

# **Utah County**

# **Community Assessment 2021-2022**

## **Volume 1**

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ISBN-13: 978-1-952215-04-9

Published by Civicus  
17612 Highway E  
Richmond, MO 64085

[CivicusConsulting.com](http://CivicusConsulting.com)

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1







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## **Acknowledgments**

We are grateful to the following organizations that assisted with funding of this research project. Without their willingness to help with financial resources, we would not have been able to complete this assessment.

**CARES 211**

**Community Action Services and Food Bank**

**Kids on the Move**

**Mountainland Department of Aging and Family Service**

**Early Learning Essentials**

**Provo City Housing Authority**

**The Refuge Utah**

**United Way of Utah County**

**Utah Community Credit Union**

**Wasatch Behavioral Health**





This community assessment would not have been possible without the generous support of partner human service agencies that provided their expertise and their access to data. We express our gratitude to the following United Way of Utah County partner agencies for their support of this project:

2-1-1	Just for Kids
Alpine House	Kids Cause
Big Brothers Big Sisters	Kids on the Move
Bridle Up Hope	Kids Who Count
Centro Hispano	Mountainland Continuum of Care
Community Action Services & Food Bank	Now I Can Foundation
Community Health Connect	Project Read
Easterseals Goodwill	RAH
Ella Rises	Self-Help Homes
Family Haven	Teens ACT
Grandfamilies	The Fuller Center for Housing
Habitat for Humanity of Utah County	Timpanogos Legal Center
Help Me Grow Utah	United Way of Utah County
Hope 4 Utah	Utah Valley Paratransit



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## **Executive Summary**

The 2021–2022 Utah County Community Assessment is the fourth in a series of assessments using the same methodology and coordinated by United Way of Utah County and funded by not only United Way, but also multiple partners—nonprofit, government, and private-sector corporations—who each have an interest in the quality of life in Utah County. For more than 35 years, United Way has conducted similar assessments. Following the 2011 assessment, subsequent assessments in 2015, 2018, and 2021–2022 have built upon the data and insights of earlier studies, using the same (or virtually the same) telephone survey instrument and other methods. Originally intended to be released in 2021, production was delayed due to pandemic-caused postponements in data releases by the U.S. Census Bureau and other government agencies. The 2021–2022 community assessment is the largest ever undertaken, with a greater scope and broader input than ever before.

### **Components of Assessment**

As in years past, this assessment relies on both primary and secondary research, as well as quantitative and qualitative data.

Primary research includes a telephone survey of nearly 1,300 adults in Utah County—the largest sample undertaken in any assessment. It also includes focus groups and one-one-one interviews with scores of individuals, from human service providers to community leaders to members of racial and ethnic minority groups. Parents and educators were also included. A particular emphasis was the involvement of black or African American persons, Asian-Americans, American Indians or Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islanders, and persons of Hispanic or Latino descent. The voices of these minority groups yielded invaluable data and insights.



Secondary research included multiple government and private-sector sources such as the U.S. Census Bureau, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Utah Department of Health, Utah State Board of Education, Low-Income Housing Coalition, the three school districts in Utah County, Utah Department of Public Safety, the Federal Bureau of Investigations Uniform Crime Reporting Program, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Kem C. Gardner Public Policy Institute at the University of Utah, and dozens of other sources. Private-sector sources such as CBRE, Redfin, and the Utah Association of Realtors also proved to be significant sources of valuable data.

### **Qualitative Data Results**

With the emphasis on soliciting and receiving the input of racial and ethnic minority group members, dozens of one-on-one interviews and several focus groups provided extremely useful insights. In summary, we found that

- Members of racial and ethnic minority groups experience both favorable and unfavorable treatment from others, which they attribute to their minority status.
- Feelings of isolation are common. Many of those we spoke with feel alone and unnoticed.
- Misunderstanding of cultural norms and lifestyles is prevalent. Participants shared multiple experiences of being expected to act like or be a certain type of person based on their cultural upbringing.
- Appreciation for minority group members' perspectives, diverse experiences, and lifestyle is frequently felt.
- An affirmatory sense that minority group members are valued and sought out because of their uniqueness is common.

## Telephone Survey Results

This year's telephone survey was the largest ever conducted as part of the Utah County community assessment—largest in terms of sample size and number of items. Key takeaways include the following.

- Population growth and housing costs are extremely high-value public policy topics. They are both top-of-mind and passionately debated.
- Education, domestic violence, substance abuse, and—to a lesser extent—mental and emotional health have taken a back seat to growth and housing concerns.
- Neighborhood attachment appears to be good, with anywhere from 55 percent to 80 percent of respondents indicating high attachment, depending on the item. This is similar to the levels of adolescent neighborhood attachment measured in the SHARP study.
- Mountains and outdoor lifestyle, overall quality of life, recreation, and family or friends in general top the list of best things about living in Utah County. These results have remained the same over the past four assessments.

## Key Findings

Key findings, which are discussed in more detail later, include the following.

- **Utah County is becoming more diverse** in terms of racial and ethnic minority composition. The Hispanic population continues to grow. Community members of two or more races are increasing in numbers.
- **Utah County remains young.** The county is the youngest county (of significant size) in the nation, with 33 percent of its population being younger than 18 years.
- **Growth and housing costs are greatest concerns.** These public policy issues have, in many ways, overtaken traditional issues such as education and jobs as the most worrisome.

- **Emotional well-being is at risk.** Depression, anxiety, and poor emotional and mental health are becoming more prevalent among both adolescents and adults.
- **Children are falling behind in school.** The pandemic likely caused the drop in early childhood education proficiency levels. Proficiency in upper primary grades and middle school has also suffered. However, graduation rates and other measures of secondary success appear unaffected.
- **Individual and family self-sufficiency is in danger.** As housing costs, including rents, rise dramatically, the ability of individuals and families to meet their financial obligations is decreasing. In addition, high national inflation rates, increasing interest rates, and lower value of the U.S. dollar are hurting Utah County residents. Wages do not appear to be keeping up with costs.
- **Informal caring systems must be reinforced and increased.** Improved neighborhood attachment will result in more powerful personal and family resiliency, increased public safety, greater trust, enhanced health outcomes, and magnified social capital.
- **Formal caring systems must be strengthened.** Rapid population growth is outpacing the human service system's ability to meet demand; more volunteers and more funding are necessary to close the gap in current capacity and need.





## Foreword

The 2021-2022 community assessment is our most comprehensive assessment ever. It not only presents extensive data from multiple sources—as our assessments always do—but it includes data from a survey of nearly 1,300 adults in Utah County, as well as a greater number of focus groups and personal interviews. Our efforts have been to capture a broader perspective of the diverse makeup of Utah County in terms of race, ethnicity, age, and place of residence. Our interviews and focus groups included individuals with the following backgrounds.

- Human service providers
- Parents of school-age children
- Mental health professionals
- Community leaders
- Ethnic or racial minority residents, including
  - Hispanic
  - Hawaiian and Pacific Islander
  - Asian
  - Black or African American
  - Native American

Our telephone survey of 1,295 adults is the most accurate yet, with a margin of error of 2.8 percent. The sample was stratified based on population distribution throughout Utah County, and more items were added to better understand the changing perspectives, lives, and expectations of Utah County residents following the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic.

All secondary data presented are from credible sources such as the U.S. Census Bureau, the Utah State Office of Education, and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. The latest 2020 decennial census figures are included in this assessment, along with the highly valued American Community Survey. Our intention is to once again provide data to meet the needs of policy makers, grant-making entities, elected officials, grant writers, human service agencies, faith-based organizations, and others.

## *Definitions and Methods*

We use the U.S. Census Bureau's definitions of *household*, *family*, *family group*, *family household*, *householder*, *own children*, *related children*, *college enrollment*, *citizenship*, *health insurance coverage*, *non-family household*, *marital status*, *nativity*, *race*, and *unmarried couple*.

A *household* consists of all people who live within the same structural housing unit. It could be a house, an apartment, a single room, or a group of rooms, as long as the intent is occupancy and the occupants do not live and eat with other persons in another unit.

A *family* is a group of two or more people (one of whom is the householder) related by birth, marriage, or adoption and residing together.

A *family group* is two or more people (not necessarily including a householder) residing together, and related by birth, marriage, or adoption.

A *family household* is a household maintained by a householder and includes any unrelated people who may be residing there. The number of family households is equal to the number of families.

A *householder* is the person in whose name the housing unit is owned or rented or, if there is no such person, any adult member, excluding roomer, boarder, or paid employees. If the house is owned or rented jointly by a married couple, the householder may be either the husband or the wife.

*Own children* are sons and daughters, including stepchildren and adopted children, of the householder.

*Related children* include own children and all other children under 18 years old living in the household and related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption.

*College enrollment* can be full-time or part-time enrollment, day or evening, two-year or four-year, as long as classes taken would normally be given as credit toward a degree-seeking student.

*Citizenship* has five possible categories: born in the USA, born in Puerto Rico or other outlying area of the U.S., born abroad of U.S. citizen parents, naturalized citizens, or noncitizens.

*Health insurance coverage* is measured by asking the individual if, during the previous 12 months, he or she was covered by at least one of the following: employer or union insurance, privately purchased insurance, Medicare, Medicaid, military health care, or other health insurance.

A *non-family household* consists of a householder living alone or where the householder shares the home exclusively with people to whom he or she is not related.

*Marital status* includes four categories: never married, married, widowed, and divorced. It can be further divided into married, spouse present, separated, and other married, spouse absent.

*Nativity* is either native born (citizens at birth) or foreign born.

*Race* includes White; Black; American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut; Asian or Pacific Islander, and Other. Hispanic or Latino individuals are of an ethnicity that is a subset of any other race. For school data, Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander is listed as a separate ethnicity.

*Unmarried couples* are two unrelated adults of the opposite sex (one of whom is the householder) who share a housing unit with or without the presence of children under age 15.

*Unmarried couple households* consist of only two adults.





## Key Findings and Summary Analysis

Utah County's growth is impacting everyone and everything. From housing costs to schools, from culture to emotional well-being—life in Utah County is changing. And it's changing at a rapid pace. In 2000, the population was 371,648; in 2021, it's 665,665—an increase of 79 percent. In the 2010s, the state of Utah saw an 18.6 percent increase in population; Utah County's population increased by 27.9 percent during the same period. To add perspective, Salt Lake County grew by 14.6 percent and Davis County by 19.1 percent. Utah County accounts for 27.4 percent of the state's overall population growth in the 2010s.

This 21-year growth has been spurred on by strong local economic conditions which outpace national trends, a highly educated workforce pool, low crime rates, a culture of assiduousness and industriousness, a young and healthy population, myriad outdoor and recreational amenities, and an affable family environment.

Rapid growth, of course, brings about rapid change. Roads must be built and maintained; public water, sewer, and power infrastructures expanded; zoning codes modified; education systems improved; and hundreds of other community components reevaluated and revamped. Human service systems are no exception. This assessment provides data and insights to guide the transformation required to meet the needs of a growing population.

The following are key findings of this year-long assessment of Utah County's dynamic population.

## Utah County is Becoming More Diverse

In 2016, Utah County’s white-only population reached a decade high of 92.2 percent. Four years later, that percentage dropped to 90.1 percent. The percentage of the population that is two or more races nearly doubled in the 2010s, going from 2.3 percent in 2010 to 4.4 percent in 2020. From 2019 to 2020, the total population increased by 16,016, yet only 5,099 of those are white alone. About 8,500 are two or more races.

During the 2010s, the Hispanic or Latino population increased significantly as well, expanding from 10.2 percent to 11.9 percent—or 24,547 persons. Given that there were 49,522 persons of Hispanic descent in 2010, the increase of 24,547 over 10 years is substantial.

Percent and Number, Persons of Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity, Utah County

	Percent	Number
2010	10.2	49,522
2011	10.5	52,929
2012	10.7	55,498
2013	10.9	57,464
2014	11.0	59,376
2015	11.1	61,287
2016	11.2	62,919
2017	11.4	65,539
2018	11.6	68,285
2019	11.8	71,315
2020	11.9	74,069

Nearly two-thirds—62 percent—of all naturalized citizens in Utah County are from Latin America. This compares to 44.9 percent of naturalized citizens throughout Utah and only 41 percent throughout the U.S. Just over 70 percent of all non-citizens in Utah County are from Latin American, compared to 59.1 percent nationally.

In 2010, 87.3 percent of Utah County residents over age 5 spoke only English at home; in 2020, 84.9 percent do. Most of the change is due to the increase in Spanish speakers: In 2010, 8.7 percent of the population over 5 years spoke Spanish at home—in 2020, 10.6 percent do.

## Utah County Remains Young

Utah County’s population has grown by about 28 percent in the 2010s, increasing by 135,439 residents. The area’s population is not only the youngest in the state, but also the youngest in the nation (counties with

more than 100,000 population). Utah County’s median age of 25 barely edges out Cache County’s 25.4, and is six years younger than the state median age of 31.1. Nationally, the median age is 38.2. Looking at the population of children, 9.3 percent of Utah County’s residents are under 5 years old; 9.8 percent are under 10 years. And the percentage of minors

Youngest Counties in U.S.

County	Population	Number Under 18	Percent Under 18
Utah County, Utah	621,506	207,116	33.3
Webb County, Texas	274,847	90,377	32.9
Hidalgo County, Texas	861,137	280,998	32.6
Davis County, Utah	350,761	112,479	32.1
Tulare County, California	463,955	142,777	30.8
Bonneville County, Idaho	116,970	35,957	30.7
Cameron County, Texas	422,135	128,418	30.4
Ector County, Texas	162,067	49,111	30.3
Cache County, Utah	126,336	38,226	30.3
Yakima County, Washington	250,649	74,417	29.7

continues to be the highest of any county in the nation (with population over 100,000), at 33.3 percent. In 2010, Utah County’s population younger than 18 was 34.8 percent. Although Utah County’s birth rate has declined to 17.74 births per 1,000 population in 2020, it remains much higher than the national birth rate of 11.99. It is important to note that the birth rate in Utah County has declined steadily since 1999, when it was 27.36 births per 1,000.

## Growth and Housing Costs are Greatest Concerns

Respondents to our telephone survey had more to say about the best and worst things in Utah County than ever before. In 2015, 2018, and 2021, our survey asked the open-ended question, “What are the most pressing issues in Utah County?” Respondents were probed for up to five issues by being asked, “Any other issues?”

Housing costs and growth in general have been at the forefront of respondent’s minds in the past, being mentioned by 14.8 percent and 11.3 percent, respectively. However, in 2021, a massive 71 percent of respondents indicated growth in general is one of the most pressing issues—and 43.9 percent said traffic or traffic congestion.

In addition to the open-ended item in our telephone survey, we also asked people to indicate how significant various problems are in Utah County. We asked respondents to rate 17 issues on a scale of one to five, where one means “not at all significant” and five means

Issue	Mean
Growth in population	4.5
Housing costs	4.4
Depression/anxiety	3.5
Other mental health	3.4
Mental health in general	3.4
Drug abuse or misuse	3.2
Suicide	2.9
LGBTQ equality	2.8
No sense of belonging in neighborhoods	2.8
Jobs or the economy	2.7
Domestic violence/partner abuse/elder abuse/child abuse	2.6
COVID-19	2.6
Racial equality/other race issues	2.4
Emerging from COVID-19 pandemic	2.1
Poverty	2.0
Food/hunger	2.0
Education	1.9

“very significant.” Growth in population had the highest mean score, at 4.5; housing costs were second highest, at 4.4. The intensity of attitudes toward these issues is startling. More than 63 percent of respondents gave “growth in population” the highest score possible on our scale of one to five, and 61.5 percent of respondents gave “housing costs” a five out of five. None of the other six issues presented rated this high.

## Emotional Well-being is More at Risk

More than one out of five adults in Utah County have been diagnosed with depressive disorder, and 24.3 percent report that their mental health has been “not good” for seven or more days of the past 30 days. The second data point—self-reported poor mental health days—has

been increasing since 2009, when 14.7 percent of adults indicated they suffered from poor mental well-being. Higher numbers of women in Utah County have reported poor mental health days; in 2020, 28.4 percent of women, and 15.1 percent of men, said they had experienced seven days or more of poor mental health in the past month. Those who live below the federal poverty guideline are most likely to have poor mental health, with 50.8 percent of individuals making less than 50 percent of federal poverty level reporting seven or more days of poor mental health.

Poor emotional well-being is not limited to adults. In Utah County, 30.6 percent of adolescents responding to the biennial

Student Health and Risk Prevention (SHARP) survey in 2021 reported they had felt so sad or hopeless almost every day for two weeks or more in a row that they stopped doing some usual activities. This is up from 26.4 percent in 2019 and 25.0 percent in 2017. In 2021, 23.9	Students Reporting "Always" or "Often" Felt in Past Seven Days	
	2019	2021
Felt left out	16.0	19.0
Felt people barely know me	14.6	20.4
Felt isolated from others	13.9	20.4
Felt people are around me but not with me	18.3	23.9

percent of adolescents reported they felt that people “are around me but not with me” always or often in the past seven days. Similarly, 20.4 percent felt isolated from others, 20.4 percent felt that people barely knew them, and 19.0 percent felt left out. The state SHARP study reported that in 2021, 9.4 percent of Utah County adolescents have high depressive symptoms; this is up from 7.5 percent in 2019 and 5.9 percent in 2017.

### Children Are Falling Behind in School

The data show that students are becoming less successful in recent years. For example, in 2019, 80 percent of kindergarten students in Alpine School District were at or above grade level in early literacy skill development by the end of the school year; in 2021, that percentage had dropped to 69.3 percent.

	Percent Kindergarten Students At or Above Benchmarks		
	2019	2020	2021
Alpine	80.0	76.2	69.3
Nebo	53.0	57.9	54.6
Provo	82.0	72.8	77.4

Similar decreases are seen in Nebo and Provo districts for kindergarten through

third grade. Subject matter proficiency data for students in grades 3 through 8 show that those most likely to be falling behind are racial and ethnic minorities, students with low incomes, and English learners.

As Utah County becomes more diverse, the number of English-learner students is increasing. In 2018, there were 6,043 such students; in 2022—only four years later—there are 8,402. This is an increase of about 39 percent.

	Percent Grade 1 Students At or Above Benchmarks		
	2019	2020	2021
Alpine	72.0	74.2	63.1
Nebo	64.0	62.1	56.1
Provo	69.0	68.8	60.6

Although students in younger grades appear to have struggled to succeed—possibly due to the pandemic and its effects on education—during the past two years, graduation rates have remained high, with 91.8 percent of Utah County’s students graduating in 2021.

### Individual and Family Self-Sufficiency is in Danger

With inflation at decades-high rates and housing costs rising—in terms of both purchase price and rental rates—families in Utah County are feeling a significant impact. Nearly 16 percent of families in Provo are living below the federal poverty level and, although many of these are college students who have solid support systems, many of these families rely on human service systems and government assistance for sustenance. Add to this high fuel and housing costs, and self-sufficiency appears to be eluding

	Utah County Rental Rates		
	2019	2020	2021
Studio	\$982	\$1,009	\$1,218
1 Bed 1 Bath	\$1,010	\$1,006	\$1,216
2 Bed 1 Bath	\$1,033	\$1,130	\$1,238
2 Bed 2 Bath	\$1,287	\$1,305	\$1,585
3 Bed 2 Bath	\$1,491	\$1,502	\$1,821
Overall	\$1,181	\$1,196	\$1,432

many. Overall, 6.9 percent of Utah County families are living below the federal poverty level, with Provo, Spring Lake, and Orem having higher-than-average rates. Springville and Goshen are at 6.2 and 6.1 percent respectively, and Vineyard (5.6 percent) and Eagle Mountain (5.5 percent) are not far behind.

The prospects for affordable home prices appear to be bleak—at least in the near future. The median sales price of a single-family home in Utah County was \$550,000 in May 2022, and dropped to \$535,000 in June. But with homes being sold within 15 days, on average, in June,

with the average sale price being 101.1 percent of asking price, short-term relief for younger families wanting to purchase a home does not appear to be likely.

With rising demand for homes and increasing materials and labor costs, rental rates continue to increase as well. The average rate for a two-bedroom, one-bathroom rental unit in Utah County in 2021 was \$1,238—about 20 percent higher than it was only two years earlier.

As far as children in poverty goes, there are about 17,464 children under the age of 18 who are living in poverty in Utah County. Of the 9,621 families living in poverty in Utah County, one-third of them have related children under the age of 18.

### **Informal Caring Systems Must be Reinforced, Enhanced, and Increased**

Informal caring systems are the ways individuals and families help others. These are as varied as helping a neighbor who is ill, tutoring a friend’s child in algebra, or sharing produce from your family’s garden with colleagues at work. These types of caring for one another help build social capital—the networks of relationships that make life more meaningful and help communities and societies function more smoothly without conflict. When social capital is high, solutions to individual, neighborhood, and community problems are found more easily.

An attendant principle is neighborhood attachment—that is, the degree to which people have emotional connections to social and physical elements of their neighborhoods. Increased neighborhood attachment, and higher social capital, produces improved life satisfaction, increased safety, better health, increased emotional intelligence in youth, and other benefits.

Every two years, the state of Utah conducts an assessment among students in grades 6, 9, 10, and 12 to measure healthy behaviors and risk prevention success. Known as the Student Health and Risk Prevention (SHARP) Study, the tool helps policy makers and service providers in building adolescent success. This year’s community assessment relies on SHARP data for adolescent neighborhood attachment measurement; it also utilizes items in the telephone survey of adults to gather baseline data that measures neighborhood

Utah County Students with Low Neighborhood Attachment			
	2017	2019	2021
Grade 6	32.3	22.6	26.9
Grade 8	24.7	20.4	22.0
Grade 10	36.0	29.3	33.5
Grade 12	37.6	35.6	37.1
All	32.6	26.9	30.0



attachment among the older population. Together, these data sets create an understanding of the strengths and opportunities for improvement to improve informal caring systems.

SHARP data show that more students in each of the participating grades experience lower neighborhood attachment in 2021 than in 2019. Among all students, 30 percent indicate low neighborhood attachment, compared to 26.9 percent in 2019 and 32.6 percent in 2017. Similar bimodal distributions are seen in each of the individual grades participating in the study.

Our survey shows adult neighborhood attachment reflects adolescent data. Respondents were asked to indicate the extent to which they agree or disagree with several statements on the scale of definitely disagree, somewhat disagree, somewhat agree, and definitely agree.

About 31 percent of respondents definitely agree that “if I had to move, I would miss the neighborhood I now live in,” and 35.8 percent definitely agree that “I like my neighborhood.”	Percent who "Definitely Agree"	
If I had to move, I would miss the neighborhood I now live in		30.7
I like my neighborhood		35.8
I'd like to get out of my neighborhood		34.4
I know my neighbors well		20.0
People in my neighborhood are available to help each other		24.6
It's difficult to find friends in this neighborhood*		14.4
Most or many of the people I can count on live in my neighborhood		22.3
<i>*Percent definitely disagree</i>		

One in five definitely agrees that “I know my neighbors well”; 24.6 percent definitely agree that “people in my neighborhood are available to help each other.” And 22.3 percent say that most or many of the people they can count on in their lives live in their own neighborhood.

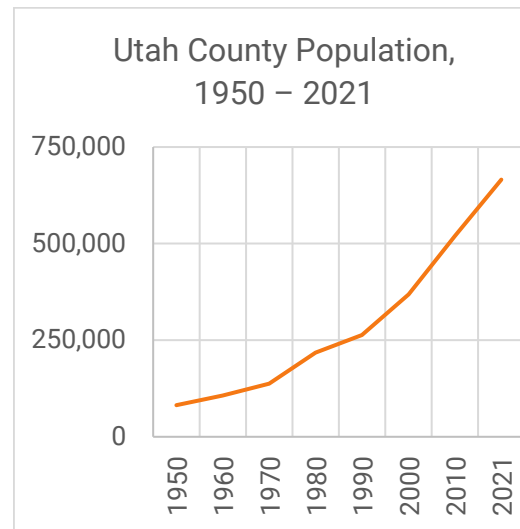
Work is needed to strengthen personal interactions in neighborhoods. If we want to maintain and improve health, education, public safety, and other elements of life that make Utah County a thriving, pleasant, and appealing place for individuals and families, more adolescents and adults must become more connected to others.

### **Formal Caring Systems Must be Strengthened**

Although Utah County is home to many healthy and robust human service providers, the rapid growth in population over the decades has strained the capacity of these organizations. Fortunately, the human service system has been flexible and responsive to changing community

needs over the decades. These responses include establishing Community Action Services and Food Bank to help build self-sufficiency amidst the rapid growth of the 1960s, creating the Volunteer Center (1970s), working to provide services to victims of domestic violence starting in the 1980s, developing housing solutions and responding to homelessness (1980s), and expanding services to victims of child abuse and neglect (1990s). More recently, additional food pantry programs, housing efforts, and resiliency-building programs, among others, have been established.

As the population has increased dramatically since 1990, human service needs have increased proportionally. Consequently, the existing human services infrastructure has not only expanded its capacity to meet these needs, but it has streamlined services, improved operational efficiencies, coordinated intake and service delivery, and made strategic improvements—including alignment with other providers and with government—to meet the growing demand. However, additional support is needed. Skilled volunteers are needed to help improve operations, develop more effective systems, and decrease operational costs. Volunteer tutors, mentors, and others are needed to help children, youth, and families who are struggling in school or in life. Assistance with refugees is needed to assist those new to this country acclimate to the culture and an unfamiliar environment. With the rapidly growing population, help and funding is in greater need now than ever before.





# **1. The Place**

## **1.1. A Brief History**

Utah County was home to Native American peoples for perhaps thousands of years prior to the first permanent white settlers arriving in the 1840s. The area was officially settled in 1849 when Brigham Young sent Latter-day Saint pioneers to establish communities in the valley. In 1850, the area formerly known as “Utah Valley” was designated “Utah County” by the territorial legislature, and Provo was established as the county seat.

In 1857 and 1858, several hundred settlers arrived after abandoning Salt Lake City for fear of U.S. troops sent to quell a rumored “Mormon Rebellion.” Following this exodus, the Provo and Utah County areas continued to grow, primarily because of agricultural and ranching opportunities.

As rail lines, electricity, and other vital infrastructure improvements began to take hold, the area attracted more and more residents. Once Brigham Young Academy opened in 1875, education eventually became a primary product of the area, and today Provo is known as the home of Brigham Young University. Orem is home to the ever-growing Utah Valley University, which is now the largest university in the state in terms of full-time students.

Today, Utah County has more than 600,000 residents and remains one of the fastest growing counties in the Intermountain West.

## **1.2. Land Area**

Utah County is in north central Utah and includes a diversity of terrain: mountains, valleys, rivers, streams, and lakes. It encompasses nearly 2,000 square miles of land area. Utah Lake stretches about 24 miles from north to south and 13 miles from east to west, comprising about 95,000 acres. It holds about 870 acre feet of water.

### **1.3. Parks and Recreation**

Utah County is home to one national monument, three state parks, three scenic drives, countless city parks, 13 golf courses, a ski resort, and several camping and fishing sites. In addition, parts of four national forests are found in Utah County.

Timpanogos Cave National Monument is located on State Highway 92 in American Fork Canyon. Open from mid-May to mid-October, depending on weather, the cave has numerous unique formations including draperies, popcorn, and flowstone, in addition to the more common stalactites and stalagmites. Park rangers guide visitors through the cave for narrated tours.

Deer Creek State Park is home to Deer Creek Reservoir and boasts camping, fishing, hiking, boating, and other day-trip opportunities. Utah Lake State Park includes boating, camping, and picnicking sites, while Camp Floyd/Stagecoach Inn State Park and Museum provides several educational opportunities.

Scenic drives include the Alpine Loop, which runs from American Fork Canyon to Provo Canyon; Nebo Loop, which goes from Payson to Nephi; and Provo Canyon Byway, which runs from Provo/Orem to Heber.

Ashley National Forest, Manti-La Sal National Forest, Uinta National Forest, and Wasatch-Cache National Forest National forests are at least partially within Utah County.

Golf courses are found throughout Utah County, from Lehi's Thanksgiving Point Golf Course in the north to Payson's Gladstan Golf Course in the south:

**Table 1: Golf Courses in Utah County**

<b>Golf Courses in Utah County</b>	
<b>Name</b>	<b>City</b>
<b>Alpine Country Club</b>	Highland
<b>Cedar Hills Golf Course</b>	Cedar Hills
<b>Timpanogos Golf Club</b>	Provo
<b>Fox Hollow Golf Club</b>	American Fork
<b>Gladstan Golf Course</b>	Payson
<b>Hobble Creek Golf Course</b>	Springville
<b>Riverside Country Club</b>	Provo
<b>Sleepy Ridge</b>	Orem
<b>Talons Cove</b>	Saratoga Springs
<b>Thanksgiving Point Golf Course</b>	Lehi
<b>The Oaks at Spanish Fork</b>	Spanish Fork
<b>The Ranches Golf Club</b>	Eagle Mountain

The Provo River is a world-renowned fly-fishing venue. American Fork River, Hobble Creek, Payson Creek, and Thistle Creek are ideal trout-fishing sites. Deer Creek Reservoir is another popular fishing site, while Utah Lake is known for catfish, walleye, and white bass.

Sundance Resort offers recreational opportunities as well as business, wedding, or other event facilities. Skiing and snowboarding in winter months are supplemented by fine and casual dining, shopping, lodging, and camping. The Sundance Summer Theater, hiking, and other outdoor activities are available during warmer months.

#### **1.4. Culture**

Utah County has many art galleries, performing arts venues, and museums, including publicly funded facilities, private nonprofit organizations, and university-related sites. Thanks to Brigham Young University and Utah Valley University, the diversity of learning opportunities is strong.

According to the Utah Valley Visitors' and Convention Bureau, there are 33 museums in Utah County.

Table 2: Museums in Utah County

Museums in Utah County	
Museum	City
BYU B.F. Larsen Gallery	Provo
BYU Family History Library	Provo
BYU Harold B. Lee Library	Provo
BYU Legacy Hall Provo	Provo
BYU Monte L. Bean Life Science Museum Provo	Provo
BYU Museum of Art Provo	Provo
BYU Museum of Paleontology Provo	Provo
BYU's Museum of Peoples and Cultures Provo	Provo
Cabela's	Lehi
Camp Floyd/Stagecoach Inn State Park and Museum	Fairfield
Chieftain Museum	Sountaquin
Daughters of Utah Pioneers Museum	American Fork
Daughters of Utah Pioneers Museum	Highland
Daughters of Utah Pioneers Museum	Payson
Daughters of Utah Pioneers Museum	Pleasant Grove
Daughters of Utah Pioneers Museum	Provo
Daughters of Utah Pioneers Museum	Spanish Fork
Daughters of Utah Pioneers Museum	Springville
Historic County Courthouse	Provo
Historic Pioneer Relic Hall	Alpine
Historic Provo Buildings Walking Tour	Provo
Mapleton Heritage Museum	Mapleton
Museum of Ancient Life	Lehi
Museum of Natural Curiosity	Lehi
Orem Heritage Museum	Orem
Pedal Provo	Provo
Peteetneet Museum and Cultural Arts Center	Payson
Petroliana Museum	Provo
Provo Pioneer Village	Provo
Roots of Knowledge	Orem
Springville Museum of Art	Springville
The Hutchings Museum	Lehi
The Museum of Mormon Mexican History	Provo

Galleries are also abundant in Utah County. In addition to the art exhibits found in various building on the campuses of Brigham Young University and Utah Valley University, the following galleries host tens of thousands of visitors each year:

**Table 3: Art Galleries in Utah County**

<b>Art Galleries in Utah County</b>	
<b>Gallery</b>	<b>City</b>
<b>Alpine Art Center</b>	Alpine
<b>Woodbury Art Museum</b>	Orem
<b>Brownstone Gallery</b>	Provo
<b>Covey Center for the Arts</b>	Provo
<b>Museum of Art at Brigham Young University</b>	Provo
<b>Terra Nova Gallery</b>	Provo
<b>Utah County Art Gallery</b>	Provo
<b>Springville Museum of Art</b>	Springville

Performing arts are alive and well in Utah County, with sixteen community, university, or other organization performing groups to entertain. Performing arts venues include Hale Center Theater in Orem, SCERA Center for the Arts in Orem, Sundance Outdoor Theater in Sundance, and Utah Valley Symphony, among others—including many at Brigham Young University and Utah Valley University.



**Table 4: Performing Arts in Utah County**

Performing Arts in Utah County	
Venue	City
<b>Alpine Community Theater</b>	American Fork
<b>Angelus Theatre</b>	Spanish Fork
<b>BYU Performing Arts</b>	Provo
<b>Comedy Sportz</b>	Provo
<b>Dry Bar Comedy</b>	Provo
<b>Hale Center Theater</b>	Orem
<b>Heart &amp; Seoul Karaoke</b>	Provo
<b>Payson Community Theater</b>	Payson
<b>SCERA</b>	Orem
<b>ShadowLight Events</b>	Pleasant Grove
<b>Sundance Summer Theatre</b>	Sundance
<b>The Covey Center for the Arts</b>	Provo
<b>The Hive Collaborative</b>	Provo
<b>Utah Valley Symphony</b>	Provo
<b>Utah Valley University Performing Arts</b>	Orem
<b>Velour Live Music</b>	Provo

### 1.5. Recognitions

Utah County has received numerous recognitions, including the following.

**Table 5: Utah County Recognitions**

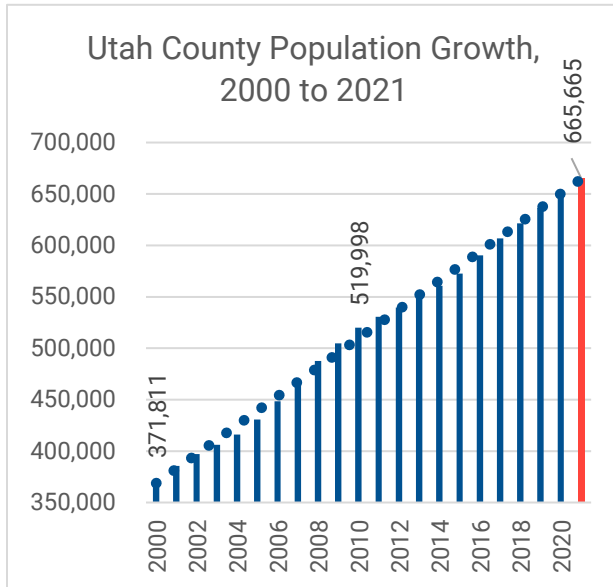
Utah County Recognitions	
Recognition	Publication
<b>Provo-Orem: #1 Milken Institute Best-Performing Cities 2022</b>	Milken Institute
<b>Provo: #3 Most Affordable Living 2022</b>	GoodHire
<b>Provo: #4 U.S. City with the Best Job Market 2022</b>	GoodHire
<b>Provo-Orem: #2 Safest Big Cities in the U.S. 2022</b>	SafeWise
<b>Provo: #6 Best Place for Business and Careers 2019</b>	Forbes
<b>Brigham Young University: #1 America’s Best Value College 2022</b>	Forbes
<b>Utah Valley University: #3 Best Return on Investment 2022</b>	Business Insider
<b>Provo: #1 Best Dating Scene 2022</b>	ApartmentList
<b>Provo-Orem: #10 Most-Educated City in America 2022</b>	WalletHub
<b>Brigham Young University: #6 Best Value Schools 2022</b>	U.S. News & World Report
<b>Utah: #3 Best State for Business</b>	CNBC

## 2. The People

### 2.1 Overview

#### 2.1.1 Population and Age

Utah County's population growth is the topic of greatest concern among residents, and



for good reason. The county's residential population has increased by 79 percent in 21 years—from 371,648 at the turn of the century to 665,665 in 2021.<sup>1</sup> Population growth is not limited to Utah County: the state of Utah is experiencing tremendous growth overall, gaining nearly 500,000 residents in the past ten years. Although Salt Lake County's population has increased slightly more than Utah County's since 2010 (146,060 new

residents compared to 135,439), the rate of increase is much higher in Utah County. During the past decade, the state has increased by 18.6 percent; Utah County's population growth rate has been 27.9 percent, which is much higher than Salt Lake County's 14.6 percent and Davis County's 19.1 percent. Only the smaller Wasatch and Washington Counties are growing at a higher pace, at 49 percent and 29 percent, respectively. Between 2010 and 2020, Utah County represents 27.4 percent of the state's overall population growth, while Salt Lake County has 29.6 percent.<sup>2</sup>

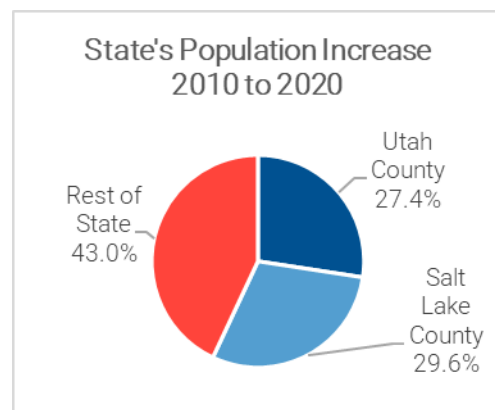
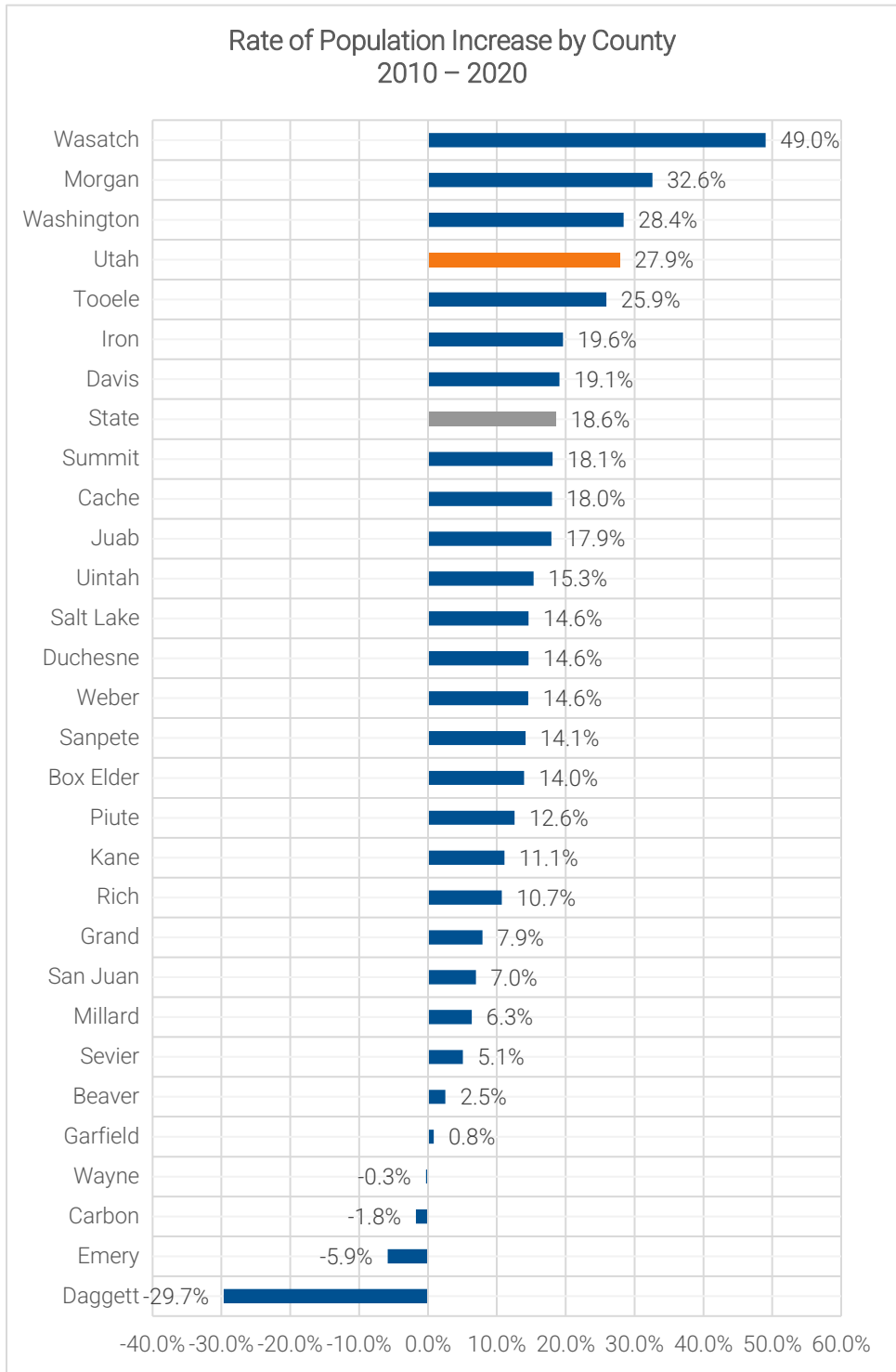


Figure 1: State's Population Increase, 2010 – 2020

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2016-2020, Table B01003; Population Estimate, 2021

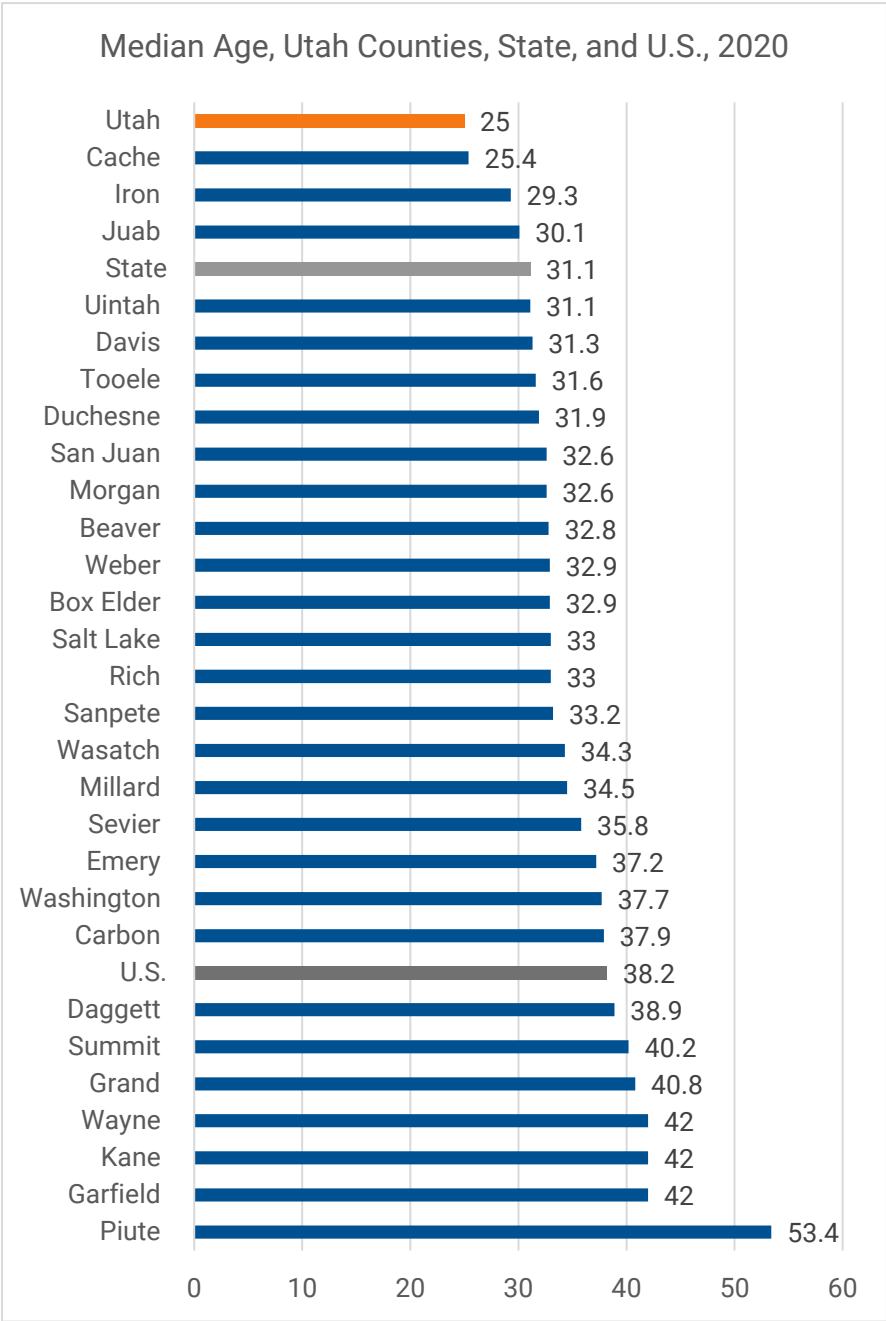
<sup>2</sup> Derived from ACS Table B01003, multiple years



Except for some rural counties, most counties in Utah have seen increases in population over the past 10 years. Wasatch, Morgan, Washington, Utah, Tooele, Iron, and Davis Counties have experienced increases greater than the state rate of 18.6 percent.<sup>3</sup>

**Figure 2: Rate of Population Increase by County, 2010 – 2020**

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.



Utah County’s population is not only the youngest in the state, but also the youngest in the nation (counties with more than 100,000 population). Utah County’s median age of 25 edges out Cache County’s 25.4, and is six years younger than the state median age of 31.1. Nationally, the median age is 38.2.<sup>4</sup>

Figure 3: Median Age, Utah Counties, State, and U.S., 2020

<sup>4</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, ACS, Table B01002

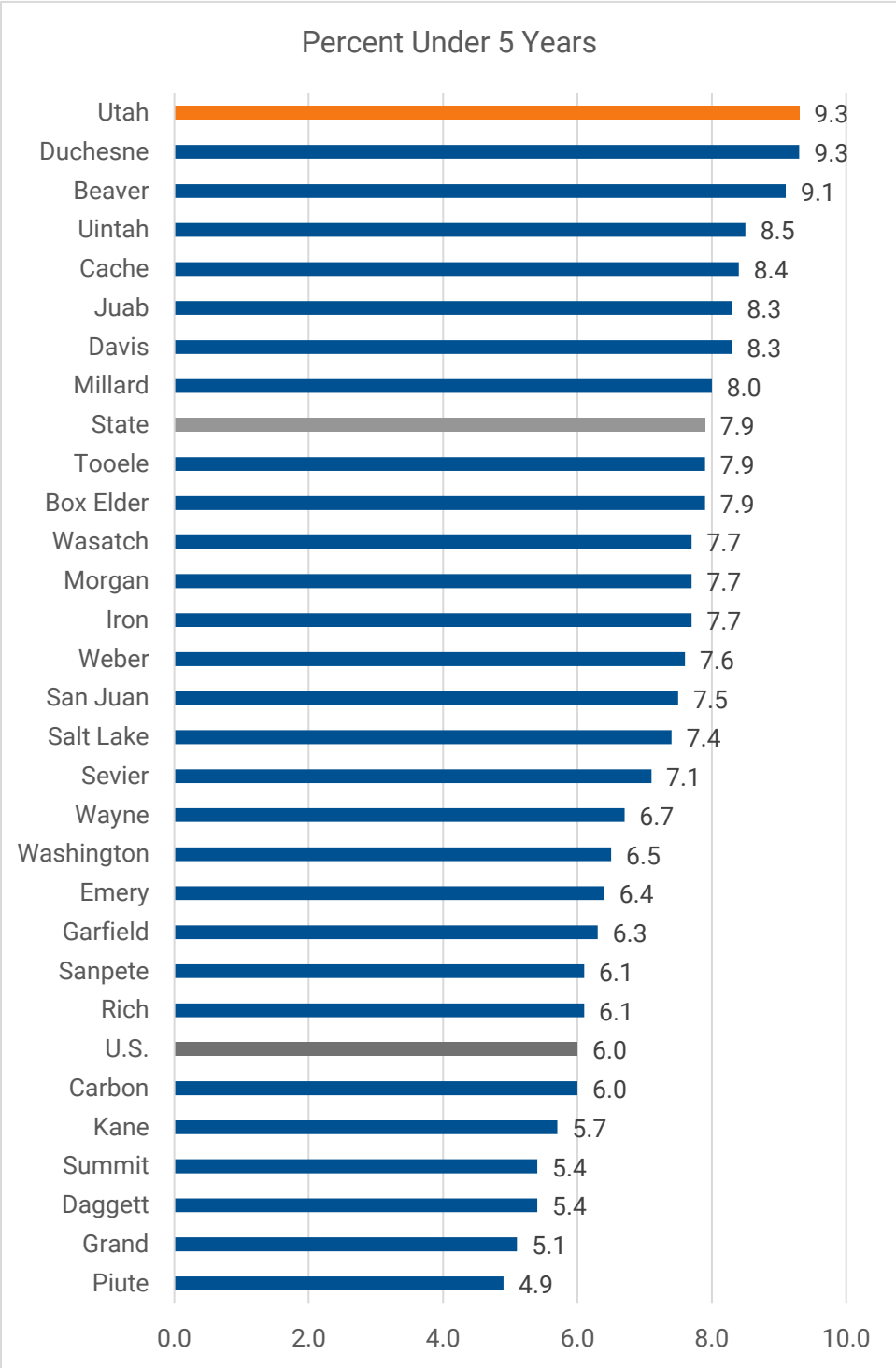


Figure 4: Percent Under 5 Years, Utah Counties, State, and U.S., 2020

Utah County is tied with Duchesne County in percentage of children under five years; however, Utah County's 58,083 such children is a much larger number than Duchesne's 1,853. As a whole, the state of Utah enjoys 7.9 percent of its population as young children, while the United States is at 6.0 percent. The county with the lowest percentage of young children in Utah is Piute, with 4.9 percent (91 children), followed by Grand (5.1 percent), Daggett, and Summit (5.4

percent each).<sup>5</sup>

Looking at how Utah County fares nationally, we continue to have the largest percentage of children of any county in the nation (with at least 100,000 population), at 33.3 percent.<sup>6</sup>

**Table 6: Youngest Counties in U.S.**

Youngest Counties in U.S.			
County	Total Population	Number Under 18	Percent Under 18
<b>Utah County, Utah</b>	621,506	207,116	33.3%
<b>Webb County, Texas</b>	274,847	90,377	32.9%
<b>Hidalgo County, Texas</b>	861,137	280,998	32.6%
<b>Davis County, Utah</b>	350,761	112,479	32.1%
<b>Tulare County, California</b>	463,955	142,777	30.8%
<b>Bonneville County, Idaho</b>	116,970	35,957	30.7%
<b>Cameron County, Texas</b>	422,135	128,418	30.4%
<b>Ector County, Texas</b>	162,067	49,111	30.3%
<b>Cache County, Utah</b>	126,336	38,226	30.3%
<b>Yakima County, Washington</b>	250,649	74,417	29.7%

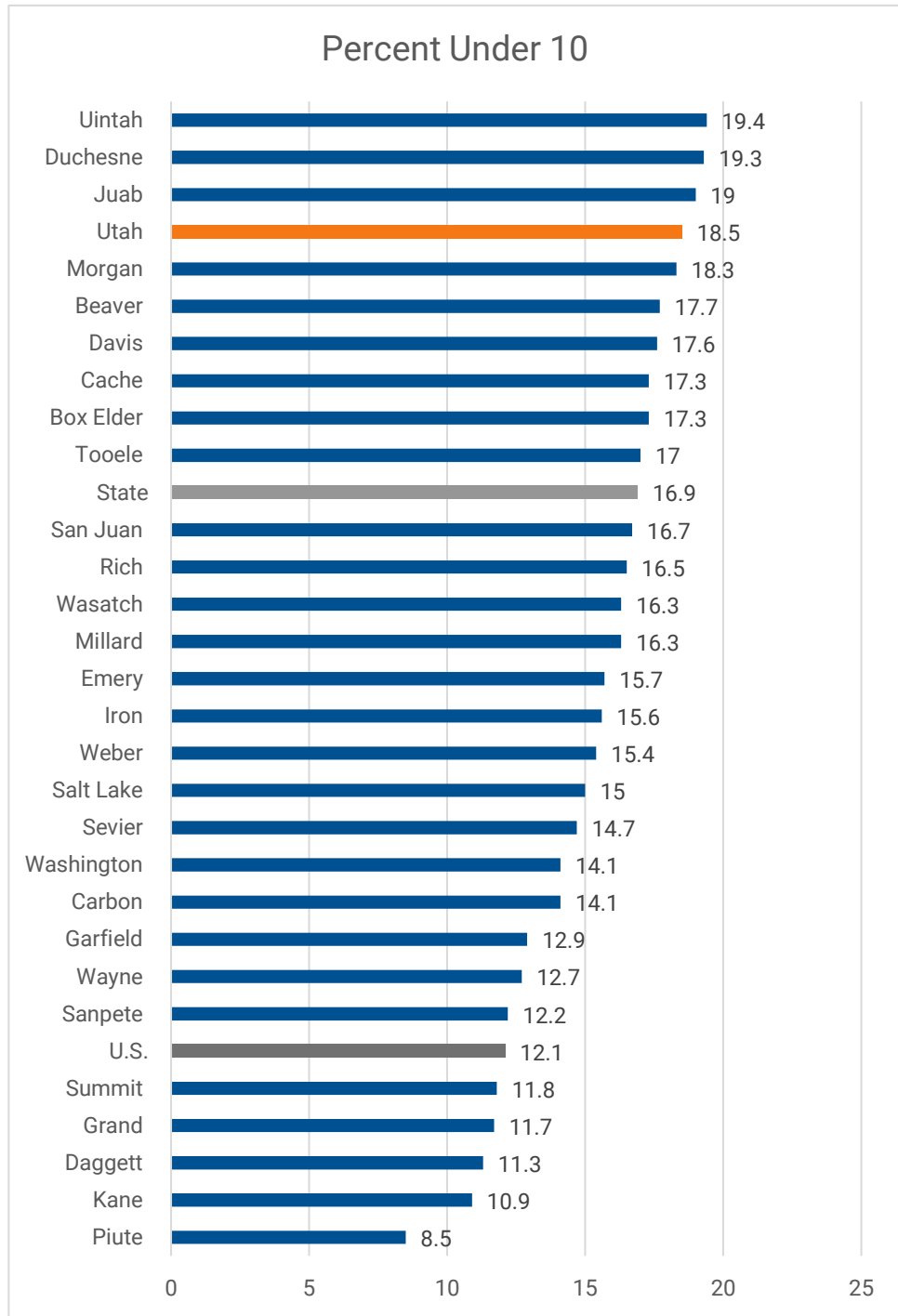
When considering the smaller counties in Utah—those with fewer than 100,000 residents—the percentage of children is higher than Utah County’s. Keep in mind, however, that the raw numbers are a fraction of Utah County’s roughly 200,000 minors. Morgan County has the highest rate of children of any county in the state, at 35.7 percent (4,088 persons under 18). This is followed by Juab County’s 34.8 percent (3,833 minors) and Duchesne County’s 34.7 percent (7,067). But Utah County’s child population accounts for an astounding 22 percent of all minors in the state.<sup>7</sup> Note that although most of the Census Bureau data presented in this

<sup>5</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, ACS, Table B0101

<sup>6</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, ACS, Table S0101

<sup>7</sup> U.S. Census Bureau (2020), Table B01001

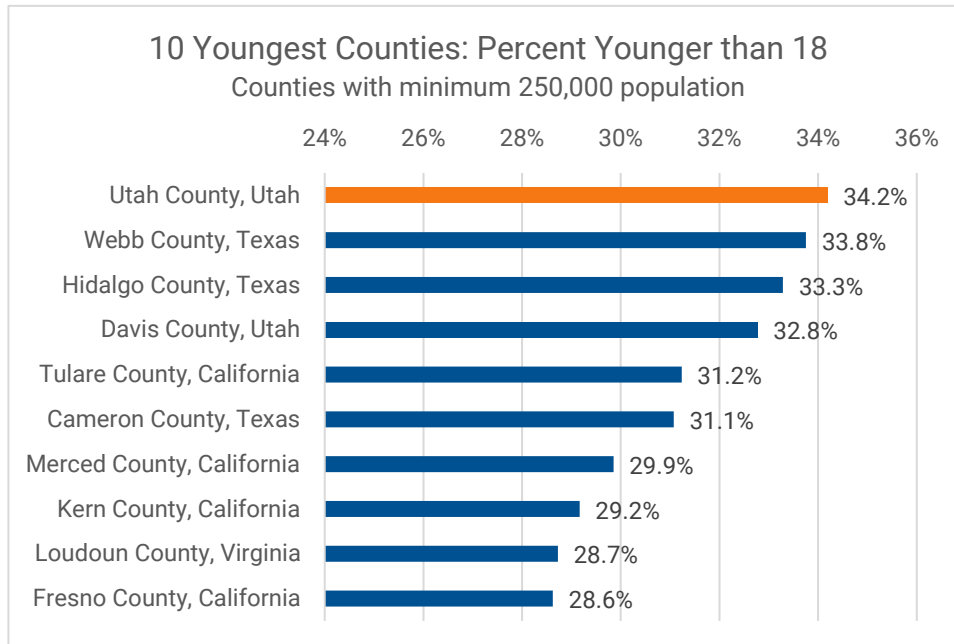
assessment are five-year averages, which are more accurate than one-year data, these numbers are the more timely one-year figures.



Currently, 18.5 percent of Utah County's population is younger than 10. This compares with the state's 16.9 percent, Salt Lake County's 15.0 percent, and the nation's 12.1 percent.<sup>8</sup>

Figure 5: Percent Under 10 Years

<sup>8</sup> *ibid.*



**Figure 6: 10 Youngest Counties in U.S.**

In fact, Utah County has the highest percentage of minors than any other large county in the United States. Of the 269 counties with more than 250,000 total population, Utah County has the highest population of young people, with a one-year 2020

percentage of 34.2. Davis County, just north of Salt Lake County, ranks number 4 in the nation, at 32.8 percent.<sup>9</sup>

Comparing Utah County’s median age to the U.S. median age, the state median age, and the median age of communities in the county is helpful.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid.



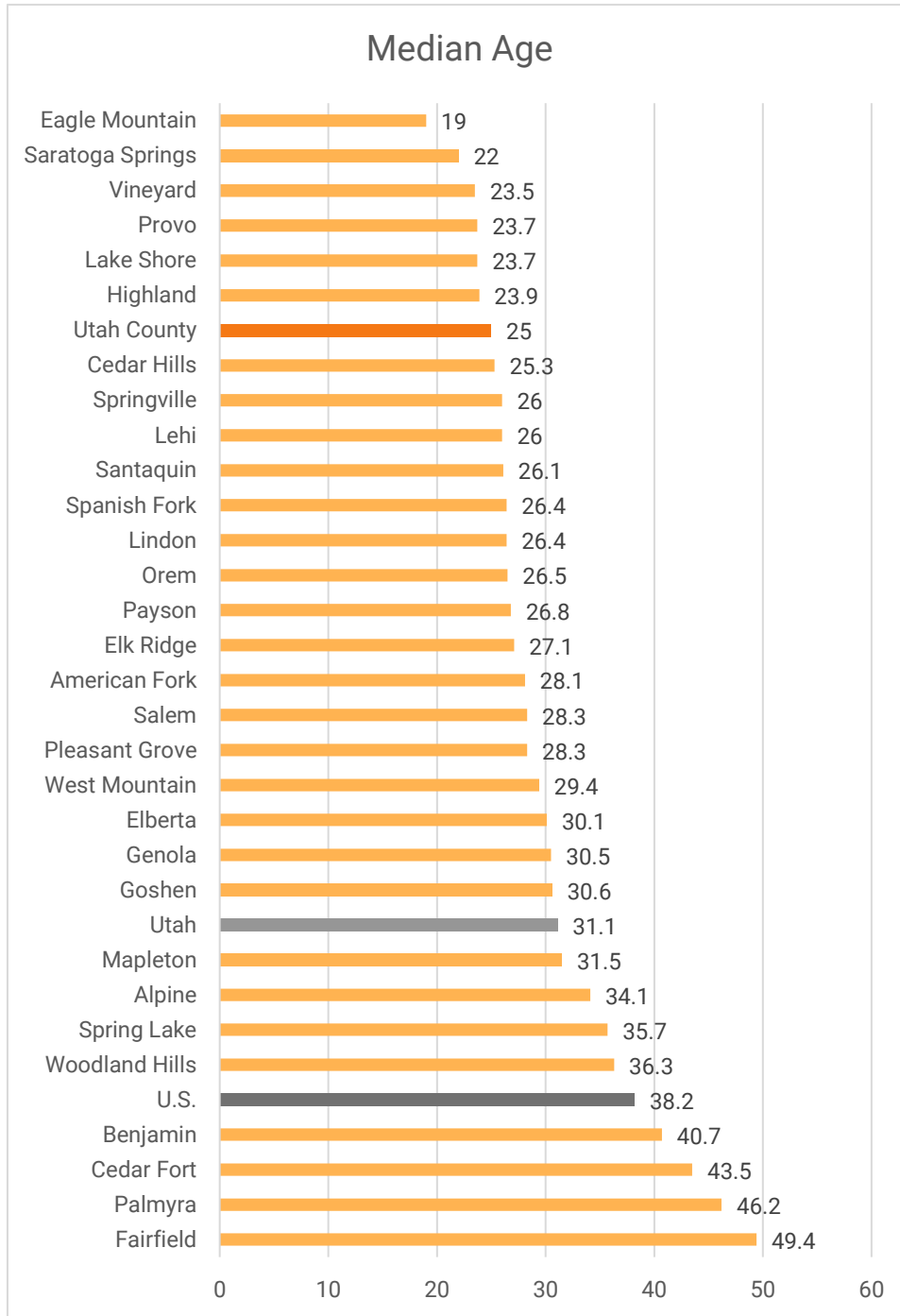
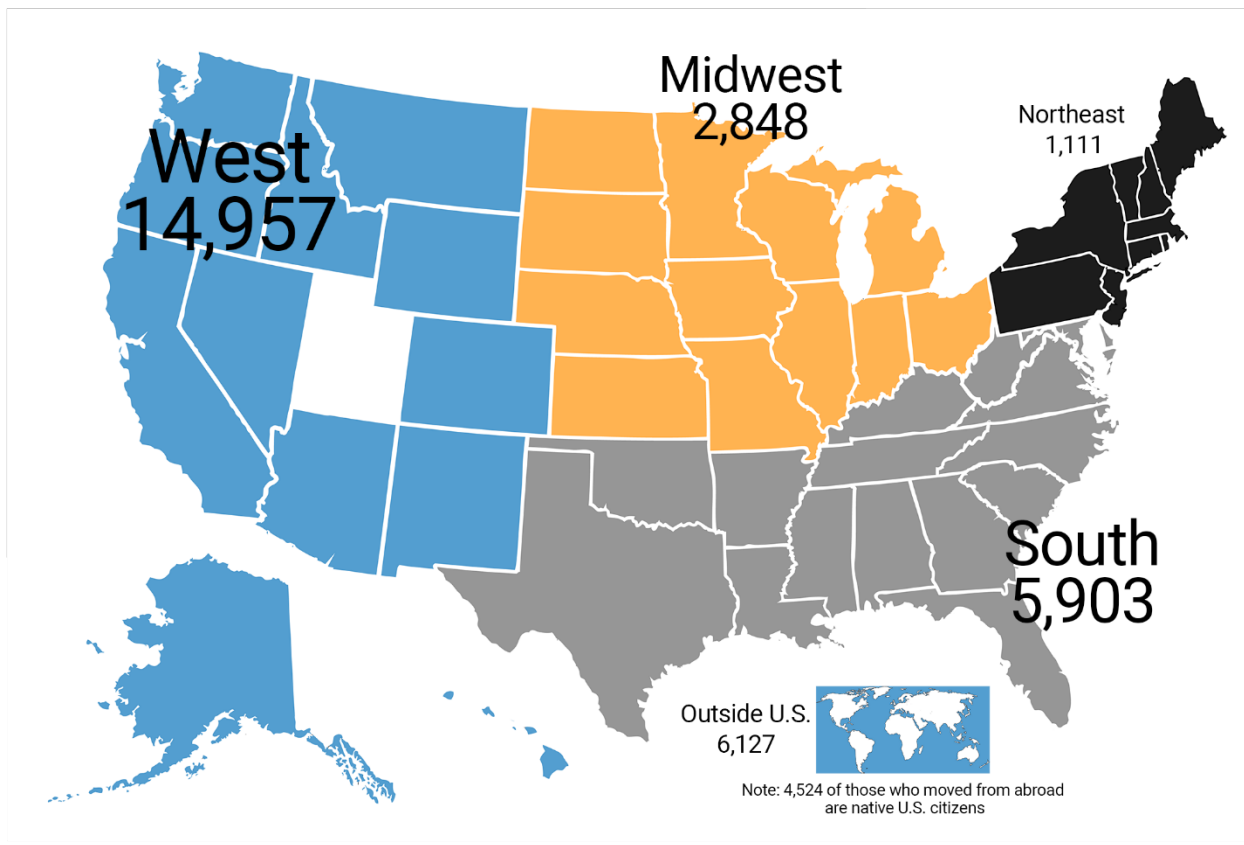


Figure 7: Median Age, Utah County Communities

Eagle Mountain is now the youngest community in the County, with a median age of 19. Saratoga Springs, is the second youngest, at 22. Vineyard, whose median age we predicted would decline in our last assessment, now has a median age of 23.5 (compared to 2018's 30.3). Provo, Lake Shore, and Highland are all around 23 years, while Utah County is now at 25 years. The oldest communities in Utah County are Fairfield (49.4), Palmyra (46.2), Cedar Fort (43.5),

and Benjamin (40.7), which are the only communities older than the U.S. median.<sup>10</sup>

<sup>10</sup> Ibid.



**Figure 8: Utah County In-Migration**

In 2020, nearly 31,000 people moved into Utah County, with about half of these (14,957) coming from other western states. Just over 6,000 moved here from outside the U.S., but 4,524 of these were expatriates returning to America. Almost 6,000 people moved here from the Census Bureau’s South Region, and 2,848 from the Midwest. Only 1,111 relocated here from the Northeast.<sup>11</sup>

Utah County’s population is expected to continue to grow, although the rate of projected increase has slowed since our 2018 assessment. According to the University of Utah’s Kem C. Gardner Public Policy Institute, Utah County’s population will exceed 750,000 by 2025 and will reach 1 million by 2039. By 2060, the population is now projected to be nearly 1.4 million. The population will age; persons between 45 and 55 will make up a larger percentage, and the

<sup>11</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, Table B07101

median age will increase to about 34. Sex distribution is expected to generally remain the same.<sup>12</sup>

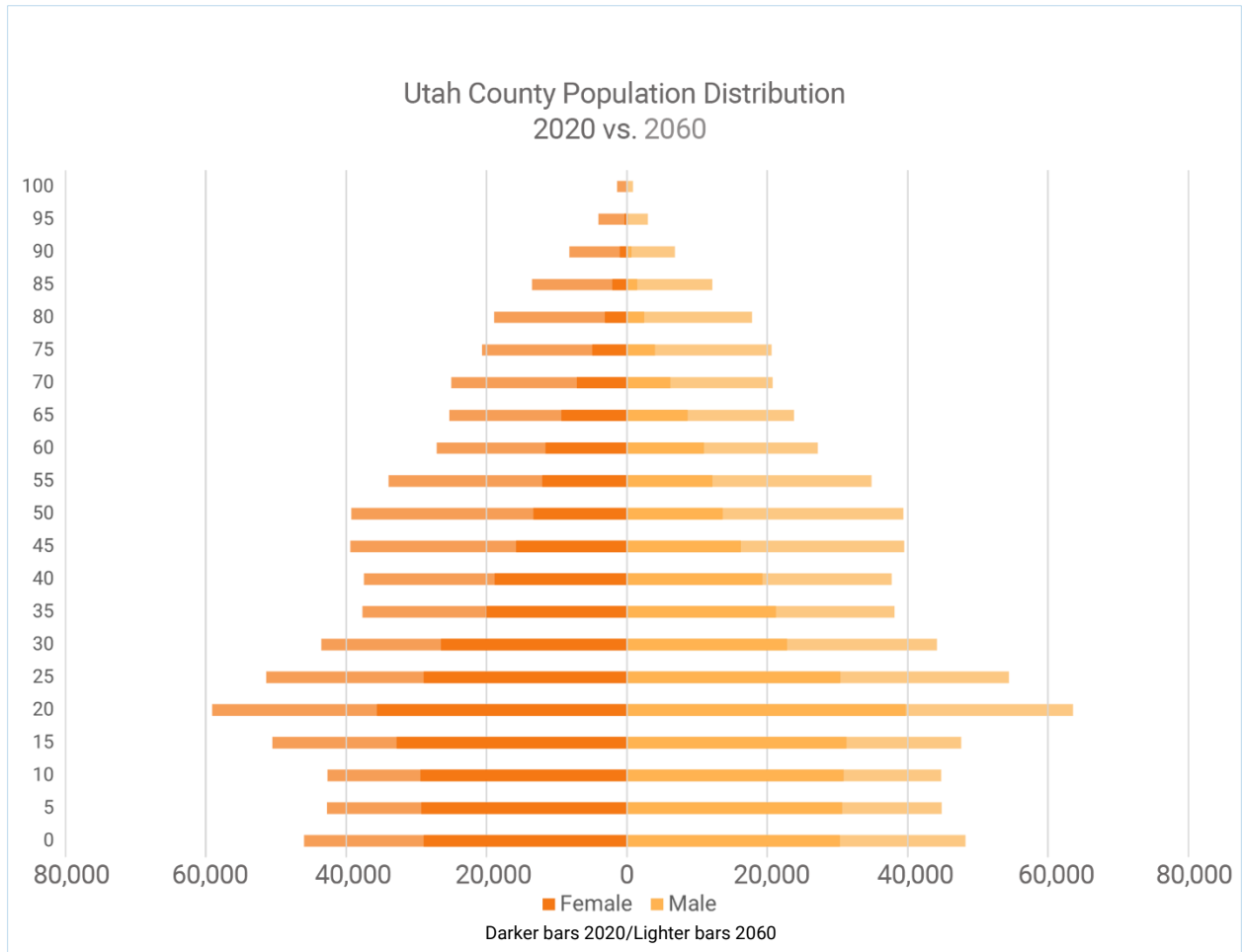


Figure 9: Utah County Population Distribution, 2020 vs. 2060

### 2.1.2 Ancestry

When asked to identify their ancestry of origin, individuals may identify more than one ancestry. For Utah County, the most common first response continues to be English, with 26.66 percent—an increase from 10 years ago (23.6 percent). German is next, at 10.54 percent,

<sup>12</sup> University of Utah Kem C. Gardner Institute, 2020

followed by “European” at 6.88 percent and Danish at 5.43 percent.<sup>13</sup> Note that respondents were permitted to identify more than one ancestry of origin, or to refuse to identify any.

**Table 7: Ancestry of Utah County Residents**

Ancestry	2010	2015	2020
English	23.10%	21.40%	26.66%
Other groups	15.40%	16.80%	23.26%
Unclassified or not reported	10.90%	11.00%	17.56%
German	8.80%	8.60%	10.54%
European	4.30%	5.00%	6.88%
Danish	5.00%	4.60%	5.43%
American	3.70%	4.10%	4.71%
Scottish	4.40%	4.10%	4.95%
Irish	3.70%	4.00%	4.84%
Swedish	3.50%	3.30%	4.13%
Welsh	1.90%	2.00%	2.37%
Italian	1.70%	1.90%	2.37%
Norwegian	1.60%	1.90%	2.56%
French (except Basque)	1.50%	1.60%	1.89%
British	1.40%	1.60%	2.86%
Dutch	1.40%	1.40%	1.58%
Scandinavian	1.20%	1.00%	2.06%
Swiss	1.20%	1.00%	1.29%
Scotch-Irish	1.10%	0.60%	0.76%
Polish	0.50%	0.50%	0.65%
Canadian	0.30%	0.40%	0.46%
Russian	0.30%	0.30%	0.36%
Icelander	0.30%	0.30%	0.32%
Sub-Saharan African	0.10%	0.20%	0.28%
Greek	0.30%	0%	0.23%
Portuguese	0.10%	0%	0.24%
Czech	0.20%	0%	0.20%
<b>(continued next page)</b>			

<sup>13</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, Table B04006

Ancestry (continued)	2010	2015	2020
Finnish	0.20%	0%	0.15%
French Canadian	0.10%	0%	0.18%
Arab	0.10%	0%	0.18%
Northern European	0.20%	0%	0.38%
Austrian	0.20%	0%	0.17%
Hungarian	0.10%	0%	0.16%
Australian	0.10%	0%	0.08%
Brazilian	0.20%	0%	0.38%
Armenian	0.00%	0%	0.08%
Ukrainian	0.10%	0%	0.11%
Croatian	0.10%	0%	0.10%
Belgian	0.00%	0%	0.08%
Romanian	0.10%	0%	0.05%
West Indian (not Hispanic):	0.00%	0%	0.10%
Iranian	0.00%	0%	0.05%
Lithuanian	0.00%	0%	0.05%
New Zealander	0.00%	0%	0.05%
Yugoslavian	0.00%	0%	0.04%
Basque	0.00%	0%	0.05%
Slovak	0.00%	0%	0.06%
Czechoslovakian	0.10%	0%	0.05%

### 2.1.3 Race and Ethnicity

The Hispanic population in Utah County is just shy of 12 percent. Persons of Hispanic or Latino descent can be of any race; in Utah County, most (68.7 percent are white), and 12.1 percent are two or more races. American Indian or Alaska Native is the self-identified race for 1.7 percent of the Hispanic population; 0.5 percent are black or African American; 0.2 percent are Asian; 0.2 percent are Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander; and 16.6 percent say they are “some other race.”

Among those who are not Hispanic or Latino, 81.9 percent are white, 2.9 percent are two or more races, and 1.4 percent are Asian. The next highest category is Native Hawaiian or Other

Pacific Islander (also at 0.8 percent) followed by black or African American (0.6 percent), American Indian or Alaska Native (0.4 percent) and “some other race” (0.1 percent).<sup>14</sup>

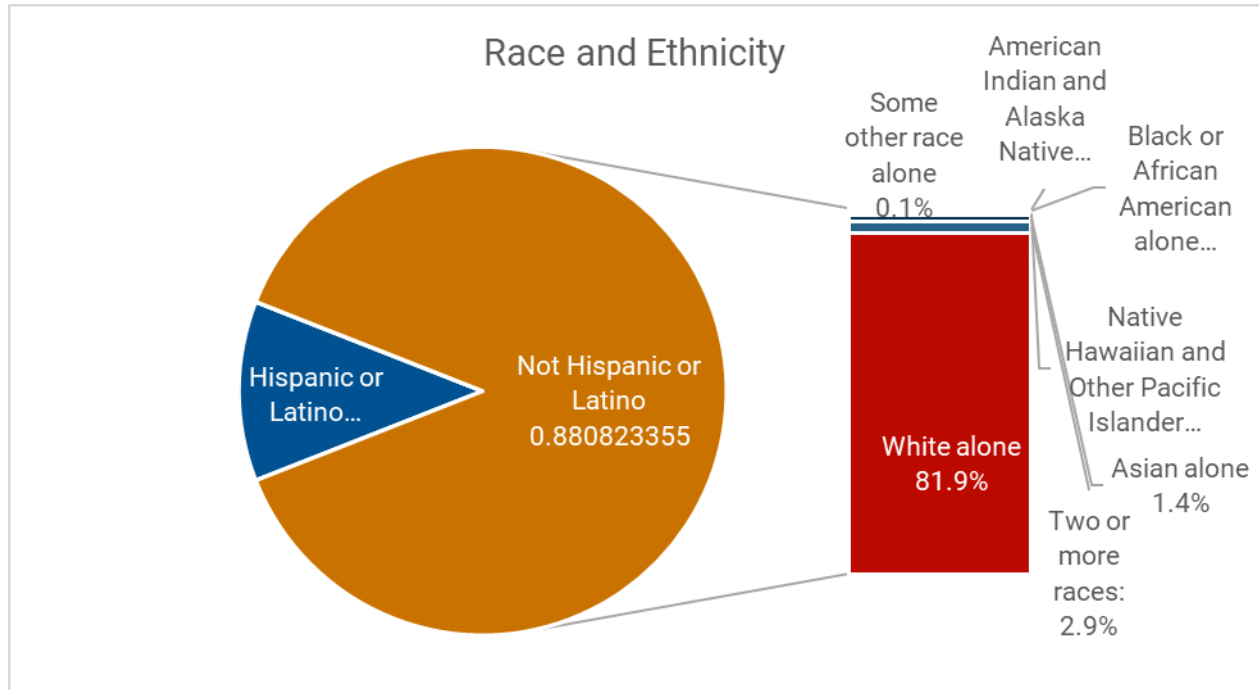


Figure 10: Race and Ethnicity

### 2.1.4 Civilian Labor Force: Unemployment

Utah County’s unemployment rate has been generally declining since February 2010, when it was at 8.1 percent. Since January 2005, the unemployment rate in Utah County has remained below the national rate—at times, well below—and reached a low of 1.6 in December 2021. As of May 2022, the County’s rate is 2.0 percent, lower than the national rate of 3.4.<sup>15</sup>

<sup>14</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, Table B03002

<sup>15</sup> Bureau of Labor Statistics (2022). *Monthly Unemployment Rate*

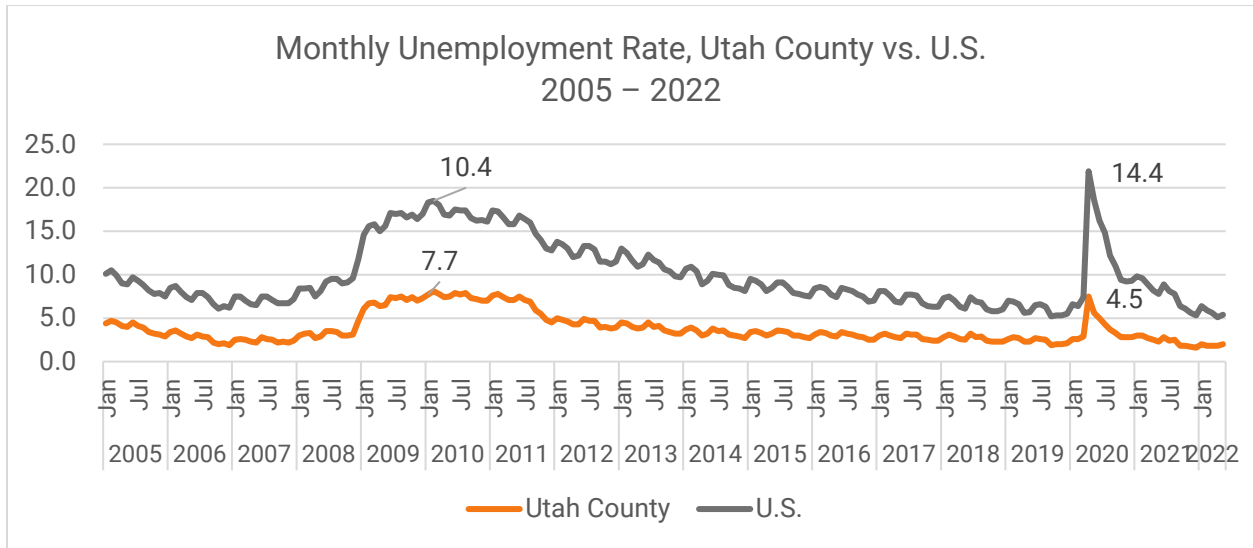


Figure 11: Monthly Unemployment Rate, Utah County vs. U.S.

### 2.1.5 Crime and Justice

Utah has been a low-crime state for decades, and Utah County has been among the counties with low crime rates in the state. In 2021, Utah began collecting and reporting crime using the National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS), with timely statistical reports being posted on the Bureau of Criminal Investigation and Utah Department of Public Safety website. Because of this, data as late as April 2022 is available for this report.

Crime rates, however, are not reported as frequently as crime incidents. In 2018, the crime rate for Provo increased to 175.44 crimes per 100,000 population, while the state was 233.08 and the U.S. was 380.56. Historically, Provo and Orem, as well as other cities in Utah County, have crime rates significantly lower than the rest of the state. The crime rates for 2014 are not available, so they are not included in the graph below.<sup>16</sup>

<sup>16</sup> Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States*

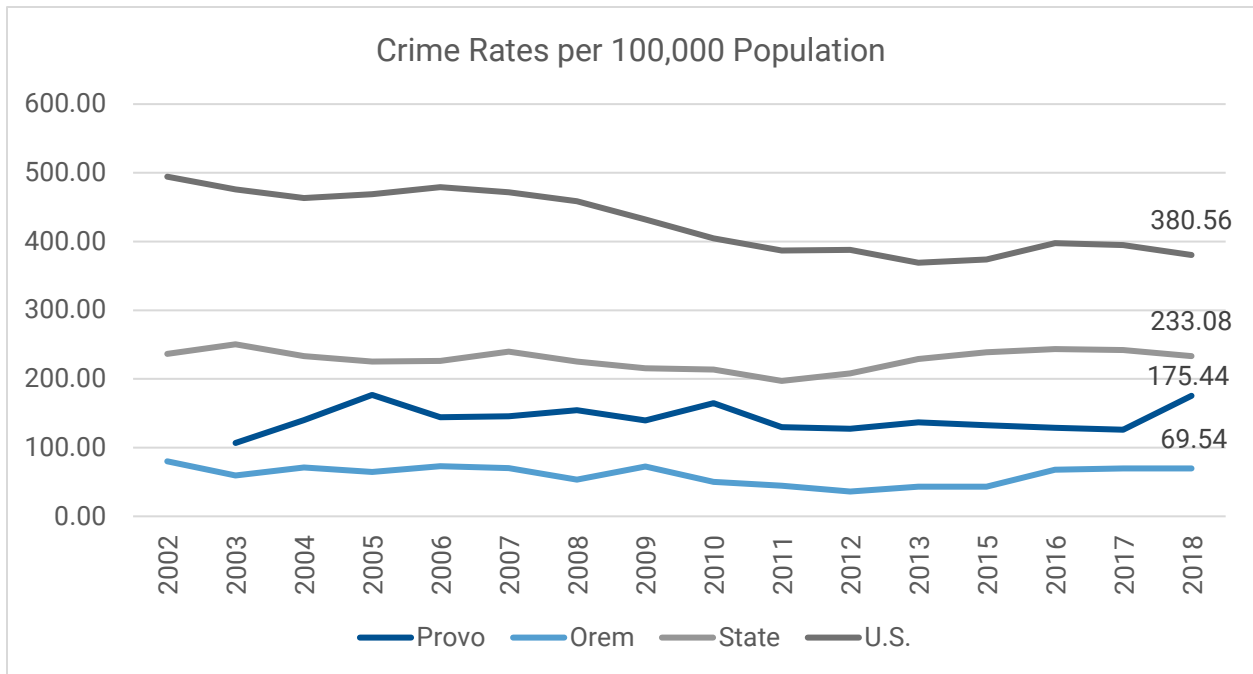


Figure 12: Crime Rates per 100,000 Population

Communities in Utah County have lower violent rates than statewide numbers. To get a sound understanding of the status of crime in Utah County, this report compares number of incidents to other counties and within the county. Although data for crime *rates* are more useful in many regards, crime incidents are reported more recently. Beginning in 2019, crime rates have been reported only at the state and national levels—partly due to the difficulty in collecting multiple-agency data within city limits. The following table presents available data for municipalities in Utah County. Note that 2014 data is not available.<sup>17</sup>

<sup>17</sup> Ibid.



**Table 8: Violent Crime Rates Per 100,000 Population, 1999 to 2020**

Violent Crime Rate per 100,000 Population 1999 – 2020										
	Provo	Orem	Saratoga Springs	Pleasant Grove	Springville	Spanish Fork	Lone Peak	Mapleton	State	U.S.
<b>1999</b>									275.56	522.95
<b>2000</b>									255.74	506.53
<b>2001</b>									233.20	504.52
<b>2002</b>		80.06			132.59	43.95			236.68	494.38
<b>2003</b>	106.77	59.55			148.12	47.07			250.37	475.84
<b>2004</b>	140.06	70.96			134.94	67.77		15.78	233.28	463.16
<b>2005</b>	176.73	64.77			122.45	72.80		32.43	225.35	469.04
<b>2006</b>	144.25	72.97			115.31	51.81			226.31	479.34
<b>2007</b>	145.75	70.04	45.86	0.00	133.32	43.51			239.93	471.77
<b>2008</b>	154.38	53.31	9.32	54.26	139.48	24.33	43.57	12.22	225.29	458.61
<b>2009</b>	139.78	72.67	48.80	67.44	130.94	33.17	18.06	23.54	215.40	431.88
<b>2010</b>	164.78	49.98	77.25	49.77	133.18	28.28	7.82	24.59	213.48	404.50
<b>2011</b>	129.95	44.59	75.49	28.65	114.04	38.74	26.80	24.07	197.10	387.06
<b>2012</b>	127.48	36.09	53.81	45.98	106.66	27.26	7.50	23.30	208.03	387.75
<b>2013</b>	136.83	43.29	53.89	42.47	107.62	21.37	25.43	33.44	228.88	369.13
<b>2015</b>	132.70	43.21	53.31	47.41	115.91	31.44	24.80	0.00	238.68	373.74
<b>2016</b>	128.74	67.96	47.77	30.78	85.30	25.95	13.86	21.10	243.27	397.52
<b>2017</b>	125.91	69.67	48.71	73.11	44.62	55.68	16.84	71.63	242.18	394.86
<b>2018</b>	175.44	69.54	100.67	73.16	68.00	29.93	23.36	9.96	233.08	380.56
<b>2019</b>									236.90	380.80
<b>2020</b>									260.70	398.50

The violent crime rate in Utah has remained well below national rates for the years 2010 through 2020; however, there was a marked increase in Utah in 2020, going from 236.9 violent crimes per 100,000 population to 260.7.

