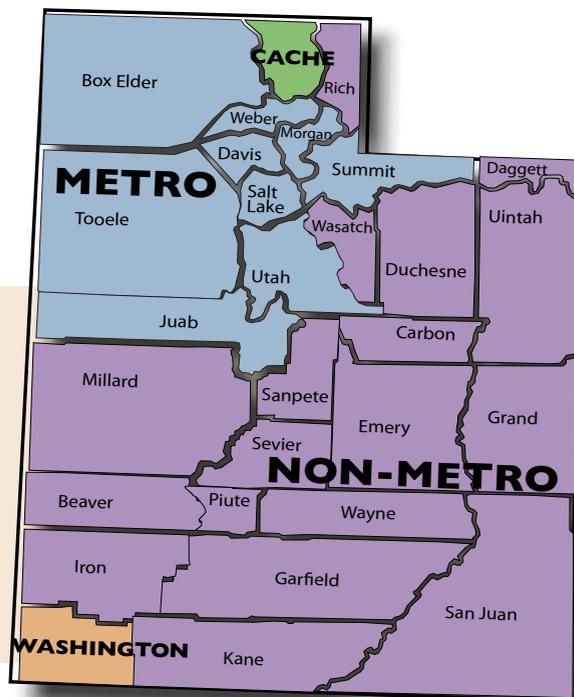


A Look at Utah's SUB-STATE AREAS Employment Projections



Every two years we make projections of what employment in the state will look like in terms of industries and occupations. In published form it's called the Utah Job Outlook and it will be released in the next few months. Much of our time during the process is spent making occupational employment and job openings estimates. The current projection's time period is for 2008 to 2018. The projections are produced not just for the state as a whole but for four sub-state geographic areas. The areas are determined by population and job density. If a county has 100,000 or more population, it will likely be in its own projections area. In Utah we have consolidated the labor market areas commonly known as the Wasatch Front into one "metro" projections area. It contains nine counties extending from Box Elder County to the north to Juab County to the south (see graph above).

The sub-state areas other than the metro are Cache County, Washington County, and the Balance of State (BOS) which we call non-metro. The non-metro area is basically the more rural part of the state and contains 18 counties. It's no surprise that the metro area dominates the economic activity in the state. Roughly 80 to 85 percent of population and employment is concentrated along this stretch of real estate.

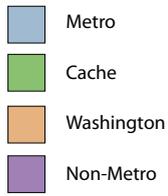
Of the total 1.76 million jobs estimated in Utah in 2018, about 83 percent will be in the metro area (see

graph next page). The non-metro 18-county area accounted for 8.4 percent of the total with Cache contributing 4.0 percent and Washington county adding 4.5 percent. Between 2008 and 2018 job growth will vary based on geographic areas in Utah. The statewide rate of growth will average about 2.1 percent over the 10-year period. Washington County will grow much more quickly with about 3.4 percent per year. Cache County is pegged at a near state average of 2.2 percent per year and the Balance of State counties will experience below average growth of 2.0 percent per year.

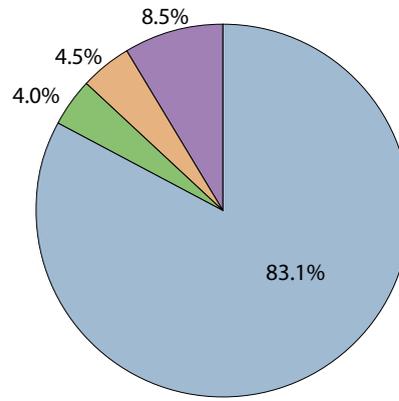
Utah's sub-state areas are not created equal, rather the types of jobs are determined by the nature of the local area's economy

The primary driving economic forces of an area determine what kinds of industries and occupations they have to meet the local demands of business and consumers. Our projections of employment and job openings by occupation are made for over 700 occupations. At the occupation level, you would recognize jobs such as accountants, teachers, nurses, machinists, etc. To analyze occupational demand at more of a macro level we can "roll-up" this detail to occupational categories or families like managers, professional occupations, service occupations, production and maintenance occupation etc. To show the differences in the local sub-state economies the 22 occupational categories of employment have

