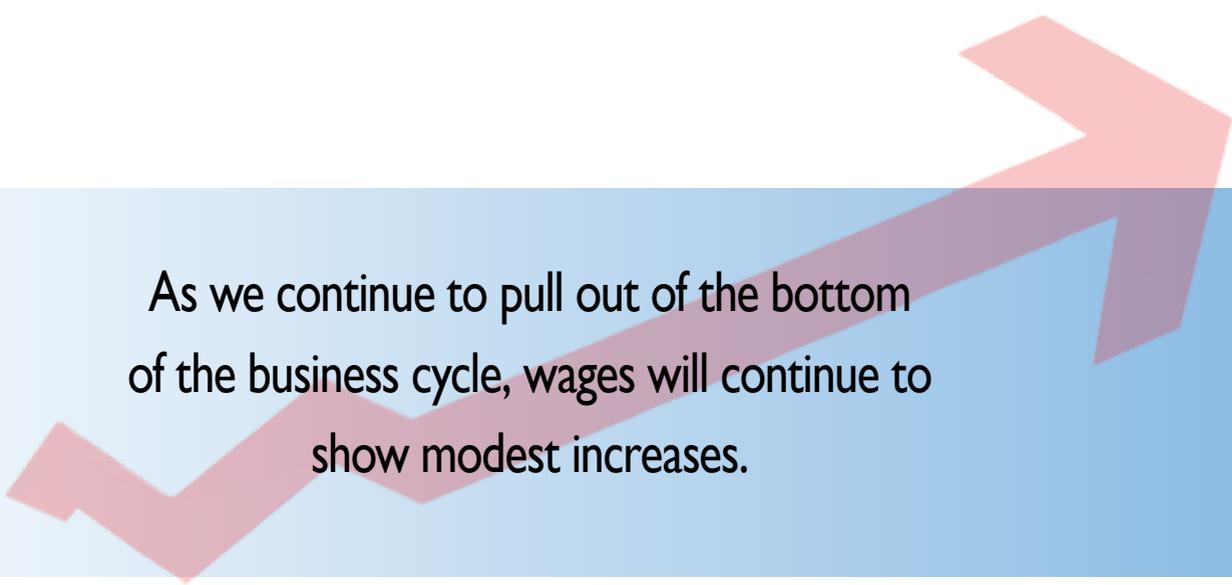
As Utah starts to pull out of the recession, the thoughts of how the economy was constrained by lack of demand causing layoffs, no hiring, and curtailed work hours continue to play out. Right along with this is the concept that wages in Utah had to drop because of the recession. Sounds logical. What happened was contrary to common thought. Average wages in the state did increase each year all the way through the 2000's. That's not to say we didn't have a recession. We did. At the business cycle peak in 2007 employment in Utah was 1,250,000. In 2010, well after the official bottoming of the recession occurred in June of 2009, job counts dropped to 1,180,000. That's evidence of the downturn. Employment declined but average wages increased.

As the market crumbled in 2008, demand disappeared, and worker shortages disappeared. Employers adjusted their workforces to hold on to their most important and productive staff. They let the newly hired and marginal workers go. Competition among businesses for workers fell off. You would think that pressure on wages would evaporate. Even in the face of declining revenues, increased unemployment, declining employment, and payroll dollars, the average wage in the state increased. Wages increased 2.6 percent in 2008 (about half of the 5.5 percent from the boom year of 2007) and 1.6 percent in 2009. Since the Utah economy is starting to see some light, the wage change between 2009 and 2010 increased to 2.6 percent. As we continue to pull out of the bottom of the business cycle, wages will continue to show modest increases.

Average Wages Increased During the Boom

As demand for goods and services surged during mid-decade, the call for more workers was not met by the market. With a shortage of workers, employers were scrambling to recruit, and their most potent tool was to increase wage offers to make their job openings more attractive than the next employer. Wage pressures were realized as the average wages in the state rose to 3.5 percent during 2004 and 2005. As the situation continued to heat up, average wages spiked at 5.4 percent in 2006 and 5.5 percent in 2007—right at the peak of the boom.