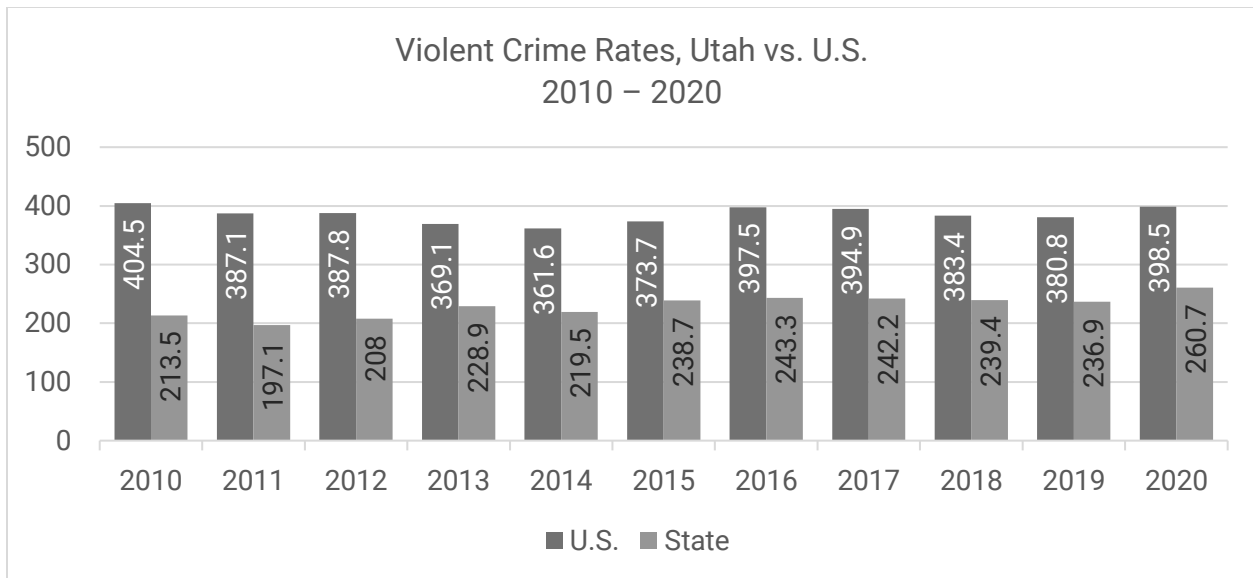


Figure 13: Violent Crime Rates, Utah vs. U.S., 2010 - 2020

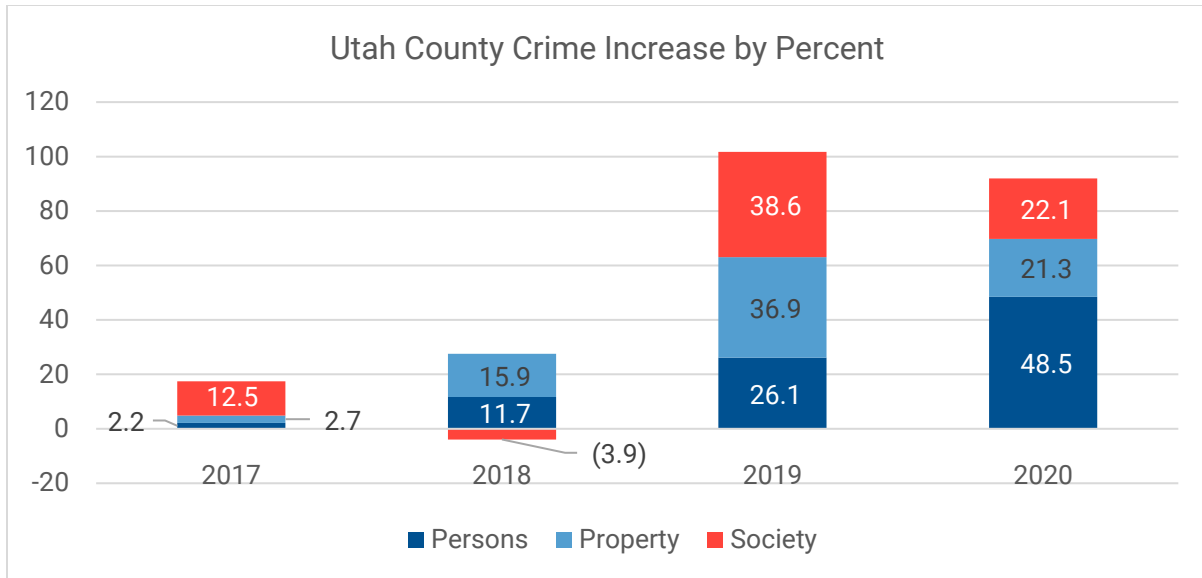
With NIBRS, crime statistics are looked at differently than they were under the Uniform Crime Reporting program used previously. In the past, law enforcement officials and sociologists considered crime in two categories: violent crime and property crime. Today, crime is also analyzed as crimes against *persons*, crimes against *property*, and crimes against *society*. Examples of these various crimes are below.

Table 9: Sample Crimes Against Persons, Property, Society

Crimes against Persons	Crimes against Property	Crimes against Society
<b>Assault</b>	Theft from motor vehicle	Driving under the influence
<b>Rape</b>	Motor vehicle theft	Drug violations
<b>Kidnapping</b>	Shoplifting	Disorderly conduct
<b>Murder</b>	Counterfeiting	Prostitution

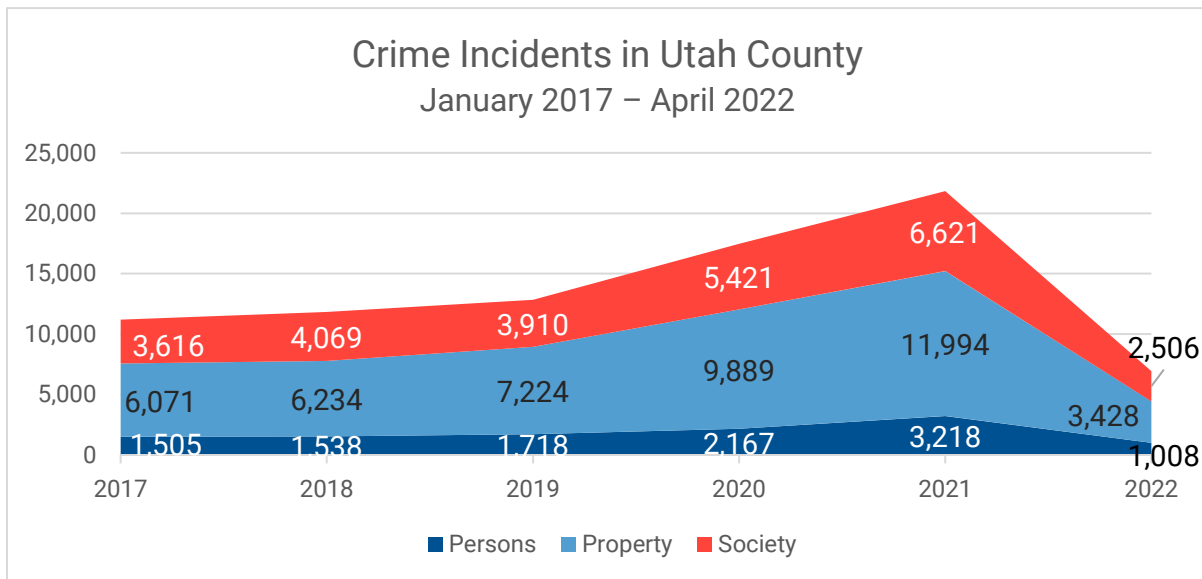
In Utah County, incidents of crime have increased since 2017, with the exception of a nearly 4 percent year-over-year decrease in crimes against society in 2018.<sup>18</sup>

<sup>18</sup> Utah Department of Public Safety Crime Dashboard



**Figure 14: Year-Over-Year Utah County Crime Increase by Percent**

In 2022, incidents of crimes against persons, property, and society appear to be on track with 2021 numbers; however, summertime often brings an increase in criminal activity, and the numbers available for this report do not include months beyond April 2022.



**Figure 15: Crime Incidents in Utah County, January 2017 – April 2022**

### 2.1.5.1 Crimes Against Persons

Crimes against persons more than doubled between 2017 and 2021, going from 1,505 to

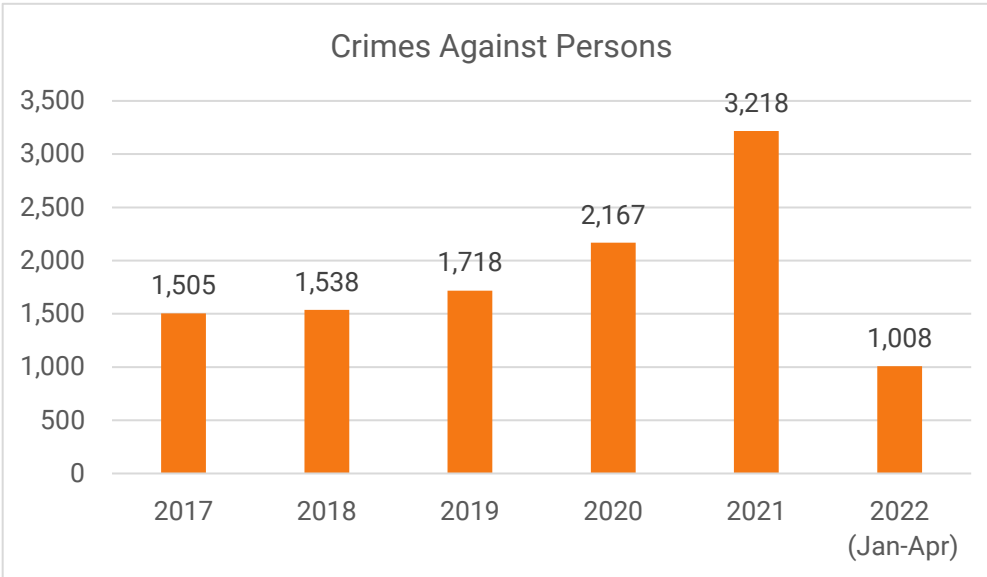


Figure 16: Crimes Against Persons

3,218. The difference between such crimes in 2020 and 2021 is stark, with an increase of 48.5 percent. In 2022, the data for the first four months of the year indicate

the number of crimes against persons will likely be on par with those in 2021.<sup>19</sup>

Simple assault is the most common crime against persons, with more than 1,600 incidents in Utah County in 2021. Intimidation is the next most common, at 505, followed by forcible fondling (416) and aggravated assault (273).<sup>20</sup>

<sup>19</sup> Ibid.

<sup>20</sup> Ibid.

**Table 10: Crimes Against Persons, By Offense, 2017 to 2022**

Crimes Against Persons, by Offense, 2017 – 2022												
	Aggravated Assault	Forcible Fondling	Forcible Rape	Forcible Sodomy	Incest	Intimidation	Kidnapping/Abduction	Murder & Nonnegligent Manslaughter	Negligent Manslaughter	Sexual Assault with an Object	Simple Assault	Statutory Rape
<b>2017</b>	105	289	70	45	1	180	63	6		5	725	16
<b>2018</b>	154	224	78	37		242	49	4	1	12	725	12
<b>2019</b>	156	223	73	36	3	319	84	3	1	11	794	15
<b>2020</b>	215	266	88	30	1	358	77	3	4	9	1,096	20
<b>2021</b>	273	416	232	26	2	505	115	4	2	24	1,609	10
<b>2022</b>	80	150	72	8		157	34	2		6	499	

Crimes are reported by the investigating or arresting agency, not by municipal jurisdiction. For example, the Brigham Young University Police Department reports numbers separately from the Provo Police Department. In the following table, the number of crimes against persons are listed by reporting agency. Empty cells indicate no data was reported; this could be due to no crimes having been investigated or completed in the given year, or it could be a reporting error. These data are number of incidents, not rates of crimes against persons.

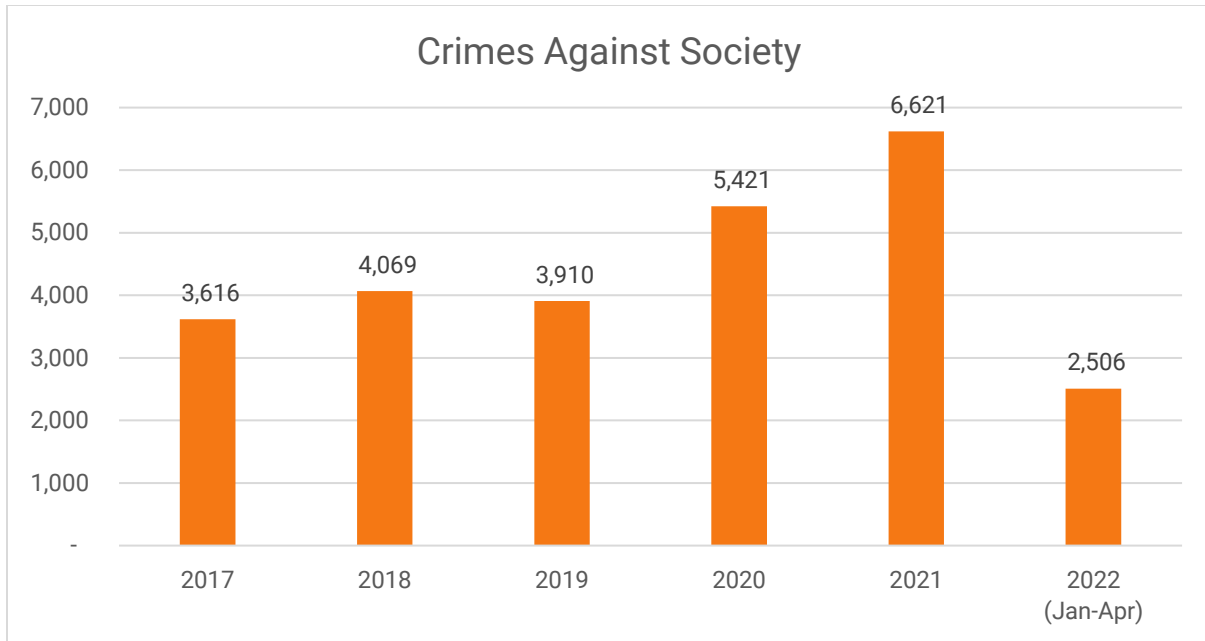
Table 11: Crimes Against Persons, by Reporting Agency

Crimes Against Persons, by Reporting Agency						
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022 (Jan-Apr)
American Fork/Cedar Hills Police Department			129	68	205	72
BYU Police Department	23	23	21	8	9	
Lehi Police Department				15		
Lindon Police Department	65	14	33	32	61	
Lone Peak Police Department				10	70	
Mapleton Police Department				28	42	15
Orem Department of Public Safety				243	839	264
Payson Police Department				49	151	49
Pleasant Grove Police Department	97	173	176	173	198	53
Provo Police Department	862	841	739	676	675	227
Salem Police Department		1	2	17	21	9
Santaquin Police Department				60	78	18
Saratoga Springs Police Department	139	168	266	184	225	74
Spanish Fork Police Department	88	81	63	209	209	62
Springville Police Department				161	184	63
Utah County Atty - Investigations Div				1	2	
Utah County Sheriff	231	237	289	233	249	100
UVU Police Department					2	
<i>Note: Empty cells indicate no data reported on the department of public safety dashboard.</i>						

Note that crimes against children, the elderly, and domestic partners are reported in more detail in section 2.4: Health.

#### 2.1.5.2 Crimes Against Society

From 2017 to 2021, crimes against society have increased significantly, going from 3,616 to 6,621. For the first four months of 2022, incidents of crimes against society are trending to exceed those of 2021.



**Figure 17: Crimes Against Society**

Crimes against society include drug, pornography, prostitution, and weapon violations. Utah County has experienced an increase in each of these types of crimes, with the exception of prostitution.

**Table 12: Crimes Against Society, by Offense, 2017 – 2022**

Crimes Against Society, by Offense 2017 – 2022						
	Drug Equipment Violations	Drug/Narcotic Violations	Pornography/ Obscene Material	Prostitution	Weapon Law Violations	Total
2017	1,812	1,517		4	283	3,616
2018	2,011	1,767		3	288	4,069
2019	1,924	1,670	1	23	292	3,910
2020	2,618	2,318	18	3	464	5,421
2021	3,171	2,904	59	6	481	6,621
2022	1,190	1,106	15	5	190	2,506

It appears that 2022 data is on track to see another increase in every type of crime against society compared to 2021, with the possible exception of pornography or obscene material.

The table below shows the incidence of crimes against society by reporting agency. Empty cells indicate either no such crimes occurred or that reporting was not completed. Some reporting agencies have experienced a decrease in the number of crimes.<sup>21</sup>

**Table 13: Crimes Against Society, by Reporting Agency, 2017 – 2022**

<b>Crimes Against Society, by Reporting Agency, 2017 – 2022</b>						
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
<b>American Fork/Cedar Hills Police Department</b>			497	422	644	180
<b>BYU Police Department</b>	10	7	13	8	12	
<b>Lehi Police Department</b>				2		
<b>Lindon Police Department</b>	183	71	133	108	139	
<b>Lone Peak Police Department</b>				5	47	
<b>Mapleton Police Department</b>				27	43	9
<b>Orem Department of Public Safety</b>				424	1,087	447
<b>Payson Police Department</b>				77	220	55
<b>Pleasant Grove Police Department</b>	354	400	313	226	249	54
<b>Provo Police Department</b>	1,067	1,224	1,035	1,157	1,119	340
<b>Salem Police Department</b>			14	87	86	27
<b>Santaquin Police Department</b>				138	143	33
<b>Saratoga Springs Police Department</b>	238	388	318	281	228	160
<b>Spanish Fork Police Department</b>	80	60	58	285	261	144
<b>Springville Police Department</b>				460	431	150
<b>Utah County Major Crimes Task Force</b>				405	383	159
<b>Utah County Sheriff</b>	1,684	1,919	1,529	1,309	1,528	747
<b>Utah Valley University Police Department</b>					1	1

<sup>21</sup> Utah Department of Public Safety Crime Dashboard



### 2.1.5.3 Crimes Against Property

The incidence of crimes against property in Utah County has nearly doubled from 2017,

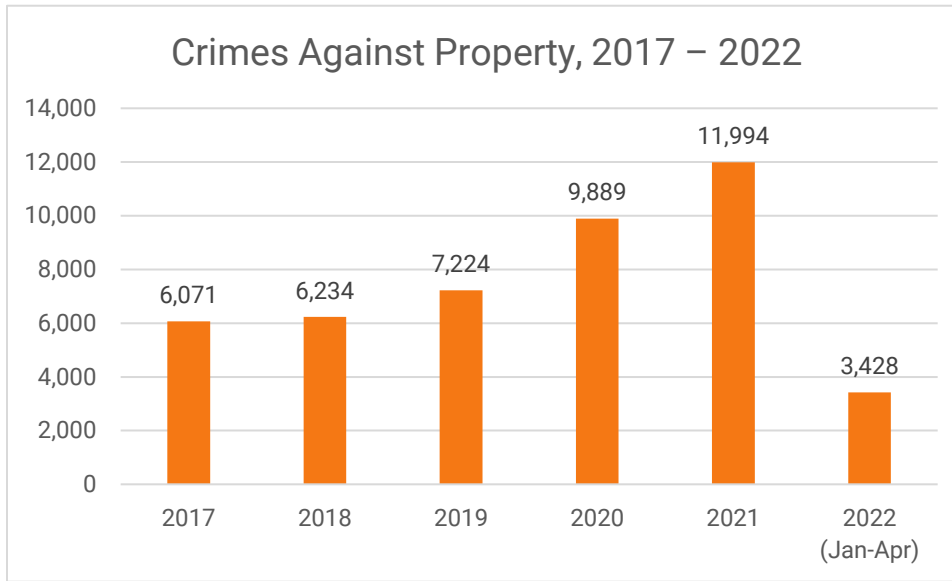


Figure 18: Crimes Against Property, 2017 – 2022

when it was 6,071, to 2021, when it was 11,994. Although the number through April 2022 would indicate a potential leveling off compared to 2021, most crimes against property occur in the summer; therefore, the year-

to-date figure of 3,428 may not be a good indicator of what is to come throughout the year.<sup>22</sup>

Larceny and theft offenses is the type of crime against property that is the most common in Utah County, with 5,826 incidents known to law enforcement in 2021—more than half of all crimes against property for the year.<sup>23</sup>

<sup>22</sup> Utah Department of Public Safety Crime Dashboard

<sup>23</sup> Ibid.

**Table 14: Crimes Against Property, by Offense**

Crimes Against Property, by Offense 2017 – 2022						
	Arson	Burglary/ Breaking & Entering	Destruction /Damage/ Vandalism of Property	Larceny/ Theft Offenses	Motor Vehicle Theft	Total
<b>2017</b>	11	366	1,452	3,201	197	5,227
<b>2018</b>	3	369	1,363	3,255	236	5,226
<b>2019</b>	3	450	1,772	3,525	249	5,999
<b>2020</b>	14	581	2,214	5,107	407	8,323
<b>2021</b>	15	683	2,990	5,826	542	10,056
<b>2022</b>	12	163	847	1,588	155	2765

The table below identifies incidence of crimes against property by reporting agency from 2017 through April 2022. Empty cells represent either no crimes of this category occurred, or data was not reported.<sup>24</sup>

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<sup>24</sup> Ibid.

Table 15: Crimes Against Property, by Reporting Agency, 2017 – 2022

Crimes Against Property, by Reporting Agency, 2017 – 2022						
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022 (Jan-Apr)
American Fork/Cedar Hills Police Department			1,023	852	1,232	286
BYU Police Department	217	213	168	182	109	
Lehi Police Department				50		
Lindon Police Department	465	215	359	464	504	
Lone Peak Police Department				72	326	
Mapleton Police Department			107	136	26	
Orem Department of Public Safety				1,283	2,858	886
Payson Police Department				161	416	89
Pleasant Grove Police Department	283	752	719	574	666	205
Provo Police Department	3,090	3,225	2,845	2,955	2,574	849
Salem Police Department			49	92	97	33
Santaquin Police Department				168	197	49
Saratoga Springs Police Department	466	482	678	597	574	221
Spanish Fork Police Department	719	596	650	857	804	258
Springville Police Department				700	776	246
Utah County Atty - Investigations Div					4	1
Utah County Major Crimes Task Force				15	16	3
Utah County Sheriff	831	751	733	750	664	248
Utah Valley University Police Department					41	28

### 2.1.6 Households

The U.S. Census Bureau defines *households* as all people who occupy a housing unit, whether they are related or not. For example, a group of students sharing an apartment would be considered one household.

There are two types of households: Family Households and Non-family Households. *Family Households* are those households that are maintained by a householder who is in a family—a group of two or more people related by birth, marriage, or adoption, and are living together. *Non-family Households* include individuals living alone or sharing the home exclusively with people to whom he or she is not related. People living in *Group Quarters* are

non-institutionalized individuals living together in nonconventional housing units. For example, halfway houses, staff quarters for a hospital, etc.

Slightly more than 81 percent of households in Utah County are family households—that is, two or more people related by birth, marriage, or adoption, and living together. This figure has remained relatively steady for the decade: in 2010, 80.9 percent of all households were family households, and in 2020, 81.3 percent are. Of all family households, 70.4 percent are married-couple families, 7.4 percent are female householders with no male present, and 3.6 percent are male householders with no female present. Each of these ratios appear to be constant for the past several years.<sup>25</sup>

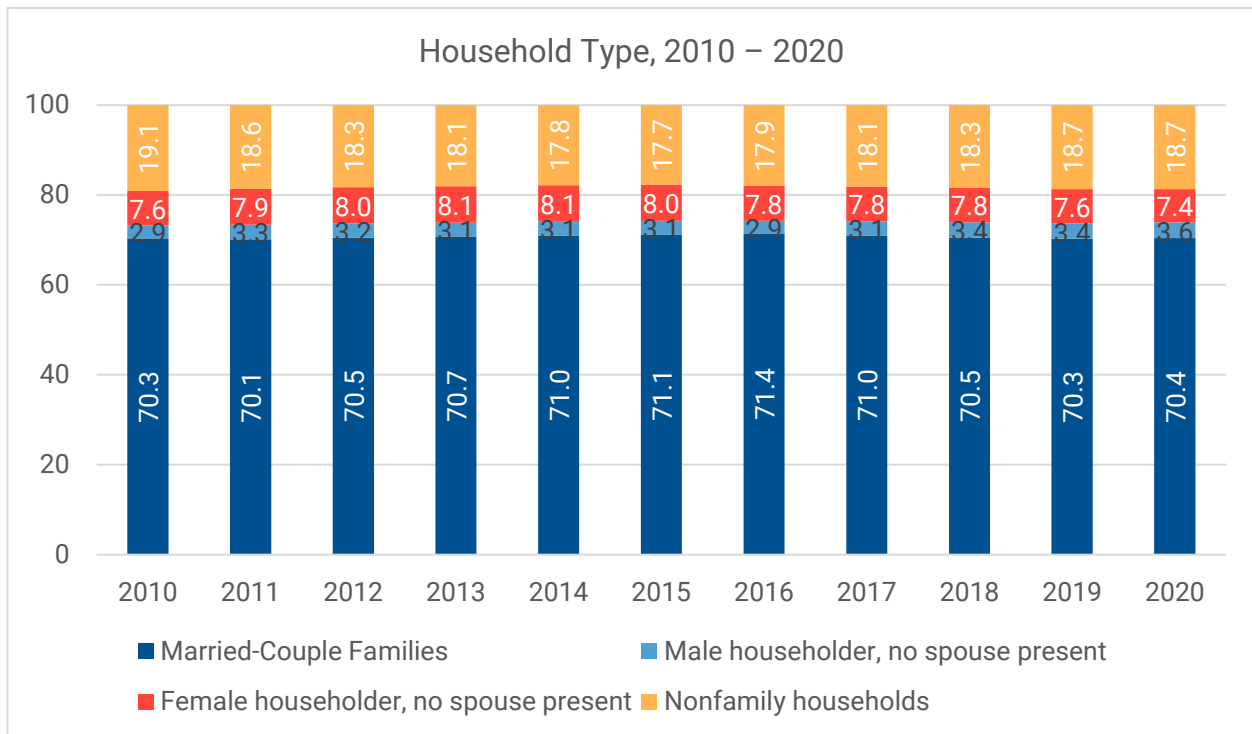


Figure 19: Household Type, 2010 – 2020

<sup>25</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 5-year ACS, Table B11001

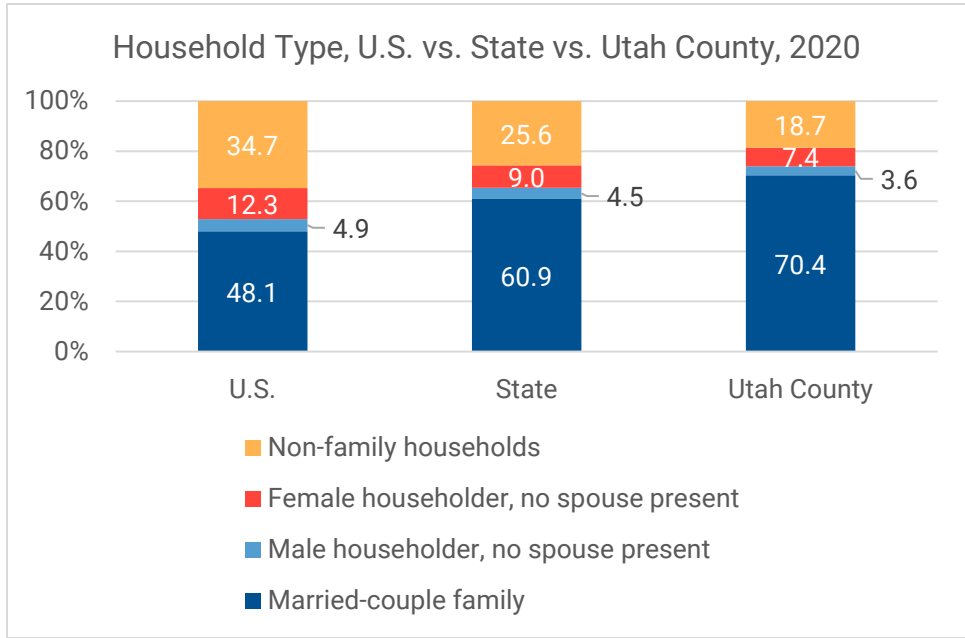


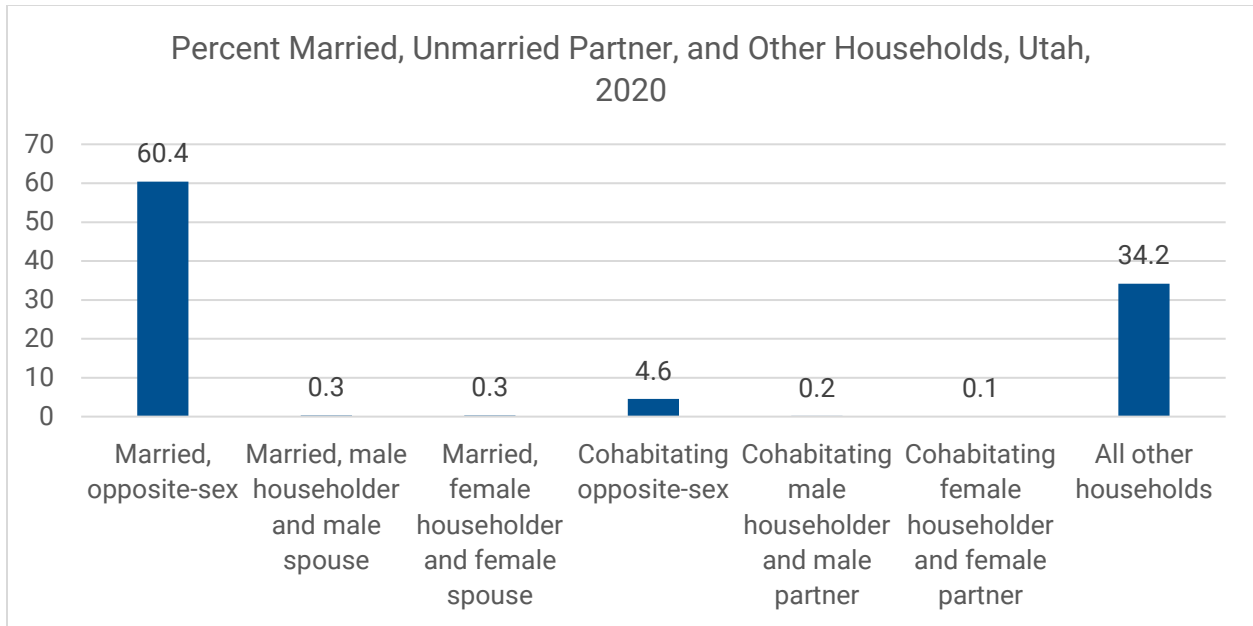
Figure 20: Household Type, U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County, 2020

Although the ratios of household type in Utah County have remained constant for many years, these ratios are quite different than those in the U.S. and even in Utah. In Utah County, 70.4 percent of households are married-couple households; this

compares to 60.9 percent for the state of Utah and 48.1 percent of the nation. Non-family households make up 18.7 percent of all households in Utah County, 25.6 percent in the state, and 34.7 percent of all households in the nation.<sup>26</sup>

In 2020, same-sex households and unmarried cohabitating couples were counted, but only state-level data have been released. In Utah, 60.9 percent of all households are married-couple households; 60.4 percent of those are opposite-sex households. Less than 1 percent of all households are same-sex married or same-sex cohabitating partner households.

<sup>26</sup> Ibid.



**Figure 21: Percent Married, Unmarried Partner, and Other Households, Utah, 2020**

### 2.1.6.1 Household Size

Utah County continues to have larger households than the state and nation. The average household size in Utah County is 3.48, which is identical to 2010. In 2015, the average household size had increased to 3.62. Utah County’s average household size is larger than the state’s 3.08 and the nation’s 2.6.<sup>27</sup>

<sup>27</sup> Ibid., Table GCT1105

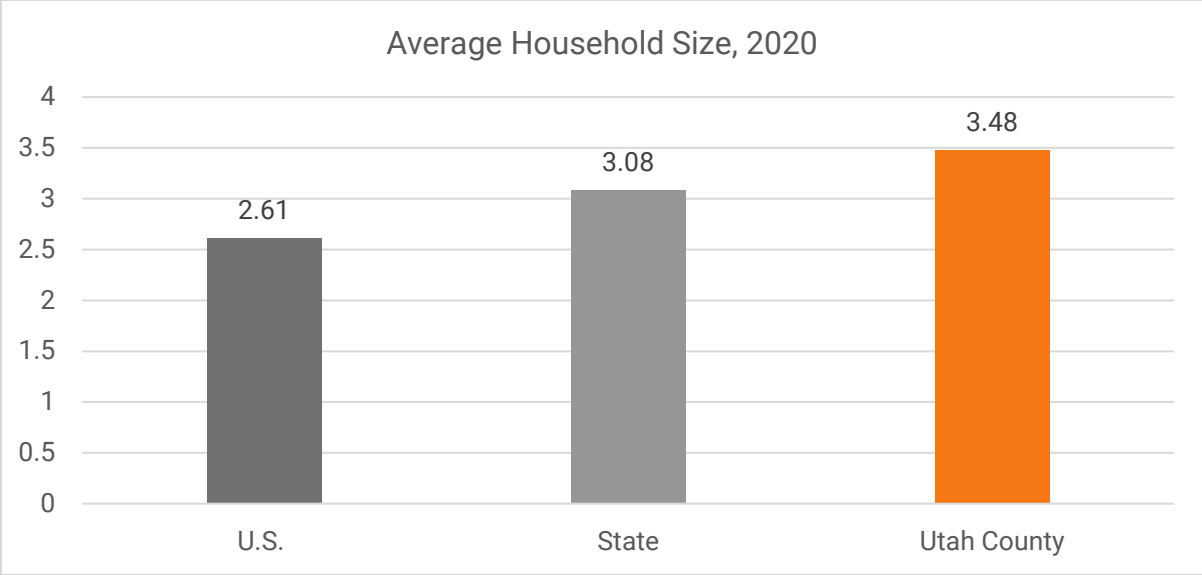


Figure 22: Average Household Size, 2020

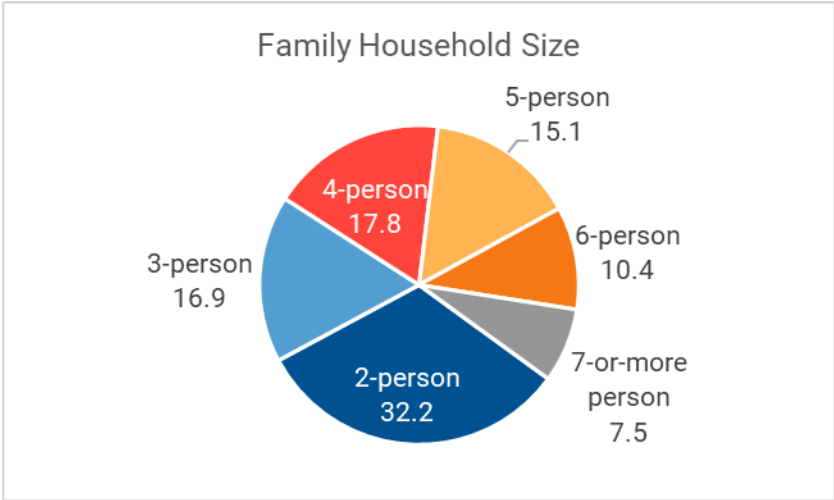
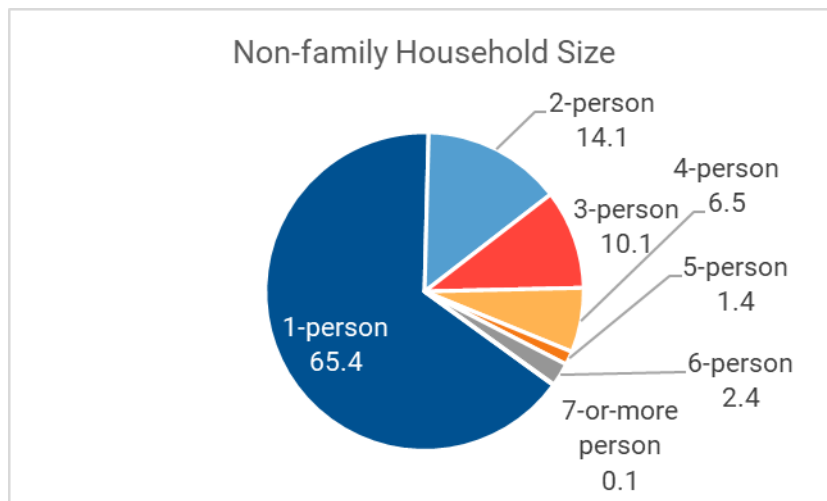


Figure 23: Family Household Size

Slightly more than 81 percent of all households in Utah County are family households. Most of these—about one-third—are 2-person households, and another third (34.7 percent) are 3- or 4-person households. Just over 15 percent are 5-person households.<sup>28</sup>

<sup>28</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 ACS, Table B11016



Nearly two-thirds of non-family households in Utah County are 1-person households; about 25 percent are 2- or 3-person households.<sup>29</sup>

Figure 24: Non-family Household Size

### 2.1.6.2 Households with Children

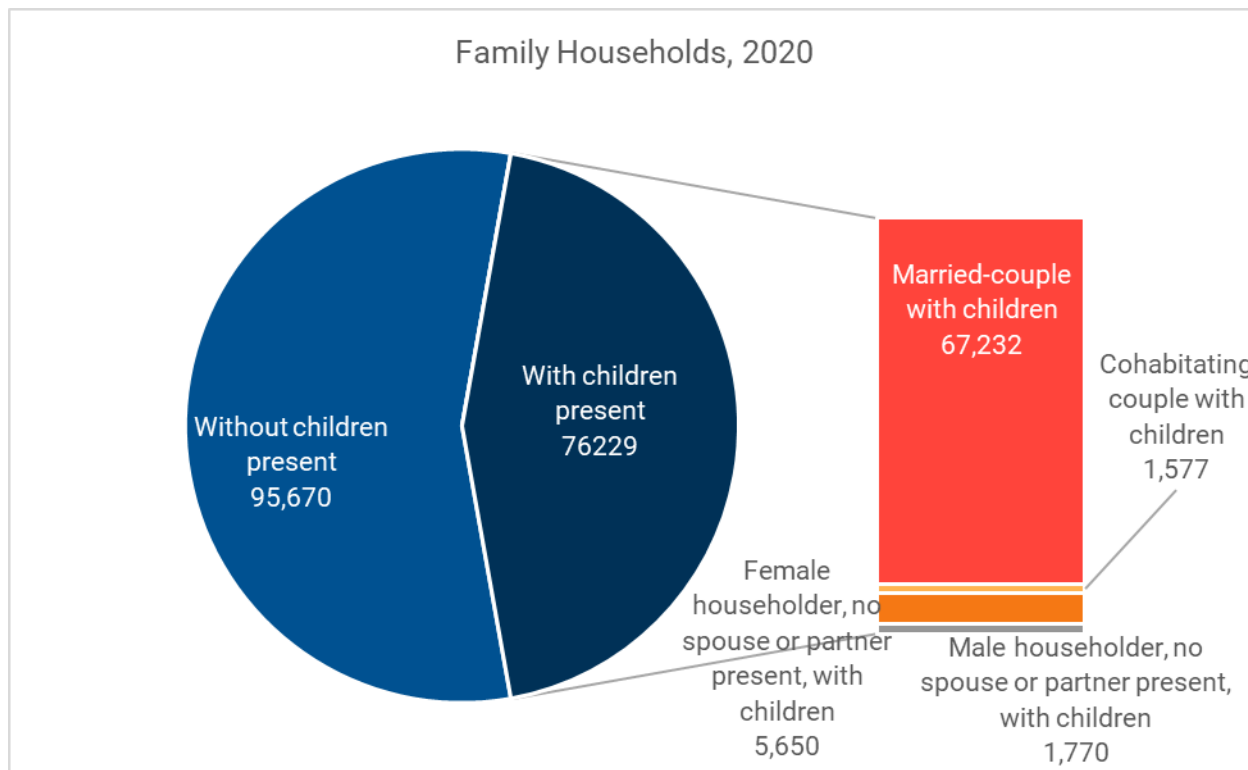
Family households are “a householder and one or more other people living in the same household who are related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption.”<sup>30</sup> While there are undoubtedly some households with children who are not families—for example, those with only foster children—most children in Utah County live in family households. In Utah County, about 55 percent of family households do not have children present. Of those with children present, 39.1 percent, or 67,232, are married-couple families. About 3.3 percent, or 5,650, are families with female householders with no spouse or partner present.<sup>31</sup>

<sup>29</sup> Ibid.

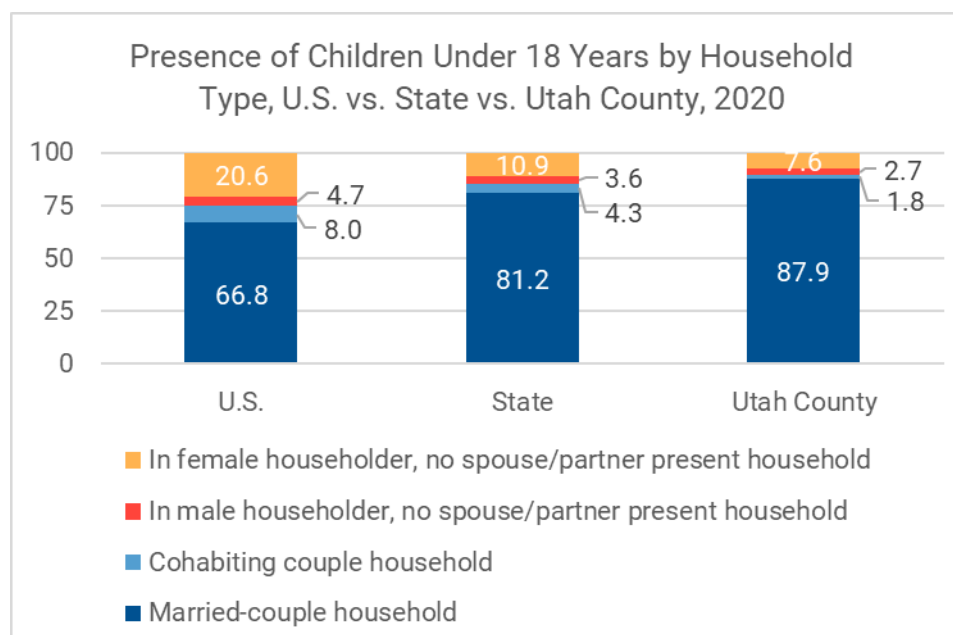
<sup>30</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, *American Community Survey and Puerto Rico Community Survey 2020 Subject Definitions*

<sup>31</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 ACS, Table B11012





**Figure 26: Family Households, 2020**



**Figure 25: Presence of Children Under 18 Years by Household Type, U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County, 2020**

The ratio of children living in married-couple households in Utah County is higher than the state, and much higher than the national average. While 87.9 percent of households with children are in married-couple

families in Utah County, 81.2 percent are in such households statewide and only 66.8 percent nationally.<sup>32</sup>

Of course, with nearly nine out of 10 children in Utah County living in married-couple

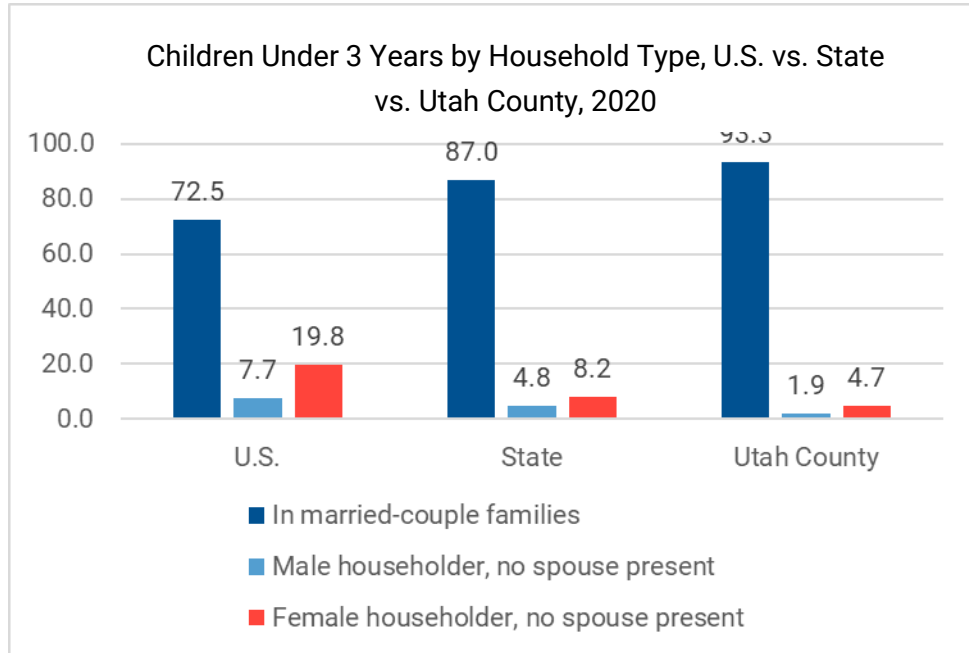


Figure 27: Children Under 3 Years by Household Type, U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County, 2020

households, the ratio of various ages of children in these households will certainly be high. However, it is useful to consider the type of families in which children of various age groups live in Utah County, and compare those numbers to state and national

figures.

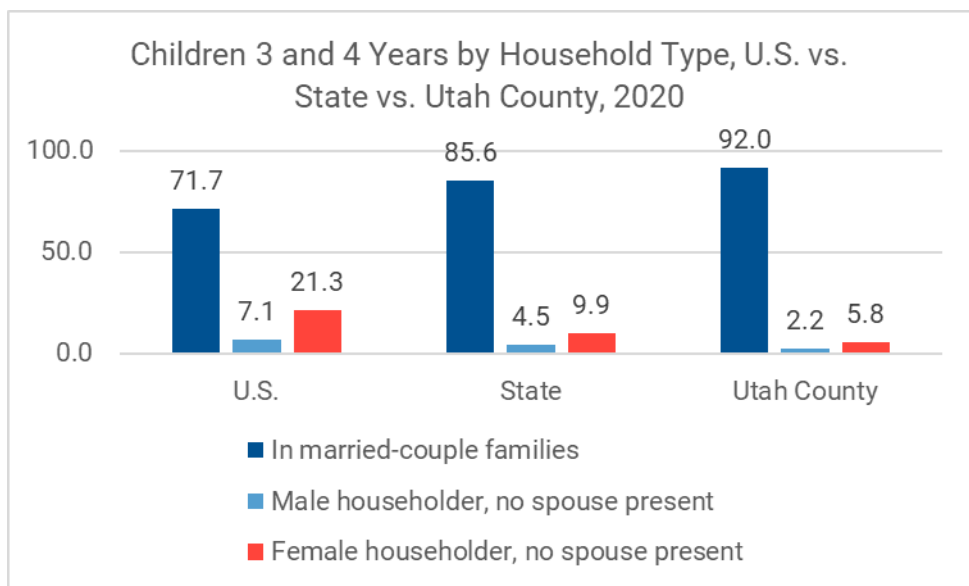


Figure 28: Children 3 and 4 Years by Household Type, U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County, 2020

In Utah County, 93.3 percent of children under 3 years live in married-couple households, compared to 87 percent for the state and 72.5 percent nationally.

Not quite 5 percent of children under 3 years live with a female householder with no spouse present in Utah County.<sup>33</sup>

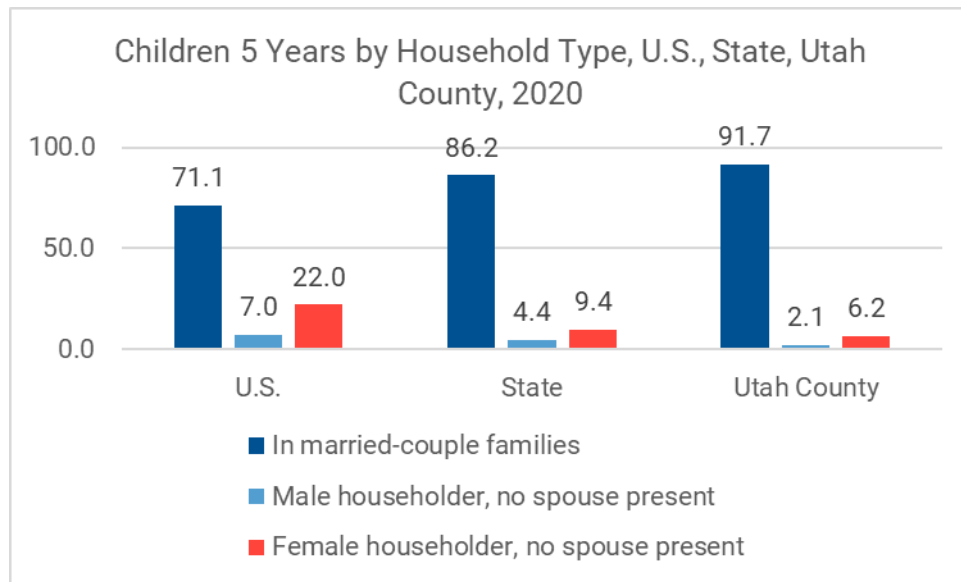


Figure 29: Children 5 Years by Household Type, U.S. vs. State vs Utah County, 2020

A slight increase in the percentage of children 5 years and 4-year-old children live in married-couple families in Utah County, while 85.6 percent of this age group throughout the state live in this type of family, and 71.7 percent

nationally.<sup>34</sup>

While 6.2 percent of 5-year-old children in Utah County are living in a female-headed household with no spouse present, 9.4 percent of this age group statewide lives with single mothers and

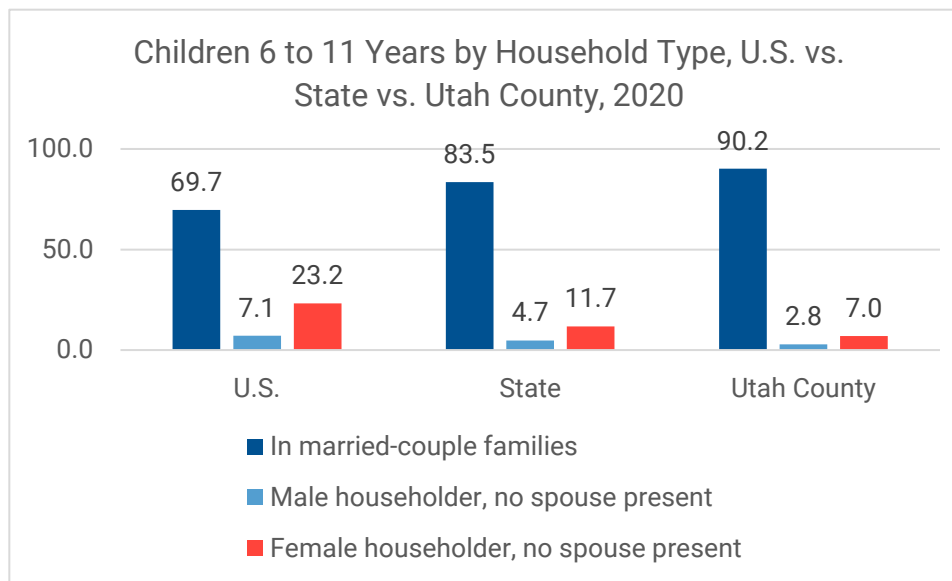


Figure 30: Children 6 to 11 Years by Household Type, U.S., State, Utah County, 2020

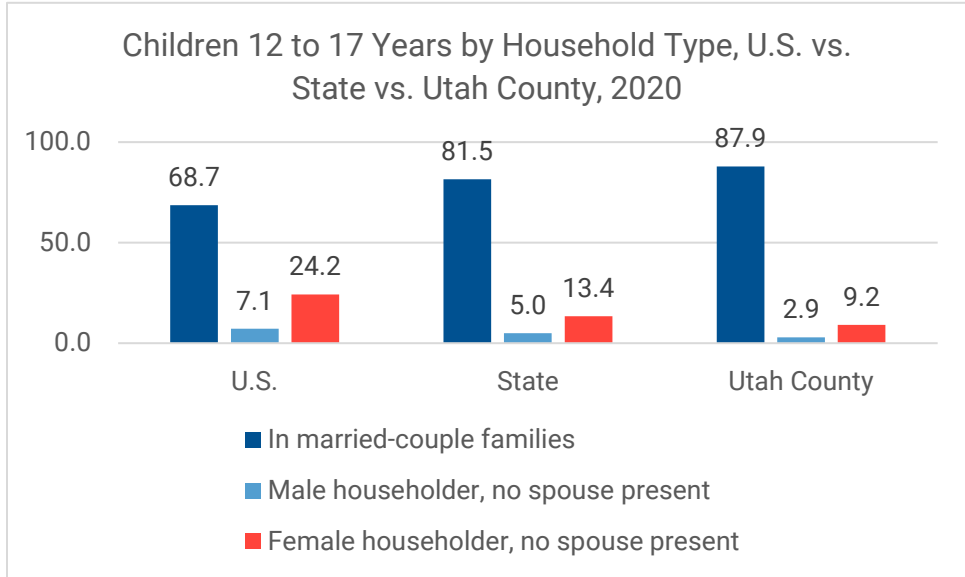
22 percent nationally.<sup>35</sup> For children ages 6 to 11, 90.2 percent are in married-couple households, while 7.0 percent are living in female-

<sup>33</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 ACS, Table B09002

<sup>34</sup> Ibid.

<sup>35</sup> Ibid.

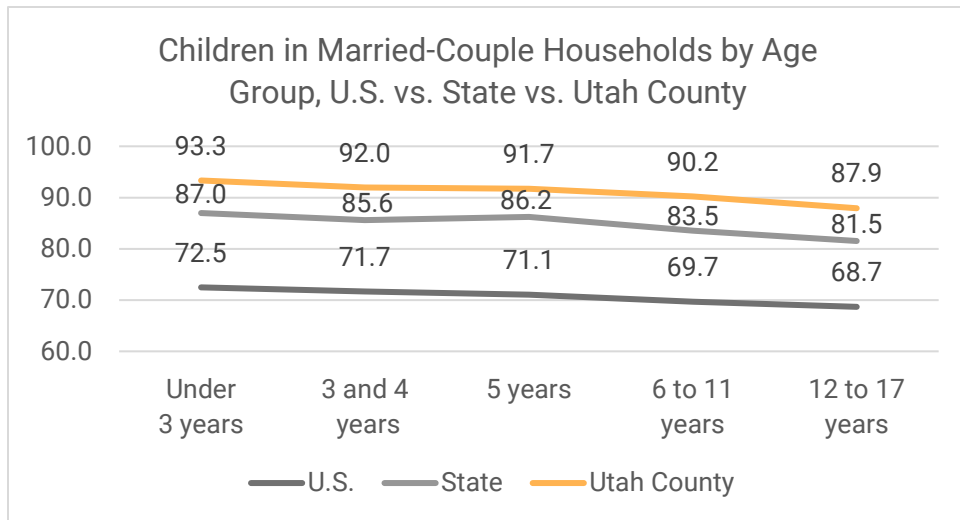
headed households with no spouse present and 2.8 percent in male-headed households with no spouse present. Nationally, 23.2 percent of children in this age group are living in female-headed households with no spouse present.<sup>36</sup>



**Figure 31: Children 12 to 17 Years by Household Type, U.S., State, Utah County, 2020**

For the oldest children—those 12 to 17 years old—just over 9 percent in Utah County are living in a female-headed household with no spouse present; 2.9 percent are in male-headed households with no spouse present, and

nearly 88 percent are living in households with married-couple families. Nationally, only 68.7 percent of 12- to 17-year-old children are living with married-couple families.<sup>37</sup>



**Figure 32: Children in Married-Couple Households by Age Group, U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County**

Another way to visualize this data is presented in the table to the left. As children age, the likelihood of their living in married-couple households decreases. The

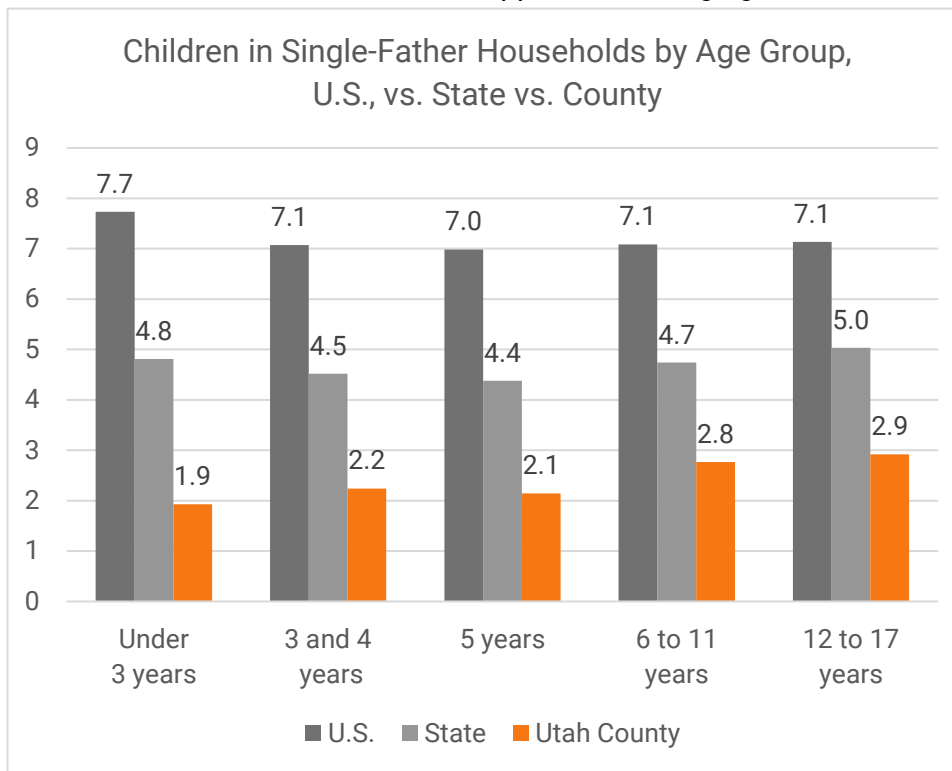
<sup>36</sup> Ibid.

<sup>37</sup> Ibid.

percent of decrease appears to be very similar across geographic areas: each is about 5 percent from children under 3 to children 12 to 17 years.<sup>38</sup>

### 2.1.6.2.1 Single-Parent Households with Children

Sociologists and others have long known that children growing up in single-parent families are at a disadvantage. Children raised by single mothers are more likely to experience lower school achievement, more likely to have discipline problems, less likely to graduate from high school, less likely to attend or graduate from post-secondary education, and more likely to commit crime and be incarcerated—particularly for boys.<sup>39</sup> As stated by Melanie Wasserman, an economist at UCLA, “The evidence supports an emerging consensus that growing up in a family



without biological married parents produces more adverse consequences for boys than for girls.”<sup>40</sup>

Although Utah County has much lower ratios of single parents raising children than the state or nation, the

numbers are still high. Nearly 3

Figure 33: Children in Single-Father Households by Age Group, U.S. vs. State vs. County

<sup>38</sup> Ibid.

<sup>39</sup> Hymowitz, K. “Disentangling the Effects of Family Structure on Boys and Girls,” Institute for Family Studies, 2020

<sup>40</sup> Wasserman, M., 2020. “The Disparate Effects of Family Structure,” The Future of Children V. 30 No. 1, p. 66

percent of all children age 12 to 17 are being raised by a single father, and 9.2 percent are being raised by a single mother.<sup>41</sup>

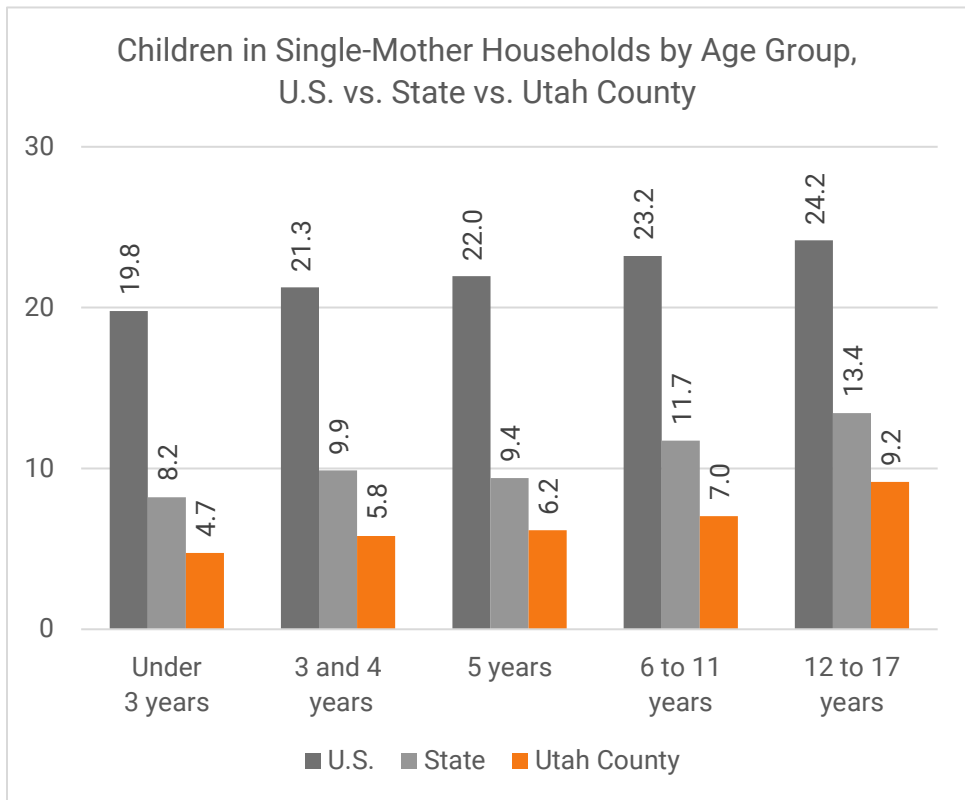


Figure 34: Children in Single-Mother Households by Age Group, U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County

As children age, the likelihood of being raised by a single parent increases. For children under 3 years, only 4.7 percent are living in a single-mother home and 1.9 percent are in a single-father home. By age 5, 6.2 percent of children

are being raised by single mothers and

2.1 percent by single fathers.<sup>42</sup>

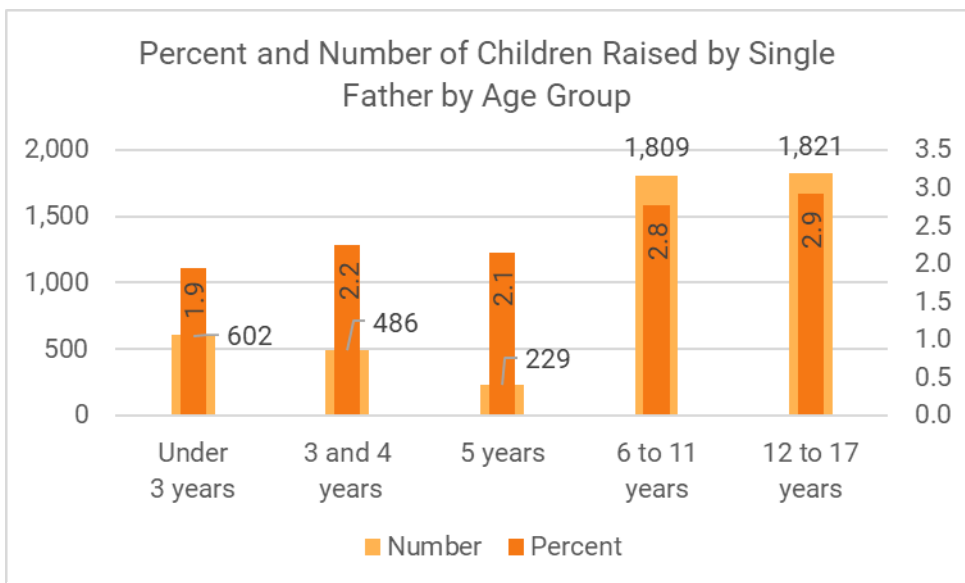
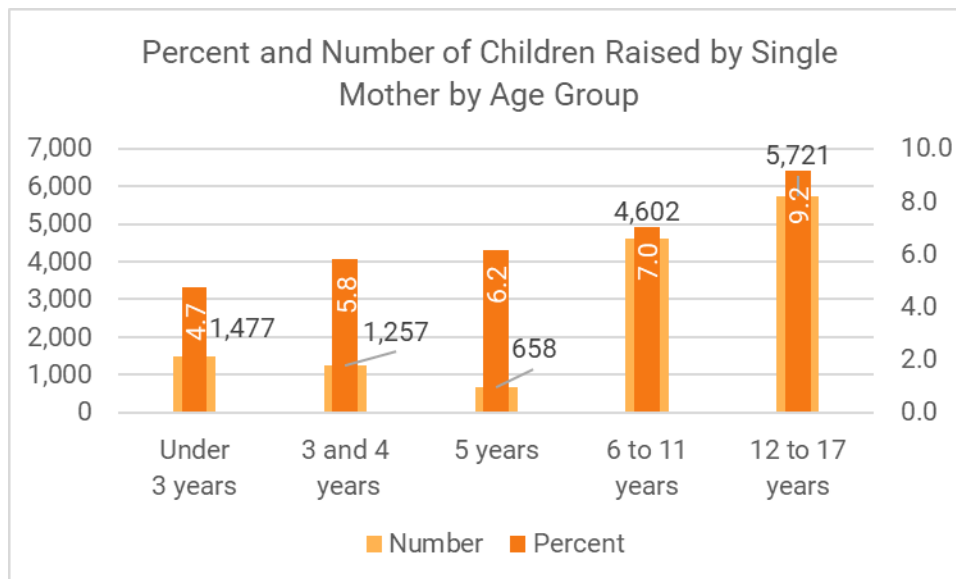


Figure 35: Percent and Number of Children Raised by Single Father by Age Group

In Utah County, there are 18,662 children growing up in single-parent families; 4,947 of these are being raised by single fathers. About

1,800 are aged 6 to 11 years, and another 1,821 are 12 to 17 years.<sup>43</sup>



The numbers are quite larger for single mothers. In 2020, Utah County was home to 13,715 children who are being raised by single mothers. More than nine percent of all children age 12 to 17 are living

**Figure 36: Percent and Number of Children Raised by Single Mother by Age Group**

in homes with single mothers—a total of 5,721.<sup>44</sup>

### 2.1.6.2.2 Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

It is becoming more common for adult children to live with their parents. It is also becoming more common for adult children with children to live with their parents; in 2020, 9,891 grandchildren were living with their grandparents—up from 7,033 in 2010. Over the past 10 years, this number has steadily grown in Utah County: except for 2011 and 2015, the increases have been slow but steady. 2011 saw an increase of 1,266; 2015 experienced an increase of 929. The number decreased in 2016 (403) and 2019 (138).<sup>45</sup>

<sup>43</sup> Ibid.

<sup>44</sup> Ibid.

<sup>45</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, ACS 2010 through 2020, Table B10001

However, perhaps a more useful measure of individual, family, and community health is the number of grandchildren whose grandparents are responsible for them. Of the 9,891

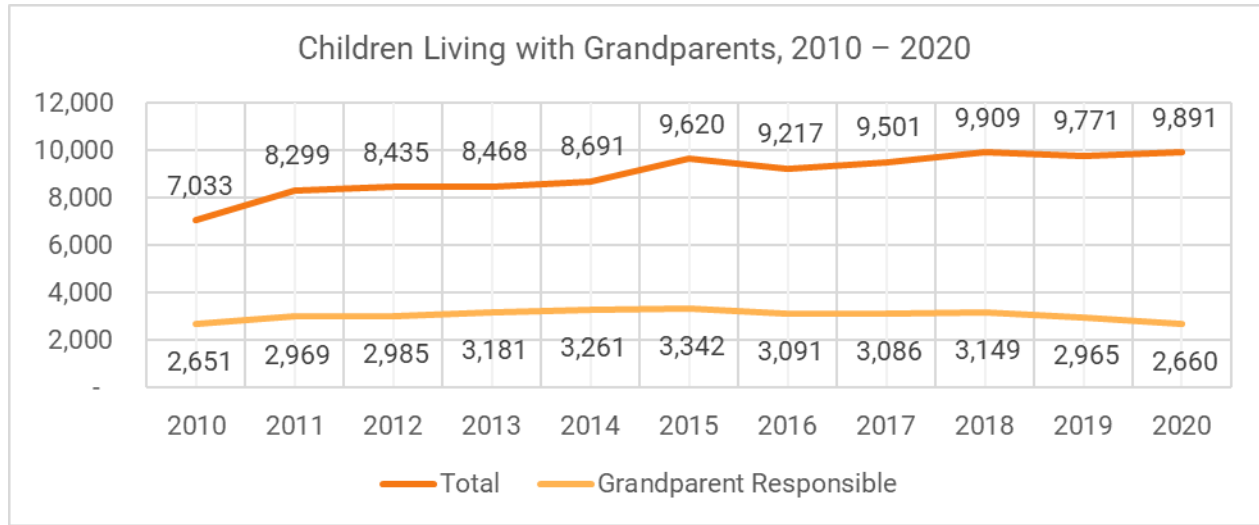


Figure 37: Children Living with Grandparents, 2010 – 2020

grandchildren living with grandparents in 2020, the grandparents are responsible for 2,660 of them. Although the total number of grandchildren living with grandparents has increased over the decade, the number of children for whom grandparents are responsible has increased by only nine grandchildren.<sup>46</sup>

Of the 2,660 grandchildren living with guardian grandparents, 2,150 also have parents living with them. Median family income is much lower when grandparents are responsible for

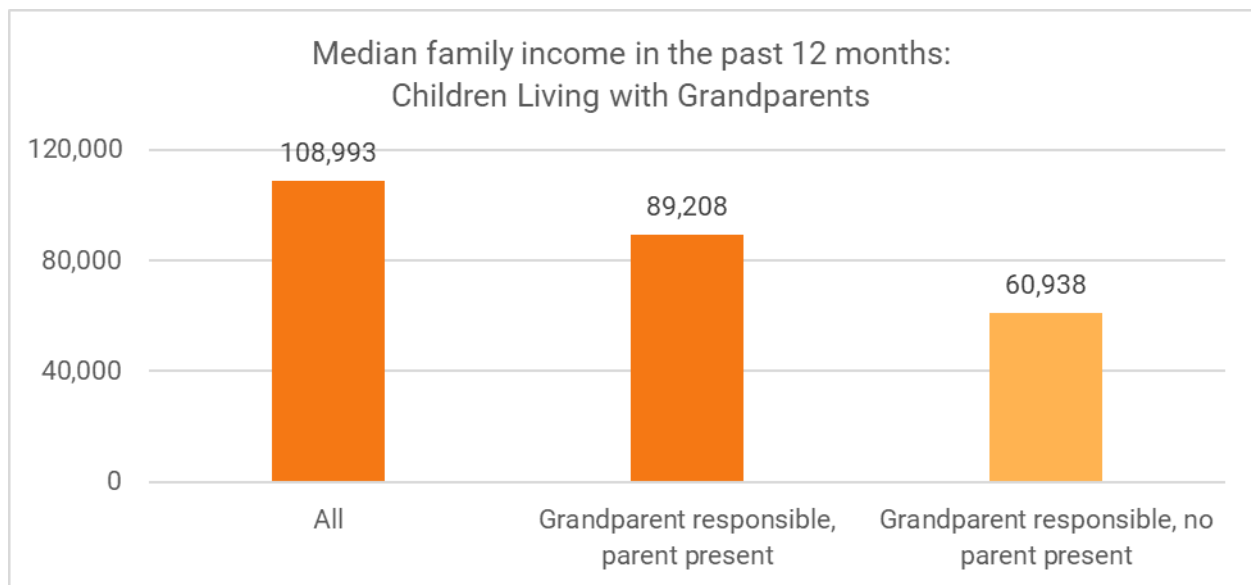


Figure 38: Median family income in the past 12 months: Children Living with Grandparents



the grandchildren living with them and no parent is present.<sup>47</sup>

### 2.1.6.2.3 Households with Persons 65 Years and Older

More detail on the aging of Utah County will be provided in the following section. However, when looking at households, the percentage of households with at least one person age 65 years or older has increased. In 2010, 15.8 percent of all households had a person age 65 or older; in 2020, 18.9 percent fall into this category.<sup>48</sup>

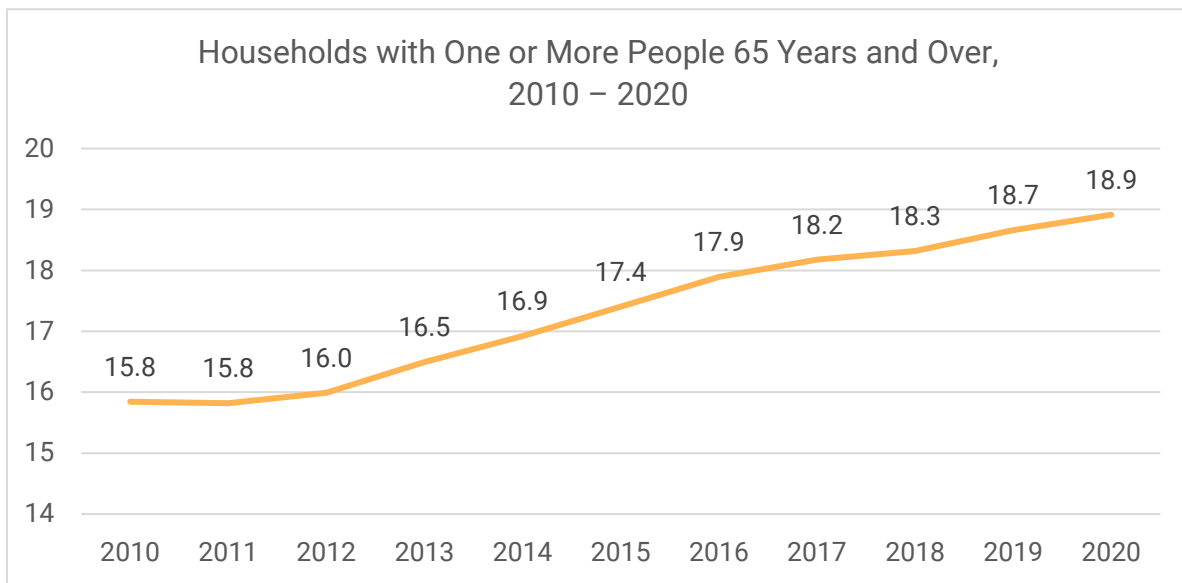
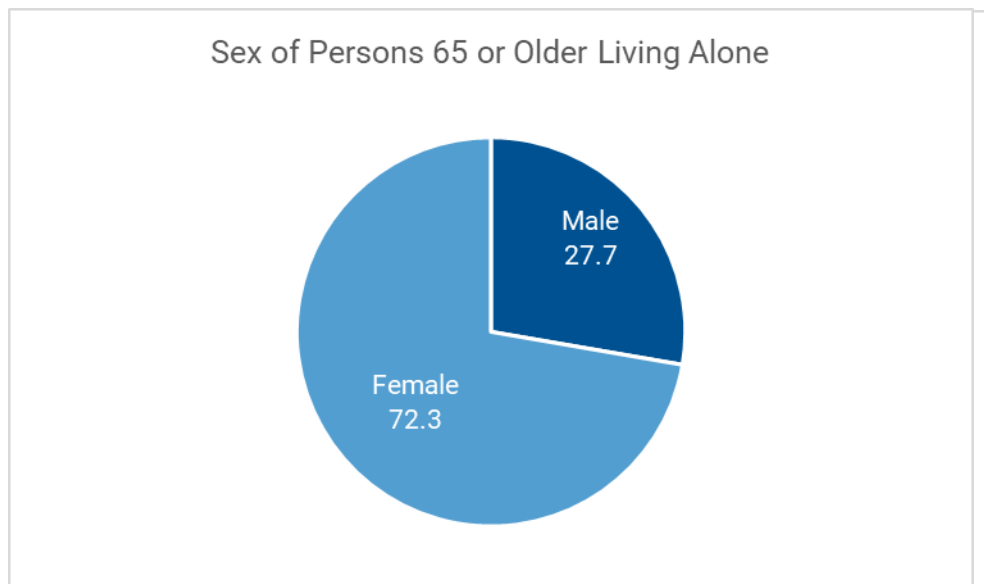


Figure 39: Households with One or More People 65 Years and Over, 2010 - 2020

<sup>47</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 ACS, Table B10010

<sup>48</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 ACS, Table B11007



**Figure 41: Sex of Persons 65 or Older Living Alone**

Over the last decade, the percentage of all households that have someone age 65 or older that are one-person households has declined, dropping from 28.8 percent to

26.7 percent. In 2020, 8,667 persons age 65 or older are living alone in Utah County. Of these, 72.3 percent are women.<sup>49</sup>

## 2.1.7 Population

### 2.1.7.1 Population Counts and Projections

As of the 2020 Census, Utah County's population was 621,506.

<sup>49</sup> Ibid.

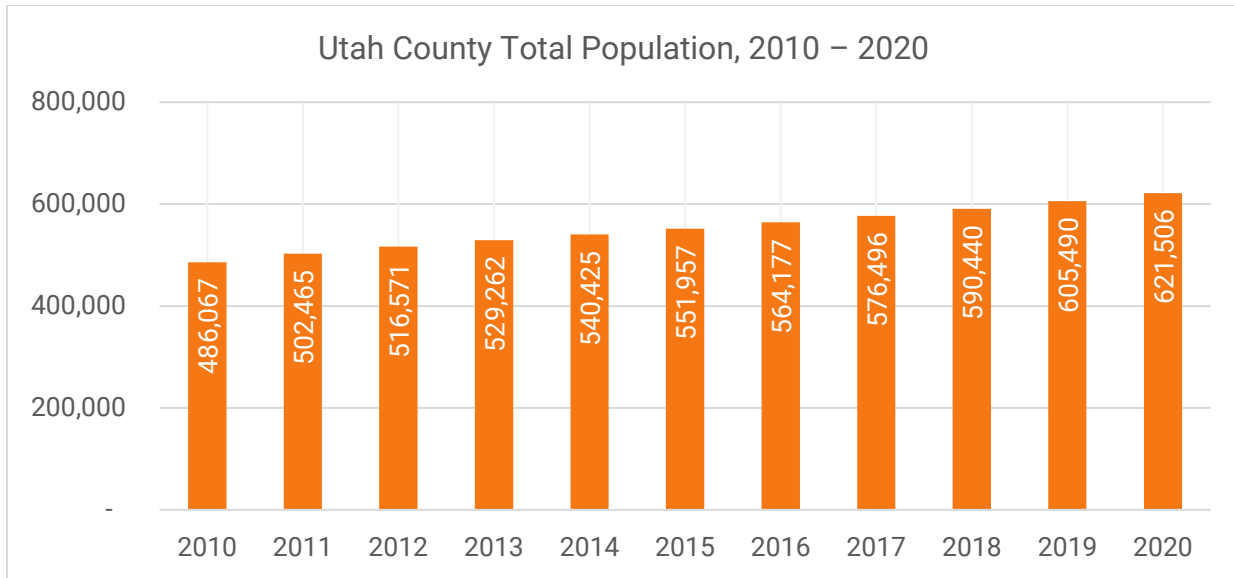


Figure 42: Utah County Total Population, 2010 – 2020

Provo remains the largest city, with 116,886. Orem has 97,883 persons, and Lehi has 66,980.<sup>50</sup>

Table 16: Population of Municipalities, 2020

Population of Municipalities, 2020					
<b>Alpine</b>	10,509	Goshen	929	Provo	116,886
<b>American Fork</b>	31,636	Highland	19,012	Salem	8,403
<b>Benjamin</b>	886	Lake Shore	1,020	Santaquin	12,276
<b>Cedar Fort</b>	212	Lehi	66,980	Saratoga Springs	31,273
<b>Cedar Hills</b>	10,190	Lindon	11,072	Spanish Fork	40,069
<b>Eagle Mountain</b>	35,431	Mapleton	10,270	Spring Lake	470
<b>Elberta</b>	318	Orem	97,883	Springville	33,251
<b>Elk Ridge</b>	3,994	Palmyra	551	Vineyard	8,628
<b>Fairfield</b>	81	Payson	20,181	West Mountain	1,370
<b>Genola</b>	1,601	Pleasant Grove	38,474	Woodland Hills	1,422

The Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute at the University of Utah, projects that by 2030, Utah County’s population will exceed 850,000. It will reach 1,000,000 in 2040.<sup>51</sup>

<sup>50</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 ACS, Table B01003

<sup>51</sup> Source: Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute State and County Projections 2020-2060 (2022)

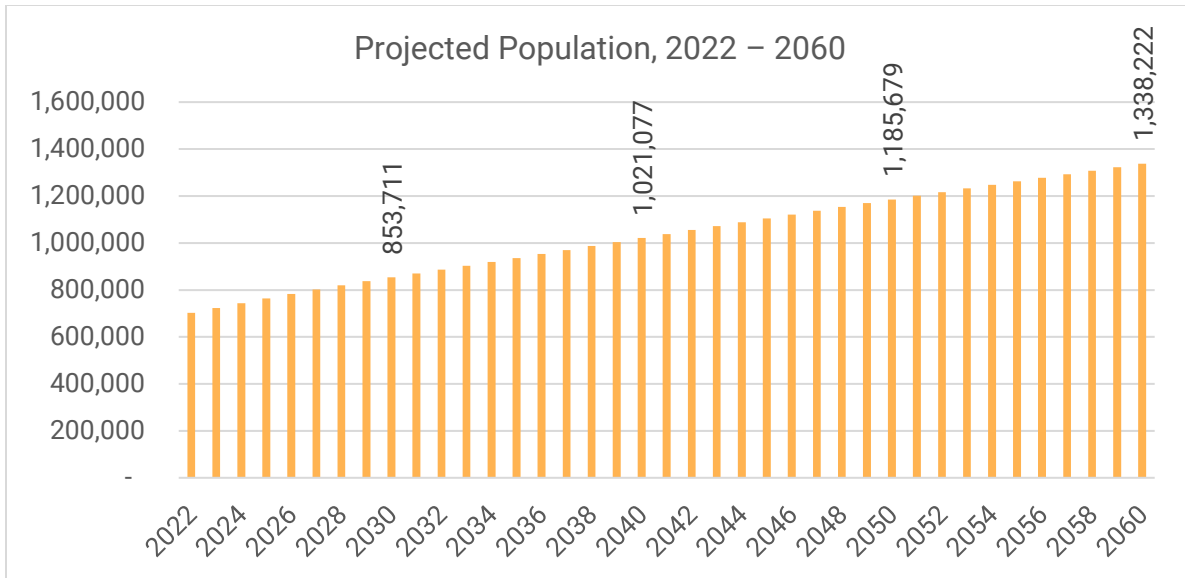


Figure 43: Projected Population, 2022 – 2060

Much of this growth will continue to be natural increase, approaching 100,000 young children age 0 to 4 years by 2060. However, the percent of the entire population that is made up

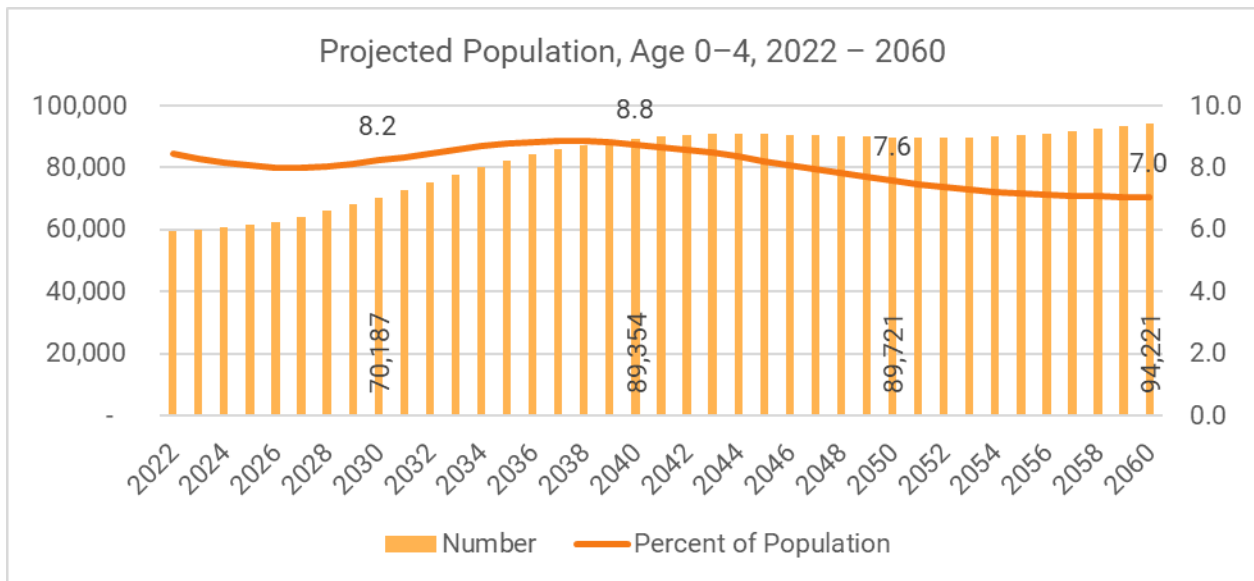


Figure 44: Projected Population, Age 0–4, 2022 – 2060

of young children is expected to decrease beginning in 2038.<sup>52</sup>

<sup>52</sup> Ibid.

Today, about one out of every three persons is a minor child; by 2060, that is expected to

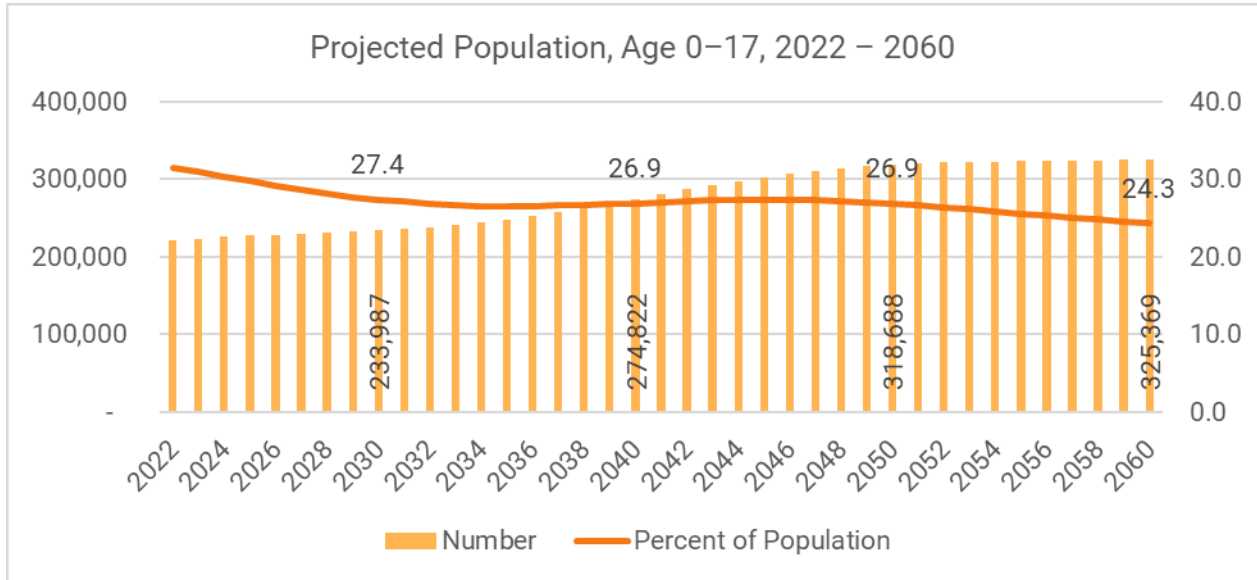


Figure 45: Projected Population, Age 0-17, 2022 - 2060

decrease to one out of every four.<sup>53</sup>

Utah County’s senior population of those age 65 or older will increase in both number and percentage of the total population. Today, this demographic is about 8 percent of the population; by 2060, it will be 16.7 percent.<sup>54</sup>

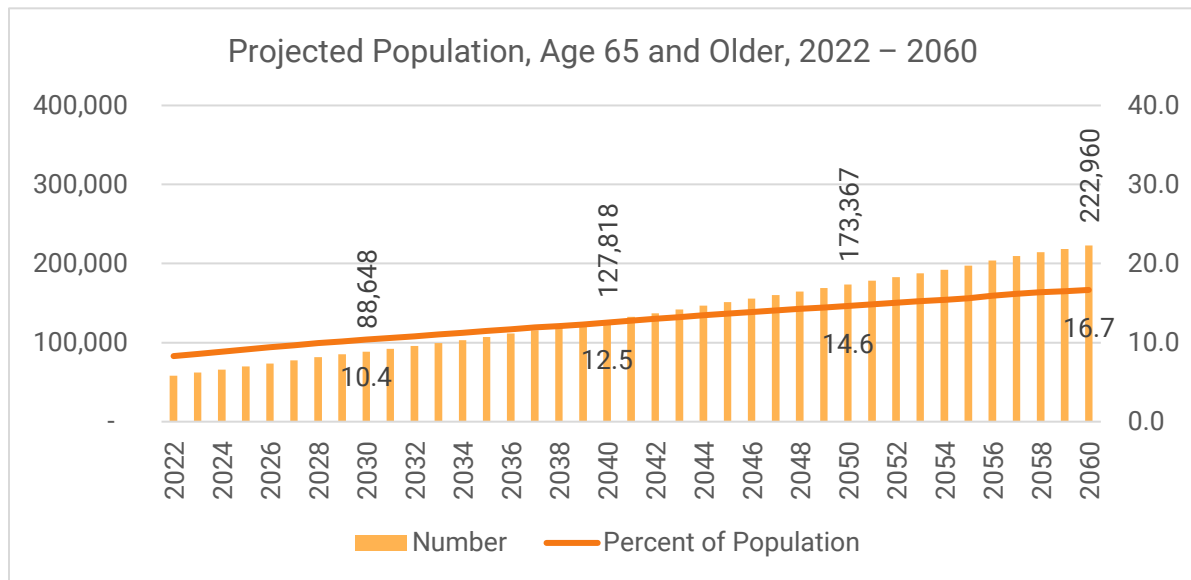


Figure 46: Projected Population, Age 65 and Older, 2022 - 2060

<sup>53</sup> Ibid.