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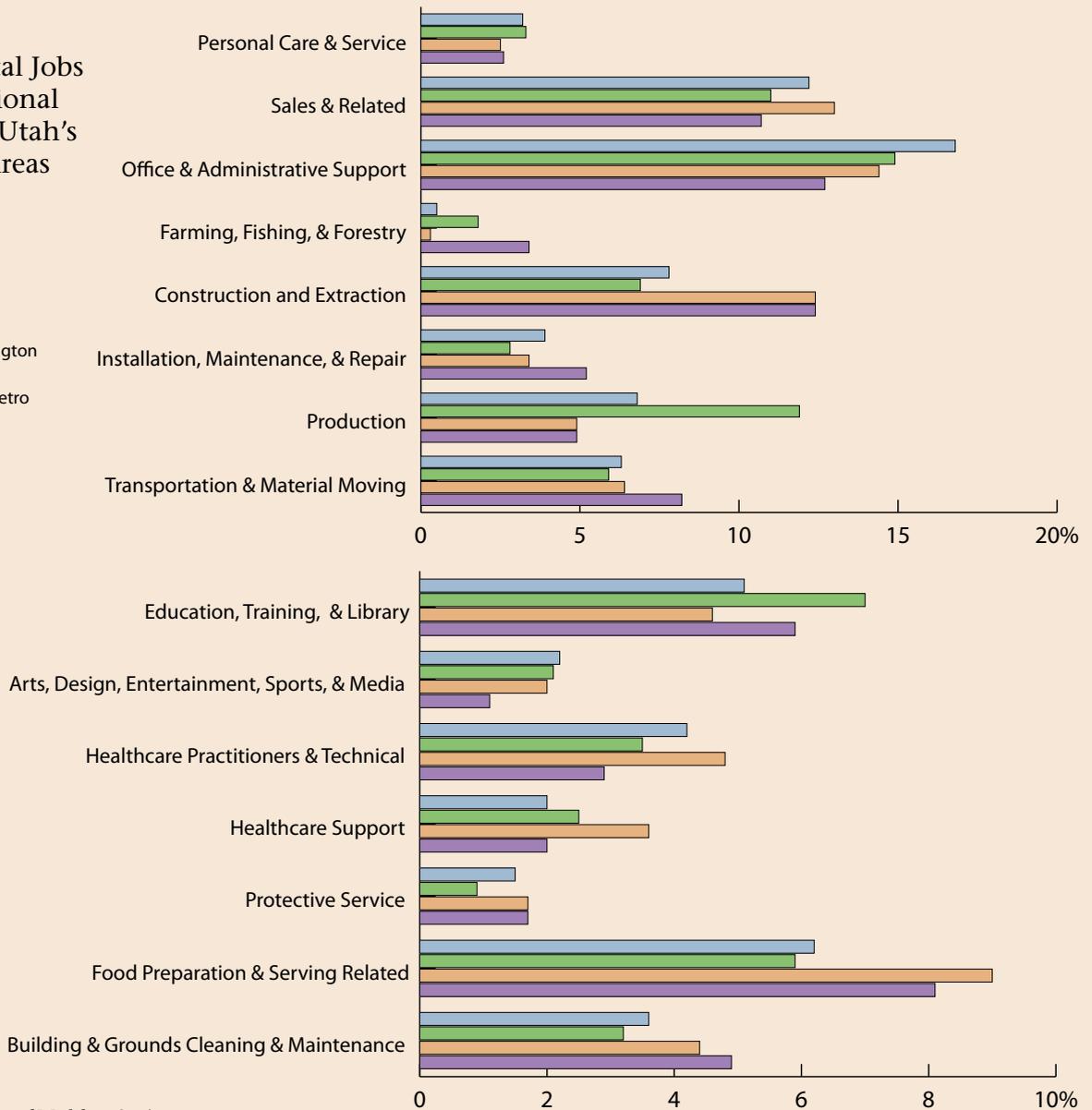
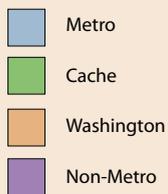