	Utah Average Monthly Wage	Percent Change Prior Year
2004	2,641	3.5
2005	2,736	3.6
2006	2,883	5.4
2007	3,043	5.5
2008	3,121	2.6
2009	3,171	1.6
2010	3,263	2.9



As we continue to pull out of the bottom of the business cycle, wages will continue to show modest increases.

Wage Changes in Industries “in the News”

Construction—This industry took the biggest “hit” to employment during the recession, dropping from the peak of 103,500 in 2007 to 65,250 in 2010. It lost more than a third of its peak employment. Wages, however, were increasing but at decreased rate—from 4.5 percent in 2008 to 3.9 percent in 2009 and then 2.9 percent in 2010. Construction tightened up, and many jobs were lost, but average pay increased. The companies and their employees that were able to hang on, actually made more money each year.

Manufacturing—This industry lost 13 percent of its employment between 2007 and 2010. The industry maintained wage increases of 5.6 percent in 2007 and 2008. Wage increases slipped to 2.4 percent in 2009 and buoyed up to 3.7 percent in 2010 as the industry felt its first positive movement out of the downturn.

Trade (Wholesale and Retail)—During the boom, even the large trade sector, where there are many unskilled and part-time workers, had average wage increases of over 6.0 percent during 2007 and 2008. Spending fell precipitously as the recession settled in and wages actually fell, but by less than 1.0 percent in 2008 and 2009. Very few industries experienced a decline in wages during the recession.

Healthcare and Social Assistance—Some think this stalwart of employment is recession-proof. This is somewhat the case as employment has continued to grow during the thick and thins of economic cycles. Wage pressures were strong in mid-decade as the average wage increased by 5.8 percent in 2005. After that, however, average wage percent changes were half of the peak with a 2.7 percent rise in both 2007 and 2008. In 2009 the industry average wage rose by 4.1 percent but last year (2010) wage increases slipped to a -0.3 percent change. The increasing demand for services and escalation of costs may be manifested by increasing wages for this industry. ①

For more information

on industries and average wages, go to our web site and click on the Utah Industry Employment and Wages section: <http://jobs.utah.gov/jsp/wi/utalmis/gotoIndustry.do>



Anesthesiologists
are part of
complicated,
and often, life-
threatening
medical
and surgical
procedures.

Anesthesiologists: Conquering Pain

Other than a pre-surgery consultation with an anesthesiologist, the only thing most patients remember post-surgery is the phrase “close your eyes and count backwards from one hundred.” “One hundred, ninety-nine, ninety-eight....zzzzzz.” The next thing you know, you’re being awakened by a nurse whose job it is to rouse you out of the deep sleep you’ve been experiencing. The anesthesia given usually produces a drug-induced amnesia, and surgery, for the most part, is made bearable.

Anesthesiologists are medical doctors who administer anesthetics during surgery or other medical procedures. Anesthesia (topical, local, regional or general) produces a loss of sensation, with or without loss of consciousness. Anesthesiologists examine a patient to determine the type of anesthesia needed and monitor the patient’s vital functions during surgery. They partner with other physicians to determine the patient’s condition before, during, and after the medical procedure. In other words, without the anesthesiologist, the Hollywood scene of taking a swig of whiskey and biting down on a bullet in order to bear the pain of surgery might be reality, not just fantasy.

Anesthesiologists may administer anesthesia directly or as part of an anesthesia team consisting of nurse anesthetists or anesthesiologist’s assistants. A nurse anesthetist, also called Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA), is a nurse who is trained in the administration of anesthesia after undergoing special training, usually 2–3 years after college, and who generally works under the supervision of a physician.

To become an anesthesiologist, a bachelor’s degree from an accredited four-year college or university must be earned, followed by a medical degree. After graduating medical school, a doctor will apply for a four-year residency with the option of further sub-specialization through a fellowship of one to three years. After graduating from the residency program, board certification can be achieved by successfully completing a complex written and oral examination process.