<sup>54</sup> Ibid.

Utah County’s median age is expected to climb. In 2020, the median age was 25. It will reach 30.1 by 2038, and 34.1 by 2060.<sup>55</sup>

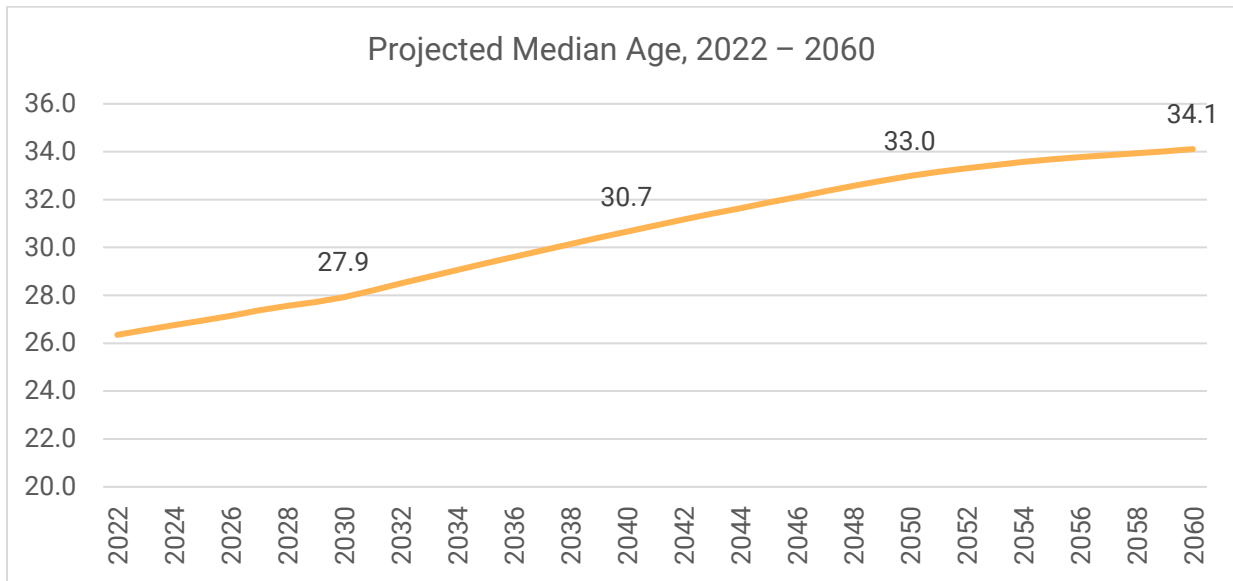


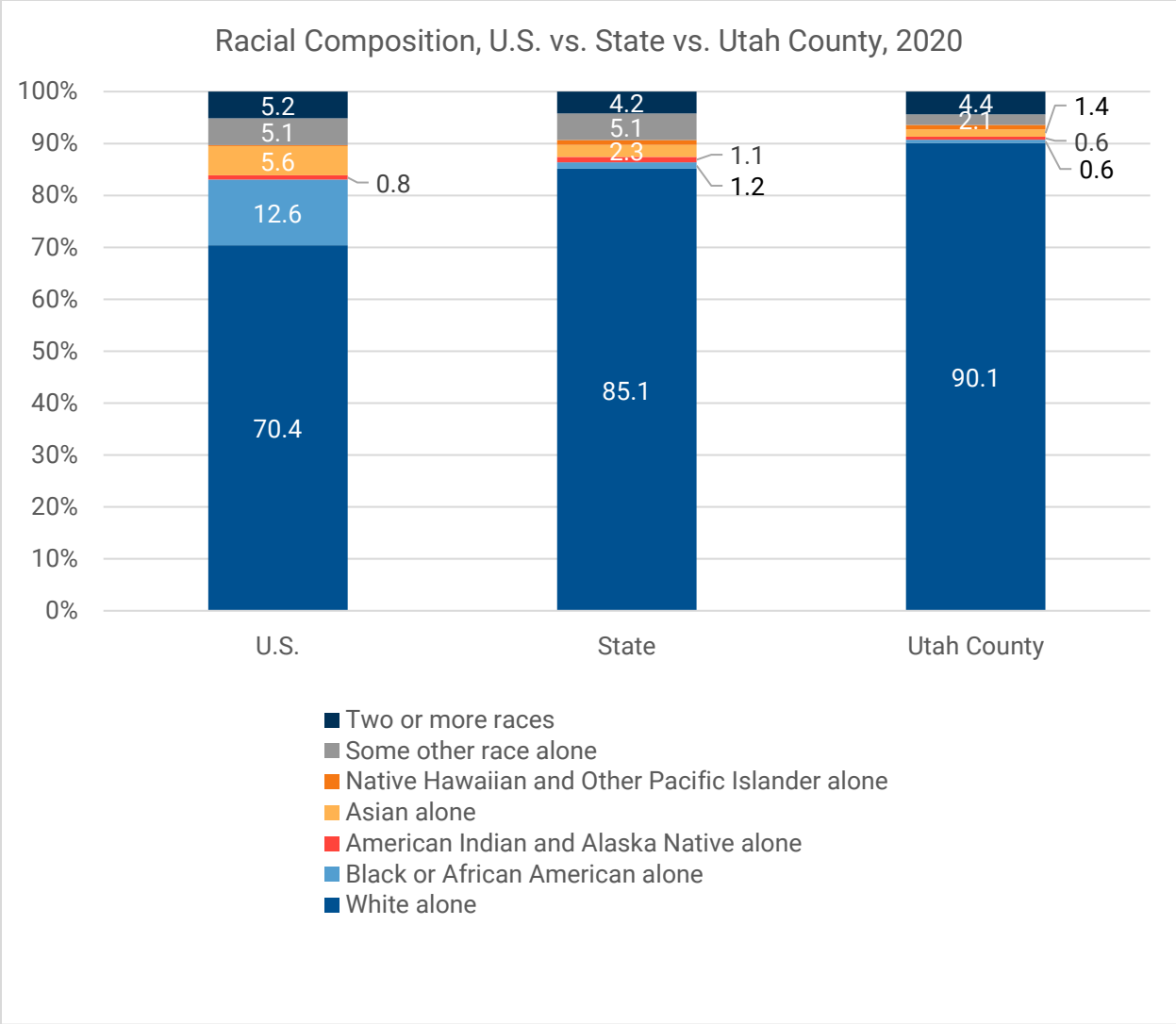
Figure 47: Projected Median Age, 2022 – 2060

### 2.1.7.2 Population by Race and Ethnicity

Utah County’s population remains primarily white, with 90.1 percent of population citing this as their race. This compares with 85.1 percent of Utahns and 70.4 percent of all U.S. residents.<sup>56</sup>

<sup>55</sup> Ibid.

<sup>56</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 ACS, Table B02001



**Figure 48: Racial Composition, U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County, 2020**

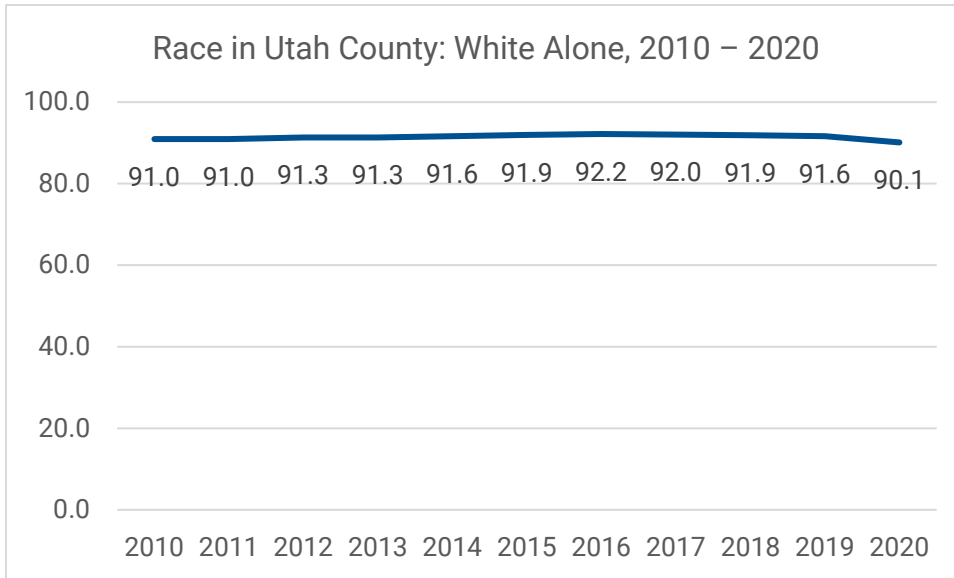


Figure 49: Race in Utah County: White Alone, 2010 – 2020

Utah County’s racial makeup changed markedly in the 2020 census. Since 2010, between 91 and 92.2 percent of the population reported being white alone (meaning no other race). But in 2020, this percentage

dropped. After reaching a decade high of 92.2 percent white alone in 2016, the percentage declined to 91.6 by 2019—but then dropped dramatically to 90.1 percent in 2020.<sup>57</sup>

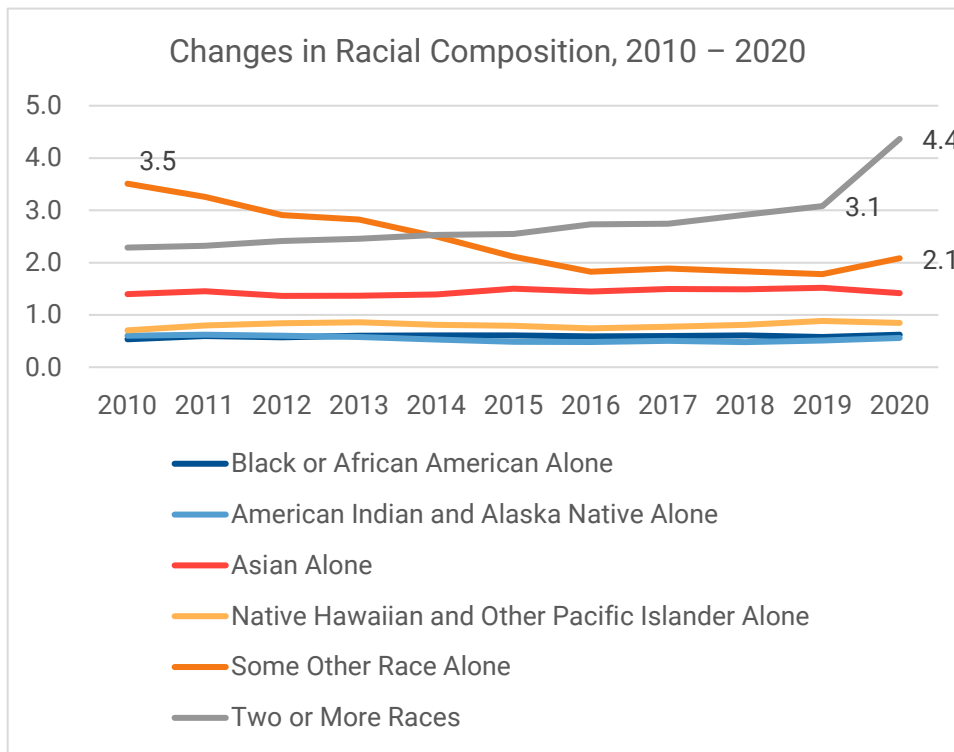


Figure 50: Changes in Racial Composition, 2010 – 2020

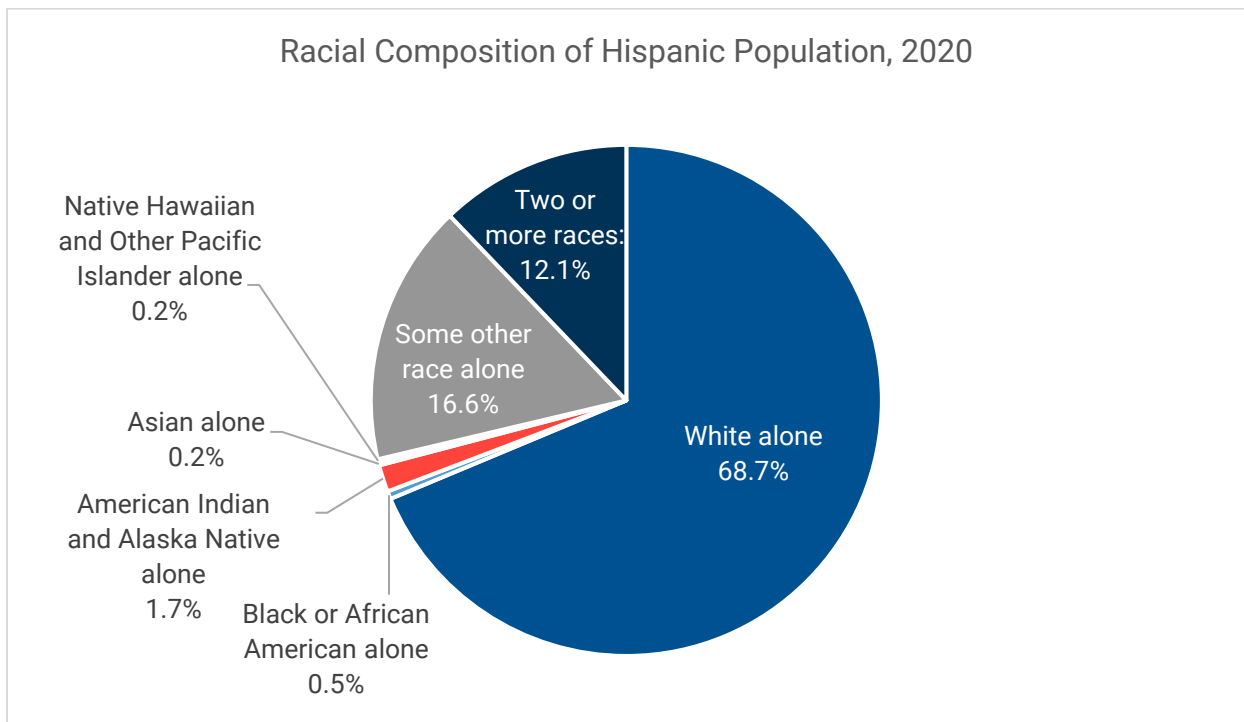
The changes in Utah County’s racial composition are noteworthy. The percentages of persons reporting specific races (other than white) have remained constant over the past decade, with the exceptions of “some other race alone,” (which has

<sup>57</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2020 ACS, Table B02001



decreased from 3.5 percent to 2.1 percent) and “two or more races” (which has increased from 2.3 percent to 4.4 percent). In terms of raw numbers, those reporting “some other race alone” decreased from 17,056 in 2010 to 12,940 in 2020. Those reporting “two or more races” increased from 11,118 in 2010 to 27,129 in 2020. The largest increase in “two or more races” was from 2019 (18,660) to 2020 (27,129).<sup>58</sup>

The Hispanic population in Utah County is just shy of 12 percent. Persons of Hispanic or Latino descent can be of any race; in Utah County, most (68.7 percent) are white, and 12.1 percent are two or more races. American Indian or Alaska Native is the self-identified race for 1.7 percent of the Hispanic population; 0.5 percent are black or African American; 0.2 percent are Asian; 0.2 percent are Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander; and 16.6 percent say they are “some other race.”<sup>59</sup>



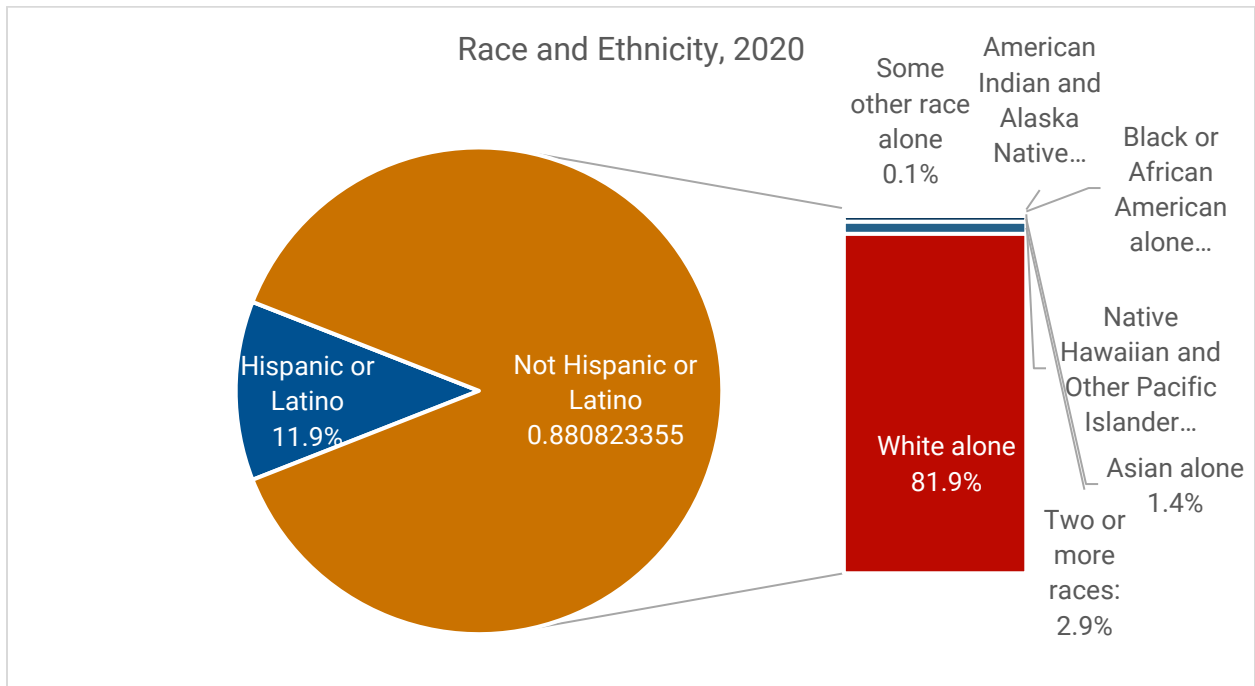
**Figure 51: Racial Composition of Hispanic Population, 2020**

Among those who are not Hispanic or Latino, 81.9 percent are white, 2.9 percent are two or more races, and 1.4 percent are Asian. The next highest category is Native Hawaiian or Other

<sup>58</sup> Ibid.

<sup>59</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 ACS, Table B03002

Pacific Islander (also at 0.8 percent) followed by black or African American (0.6 percent), American Indian or Alaska Native (0.4 percent) and “some other race” (0.1 percent).<sup>60</sup>



**Figure 52: Race and Ethnicity, 2020**

During the 2010s, the number of Hispanic individuals living in Utah County has increased by about 50 percent, growing from 49,522 in 2010 to 74,069 in 2020.<sup>61</sup>

<sup>60</sup> Ibid.

<sup>61</sup> Ibid.

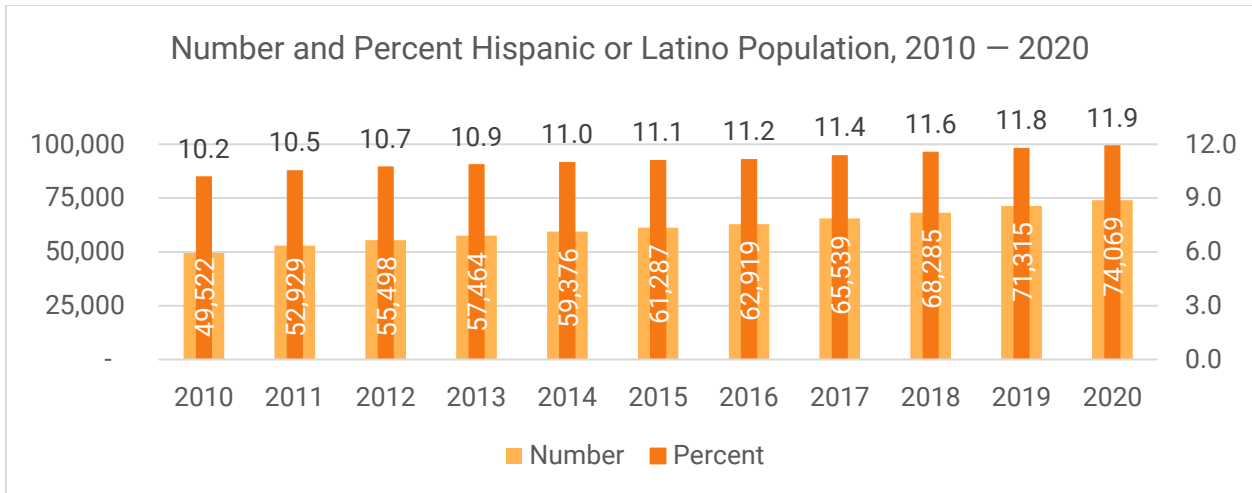


Figure 53: Number and Percent Hispanic or Latino Population, 2010 – 2020

### 2.1.7.3 Population by Marital Status

Marriage continues to be a more common occurrence in Utah County than in other parts

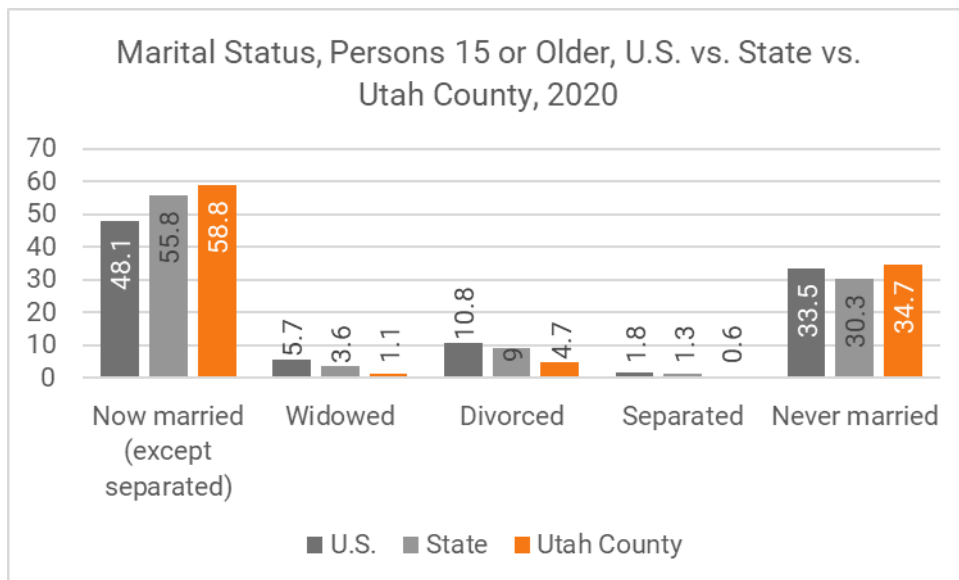


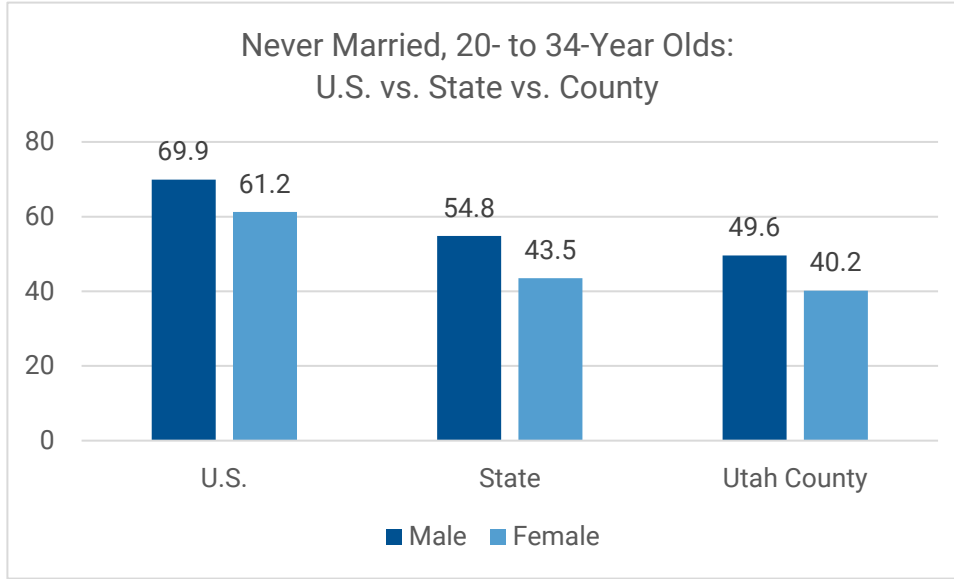
Figure 54: Marital Status, Persons 15 or Older, U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County, 2020

of the country. Of all persons age 15 or older, 58.8 percent of Utah County residents are married, compared to 55.8 percent in Utah and 48.1 percent in the U.S. Divorces are much lower, with 4.7 percent of Utah

County residents age 15 or older having been divorced, compared to 9 percent of Utahns as a whole and 10.8 percent of all Americans.<sup>62</sup>

<sup>62</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 ACS, Table S1201

Utah County's distinctive marriage culture is further manifest when looking at various

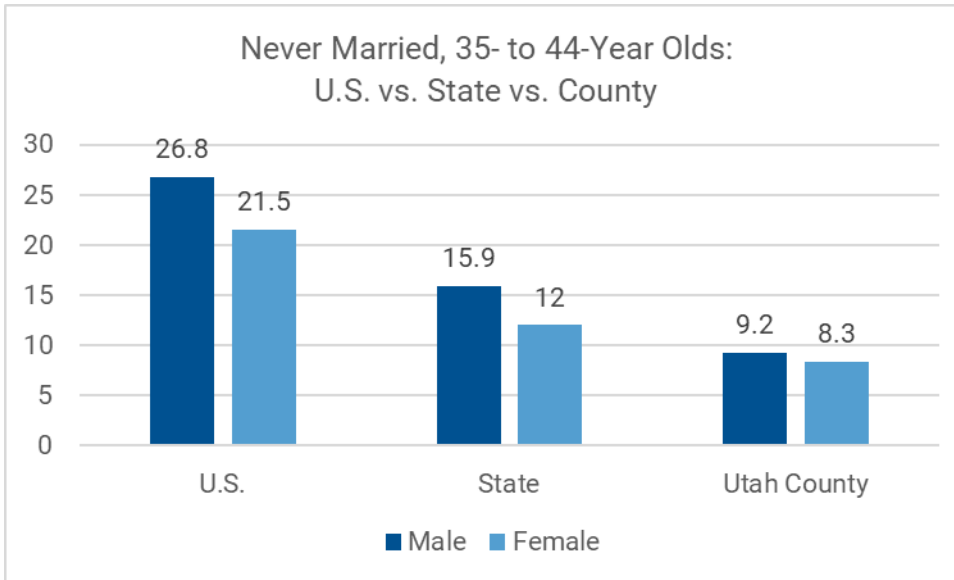


age groups. About half of all men age 20 to 34 in Utah County have never been married; statewide, this figure is 54.8 percent; nationally, it is 69.9 percent. About four out of 10 women age 20 to 34 in Utah

**Figure 55: Never Married, 20- to 34-Year Olds:**

County have never married and more than six out of 10 nationally.<sup>63</sup>

Looking at 35- to 44-year-old persons, the noteworthy nature of Utah County's marriage culture is even more clear. About nine out of 10 men—and eight of 10 women—in this age group



in Utah County have never been married. Nationally, nearly 27 percent of men and 21.5 percent of women of this age group have never married.<sup>64</sup>

**Figure 56: Never Married, 35- to 44-Year Olds: U.S. vs. State vs. County**

When considering race and ethnicity in marital status,

Utah County's black or African American and American Indian or Alaska Native populations

<sup>63</sup> Ibid.

<sup>64</sup> Ibid.

have lower rates of marriage than other iterations. Only 35.5 percent of blacks, and 39.9 percent of American Indian and Alaska Native residents, are now married (age 15 and older). This compares to 59 percent of whites, 55.7 percent of Asians, and 53.9 percent of Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islanders. Nearly 60 percent of white, not Hispanic or Latino—and 52.4 percent of Hispanic or Latino—are now married.<sup>65</sup>

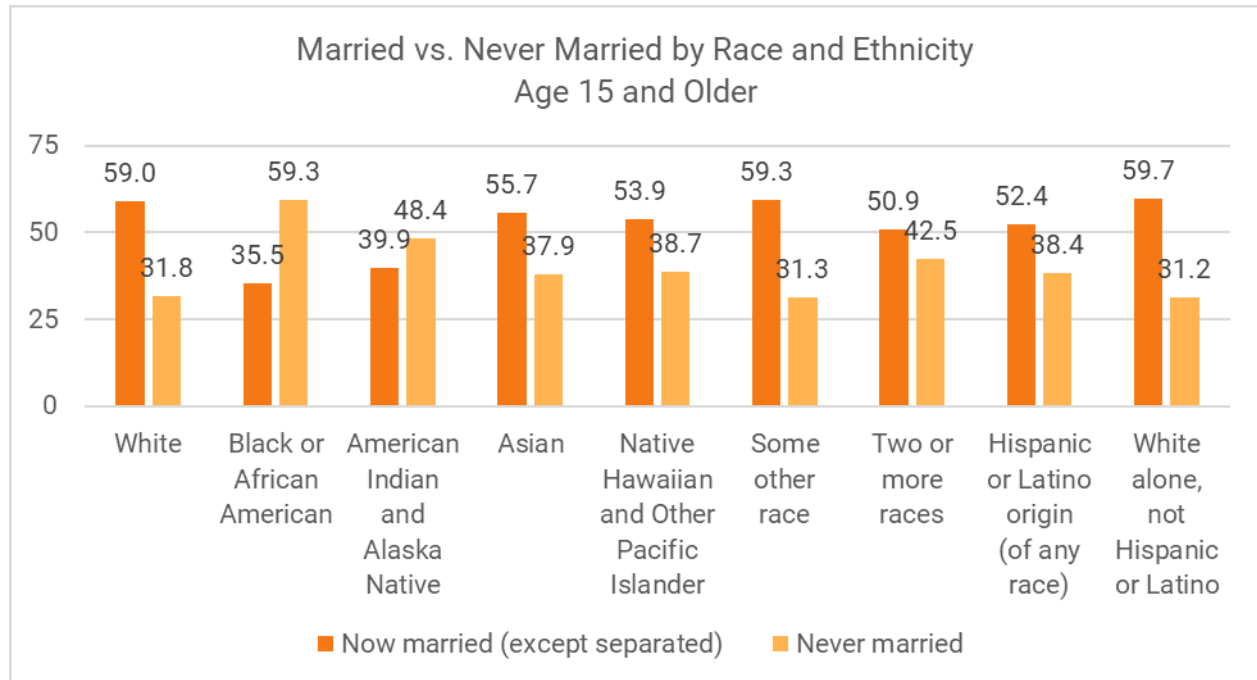
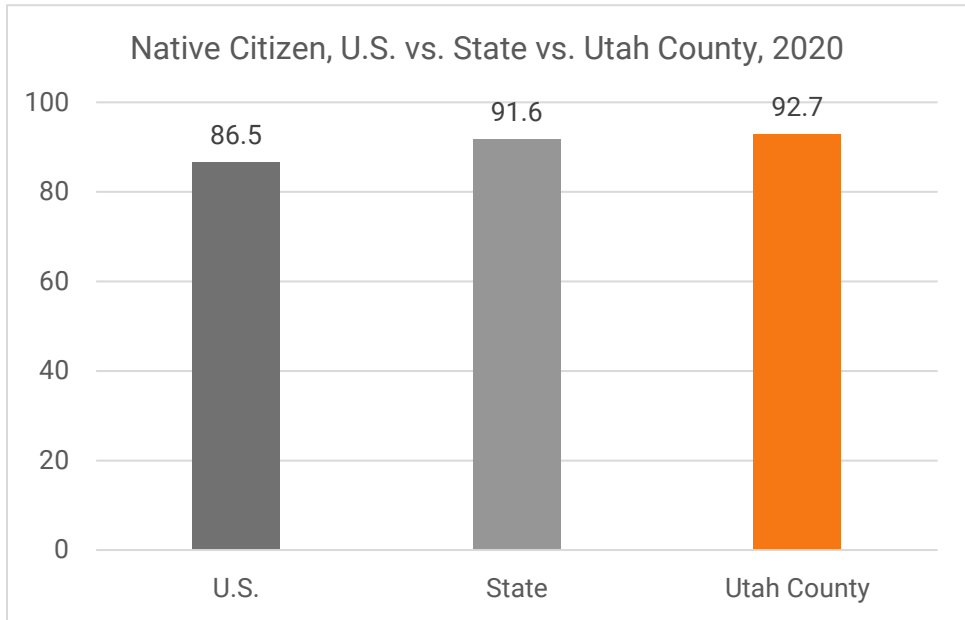


Figure 57: Married vs. Never Married by Race and Ethnicity, Age 15 and Older

<sup>65</sup> Ibid.

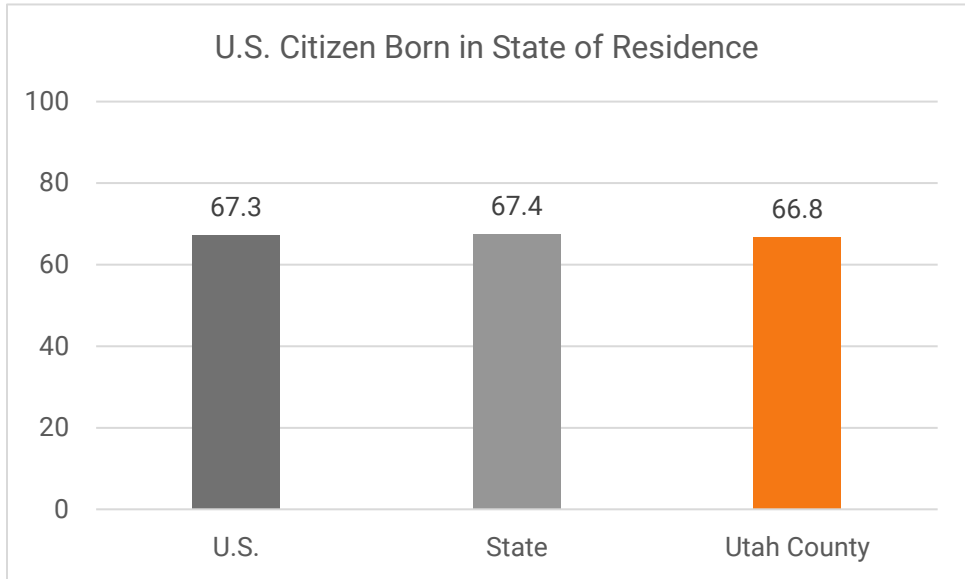
### 2.1.7.4 Population by Nativity

The nativity of Utah County residents is similar to the state's, and not too dissimilar to



the United States as a whole. Nearly 93 percent of Utah County's residents are native-born U.S. citizens. This is higher than the state's 91.6 percent and the nation's 86.5 percent.<sup>66</sup>

Figure 58: Native Citizen, U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County, 2020

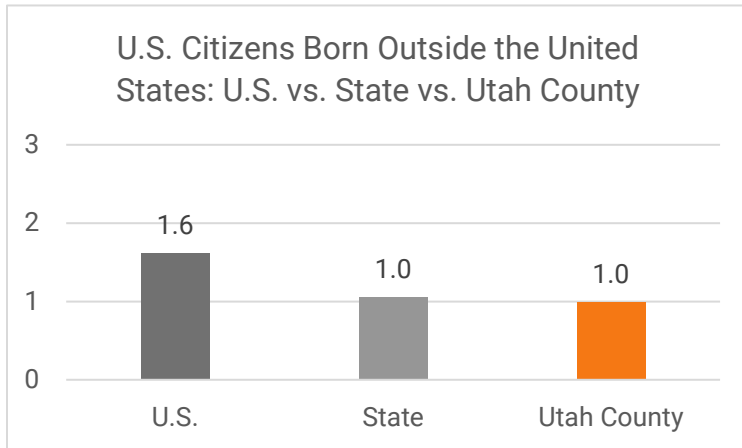


Two out of three native-born Utah County residents were born in Utah—this is a nearly identical ratio for native-born residents of the state and the nation.<sup>67</sup>

Figure 59: U.S. Citizen Born in State of Residence

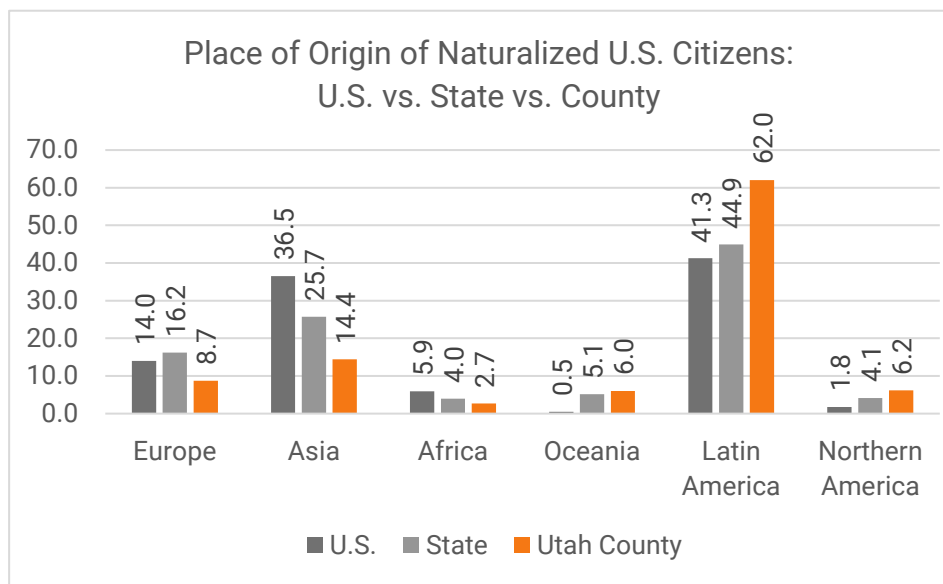
<sup>66</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 ACS, Table C05002

<sup>67</sup> Ibid.



Only about 1 out of every 100 native U.S. citizens living in Utah County was born outside the United States—about two-thirds the number of U.S. citizens nationally.<sup>68</sup>

**Figure 60: U.S. Citizens Born Outside the United States: U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County**



While 92.7 percent of Utah County residents are native U.S. citizens, 3 percent are naturalized citizens and 4.3 percent remain non-citizens. A large majority of naturalized citizens

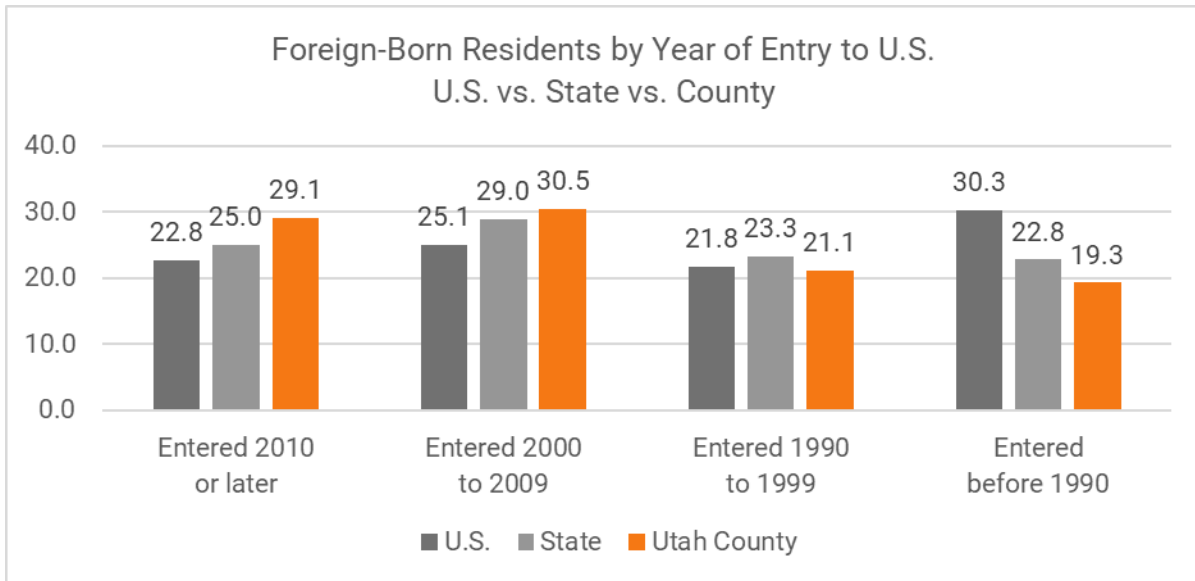
**61: Place of Origin of Naturalized U.S. Citizens: U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County**

in Utah County—62 percent—are from Latin America. About 14.4 percent are from Asia. These percentages are quite different from the state and nation, where about 45 percent (state) and 41 percent (U.S.) of the naturalized citizens are from Latin America.<sup>69</sup>

<sup>68</sup> Ibid.

<sup>69</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 ACS, Table B05002.

Places of origin for non-U.S. citizens in Utah County are similar to the state and the nation. Slightly more than 70 percent of Utah County non-citizens are from Latin America, compared to 67.2 percent for the state and 59.1 percent nationally. Nearly 16 percent of non-citizens in Utah County are from Asia—a lower percentage than the state (18.0 percent) and the nation (25.8 percent). Only 2 percent of non-citizens in Utah County are from Africa, while 3.1 percent of the state’s, and 4.8 percent of the nation’s, non-citizens are from that continent.<sup>70</sup>

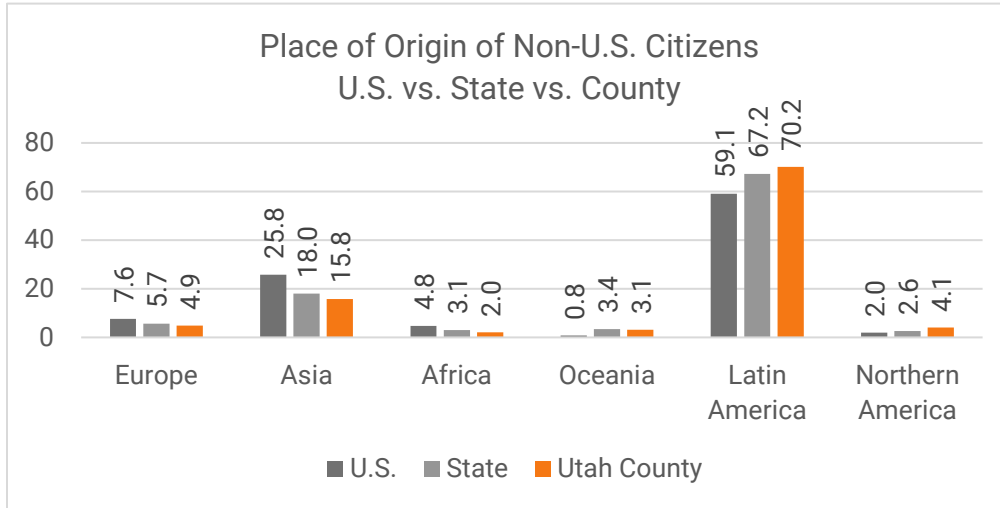


**Figure 62: Foreign-Born Residents by Year of Entry to U.S., U.S. vs. State vs. County**

<sup>70</sup> Ibid.



Utah County's foreign-born population is newer to the U.S. than the state's or the



nation's. About one out of three foreign-born residents in Utah County entered the U.S. in 2010 or later, and the same percentage entered between 2000 and 2009.

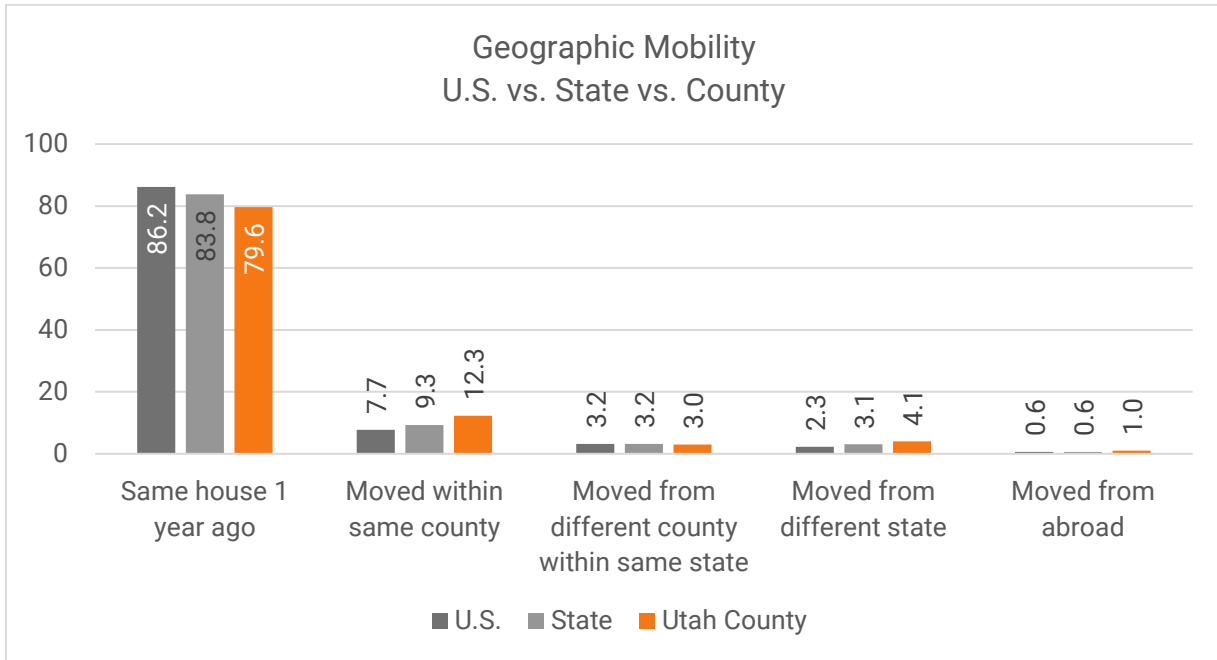
**Figure 63: Place of Origin of Non-U.S. Citizens, U.S. vs. State vs. County**

In all, about 60 percent of the foreign-born population in Utah County arrived in the U.S. since the turn of this century. This compares to about 54 percent of Utah's foreign-born population and 48 percent of the nation's.<sup>71</sup>

<sup>71</sup> Ibid.

### 2.1.7.5 Population Mobility

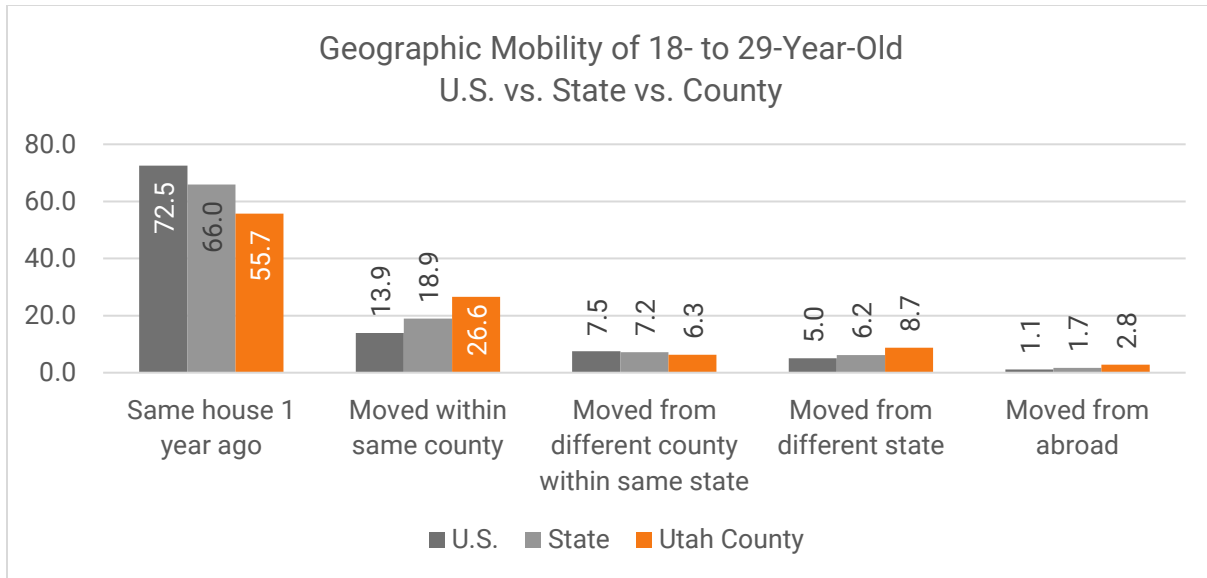
Slightly fewer than 80 percent of Utah County residents lived in the same house one year ago. This is lower than the state (83.8) and nation (86.2); more than 12 percent lived elsewhere in the same county.<sup>72</sup>



**Figure 64: Geographic Mobility, U.S. vs. State vs. County**

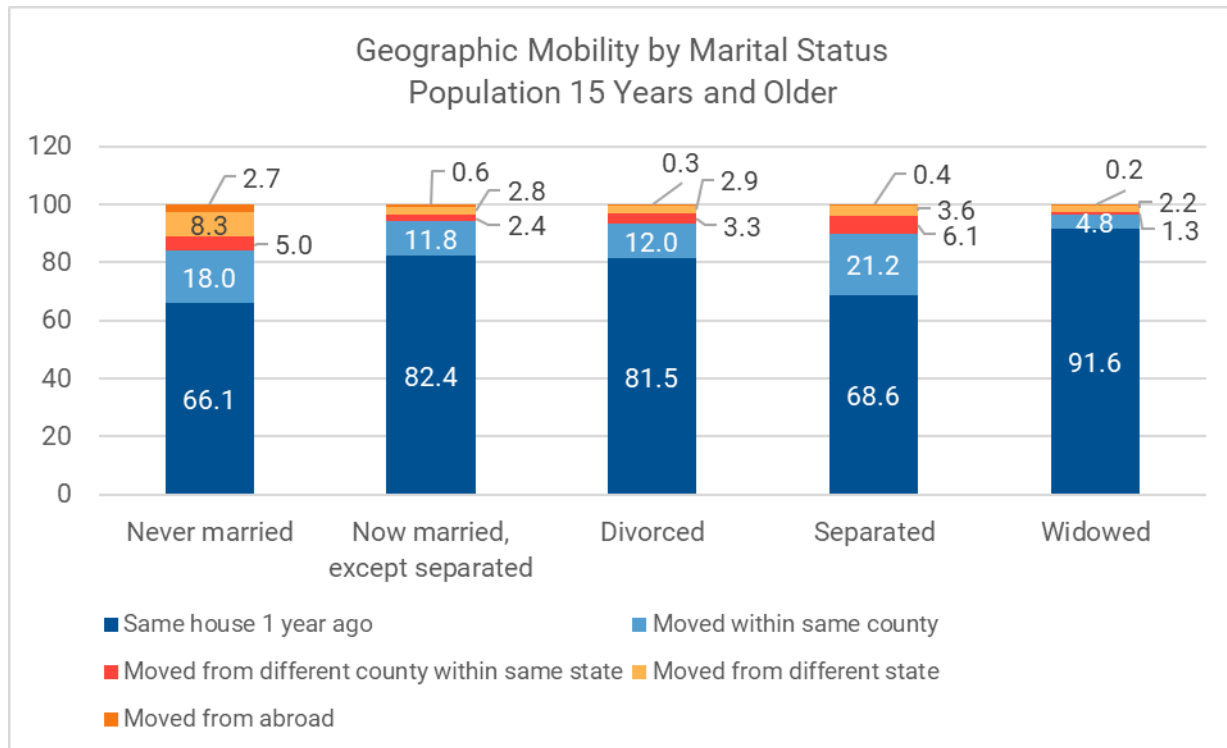
The mobility of younger Utah County residents is evident when comparing it to their peers in the state and nation. For those age 18 to 29, more than one out of four—26.6 percent—moved within Utah County in the past year. This compares to less than 19 percent of this age group in Utah, and less than 14 percent nationally.

<sup>72</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 ACS, Table B07001



**Figure 65: Geographic Mobility of 18- to 29-Year-Olds, U.S. vs. State vs. County**

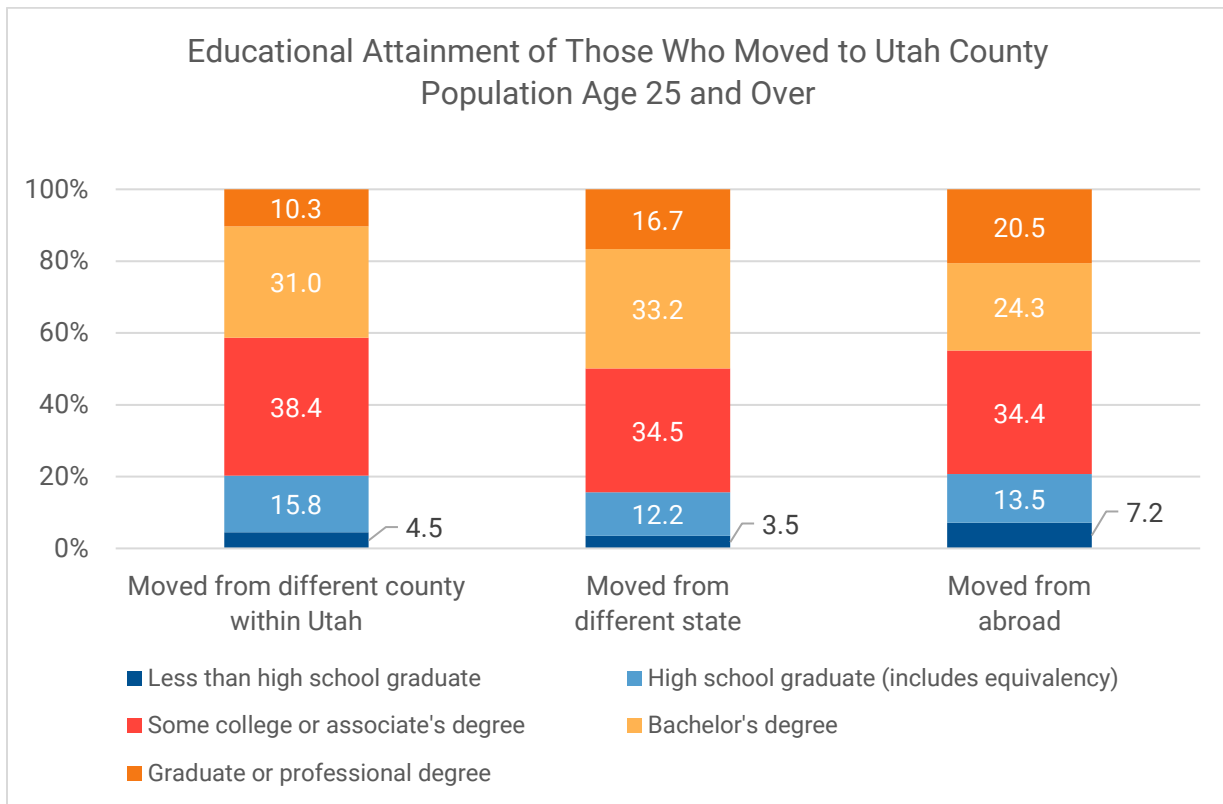
Widows are more likely than other marital groups in Utah County to be living in the same house they did one year ago. Those who have never been married are the least likely (66.1 percent).<sup>73</sup>



**Figure 66: Geographic Mobility by Marital Status, Population 15 Years and Older**

<sup>73</sup> Ibid.

Most of those who move into Utah County are highly educated. Of those who move from a different county within Utah, 41.3 percent have a college degree; of those moving from a different state, 49.9 have a college degree; of those moving from abroad, 44.8 percent have a degree. In fact, 20.5 percent of persons age 25 or older who move to Utah County from abroad have a graduate or professional degree.<sup>74</sup>



**Figure 67: Educational Attainment of Those Who Moved to Utah County, Population Age 25 and Over**

<sup>74</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 ACS, Table B07009

Of those who have moved to a new residence in Utah County in the past year, those who move from within Utah are the most likely to own their home. Those who moved to Utah County from abroad are most likely to rent their home.<sup>75</sup>

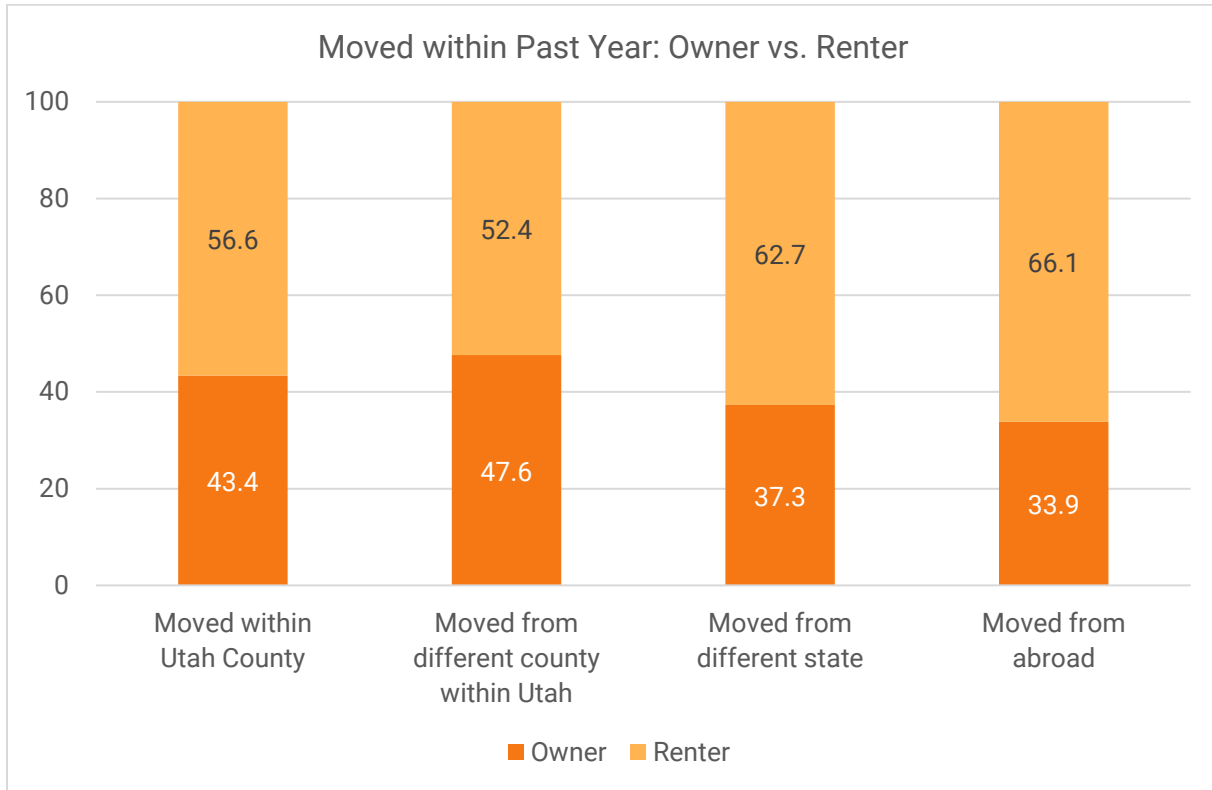


Figure 68: Moved within Past Year: Owner vs. Renter

<sup>75</sup> Ibid.

### 2.1.7.6 Population by Language Spoken at Home

Most people who live in Utah County speak English. Of the population age 5 and older, 84.9 percent speak English at home; 10.6 percent speak Spanish at home, 2.1 percent speak other Indo-European languages, and 2.0 percent speak Asian and Pacific Island languages at home. Less than one-half of 1 percent speak some other language.<sup>76</sup>

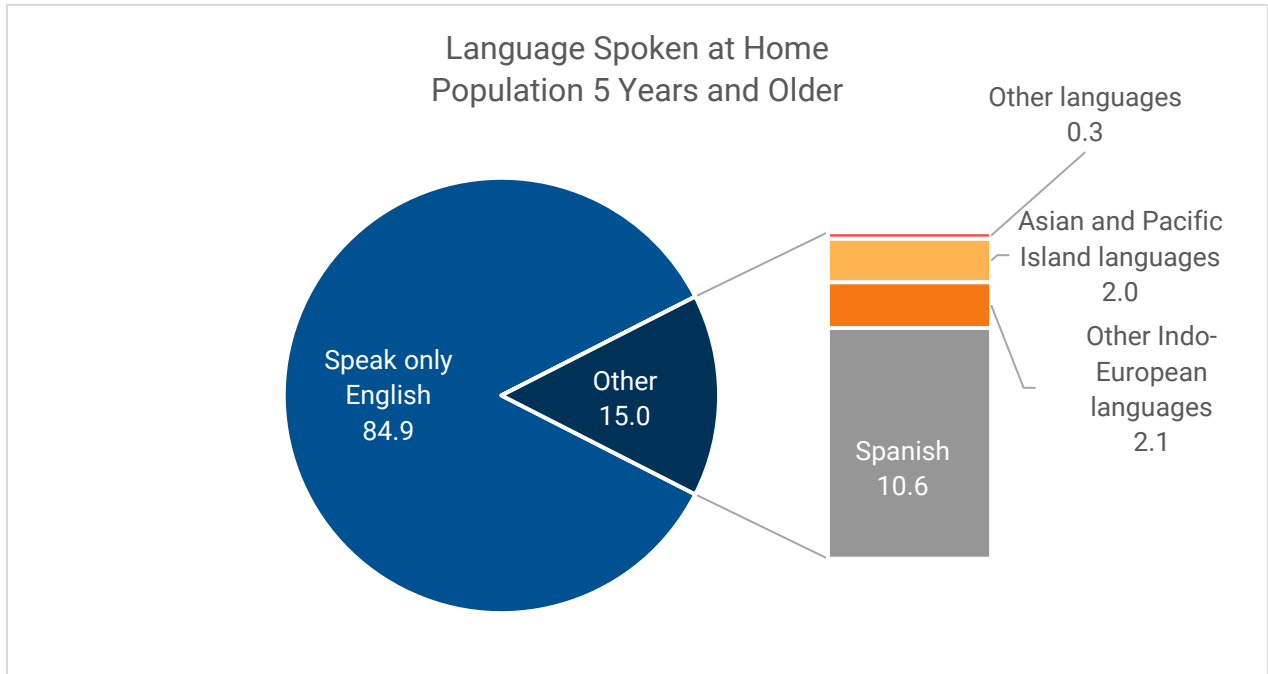


Figure 69: Language Spoken at Home, Population 5 Years and Older

<sup>76</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 ACS, Table S1601

The 10.6 percent of Utah County residents over age 5 who speak Spanish in their homes equates to nearly 60,000 people. These residents are in 8.8 percent of all households in the county.<sup>77</sup>

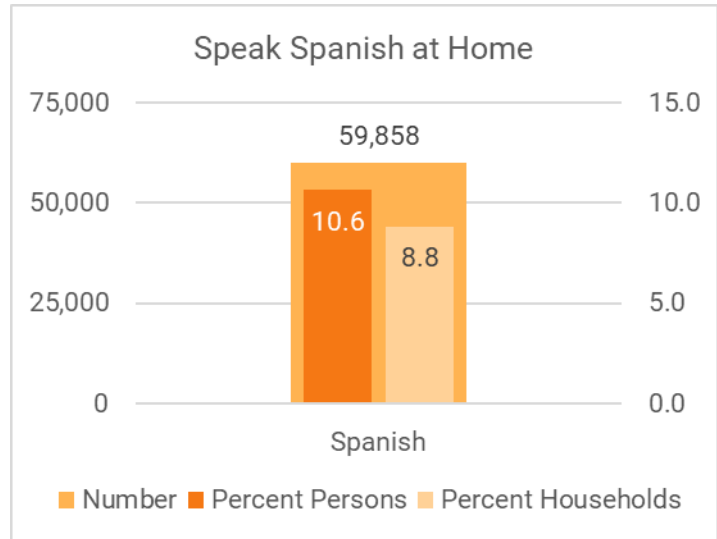


Figure 71: Speak Spanish at Home: Number, Percent, and Percent of Households

Besides Spanish, the largest group of other languages spoken in the home are “other Indo-European languages” (6,912 persons age 5 and older) and “Other Asian and Pacific Island languages” (5,157 persons age 5 and

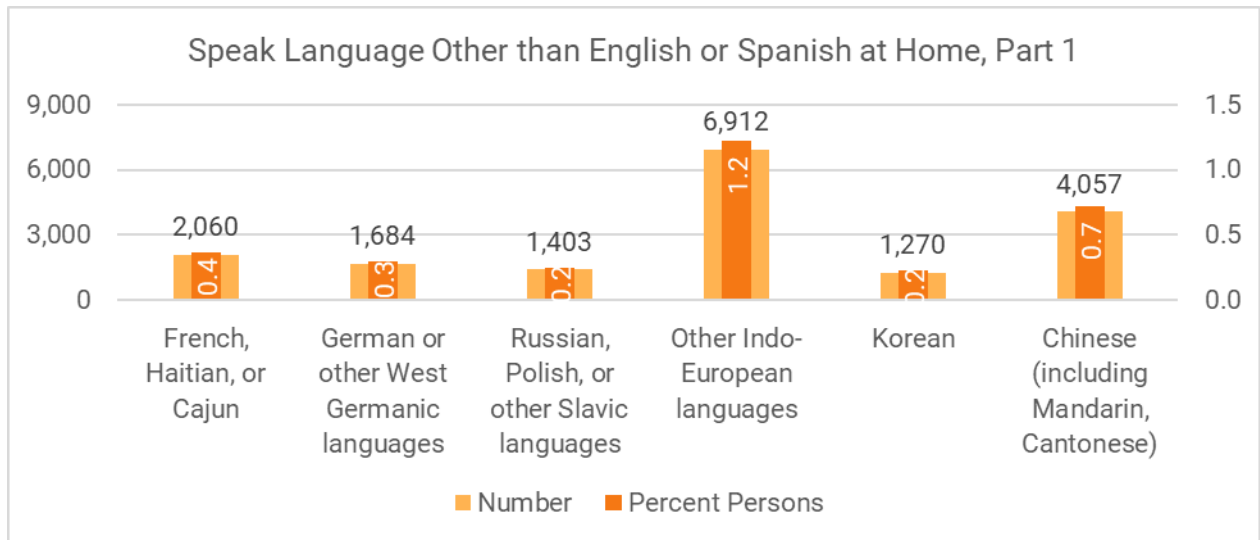


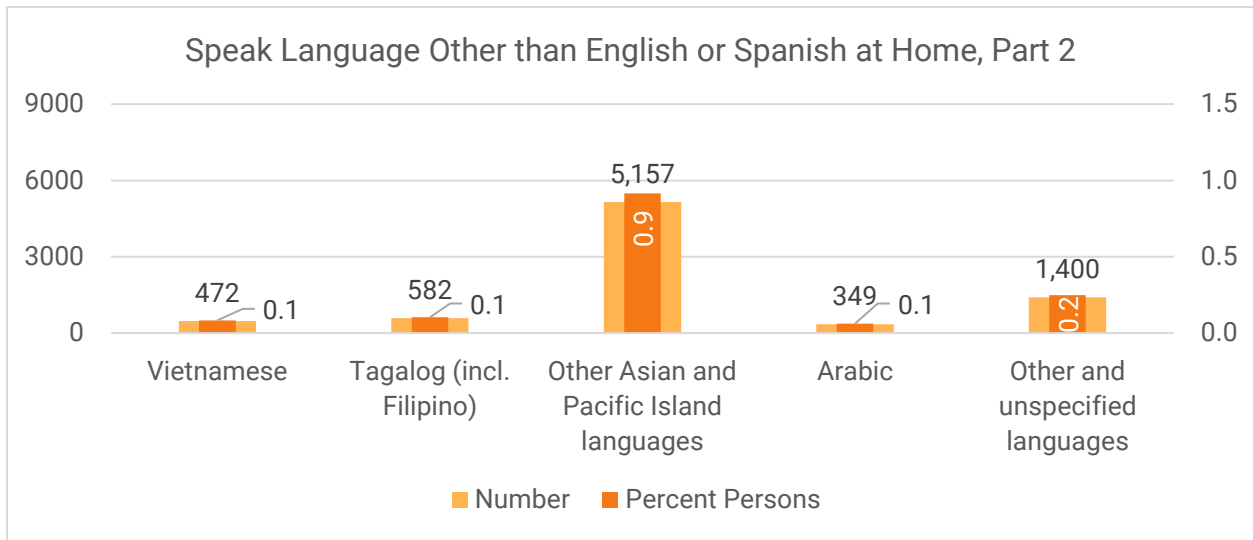
Figure 70: Speak Language Other than English or Spanish at Home

older). Other Indo-European languages include Hindi-Urdu, Bengali, Portuguese, Punjabi, and others. Other Asian and Pacific Island languages include Japanese, Tongan, Tahitian, Samoan, Hawaiian, and others.<sup>78</sup>

<sup>77</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 ACS, Tables C16001 and S1602

<sup>78</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 ACS, Table C16001

The non-English-speaking population in Utah County is, for the most part, bilingual and well



equipped for life in the United States. Of the 10.6 percent of residents who speak Spanish in the home, 71.3 percent report they speak English “very well.” About 42,658 Spanish speakers (71.3 percent) indicate they speak English “very well.” Similar ratios exist for those who speak other

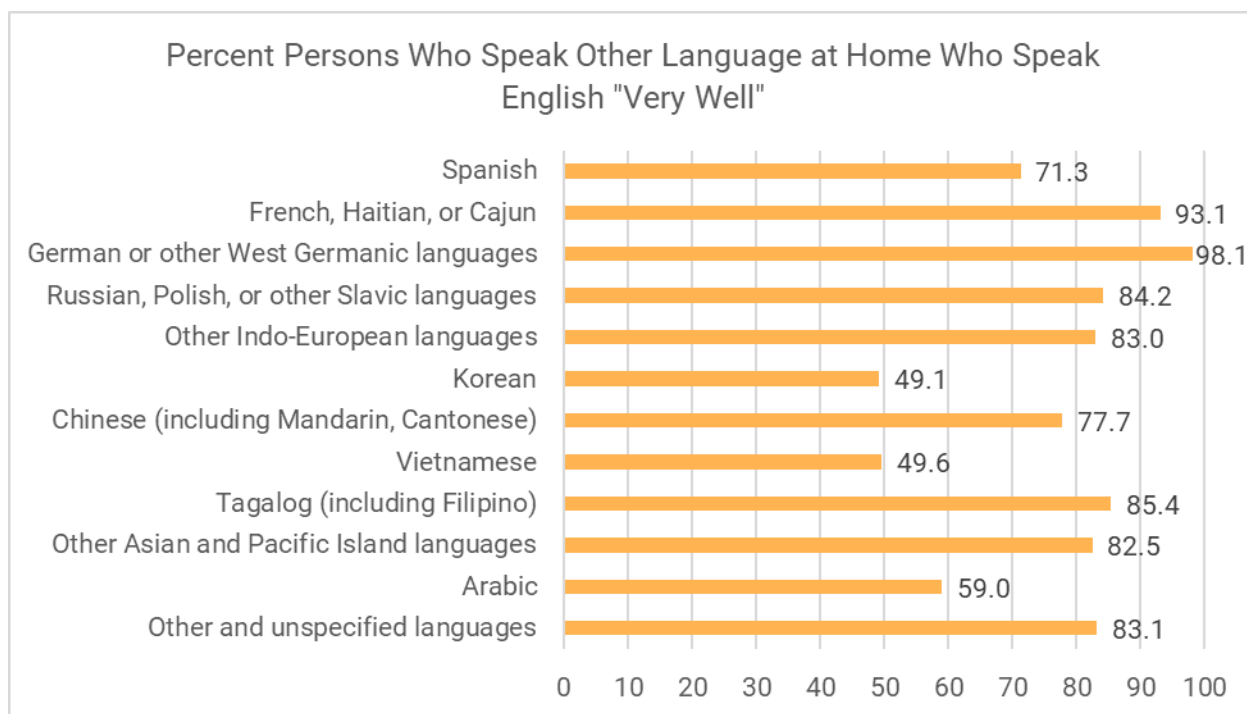


**Figure 72: Number Persons Who Speak Other Language at Home Who Speak English "Less than Very Well"**



languages, with the exceptions of native Korean (50.9 percent less than “very well”), Vietnamese (50.4 percent), and Arabic (41 percent).<sup>79</sup>

Because the number of Spanish-speaking persons who speak English “less than very well” is the highest of all non-English-language speakers, it is important to consider the needs of this group more intently. The Census Bureau designates households as limited English - speaking households: “one in which no member 14 years old and over (1) speaks only English or (2) speaks a non-English language and speaks English “very well.” In other words, all members 14 years old and over have at least some difficulty with English.”<sup>80</sup>



**Figure 73: Percent Persons Who Speak Other Language at Home Who Speak English “Very Well”**

In Utah County, there are 2,083 Spanish-speaking households that are also limited English-speaking households. Of these, the largest numbers are in Orem (758) and Provo (645), with Springville (160), and Payson (106).<sup>81</sup>

<sup>79</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 ACS, Table C16001

<sup>80</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 ACS, Notes to Table S1602

<sup>81</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 ACS, Table S1602

Table 17: Spanish-Speaking Limited-English Households

Spanish-Speaking Limited-English Households				
	Spanish-Speaking Households		Limited-English Households	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>Alpine</b>	175	6.2	0	0
<b>American Fork</b>	918	9.9	72	7.8
<b>Benjamin</b>	20	7.4	0	0
<b>Bluffdale (portion)</b>	210	5.3	0	0
<b>Cedar Fort</b>	0	0	0	
<b>Cedar Hills</b>	227	9	0	0
<b>Draper (portion)</b>	809	5.6	100	12.4
<b>Eagle Mountain</b>	939	11.7	47	5
<b>Elberta</b>	0	0	0	
<b>Elk Ridge</b>	77	7.6	9	11.7
<b>Fairfield</b>	3	12.5	0	0
<b>Genola</b>	30	7.2	0	0
<b>Goshen</b>	31	9.8	12	38.7
<b>Highland</b>	208	4.6	10	4.8
<b>Lake Shore</b>	3	1.2	0	0
<b>Lehi</b>	1,859	10.5	69	3.7
<b>Lindon</b>	275	9.5	0	0
<b>Mapleton</b>	256	9.4	0	0
<b>Orem</b>	5,025	16.8	758	15.1
<b>Palmyra</b>	4	2	0	0
<b>Payson</b>	757	13.5	106	14
<b>Pleasant Grove</b>	1,409	12	29	2.1
<b>Provo</b>	6,689	20	645	9.6
<b>Salem</b>	154	7.1	0	0
<b>Santaquin (portion)</b>	532	16.4	35	6.6
<b>Saratoga Springs</b>	664	8.8	15	2.3
<b>Spanish Fork</b>	1,385	13.2	90	6.5
<b>Spring Lake</b>	4	2.7	0	0
<b>Springville</b>	1,473	15.9	160	10.9
<b>Vineyard</b>	430	15.8	17	4
<b>West Mountain</b>	54	14	0	0
<b>Woodland Hills</b>	15	4.3	0	0
<b>Utah County</b>	23,747	13.8	2,083	8.8



## 2.1.8 Vital Statistics

### 2.1.8.1 Birth and Fertility

#### 2.1.8.1.1 Births by Year

As Utah County's population has increased, the number of births increased as well; in 1989, the County had 6,558 births—by 2008, that number had increased to 12,506. However, although the general population has continued to grow, including the population of women in child-bearing years, the number of births has decreased slightly between 2008 and 2020, when

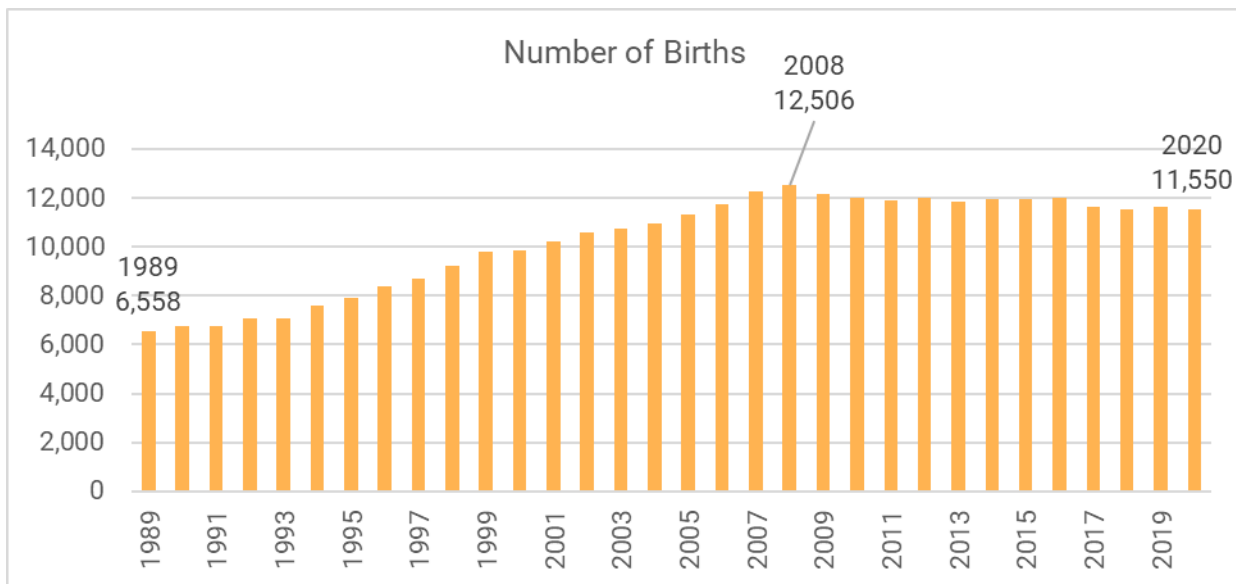


Figure 74: Number of Births, 1989 – 2020

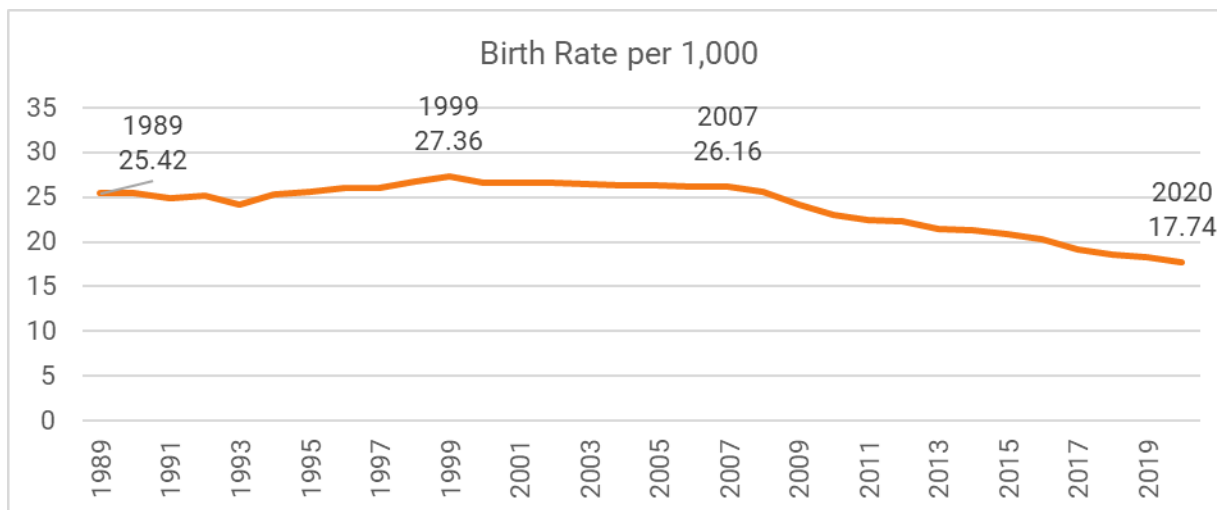
11,550 births

occurred. This indicates a drop in the birth rate.<sup>82</sup>

<sup>82</sup> Utah Department of Health, Public Health Indicator Based Information System (IBIS), Retrieved July 2022

### 2.1.8.1.2 Births per 1,000 Population

It is not unusual to see a decrease in birth rates, or births per 1,000 population, during difficult economic times. Mothers and fathers are naturally reticent to bring children into their families when their personal financial future is bleak. The same is true during times of war or



**Figure 75: Birth Rate per 1,000 Population**

other distress. And so, looking over a 30-year period shows that Utah County's birth rate reached a high of 27.36 in 1999, followed by a slight decrease over the next seven years—dropping to 26.16 in 2007. The sharp decrease for the period 2008 through 2009 (and perhaps even through 2010) can be attributed to the Great Recession. However, Utah County's birth rate has continued to decline. In 2020, the birth rate was 17.74 births per 1,000 population.<sup>83</sup>

Had Utah County's birth rate remained at 2007 levels, the number of births each year would have been much higher. In 2020, an additional 5,482 births would have occurred; over the 13-year period from 2008 to 2020, 38,367 babies would have been added to Utah County's population.

<sup>83</sup> Ibid.

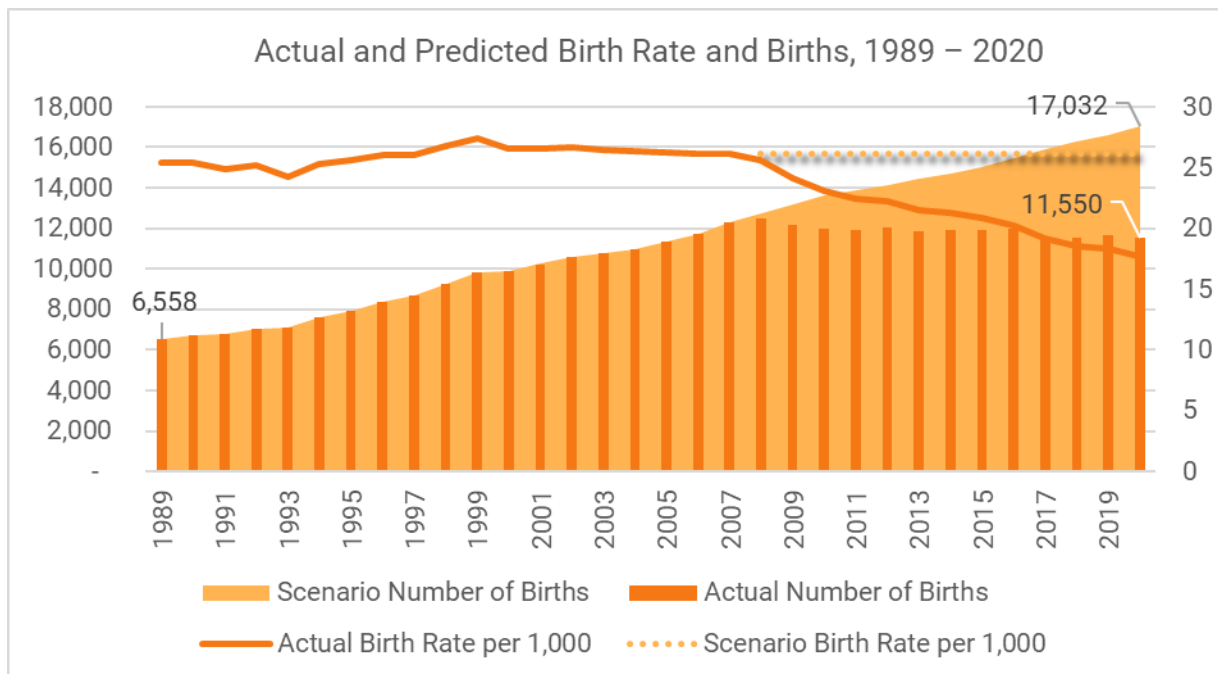


Figure 76: Actual and Predicted Birth Rate and Births, 1989 – 2020

### 2.1.8.1.3 Teen Births

The negative effects of teenage motherhood has been well documented. Children of teen mothers often experience

- low birth weight;
- health problems associated with poor perinatal outcomes;
- greater risk of perinatal death;
- lower IQ and academic achievement later in life;
- increased risk of socio-emotional problems;
- greater likelihood of having a fatal accident before age one; and
- greater probability of starting one's own family at an early age.<sup>84</sup>

And teenage mothers suffer negative consequences as well. Studies indicate that unmarried teenage mothers experience lower educational attainment, lower income (both short-term and

<sup>84</sup> Hofferth, S. (1987): *Risking the Future: Adolescent Sexuality, Pregnancy, and Childbearing, Volume II: Working Papers and Statistical Appendices*. Chapter 8: The Children of Teen Childbearers

lifetime), and greater likelihood of relying on government assistance.<sup>85</sup> Teenage mothers who birth more than one child are likely to suffer even more. They are less likely to graduate from high school and more likely to receive public assistance, making it even more likely to secure economic stability in life.<sup>86</sup>

Although the effects of teenage fatherhood have not been explored and reported with as much vigor as those of teenage motherhood, studies show negative outcomes. Teenage fathers are less likely to complete high school and more likely to marry or cohabitate at a younger age. They are more likely to enlist in the military or find full-time employment at a younger age. Although they experience less social capital than their non-father peers, this negative effect is somewhat mitigated by engagement in military or employment. Due to decreased educational attainment, teenage fathers experience decreased lifetime earnings.<sup>87</sup>

Births to teenage mothers and adolescent birth rates in Utah County have been decreasing since 1997, although there was a period of increase from 2005 to 2007. The number of births to teen mothers since 1989 reached a high of 665 in 1996, followed by 663 in 1997. In 2020, only 178 children were born to adolescents. The birth rate for adolescent births has decreased from 19.64 per 1,000 adolescent females in 1997 to 2.98 in 2020.<sup>88</sup>

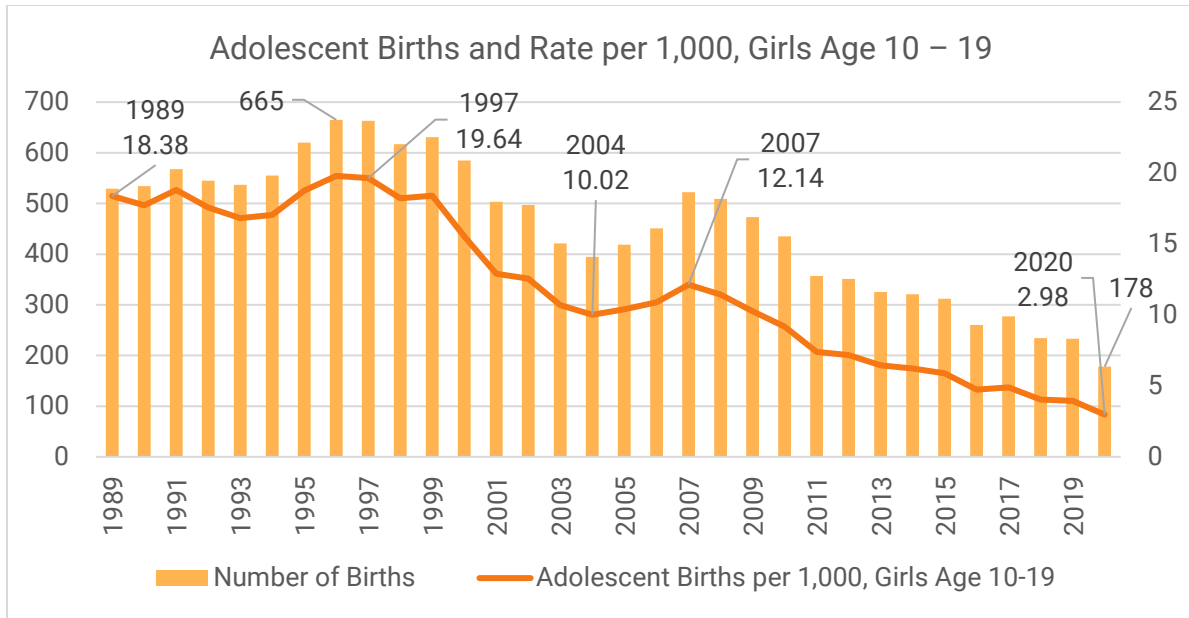
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<sup>85</sup> Gorry, D. (2019). Heterogeneous Consequences of Teenage Childbearing. *Demography* (Springer Nature), 56(6), 2147–2168.