Employment Projections for Utah's Sub-State Areas 2018



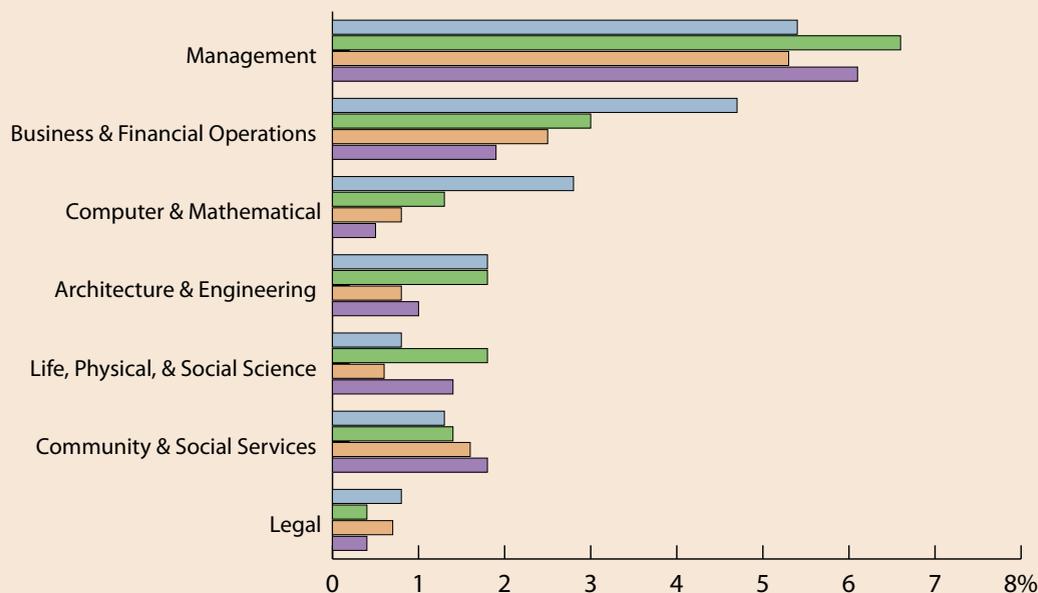
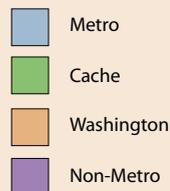
Total 2018 Jobs =
1,758,400

Percent of Total Jobs by Occupational Category for Utah's Sub-State Areas 2008



Source: Utah Department of Workforce Services.

Percent of Total Jobs
by Occupational
Category for Utah's
Sub-State Areas
2008 Continued



been converted into a percent of total jobs in the area to show the differences in occupation/job structure. For example, the percent of “production” occupational category employment in the metro area accounts for 6.8 percent of total jobs in metro, but in Cache County the percent of production jobs accounts for 11.9 percent of total Cache County jobs. That’s a significant difference and shows that there are relatively more production (meaning relatively more manufacturing) jobs in Cache County than on the Wasatch Front. Take a look at the graphs that show the distribution of total employment in an area by occupational category to see the “differences” in the geographic area.

Highlights in the occupational structure of Utah’s sub state areas:

- Business and financial operations are concentrated in the metro area where the larger offices and finance and headquarter for companies are concentrated—4.7 percent of total employment is in metro with much less than that in the other three areas.
- Computer and information technology jobs are slightly more concentrated in the metro area (2.8 percent) relative to the 0.8 and 0.5 percent levels in Washington and non-metro areas.
- There is a higher concentration of education/training jobs in Cache County (7.0 percent of total jobs) than the metro area (5.1 percent of total jobs) because of Utah State University’s presence.
- Food Preparation and serving related occupations take a larger role in the more recreation and tourism-related Washington County and non-metro (national parks) counties. In the metro area 6.2 percent of the total metro jobs were in this group where those percentages for Washington County and non-metro were 9.0 percent and 8.1 percent respectively.
- Office and administrative support occupations have the highest proportion of total jobs in any area of the state but are more concentrated in the metro area with a 16.8 percent share of total jobs. In Cache County that percentage is 14.9 followed by 14.4 percent in Washington County and a 12.7 percent slice of total jobs in the rural areas of the state.

- As you would expect, the farming/fishing/forestry occupations are an important part of the non-metro economy with only 0.5 percent of total jobs in metro but 1.9 percent and 3.4 percent share in the Cache and non-metro parts of Utah.
- Construction occupations hold a significantly higher share of total jobs in Washington County and BOS where 12.4 percent of all jobs are in this category. The metro part of Utah construction jobs account for 7.8 percent of the total.
- Production jobs account for 11.9 percent of total employment in Cache County which was significantly higher than the metro's 6.8 percent and Washington County and non-metro percent of 4.9.

This analysis and review of the graphs provide an interesting perspective on the makeup of Utah jobs—the occupations that basically reflect the nature of the local economy in the area. ⓘ

Check out the Utah Job Outlook information on our web site:

<http://jobs.utah.gov/wi/pubs/outlooks/state/index.html>

Or use the Utah Economic Data Viewer to search specific occupations, select Occupational Explorer:

<http://jobs.utah.gov/jsp/wi/utalmis/default.do>