Many anesthesiologists work long, irregular hours. Acceptance to medical school is highly competitive and the eleven plus years it takes to be certified in the medical field is the most demanding of any occupation. Like

most health professionals, anesthesiologists are part of complicated, and often, life-threatening medical and surgical procedures. They are responsible for cardiac and pulmonary resuscitation, advanced life support, and stabilizing and preparing patients for emergency surgery.

The next time you put your health-care in the hands of an anesthesiologist, be thankful that the field has advanced past nitrous oxide (laughing gas) and ether, or better yet, a swig of whiskey and a leather strap clamped between your teeth. ●

Resources:

- Bls.gov
- American Society of Anesthesiologists
- American Board of Anesthesiology
- Association of American Medical Colleges
- <http://jobs.utah.gov/jsp/wi/utalmis/gotoOccinfo.do>
- Mshealthcarecareers.com



Utah Anesthesiologist Wages		Utah Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist Wages	
Median Hourly	\$56.26	Median Hourly	\$28.41
Mean Hourly	\$71.61	Mean Hourly	\$29.10
Mean Annual	\$148,900	Mean Annual	\$60,530

May, 2010 data, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Manufacturing

If some sage were to come and prophesize that in 2016 the economy would fall into a recession, and then ask me what industry I believe this would impact the most, my answer would be manufacturing. Why? History shows that manufacturing always loses jobs during a recession.

Roughly 17,000 manufacturing jobs downsized in Utah from mid-2007 to mid-2010. That's not much of a surprise considering the severity of the Great Recession. But what's interesting is the industry's performance since mid-2010. Manufacturing job losses have not only stopped, but are now starting to rebound.

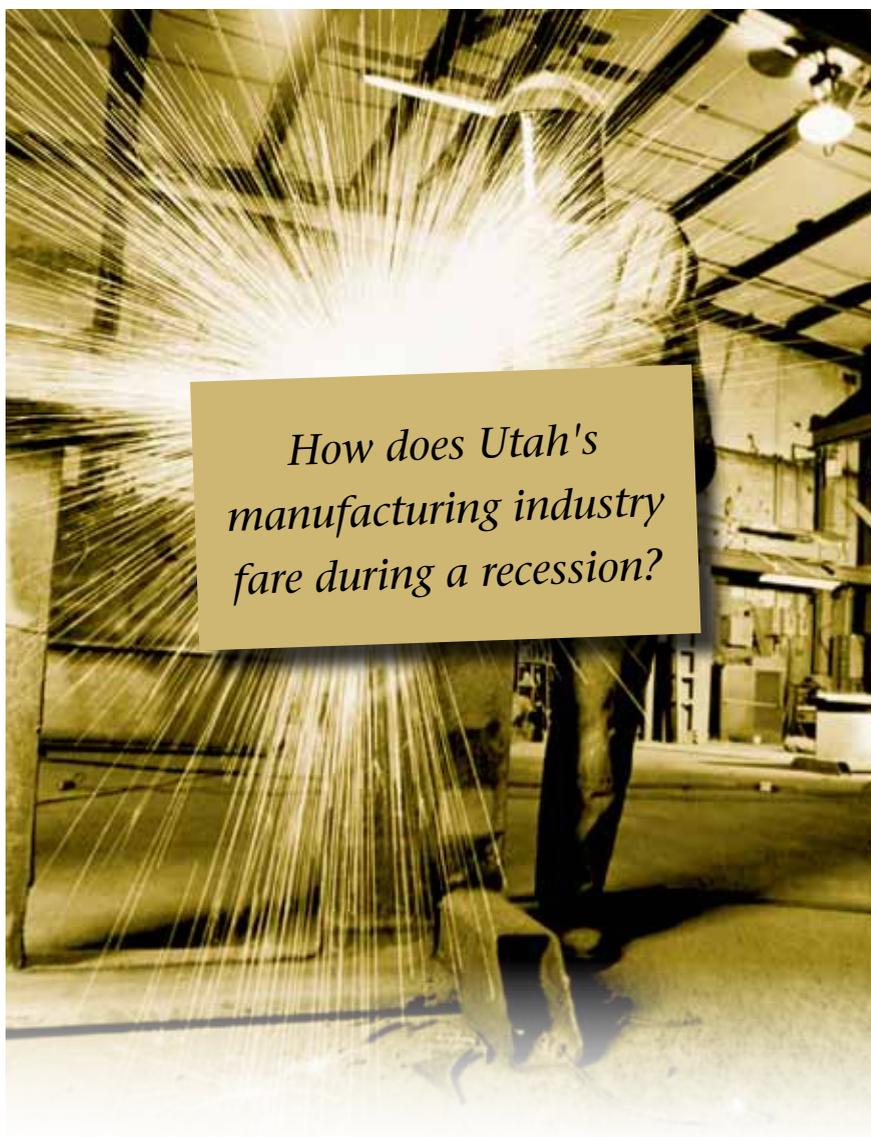
A 500-job increase isn't much to crow about, but oftentimes what happens is manufacturing falls during a recession, then remains at the level to which it fell, until the next recession comes along and it falls some more. But there is some manufacturing job rebound going on, and it may be attributable to two possibilities (probably a combination of both).