<sup>86</sup> Cone, J. N., Hendrick, C. E., Owotomo, O., Al-Hamoodah, L., & Maslowsky, J. (2021). Socioeconomic Well-Being in Early Adulthood among Repeat versus One-Time Teenage Mothers. *Youth & Society*, 53(7), 1090–1110.

<sup>87</sup> Fletcher, J. M., & Wolfe, B. L. (2012). The Effects of Teenage Fatherhood on Young Adult Outcomes. *Economic Inquiry*, 50(1), 182–201.

<sup>88</sup> Utah Department of Health, Public Health Indicator Based Information System (IBIS), Retrieved July 2022



**Figure 77: Adolescent Births and Rate per 1,000, Girls Age 10 – 19**

However, Utah County’s adolescents are unique. Care should be taken to consider the County’s higher likelihood of marriage as an 18- or 19-year-old woman when compared to other communities. (Negative effects of adolescent births to this age group are mitigated significantly by marriage.) In addition, the number of births to young adolescents in Utah County is too small to draw conclusions. In fact, the numbers of births to girls age 10 to 14 in Utah County were too small to even calculate accurate birth rates, except in 1989 and 1990—and, in some years, there were no births at all to this age group.

So, it is more appropriate to consider birth rates and number of births to adolescents age 15 to 17 in Utah County. During the 31-year period from 1989 to 2020, the highest birth rate to this age group occurred in 1997, when it reached 22.81. That year, 201 babies were born to mothers age 15 to 17—those least likely to be married. In 2020, the rate was 2.23, and only 38 babies resulted.<sup>89</sup>

<sup>89</sup> Ibid.



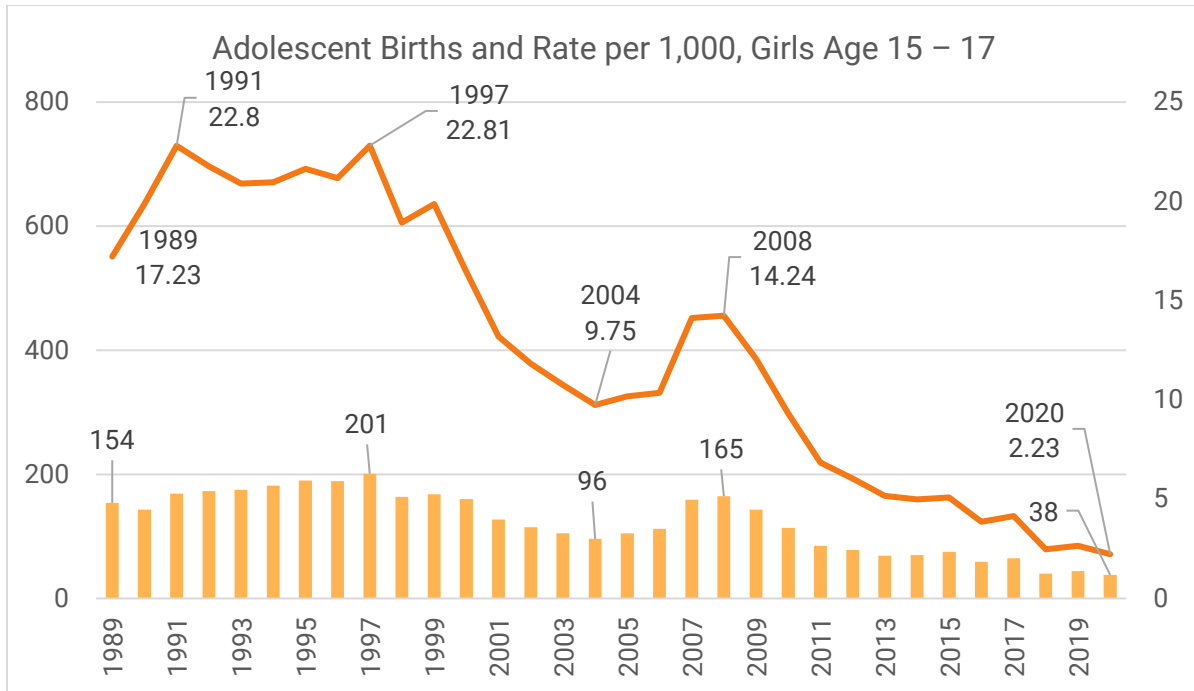


Figure 78: Adolescent Births and Rate per 1,000, Girls Age 15 – 17

#### 2.1.8.1.4 General Fertility Rate

As opposed to birth rates, the general fertility rate is the number of live births per 1,000 *females* of *childbearing age* between the ages of 15 and 44 years. Although births can and do occur to females younger than 15 and older than 44, those in this age group are of prime birthing age. Since 1989, the general fertility rate experienced a high of 106.27 in 1999; it dropped to 73.28 in 2020.<sup>90</sup>

<sup>90</sup> Ibid.

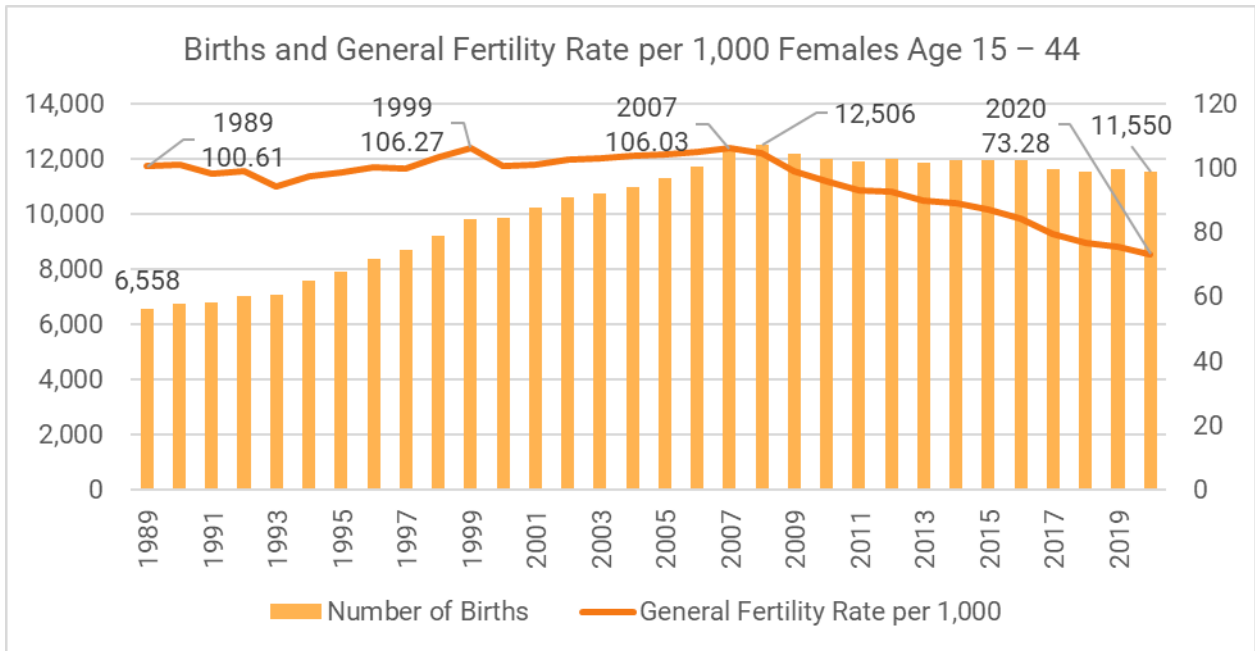


Figure 79: Births and General Fertility Rate per 1,000 Females Age 15 – 44

## 2.1.8.2 Mortality

### 2.1.8.2.1 Mortality Counts and Rates

Mortality rates in Utah County have generally increased since 2009, when the rate per

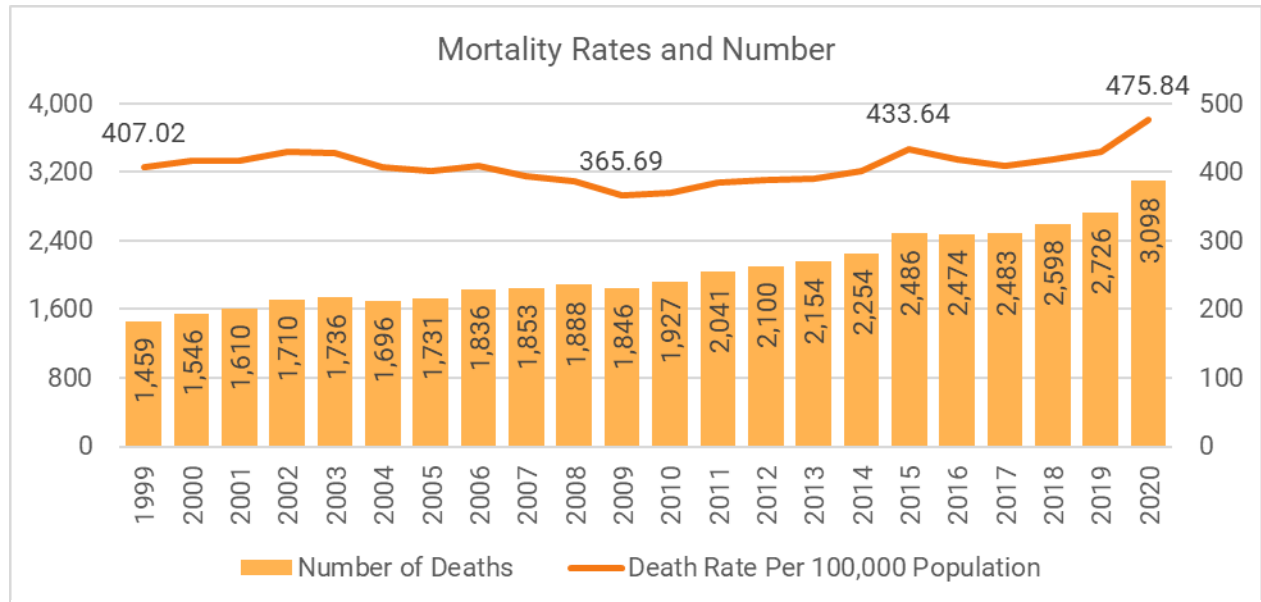


Figure 80: Mortality Rates and Number

100,000 population was 365.69. In 2020, the rate was 475.84, with 3,098 deaths.<sup>91</sup>

<sup>91</sup> Ibid.

### 2.1.8.2.2 Infant Mortality Counts and Rates

Infant mortality rates, on the other hand, have not trended one way or the other since about 2000, following a slight decline in the prior decade. In 2020, Utah County's infant mortality rate per 1,000 infants was 4.68, with 54 deaths. "Infants" are children younger than 365 days.<sup>92</sup>

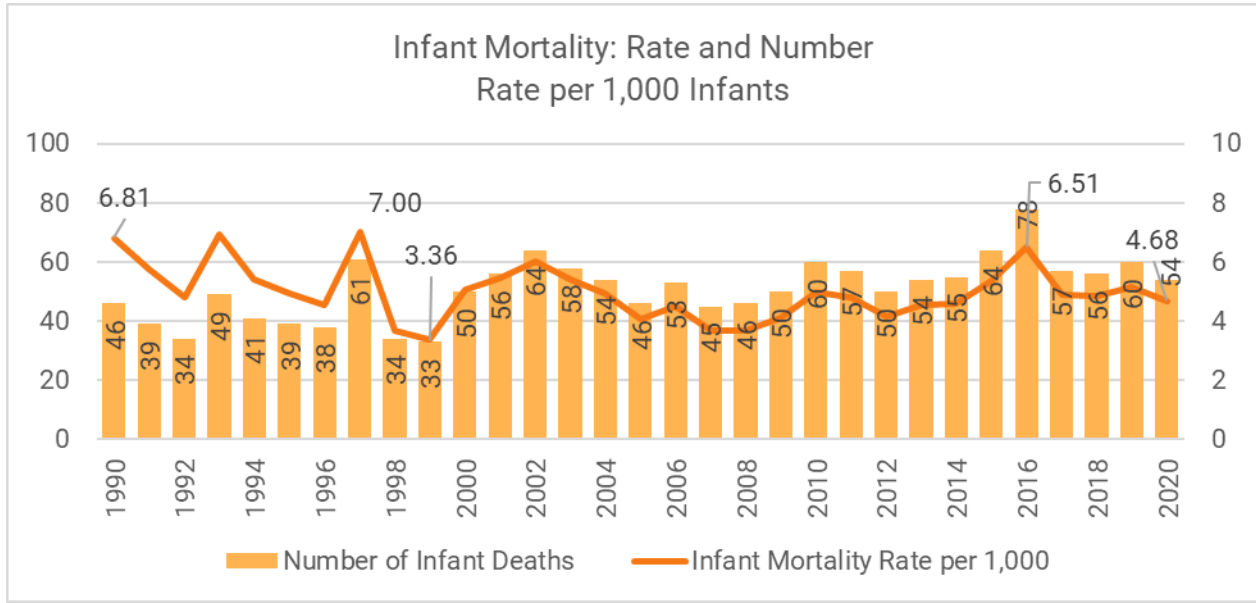


Figure 81: Infant Mortality: Rate and Number

<sup>92</sup> Ibid.

Neonatal infant mortality rates (that is, infants age 0 to 27 days) have remained about the same over the past 31 years as well. In 2020, the rate was 2.68 per 1,000 infants, with 31 deaths.<sup>93</sup>

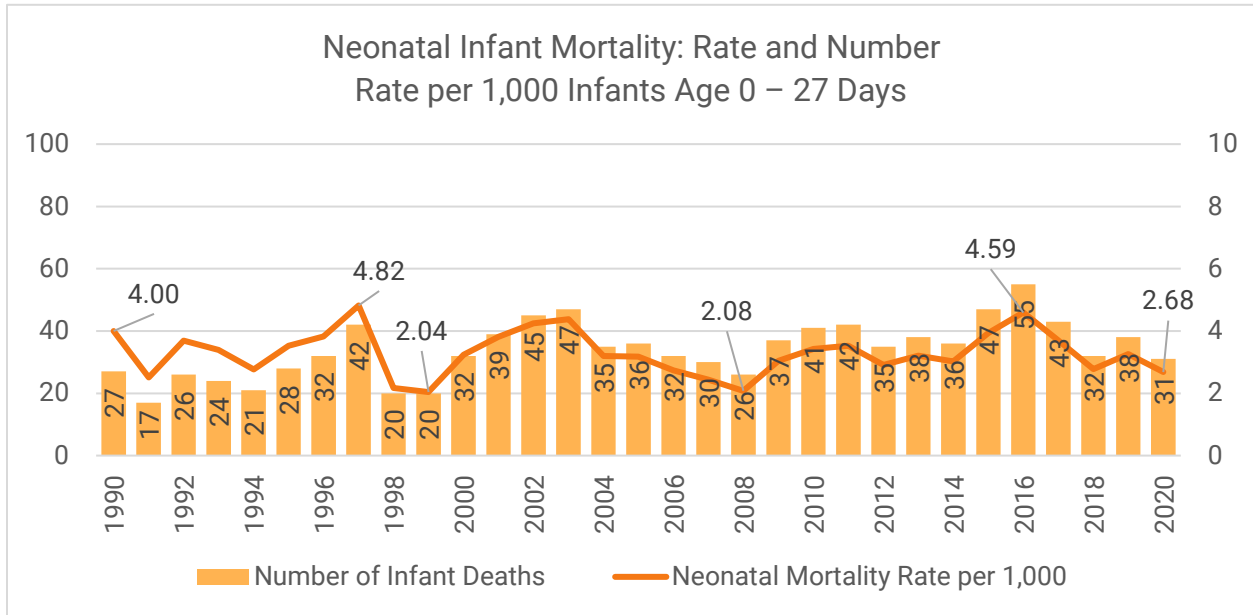


Figure 82: Neonatal Infant Mortality: Rate and Number; Rate per 1,000 Infants Age 0 – 27 Days

### 2.1.8.2.3 Causes of Infant Mortality

Because the numbers of infant mortality are so low, the causes of death are reported in five-year periods. Even then, some incidences are too low to draw any conclusions. The most common category of cause of death is perinatal conditions—that is, conditions that originate in the period immediately before, during, or after birth. These conditions include maternal factors and complications of labor and delivery. They could include disorders related to fetal growth, infections, respiratory and cardiovascular disorders from the perinatal period, and so forth.

The second most common cause of infant mortality in Utah County is congenital malformations, sometimes referred to as birth defects. These include conditions such as spina bifida and heart defects.

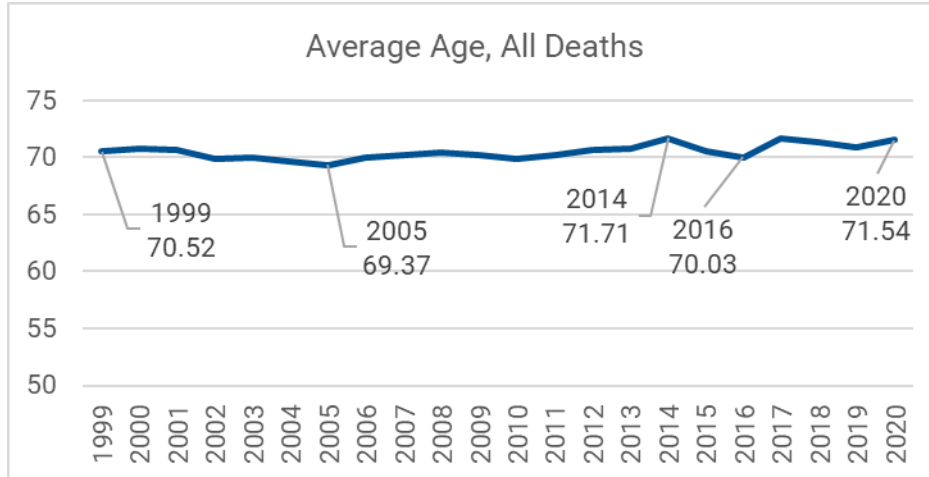
<sup>93</sup> Ibid.

The table below shows causes of infant mortality in terms of rates per 1,000 infants.

**Table 18: Infant Mortality Rates by Cause of Death**

Infant Mortality Rates by Cause of Death <sup>94</sup>				
	2001-2005	2006-2010	2011-2015	2016-2020
Medical Conditions	0.51	0.57	0.58	0.61
Perinatal Conditions	2.56	1.98	1.52	2.34
Congenital Malformations	1.7	1.56	1.29	1.75
SIDS	0.24	0.34	0.26	0.19*
Undetermined	0.10*	0.07*	0.18*	0.17*
Unintentional and Accidental	**	0.10*	0.25	0.09*
Assault and Homicide	**	**	**	**
Other External Causes	**		**	

#### 2.1.8.2.4 Average Age at Death



Since 1999 (the year data at this level is available), the average age of death in Utah County has remained about the same. In 1999, the average age was 70.52; in 2020, it was 71.54.<sup>95</sup>

**Figure 83: Average Age, All Deaths**

<sup>94</sup> Ibid. The Utah Department of Health offers the following: “\*Use caution in interpreting; the estimate has a coefficient of variation > 30% and is therefore deemed unreliable by Utah Department of Health standards. Consider aggregating years to decrease the relative standard error and improve the reliability of the estimate. \*\*The estimate has been suppressed because 1) The relative standard error is greater than 50% or when the relative standard error can’t be determined. Consider aggregating years to decrease the relative standard error and improve the reliability of the estimate. 2) the observed number of events is very small and not appropriate for publication, or 3) it could be used to calculate the number in a cell that has been suppressed.”

Between 2016 and 2020, 3,404.38 years of life were lost in Utah County due to untimely death (younger than 75 years).<sup>96</sup> Understanding the average age of death due to varying causes is helpful in building a safer, more healthy community. Heart disease, though it is the most common of all causes of death, affects older people more than younger.

**Table 19: Average Age, Causes of Death, 1999 – 2020**

Average Age, Causes of Death, 1999 – 2020 <sup>97</sup>								
	Heart Disease	Diabetes	Influenza or Pneumonia	Suicide	Suicide (Male)	Suicide (Female)	Cancer	Unintentional Injury
1999	78.38	72.51	76.29	39.22	37.60	63.50*	69.94	43.72
2000	79.15	75.99	76.18	37.81	36.37	44.00	70.86	46.82
2001	78.23	73.21	79.75	34.93	33.75	43.40	70.37	47.45
2002	78.74	76.21	80.10	35.21	34.60	37.88	69.19	46.96
2003	79.90	72.51	77.00	38.49	38.94	33.67	68.81	50.17
2004	77.81	73.14	79.34	38.64	38.45	39.23	70.13	43.18
2005	79.19	75.73	76.37	34.94	35.15	33.57	69.52	41.60
2006	80.27	73.15	77.76	44.18	43.82	44.94	69.82	41.33
2007	79.32	73.37	80.72	37.63	39.82	27.29	69.04	49.10
2008	78.36	72.11	81.73	36.80	36.95	35.25	70.76	47.02
2009	79.75	73.40	76.16	38.67	37.53	42.77	69.67	48.17
2010	79.49	76.11	75.18	35.07	35.14	34.78	69.86	45.90
2011	80.57	73.47	77.22	38.36	38.92	35.58	68.63	48.21
2012	79.30	72.82	78.40	38.82	39.86	35.39	70.47	51.62
2013	79.86	73.13	78.52	36.99	38.84	28.60	69.90	52.02
2014	82.50	73.86	76.00	36.18	37.34	32.00	70.94	55.11
2015	79.32	71.29	77.15	39.52	39.10	40.78	69.40	50.24
2016	80.33	71.45	74.27	38.32	39.27	35.91	70.30	47.46
2017	81.66	73.78	74.89	37.82	36.78	40.44	72.06	51.38
2018	78.71	72.20	77.32	37.61	37.65	37.50	71.18	50.48
2019	79.20	70.50	77.24	35.08	34.89	35.77	70.11	55.15
2020	79.85	75.83	73.27	36.55	35.13	41.04	69.03	53.84

In 2020, COVID-19 took the lives of 223 individuals in Utah County. The average age of death was 75.28.

<sup>95</sup> Ibid.

<sup>96</sup> Ibid.

<sup>97</sup> Ibid. \*Use caution in interpreting; the estimate has a coefficient of variation > 30% and is therefore deemed unreliable by Utah Department of Health standards.

### 2.1.8.2.5 Causes of Death

Heart disease is the most common cause of death in Utah County, with 99.07 deaths per 100,000 population in 2020. Other leading causes of death in Utah County include cancer (68.27), unintentional injury (32.87), cerebrovascular disease (20.43), suicide (17.97), diabetes (17.05), and chronic lower respiratory disease (11.83). The homicide rate in 2020 was 0.77 per 100,000 population.<sup>98</sup> The national homicide rate is 6.52 and Utah's is 2.9.<sup>99</sup>

**Table 20: Causes of Death, 1999 – 2020: Rates per 100,000 Population**

Causes of Death, 1999 – 2020: Rates per 100,000 Population										
	Heart Disease	Cancer	Unintentional Injury	Cerebrovascular Disease	Suicide	Diabetes	Lower Respiratory	Influenza/Pneumonia	Liver Disease / Cirrhosis	Homicide
1999	104.34	78.95	24.27	35.71	8.93	15.90	14.51	12.55	1.67*	0.00
2000	107.85	69.93	23.40	33.08	9.95	19.63	11.57	8.88	3.77	1.88
2001	103.20	72.34	17.11	35.26	10.63	20.74	12.96	10.37	3.37	1.04
2002	98.69	74.02	22.91	36.51	10.83	15.86	13.60	12.08	3.02	1.01
2003	100.95	74.36	27.08	32.25	8.62	20.44	14.77	11.08	2.22*	1.23
2004	96.34	68.71	21.14	27.87	13.21	14.18	12.25	11.29	2.64*	0.00
2005	93.10	72.21	21.13	26.24	12.54	16.95	12.54	8.13	4.64	1.16
2006	94.80	67.81	20.75	19.63	10.93	17.85	16.06	9.37	3.57	0.00
2007	90.51	70.92	26.62	26.83	8.52	17.68	11.29	6.18	1.28*	0.00
2008	80.60	70.75	24.61	22.97	9.43	13.33	10.87	10.05	2.05*	1.03
2009	79.64	65.77	22.58	21.99	11.89	11.89	8.72	6.34	2.97	1.58
2010	75.19	67.11	30.00	18.65	8.85	13.85	11.54	8.46	3.27	0.00
2011	81.19	67.82	26.94	25.05	13.56	16.20	12.06	6.03	3.96	0.00
2012	81.86	71.67	27.04	25.19	14.26	12.59	9.63	8.33	3.15	1.11
2013	87.91	67.43	24.47	22.11	15.04	13.05	11.42	10.15	3.63	1.09
2014	88.03	66.11	27.09	24.24	13.90	12.30	13.19	8.55	4.45	2.14
2015	96.81	74.13	27.91	23.72	16.22	16.92	15.52	9.24	3.14	1.22
2016	87.12	71.39	30.28	19.46	13.20	12.52	17.76	8.80	4.57	1.35
2017	89.04	70.93	27.48	18.43	14.48	10.70	11.85	7.24	3.46	1.81
2018	88.41	71.86	27.65	22.67	14.95	13.02	11.73	7.07	5.47	0.96
2019	89.35	68.27	30.36	21.08	16.52	15.73	12.59	8.02	4.88	1.73
2020	99.07	72.65	32.87	20.43	17.97	17.05	11.83	6.76	3.84	0.77

<sup>98</sup> Ibid. \*Use caution in interpreting; the estimate has a coefficient of variation > 30%.

<sup>99</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics



The numbers of deaths provide another perspective. In 2020, 645 persons died of heart disease in Utah County, and 473 from cancer. Five persons were victims of homicide.<sup>100</sup>

Causes of Death, 1999 – 2020: Number of Deaths										
	Heart Disease	Cancer	Unintentional Injury	Cerebrovascular Disease	Suicide	Diabetes	Lower Respiratory Disease	Influenza/Pneumonia	Liver Disease and Cirrhosis	Homicide
<b>1999</b>	374	283	87	128	32	57	52	45	6*	0
<b>2000</b>	401	260	87	123	37	73	43	33	14	7
<b>2001</b>	398	279	66	136	41	80	50	40	13	4
<b>2002</b>	392	294	91	145	43	63	54	48	12	4
<b>2003</b>	410	302	110	131	35	83	60	45	9*	5
<b>2004</b>	401	286	88	116	55	59	51	47	11*	0
<b>2005</b>	401	311	91	113	54	73	54	35	20	5
<b>2006</b>	425	304	93	88	49	80	72	42	16	0
<b>2007</b>	425	333	125	126	40	83	53	29	6*	0
<b>2008</b>	393	345	120	112	46	65	53	49	10*	5
<b>2009</b>	402	332	114	111	60	60	44	32	15	8
<b>2010</b>	391	349	156	97	46	72	60	44	17	0
<b>2011</b>	431	360	143	133	72	86	64	32	21	0
<b>2012</b>	442	387	146	136	77	68	52	45	17	6
<b>2013</b>	485	372	135	122	83	72	63	56	20	6
<b>2014</b>	494	371	152	136	78	69	74	48	25	12
<b>2015</b>	555	425	160	136	93	97	89	53	18	7
<b>2016</b>	515	422	179	115	78	74	105	52	27	8
<b>2017</b>	541	431	167	112	88	65	72	44	21	11
<b>2018</b>	550	447	172	141	93	81	73	44	34	6
<b>2019</b>	568	434	193	134	105	100	80	51	31	11
<b>2020</b>	645	473	214	133	117	111	77	44	25	5

<sup>100</sup> Utah Department of Health, Public Health Indicator Based Information System (IBIS), Retrieved July 2022. \*Use caution in interpreting; the estimate has a coefficient of variation > 30% and is therefore deemed unreliable by Utah Department of Health standards.

### 2.1.8.2.6 Leading Causes of Injury Death

Unintentional injury is the third leading cause of death in the County. The rates of this type of death have slowly increased since 1999, going from 24.27 to 32.87.<sup>101</sup>

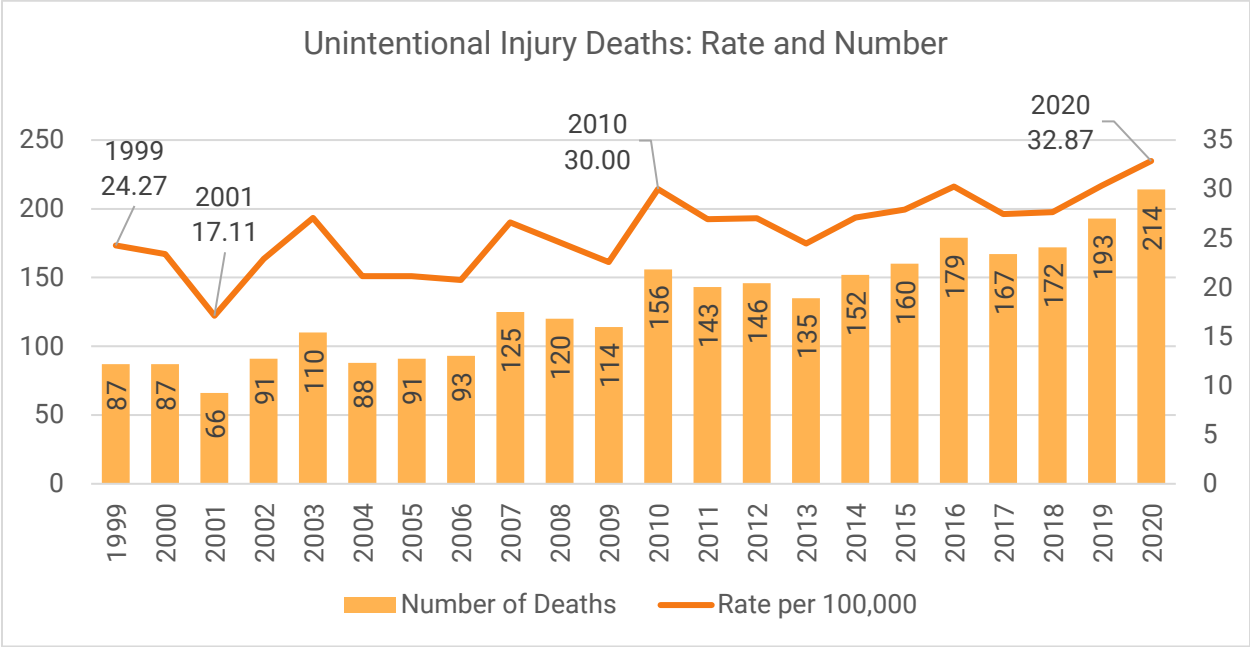


Figure 84: Unintentional Injury Deaths: Rate and Number

<sup>101</sup> Ibid.

**Table 21: Causes of Unintentional Injury Death, 1999 – 2020: Number of Deaths**

Causes of Unintentional Injury Death, 1999 – 2020: Number of Deaths <sup>102</sup>						
	Motor Vehicle	Drowning	Poisoning	Unintentional Fall	Traumatic Brain Injury***	Drug Overdose
1999	35	8*	24	7*		133
2000	34	5*	24	12		145
2001	32	5*	26	9*		125
2002	43	**	38	15		160
2003	47	**	60	15		192
2004	33	**	56	12		178
2005	29	9*	76	15		208
2006	41	6*	84	11*		205
2007	41	**	82	29		222
2008	44	4*	58	18		198
2009	29	**	82	23		212
2010	35	6*	79	25		235
2011	22	7*	94	32		248
2012	25	5*	97	33		263
2013	26	**	88	24		245
2014	24	4*	96	26		259
2015	36	7*	104	26		283
2016	31	7*	112	32	89	284
2017	31	6*	113	32	82	281
2018	28	5*	98	36	79	283
2019	29	7*	92	56	90	317
2020	44	6*	94	66	106	344

<sup>102</sup> Ibid. \*Use caution in interpreting; the estimate has a coefficient of variation > 30% and is therefore deemed unreliable by Utah Department of Health standards. Consider aggregating years to decrease the relative standard error and improve the reliability of the estimate. \*\*The estimate has been suppressed because 1) The relative standard error is greater than 50% or when the relative standard error can't be determined. Consider aggregating years to decrease the relative standard error and improve the reliability of the estimate. 2) the observed number of events is very small and not appropriate for publication, or 3) it could be used to calculate the number in a cell that has been suppressed. \*\*\*Traumatic brain injury was not recorded as a distinct injury until 2016.

### 2.1.8.2.7 Suicide

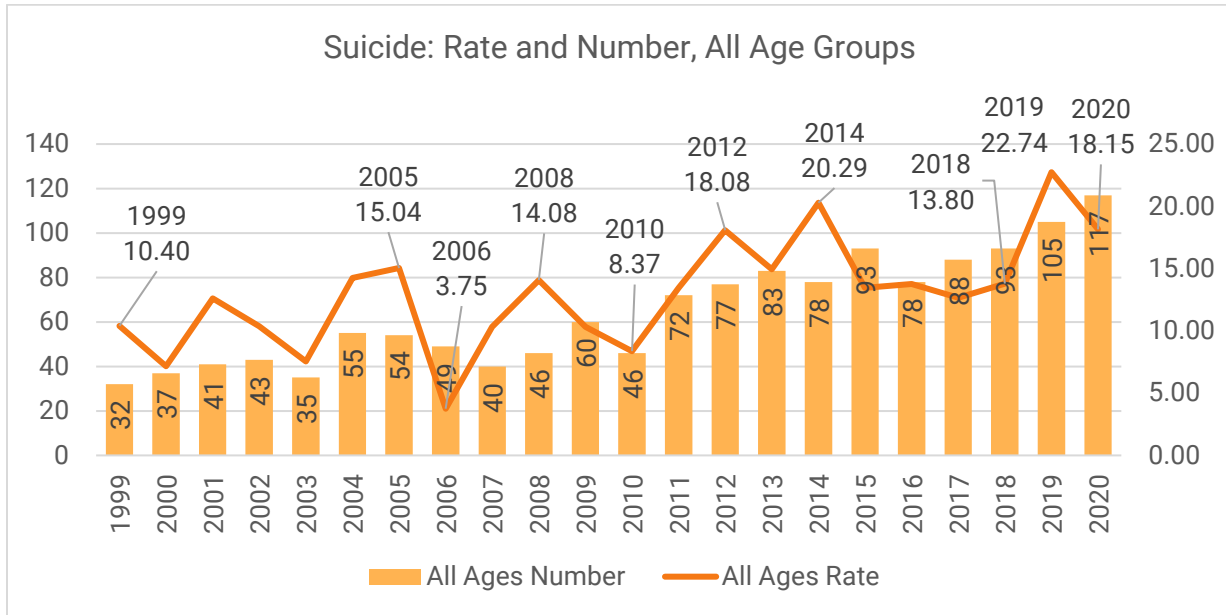
Suicide in Utah County has increased this century, but particularly over the past decade. In 1999, the suicide rate was 10.4 per 100,000 population; in 2020, it was 18.15. In 2019, it was 22.74.<sup>103</sup>

**Table 22: Suicide Rates and Number, Both Sexes, Including Age Groups**

Suicide Rates and Number, Both Sexes														
	All Ages Rate	All Ages Number	15-24 Rate	15-24 Number	25-34 Years Rate	25-34 Years Number	35-44 Years Rate	35-44 Years Number	45-54 Years Rate	45-54 Years Number	55-64 Years Rate	55-64 Years Number	65-74 Years Rate	65-74 Years Number
1999	10.40	32	10.40	9	7.32	4	21.59	9	18.14	5	0.00	0	0.00	0
2000	7.15	37	7.15	7	15.90	9	12.67	5	23.51	7	22.42	4	0.00	0
2001	12.62	41	12.62	13	12.20	7	32.13	13	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0
2002	10.38	43	10.38	11	20.57	12	14.58	6	18.40	6	0.00	0	0.00	0
2003	7.55	35	7.55	8	16.56	10	19.04	8	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0
2004	14.25	55	14.25	15	22.09	14	11.67	5	25.89	9	30.74	7	0.00	0
2005	15.04	54	15.04	16	21.09	14	20.18	9	22.16	8	16.39	4	0.00	0
2006	3.75	49	3.75	4	14.15	10	30.05	14	31.66	12	0.00	0	0.00	0
2007	10.31	40	10.31	11	12.95	10	10.16	5	25.28	10	0.00	0	0.00	0
2008	14.08	46	14.08	15	9.74	8	15.53	8	21.80	9	13.72	4	0.00	0
2009	10.32	60	10.32	11	18.61	16	31.38	17	16.50	7	19.64	6	0.00	0
2010	8.37	46	8.37	9	22.73	20	10.50	6	16.10	7	0.00	0	0.00	0
2011	13.46	72	13.46	15	20.88	18	21.79	13	27.24	12	32.85	11	0.00	0
2012	18.08	77	18.08	21	21.69	18	17.61	11	31.39	14	14.58	5	0.00	0
2013	14.95	83	14.95	18	29.57	24	30.56	20	22.12	10	14.10	5	0.00	0
2014	20.29	78	20.29	25	19.91	16	19.12	13	15.25	7	19.09	7	17.15	4
2015	13.46	93	13.46	17	23.48	19	22.59	16	33.92	16	26.46	10	28.57	7
2016	13.76	78	13.76	18	17.88	15	23.05	17	32.69	16	15.34	6	0.00	0
2017	12.66	88	12.66	17	25.33	22	20.86	16	37.64	19	22.22	9	0.00	0
2018	13.80	93	13.80	19	22.35	20	35.36	28	24.90	13	19.17	8	0.00	0
2019	22.74	105	22.74	32	19.51	18	33.40	27	16.51	9	23.43	10	0.00	0
2020	18.15	117	18.15	26	30.10	29	24.30	20	40.21	23	11.47	5	0.00	0

<sup>103</sup> Ibid.

Seeing the numbers in graph form helps in understanding the extent of the increase in suicides. In 2020, 117 individuals were lost due to suicide. Between 1999 and 2020, Utah County lost 1,422 persons.<sup>104</sup>



**Figure 85: Suicide: Rate and Number, All Age Groups**

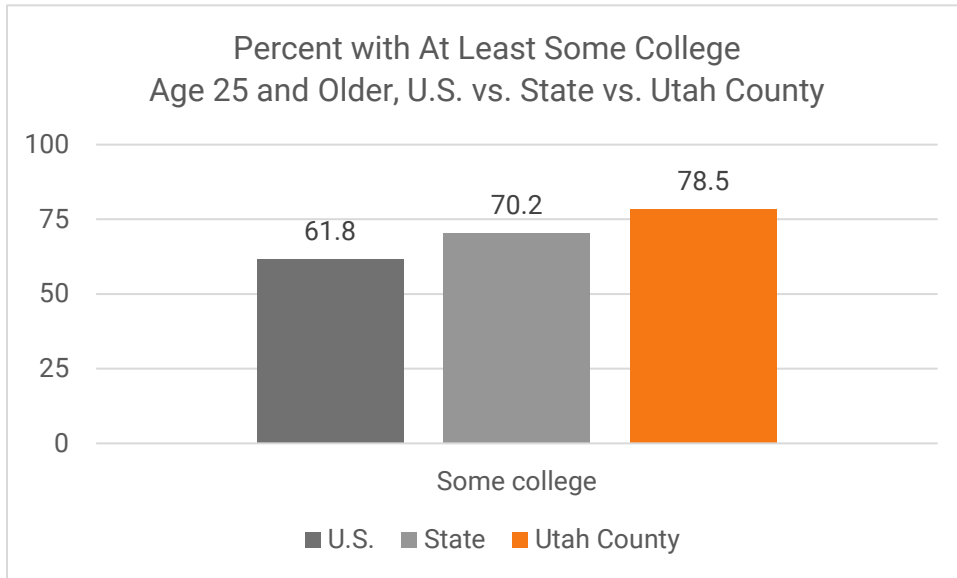
Specific data on suicide among men and women of various age groups is presented in the Health section of this assessment.

<sup>104</sup> Ibid.

## 2.2 Education

### 2.2.6 Educational Attainment

For decades, Utah County’s culture of education has been a hallmark of its reputation. Employers—particularly those in the technology sector—have been attracted to the area due to



**Figure 86: Percent with At Least Some College, Age 25 and Older: U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County**

the highly educated workforce and strong work ethic. In Utah County, more than 78 percent of those age 25 or older have at least some college education,

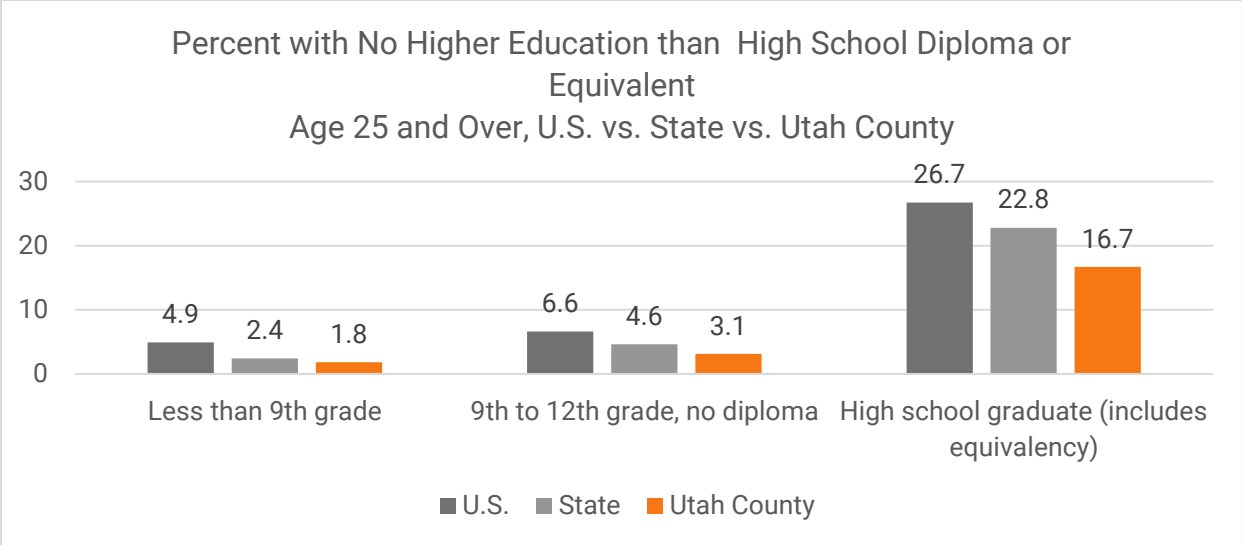
compared to less than 62 percent

nationally and 70.2 percent statewide.<sup>105</sup>

Slightly less than 17 percent of adults in Utah County age 25 or older have attained only a high school diploma, compared to 26.7 percent nationally and 22.8 percent in Utah as a whole. About 3.1 percent of adults in this age group attended high school but did not graduate or receive an equivalency certification—less than half the national number. And only 1.8 percent have not attended any high school; nationally, the figure is 4.9 percent, and throughout Utah, it is 2.4 percent.<sup>106</sup>

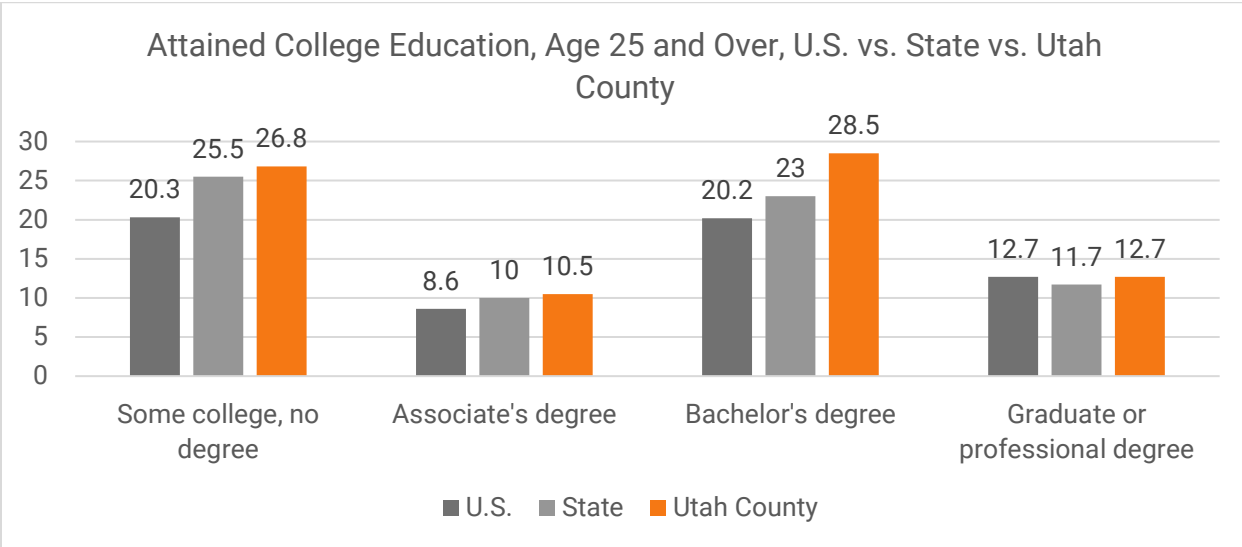
<sup>105</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 ACS, Table S1501

<sup>106</sup> Ibid.



**Figure 87: Percent with No Higher Education than High School Diploma or Equivalent, Age 25 and Over, U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County**

Among the 78.5 percent of Utah County residents who have at least some college education, 12.7 percent have graduate or professional degrees (more than statewide, but the same as nationally), 28.5 percent have bachelor’s degrees (compared to 20.2 percent nationally and 23 percent statewide), and 10.5 percent have associate degrees.<sup>107</sup>



**Figure 88: Attained College Education, Age 25 and Over: U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County**

<sup>107</sup> Ibid.

However, when looking at the population age 18 to 24, Utah County—and the state—is far

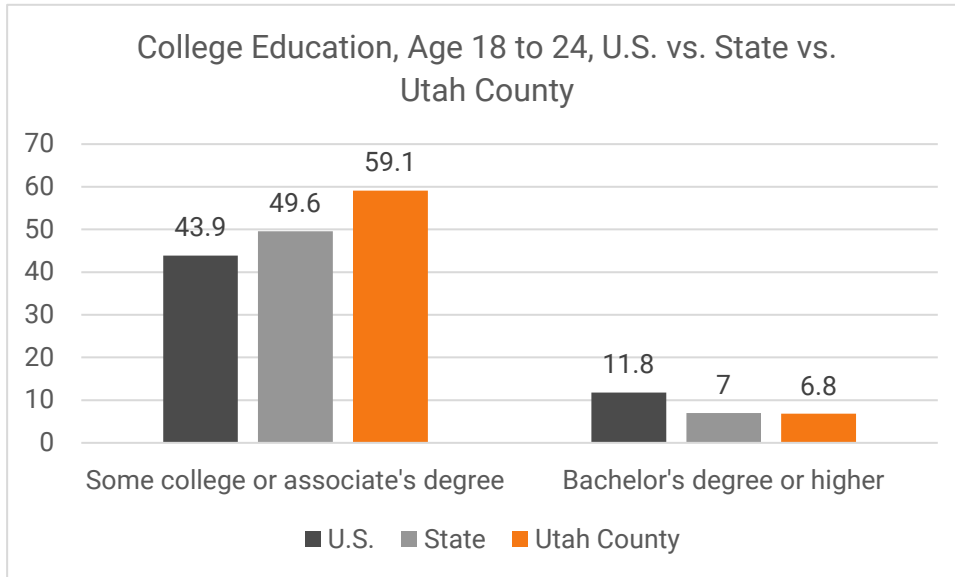


Figure 89: College Education, Age 18 to 24, U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County

behind the nation in terms of college completion. This is due, no doubt, to the religious tradition of men and women as young as 18 serving as volunteer missionaries full time away from home. This

naturally results in later college completion. Only 6.8 percent of 18- to 24-year-olds in Utah County have earned a bachelor's degree or higher, while 11.8 percent of their peers nationally have. However, nearly 60 percent of this age group in Utah County have completed some college or earned an associate degree, compared to only 43.9 percent nationally. Utah County's figure is also much higher than the state's, with 49.6 percent.<sup>108</sup>

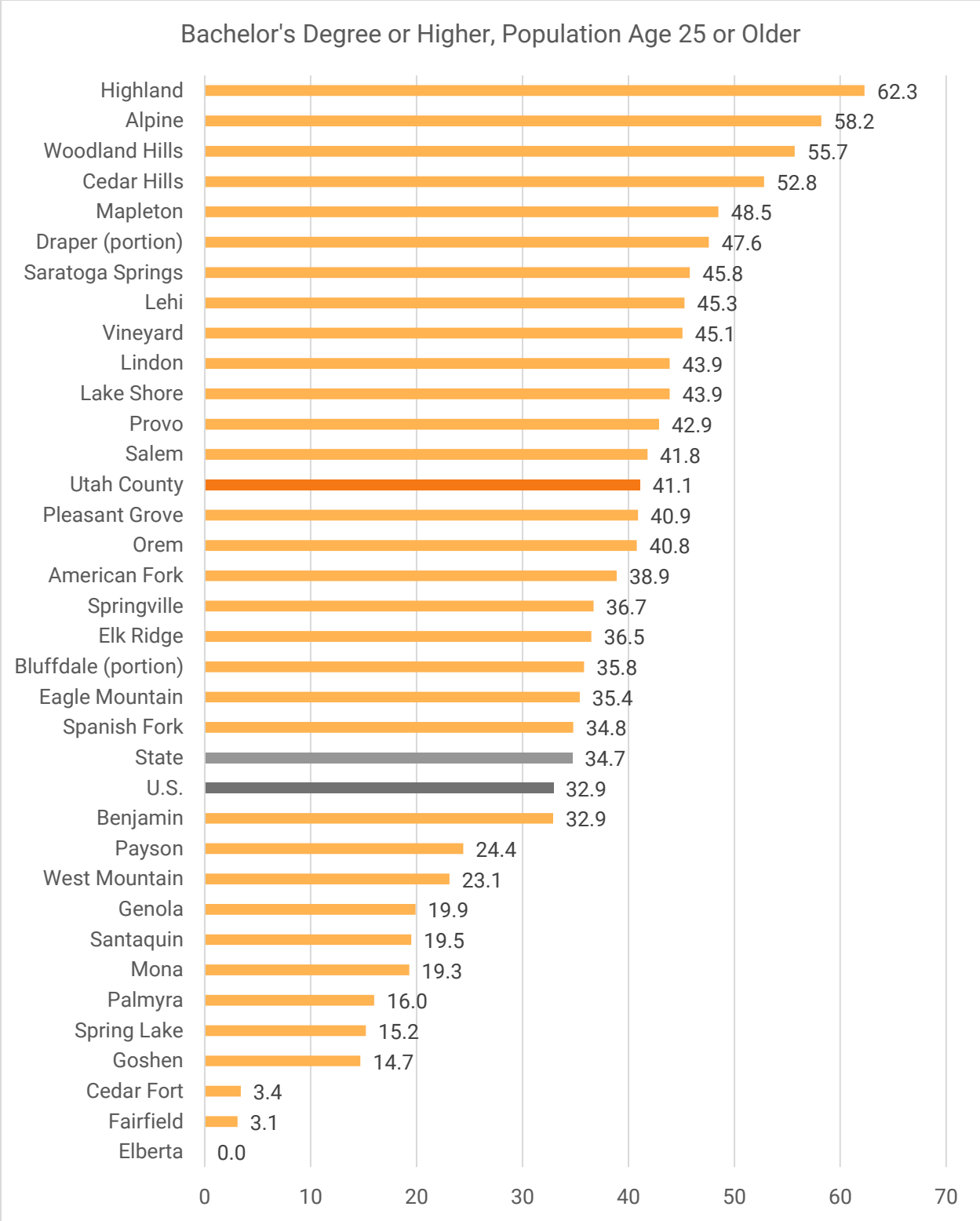
<sup>108</sup> Ibid.



And where do those age 25 or older with college degrees live in Utah County? Highland has the highest density of these individuals, with 62.3 percent of its population having a bachelor's degree, graduate degree, or professional degree. Alpine has the next highest concentration, at 58.2 percent, followed by Woodland Hills (55.7), Cedar Hills (52.8), Mapleton (48.5), and the Utah County portion of Draper (47.6). Saratoga Springs, Lehi, and Vineyard each have about 45 percent of its population age 25 or older with bachelor's, graduate, or professional degrees, followed by Lindon and Lake Shore—each with 43.9 percent—and Provo (42.9), Salem (41.8), Pleasant Grove (40.9), and Orem (40.8). Cedar Fort, Fairfield, and Elberta each have fewer than five percent of its population age 25 or older with these degrees.<sup>109</sup>

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<sup>109</sup> Ibid.



**Figure 90: Bachelor's Degree or Higher, Population Age 25 or Older**

### 2.2.6.1 Educational Attainment by Sex

When it comes to attaining a college degrees, women in Utah County do better than their state or national counterparts. More than 37 percent of women age 25 or older in Utah County have a degree, compared to 32.7 percent in the state and 33.6 percent nationally. Still, women in Utah County lag men; 44.9 percent of males in this age group in Utah County have a degree.<sup>110</sup>

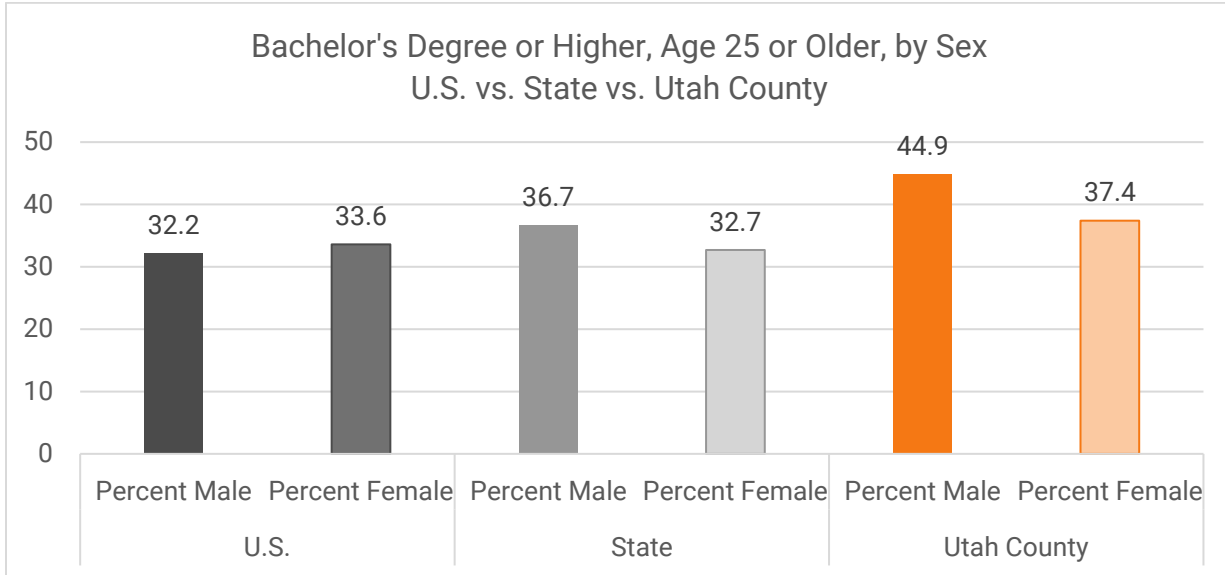


Figure 91: Bachelor's Degree or Higher, Age 25 or Older, by Sex, U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County

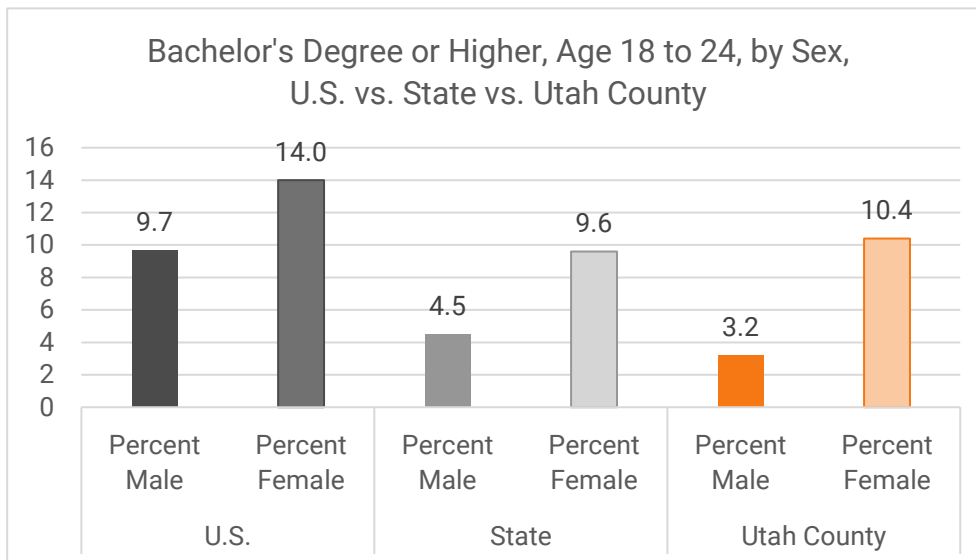


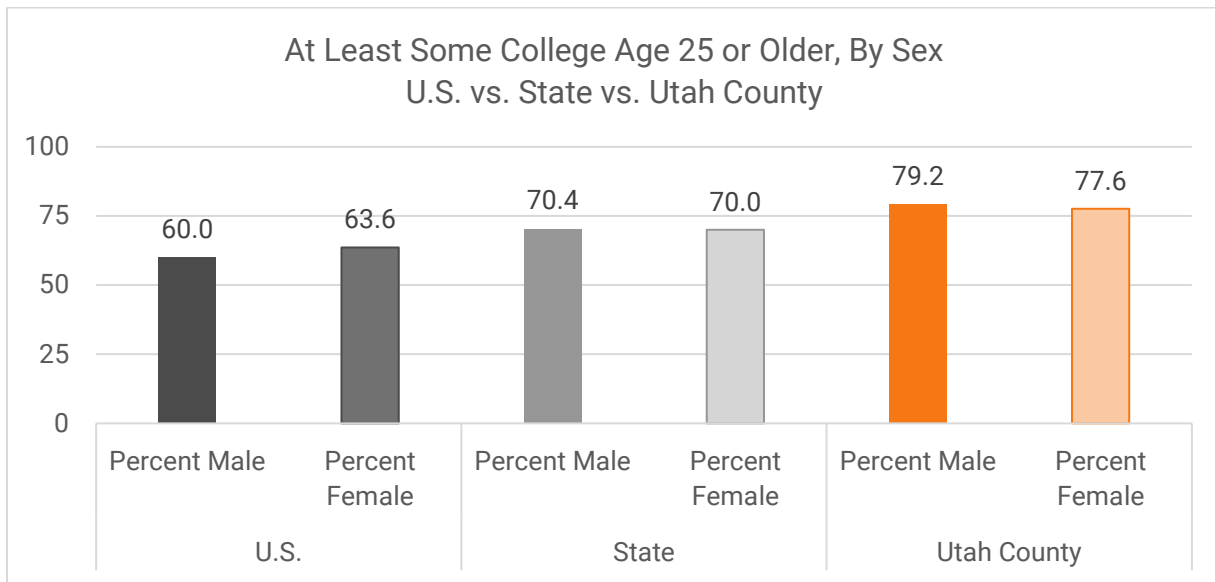
Figure 92: Bachelor's Degree or Higher, Age 18 to 24, by Sex, U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County

Although females age 18 to 24 in Utah County do about three times better than males in attaining bachelor's degrees, and are about the same as their statewide peers, they are

<sup>110</sup> Ibid.

still behind the national rate; 10.4 percent of women in this age group in Utah County have a bachelor's degree, compared to 14 percent nationally.<sup>111</sup>

Another way to look at male versus female education is by the percentage of those who have completed any college. Utah County women are only slightly behind men (77.6 percent versus 79.2 percent) when looking at those age 25 or older. They do better than their state (70.0) and national (63.6) peers.<sup>112</sup>



**Figure 93: At Least Some College Age 25 or Older, By Sex, U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County**

<sup>111</sup> Ibid.

<sup>112</sup> Ibid.

### 2.2.6.1.1 Educational Attainment by Sex by Age Group

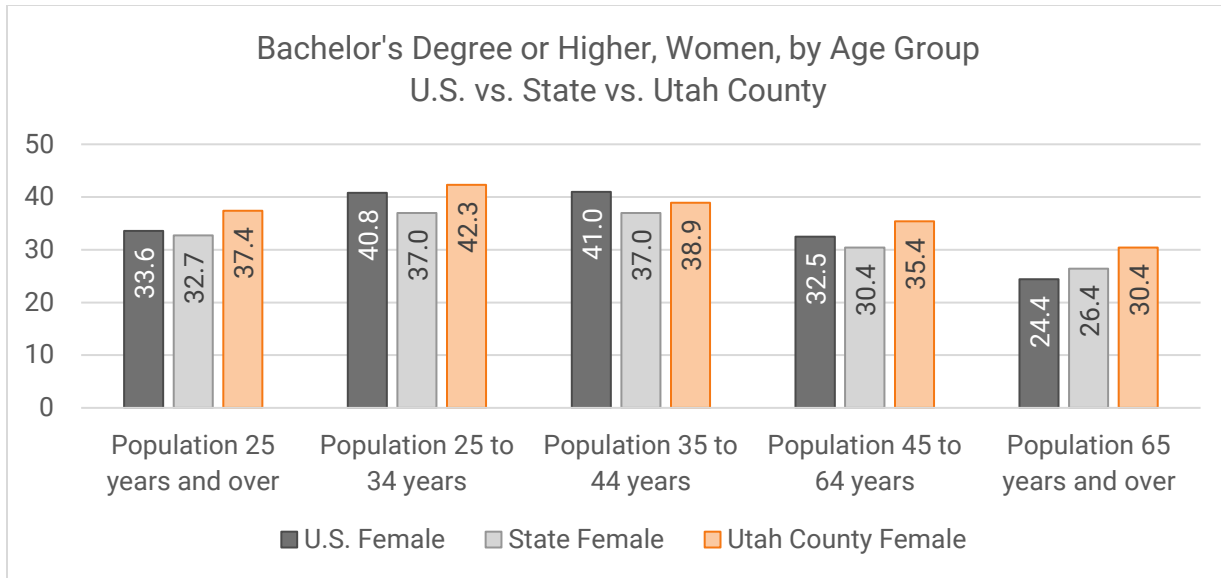
Females age 25 and over in Utah County are generally on par with males as far as educational attainment goes, with the exception of graduate or professional degrees. Only 8 percent of Utah County women have graduate or professional degrees, compared to 17.3 percent of men. They do worse than their counterparts in the state (17.3) and nation (13.0) as well. However, this age group of women in Utah County do better than both groups when it comes to having a bachelor’s degree or higher: 37.4 percent of women in Utah County have attained this level of education, compared with 32.7 percent in the state and 33.6 percent in the U.S.<sup>113</sup>

**Table 23: Educational Attainment by Sex by Age Group, Age 25 or older, U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County**

Educational Attainment by Sex by Age Group, Age 25 or older U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County						
	U.S.		State		Utah County	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
<b>Less than 9th grade</b>	5.1	4.8	2.5	2.4	1.6	1.9
<b>9th to 12th grade, no diploma</b>	7.1	6.0	5.0	4.2	3.3	2.8
<b>High school graduate (includes equivalency)</b>	27.8	25.6	22.1	23.4	15.9	17.6
<b>Some college, no degree</b>	20.1	20.5	24.9	26.2	25.2	28.4
<b>Associate's degree</b>	7.7	9.5	8.8	11.1	9.1	11.9
<b>Bachelor's degree</b>	19.8	20.6	22.6	23.4	27.6	29.3
<b>Graduate or professional degree</b>	12.4	13.0	14.1	9.3	17.3	8.0
<b>High school graduate or higher</b>	87.8	89.2	92.5	93.4	95.1	95.3
<b>Bachelor's degree or higher</b>	32.2	33.6	36.7	32.7	44.9	37.4

It is noteworthy that older women in Utah County, though they lag men in educational attainment, do better than their state and national peers.

<sup>113</sup> Ibid.



**Figure 94: Bachelor's Degree or Higher, Women, by Age Group, U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County**

Although they do better than their colleagues at the state and national levels, women in older age groups in Utah County have not achieved the same level of education as men. Women age 45 to 64, for example, are about 10 percentage points behind men in having a bachelor's degree or higher (35.4 percent versus 45.1 percent).

**Table 24: Bachelor's Degree or Higher, by Sex and Age Group, U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County**

Bachelor's Degree or Higher, by Sex and Age Group, U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County						
	U.S.		State		Utah County	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
<b>Population 25 years and over</b>	32.2	33.6	36.7	32.7	44.9	37.4
<b>Population 25 to 34 years</b>	32.5	40.8	32.5	37	38.1	42.3
<b>Population 35 to 44 years</b>	33.7	41	39.1	37	49.6	38.9
<b>Population 45 to 64 years</b>	30.6	32.5	35.7	30.4	45.1	35.4
<b>Population 65 years and over</b>	33.3	24.4	41.4	26.4	50.3	30.4

## 2.2.7 Primary and Secondary Education

### 2.2.7.1 School Enrollment

#### 2.2.7.1.1 Public School Enrollment

In school year 2021-2022, there were 150,995 students enrolled in kindergarten through grade 12 in Utah County. As the Utah County population has increased, the census of school-age children has followed suit.<sup>114</sup>

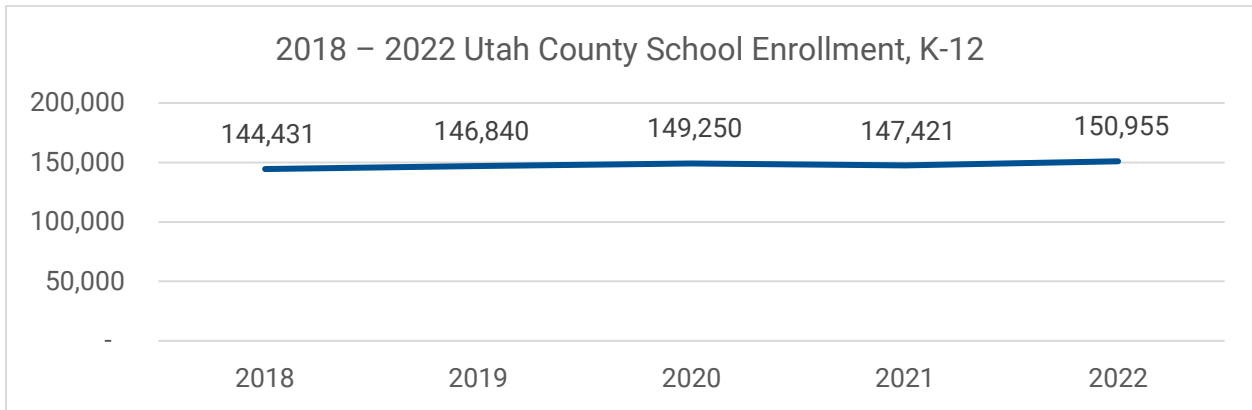


Figure 95: 2018 – 2022 Utah County School Enrollment, K-12

Age groups are evenly distributed, but with a slightly larger number of students in grade 9 than in other grades.<sup>115</sup>

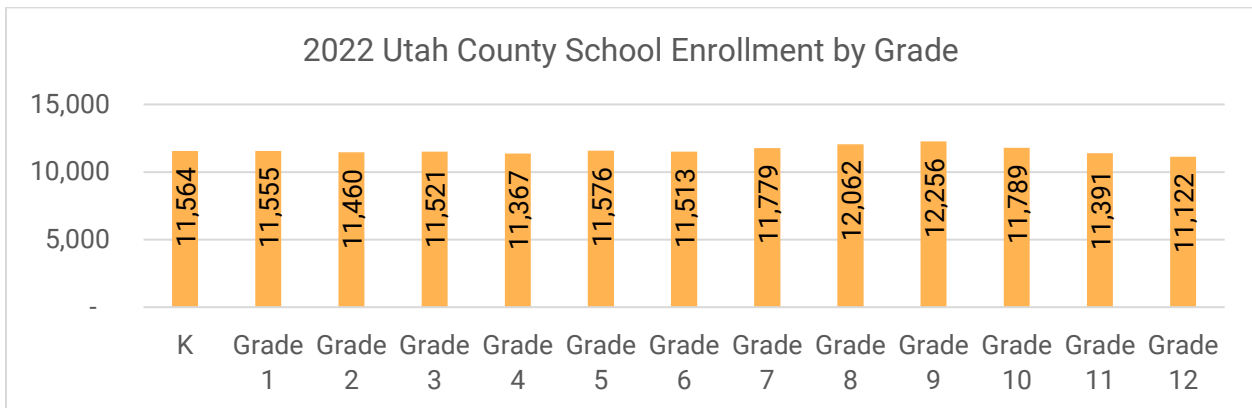
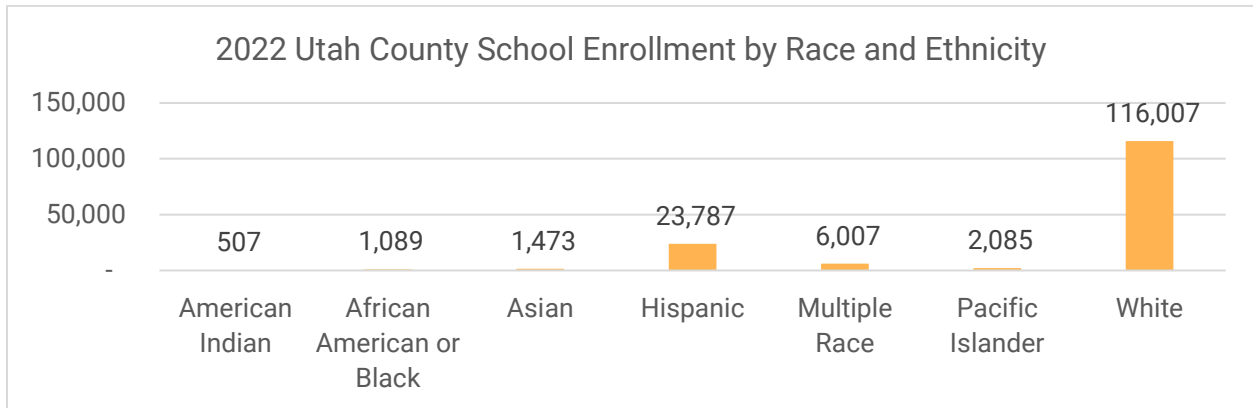


Figure 96: 2022 Utah County School Enrollment by Grade

<sup>114</sup> Utah State Board of Education, Fall Enrollment Dataset

<sup>115</sup> Ibid.

Although Utah County’s school students remain largely white, there has been an increase in other races and ethnicities since the 2017-2018 school year. In the current school year, about 116,000 of the 150,955 students classify themselves as white: about 76.8 percent of the total. Note that the Utah State Board of Education classifies “Hispanic” as a separate race; therefore, although the majority of the nearly 24,000 Hispanic students in Utah County schools are white, they are classified separately.<sup>116</sup>



**Figure 97: 2022 Utah County School Enrollment by Race and Ethnicity**

Looking over time, the number of white students has remained relatively flat, but the number of Hispanic and multiple-race students has increased.

<sup>116</sup> Ibid.



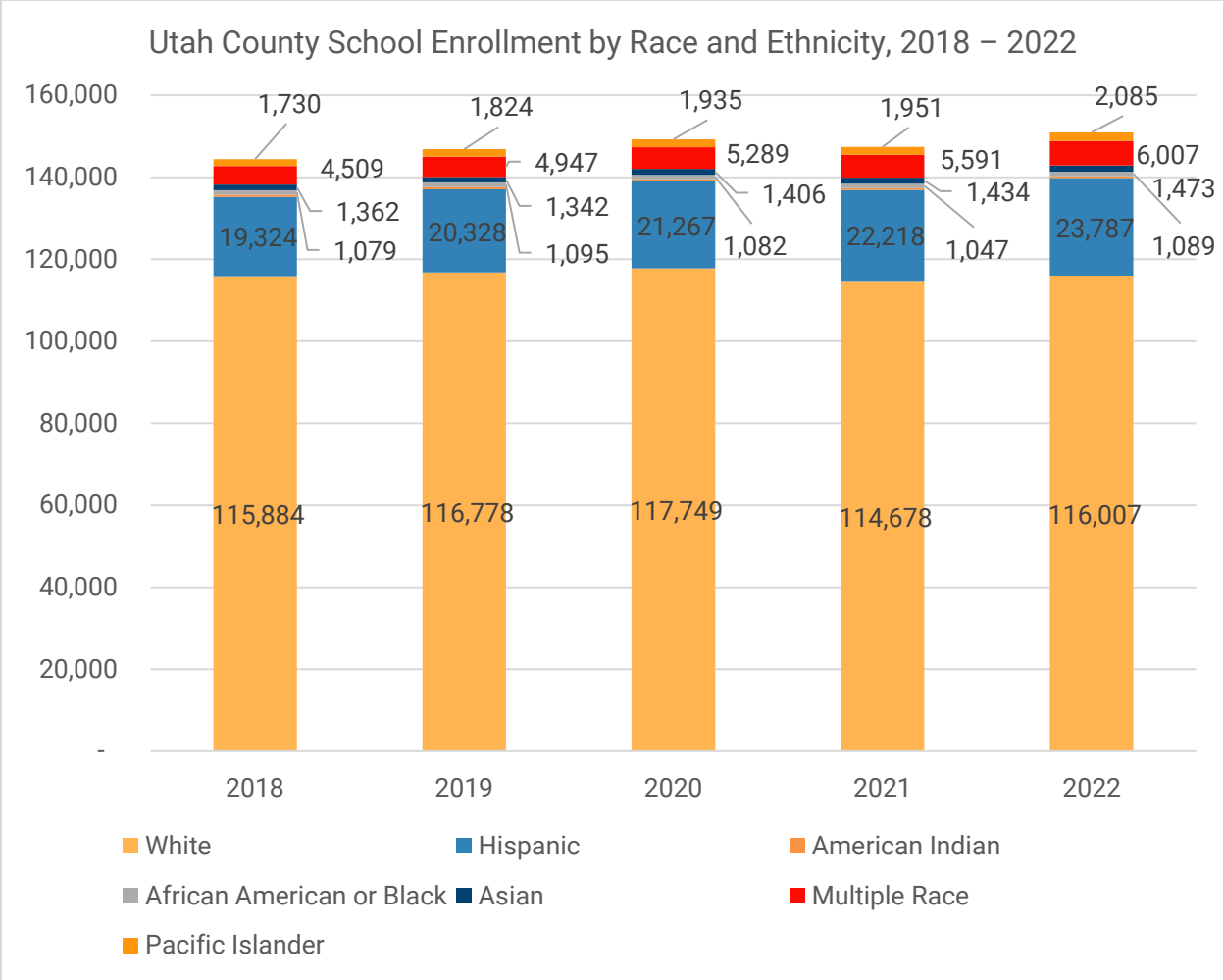


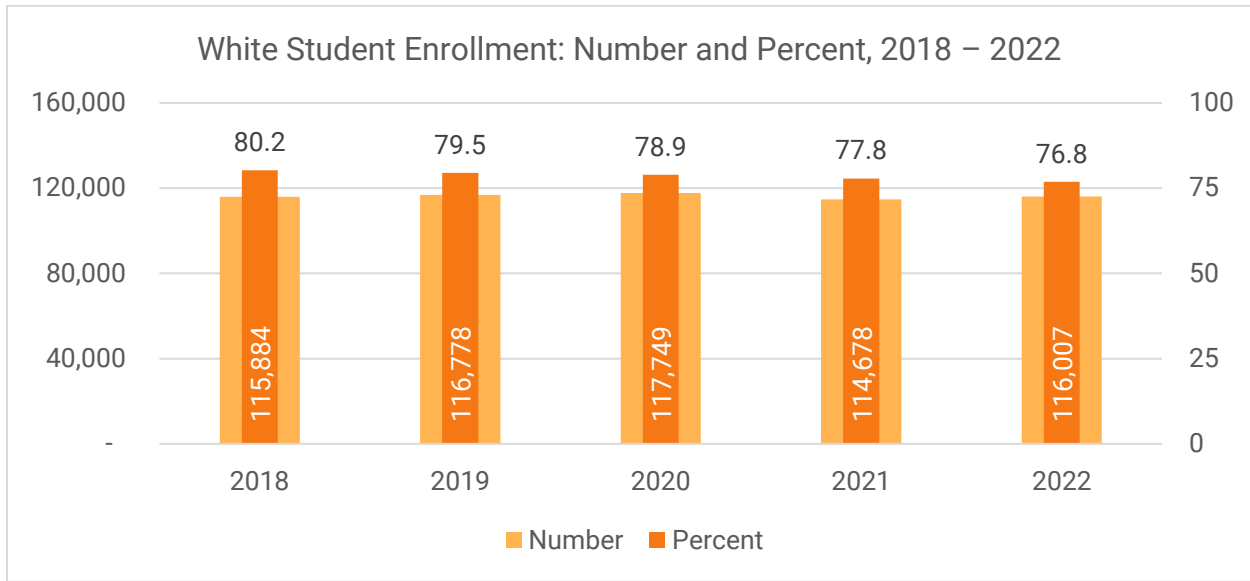
Figure 98: Utah County School Enrollment by Race and Ethnicity, 2018 – 2022

Another way to visualize race and ethnicity in Utah County’s schools is as a percentage. The table below shows the changes in enrollment over time.

Table 25: Percent Enrollment by Race and Ethnicity, 2018 – 2022

Percent Enrollment by Race and Ethnicity, 2018 – 2022							
	White	Hispanic	American Indian	African American or Black	Asian	Multiple Race	Pacific Islander
2018	80.2	13.4	0.4	0.7	0.9	3.1	1.2
2019	79.5	13.8	0.4	0.7	0.9	3.4	1.2
2020	78.9	14.2	0.3	0.7	0.9	3.5	1.3
2021	77.8	15.1	0.3	0.7	1.0	3.8	1.3
2022	76.8	15.8	0.3	0.7	1.0	4.0	1.4

In 2018, there were 115,884 white students in Utah County schools; this represented 80.2 percent of all students. By 2022, there was an increase of only about 120 students, but the addition of other race and ethnicity groups decreased the white student population to 76.8 percent. Again, the State Board of Education classifies Hispanic students as a separate “race.”<sup>117</sup>

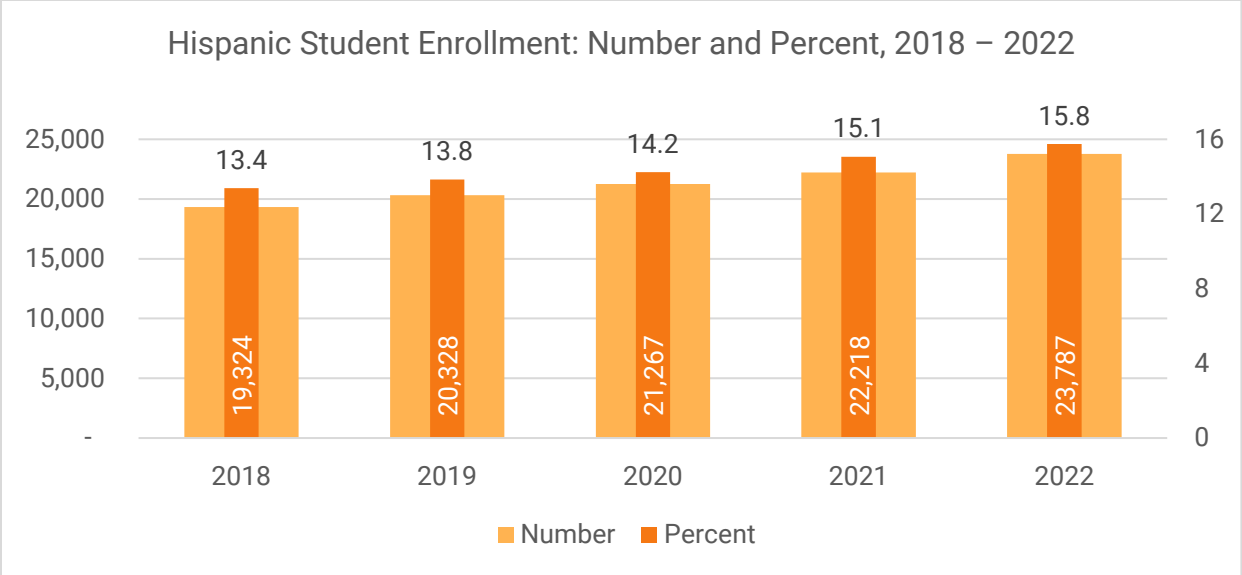


**Figure 99: White Student Enrollment: Number and Percent, 2018 – 2022**

The number of Hispanic students increased from 19,324 in 2018 to 23,787 in 2022—representing an increase of 3.4 percentage points of the total student population.<sup>118</sup>

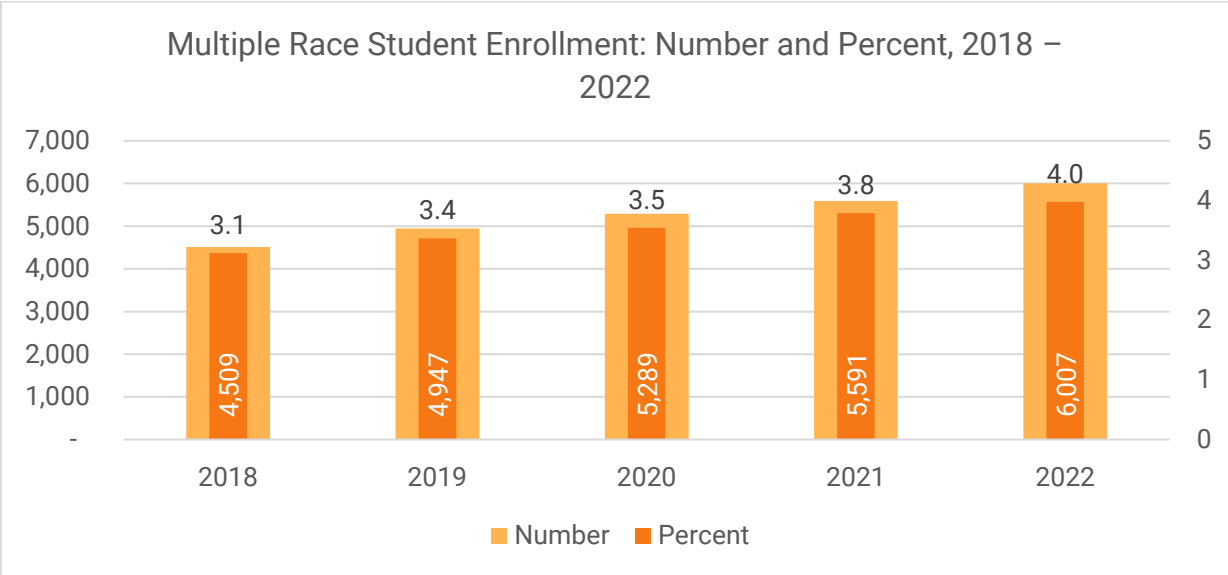
<sup>117</sup> Ibid.

<sup>118</sup> Ibid.



**Figure 100: Hispanic Student Enrollment: Number and Percent, 2018 – 2022**

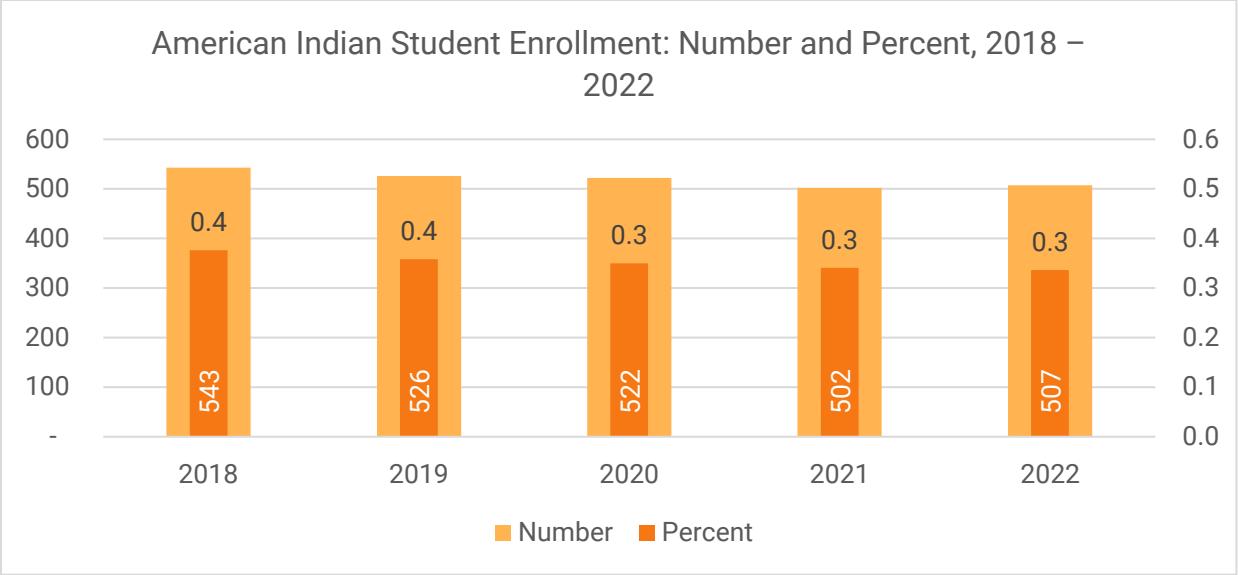
In 2018, 4,509 students reported they are of two or more races; this represented 3.1 percent of the total population. By 2022, this increased to 6,007 students and 4.0 percent.<sup>119</sup>



**Figure 101: Multiple Race Student Enrollment: Number and Percent, 2018 – 2022**

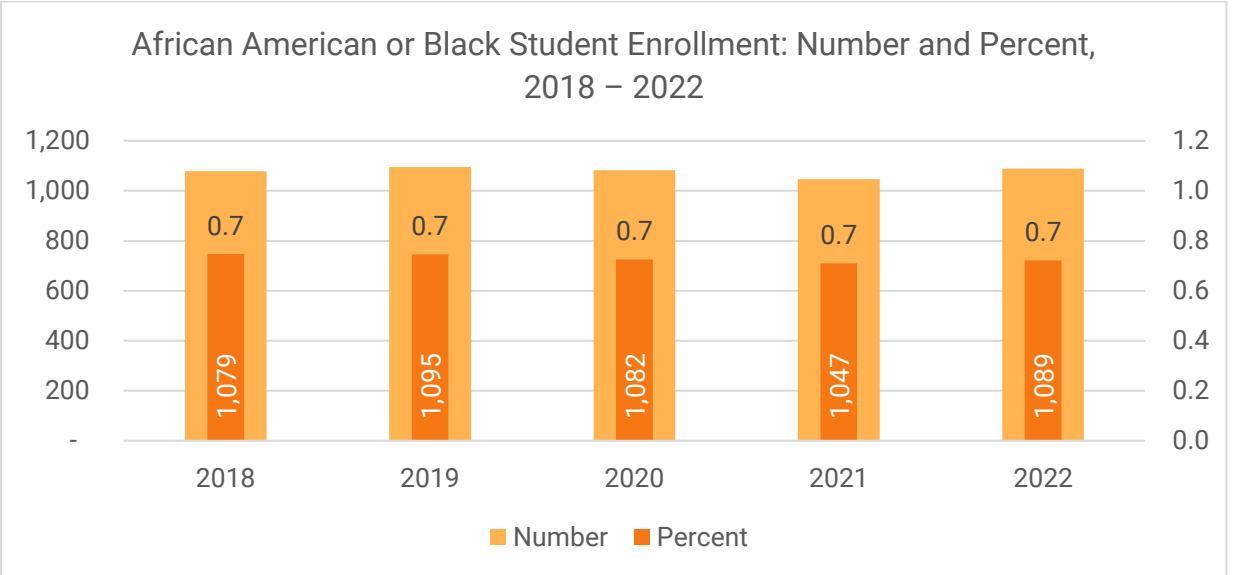
The American Indian student population in Utah County has remained fairly constant, with 543 students in 2018 and 507 in 2022.<sup>120</sup>

<sup>119</sup> Ibid.



