

Department of Workforce Services

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Targeted Employment Areas as Defined by the EB-5 Investor Visa Program (Updated April 2019)

The following are counties in Utah and census tracts within Utah's Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA) that the Department of Workforce Services certifies as Targeted Employment Areas (TEAs) as defined by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services' (USCIS) EB-5 Investor Visa Program. The definition of a TEA is: 1. A rural area or 2. A non-rural area that has experienced high unemployment (150 percent of the national average unemployment rate during a comparable 12-month period), or a city in a rural area with a population of 20,000 or more that has experienced high unemployment.

Rural areas are defined as those areas not located within an MSA, nor a city with a population of 20,000 or more otherwise located in a rural area. Areas in Utah that qualify as rural areas under this provision include:

Beaver County
Carbon County
Daggett County
Duchesne County
Emery County
Garfield County
Grand County
Iron County (excluding

Iron County (excluding Cedar City)

Kane County
Millard County

Piute County Rich County San Juan County Sanpete County Sevier County Summit County Uintah County Wasatch County Wayne County

Non-rural areas are all counties that are part of Utah's MSAs. These include:

Cache (Logan MSA)
Box Elder, Davis, Morgan, Weber (Ogden-Clearfield MSA)
Tooele, Salt Lake (Salt Lake City MSA)
Utah, Juab (Provo-Orem MSA)
Washington (St. George MSA).

A non-rural area also includes any city found in a rural area whose population is 20,000 or more (based upon 2010 Census). In Utah, Cedar City meets this definition.

For a non-rural area to qualify as a TEA, it must be identified as high unemployment. The USCIS criterion is that an area's 12-month average unemployment rate is 150 percent or more of the national average unemployment rate for those same 12 months.

For calendar year 2018, the national unemployment rate averaged 3.9 percent. Therefore, a non-rural area qualifies as a high unemployment area if its 2018 annual average unemployment rate is at least 5.9 percent. No MSA, or county within an MSA, or city of population 20,000 or more in a non-rural area in Utah has an unemployment rate that qualifies. However, for geographic designations in non-rural areas below the county or city level, the following census tracts or combinations thereof qualify as meeting or exceeding the 5.9-percent unemployment rate threshold, based upon a census-share methodology

approved by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics as used in that agency's designation of Areas of Substantial Unemployment (ASU) program. (The census-share distribution is based upon the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey 2013-2017 data).

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Davis County Census Tracts:						
125102 125304 125503 125804 125908 126801						
125103 125305 125600 125807 126204 126802						
125104 125405 125701 125808 126305 126901						
125200 125501 125702 125905 126402 127002						
125301 125502 125801 125907 126500 127003						
120001 120002 120001 120000 121000						
Utah County Census Tracts:						
<u>001103 001201 001602 002102 002204 002205</u>						
Cache County Census Tracts:						
000102 000402 000701 001401 001500 980100						
000401 000600 000702						
Box Elder County Census Tracts:						
960100 960200 960300 960801						
Tooele County Census Tracts:						
130600 130701 131001 131100 131200 980000						
Washington County Census Tracts:						
270100 270200 270901 271000						

Maps of qualifying census tracts are available at https://jobs.utah.gov/wi/data/employer/tea/index.html.

Upon request, the Utah Department of Workforce Services can provide a letter of qualification, close up map of TEA designation, and mathematical calculation of the unemployment rate determination for a requested site.

Utah is willing to review a request for TEA certification down to the census block group level. Utah requires that any TEA under consideration must have a minimum total civilian labor force of 2,000 or more based upon 2017 unemployment calculations.

As Utah understands the USCIS process may span several months, a letter of TEA certification as confirmed and dated by the Utah Department of Workforce Services will be valid for two years beyond the date on said certification letter.

For additional questions or information about the TEA area designation or status, contact Mark Knold (mknold@utah.gov) at 801-526-9458.

More information about the EB-5 Investor Visa Program can be found on the USCIS website www.uscis.gov.

The next update is scheduled for April 2020.