The first is how aggressively manufacturers responded to the recession and the amount of job cuts that ensued. There is speculation that firms actually overcut jobs. Therefore, even the slightest uptick in business should prompt some new hiring. This might not be applicable across all industries, but it seems to be pertinent in the manufacturing arena.

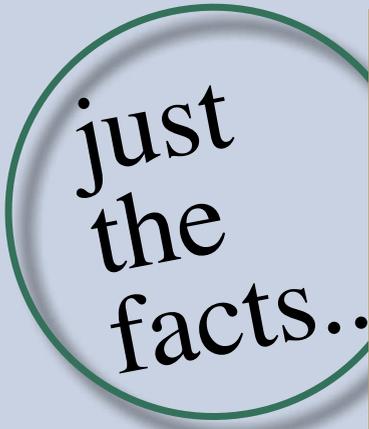
The second possibility is the low value of the U.S. dollar in relation to other world currencies. The low dol-

lar makes the price of U.S. goods more affordable to overseas buyers. For example, it's cheaper for an outside buyer to purchase an industrial machine made in the U.S. than one made in Europe due to currency exchange rates.

Nationally, manufacturing jobs are seeing a rebound for this very reason. It is this burst in exports that is one of the bright spots within the economy which is helping to get the economy jump started once again. 



How does Utah's manufacturing industry fare during a recession?



May 2011 Unemployment Rates		Changes From Last Year	
Utah Unemployment Rate	7.3 %	Down	0.5 points
U.S. Unemployment Rate	9.1 %	Down	0.5 points
Utah Nonfarm Jobs (000s)	1,200.4	Up	1.5 %
U.S. Nonfarm Jobs (000s)	131,753.0	Up	0.7 %
April 2011 Consumer Price Index Rates			
U.S. Consumer Price Index	224.9	Up	3.2%
U.S. Producer Price Index	192.9	Up	7.3%

Source: Utah Department of Workforce Services

April 2011 Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

Beaver	7.7 %
Box Elder	8.9 %
Cache	5.2 %
Carbon	7.2 %
Daggett	6.2 %
Davis	6.6 %
Duchesne	6.0 %
Emery	7.4 %
Garfield	10.8 %
Grand	10.6 %
Iron	8.7 %
Juab	10.5 %
Kane	8.0 %
Millard	5.4 %
Morgan	6.7 %
Piute	6.9 %
Rich	5.8 %
Salt Lake	6.9 %
San Juan	12.3 %
Sanpete	8.9 %
Sevier	7.8 %
Summit	6.4 %
Tooele	7.4 %
Uintah	5.5 %
Utah	7.2 %
Wasatch	8.2 %
Washington	9.3 %
Wayne	9.9 %
Weber	8.1 %

Watch for these features in our
Next Issue:

Theme:
Green Jobs and More

Highlighted Industry:
Life Sciences

Occupation:
Environmental Engineer



Helpful Tools:

- Want to know the employment outlook for certain jobs?
- Population, sales tax, and construction information for a particular county?
- Names, addresses, phone numbers, and employment size of Utah firms?
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