**Figure 102: American Indian Student Enrollment: Number and Percent, 2018 – 2022**

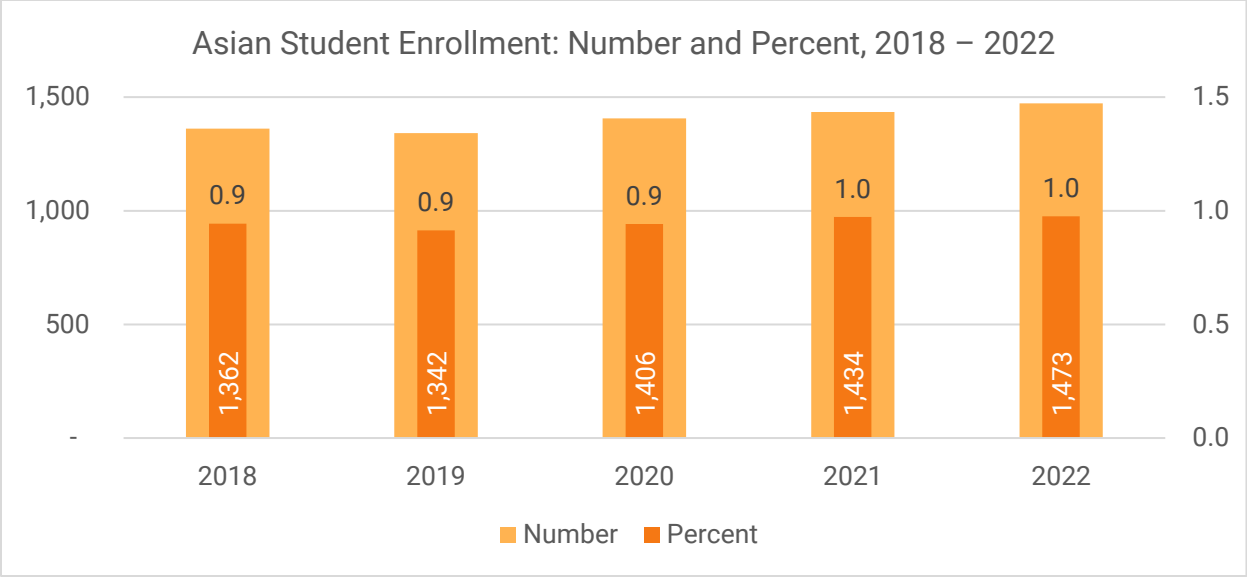
The number of African American or black students has likewise been steady over the past five years, going from 1,079 to 1,089.<sup>121</sup>



**Figure 103: African American or Black Student Enrollment: Number and Percent, 2018 – 2022**

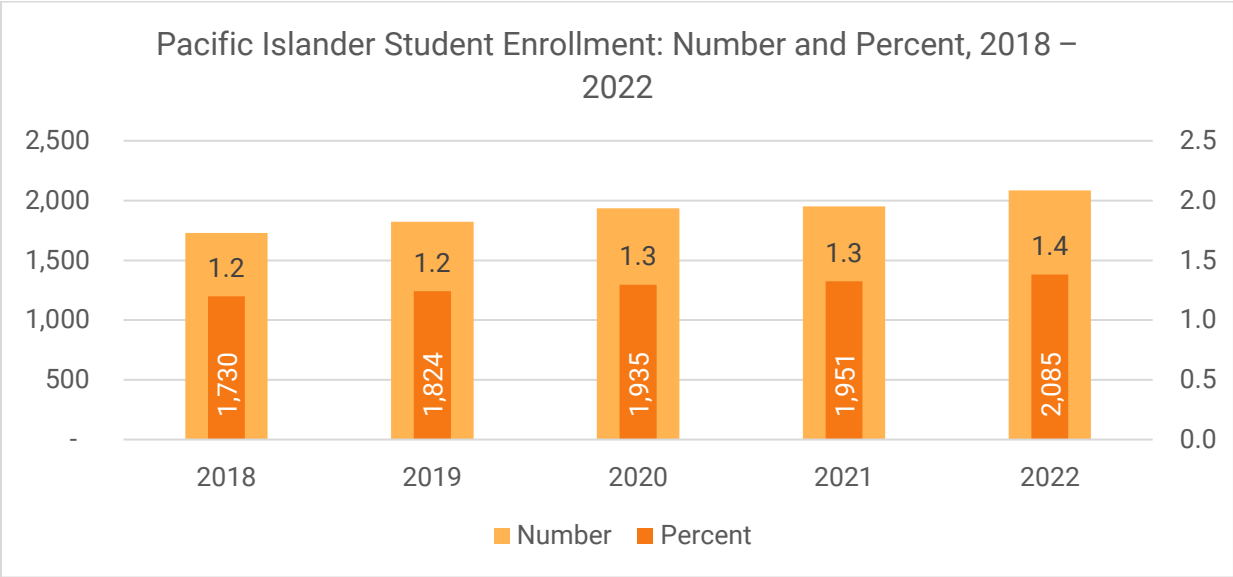
The number of Asian students has increased from 1,362 to 1,473.<sup>122</sup>

<sup>120</sup> Ibid.  
<sup>121</sup> Ibid.  
<sup>122</sup> Ibid.



**Figure 104: Asian Student Enrollment: Number and Percent, 2018 – 2022**

Pacific Islander students have increased from about 1.2 percent of the student population (1,730 students) in 2018 to 1.4 percent (2,085 students) in 2022.<sup>123</sup>



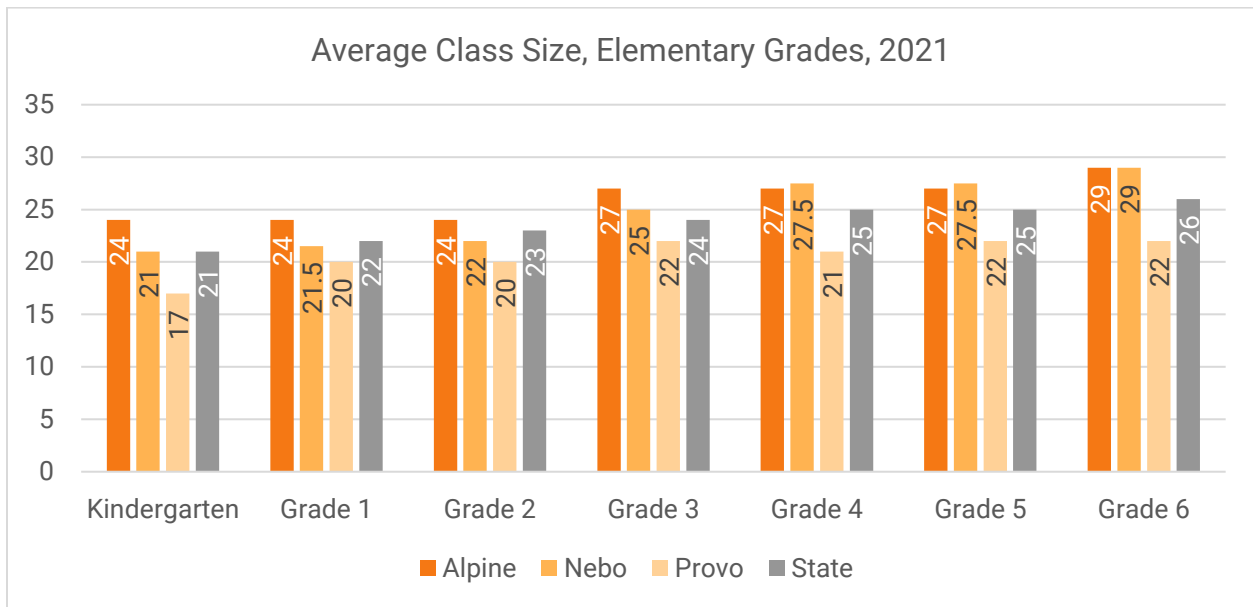
**Figure 105: Pacific Islander Student Enrollment: Number and Percent, 2018 – 2022**

<sup>123</sup> Ibid.

### 2.2.7.2 Class Size and Student-Teacher Ratio

Number of students in the classroom is an indicator of public education resources, capacity, and priorities. Class size has been shown to have an impact on student learning; the smaller the class size, the better the student will learn.

Class size for elementary grades in Alpine School District are higher than state averages, and in Provo School District it has been lower. Nebo School District’s grade 1 and 2 class sizes are lower than state averages, but other grades equal or exceed state numbers. Note that in this section, data is not available for school year 2019-2020 due to pandemic disruptions.<sup>124</sup>



**Figure 106: Average Class Size, Elementary Grades, 2021**

In secondary grade language arts classes, Provo School District fares better than the state in Language Arts 8; however, all three districts in Utah County have larger class sizes than state averages for all other language classes.<sup>125</sup>

<sup>124</sup> Utah State Board of Education, Class Size Dataset

<sup>125</sup> Ibid.

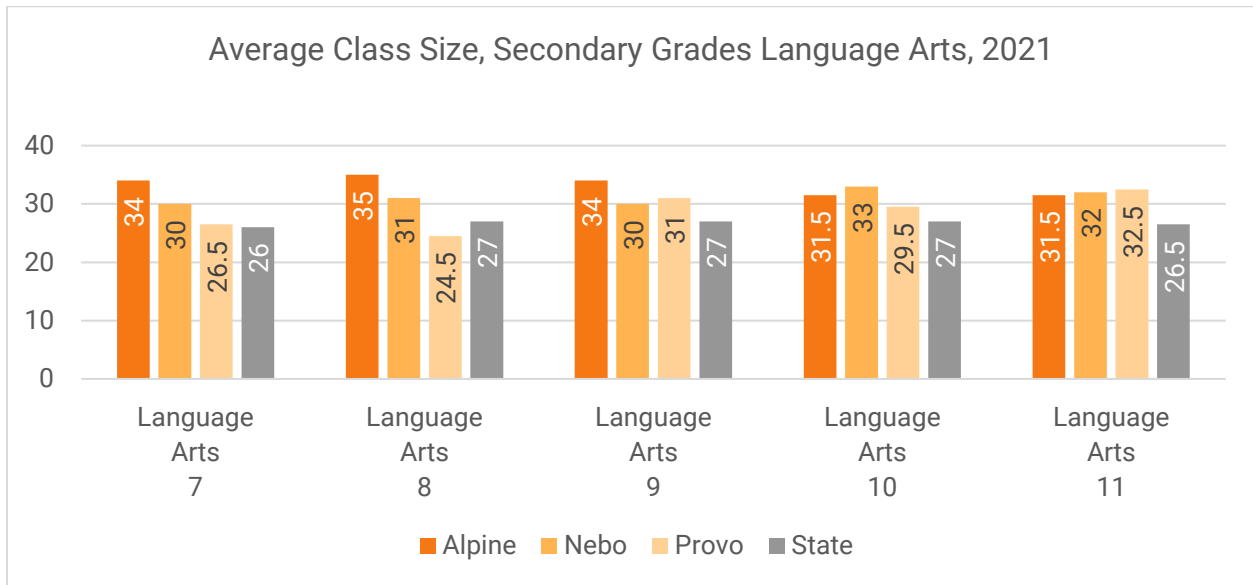


Figure 107: Average Class Size, Secondary Grades Language Arts, 2021

Provo School District beats the state average for class size in Math 7 and Math 8; however, Utah County exceeds state averages for all other math classes.<sup>126</sup>

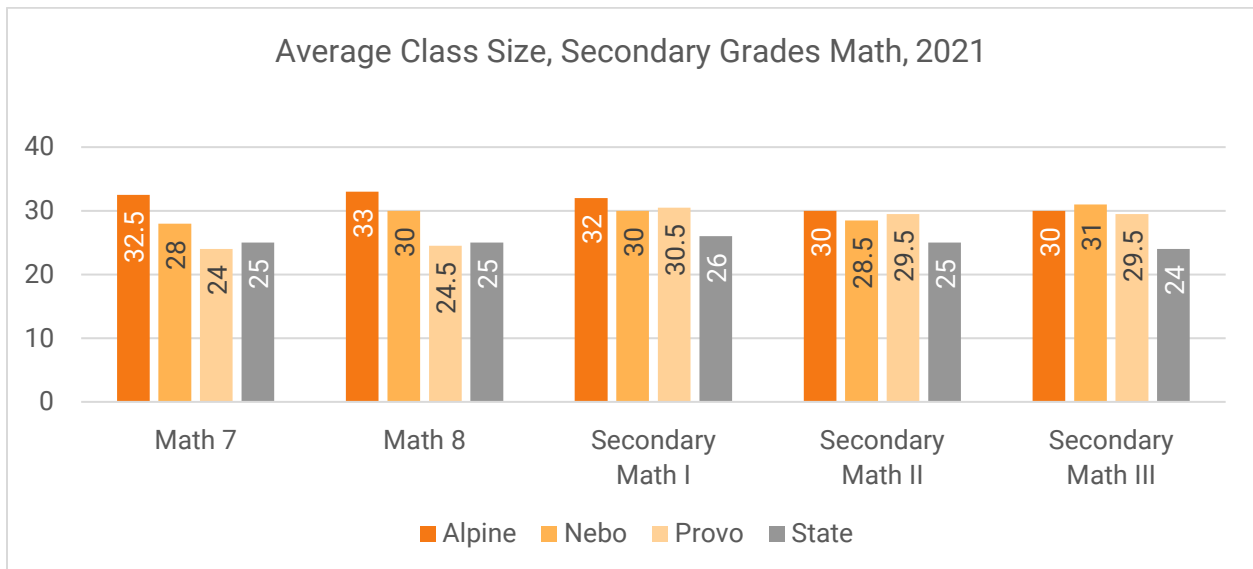
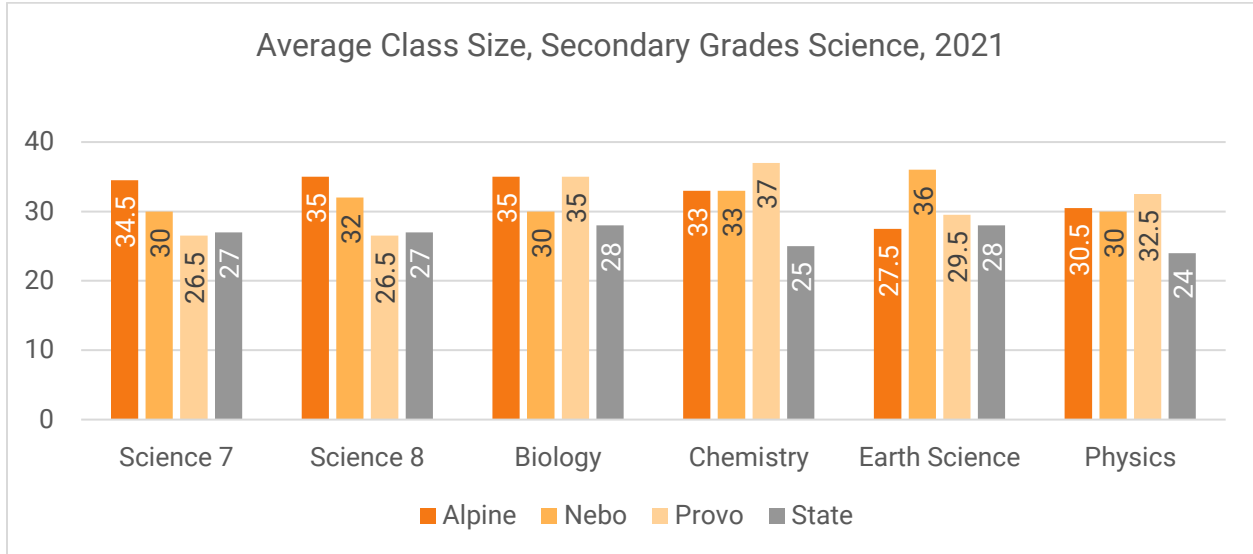


Figure 108: Average Class Size, Secondary Grades Math, 2021

<sup>126</sup> Ibid.

Provo School District outdoes the state in Science 7 and Science 8, and Alpine School District has a lower class size in Earth Science. In all other cases, the state’s average is lower than the three districts in Utah County when it comes to science.

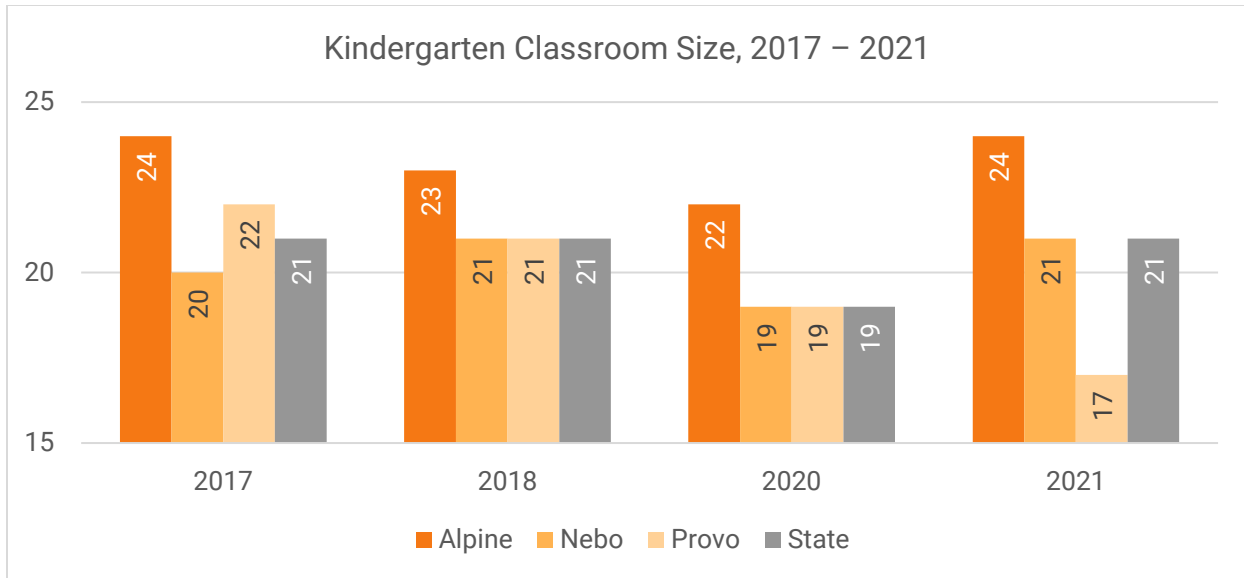


**Figure 109: Average Class Size, Secondary Grades Science, 2021**

Looking at kindergarten class size over the past five years (excluding the first year of the pandemic), Provo School District has been able to decrease the size more dramatically than the other districts and the state. In 2017, its kindergarten class size was 22; in 2021, it was 17.<sup>127</sup>

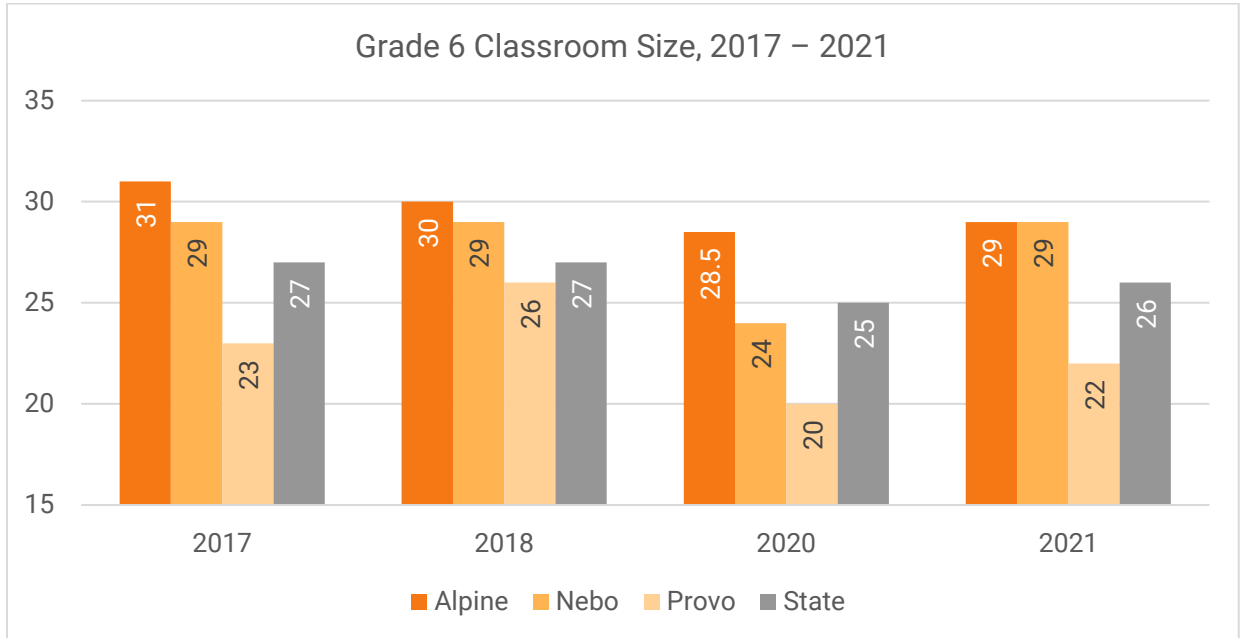
<sup>127</sup> Ibid.





**Figure 110: Kindergarten Classroom Size, 2017 – 2021**

Provo School District fares better than the state averages for grade 6 class sizes in each of the past four years for which we have data, while the other school districts are not always able to match the state numbers.<sup>128</sup>



**Figure 111: Grade 6 Classroom Size, 2017 – 2021**

<sup>128</sup> Ibid.

Looking at Language Arts 7, the state’s average class size has historically outperformed each of the three districts in Utah County. In 2021, the state average was 26; Nebo came in at 26.5, Provo at 30, and Alpine at 34.<sup>129</sup>

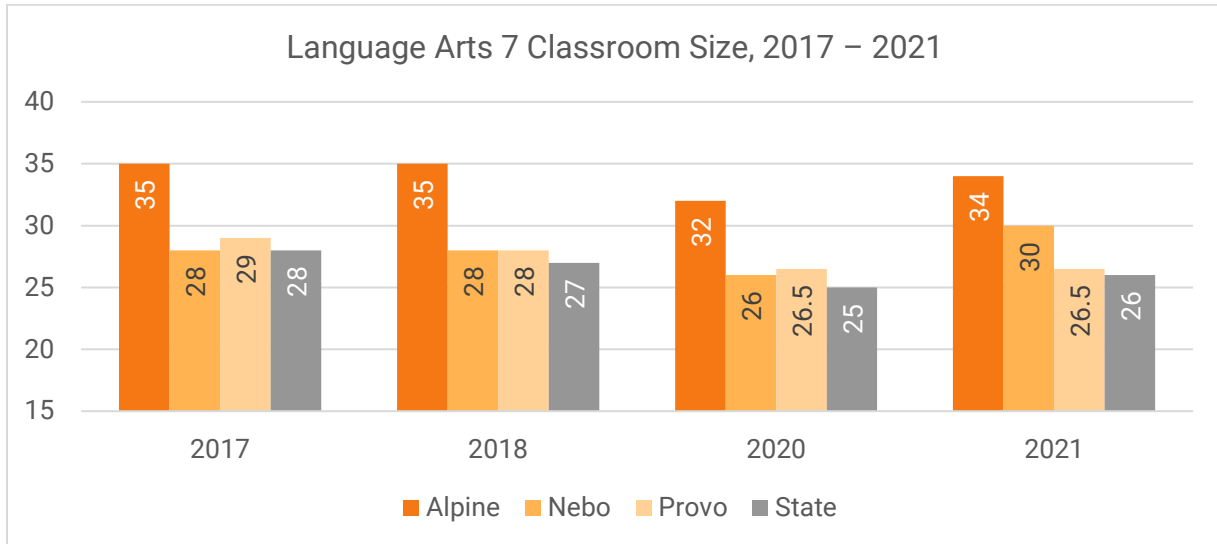


Figure 112: Language Arts 7 Classroom Size, 2017 – 2021

Language arts class size doesn’t improve in comparison to state numbers as students progress. Utah County districts are usually higher than numbers for Language Arts 11.<sup>130</sup>

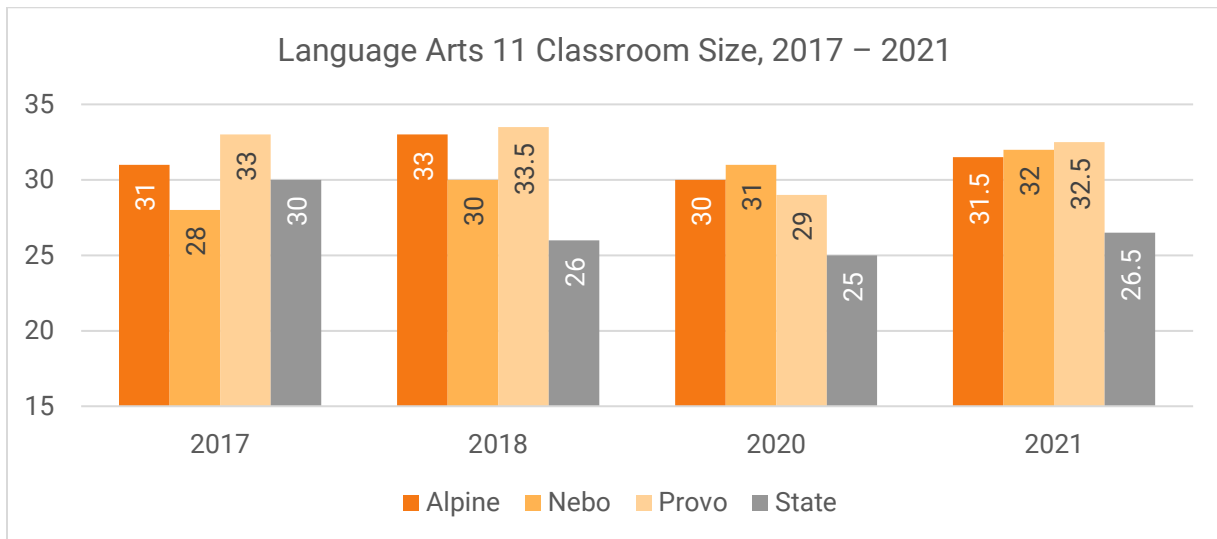


Figure 113: Language Arts 11 Classroom Size, 2017 – 2021

<sup>129</sup> Ibid.

<sup>130</sup> Ibid.

The Provo School District historically does well compared to state averages in Math 7, with lower class sizes the past four years—except for 2017, when it matched the state.<sup>131</sup>

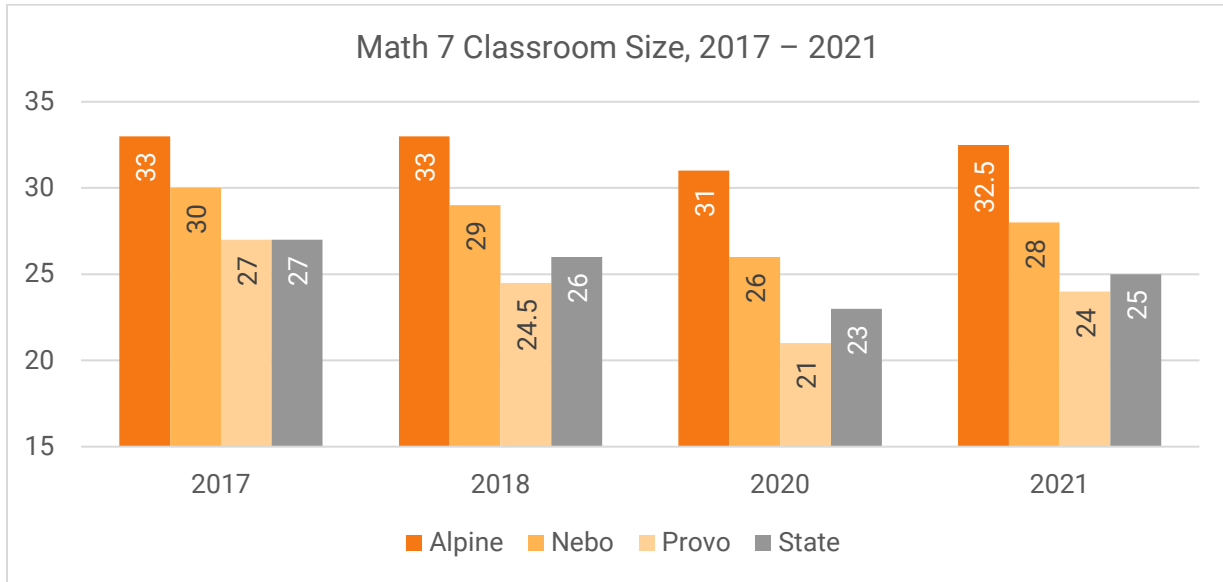


Figure 114: Math 7 Classroom Size, 2017 – 2021

But none of the districts in Utah County do well in class size when it comes to Secondary Math III.<sup>132</sup>

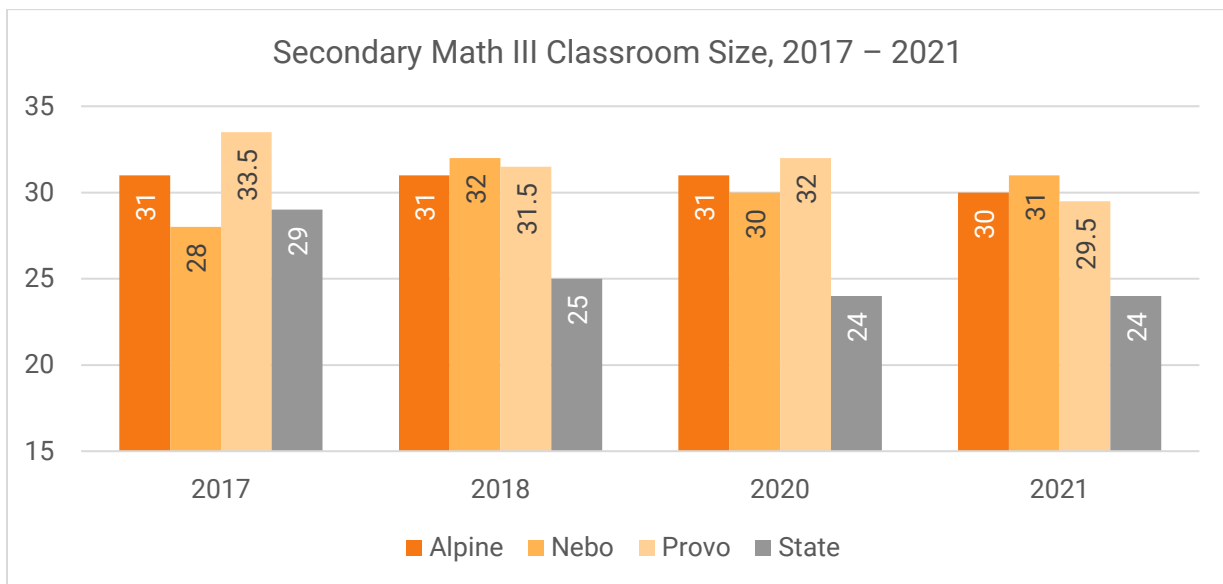


Figure 115: Secondary Math III Classroom Size, 2017 – 2021

<sup>131</sup> Ibid.

<sup>132</sup> Ibid.

Class size in the sciences is also a struggle for the districts in Utah County. Looking at Science 7, Provo School District is the only one of the three that beat the state average in the past four years—and that was accomplished only in 2021, with 26.5 compared to 27.<sup>133</sup>

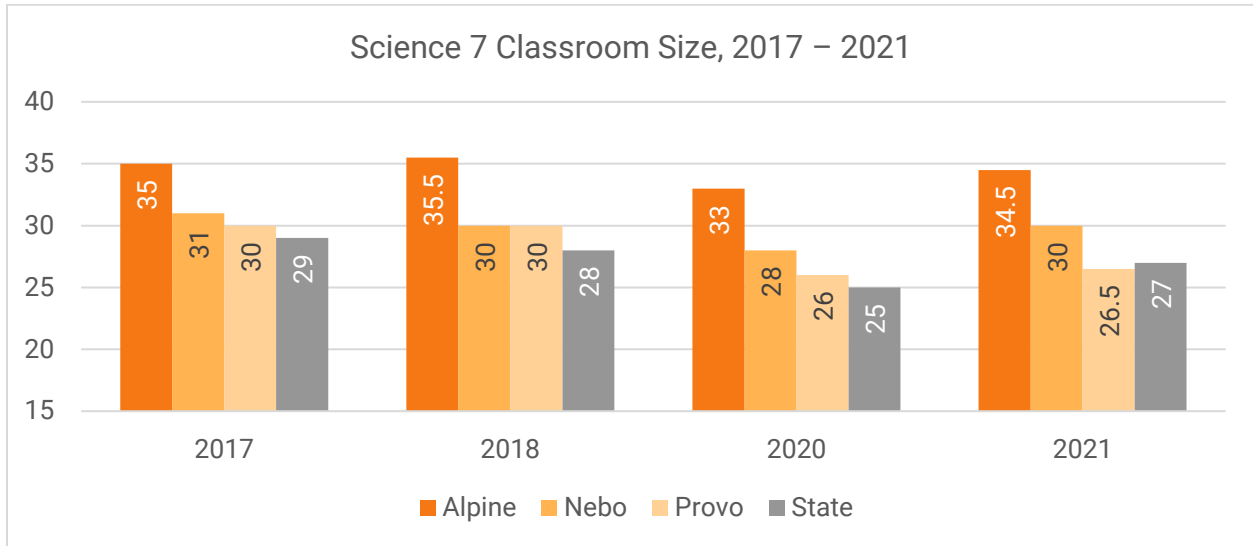


Figure 116: Science 7 Classroom Size, 2017 - 2021

In 2017 and 2018, Nebo School District had smaller class sizes than the state for Physics, but other districts in all four years were higher than state averages.<sup>134</sup>

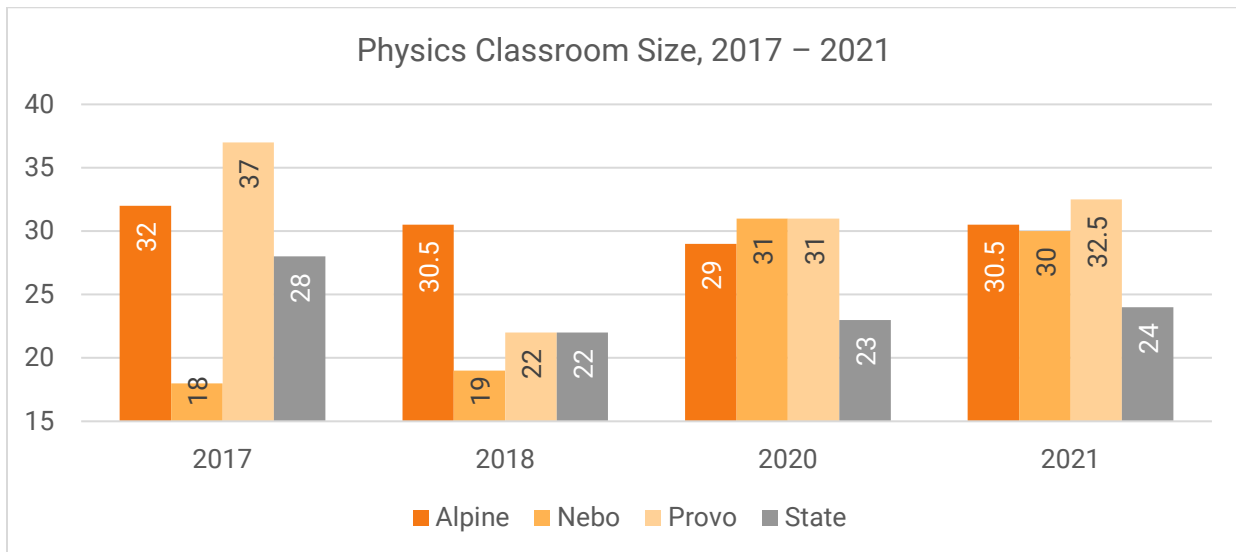
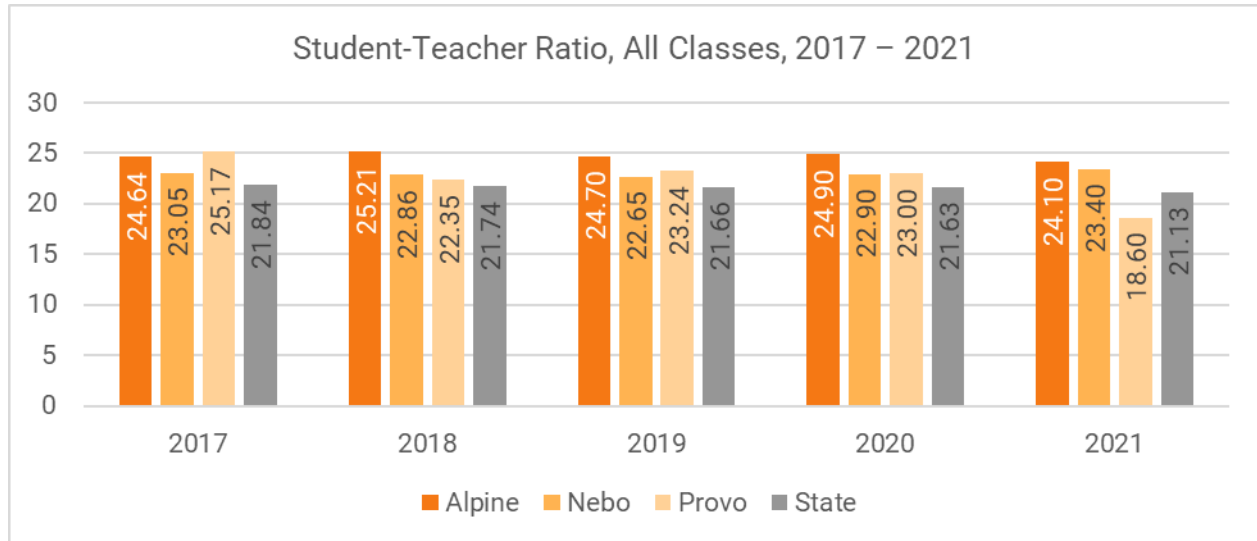


Figure 117: Physics Classroom Size, 2017 - 2021

<sup>133</sup> Ibid.

<sup>134</sup> Ibid.

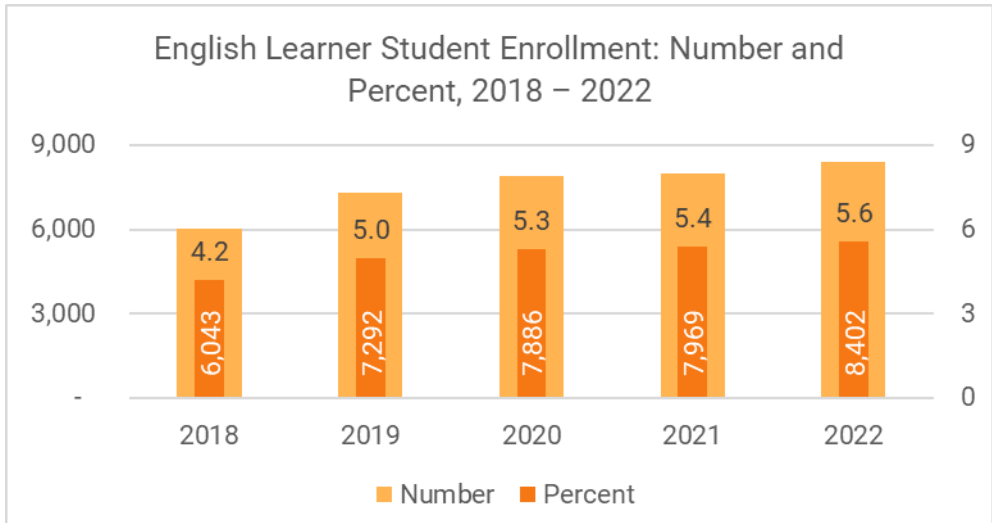
In addition to class size, another measure of district capacity and resources is the ratio of students to teachers. The average student-teacher ratio for the state has been about 21 students to each teacher each of the past five years. Alpine School District’s ratio is about 24, while Nebo’s is at about 23 and Provo School District’s improved significantly in 2021—dropping from about 23 to 18.6.



**Table 26: Student-Teacher Ratio, All Classes, 2017 – 2021**

### 2.2.7.3 English Learner Students

From 2018 to 2022, the number of English learner students in Utah County increased

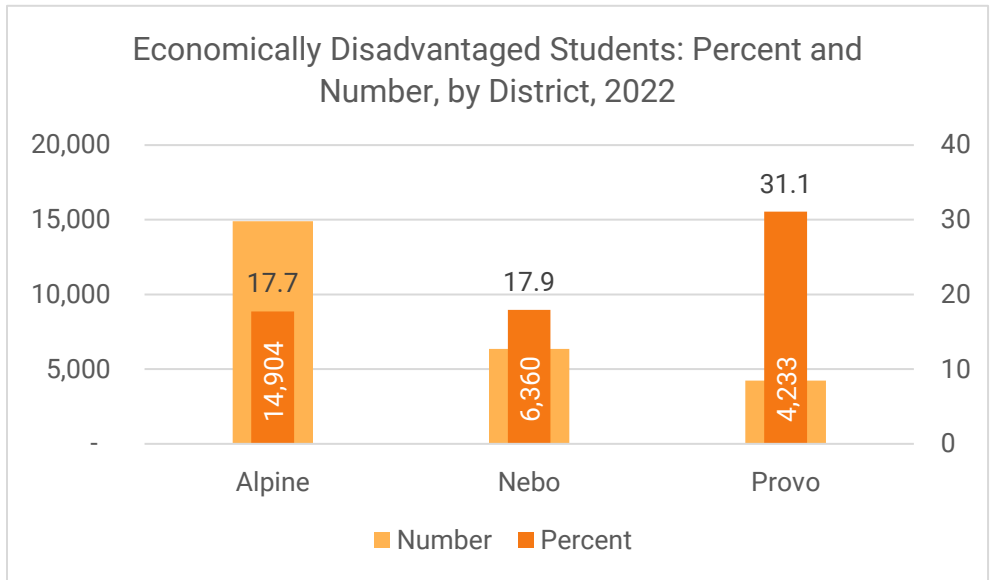


from 6,043 (4.2 percent of all students) to 8,402 (5.6 percent). This is an increase of 2,359 students—39 percent growth in only five years.<sup>135</sup>

Table 27: English Learner Student Enrollment: Number and Percent, 2018 – 2022

### 2.2.7.4 Economically Disadvantaged Students

The Utah State Board of Education tracks “economically disadvantaged students,” which



is defined as children who qualify for free or reduced-price lunch. More than 31 percent of students in the Provo School District meet this criterion.

Figure 118: Economically Disadvantaged Students: Percent and Number, by District, 2022

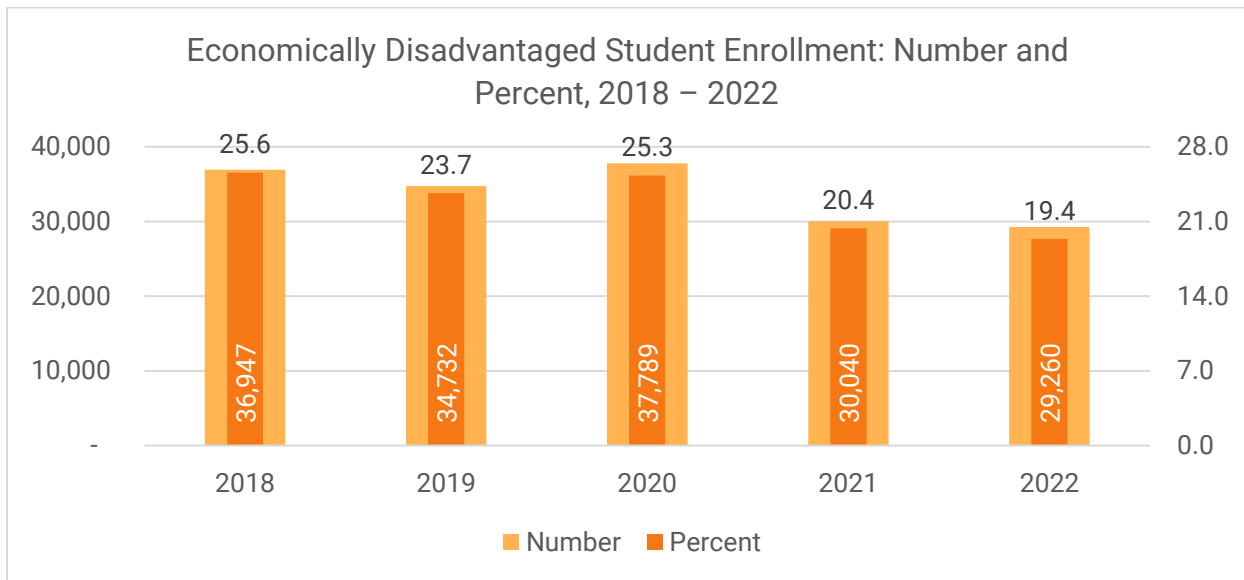
Although only 17.7 percent of students in Alpine School District are considered economically disadvantaged,

<sup>135</sup> Utah State Board of Education, Enrollment Dataset

the district his home to more than three times the number of students—nearly 15,000—who qualify.<sup>136</sup>

In 2021 and 2022, the number and percent of economically disadvantaged students in all three districts in Utah County decreased, according to data provided by the Utah State Board of Education. However, the data comes with a caution:

The USDA announced that schools can provide free meals until Dec 31, 2022 if they choose to participate in the Seamless Summer Option waiver under the National School Lunch Program. Schools that participate in this waiver may provide free meals to students without having to determine their eligibility status. Free meals can include 2 of the following: Breakfast, Lunch, Snack, Supper. In effect, students at participating schools can receive free means regardless of whether parents have completed income eligibility forms. LEAs have reported this has resulted in low rates of return of the income eligibility forms. Though the students are eligible to receive free meals, without the forms the LEAs cannot report the student as economically disadvantaged. As such, the reported numbers of students who are economically disadvantaged has decreased in the SY 2021 Oct enrollment data as compared with recent school years.<sup>137</sup>



**Figure 119: Economically Disadvantaged Student Enrollment: Number and Percent, 2018 – 2022**

<sup>136</sup> Ibid.

<sup>137</sup> Ibid.

### 2.2.7.5 Students Living with Disabilities

About 11.4 percent of students in Utah County school districts have disabilities and qualify for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). This percentage has remained constant since 2018. Slightly more than 17,000 students meet the criteria to qualify for this act.<sup>138</sup>

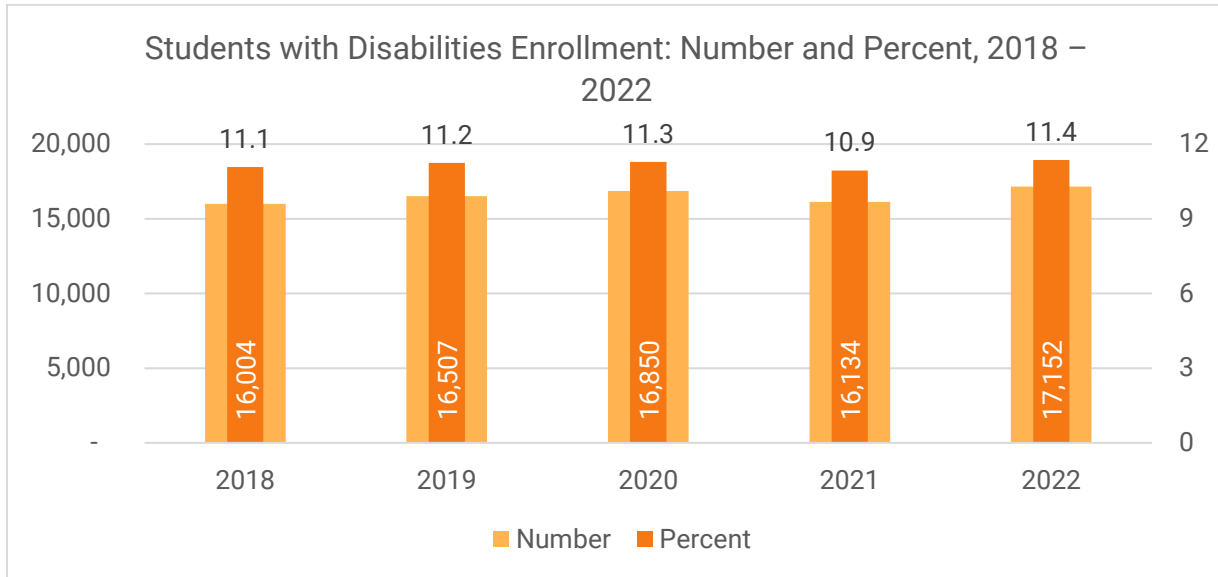


Figure 120: Students with Disabilities Enrollment: Number and Percent, 2018 – 2022

### 2.2.7.6 Administrators, Teachers, Support Staff

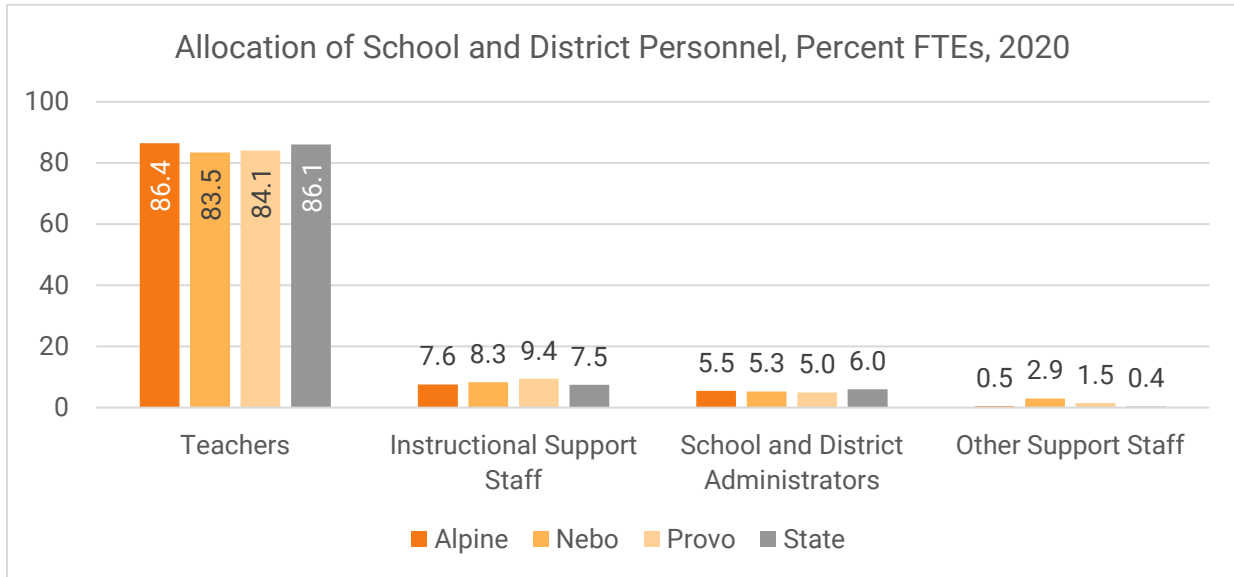
As of 2020, the three school districts in Utah County employed the full-time equivalent of 233 kindergarten teachers, 2,335 elementary teachers, and 2,224 secondary teachers. In addition, 75 preschool teachers, 527 special education teachers, 38 librarians, and 470 instructional leaders and specialists assisted in educating the county’s children. In support of classroom instruction, the County’s districts employed 68 district administrators, 270 school administrators, 232 counselors, and 261 other support staff.<sup>139</sup>

<sup>138</sup> Ibid.

<sup>139</sup> Utah State Board of Education, Licensed Educators by Position Dataset



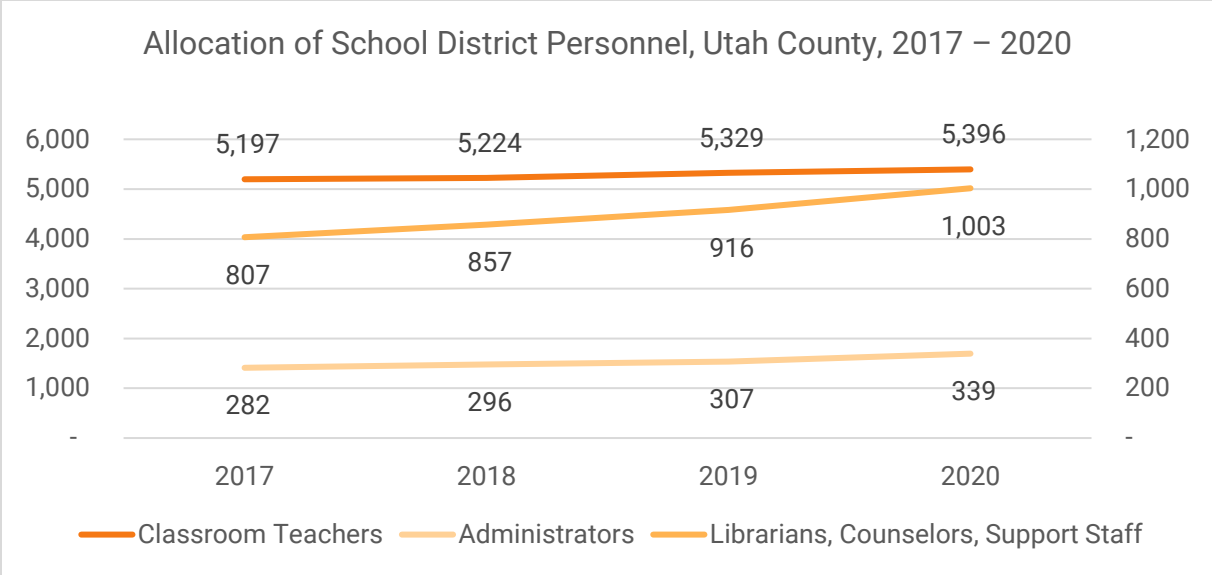
The ratios of administrators and support staff to classroom instructional personnel appear to be consistent with state averages. The numbers in the chart below are derived from Utah Board of Education datasets.



**Figure 121: Allocation of School and District Personnel, Percent FTEs, 2020**

In the four-year period of 2017 to 2020, the number of classroom teachers in Utah County school districts increased from 5,197 to 5,396. Librarians, counselors, and other support staff saw the greatest increase in terms of percentages, going from 807 to 1,003—about a 25 percent increase. All numbers are rounded FTEs.<sup>140</sup>

<sup>140</sup> Ibid.

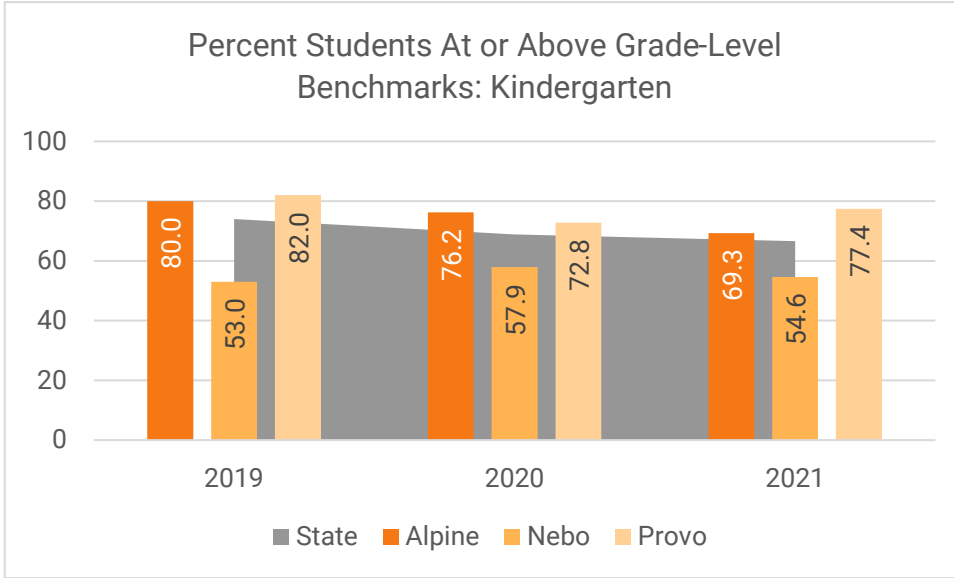


**Figure 122: Allocation of School District Personnel, Utah County, 2017 – 2020**

## 2.2.7.7 School and Student Performance

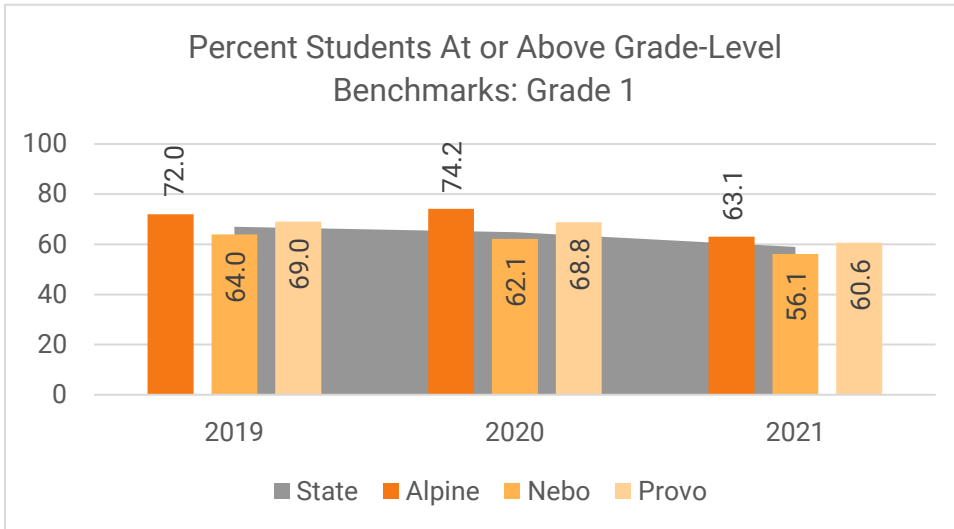
### 2.2.7.7.1 Early Literacy

Each year, schools engage in early literacy skill development, which includes interventions for those students not meeting grade-based reading benchmarks. Tests are administered to students in kindergarten through grade 3 three times during the year, and results of the final assessment are reported below. These figures are the percent of students



meeting grade-based reading benchmarks. Due to the pandemic, the third round of testing was not completed in 2020, so data—though useful—is not comparable to other years.

Figure 123: Percent Students At or Above Grade-Level Benchmarks: Kindergarten



Kindergarten students in Alpine and Provo School Districts have performed better than state averages each of the past three years.<sup>141</sup>

Figure 124: Percent Students At or Above Grade-Level Benchmarks: Grade 1

<sup>141</sup> Utah State Board of Education, Annual Early Literacy Reports

Alpine and Provo grade 1 students continue to do as well as or better than their statewide counterparts. In 2021, 63.1 percent of Alpine first graders, and 60.6 percent of Provo first graders, met or exceeded reading benchmarks. This compares with Nebo’s 56.1 percent and the state’s 59.0 percent.<sup>142</sup>

Second graders in Alpine School District fell short of their normal above-average

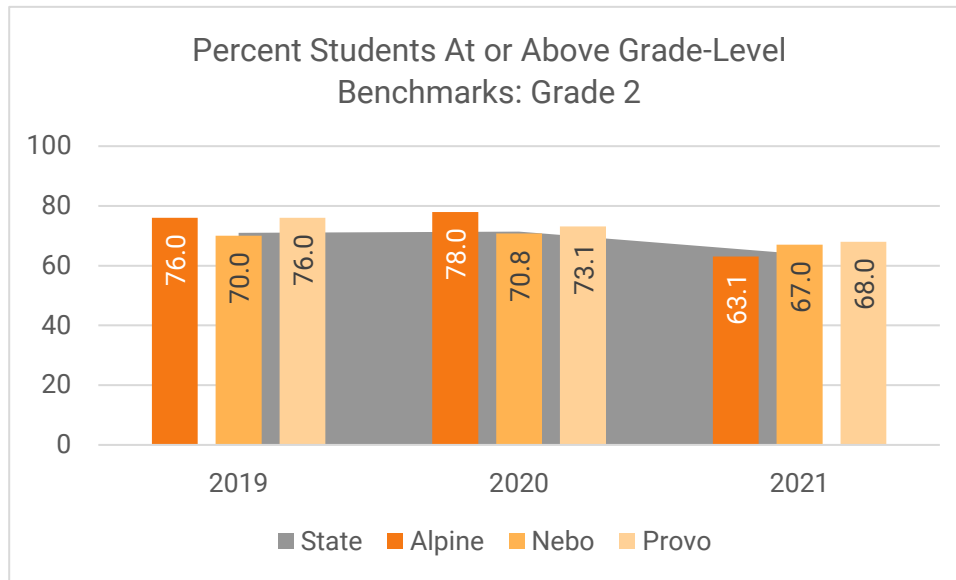


Figure 126: Percent Students At or Above Grade-Level Benchmarks: Grade 2

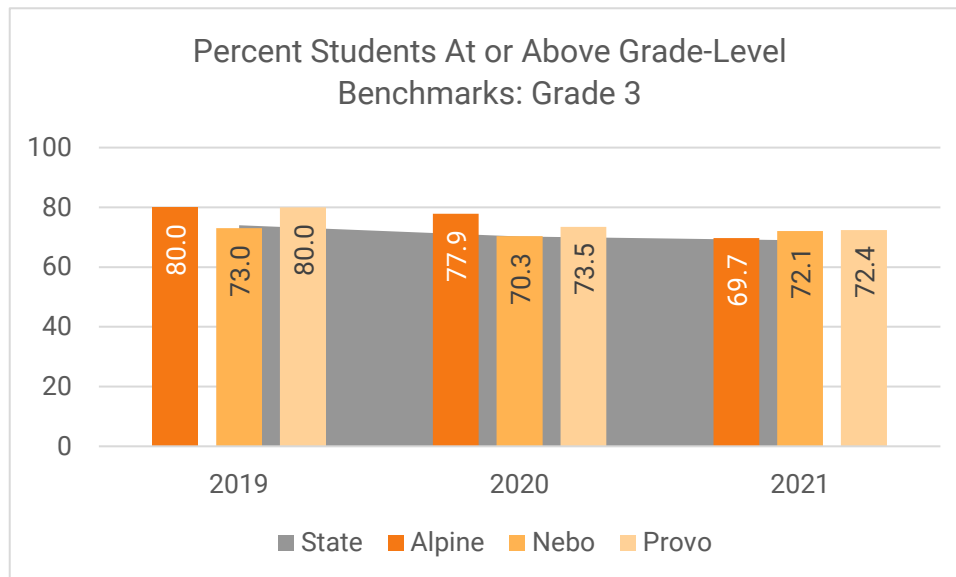


Figure 125: Percent Students At or Above Grade-Level Benchmarks: Grade 3

performance in 2021, with only 63.1 percent meeting reading benchmarks. This is down from the prior year’s 78.0 (pandemic year), and 2019’s 76.0 percent. It compares to Nebo’s 67.0 percent and Provo’s 68 percent in 2021. For the state, 63.9 percent of second graders met or exceeded the benchmarks in 2021.<sup>143</sup>

Third graders in all

<sup>142</sup> Ibid.

<sup>143</sup> Ibid.

three school districts in Utah County do as well as or better than state peers in reaching or exceeding reading benchmarks. While 69.0 percent of third graders statewide meet the standard, 69.7 percent of Alpine third graders, 72.1 percent of Nebo's, and 72.4 percent of Provo's do the same.<sup>144</sup>

### 2.2.7.7.2 RISE Performance

Utah's Board of Education utilizes a multistage assessment system known as RISE: Readiness Improvement Success Empowerment. This system is a computer-aided assessment for English language arts, mathematics, science, and writing. It is administered to students in grades 3 through 8. Results are reported in the aggregate for school districts for each subject matter, as well as by grade level. Scores are also reported for various demographic groups, including race and ethnicity, low income, students with disabilities, and English language learners.

The following charts provide 2021 test scores for the three school districts in Utah County and for the state.

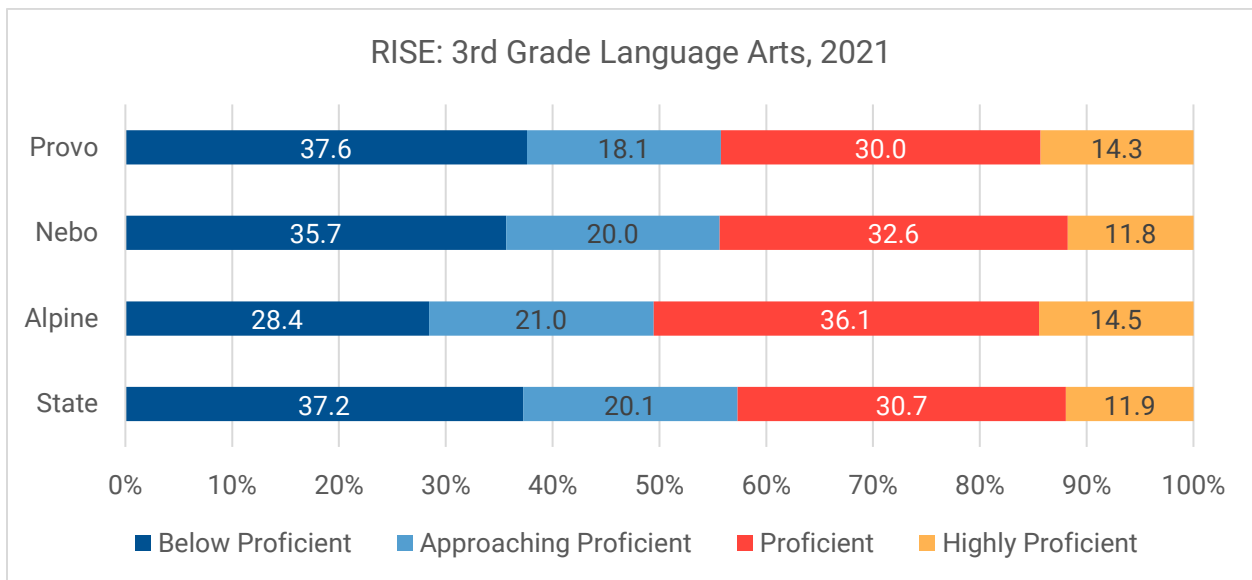
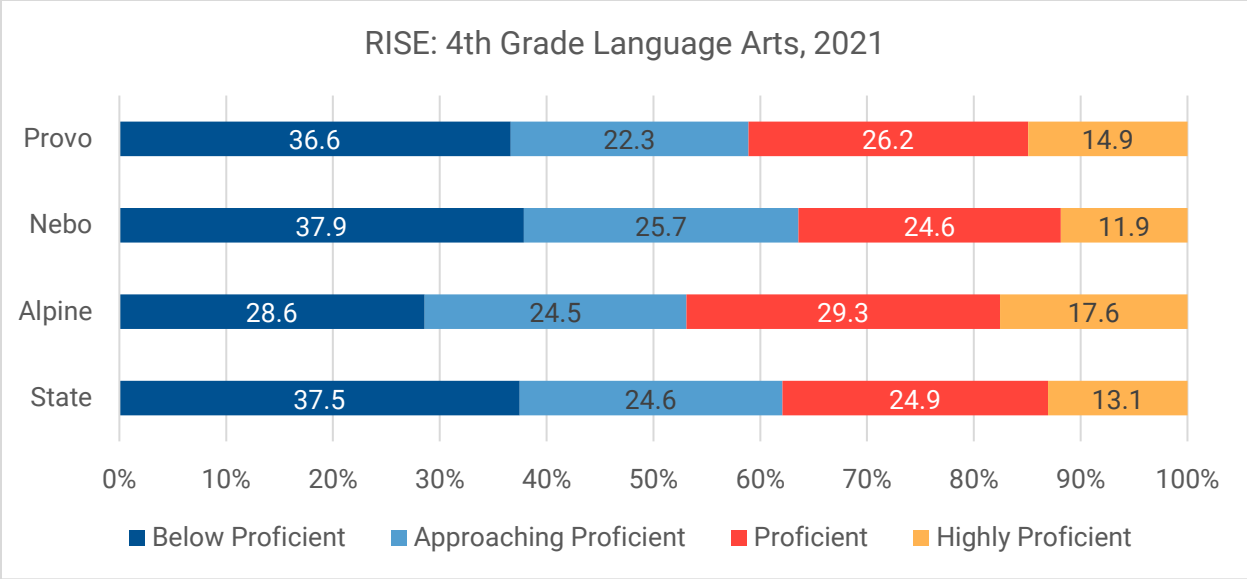
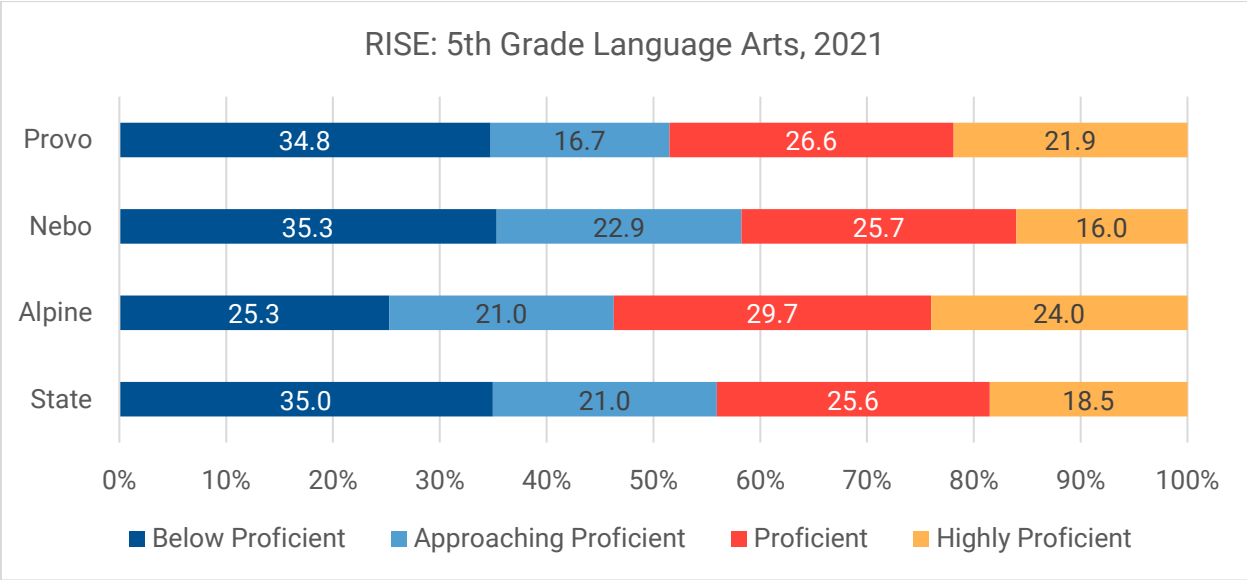


Figure 127: RISE: 3rd Grade Language Arts, 2021

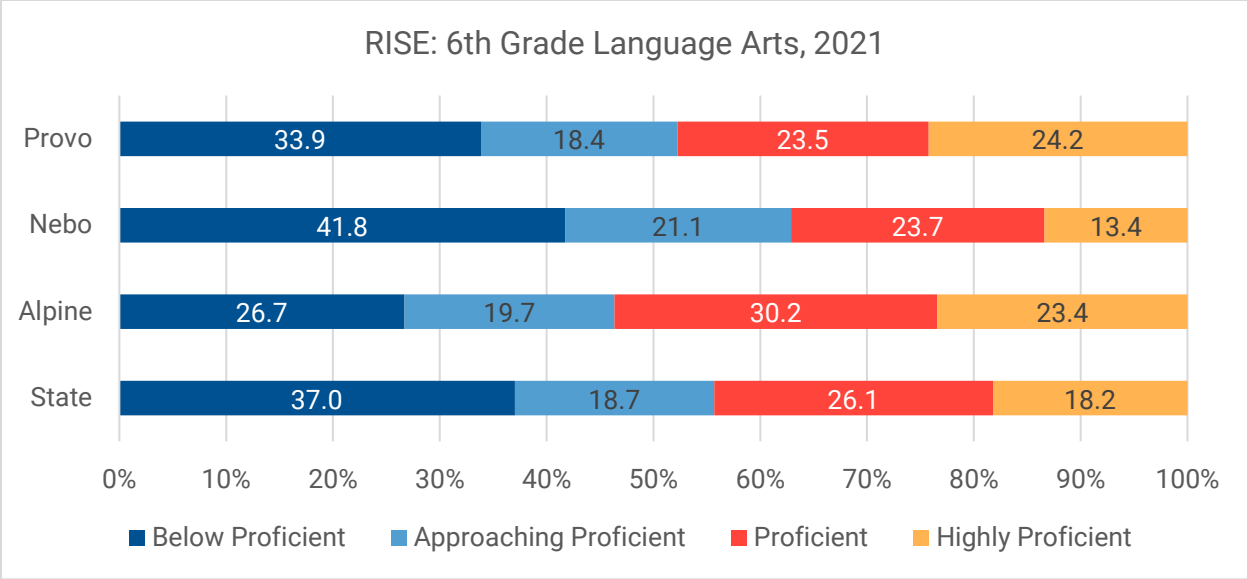
<sup>144</sup> Ibid.



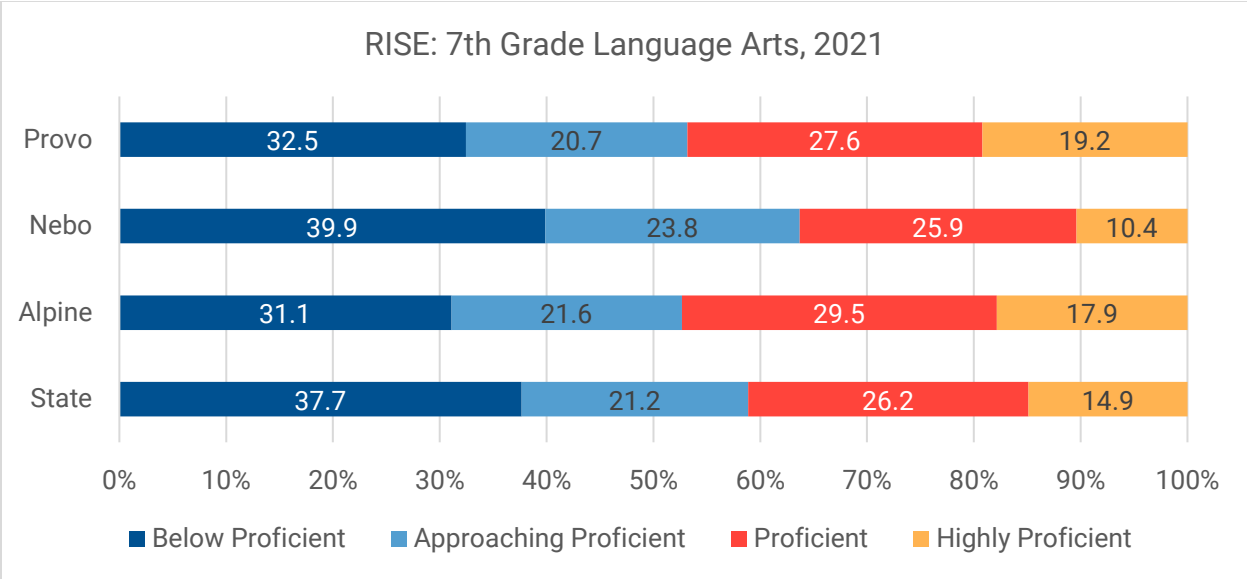
**Figure 128: RISE: 4th Grade Language Arts, 2021**



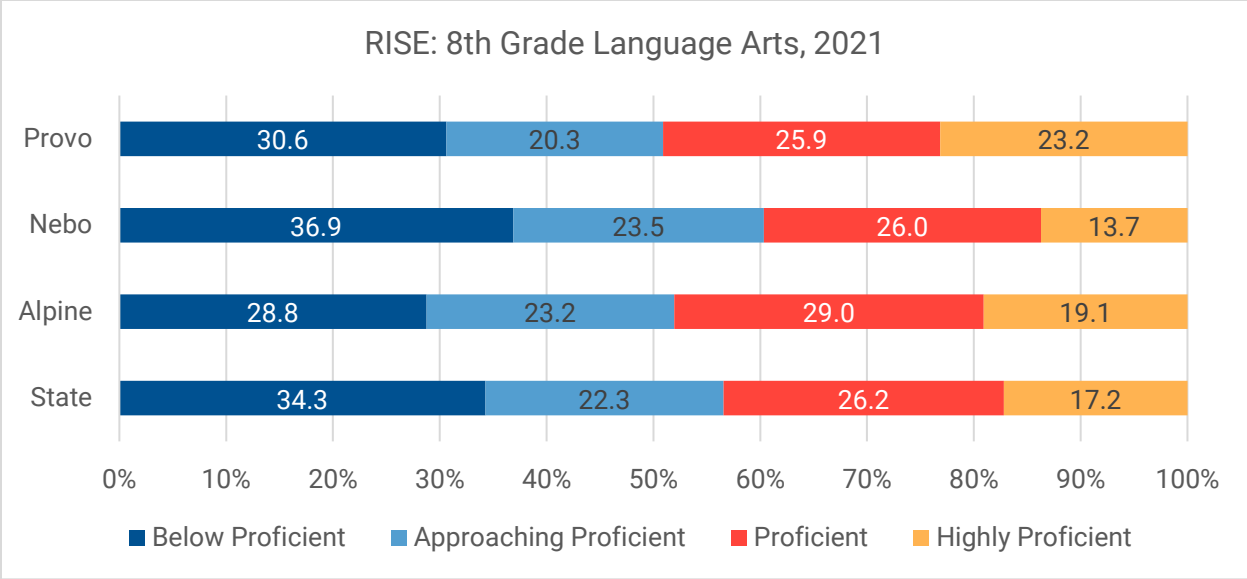
**Figure 129: RISE: 5th Grade Language Arts, 2021**



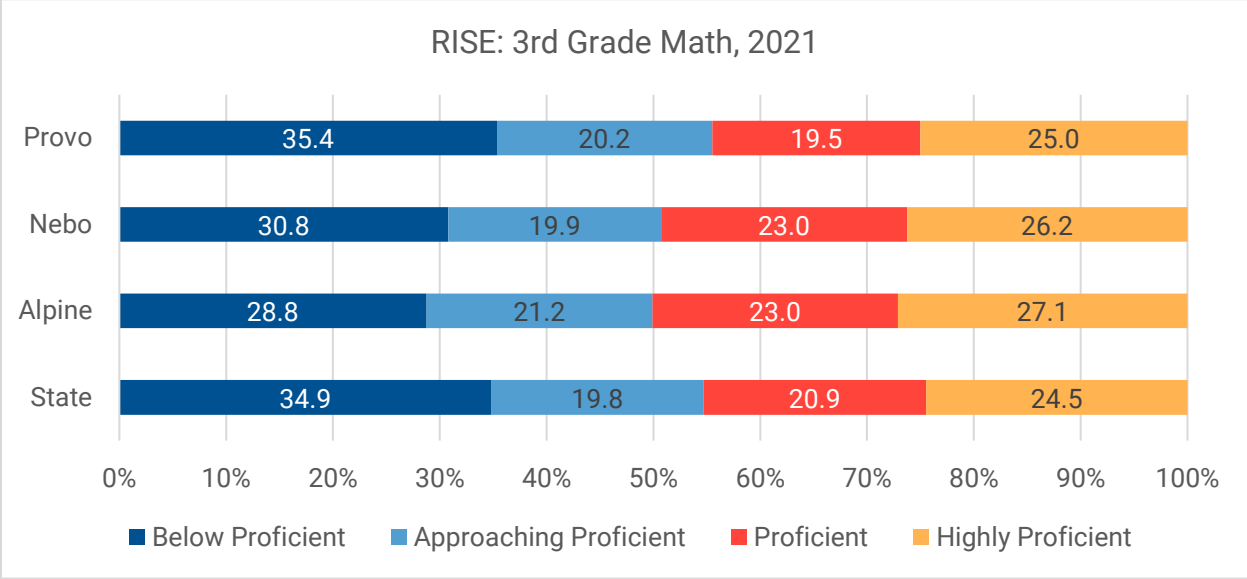
**Figure 130: RISE: 6th Grade Language Arts, 2021**



**Figure 131: RISE: 7th Grade Language Arts, 2021**

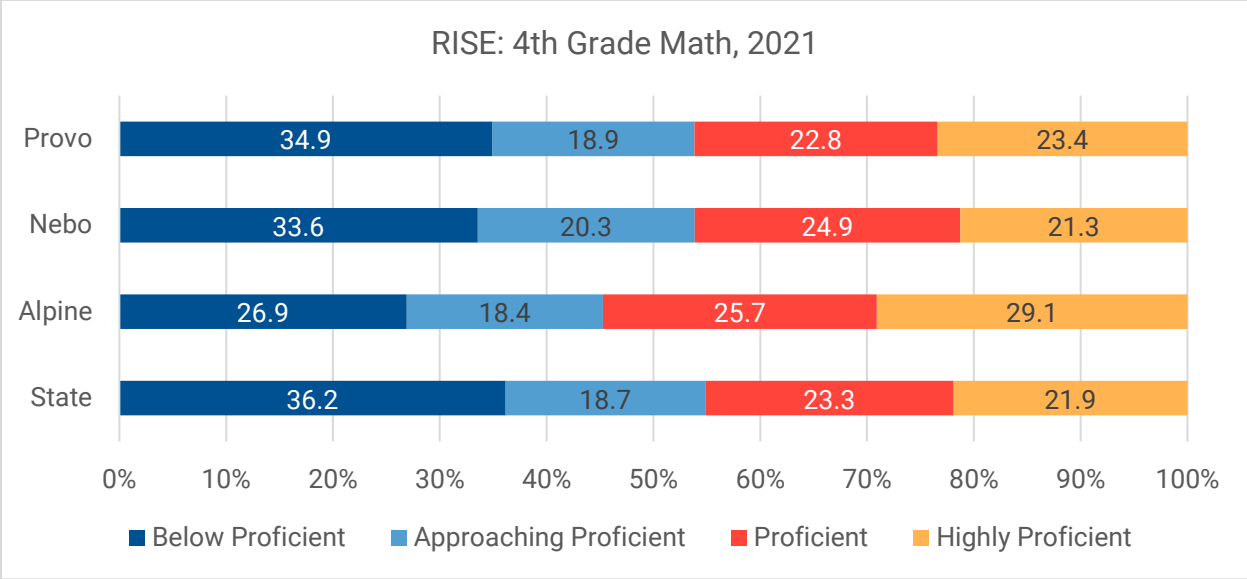


**Figure 132: RISE: 8th Grade Language Arts, 2021**

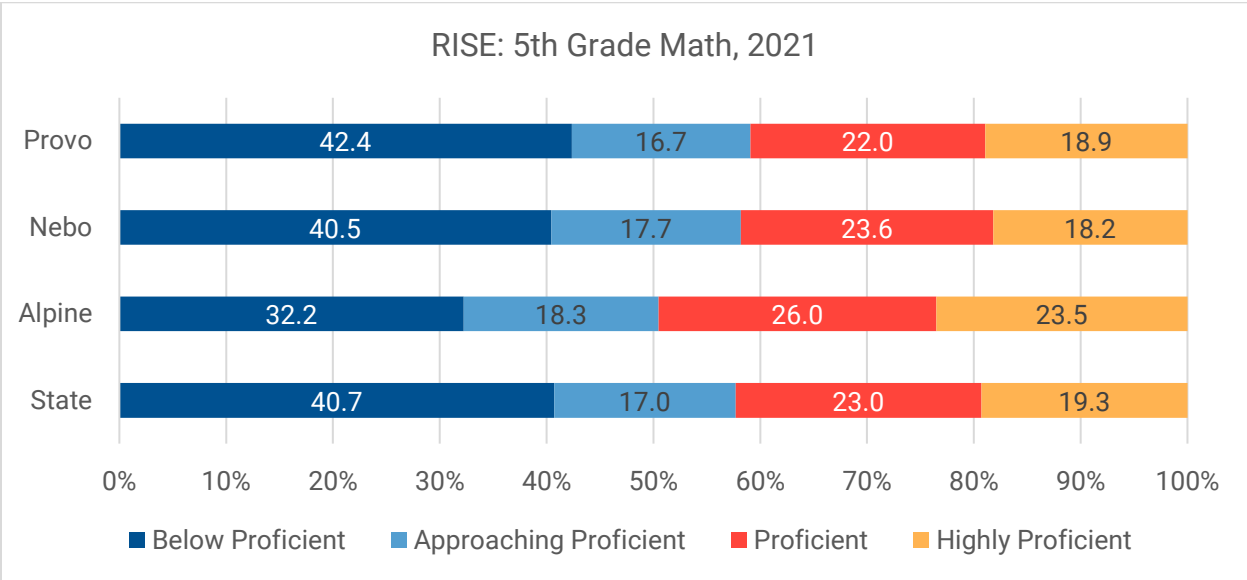


**Figure 133: RISE: 3rd Grade Math, 2021**

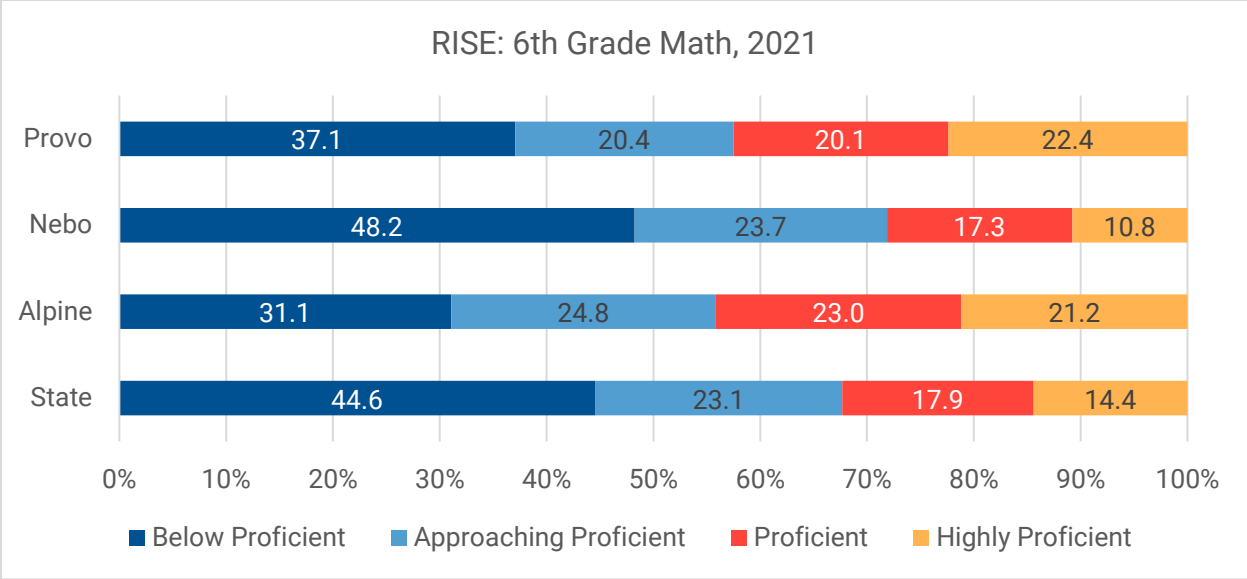




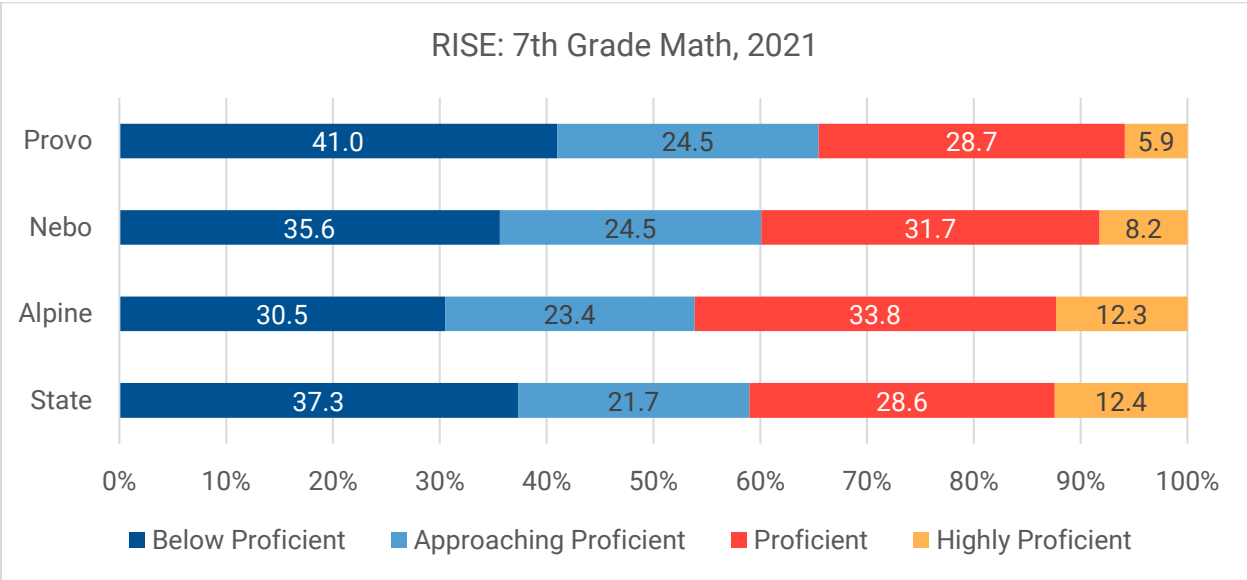
**Figure 134: RISE: 4th Grade Math, 2021**



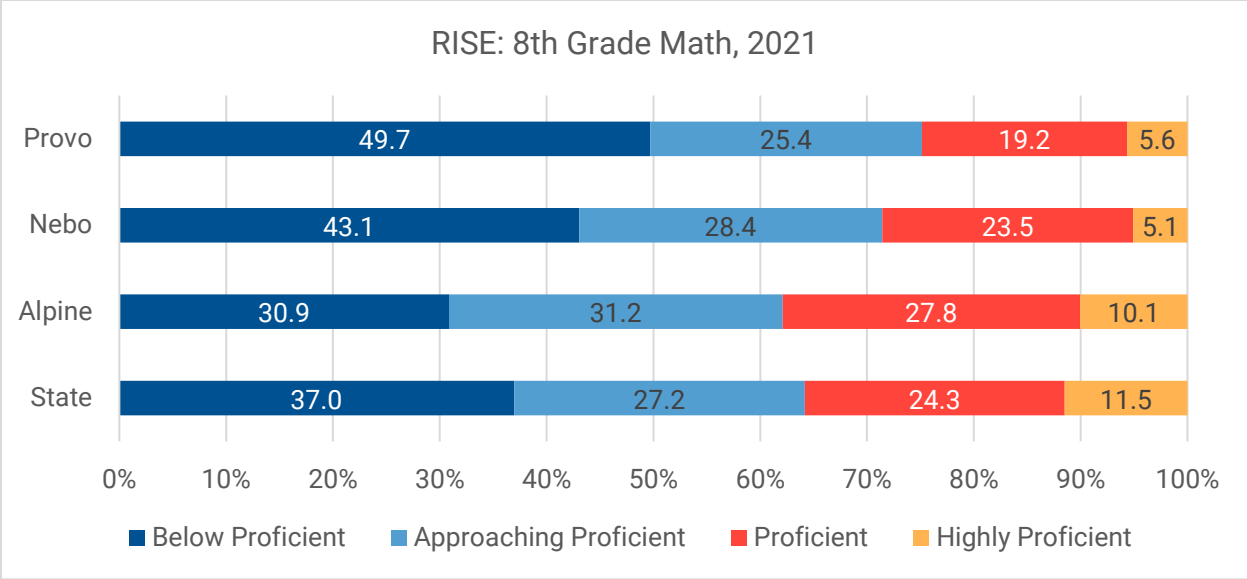
**Figure 135: RISE: 5th Grade Math, 2021**



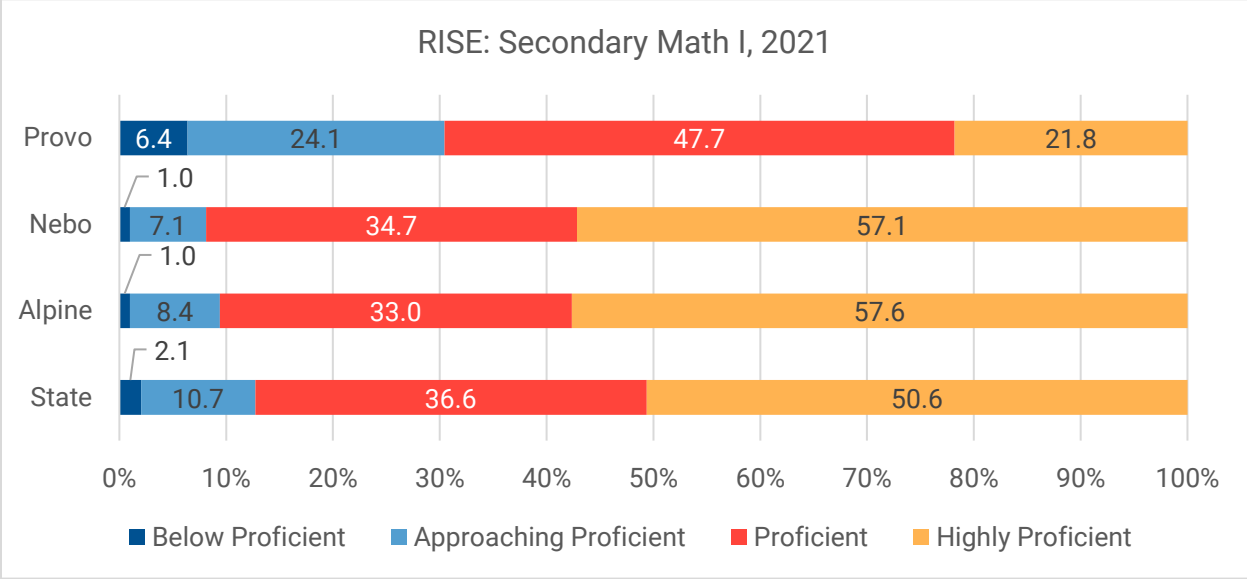
**Figure 136: RISE: 6th Grade Math, 2021**



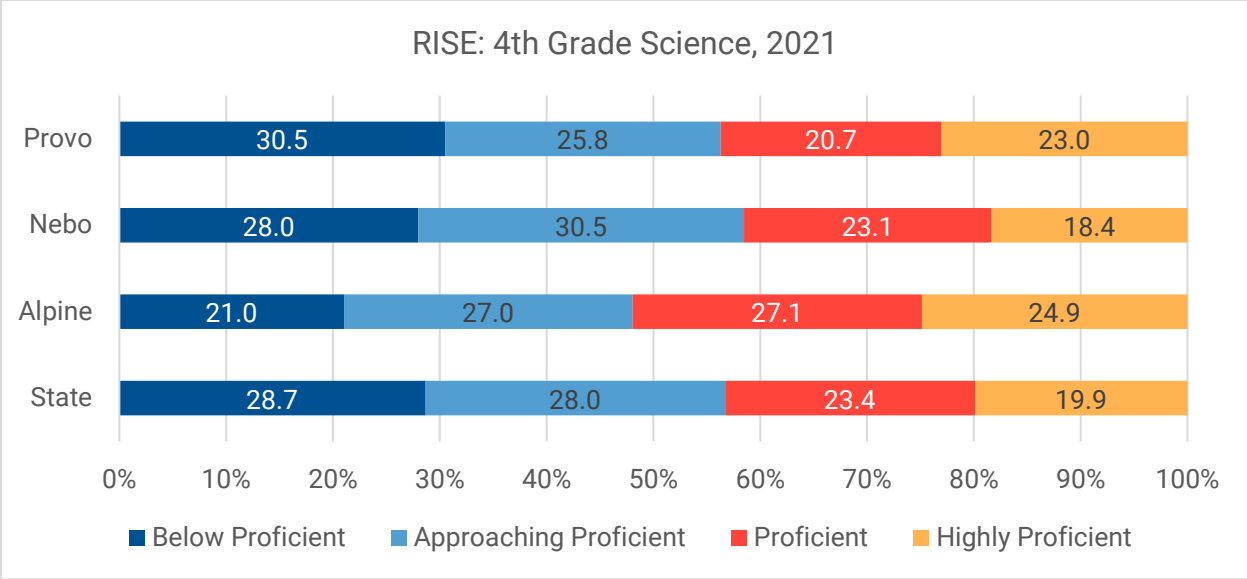
**Figure 137: RISE: 7th Grade Math, 2021**



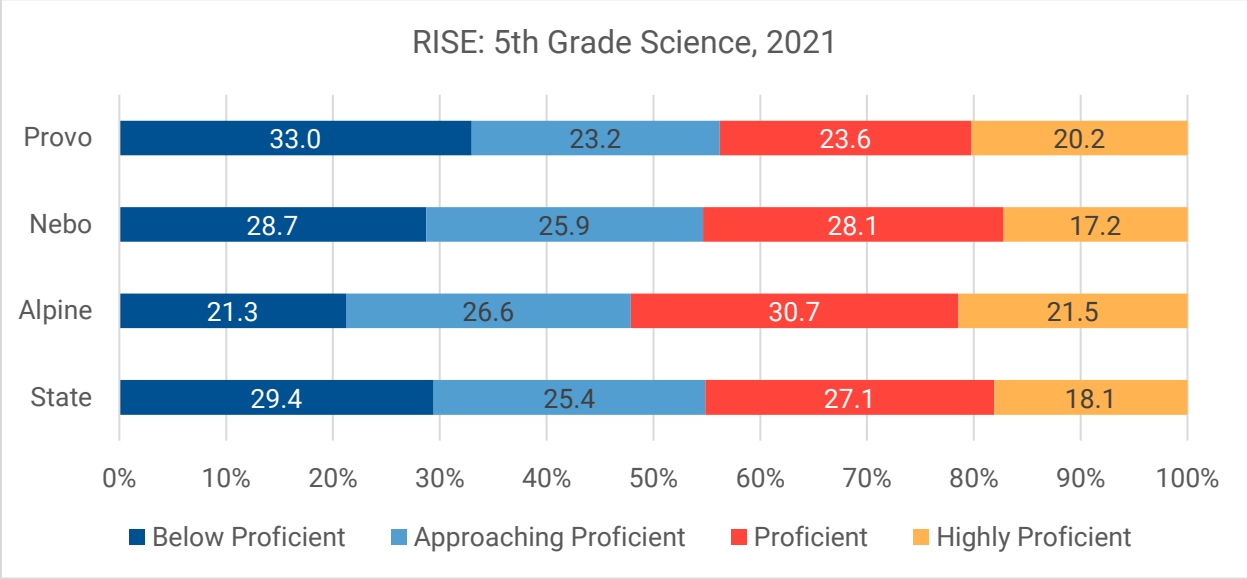
**Figure 138: RISE: 8th Grade Math, 2021**



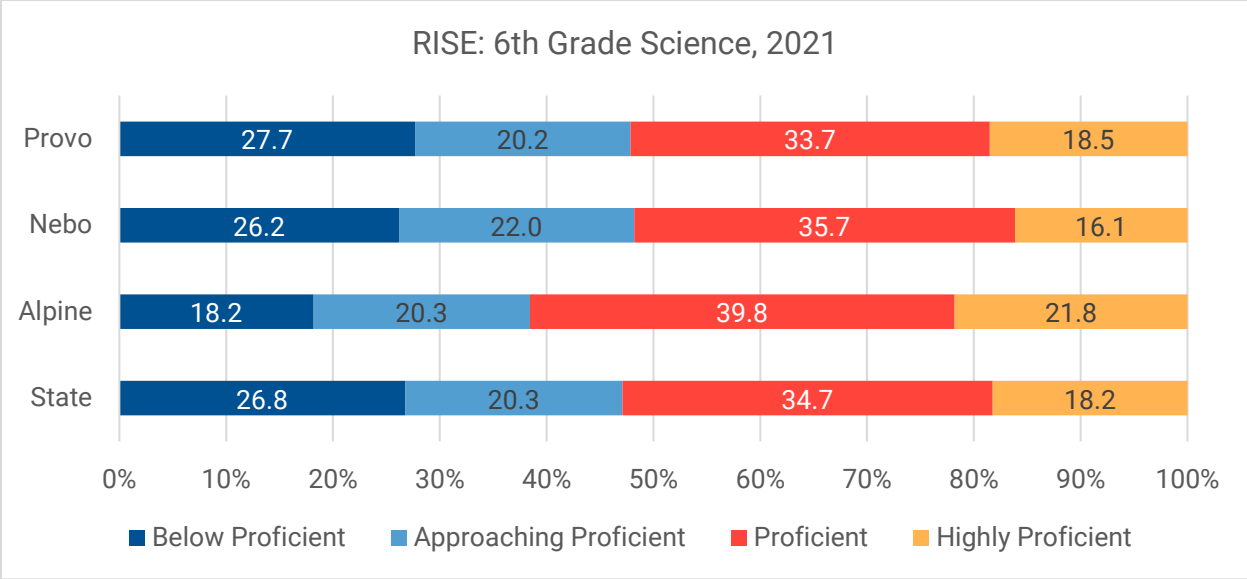
**Figure 139: RISE: Secondary Math I, 2021**



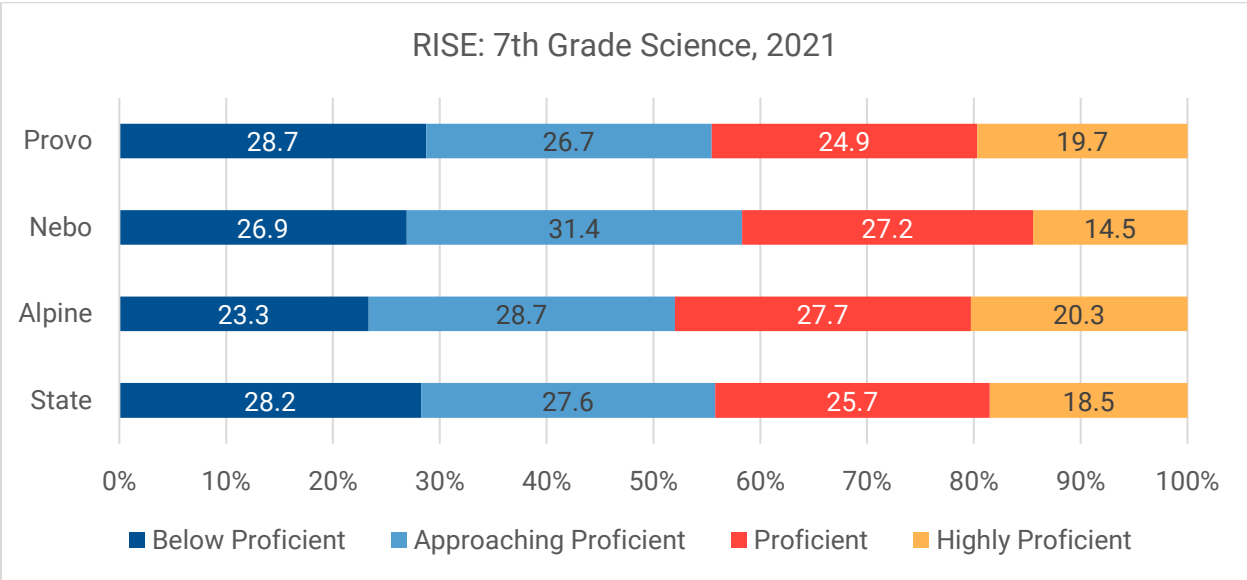
**Figure 140: RISE: 4th Grade Science, 2021**



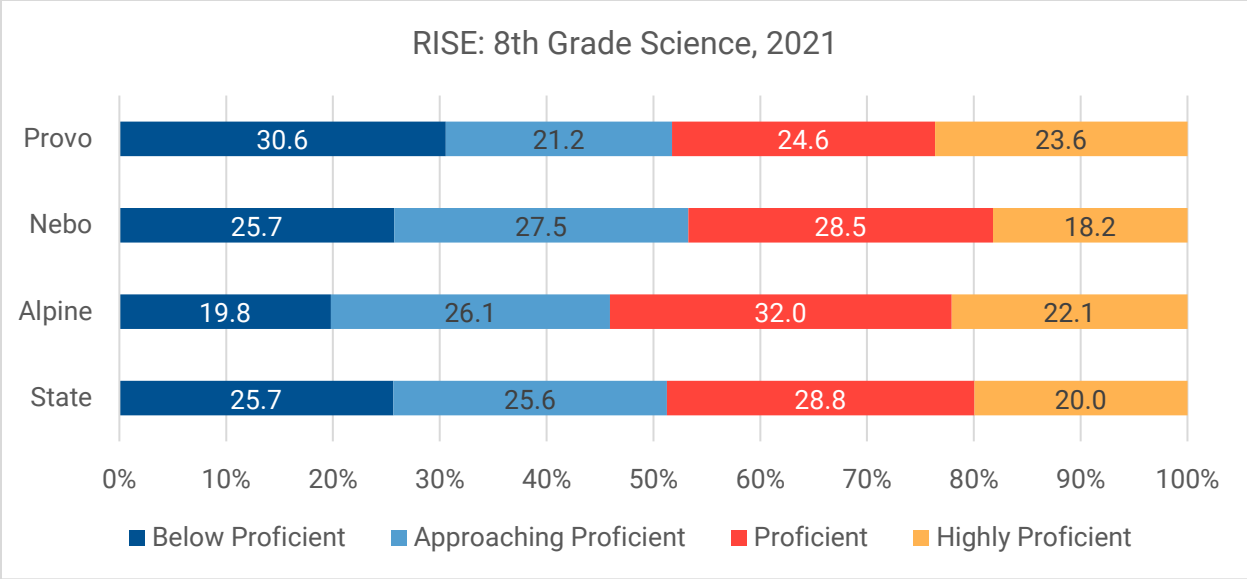
**Figure 141: RISE: 5th Grade Science, 2021**



**Figure 142: RISE: 6th Grade Science, 2021**



**Figure 143: RISE: 7th Grade Science, 2021**



**Figure 144: RISE: 8th Grade Science, 2021**

### 2.2.7.7.2.1 RISE Performance Among Demographic Groups

RISE proficiency rates are also reported by various demographic groups. These groups include race and ethnicity, students living with low incomes, students with disabilities, and English learner students. The tables below provide this data for each of the school districts.<sup>145</sup>

**Table 28: 3rd Grade Language Arts: Percent Proficient, 2021**

3rd Grade Language Arts: Percent Proficient, 2021											
	All Students	African American or Black	American Indian	Asian	Hispanic/Latino	Multiple Races	Pacific Islander	White	Low Income	Students with Disabilities	
<b>Alpine</b>	50.5	20-29	<20	47.6	30.4	51.9	36.8	54.1	34.8	24.3	17.3
<b>Nebo</b>	44.4	20-29	N<10	N<10	24.8	43.8	<20	48.1	36.3	24.2	15.1
<b>Provo</b>	44.3	N<10	N<10	50-59	14.3	50-59	30-39	58.1	22.3	24.8	14.8
<b>State</b>	42.7	20.7	15.3	43.0	22.2	46.8	20.0	48.7	26.7	21.1	15.6

**Table 29: 4th Grade Language Arts: Percent Proficient, 2021**

4th Grade Language Arts: Percent Proficient, 2021											
	All Students	African American or Black	American Indian	Asian	Hispanic/Latino	Multiple Races	Pacific Islander	White	Low Income	Students with Disabilities	English Learners
<b>Alpine</b>	46.9	10-19	N<10	54.9	25.4	49.4	19.7	50.8	29.6	22.4	13.4
<b>Nebo</b>	36.4	<20	N<10	N<10	18.2	39.1	<10	40.2	28.4	17.2	8.6
<b>Provo</b>	41.1	30-39	N<10	40-49	16.0	50-59	10-19	55.7	22.8	15.7	17.2
<b>State</b>	37.9	17.8	12.7	41.7	17.3	38.3	15.3	44.4	22.6	16.9	12.5

<sup>145</sup> Ibid. Note the idiosyncrasies in reporting small groups. Data for groups with fewer than ten students is reported as "n<10." For groups with fewer than forty students, percentages are obscured by providing the range within which the percentage falls (e.g., 43 would display as 40-49). Percentages that are close to 100 or 0 are also not reported; this is indicated by a ≤ or ≥ (e.g., ≥95).

Table 30: 5th Grade Language Arts: Percent Proficient, 2021

5th Grade Language Arts: Percent Proficient, 2021											
	All Students	African American or Black	American Indian	Asian	Hispanic/Latino	Multiple Races	Pacific Islander	White	Low Income	Students with Disabilities	English Learners
<b>Alpine</b>	53.6	20-29	20-29	57.7	32.9	50.0	27.2	58.1	38.3	16.2	20.9
<b>Nebo</b>	41.8	30-39	N<10	N<10	19.1	50.6	40-49	45.2	26.9	14.4	13.0
<b>Provo</b>	48.5	30-39	N<10	60-69	25.6	40-49	20-29	61.4	31.2	20.1	22.5
<b>State</b>	44.1	24.1	18.9	48.3	23.3	45.3	22.6	50.5	27.4	16.4	17.5

Table 31: 6th Grade Language Arts: Percent Proficient, 2021

6th Grade Language Arts: Percent Proficient, 2021											
	All Students	African American or Black	American Indian	Asian	Hispanic/Latino	Multiple Races	Pacific Islander	White	Low Income	Students with Disabilities	English Learners
<b>Alpine</b>	53.6	20-29	20-29	57.7	32.9	50.0	27.2	58.1	38.3	16.2	20.9
<b>Nebo</b>	37.1	20-29	N<10	N<10	19.5	40.8	<20	40.7	26.8	9.8	9.4
<b>Provo</b>	47.8	N<10	N<10	50-59	23.4	58.5	40-49	61.5	30.2	13.2	20.6
<b>State</b>	44.3	20.0	17.6	47.2	22.6	46.4	23.2	51.1	27.9	12.8	15.4



Table 32: 7th Grade Language Arts: Percent Proficient, 2021

7th Grade Language Arts: Percent Proficient, 2021											
	All Students	African American or Black	American Indian	Asian	Hispanic/Latino	Multiple Races	Pacific Islander	White	Low Income	Students with Disabilities	English Learners
<b>Alpine</b>	47.3	17.0	20-29	41.7	30.3	51.9	23.7	50.5	31.9	11.4	9.5
<b>Nebo</b>	36.3	<20	<20	N<10	20.9	39.6	<20	39.2	25.3	7.1	8.0
<b>Provo</b>	46.8	N<10	N<10	70-79	24.2	60-69	20-29	56.1	29.8	6.0	14.9
<b>State</b>	41.1	20.4	17.5	46.9	21.6	43.8	19.3	47.0	26.2	9.5	10.9

Table 33: 8th Grade Language Arts: Percent Proficient, 2021

8th Grade Language Arts: Percent Proficient, 2021											
	All Students	African American or Black	American Indian	Asian	Hispanic/Latino	Multiple Races	Pacific Islander	White	Low Income	Students with Disabilities	English Learners
<b>Alpine</b>	48.1	22.0	20-29	63.8	29.9	46.1	17.4	51.5	33.6	6.5	7.5
<b>Nebo</b>	39.7	<20	<20	50-59	21.6	54.1	<20	42.4	27.4	11.4	<5
<b>Provo</b>	49.1	N<10	N<10	N<10	24.7	60-69	20-29	61.8	24.9	5.6	9.9
<b>State</b>	43.4	22.2	20.2	50.1	23.3	44.8	20.4	49.3	28.1	8.4	8.8

Table 34: 3rd Grade Math: Percent Proficient, 2021

3rd Grade Math: Percent Proficient, 2021											
	All Students	African American or Black	American Indian	Asian	Hispanic/Latino	Multiple Races	Pacific Islander	White	Low Income	Students with Disabilities	English Learners
<b>Alpine</b>	50.1	20-29	20-29	54.8	24.6	46.9	37.3	54.5	33.1	28.0	15.5
<b>Nebo</b>	49.3	20-29	N<10	N<10	27.3	46.3	<20	53.6	39.6	32.5	15.8
<b>Provo</b>	44.5	N<10	N<10	60-69	13.1	50-59	20-29	59.4	21.2	25.6	14.8
<b>State</b>	45.3	19.5	11.8	50.1	22.2	46.5	19.7	52.2	28.6	24.5	17.8

Table 35: 4th Grade Math: Percent Proficient, 2021

4th Grade Math: Percent Proficient, 2021											
	All Students	African American or Black	American Indian	Asian	Hispanic/Latino	Multiple Races	Pacific Islander	White	Low Income	Students with Disabilities	English Learners
<b>Alpine</b>	54.7	10-19	N<10	67.3	31.4	55.9	27.6	59.1	36.4	27.5	22.7
<b>Nebo</b>	46.1	20-29	N<10	N<10	23.5	50.0	<10	50.8	33.2	27.1	12.9
<b>Provo</b>	46.2	40-49	N<10	60-69	19.1	50-59	20-29	60.7	27.6	19.4	21.2
<b>State</b>	45.1	19.8	15.5	53.1	21.6	44.6	19.4	52.5	27.8	22.5	17.3

Table 36: 5th Grade Math: Percent Proficient, 2021

5th Grade Math: Percent Proficient, 2021											
	All Students	African American or Black	American Indian	Asian	Hispanic/Latino	Multiple Races	Pacific Islander	White	Low Income	Students with Disabilities	English Learners
<b>Alpine</b>	49.5	20-29	30-39	56.1	27.1	47.5	27.2	53.7	32.8	22.6	19.6
<b>Nebo</b>	41.8	<20	N<10	N<10	17.6	50.6	40-49	45.6	26.1	14.2	10.9
<b>Provo</b>	40.9	<20	N<10	70-79	20.8	40-49	30-39	51.0	28.0	19.4	20.5
<b>State</b>	42.3	15.4	14.9	51.0	19.1	42.5	19.9	49.4	25.1	17.3	15.6

Table 37: 6th Grade Math: Percent Proficient, 2021

6th Grade Math: Percent Proficient, 2021											
	All Students	African American or Black	American Indian	Asian	Hispanic/Latino	Multiple Races	Pacific Islander	White	Low Income	Students with Disabilities	English Learners
<b>Alpine</b>	44.1	<10	20-29	53.8	22.4	44.0	23.8	48.4	29.3	13.4	14.4
<b>Nebo</b>	28.1	<20	N<10	N<10	8.7	26.8	30-39	32.1	17.8	7.1	6.3
<b>Provo</b>	42.5	N<10	N<10	70-79	17.7	54.8	30-39	55.2	23.6	10.5	15.3
<b>State</b>	32.3	10.2	10.9	38.8	12.6	33.6	16.0	38.3	17.6	8.8	8.7

Table 38: 7th Grade Math: Percent Proficient, 2021

7th Grade Math: Percent Proficient, 2021											
	All Students	African American or Black	American Indian	Asian	Hispanic/Latino	Multiple Races	Pacific Islander	White	Low Income	Students with Disabilities	English Learners
<b>Alpine</b>	46.1	8.7	30-39	48.8	24.6	48.5	22.1	50.0	27.2	12.8	8.5
<b>Nebo</b>	39.9	<20	<20	N<10	20.4	44.4	<20	43.7	29.5	7.2	11.9
<b>Provo</b>	34.5	N<10	N<10	N<10	18.6	50-59	20-29	42.1	21.2	5.4	12.5
<b>State</b>	41.0	12.8	13.3	47.9	18.8	42.0	16.6	48.0	24.8	10.1	10.2

Table 39: 8th Grade Math: Percent Proficient, 2021

8th Grade Math: Percent Proficient, 2021											
	All Students	African American or Black	American Indian	Asian	Hispanic/Latino	Multiple Races	Pacific Islander	White	Low Income	Students with Disabilities	English Learners
<b>Alpine</b>	37.9	10-19	<20	40.0	19.6	35.9	13.2	41.6	23.7	8.2	6.0
<b>Nebo</b>	28.6	N<10	<20	30-39	8.8	36.8	20-29	31.8	18.3	7.0	<5
<b>Provo</b>	24.9	N<10	N<10	20-29	10.2	30-39	10-19	34.0	15.3	6.4	8.1
<b>State</b>	35.8	13.3	13.5	40.9	15.0	33.5	14.3	42.2	21.2	7.2	6.1

Table 40: Secondary Math I: Percent Proficient, 2021

Secondary Math I: Percent Proficient, 2021											
	All Students	African American or Black	American Indian	Asian	Hispanic/Latino	Multiple Races	Pacific Islander	White	Low Income	Students with Disabilities	English Learners
<b>Alpine</b>	90.6	N<10	N<10	>=90	70-79	>=90	N<10	90.4	87.5	70-79	0.0
<b>Nebo</b>	91.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	N<10	N<10	0.0	91.8	80-89	N<10	0.0
<b>Provo</b>	69.5	N<10	N<10	N<10	60-69	60-69	N<10	70.2	60-69	N<10	N<10
<b>State</b>	87.3	70-79	N<10	92.4	70.5	87.9	60-69	88.4	81.2	78.0	60-69

Table 41: 4th Grade Science: Percent Proficient, 2021

4th Grade Science: Percent Proficient, 2021											
	All Students	African American or Black	American Indian	Asian	Hispanic/Latino	Multiple Races	Pacific Islander	White	Low Income	Students with Disabilities	English Learners
<b>Alpine</b>	51.9	10-19	40-49	61.5	29.9	51.2	25.0	56.2	35.0	27.9	18.2
<b>Nebo</b>	41.5	<20	N<10	N<10	21.8	40.4	<10	46.0	30.2	23.5	9.9
<b>Provo</b>	43.7	30-39	N<10	30-39	20.1	50-59	10-19	58.2	28.4	21.6	20.3
<b>State</b>	43.3	18.0	19.2	48.3	21.5	43.8	17.6	50.2	27.6	22.2	16.6

Table 42: 5th Grade Science: Percent Proficient, 2021

5th Grade Science: Percent Proficient, 2021											
	All Students	African American or Black	American Indian	Asian	Hispanic/Latino	Multiple Races	Pacific Islander	White	Low Income	Students with Disabilities	English Learners
<b>Alpine</b>	52.1	20-29	40-49	54.4	30.2	48.5	19.5	56.6	35.3	25.1	18.2
<b>Nebo</b>	45.3	<20	N<10	N<10	21.2	54.0	<20	49.4	30.3	17.9	13.7
<b>Provo</b>	43.8	<20	N<10	50-59	21.4	30-39	10-19	57.7	26.5	21.6	19.1
<b>State</b>	45.1	22.1	20.2	51.6	23.3	44.8	16.7	52.0	28.5	20.2	17.4

Table 43: 6th Grade Science: Percent Proficient, 2021

6th Grade Science: Percent Proficient, 2021											
	All Students	African American or Black	American Indian	Asian	Hispanic/Latino	Multiple Races	Pacific Islander	White	Low Income	Students with Disabilities	English Learners
<b>Alpine</b>	61.6	20-29	30-39	53.8	41.3	55.8	31.3	66.3	46.8	24.4	32.4
<b>Nebo</b>	51.8	40-49	N<10	N<10	27.5	56.3	40-49	56.4	39.4	17.7	19.9
<b>Provo</b>	52.1	N<10	N<10	50-59	28.2	58.5	40-49	66.1	34.8	15.0	23.6
<b>State</b>	52.9	24.4	26.1	55.3	29.9	54.8	28.3	60.2	36.6	20.0	23.0

Table 44: 7th Grade Science: Percent Proficient, 2021

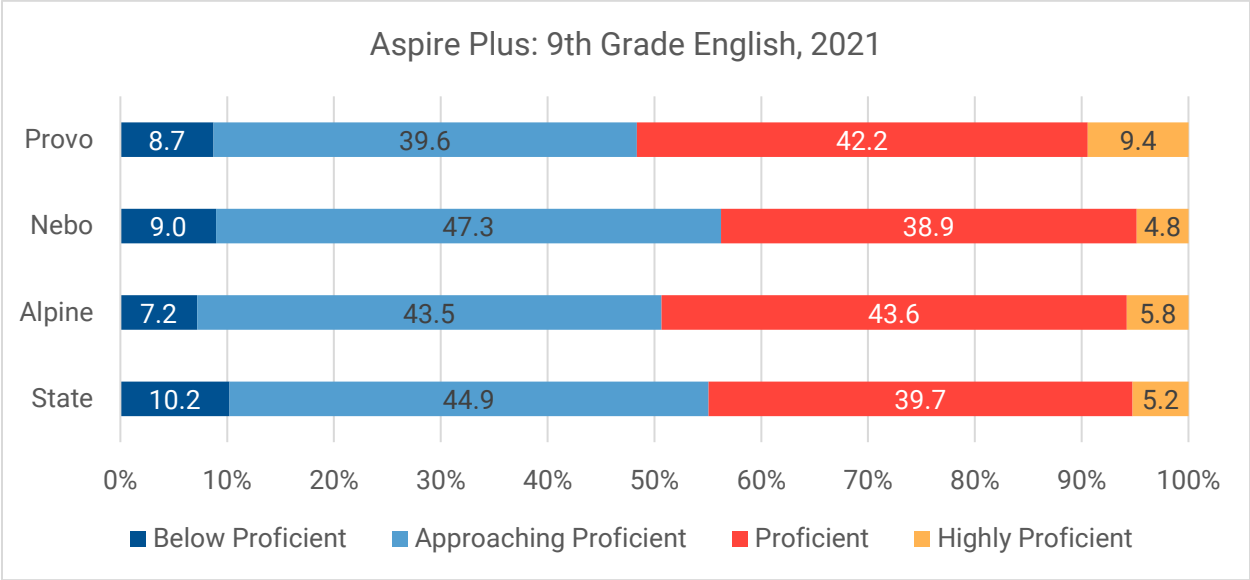
7th Grade Science: Percent Proficient, 2021											
	All Students	African American or Black	American Indian	Asian	Hispanic/Latino	Multiple Races	Pacific Islander	White	Low Income	Students with Disabilities	English Learners
<b>Alpine</b>	48.0	20.4	20-29	40.4	28.3	50.0	23.3	51.7	31.4	13.5	11.1
<b>Nebo</b>	41.7	<20	N<10	N<10	22.2	44.4	20-29	45.5	31.3	9.5	9.9
<b>Provo</b>	44.6	N<10	N<10	60-69	20.0	60-69	20-29	55.1	27.1	7.3	16.7
<b>State</b>	44.2	18.8	18.0	50.3	22.3	46.3	19.2	50.9	28.5	13.0	12.9

Table 45: 8th Grade Science: Percent Proficient, 2021

8th Grade Science: Percent Proficient, 2021											
	All Students	African American or Black	American Indian	Asian	Hispanic/Latino	Multiple Races	Pacific Islander	White	Low Income	Students with Disabilities	English Learners
<b>Alpine</b>	54.1	29.3	30-39	61.8	30.5	56.0	22.1	58.2	38.8	16.9	12.7
<b>Nebo</b>	46.7	<20	<20	>=80	20.9	56.0	30-39	50.8	32.1	14.7	6.6
<b>Provo</b>	48.3	30-39	20-29	N<10	19.7	60-69	10-19	64.9	26.5	11.1	9.4
<b>State</b>	48.7	22.6	22.3	56.4	24.4	48.2	23.3	56.0	31.3	14.4	11.5

**2.2.7.7.3 Utah Aspire Plus Performance**

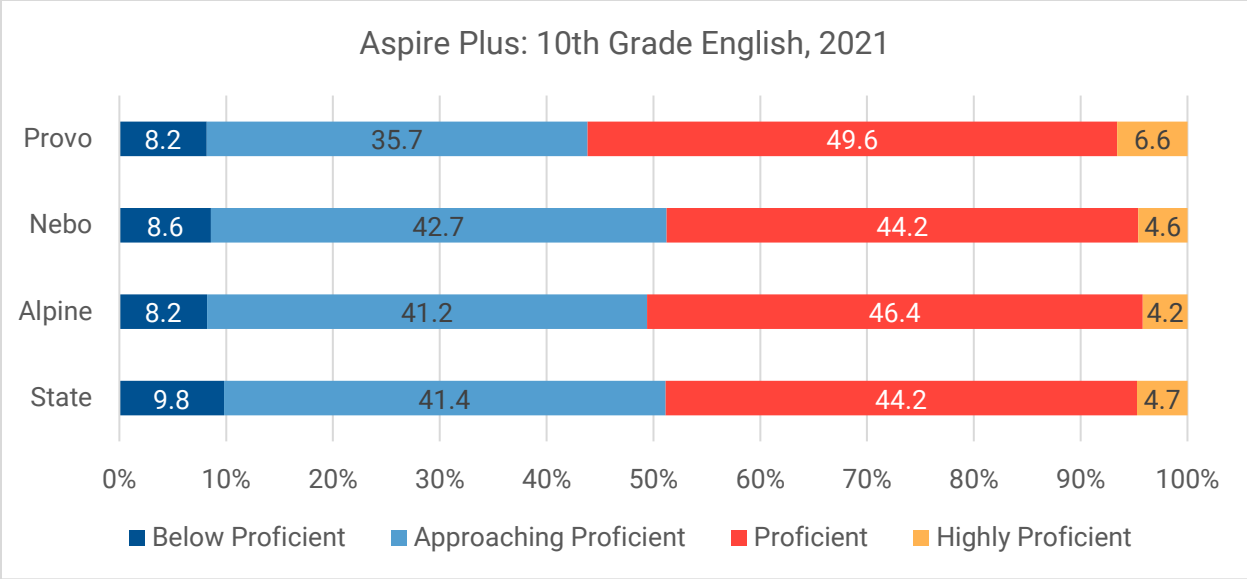
The Utah Aspire Plus assessment is a combination of the ACT Aspire and Utah Core test. It is administered to students at the end of grades 9 and 10, and measures competencies in reading, English, mathematics, and science; it also provides students with predicted ACT scores. The following are 2021 results for each of three Utah County districts and the state.<sup>146</sup>



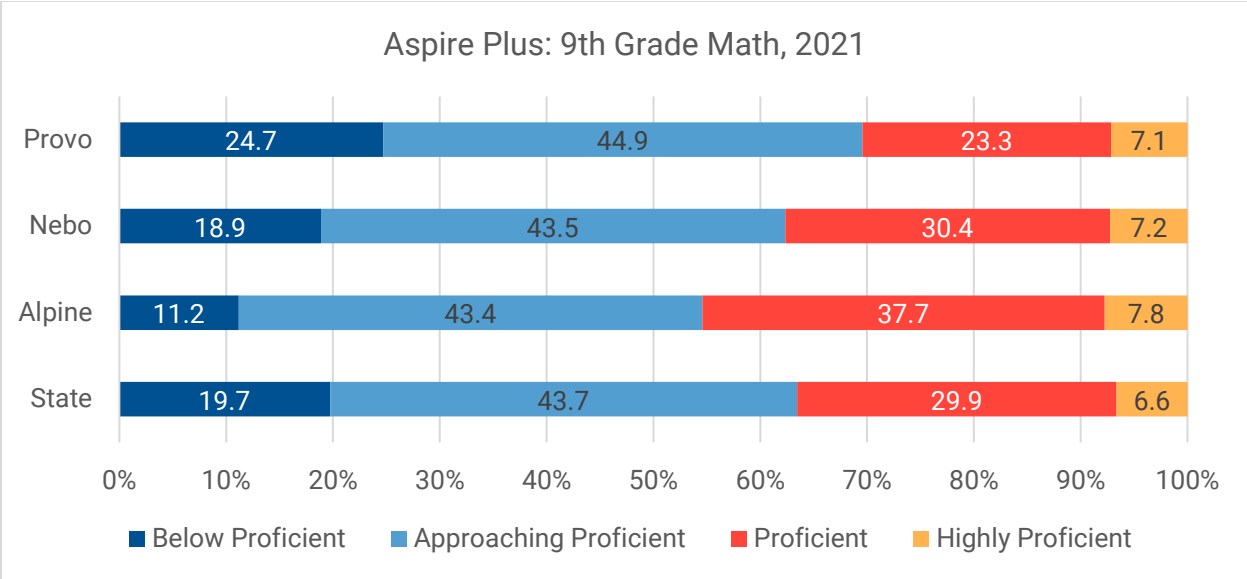
**Figure 145: Aspire Plus: 9th Grade English, 2021**

<sup>146</sup> Utah State Board of Education, Aspire Plus Dataset

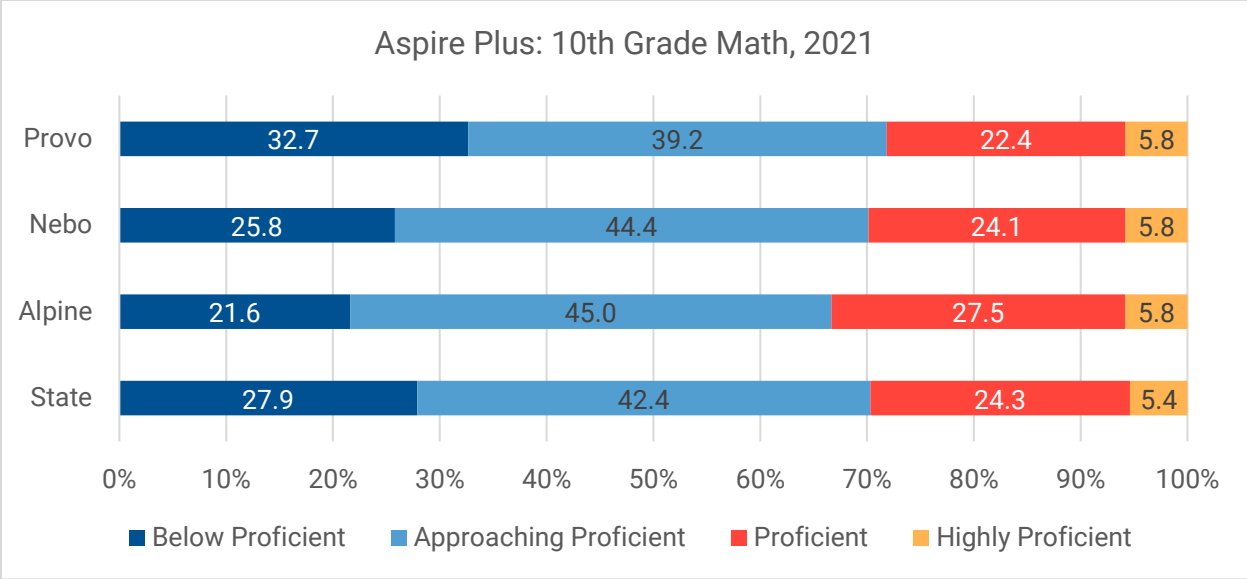




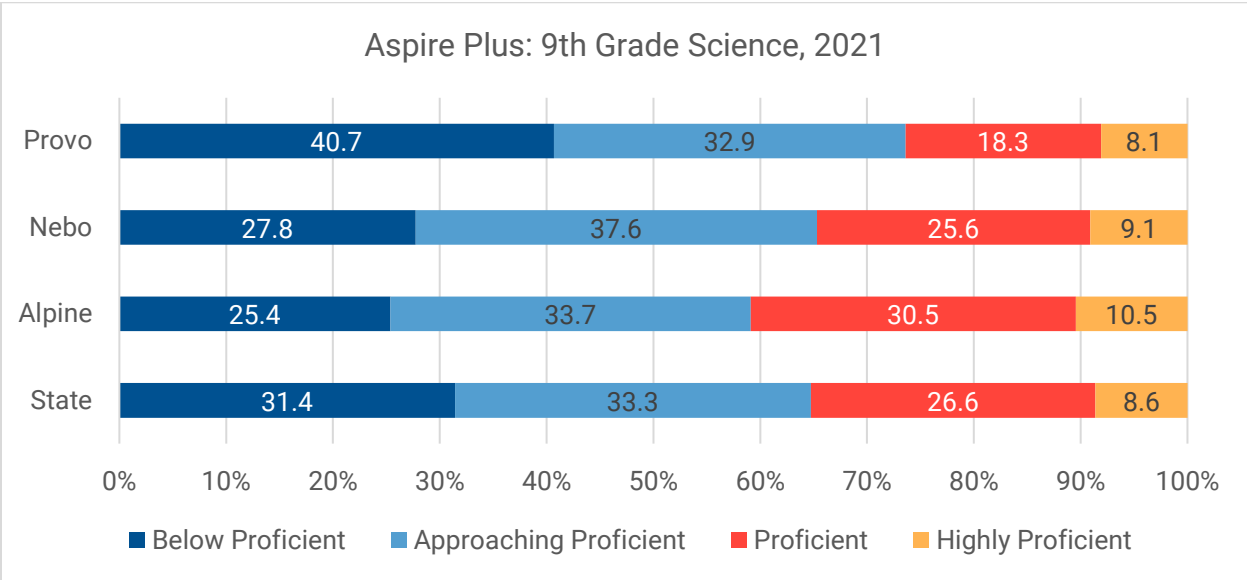
**Figure 146: Aspire Plus: 10th Grade English, 2021**



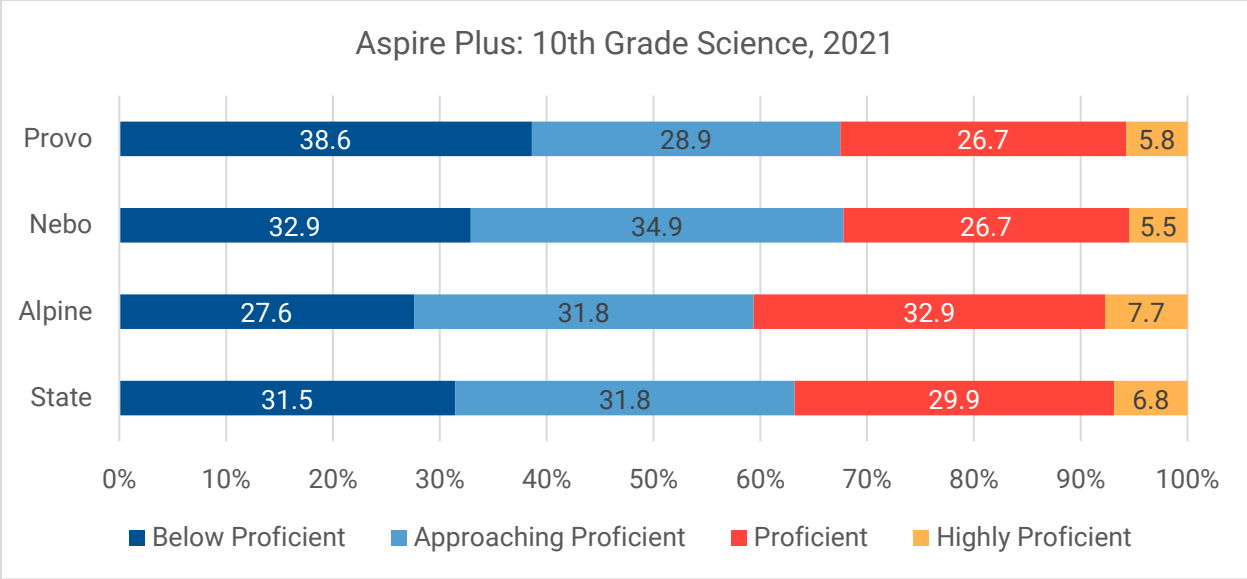
**Figure 147: Aspire Plus: 9th Grade Math, 2021**



**Figure 148: Aspire Plus: 10th Grade Math, 2021**



**Figure 149: Aspire Plus: 9th Grade Science, 2021**



**Figure 150: Aspire Plus: 10th Grade Science, 2021**

### 2.2.7.7.3.1 Utah Aspire Plus Performance Among Demographic Groups

The State Board of Education reports Utah Aspire Plus proficiency rates by various demographic groups as well. The tables below provide this data for each of the school districts and state.<sup>147</sup>

**Table 46: 9th Grade English: Percent Proficient, 2021**

9th Grade English: Percent Proficient, 2021											
	All Students	African American or Black	American Indian	Asian	Hispanic/Latino	Multiple Races	Pacific Islander	White	Low Income	Students with Disabilities	English Learners
<b>Alpine</b>	49.3	10-19	<20	50-59	28.7	44.8	28.3	53.5	36.4	5.8	4.6
<b>Nebo</b>	43.8	<20	N<10	N<10	23.8	54.1	<20	47.0	32.2	4.9	7.4
<b>Provo</b>	51.7	N<10	N<10	70-79	26.8	60-69	40-49	61.1	35.2	<5	14.9
<b>State</b>	44.9	19.6	21.6	52.8	23.0	45.8	23.6	50.5	28.4	7.6	7.1

**Table 47: 10th Grade English: Percent Proficient, 2021**

10th Grade English: Percent Proficient, 2021											
	All Students	African American or Black	American Indian	Asian	Hispanic/Latino	Multiple Races	Pacific Islander	White	Low Income	Students with Disabilities	English Learners
<b>Alpine</b>	50.6	20-29	30-39	50-59	30.5	49.5	20-29	53.6	37.2	9.7	5.9
<b>Nebo</b>	48.8	N<10	N<10	N<10	30.0	59.0	20-29	51.7	36.6	11.0	<10
<b>Provo</b>	56.2	N<10	N<10	60-69	26.5	50-59	50-59	69.4	34.4	13.6	16.0
<b>State</b>	48.9	23.2	20.3	59.0	26.3	48.9	23.7	54.4	31.3	9.4	6.9

<sup>147</sup> Ibid. Note the idiosyncrasies in reporting small groups. Data for groups with fewer than ten students is reported as "n<10." For groups with fewer than forty students, percentages are obscured by providing the range within which the percentage falls (e.g., 43 would display as 40-49). Percentages that are close to 100 or 0 are also not reported; this is indicated by a ≤ or ≥ (e.g., ≥95).

Table 48: 9th Grade Math: Percent Proficient, 2021

9th Grade Math: Percent Proficient, 2021											
	All Students	African American or Black	American Indian	Asian	Hispanic/Latino	Multiple Races	Pacific Islander	White	Low Income	Students with Disabilities	English Learners
<b>Alpine</b>	45.4	<10	20-29	50-59	26.6	43.4	16.7	49.0	29.6	8.7	10.5
<b>Nebo</b>	37.7	<20	N<10	N<10	16.2	48.6	20-29	41.0	24.6	5.0	<5
<b>Provo</b>	30.4	N<10	N<10	60-69	9.0	20-29	20-29	39.1	17.5	<5	9.1
<b>State</b>	36.5	8.7	14.5	42.0	14.4	36.6	13.7	42.3	19.9	5.4	4.9

Table 49: 10th Grade Math: Percent Proficient, 2021

10th Grade Math: Percent Proficient, 2021											
	All Students	African American or Black	American Indian	Asian	Hispanic/Latino	Multiple Races	Pacific Islander	White	Low Income	Students with Disabilities	English Learners
<b>Alpine</b>	33.3	<10	30-39	45.0	13.2	30.5	8.7	36.6	19.9	<2	5.0
<b>Nebo</b>	29.9	N<10	N<10	30-39	13.9	34.4	<20	32.7	18.6	2.3	<10
<b>Provo</b>	28.2	N<10	N<10	50-59	8.3	30-39	<20	37.1	12.4	<5	<5
<b>State</b>	29.7	6.5	13.1	37.3	10.7	27.9	8.9	34.5	15.7	3.8	4.2

Table 50: 9th Grade Science: Percent Proficient, 2021

9th Grade Science: Percent Proficient, 2021											
	All Students	African American or Black	American Indian	Asian	Hispanic/Latino	Multiple Races	Pacific Islander	White	Low Income	Students with Disabilities	English Learners
<b>Alpine</b>	40.9	<10	<20	51.2	21.0	38.3	18.3	44.6	28.6	6.3	4.5
<b>Nebo</b>	34.7	<20	N<10	N<10	18.6	39.2	10-19	37.5	24.9	8.0	<5
<b>Provo</b>	26.4	N<10	N<10	30-39	8.5	30-39	10-19	34.7	13.8	<5	5.5
<b>State</b>	35.2	10.0	13.1	41.9	15.3	34.3	12.3	40.6	20.6	7.3	4.1

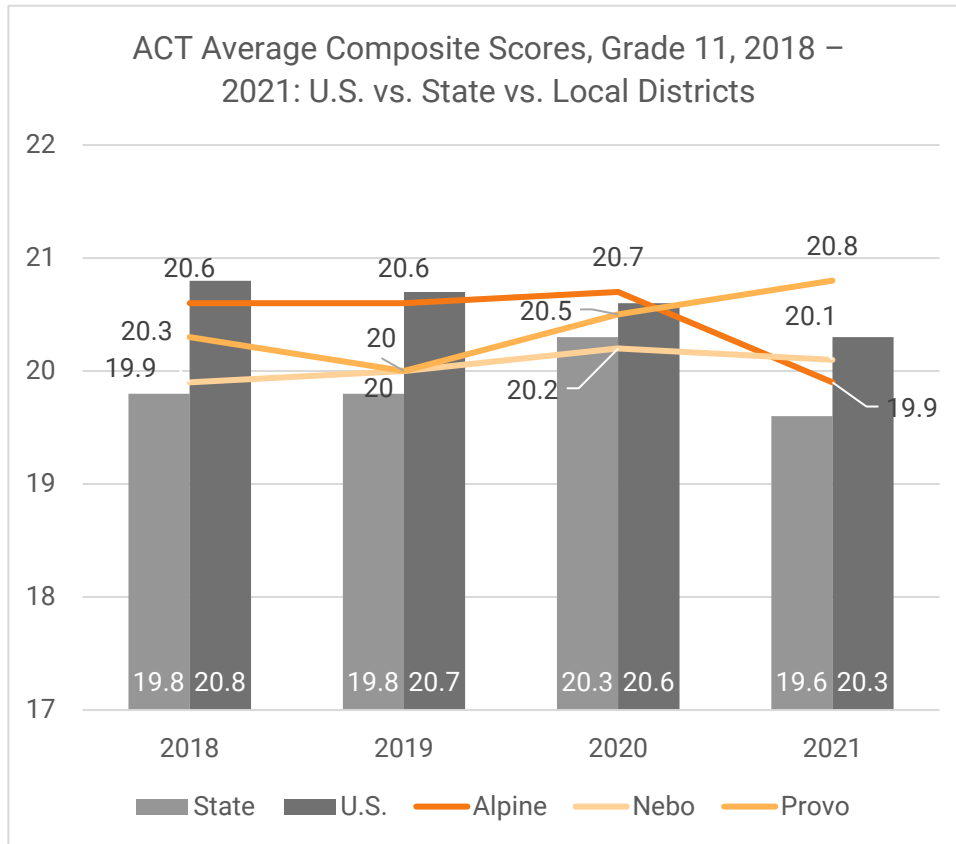
Table 51: 10th Grade Science: Percent Proficient, 2021

10th Grade Science: Percent Proficient, 2021											
	All Students	African American or Black	American Indian	Asian	Hispanic/Latino	Multiple Races	Pacific Islander	White	Low Income	Students with Disabilities	English Learners
<b>Alpine</b>	40.6	<10	50-59	35.7	24.6	35.6	13.6	43.7	31.7	10.0	10.3
<b>Nebo</b>	32.2	N<10	N<10	50-59	16.6	34.4	<20	34.8	24.9	5.6	<10
<b>Provo</b>	32.5	N<10	N<10	40-49	14.3	30-39	20-29	40.9	18.9	7.4	8.0
<b>State</b>	36.8	13.2	16.7	47.2	18.0	36.2	12.8	41.6	22.5	7.7	6.5

### 2.2.7.7.4 Grade 11 ACT Scores

In Utah, the ACT (American College Test) is administered to all grade 11 students, except those who were absent, parentally excluded, refused to test, had an incomplete test, or in other extenuating circumstances. In general, the vast majority of students participate each year. The ACT is a standardized test that helps determine a high school student’s preparedness for post-secondary education. It measures student knowledge and capacity in math, English, reading, writing, and science. Many colleges and universities consider ACT performance as a key factor in admissions.

Over the past four years, ACT scores of students in each of the school districts in Utah County have been on par with statewide numbers. In 2021—the latest year for which data is

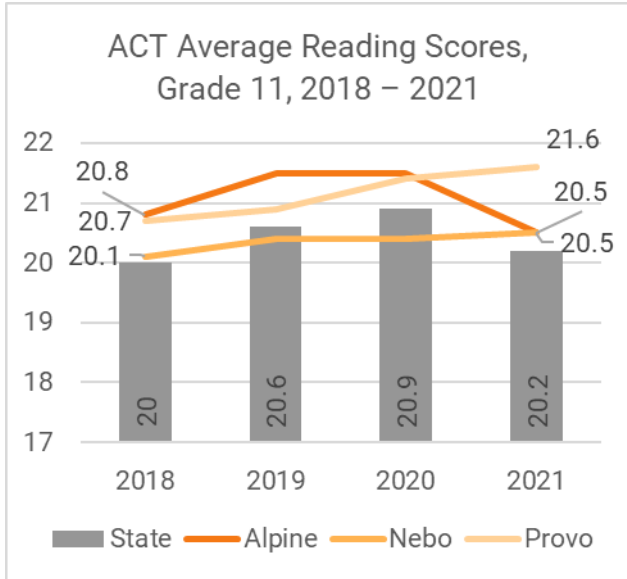


available—the state composite score was 19.6; Provo School District’s score was 20.8, Nebo’s was 20.1, and Alpine’s was 19.9. However, Utah’s statewide scores over the past four years have been below national scores, and students in local Utah County

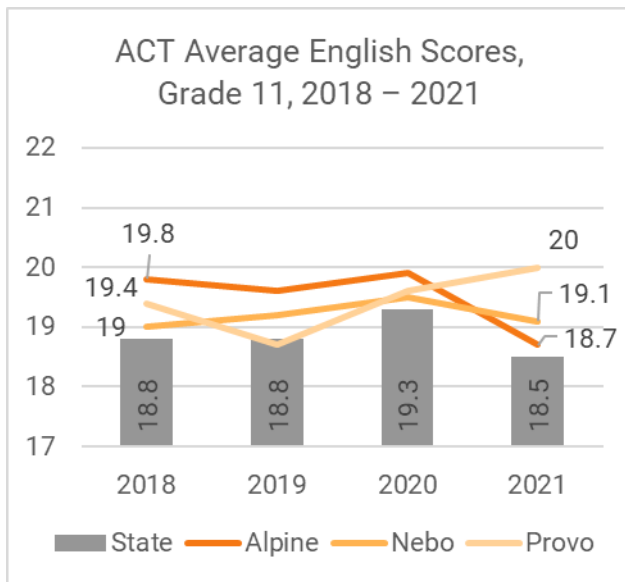
school districts appear to be following suit. In 2018, Alpine School District’s students (the district with the greatest number of students in the County) scored slightly below national

composite scores; in 2020, the scores were slightly above national numbers, but dropped below the national average again in 2021.<sup>148</sup>

The following charts show local school district scores for each of the four subject matter areas in the ACT.



**Figure 153: ACT Average Reading Scores, Grade 11, 2018 – 2021**



**Figure 152: ACT Average English Scores, Grade 11, 2018 – 2021**

<sup>148</sup> Utah State Board of Education, ACT Dataset; National Center for Education Statistics



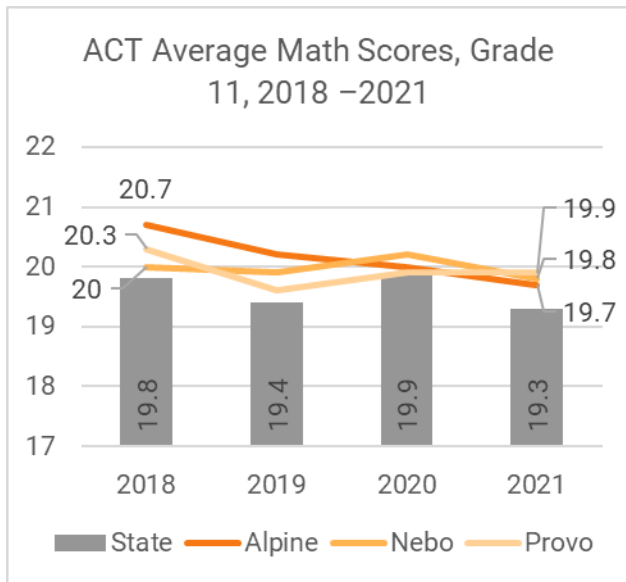


Figure 154: ACT Average Math Scores, Grade 11, 2018 - 2021

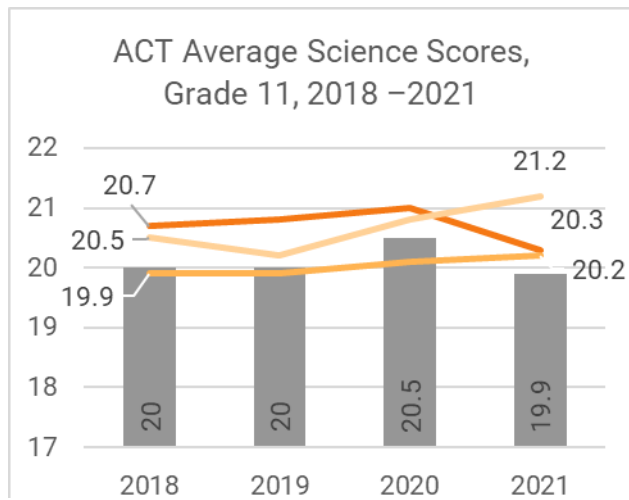


Figure 155: ACT Average Science Scores, Grade 11, 2018 - 2021

#### **2.2.7.7.5 Graduation, Dropout, Other Completer, and Continuing Student Rates**

When measuring high school success, it is tempting to look only at graduation rates or only at dropout rates. While these rates are valuable to consider, one should also take into account the other completer rate and the continuing student rate. Other completers are those students who completed high school but did not follow a traditional path to graduation and diploma; these students may have obtained a graduate equivalency degree (GED), a certificate of completion, high school equivalent courses (HSE), or aged out of public education. Continuing students are those who are a retained seniors (aged out, but have been authorized by local school district to continue working toward graduation), have transferred to higher education, or have transferred to Utech (Utah’s technical college system).

Since 2008, graduation rates in Utah have improved nearly every year. In 2008, the statewide graduation rate was 69.1 percent; by 2021, it had increased to 88.1 percent. Similar increases have been experienced in the three school districts in Utah County: Alpine, Nebo, and Provo have increased from 73 percent, 76 percent, and 67 percent to 91 percent, 94 percent, and 91 percent respectively. For Alpine and Nebo, graduation rates have generally been at or above state rates; since 2018, Provo School District has likewise been above the state average.<sup>149</sup>

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<sup>149</sup> Utah State Board of Education, Historic Graduation Rates Dataset

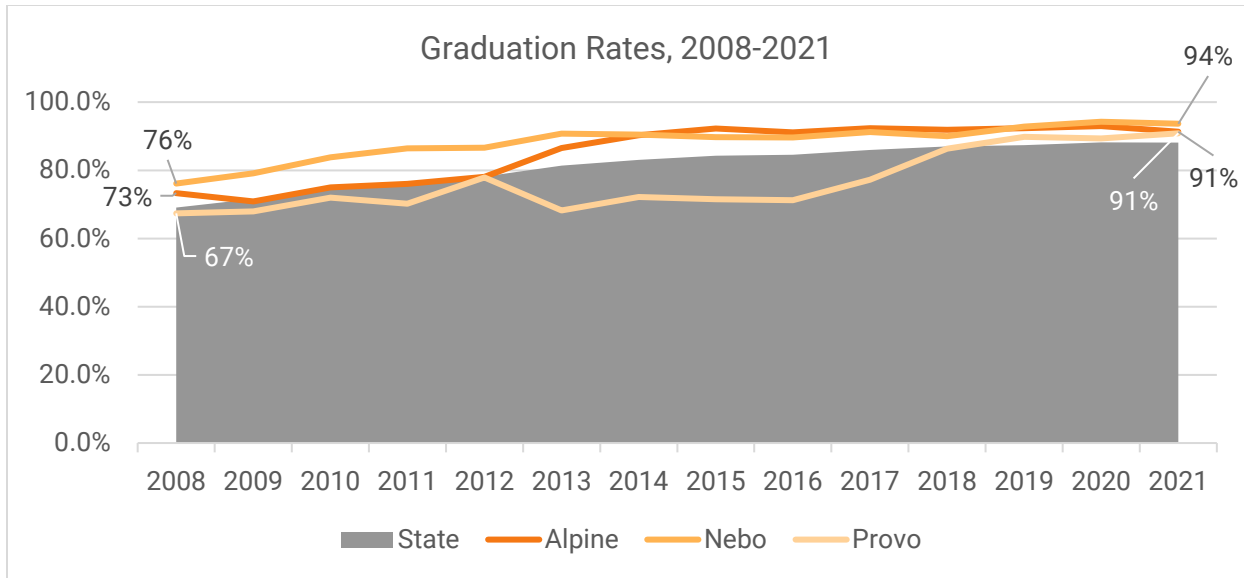


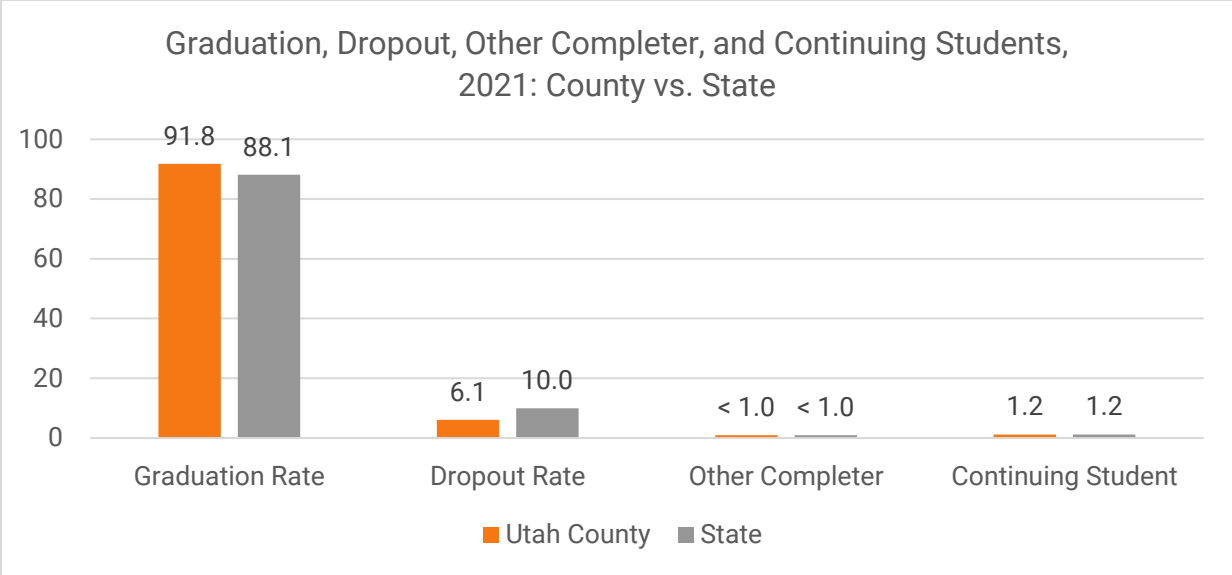
Figure 156: Graduation Rates, 2008-2021

Table 52: Graduation Rates, 2008 – 2021

Graduation Rates, 2008 – 2021														
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
<b>Alpine</b>	73.3	70.9	75.0	76.1	78.1	86.5	90.3	92.3	91.2	92.4	91.8	92.4	93.0	91.3
<b>Nebo</b>	76.1	79.1	83.8	86.4	86.6	90.8	90.5	89.7	89.7	91.2	90.0	92.8	94.2	93.6
<b>Provo</b>	67.4	67.9	72.0	70.2	77.9	68.2	72.2	71.5	71.3	77.2	86.4	89.8	89.3	90.9
<b>State</b>	69.1	71.6	74.8	75.8	78.2	81.4	83.1	84.3	84.6	86.0	87.0	87.4	88.2	88.1

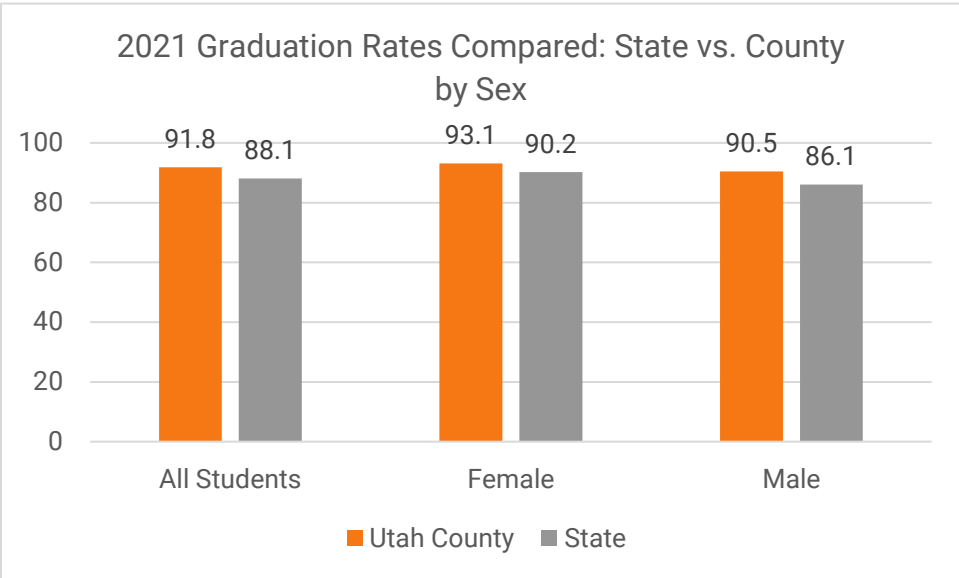
Utah County’s graduation rate in 2021 was 91.8 percent, which is higher than the state’s number of 88.1 percent. The County had a lower rate of dropping out of school, with 6.1 percent compared to the state rate of 10 percent. For other completers and continuing students, Utah County mirrors state numbers. Note that the other completer rate is actually less than 1 percent; individual rates add up to more than 100 percent due to rounding.<sup>150</sup>

<sup>150</sup> Utah State Board of Education, 2021 High School Cohort Dataset



**Figure 157: Graduation, Dropout, Other Completer, and Continuing Students, 2021: County vs. State**

The state tracks graduation rates by various demographics, including sex, race and ethnicity, economically disadvantaged students, English learner students, and students with disabilities. In general, Utah County’s demographic group graduation rates track the state’s rates.



Women tend to graduate at higher rates than men, both at the state and county levels in 2021. About 93 percent of Utah County female high school students graduated in the 2021 cohort,

**Figure 158: 2021 Graduation Rates Compared: State vs. County by Sex**

compared to 90.5 percent of males.<sup>151</sup>

<sup>151</sup> Utah State Board of Education, Graduation Rate Student Groups 2021 Dataset

Asians tend to do better than other races, both at the state and county levels—although this group is only slightly better than white and is slightly worse than multi-race students. In 2021, 93.2 percent of Asian students in the cohort group of seniors in Utah County graduated, compared to 93.0 percent of whites and 93.4 percent of multi-race students.<sup>152</sup>

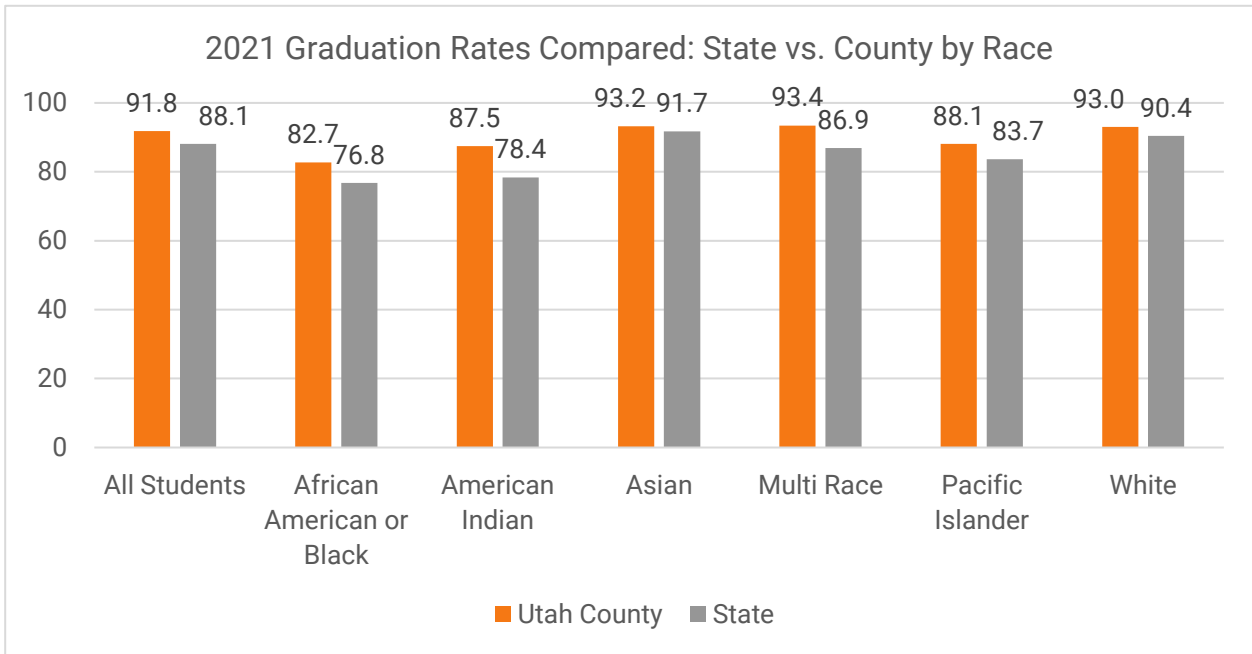
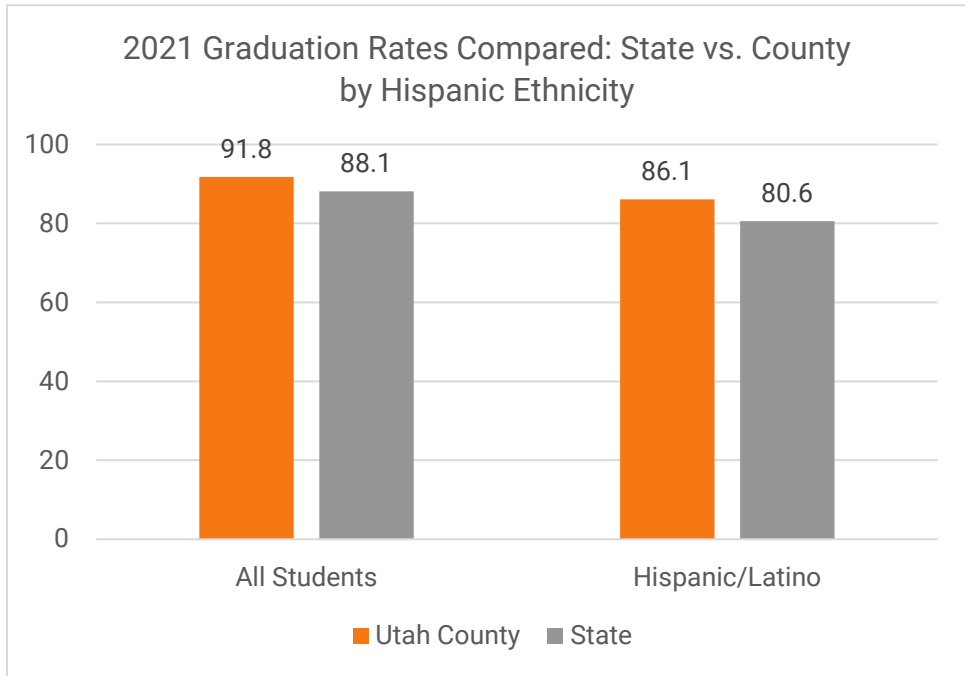


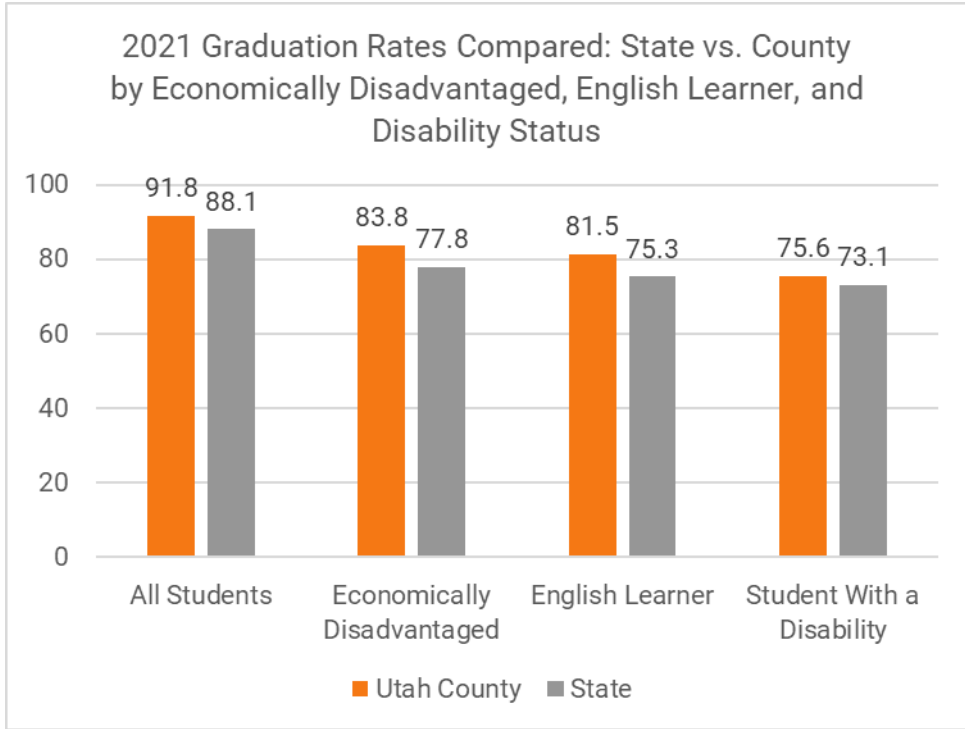
Figure 159: 2021 Graduation Rates Compared: State vs. County by Race

<sup>152</sup> Ibid.



Hispanic students graduate at lower rates than all students. However, Utah County’s Hispanic students in 2021 graduated at higher rates than their statewide counterparts: 86.1 percent compared to 80.6 percent.<sup>153</sup>

**Figure 160: 2021 Graduation Rates Compared: State vs. County by Hispanic Ethnicity**



Among the 2021 cohort of senior students in Utah County, those who qualify for free and reduced-price lunch, those who are learning English, and those with disabilities tend to graduate at lower rates than those who are not dealing

**Figure 161: 2021 Graduation Rates Compared: State vs. County by Economically Disadvantaged, English Learner, and Disability Status**

<sup>153</sup> Ibid.

with these circumstances. However, in every case, Utah County students fare better than statewide peers.<sup>154</sup>

## 2.2.8 Post-Secondary Education

### 2.2.8.1 Number of Post-Secondary Institutions

There is no shortage of post-secondary education opportunities in Utah County. Not only are there multiple private technical academies, but the state’s largest public university, and one of the nation’s largest private universities, are home to the County. But in addition to traditional post-secondary institutions, there are many others that offer trade, technical, and vocational post-secondary education opportunities. According to the Utah Department of Commerce, there are currently 130 post-secondary institutions based in Utah County and actively registered with the state. These include Utah Valley University (37,282 students) and Brigham Young University (33,517 students) as well as less-known schools such as Rocky Mountain Healthcare Academy, which offers courses to qualify as a certified nursing assistant.<sup>155</sup>

### 2.2.8.2 College Enrollment

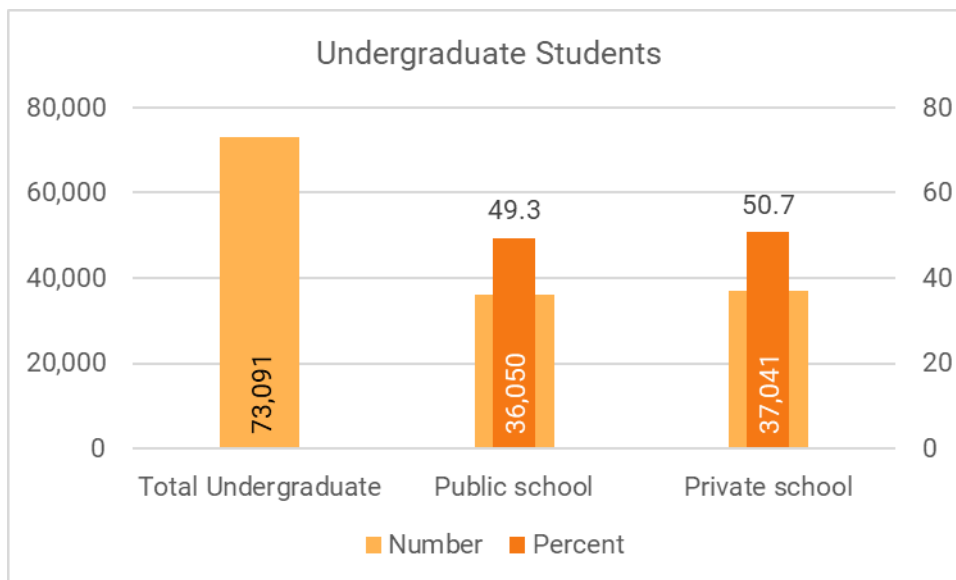
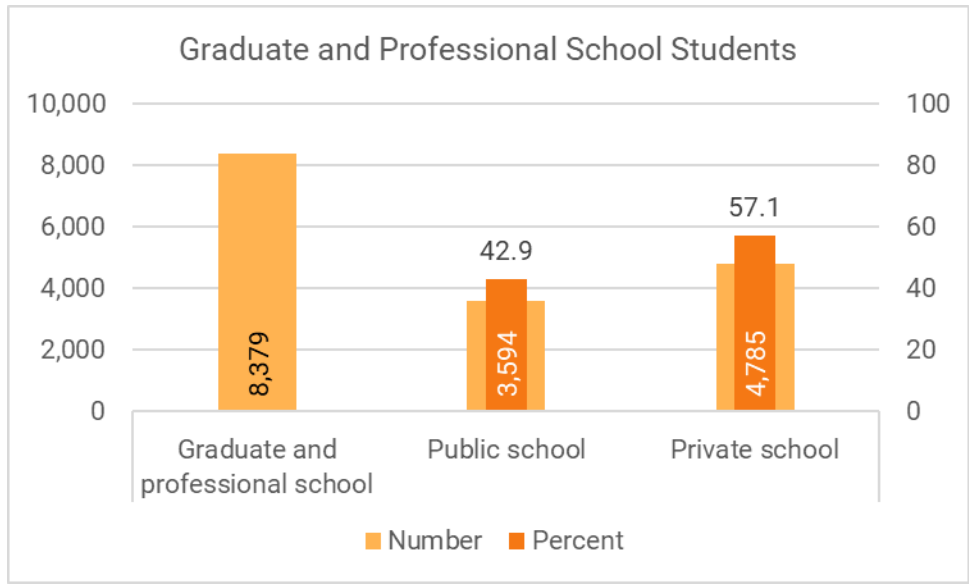


Figure 162: Undergraduate Students

<sup>154</sup> Ibid.

<sup>155</sup> Utah Department of Commerce, Division of Consumer Protection, Registered Entities Search. Search conducted July 2022 at <https://dcp.utah.gov/registered.html>.

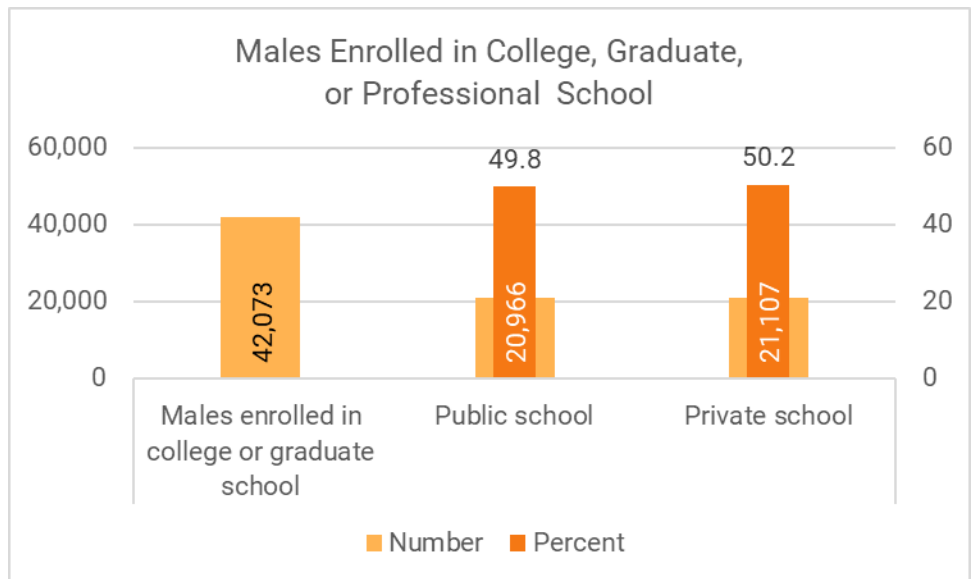
According to the U.S. Census Bureau, there are about 73,091 undergraduate students in Utah County. Of these, 49.3 percent are in public schools, and 50.7 percent are in private schools.<sup>156</sup>



In addition, there are about 8,379 graduate school or professional school students in Utah County. About 43 percent of these attend public institutions, and 57 percent attend private ones.<sup>157</sup>

Figure 163: Graduate and Professional School Students

### 2.2.8.2.1 Current Enrollment in Post-Secondary Education by Sex



Of the approximately 81,470 persons enrolled in college, graduate, or professional school, about 42,073 are male and 39,397 are female. Of the 42,000 or so men

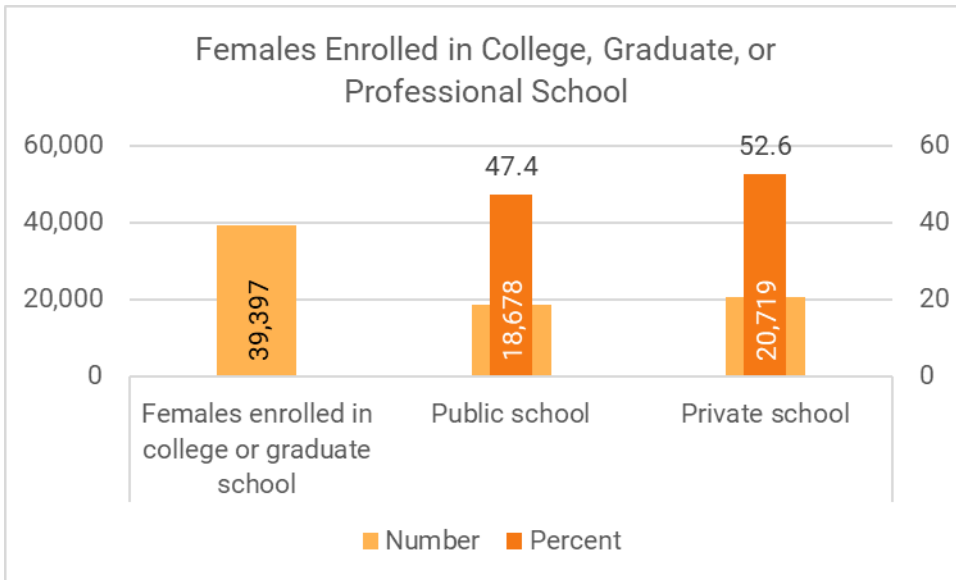
Figure 164: Males Enrolled in College, Graduate, or Professional School

<sup>156</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 ACS, Table S1401

<sup>157</sup> Ibid.



enrolled, the split between public and private schools is nearly even: 49.8 percent attend public schools, and 50.2 percent attend private.<sup>158</sup>



Females lean more toward private schools in Utah County, with 52.6 percent of the 39,397 opting for this alternative. About 47.4 percent attend public schools.<sup>159</sup>

**Figure 165: Females Enrolled in College, Graduate, or Professional School**

<sup>158</sup> Ibid.

<sup>159</sup> Ibid.

## 2.3 Income

### 2.3.1 Individual, Household and Family Income

#### 2.3.1.1 Individual Income

This report relies on various sources of data to present an accurate assessment of Utah County. For the category of income, today's volatile economic realities require the latest data available. However, we include the Census Bureau's American Community Survey data, which is

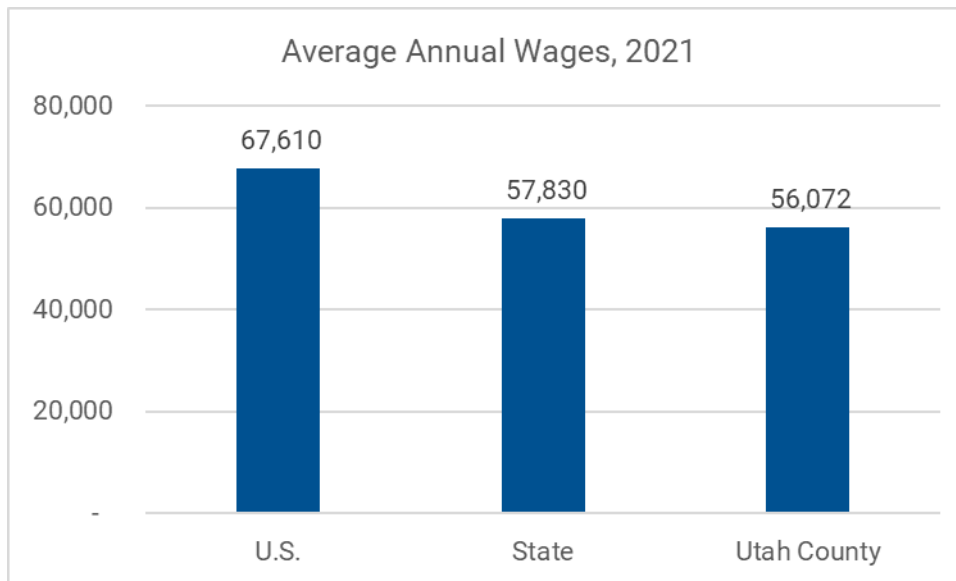


Figure 166: Average Annual Wages, 2021

from 2020, for this and many other portions of the assessment. We also rely on more current data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). BLS data is limited in its scope; for example, it does not provide

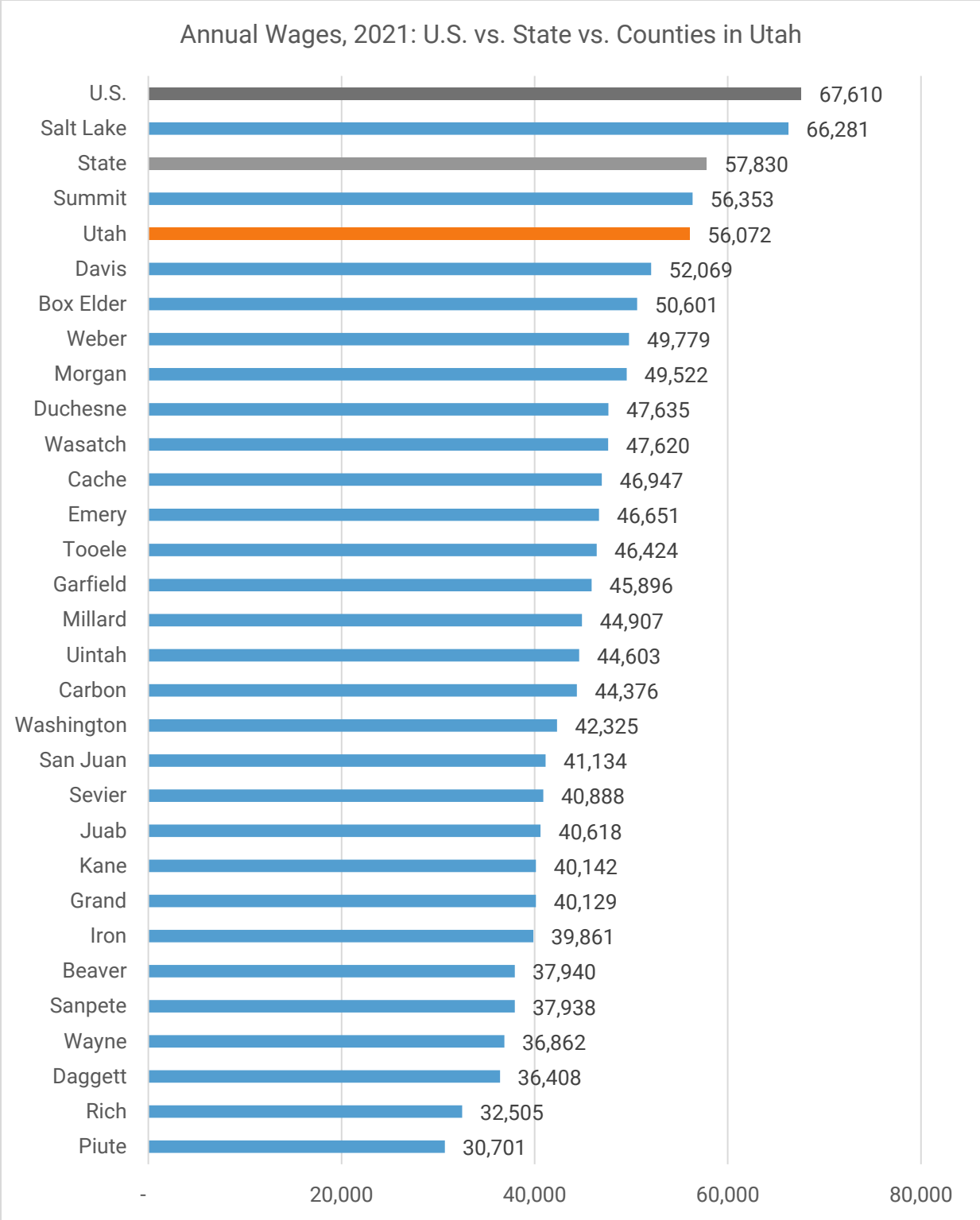
household or family income information.

The average annual wages for all occupations and industries in Utah County in 2021 was \$56,072. This includes part- and full-time employment. Statewide, the average annual wage was 57,830; this compares to the national average of \$67,610. Note that figures for 2021 are preliminary.<sup>160</sup>

Utah County's average annual wage is near the top of the list of all counties in Utah. While Utah County's is \$56,072, Salt Lake County's is \$66,281 and Summit County's is \$56,353. Piute County has the lowest average annual wages of any county in the state, at \$30,701.<sup>161</sup>

<sup>160</sup> U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

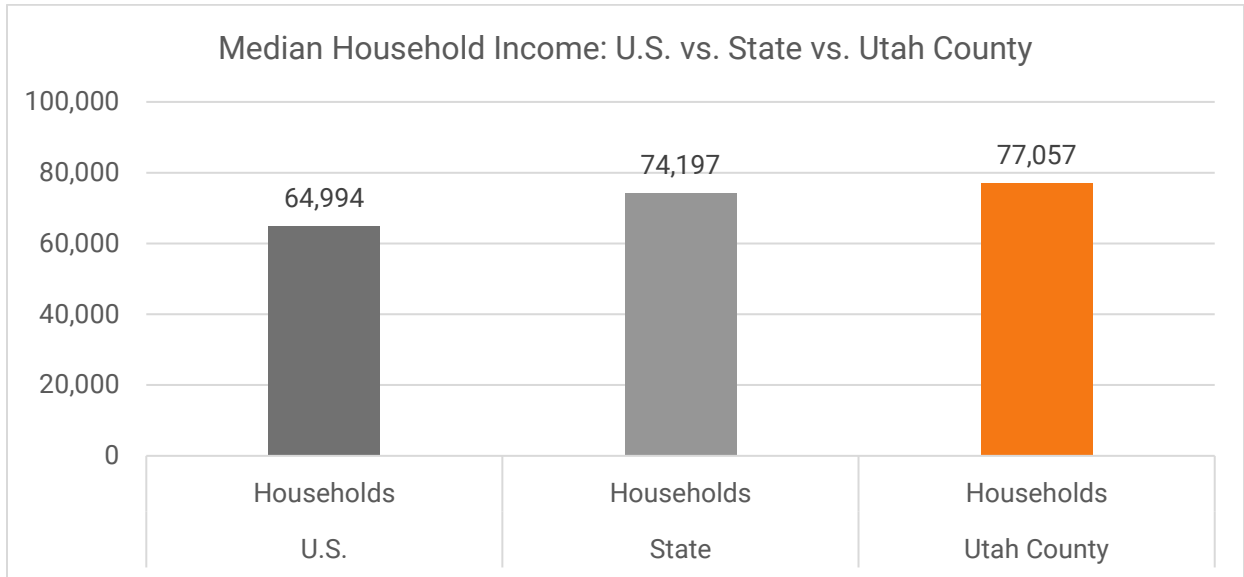
<sup>161</sup> Ibid.



**Figure 167: Annual Wages, 2021: U.S. vs. State vs. Counties in Utah**

### 2.3.1.2 Household Income

According to the ACS, the annual median household income for Utah County in 2020 was \$77,057, compared to the state's \$74,197 and the nation's \$64,994.<sup>162</sup> This includes all households of all types. A *household* includes all the people who occupy a housing unit. People not living in households are classified as living in group quarters.<sup>163</sup>



**Figure 168: Median Household Income: U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County**

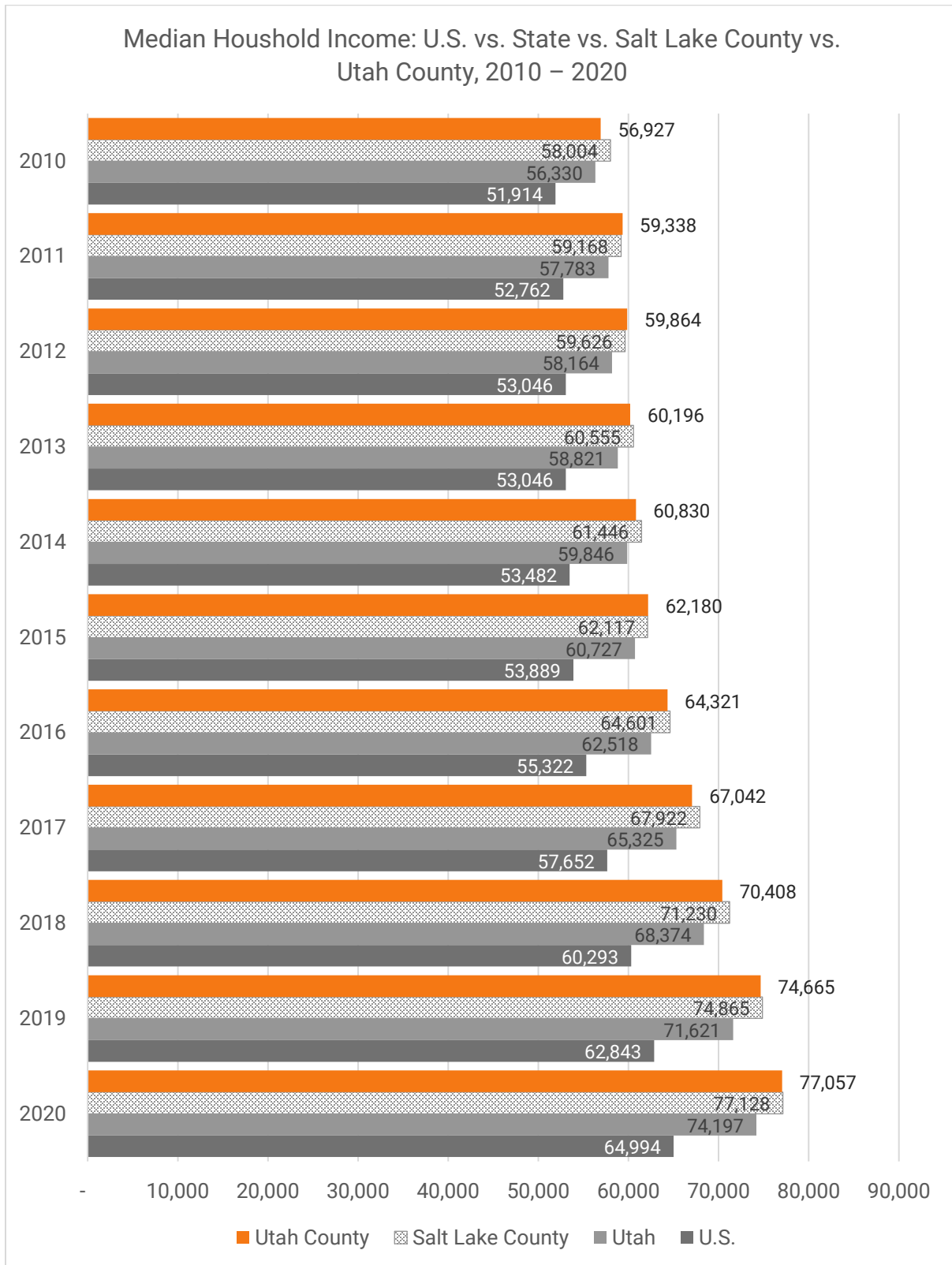
Over the 2010s, the gap between Utah County's median household income versus the state's has widened. During the same period, the gap between Utah County's median household income and Salt Lake County's has been eliminated. In 2010, the state's median household income was \$56,330, which was 99 percent of Utah County's \$56,927. In 2020, the state's median household income is only 96 percent of Utah County's: \$74,197 versus \$77,057. Over the same decade, Salt Lake County's median household income (\$58,004 in 2010) was 102 percent of Utah County's (\$56,927). In 2020, the two counties have virtually the same median household income (\$77,128 in Salt Lake County, and \$77,057 in Utah County).<sup>164</sup>

<sup>162</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 ACS, Table S1901

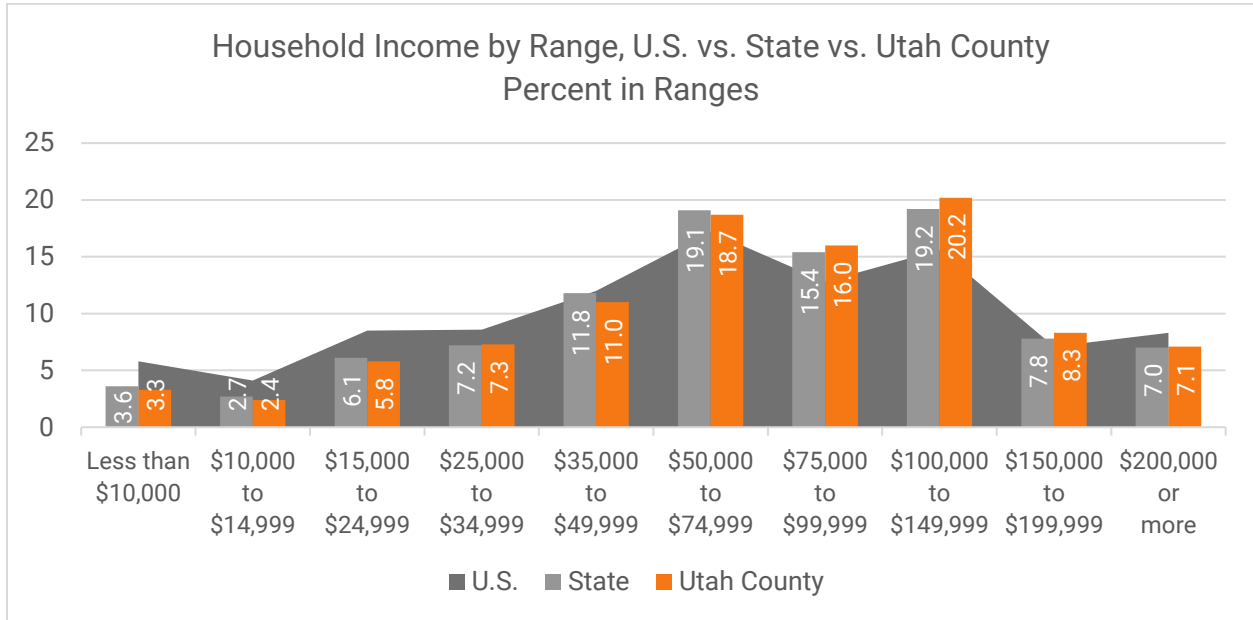
<sup>163</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, *2020 Subject Definitions*, p. 80

<sup>164</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 – 2020 ACS, Table S1901

**Table 53: Median Household Income: U.S. vs. State vs. Salt Lake County vs. Utah County, 2010 – 2020**



About 35.6 percent of Utah County households make \$100,000 or more, compared to 34.0 percent statewide and 31.0 percent nationally. On the lower end of the income spectrum, 11.5 percent of Utah County households earn less than \$25,000 annually, compared to 12.4 percent statewide and 18.4 percent nationally.<sup>165</sup>

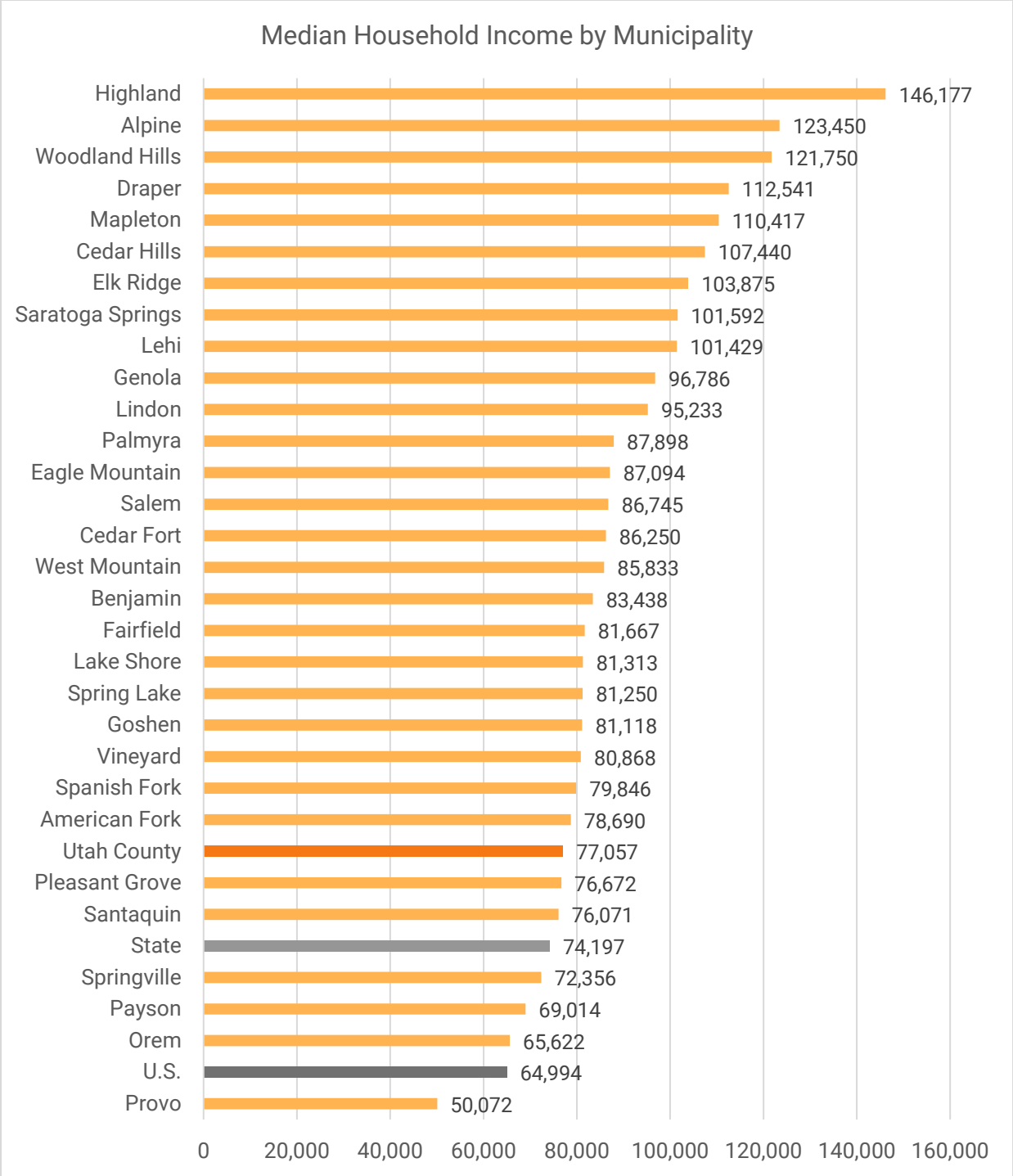


**Figure 169: Household Income by Range, U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County**

Highland has the highest median household income in the County, at \$146,177, followed by Alpine (\$123,450) and Woodland Hills (\$121,750). Provo has the lowest, at \$50,073.<sup>166</sup>

<sup>165</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 ACS, Table S1901

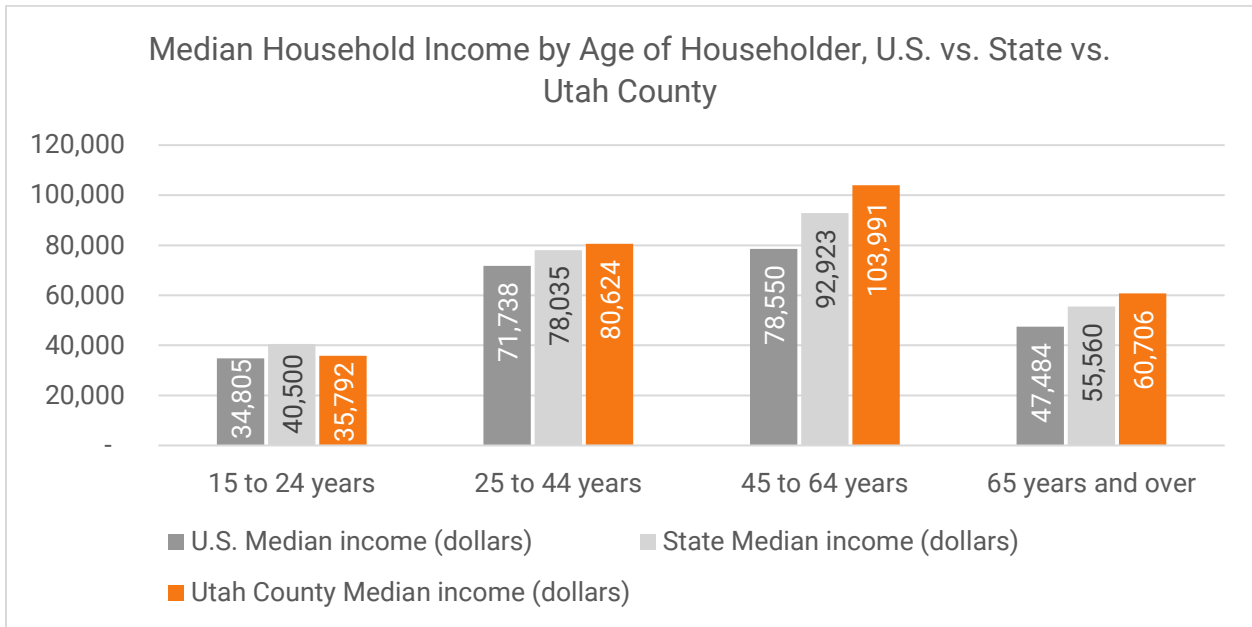
<sup>166</sup> Ibid.



**Figure 170: Median Household Income by Municipality**

### 2.3.1.2.1 Household Income by Age

The U.S. Census Bureau breaks household income down into four age groups based on age of the householder: 15 to 24 years, 25 to 44 years, 45 to 64 years, and 65 years and over. In every category, Utah County households earn more than the national average. In fact, Utah County households earn more than the state average in every age category except the youngest.<sup>167</sup>



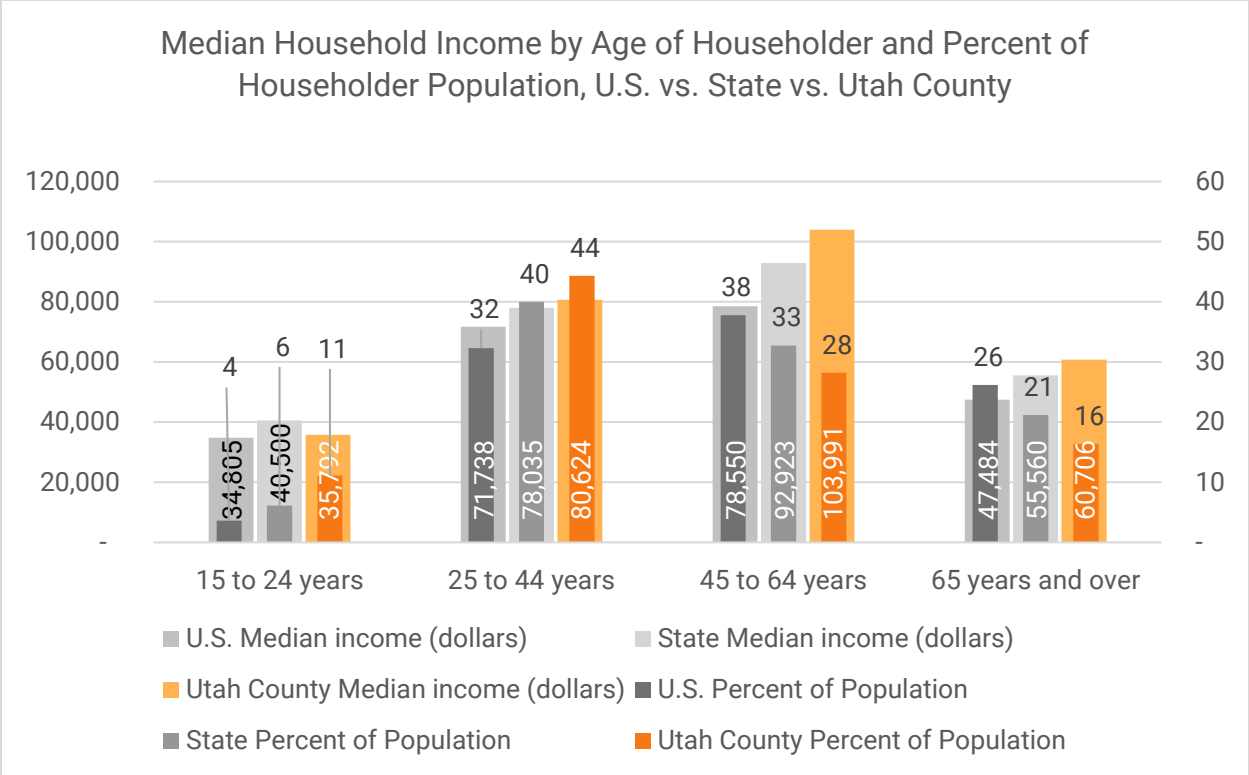
**Figure 171: Median Household Income by Age of Householder, U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County**

Considering the age of Utah County residents, it is intriguing to compare numbers to the state and nation. For example, householders age 25 to 44 years are 44 percent of the householder population (age 15 and older), compared to 40 percent of the state’s householder population and 32 percent of the nation’s. Yet the median household income for this age group in Utah County is \$80,624—compared to \$78,035 for the state and \$71,738 for nationally.<sup>168</sup>

<sup>167</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 ACS, Table S1903

<sup>168</sup> Ibid.

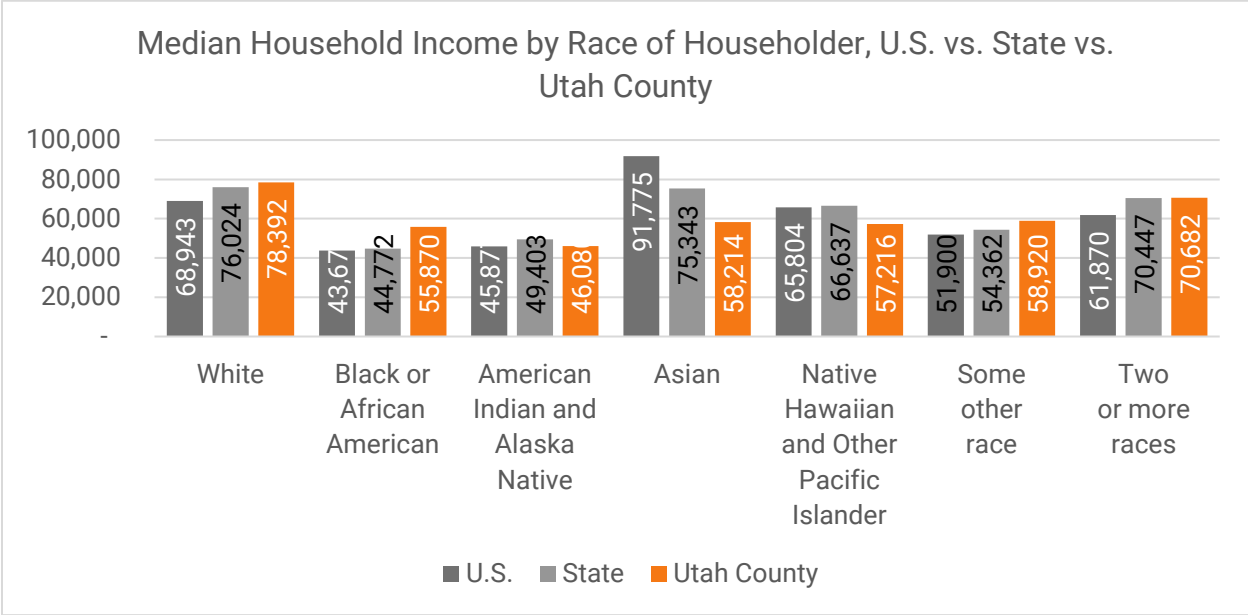




**Figure 172: Median Household Income by Age of Householder and Percent of Householder Population, U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County**

**2.3.1.2.2 Household Income by Race and Ethnicity**

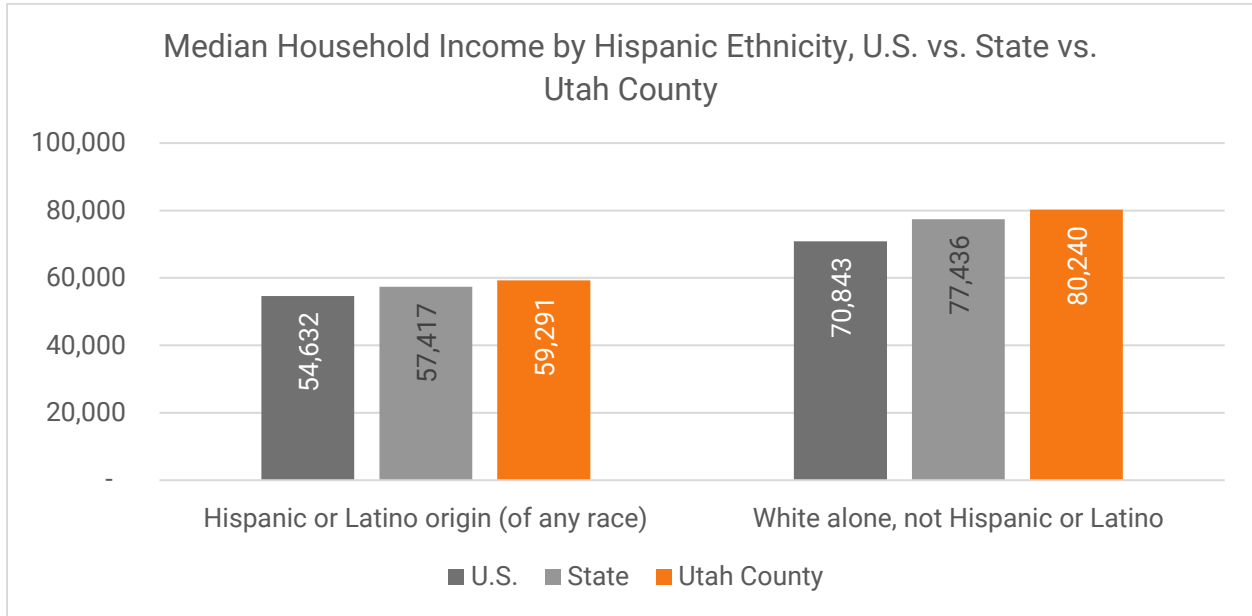
In Utah County, the households with the highest median income are those with a white householder (\$78,392), followed by householders of two or more races (\$70,682).<sup>169</sup>



**Figure 173: Median Household Income by Race of Householder, U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County**

<sup>169</sup> Ibid.

As is the case in most communities where householders of Hispanic ethnicity are a minority group, these households have lower median household incomes in Utah County than non-Hispanic households. However, Utah County's Hispanic householder median household income of \$59,291 exceeds the state (\$57,417) and national (\$54,632) numbers.<sup>170</sup>



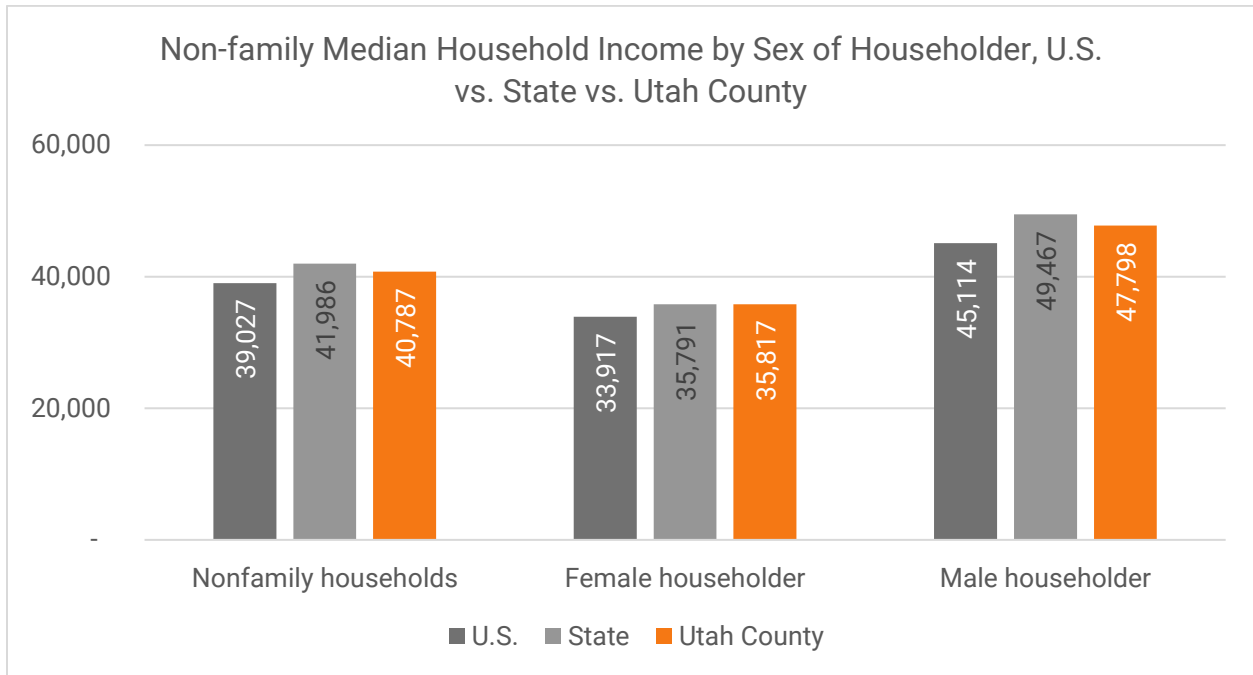
**Figure 174: Median Household Income by Hispanic Ethnicity, U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County**

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<sup>170</sup> Ibid.

### 2.3.1.2.3 Household Income by Sex and Status of Living Alone

Non-family households in Utah County have a median income of \$40,787, compared with the state's average of \$41,986 and the nation's \$39,027. Male householders earn more, on average, than female households in all three geographies, with Utah County's male non-family households having a median household income of \$47,798 compared to female non-family households' \$35,817.<sup>171</sup>

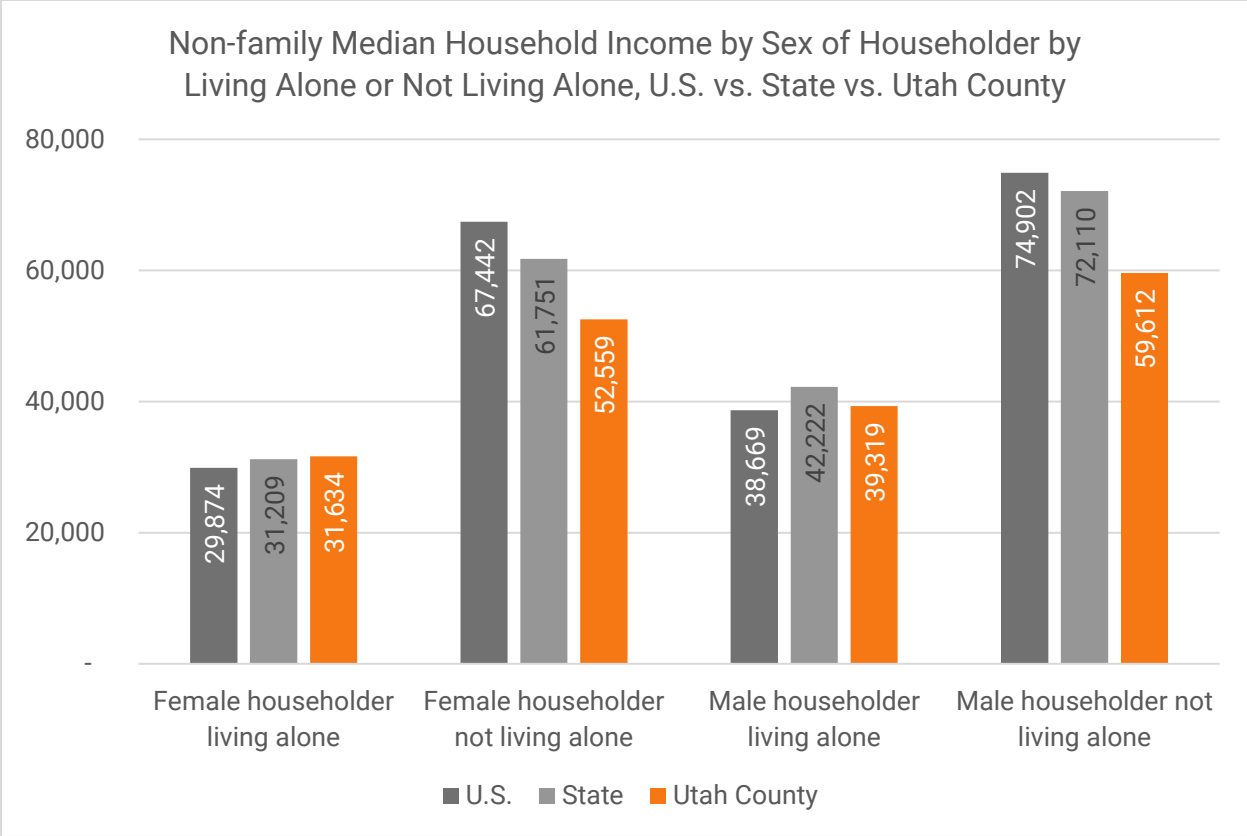


**Figure 175: Non-family Median Household Income by Sex of Householder, U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County**

Non-family households wherein the householder is not living alone earn more money, on average, than those who do live alone. In Utah County, non-family householders with a male householder not living alone have a median income of \$59,612 compared to \$39,319 for those who do live alone. Non-family households with a female householder earn \$52,559 when not living alone, and \$31,634 otherwise.<sup>172</sup>

<sup>171</sup> Ibid.

<sup>172</sup> Ibid.



**Figure 176: Non-family Median Household Income by Sex of Householder by Living Alone or Not Living Alone, U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County**

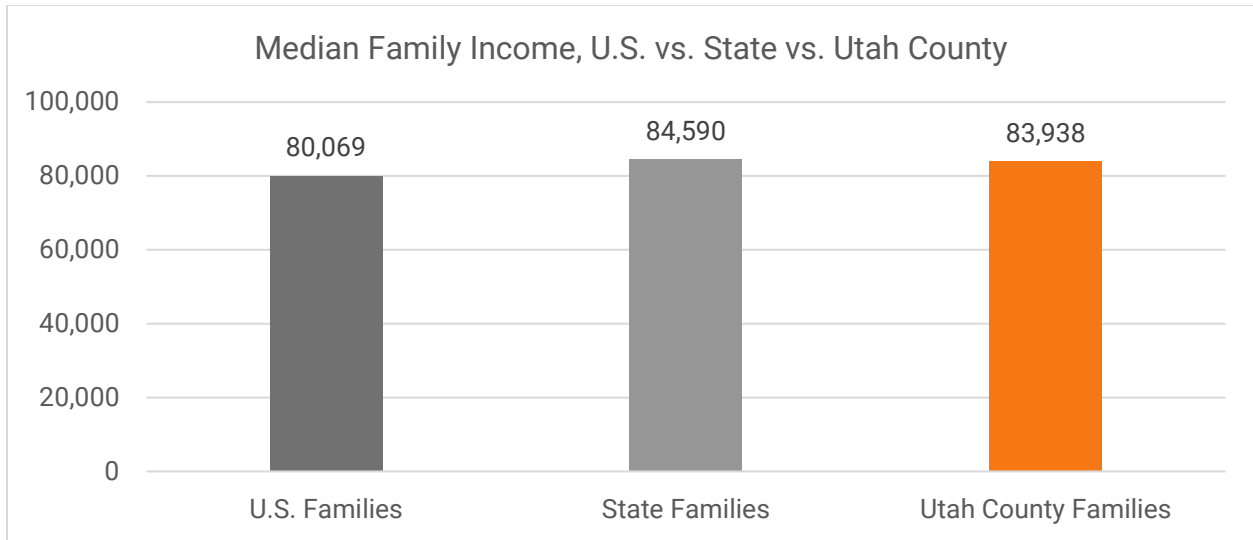
**2.3.1.3 Family Income**

Median family income in Utah County is on par with the state’s and higher than the nation’s. A family household is a householder and one or more other people living in the same household who are related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption. All people in a household who are related to the householder are regarded as members of his or her family. A family household may contain people not related to the householder, but those people are not included as part of the householder’s family in tabulations.<sup>173</sup>

Utah County’s median family income is \$83,938, compared to \$84,590 in the state and \$80,069 nationally. Married-couple families fare better, with a median income in Utah County of \$89,873; this compares to \$92,965 throughout Utah and \$95,485 nationally.<sup>174</sup>

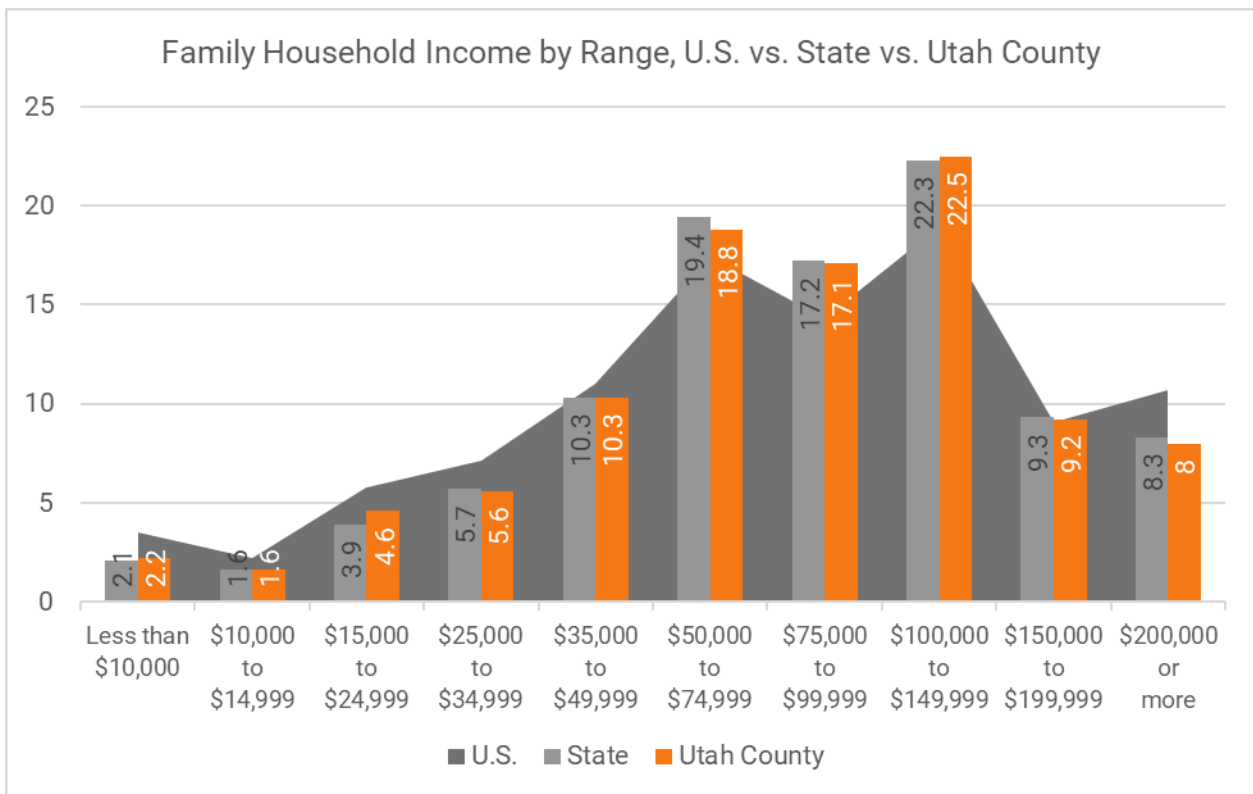
<sup>173</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, *2020 Subject Definitions*, p. 82

<sup>174</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 ACS, Table S1901



**Figure 177: Median Family Income, U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County**

In terms of household income by range, Utah County families do about the same as statewide families, but better than national figures. Nearly 40 percent of Utah County families are making \$100,000 or more.<sup>175</sup>



**Figure 178: Family Household Income by Range, U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County**

<sup>175</sup> Ibid.

Highland has the highest median family income in Utah County, at \$146,907. Alpine (\$140,952) is next, followed by Spring Lake (\$137,813), Woodland Hills (\$126,667), and Mapleton (\$119,583). Provo (\$56,894), Orem (\$71,076), and Payson (\$71,285) are lowest.<sup>176</sup>

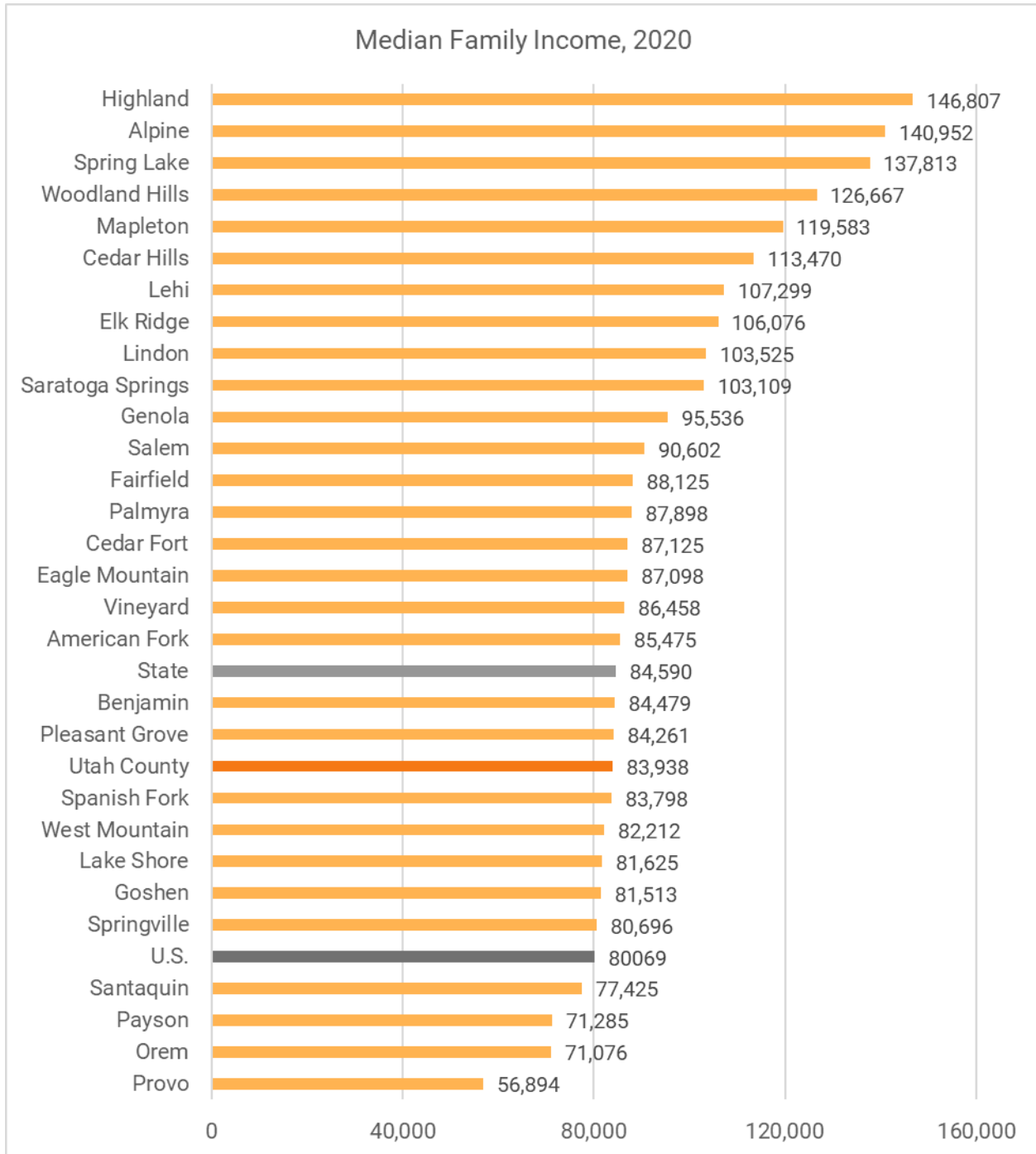
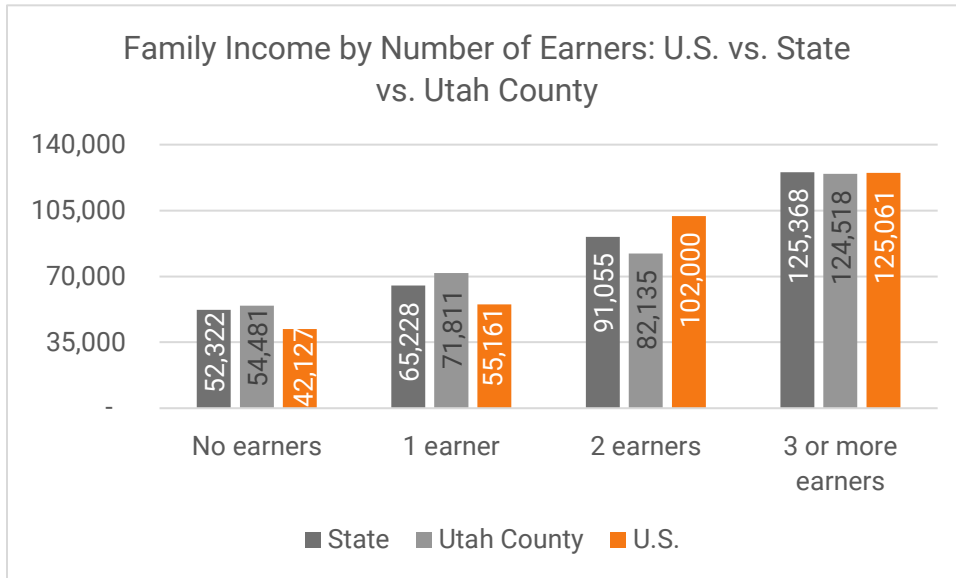


Figure 179: Median Family Income, 2020

<sup>176</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 ACS, Table S1903

### 2.3.1.3.1 Family Income by Number of Earners

Of course, the more earners a family has, the greater will be the income. But comparing



**Figure 180: Family Income by Number of Earners: U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County**

the increase in income among multiple-earner families in the County, the state, and the nation is informative.

Families with one earner in Utah County makes, on average, \$55,151.

Two earners make

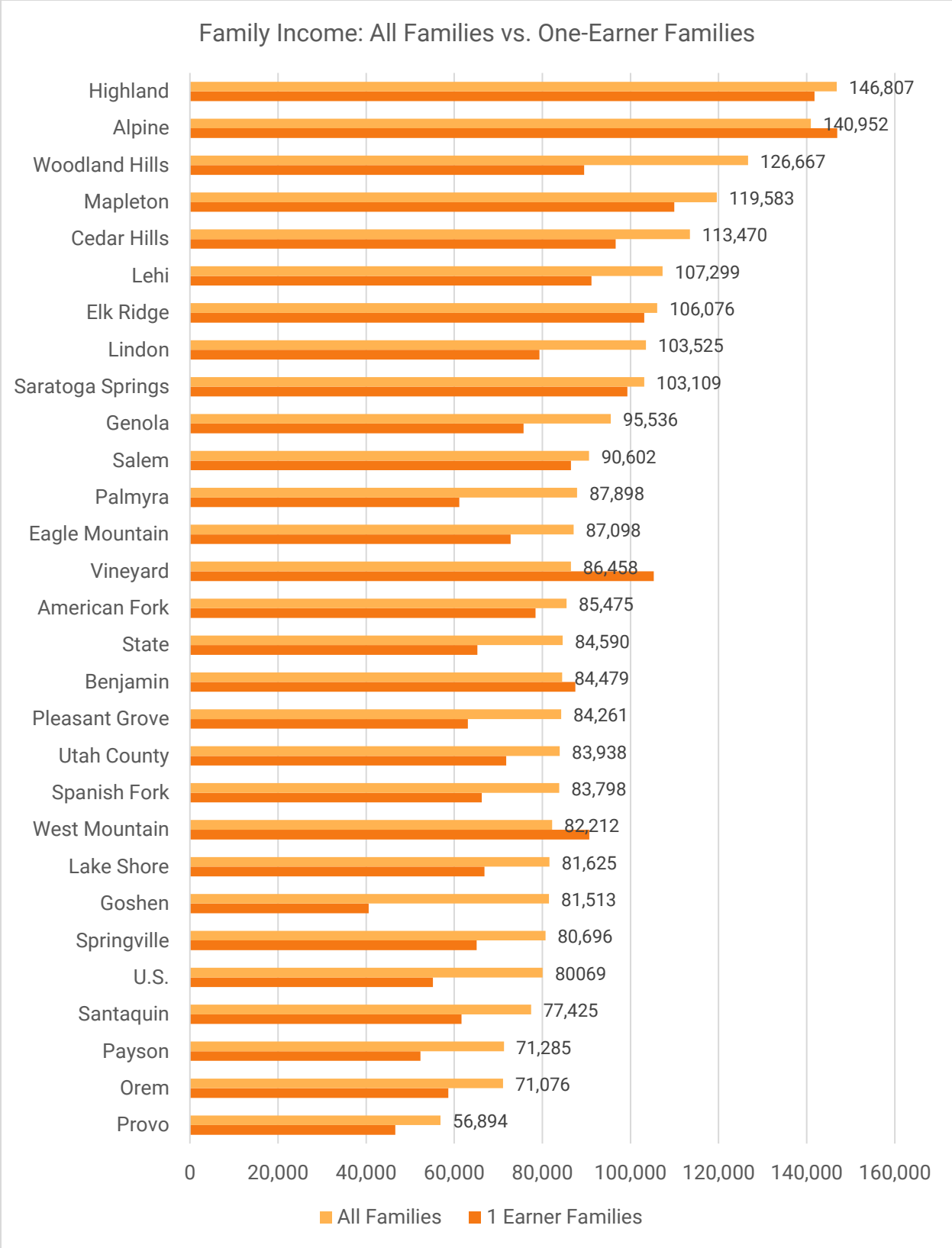
about \$102,000 and three-earner families make about \$125,061.<sup>177</sup>

Comparing the median family income of all families with that of one-earner families is also instructive. It informs policy makers on the strains on families in various communities. For example, in Alpine, the average one-earner family makes about \$6,000 more, on average, than all families in that community. On the other hand, one-earner families in Woodland Hills make \$89,479, compared to \$126,667 for all families. And in Payson, one-earner families make \$52,338, compared to \$71,285—in other words, one-earner families make only about 73 percent of what all families make.<sup>178</sup>

<sup>177</sup> Ibid.

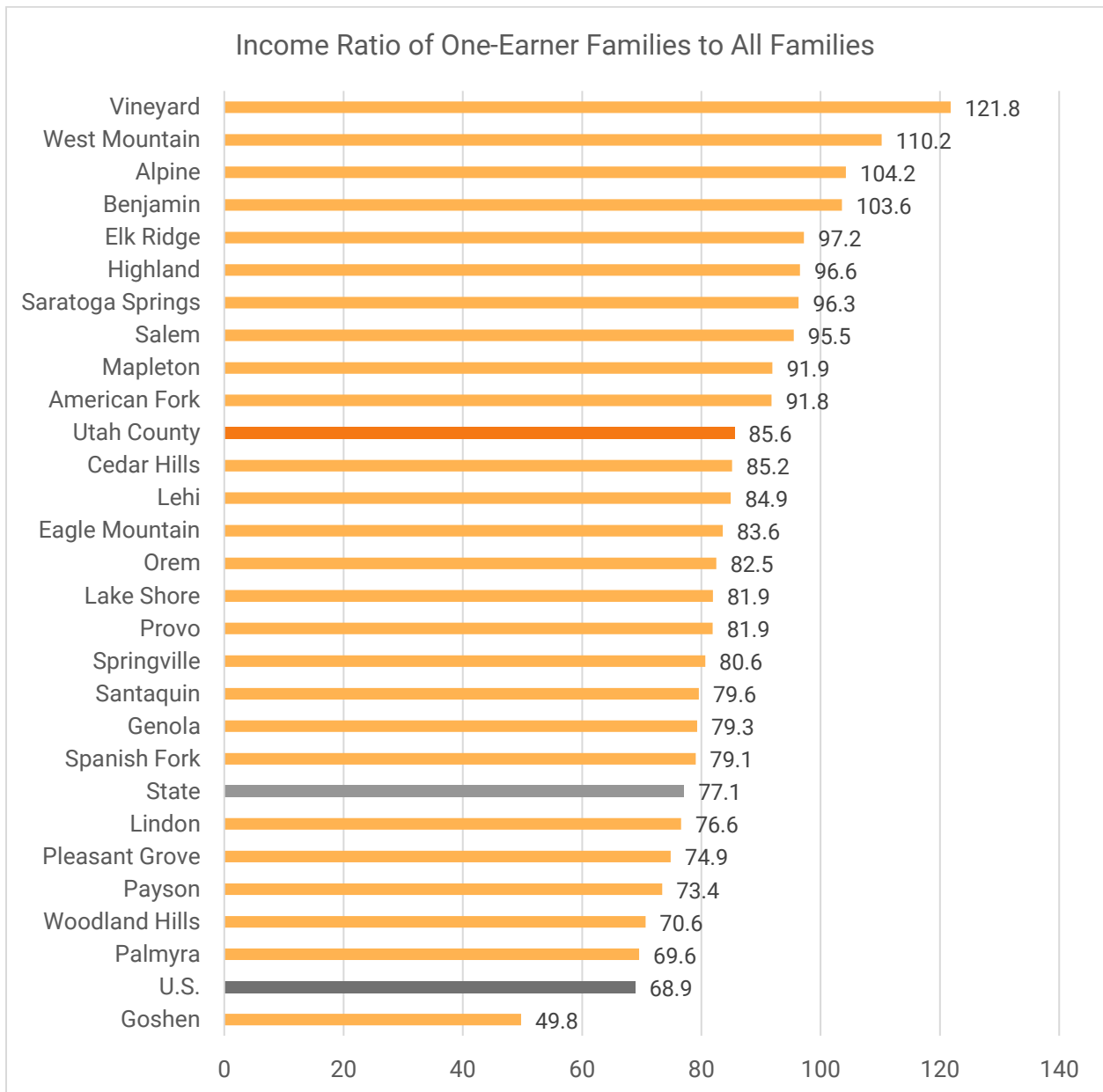
<sup>178</sup> Ibid.





**Figure 181: Family Income: All Families vs. One-Earner Families**

One-earner families, on average, bring home more income than all families in Vineyard, West Mountain, Alpine, and Benjamin. They earn nearly the same in Elk Ridge, Highland, Saratoga Springs, and Salem. And they earn about 75 percent—or less—of all families in Lindon, Pleasant Grove, Woodland Hills, Palmyra, and Goshen. Note that communities with too few one-earner households are not included because calculations would not be sufficiently accurate.<sup>179</sup>



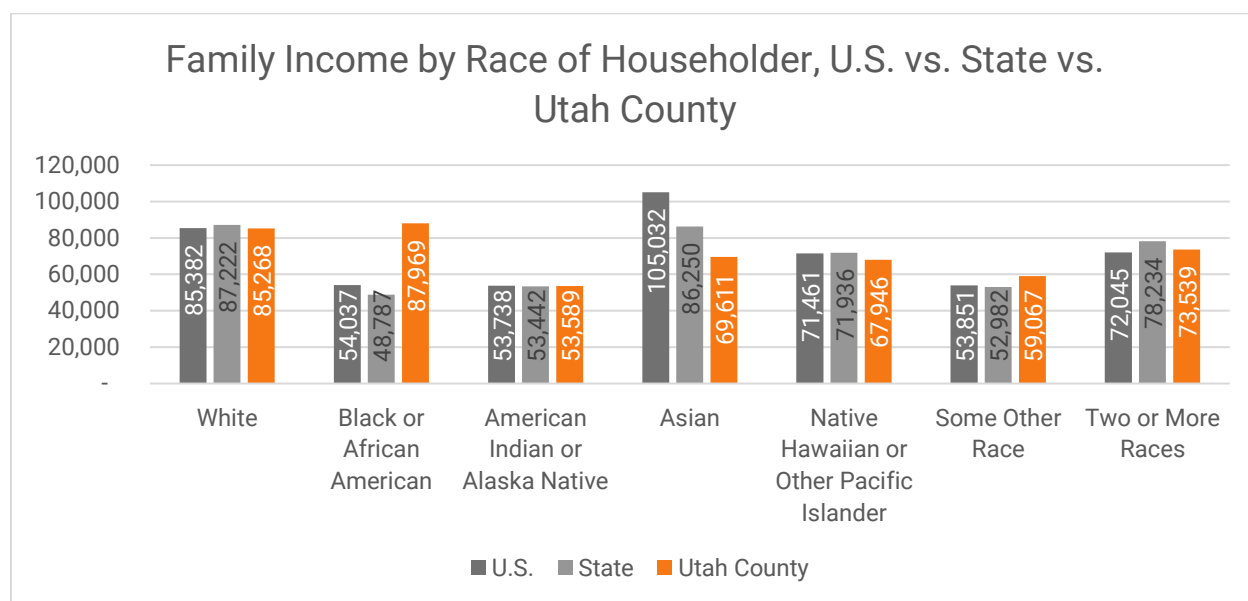
**Figure 182: Income Ratio of One-Earner Families to All Families**

<sup>179</sup> Derived from U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 ACS, Table S1903

### 2.3.1.3.2 Family Income by Race and Ethnicity

When considering family income by race and ethnicity of the householder, it is important to remember the relatively few number of certain racial minorities. For example, fewer than 8,000 black or African American residents live in Utah County, and the same is true for Native American or Alaska Natives. While the numbers of some minority groups are small, the family income may be higher than those of the same race statewide or nationally.

The black or African American population is a good example of this. In Utah County, the median family income of a family with a black householder is \$87,969—nationally, it is only \$54,037. In Utah County, families with American Indian or Alaska Native householders earn the least of any racial group, at \$53,589; however, this is in line with state (\$53,442) and national (\$53,738) numbers.<sup>180</sup>

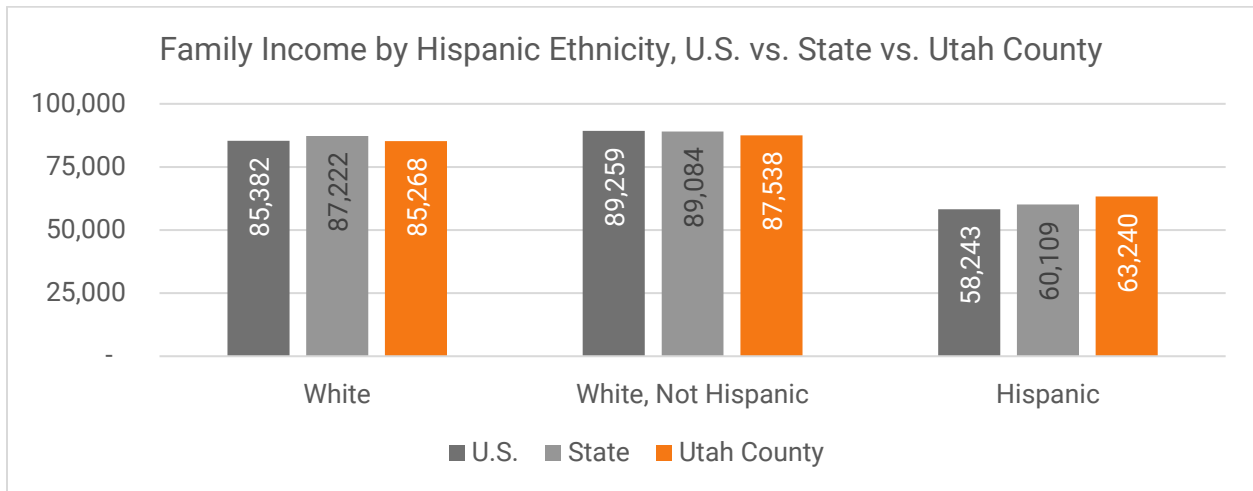


**Figure 183: Family Income by Race of Householder, U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County**

Most individuals of Hispanic ethnicity are white. Families headed by a householder of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity make less money than those with a white non-Hispanic householder. In Utah County, families with white householders make \$85,268; those with white

<sup>180</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 ACS, Table B19113, with iterations

but not Hispanic householders make slightly more: 87,538. Families with Hispanic or Latino householders make \$63,240.<sup>181</sup>

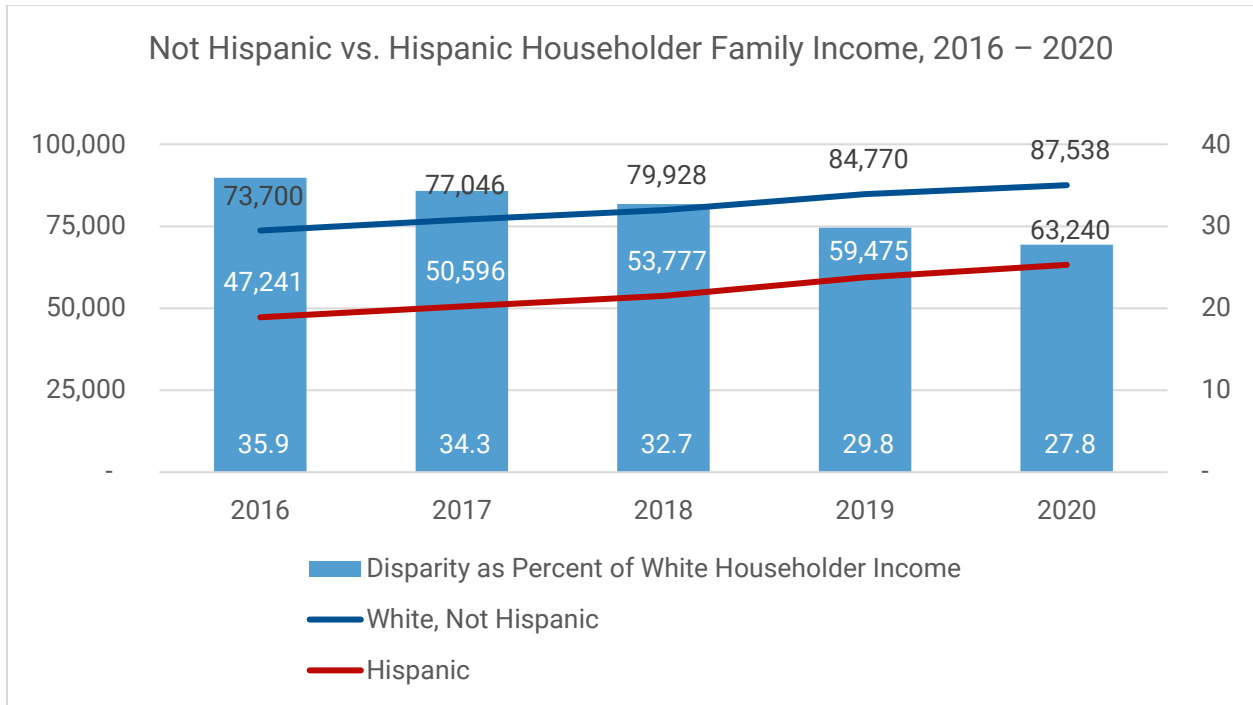


**Figure 184: Family Income by Hispanic Ethnicity, U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County**

Although the disparity between non-Hispanic white and Hispanic householder family income is present, it is shrinking. In 2016, families with a Hispanic householder earned about 35.1 percent less than families with a white non-Hispanic householder. By 2020, that disparity has dropped to 27.8 percent.<sup>182</sup>

<sup>181</sup> Ibid.

<sup>182</sup> Ibid.



**Figure 185: Not Hispanic vs. Hispanic Householder Family Income, 2016 – 2020**

The table below provides more detail on the changes in family income for householders of different races or Hispanic ethnicity.<sup>183</sup>

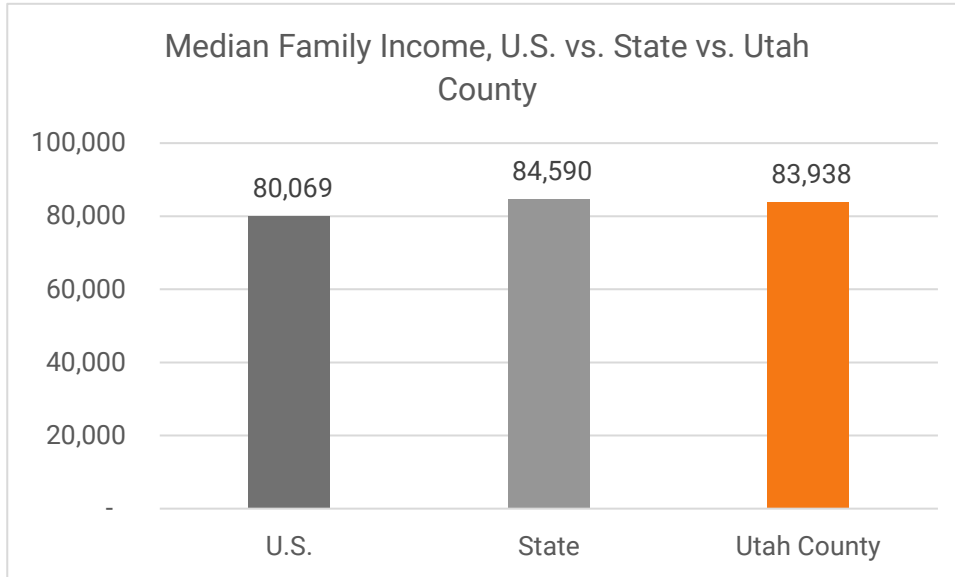
**Table 54: Family Income by Householder Race and Ethnicity, 2016 – 2020**

Family Income by Householder Race and Ethnicity, 2016 – 2020									
	White	Black or African American	American Indian and Alaska Native	Asian	Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	Some Other Race Alone	Two or More Races	White, Not Hispanic	Hispanic
<b>2016</b>	75,953	66,339	41,875	75,774	62,944	48,462	52,372	73,700	47,241
<b>2017</b>	76,368	58,173	52,750	72,656	62,908	46,023	55,735	77,046	50,596
<b>2018</b>	81,103	53,229	56,313	78,027	70,833	52,196	59,288	79,928	53,777
<b>2019</b>	81,862	76,058	54,280	73,664	66,850	58,351	66,705	84,770	59,475
<b>2020</b>	85,268	87,969	53,589	69,611	67,946	59,067	73,539	87,538	63,240

<sup>183</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 ACS, Table B19113, with iterations

### 2.3.1.3.3 Family Income and Family Type, Including Presence of Children

Family type has an impact on family income. Even when only one wage earner is



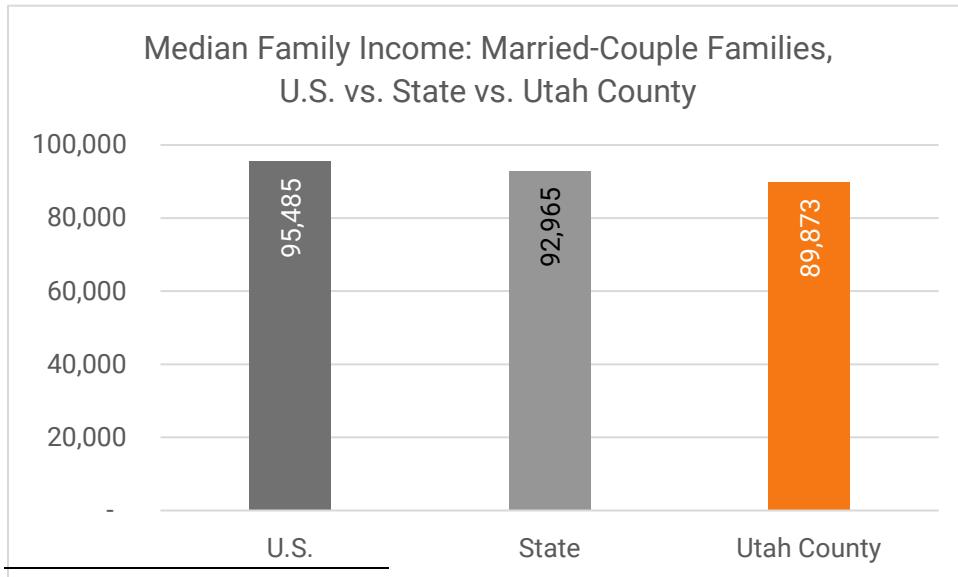
working, married-couple families earn more than non-married-couple families. In addition, income is affected by presence of children under 18 years, female versus male

Figure 186: Median Family Income, U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County

householder, and family size.

In Utah County, the median family income for all families is \$83,938. This compares to \$84,590 statewide and \$80,069 nationally.<sup>184</sup>

For married-couple families, median income increases. Nationally, married-couple

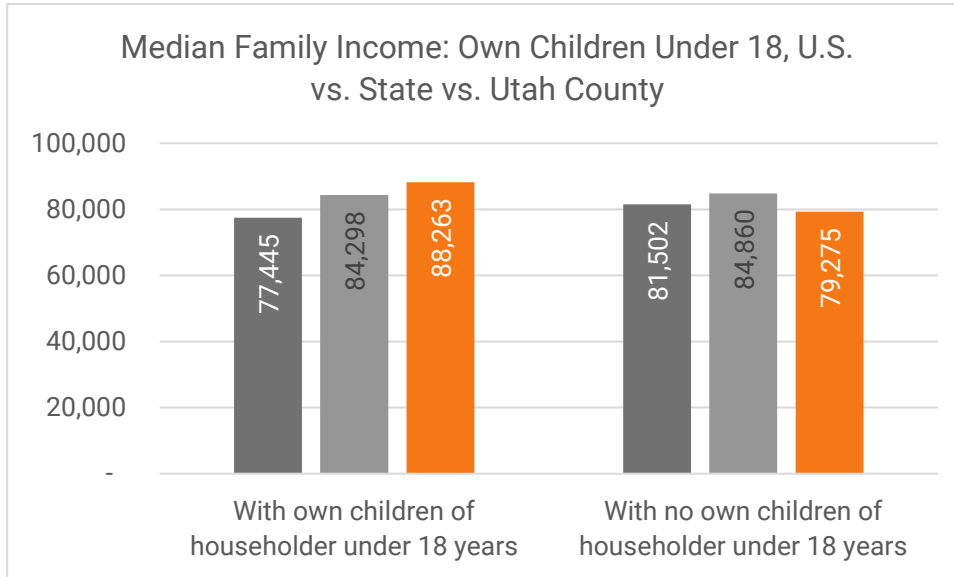


families make \$95,485; in Utah, they make \$92,965, and in Utah County, they make about \$89,873.<sup>185</sup>

<sup>184</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 ACS, Table S1903

<sup>185</sup> Ibid.

For those families with their own children under age 18 living with them, median family income increases in Utah County—although this is not the case statewide nor nationally. In Utah County, families with their own children under 18 years living with them, the median family income goes



**Figure 188: Median Family Income: Own Children Under 18, U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County**

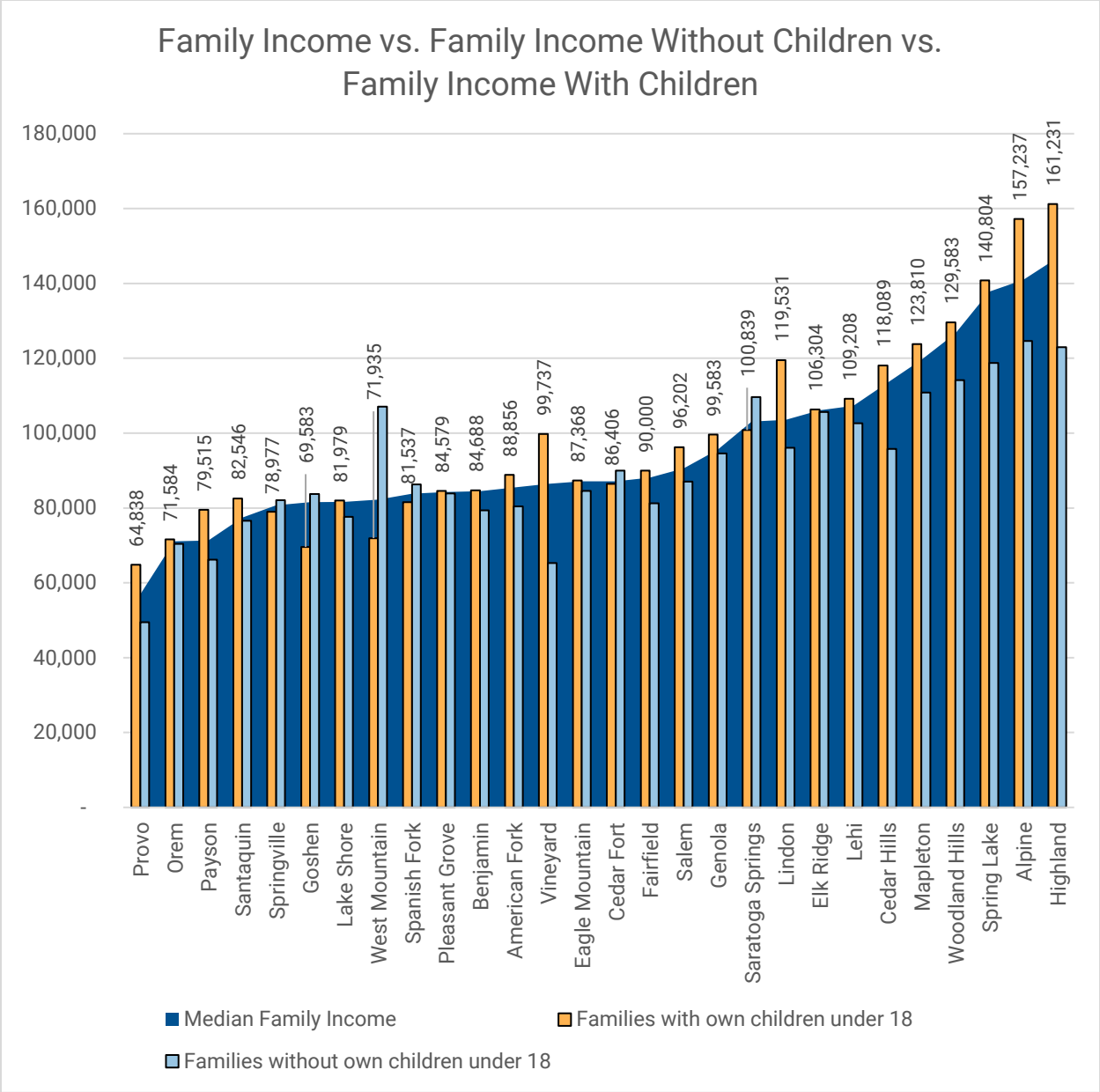
from \$79,275 to \$88,263. It remains about the same for such families statewide, but drops from \$81,502 to \$77,445 nationally.

186

In fact, the data show that in Utah County, there are only a handful of

exceptions to the rule that communities that have families with their own children under 18 living with them are likely to make more money annually.

<sup>186</sup> Ibid.



**Figure 189: Family Income vs. Family Income Without Children vs. Family Income With Children**



Married-couple families in Utah County who have their own children under 18 years living

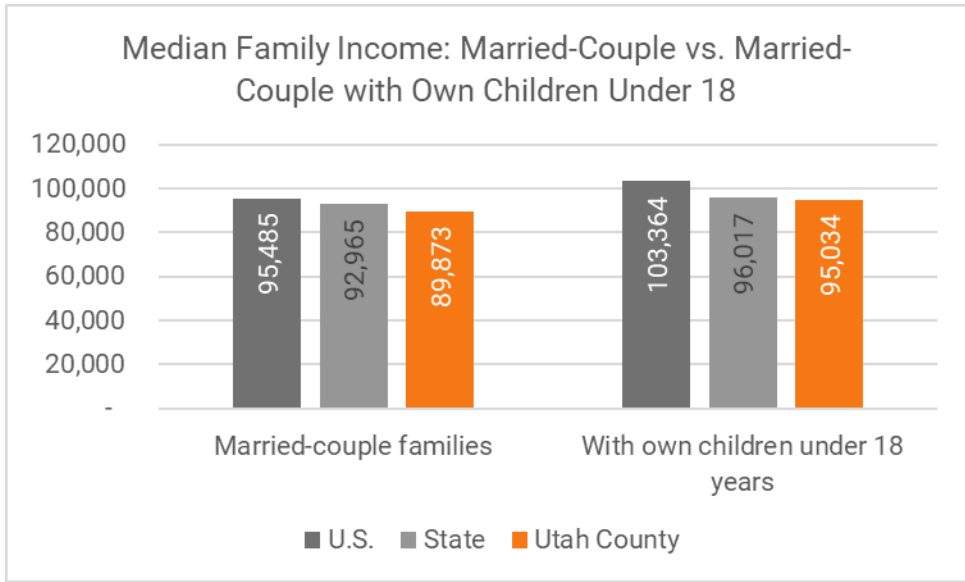


Figure 190: Median Family Income: Married-Couple vs. Married-Couple with Own Children Under 18

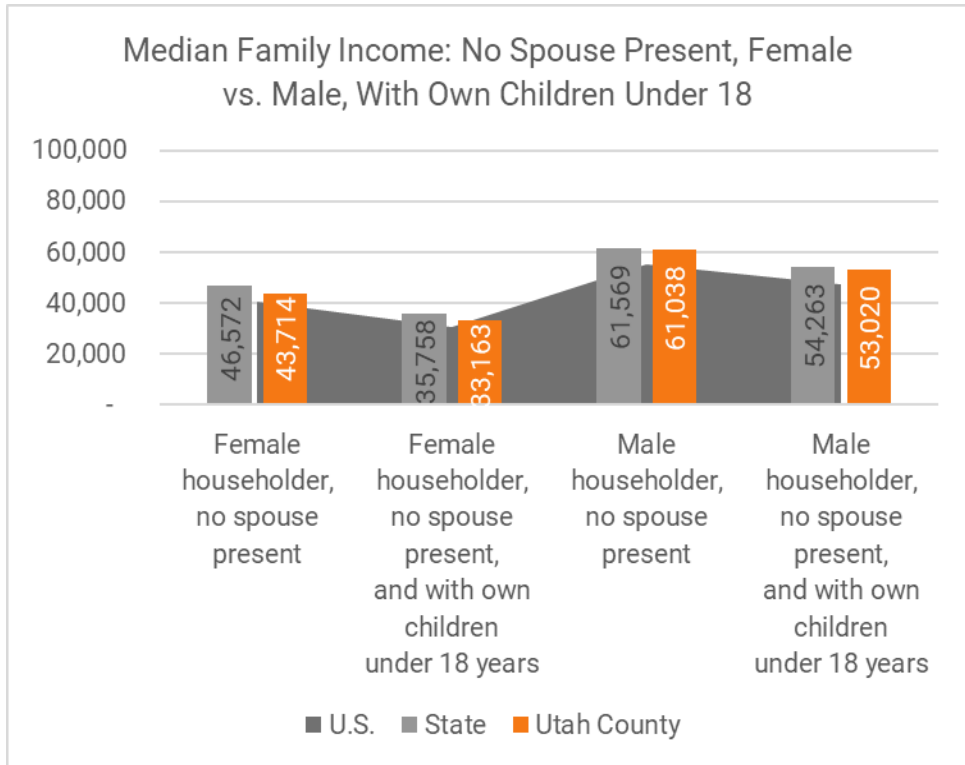


Figure 191: Median Family Income: No Spouse Present, Female vs. Male, With Own Children Under 18

with them have median family incomes of just over \$5,000 more than without their own children living with them. Similar increases are seen in statewide and national figures.<sup>187</sup>

Family income decreases sharply when unmarried spouses have children younger than 18 living with them. Female householders with no spouse and with their own children under 18 years are, perhaps, the most at risk when it comes to making ends meet. Their median income is only \$33,163. (The

<sup>187</sup> Ibid.

section on poverty discusses these data in more detail.) Male householders without a spouse present make about \$61,038 in Utah County; with children present, that figure drops to \$53,020.<sup>188</sup>

### 2.3.1.3.4 Family Income and Family Size

Family size has a clear impact on family income; however, Utah County (and the state) continues to buck the national trends. In Utah County, more children under 18 years and living with the family increases family income. Nationally, four-person families earn the highest amount of income annually; not so in Utah County. A four-person family in Utah County makes \$91,703 on average; that number increases with each succeeding child until seven-or-more-person families make \$114,031 annually.

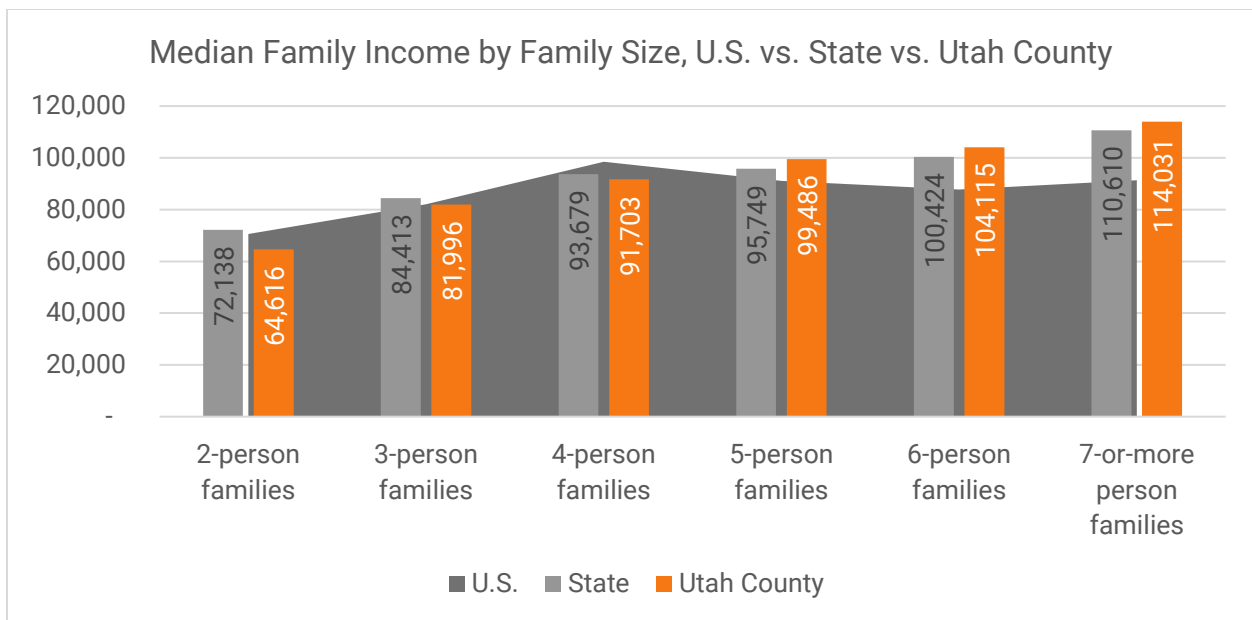


Figure 192: Median Family Income by Family Size, U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County

<sup>188</sup> Ibid.

## 2.3.2 Employment

### 2.3.2.1 Employed Labor Force

Out of the approximately 346,000 persons in Utah County’s labor force, 339,000 are employed, leaving fewer than 7,000 persons looking for jobs.<sup>189</sup> Utah County has been fortunate to have such a high employment rate for many years. In fact, since 2000, the employment rate in Utah County has exceeded national numbers, and is often on par with state rates. The figure below presents a powerful depiction of the county’s economic footing. Except for the two years following the Great Recession, employment has been extremely high.

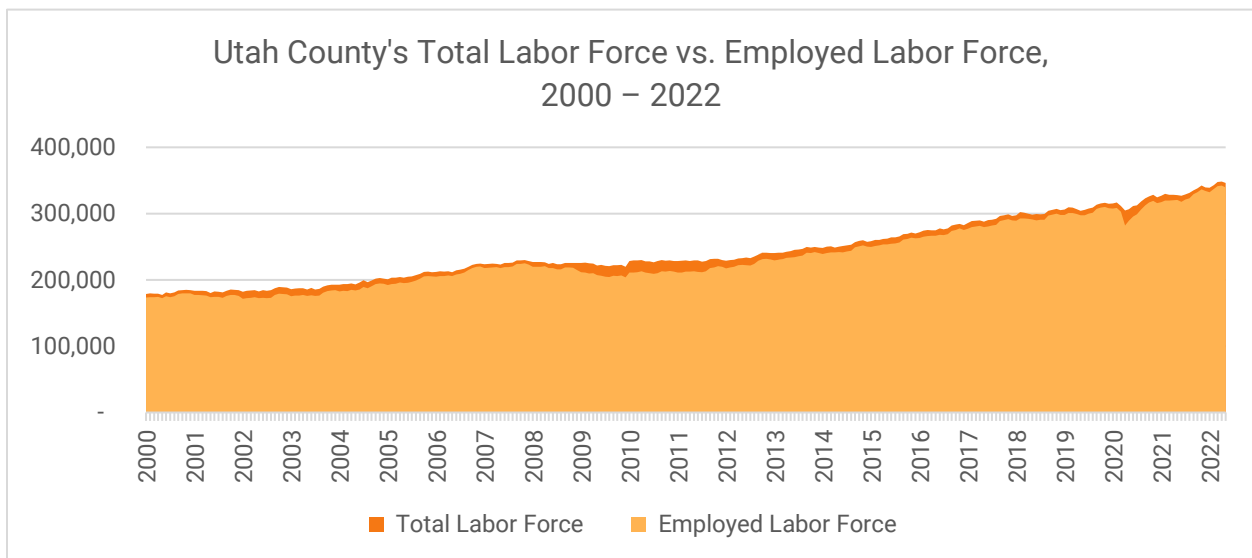


Figure 193: Utah County's Labor Force vs. Employed Labor Force, 2000 – 2022

#### 2.3.2.1.1 Occupations of Employed Labor Force

The bulk of Utah County’s employed labor force—about 125,000—are working in management, business, science, and arts. Sales and office occupations are the next most common of the broad categories of occupations, with about 43,000 individuals.<sup>190</sup>

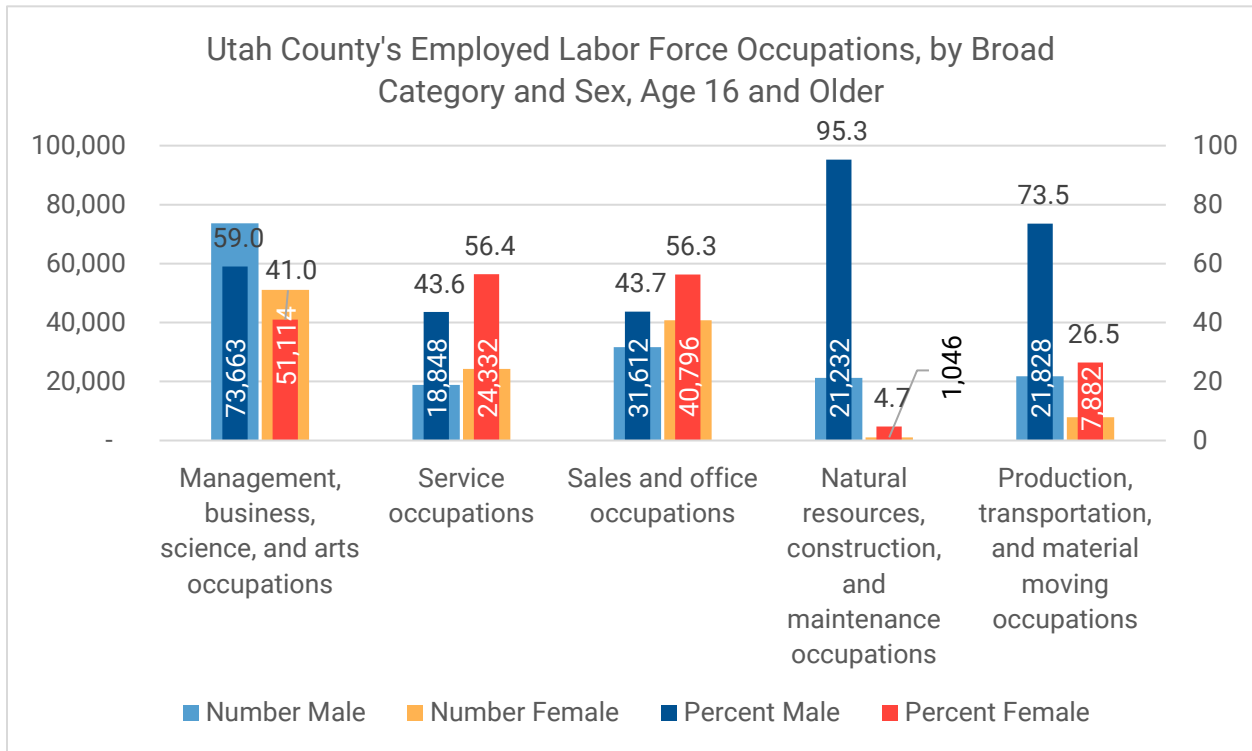
<sup>189</sup> U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Employment Dataset

<sup>190</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 ACS, Table S2401

Table 55: Utah County's Labor Force

Utah County's Labor Force	
<b>Civilian employed population 16 years and over</b>	292,353
<b>Management, business, science, and arts occupations</b>	124,777
<b>Management, business, and financial occupations</b>	46,621
<b>Management occupations</b>	31,046
<b>Business and financial operations occupations</b>	15,575
<b>Computer, engineering, and science occupations</b>	24,693
<b>Computer and mathematical occupations</b>	16,743
<b>Architecture and engineering occupations</b>	5,334
<b>Life, physical, and social science occupations</b>	2,616
<b>Education, legal, community service, arts, and media occupations</b>	39,788
<b>Community and social service occupations</b>	4,243
<b>Legal occupations</b>	2,227
<b>Educational instruction, and library occupations</b>	24,400
<b>Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media occupations</b>	8,918
<b>Healthcare practitioners and technical occupations</b>	13,675
<b>Health diagnosing and treating practitioners and other technical occupations</b>	9,411
<b>Health technologists and technicians</b>	4,264
<b>Service occupations</b>	43,180
<b>Healthcare support occupations</b>	7,771
<b>Protective service occupations</b>	4,254
<b>Firefighting and prevention, and other protective service including supervisors</b>	2,408
<b>Law enforcement workers including supervisors</b>	1,846
<b>Food preparation and serving related occupations</b>	13,729
<b>Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations</b>	10,211
<b>Personal care and service occupations</b>	7,215
<b>Sales and office occupations</b>	72,408
<b>Sales and related occupations</b>	32,544
<b>Office and administrative support occupations</b>	39,864
<b>Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations</b>	22,278
<b>Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations</b>	836
<b>Construction and extraction occupations</b>	13,694
<b>Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations</b>	7,748
<b>Production, transportation, and material moving occupations</b>	29,710
<b>Production occupations</b>	14,412
<b>Transportation occupations</b>	6,303
<b>Material moving occupations</b>	8,995

Women dominate the broad employment category of sales and office occupations, with 56.3 percent. They also dominate the service occupations, with 56.4 percent of all those



**Figure 194: Utah County's Employed Labor Force Occupations, by Broad Category and Sex, Age 16 and Older**

employed in the field. Together, these two occupational categories provide employment for about 65,000 women. Another 51,114 women are in management, business, science, and arts occupations.<sup>191</sup>

Men make up more than 95 percent of the workforce in natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations, with more than 21,232 employees. About 59 percent of the workers in management, business, science, and arts occupations are men (73,663 individuals).

<sup>191</sup> Ibid.

Looking at full-time, year-round employees only, the ratios of men to women increase.<sup>192</sup>

**Table 56: Ratio of Male and Female, Broad Occupation Categories, All vs. Full-Time, Year-Round Employees**

<b>Ratio of Male and Female, Broad Occupation Categories, All vs. Full-Time, Year-Round Employees</b>				
	All Employees		Full-Time, Year-Round Employees	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
<b>Management, business, science, and arts</b>	59.0	41.0	68.8	31.2
<b>Service</b>	43.6	56.4	54.9	45.1
<b>Sales and office</b>	43.7	56.3	51.4	48.6
<b>Natural resources, construction, and maintenance</b>	95.3	4.7	96.7	3.3
<b>Production, transportation, and material moving</b>	73.5	26.5	79.5	20.5

The table below shows the number of full-time, year-round workers by occupation in Utah County.<sup>193</sup>

<sup>192</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 ACS, Tables S2401 and S2402

<sup>193</sup> Ibid., Table S2402

Table 57: Utah County's Full-Time, Year-Round Labor Force by Occupation

Utah County's Full-Time, Year-Round Labor Force by Occupation	
<b>Full-time, year-round civilian employed population 16 years and over</b>	174,461
<b>Management, business, science, and arts occupations</b>	84,042
<b>Management, business, and financial occupations</b>	37,613
<b>Management occupations</b>	25,932
<b>Business and financial operations occupations</b>	11,681
<b>Computer, engineering, and science occupations</b>	19,180
<b>Computer and mathematical occupations</b>	13,318
<b>Architecture and engineering occupations</b>	4,467
<b>Life, physical, and social science occupations</b>	1,395
<b>Education, legal, community service, arts, and media occupations</b>	18,562
<b>Community and social service occupations</b>	2,697
<b>Legal occupations</b>	1,777
<b>Educational instruction, and library occupations</b>	9,854
<b>Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media occupations</b>	4,234
<b>Healthcare practitioners and technical occupations</b>	8,687
<b>Health diagnosing and treating practitioners and other technical occupations</b>	6,184
<b>Health technologists and technicians</b>	2,503
<b>Service occupations</b>	15,762
<b>Healthcare support occupations</b>	3,547
<b>Protective service occupations</b>	2,764
<b>Firefighting and prevention, and other protective service workers</b>	1,035
<b>Law enforcement workers including supervisors</b>	1,729
<b>Food preparation and serving related occupations</b>	3,543
<b>Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations</b>	3,828
<b>Personal care and service occupations</b>	2,080
<b>Sales and office occupations</b>	39,269
<b>Sales and related occupations</b>	18,506
<b>Office and administrative support occupations</b>	20,763
<b>Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations</b>	17,202
<b>Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations</b>	410
<b>Construction and extraction occupations</b>	10,759
<b>Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations</b>	6,033
<b>Production, transportation, and material moving occupations</b>	18,186
<b>Production occupations</b>	10,050
<b>Transportation occupations</b>	3,921
<b>Material moving occupations</b>	4,215

### 2.3.2.1.2 Industries of Employed Labor Force

The largest industry (as measured and classified by the U.S. Census Bureau) is educational services, and health care and social assistance. This category has nearly 38,000 employees, evenly split between education and health care. Professional, scientific, management, administrative, and waste management services account for nearly 32,000 employees. Manufacturing has about 20,000 full-time, year-round employees, and retail operations account for about 19,000.<sup>194</sup>

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<sup>194</sup> Ibid., Table S2404



Table 58: Utah County 's Full-Time, Year-Round Labor Force by Industry

Utah County 's Full-Time, Year-Round Labor Force by Industry					
	Total	Male	Percent Male	Female	Percent Female
<b>Full-time, year-round civilian employed population 16 years and over</b>	174,461	117,728	67.5	56,733	32.5
<b>Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining</b>	1,554	1,344	86.5	210	13.5
<b>Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting</b>	903	737	81.6	166	18.4
<b>Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction</b>	651	607	93.2	44	6.8
<b>Construction</b>	16,129	14,704	91.2	1,425	8.8
<b>Manufacturing</b>	20,241	15,610	77.1	4,631	22.9
<b>Wholesale trade</b>	5,362	4,159	77.6	1,203	22.4
<b>Retail trade</b>	18,927	12,256	64.8	6,671	35.2
<b>Transportation and warehousing, and utilities</b>	5,530	4,440	80.3	1,090	19.7
<b>Transportation and warehousing</b>	4,289	3,388	79	901	21
<b>Utilities</b>	1,241	1,052	84.8	189	15.2
<b>Information</b>	6,019	4,353	72.3	1,666	27.7
<b>Finance and insurance, and real estate and rental and leasing</b>	12,828	8,533	66.5	4,295	33.5
<b>Finance and insurance</b>	9,587	6,120	63.8	3,467	36.2
<b>Real estate and rental and leasing</b>	3,241	2,413	74.5	828	25.5
<b>Professional, scientific, and management, and administrative and waste management services</b>	31,807	23,284	73.2	8,523	26.8
<b>Professional, scientific, and technical services</b>	22,280	17,009	76.3	5,271	23.7
<b>Management of companies and enterprises</b>	315	231	73.3	84	26.7
<b>Administrative and support and waste management</b>	9,212	6,044	65.6	3,168	34.4
<b>Educational services, and health care and social assistance</b>	34,741	14,561	41.9	20,180	58.1
<b>Educational services</b>	17,057	8,141	47.7	8,916	52.3
<b>Health care and social assistance</b>	17,684	6,420	36.3	11,264	63.7
<b>Arts, entertainment, and recreation, and accommodation and food services</b>	7,152	4,427	61.9	2,725	38.1
<b>Arts, entertainment, and recreation</b>	1,668	1,104	66.2	564	33.8
<b>Accommodation and food services</b>	5,484	3,323	60.6	2,161	39.4
<b>Other services, except public administration</b>	7,067	5,080	71.9	1,987	28.1
<b>Public administration</b>	7,104	4,977	70.1	2,127	29.9

### 2.3.2.1.3 Earnings

The occupation with the highest median earnings for full-time, year-round employees is legal occupations, at \$95,372. Computer and mathematical occupations are next, at \$85,442, followed by architecture and engineering (\$82,125) and computer, engineering, and science occupations (\$81,858).<sup>195</sup>

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<sup>195</sup> Ibid., Table S2412

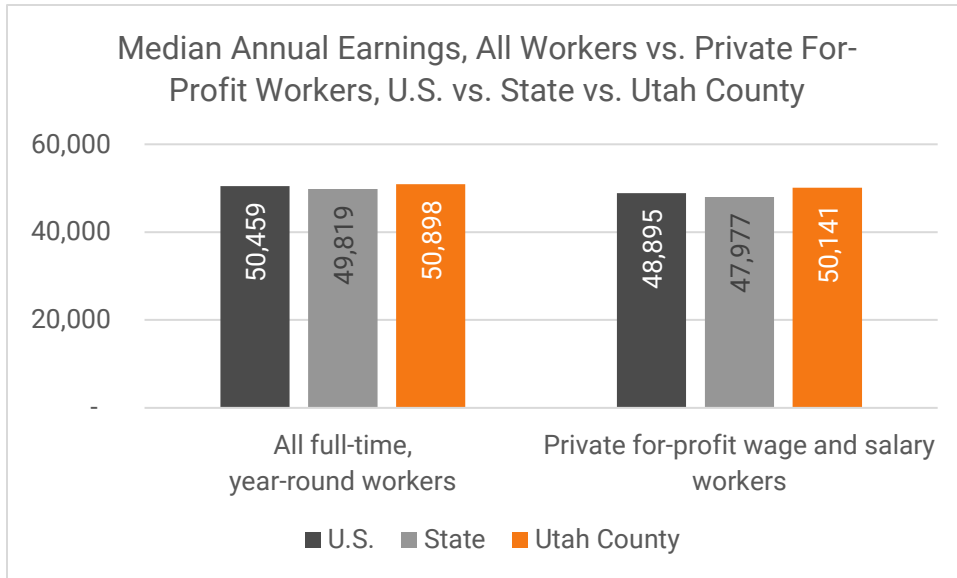
Table 59: Utah County Median Earnings, Full-Time, Year-Round Employees by Occupation

Utah County Median Earnings, Full-Time, Year-Round Employees by Occupation	
Occupation	Median Annual Earnings
Full-time, year-round civilian employed population 16 years and over with earnings	50,898
Management, business, science, and arts occupations	68,309
Management, business, and financial occupations	71,324
Management occupations	77,005
Business and financial operations occupations	62,696
Computer, engineering, and science occupations	81,858
Computer and mathematical occupations	85,442
Architecture and engineering occupations	82,125
Life, physical, and social science occupations	56,929
Education, legal, community service, arts, and media occupations	53,237
Community and social service occupations	40,887
Legal occupations	95,372
Educational instruction, and library occupations	53,065
Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media occupations	54,616
Healthcare practitioners and technical occupations	62,184
Health diagnosing and treating practitioners and other technical occupations	76,341
Health technologists and technicians	36,157
Service occupations	29,330
Healthcare support occupations	26,476
Protective service occupations	56,753
Firefighting and prevention, and other protective service workers including supervisors	48,208
Law enforcement workers including supervisors	58,811
Food preparation and serving related occupations	21,218
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations	32,557
Personal care and service occupations	25,000
Sales and office occupations	41,084
Sales and related occupations	53,844
Office and administrative support occupations	34,532
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations	44,681
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	30,818
Construction and extraction occupations	44,426
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations	46,878
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	37,699
Production occupations	39,145
Transportation occupations	45,768
Material moving occupations	30,033

The mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction industries pay the highest of any industry in Utah County, with a median of \$83,036. Accommodation and food service pays the lowest, at \$24,018.<sup>196</sup>

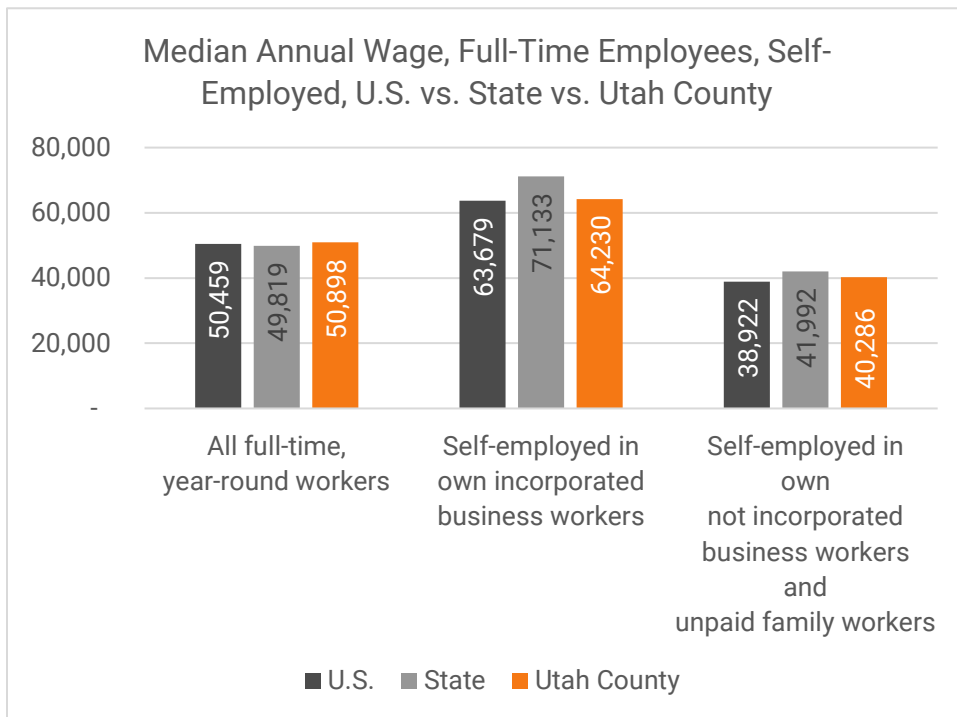
<b>Utah County Median Earnings, Full-Time, Year-Round Employees by Industry</b>	
<b>Industry</b>	<b>Median earnings</b>
<b>Full-time, year-round civilian employed population 16 years and over with earnings</b>	50,898
<b>Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining</b>	51,640
<b>Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting</b>	32,917
<b>Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction</b>	83,036
<b>Construction</b>	49,036
<b>Manufacturing</b>	49,047
<b>Wholesale trade</b>	54,096
<b>Retail trade</b>	36,801
<b>Transportation and warehousing, and utilities</b>	55,367
<b>Transportation and warehousing</b>	52,530
<b>Utilities</b>	62,688
<b>Information</b>	59,657
<b>Finance and insurance, and real estate and rental and leasing</b>	58,076
<b>Finance and insurance</b>	56,476
<b>Real estate and rental and leasing</b>	61,961
<b>Professional, scientific, and management, and administrative and waste management</b>	63,114
<b>Professional, scientific, and technical services</b>	72,727
<b>Management of companies and enterprises</b>	68,884
<b>Administrative and support and waste management services</b>	35,351
<b>Educational services, and health care and social assistance</b>	49,479
<b>Educational services</b>	54,138
<b>Health care and social assistance</b>	42,096
<b>Arts, entertainment, and recreation, and accommodation and food services</b>	26,558
<b>Arts, entertainment, and recreation</b>	39,309
<b>Accommodation and food services</b>	24,018
<b>Other services, except public administration</b>	47,879
<b>Public administration</b>	56,494

<sup>196</sup> Ibid., Table S2414



**Figure 195: Median Annual Earnings, All Workers vs. Private For-Profit Workers, U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County**

of Utah County’s private, for-profit employees are similar to those of all workers, and are on par



**Figure 196: Median Annual Wage, Full-Time Employees, Self-Employed, U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County**

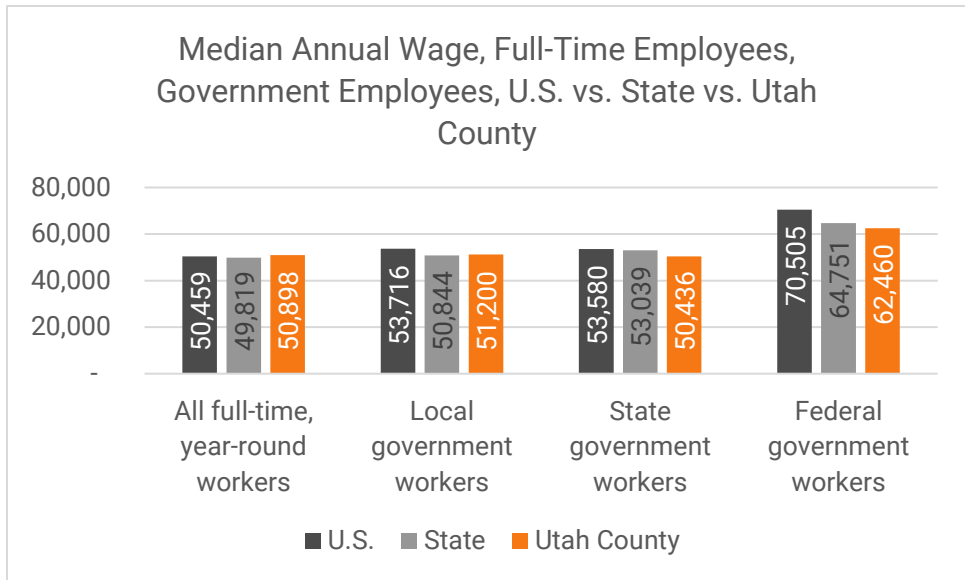
When considering earnings and occupations, it is instructive to evaluate class of workers—that is, self-employed, employed by for-profit corporation, employed by government, etc. Wages and salaries

of Utah County’s private, for-profit employees are similar to those of all workers, and are on par with state and national wages: \$50,141 in Utah County, compared to \$47,977 (state) and \$48,895 (nation).<sup>197</sup>

Self-employed workers who are working in their own unincorporated business earn less than self-employed workers in their own incorporated

<sup>197</sup> Ibid., Table S2419

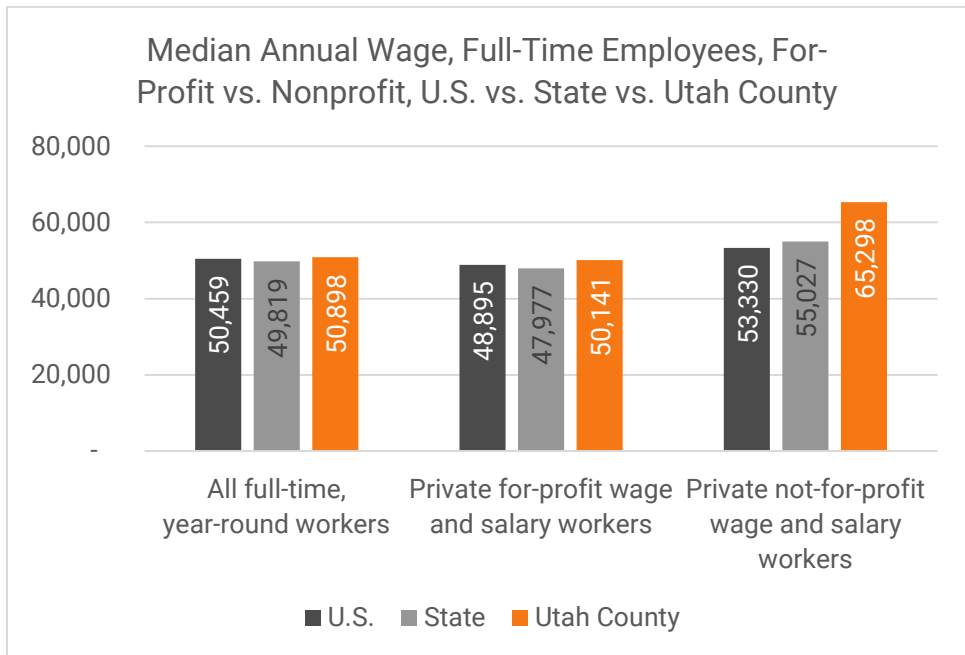
business. In Utah County, self-employed individuals in an incorporated entity earn \$64,230, compared to \$40,286 for those in unincorporated entities.<sup>198</sup>



**Figure 197: Median Annual Wage, Full-Time Employees, Government Employees, U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County**

Federal government workers make considerably more than state and local government workers—in Utah County, in the state, and nationally. The median income for Utah County federal workers is \$62,460, compared to

\$50,435 for state workers and \$51,200 for local government workers.<sup>199</sup>



**Figure 198: Median Annual Wage, Full-Time Employees, For-Profit vs. Nonprofit, U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County**

Interestingly, private nonprofit workers in Utah County make, on average, more than for-profit employees. Keep in mind that private nonprofit organizations include major hospitals and universities, as well

<sup>198</sup> Ibid.

<sup>199</sup> Ibid.

as other high-paying organizations. Utah County nonprofit workers have a median income of \$65,298, compared with state nonprofit workers' \$55,027.<sup>200</sup>

### 2.3.2.2 Unemployed Labor Force

Unemployment in Utah County has consistently stayed below state and national levels for many years. As the nation emerged from the Great Recession, Utah County's January 2010 unemployment rate was 7.7, compared to 8.0 statewide and 9.8 nationally. Since then, Utah County's rate has remained below the national rate, and has regularly been just below the state rate. As the pandemic took hold, Utah County's unemployment rate jumped to 7.5 percent in April 2020, far better than the state's 10.0 and the nation's 14.7. In May 2022, Utah County's rate is 2.0—the same as the state rate, and below the nation's 3.6 percent.<sup>201</sup>

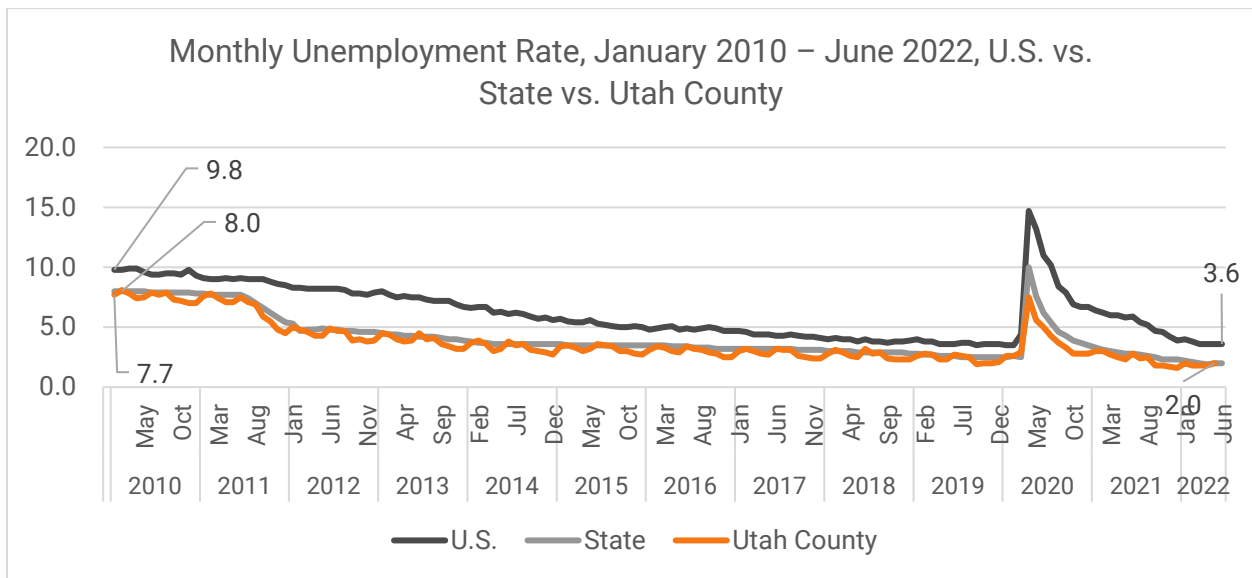


Figure 199: Monthly Unemployment Rate, January 2010 – June 2022, U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County

<sup>200</sup> Ibid.

<sup>201</sup> Bureau of Labor Statistics, Monthly Unemployment Dataset

### 2.3.3 Poverty

#### 2.3.3.1 People in Poverty

Utah County's poverty rate continues to decline: currently, it is at 10.0 percent. In 2010, the poverty **rate** was 14.6 percent. Statewide, the 2020 rate is 9.1 percent; nationally, it is 12.8 percent.<sup>202</sup>

Coming out of the Great Recession, Utah County's poverty rate was 14.6 percent in 2010. Since then, it has steadily declined, except for 2013 when it increased from 13.6 percent to 14.0 percent.<sup>203</sup>

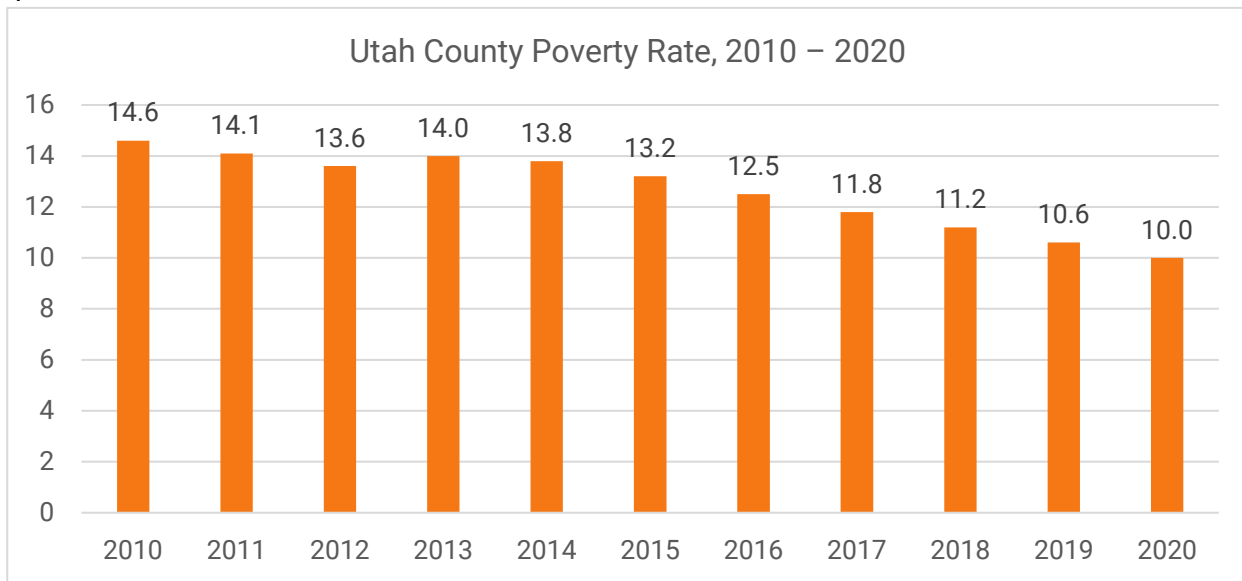
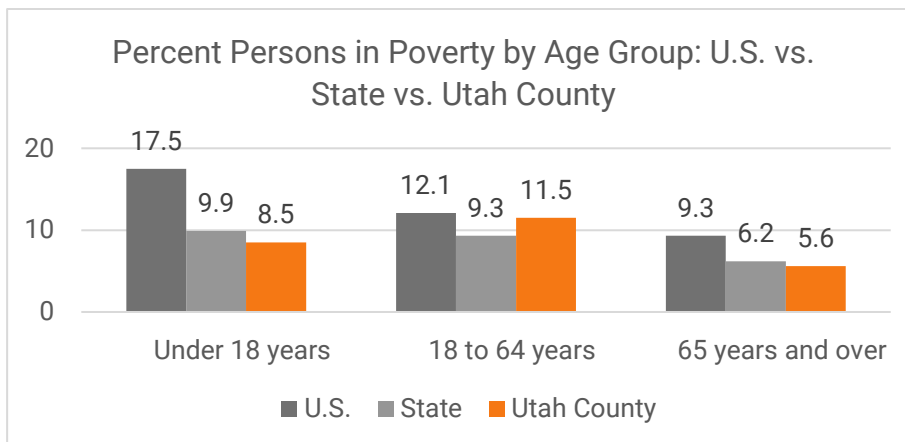


Figure 200: Utah County Poverty Rate, 2010 - 2020



For Utah County, the population group of 18 to 64 years is the group most likely to suffer from poverty, at 11.5 percent. About 5.6 percent of adults age 65 or over, and 8.5 percent

Figure 201: Percent Persons in Poverty by Age Group: U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County

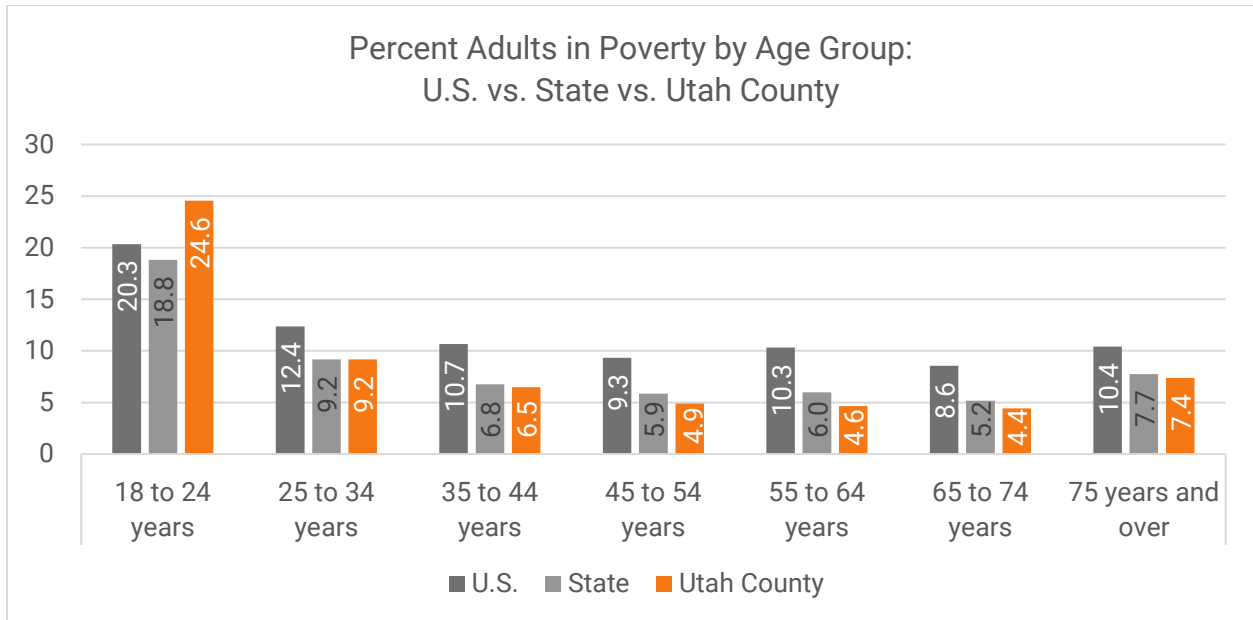
<sup>202</sup> Ibid., Table S0102

<sup>203</sup> Ibid., Years 2010 through 2020



of children under age 18, are in poverty in Utah County.<sup>204</sup>

The age group of 18 to 24 years is, by far, the group of adults most likely to be in poverty in Utah County. About one out of every four individuals in this age group is in poverty, compared to one out of five nationally. In Utah, the percentage for this group is less than one of five, at 18.8 percent. The next highest most likely age group of adults in poverty is 25 to 34 years, at 9.2 percent.<sup>205</sup>



**Figure 202: Percent Adults in Poverty by Age Group: U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County**

<sup>204</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 ACS, Table S0102

<sup>205</sup> Ibid., Table B17001

Focusing on Utah County, the figure below shows the number and percentage of persons in poverty for various age groups. The impact of poverty on children will be reviewed in more detail in Section 2.3.3.2. Note that 23,137 Utah County residents age 18 to 24 are in poverty, compared to the next largest group—25 to 34 years—with 8,089. Children under age 5 is next, followed by children 6 to 11 years and adults 35 to 44 years.

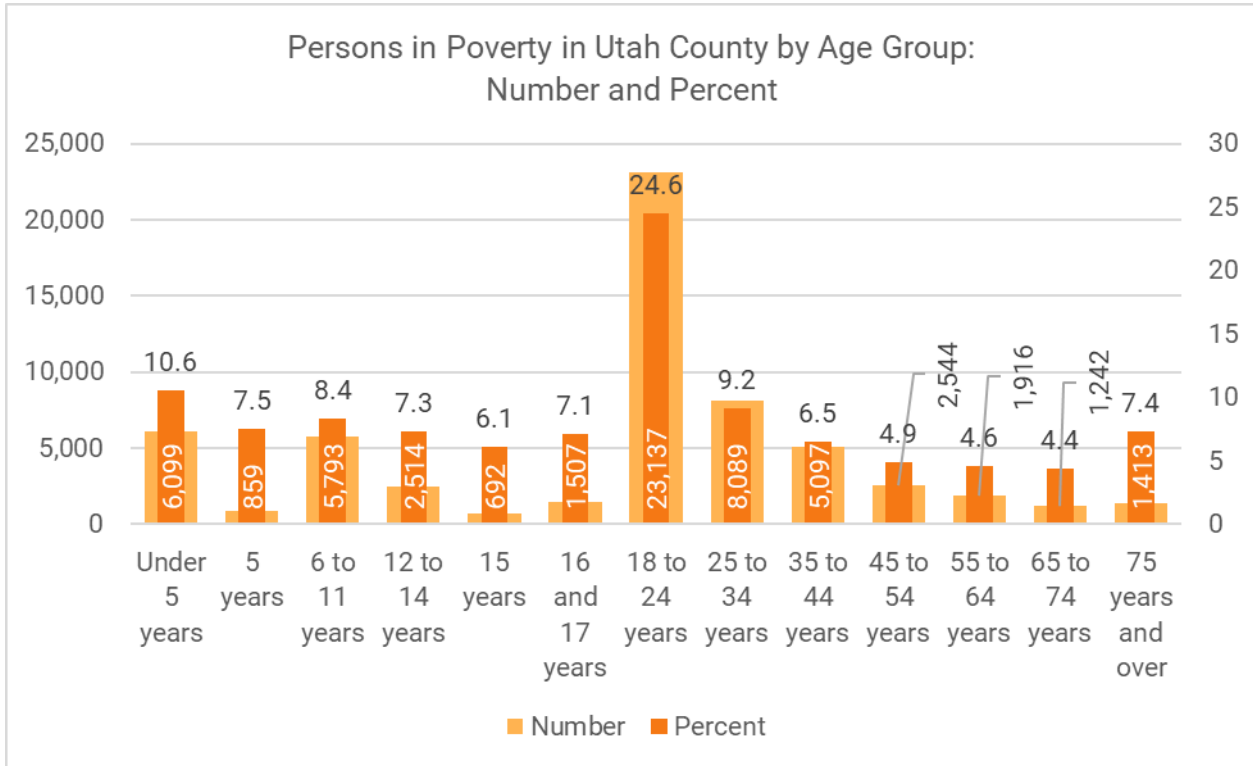
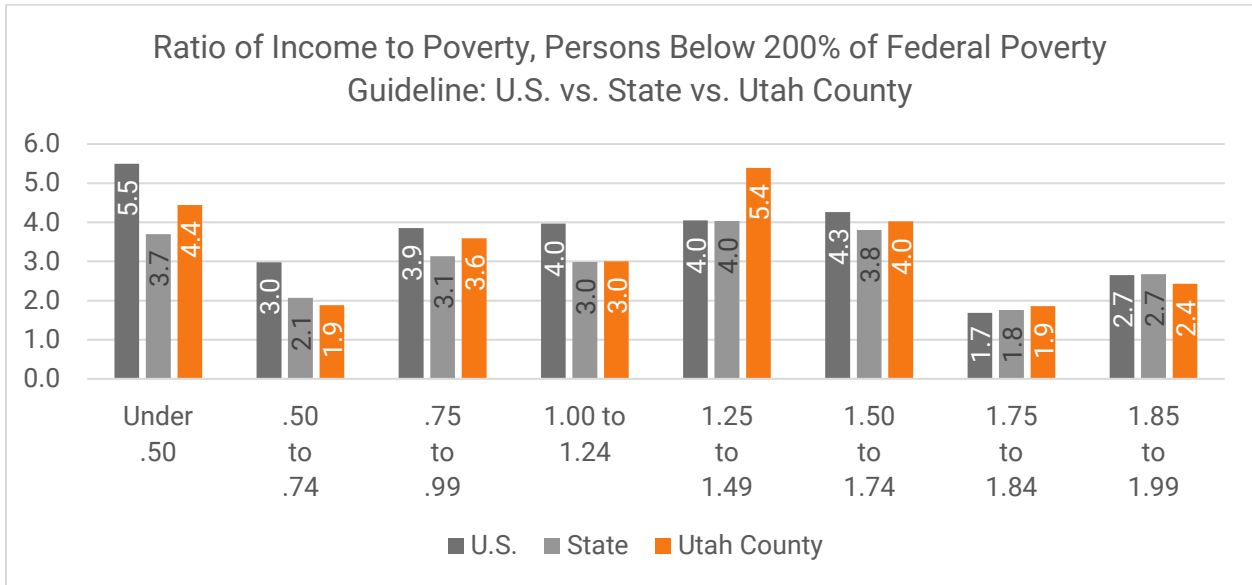
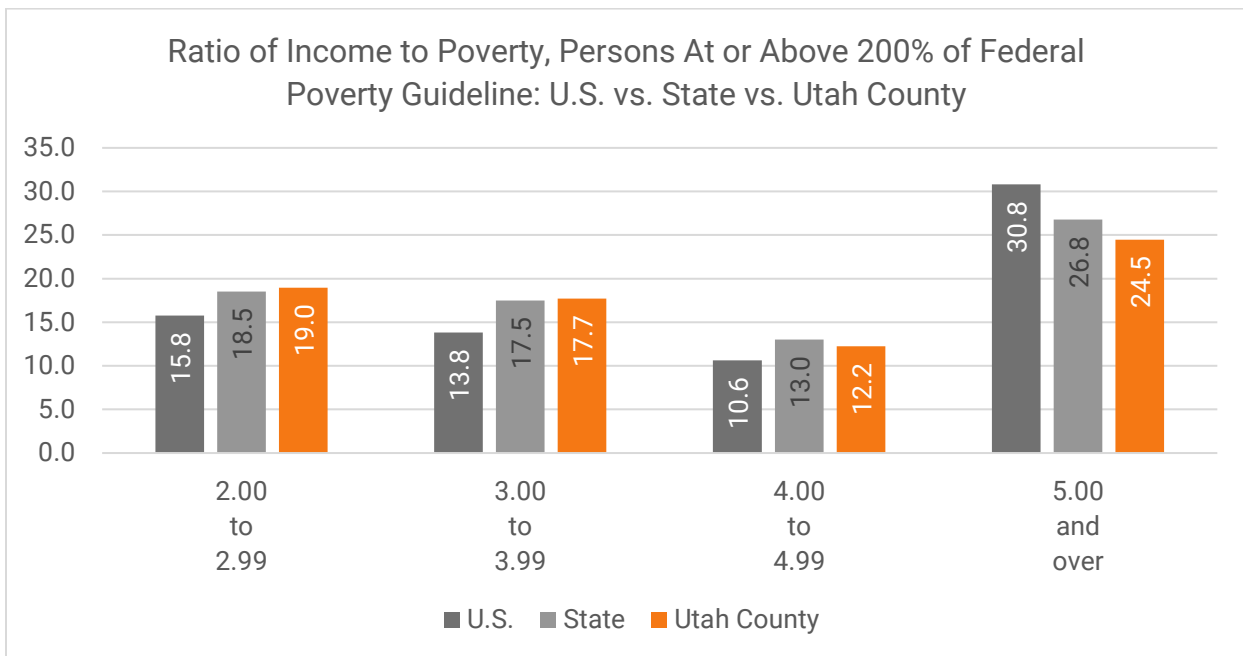


Figure 203: Persons in Poverty in Utah County by Age Group: Number and Percent

Another way to evaluate the status of Utah County residents' financial circumstances is to consider the ratio of income to poverty.<sup>206</sup>



**Figure 204: Ratio of Income to Poverty, Persons Below 200% of Federal Poverty Guideline: U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County**



**Figure 205: Ratio of Income to Poverty, Persons At or Above 200% of Federal Poverty Guideline: U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County**

<sup>206</sup> Ibid., Table B17002

Provo (25.8 percent) and Spring Lake (21.1 percent) have the highest percentage of persons in poverty in Utah County.<sup>207</sup>

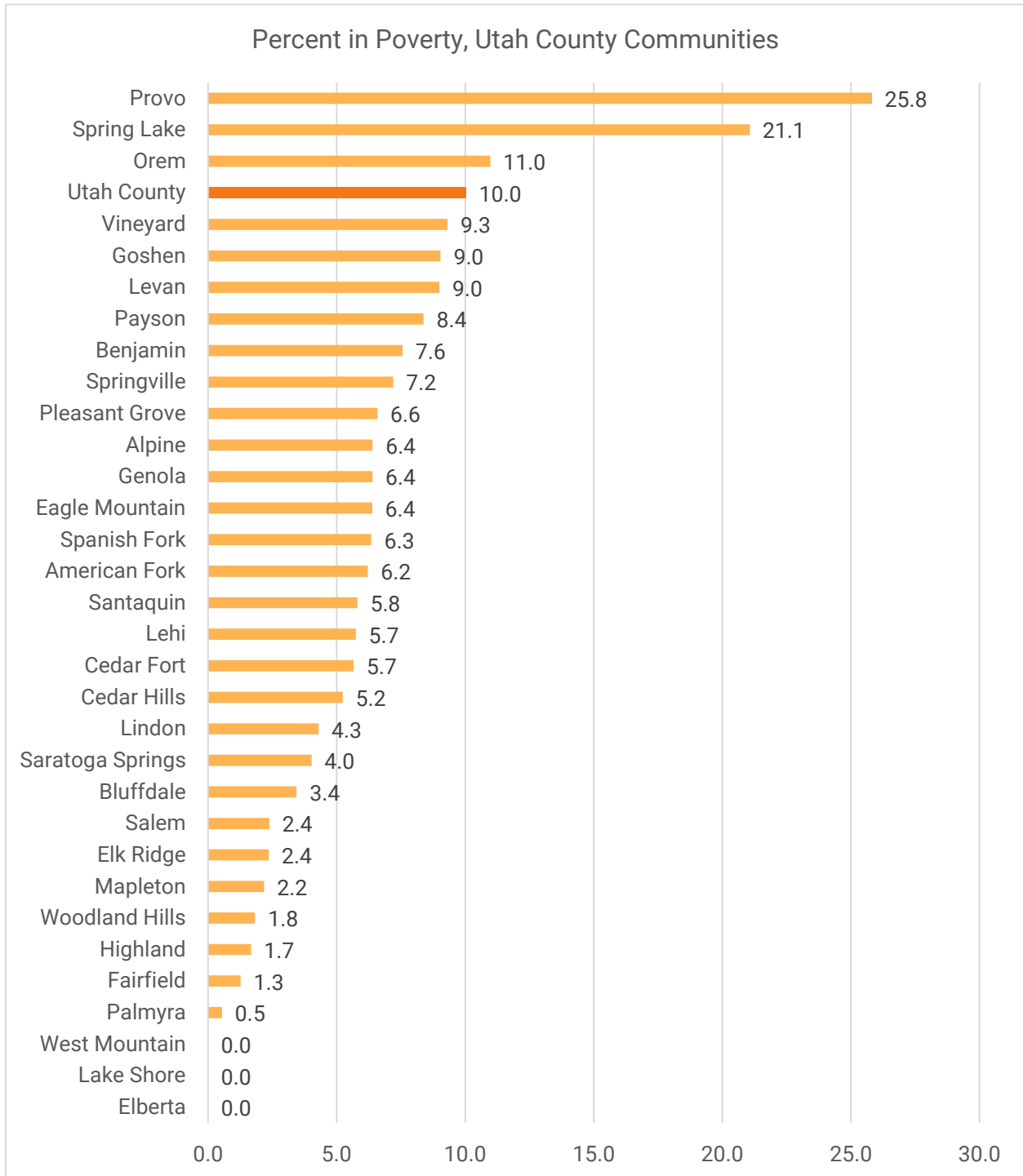


Figure 206: Percent in Poverty, Utah County Communities

<sup>207</sup> Ibid., Table B170010

Nearly 16 percent of families living in Provo are below the federal poverty guideline (FPG); 22.8 percent are living at 100 percent but less than 200 percent of poverty.<sup>208</sup> The FPG for a family of four is \$27,750. Section 2.3.3.7 discusses college enrollment and poverty.

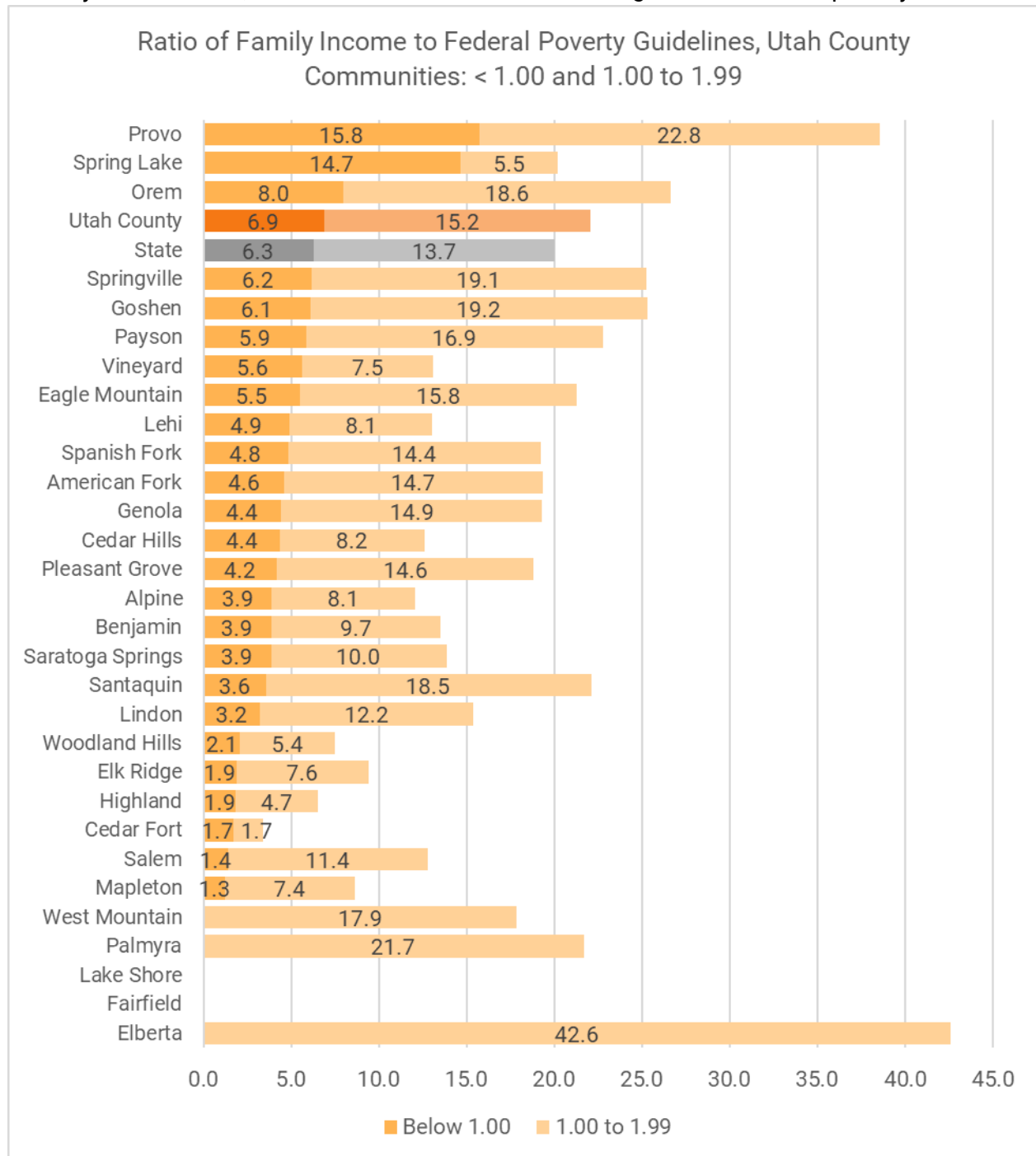


Figure 207: Ratio of Family Income to Federal Poverty Guidelines, Utah County Communities: < 1.00 and 1.00 to 1.99

<sup>208</sup> Ibid., Table B17026

Household type—that is, married-couple households, female householder with no spouse present, etc.—impacts poverty.

When considering public assistance provided to individuals, families, and households, it is important to note nuanced differences in definitions.

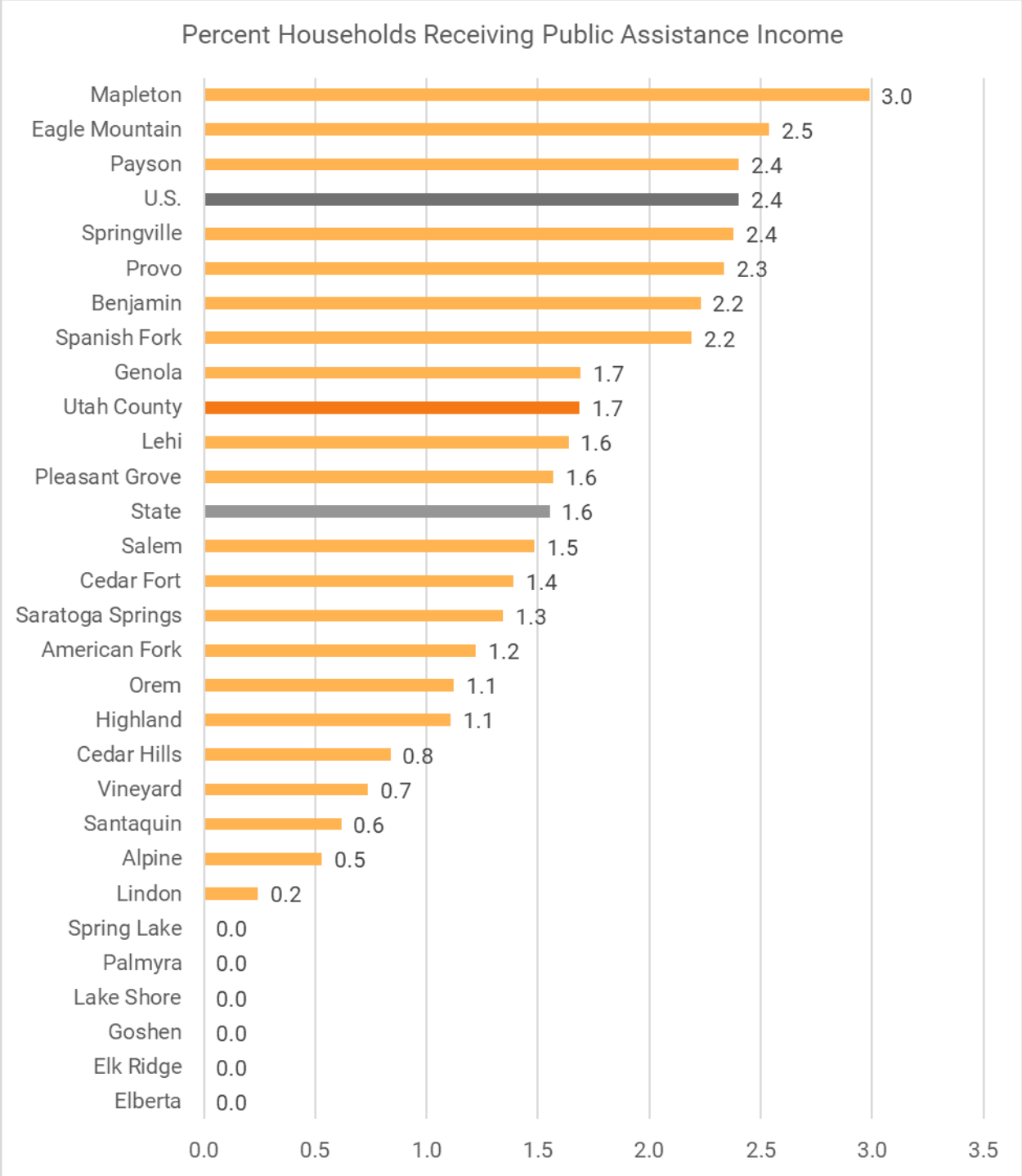
Because people often underreport income, the Census Bureau requests individuals report specific types of income, such as supplemental security income, retirement income, etc. to help the respondent remember and report more accurately. Public assistance income “includes general assistance and Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF). Separate payments received for hospital or other medical care (vendor payments) are excluded. This does not include Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or noncash benefits such as Food Stamps. The terms ‘public assistance income’ and ‘cash public assistance’ are used interchangeably in the 2020 ACS.”<sup>209</sup>

With this definition in mind, Mapleton has the highest percentage of households receiving public assistance, at 3.0 percent. Calculating the margin of error, this percentage could be as low as 1.3 percent. Five smaller communities—Spring Lake, Palmyra, Lake Shore, Goshen, Elk Ridge, and Elberta—have fewer than 0.01 receiving assistance. Fairfield, with fewer than 25 total households, is excluded from the chart below.<sup>210</sup>

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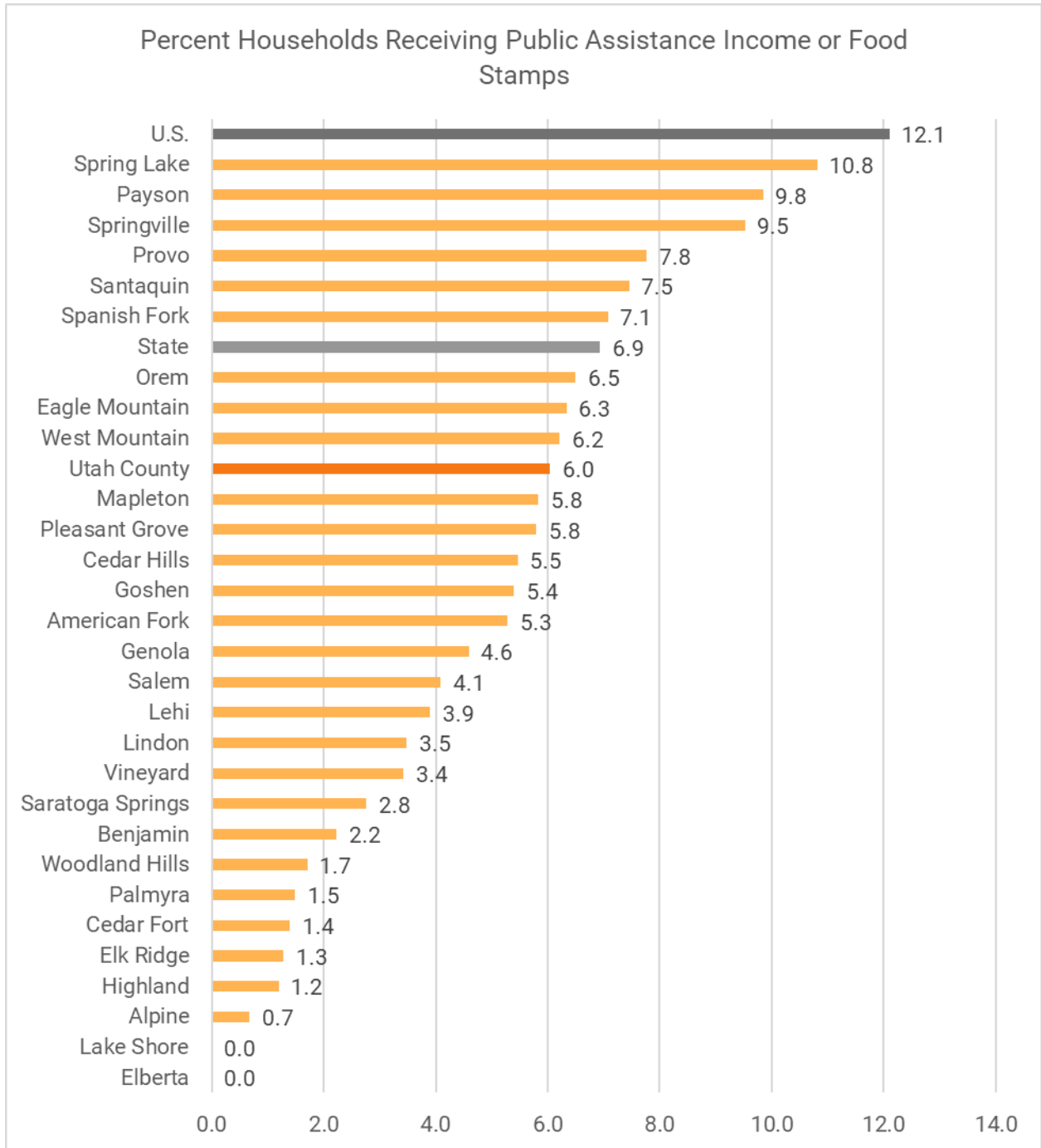
<sup>209</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, *American Community Survey and Puerto Rico Community Survey 2020 Subject Definitions*, p. 87

<sup>210</sup> *Ibid.*, Table B19057



**Figure 208: Percent Households Receiving Public Assistance Income**

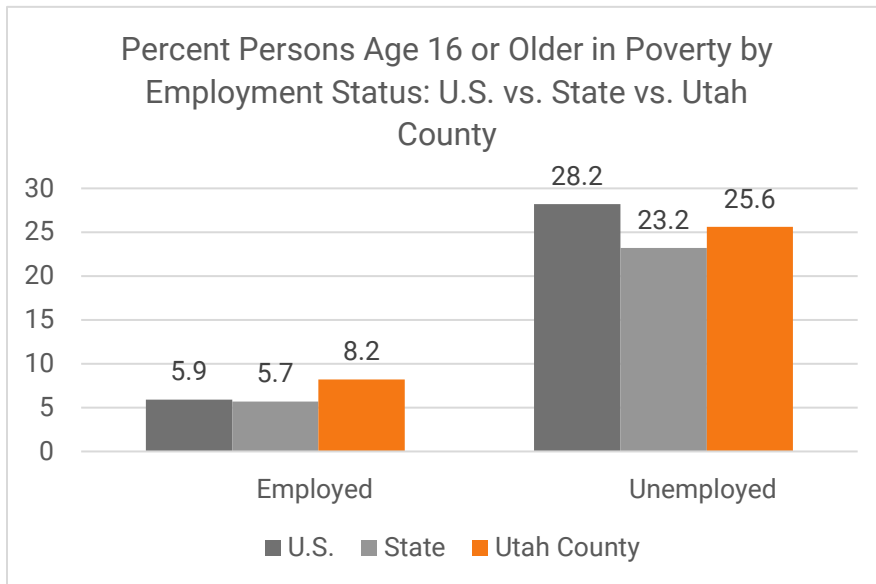
When food stamps or Supplemental Assistance for Needy Families (SNAP) data is included, 6.0 percent of Utah County households receive federal government assistance. Still, all Utah County communities are below the national (12.1 percent) and state (6.9 percent) rates.<sup>211</sup>



**Figure 209: Percent Households Receiving Public Assistance Income or Food Stamps**

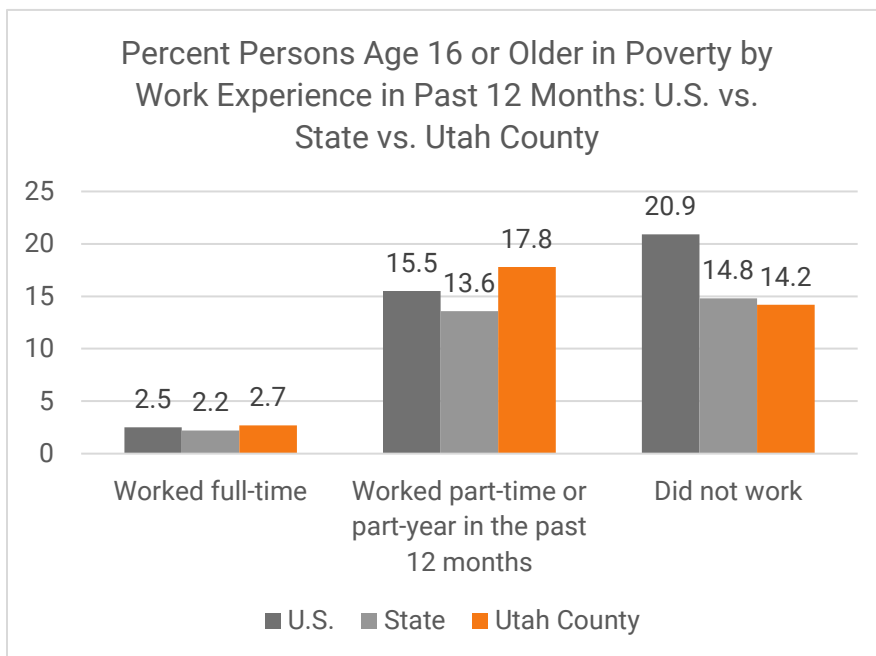
<sup>211</sup> Ibid., Table B19058. Fairfield, with its low number of households, has been excluded from the figure.





**Figure 210: Percent Persons Age 16 or Older in Poverty by Employment Status: U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County**

It is not surprising that of all those who are unemployed, 25.6 percent are in poverty. However, it may be enlightening to some to learn that 8.5 percent of those who are employed are also in poverty. This compares to 5.7 percent statewide and 5.9 percent nationally.<sup>212</sup>



**Figure 211: Percent Persons Age 16 or Older in Poverty by Work Experience in Past 12 Months: U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County**

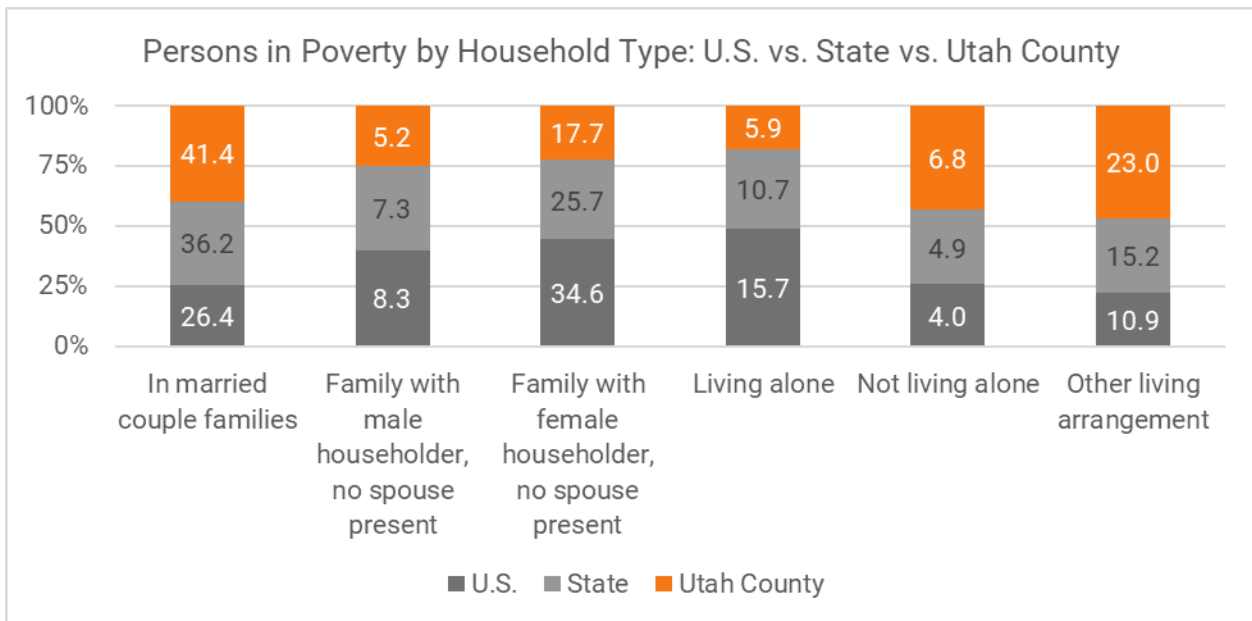
Of those who worked only part-time or part-year in the past 12 months, 17.8 percent are living in poverty; 14.2 percent of those who did not work are in poverty.<sup>213</sup>

<sup>212</sup> Ibid.

<sup>213</sup> Ibid.

### 2.3.3.2 Poverty and Household Type

Household type—that is, married-couple households, female householder with no spouse present, etc.—impacts poverty. Looking at all persons in poverty in Utah County, 64.3 percent live in family households—that is, two or more persons related by marriage or birth, including adoption, foster children, and stepparents or stepchildren. When comparing the percentage of people who are in poverty and living in married-couple households, differences between Utah County and other geographic regions are clear. In Utah County, 41.4 percent of all persons in poverty are living in married-couple households. This compares to 36.2 percent for the state and 26.4 percent nationally. Of all persons in poverty in Utah County, 17.7 percent are in families with a female householder and no spouse present, compared to 25.7 percent statewide and 43.6 percent nationally.



**Figure 212: Persons in Poverty by Household Type: U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County**

Note that the second-most-common type of household for persons in poverty in Utah County is persons living in “other living arrangements”—that is, not in family units, not living alone, and not “not living alone.” These individuals make up 23 percent of all persons in poverty and are largely college dormitory students or large groups of individuals, each with his or her own landlord agreement and, therefore, (according to Census Bureau definitions) have multiple

householders living together. These would include working professionals with roommates who each have their own lease, a practice that is unique to Utah County.

When looking at poverty rates and household type in individual communities, Vineyard has the largest percentage of persons in other living arrangements, at 46 percent. This is followed by Provo (37.7 percent), Mapleton (24.7 percent), Genola (19.6 percent), and Orem (17.0 percent).

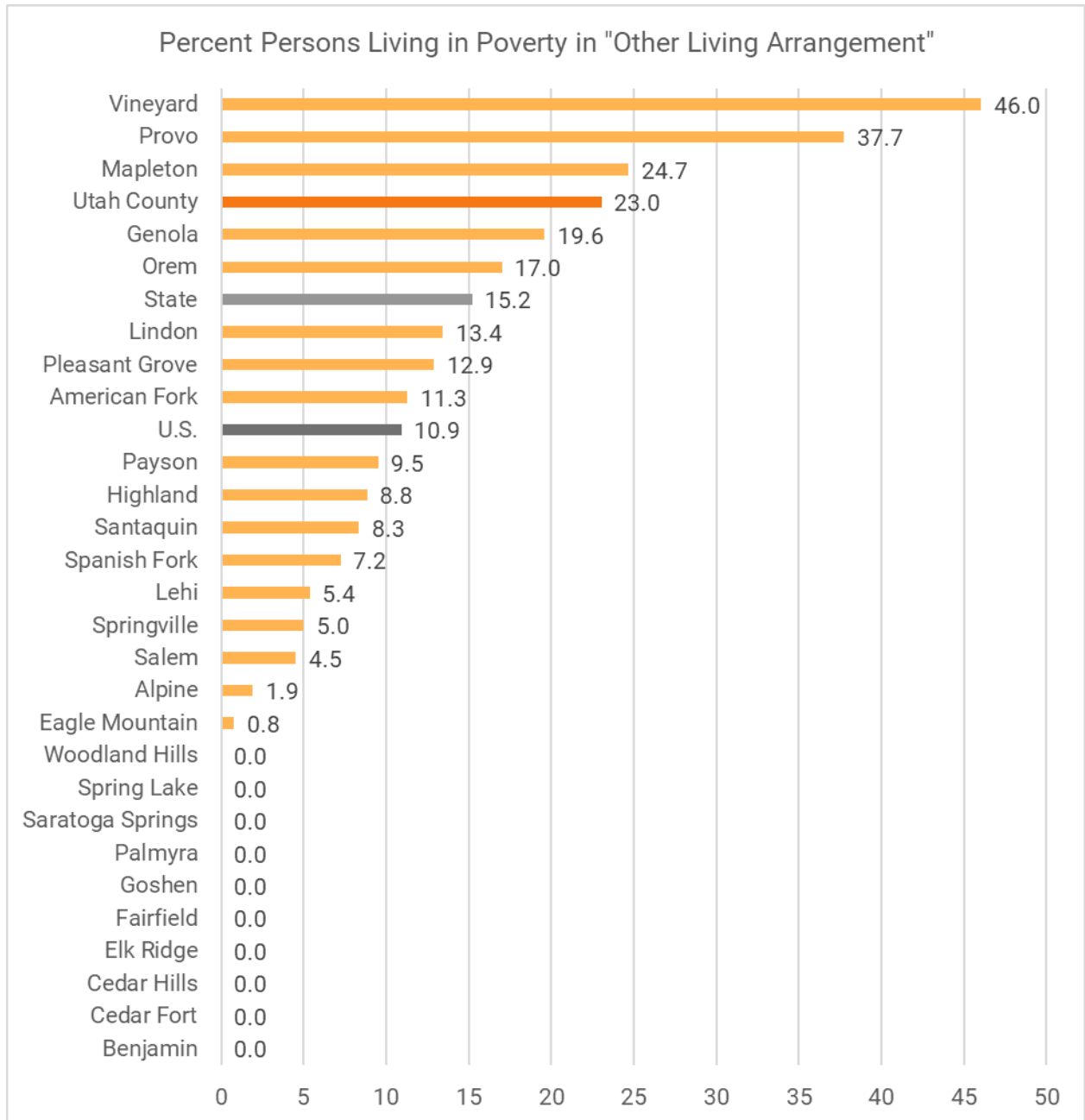
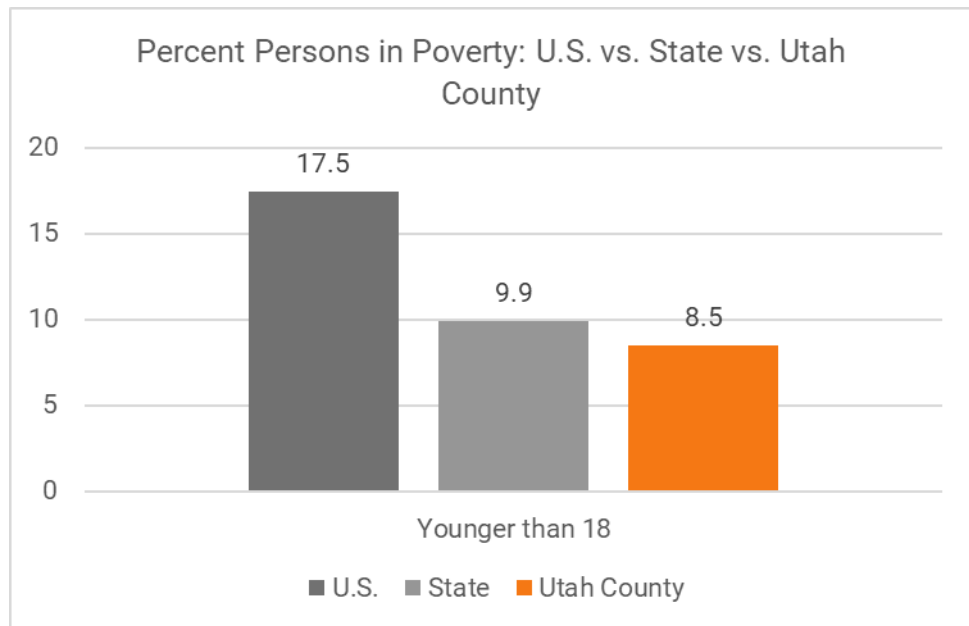


Figure 213: Percent Persons Living in Poverty in "Other Living Arrangement"

percent). Several Utah County Communities have no one in poverty who is in other living arrangements.”<sup>214</sup>

### 2.3.3.3 Children in Poverty

Childhood poverty is an especially concerning problem because it leads to many other problems later in life. In Utah County, about 8.5 percent of children younger than 18 years are living in poverty, compared to 9.9 percent for the state and 17.5 percent for the U.S. <sup>215</sup>



Childhood poverty can lead to poor academic performance, increased likelihood of dropping out of high school, and increased mental and physical health issues.

**Figure 214: Percent Persons in Poverty: U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County**

When breaking down the percent of

children in poverty by age group, the group with the highest likelihood of experiencing poverty is the youngest: those under 5 years. In Utah County, 10.6 percent of this age group is in poverty, compared to 11.2 percent statewide and 19.1 percent nationally.<sup>216</sup>

<sup>214</sup> Ibid., Table B17021

<sup>215</sup> Ibid., Table B17001

<sup>216</sup> Ibid.

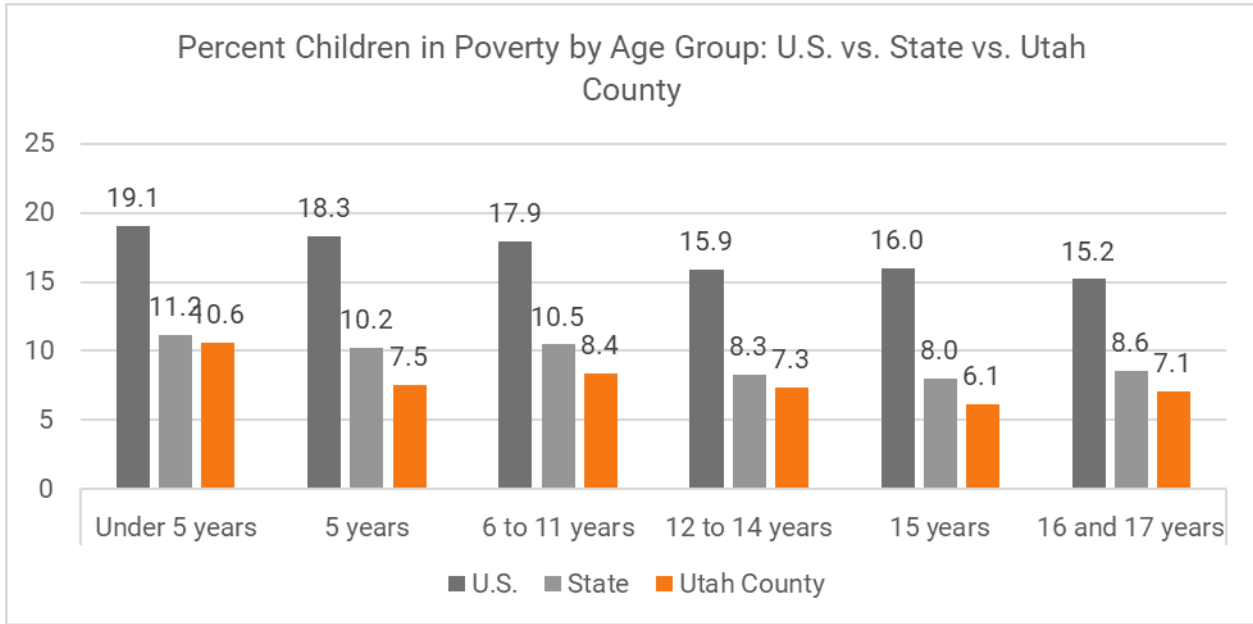


Figure 215: Percent Children in Poverty by Age Group: U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County

In Utah County, about 17,464 children under 18 years are in poverty. Of these, about 6,099 are under age 5, and nearly 6,000 are between 6 and 11 years.<sup>217</sup>

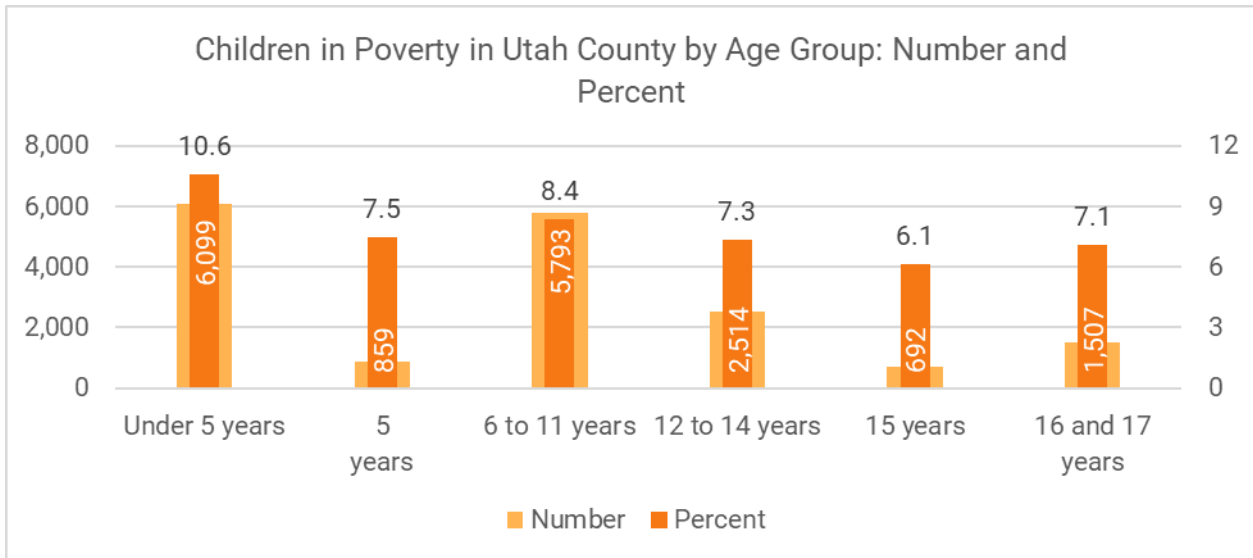


Figure 216: Children in Poverty in Utah County by Age Group: Number and Percent

<sup>217</sup> Ibid.

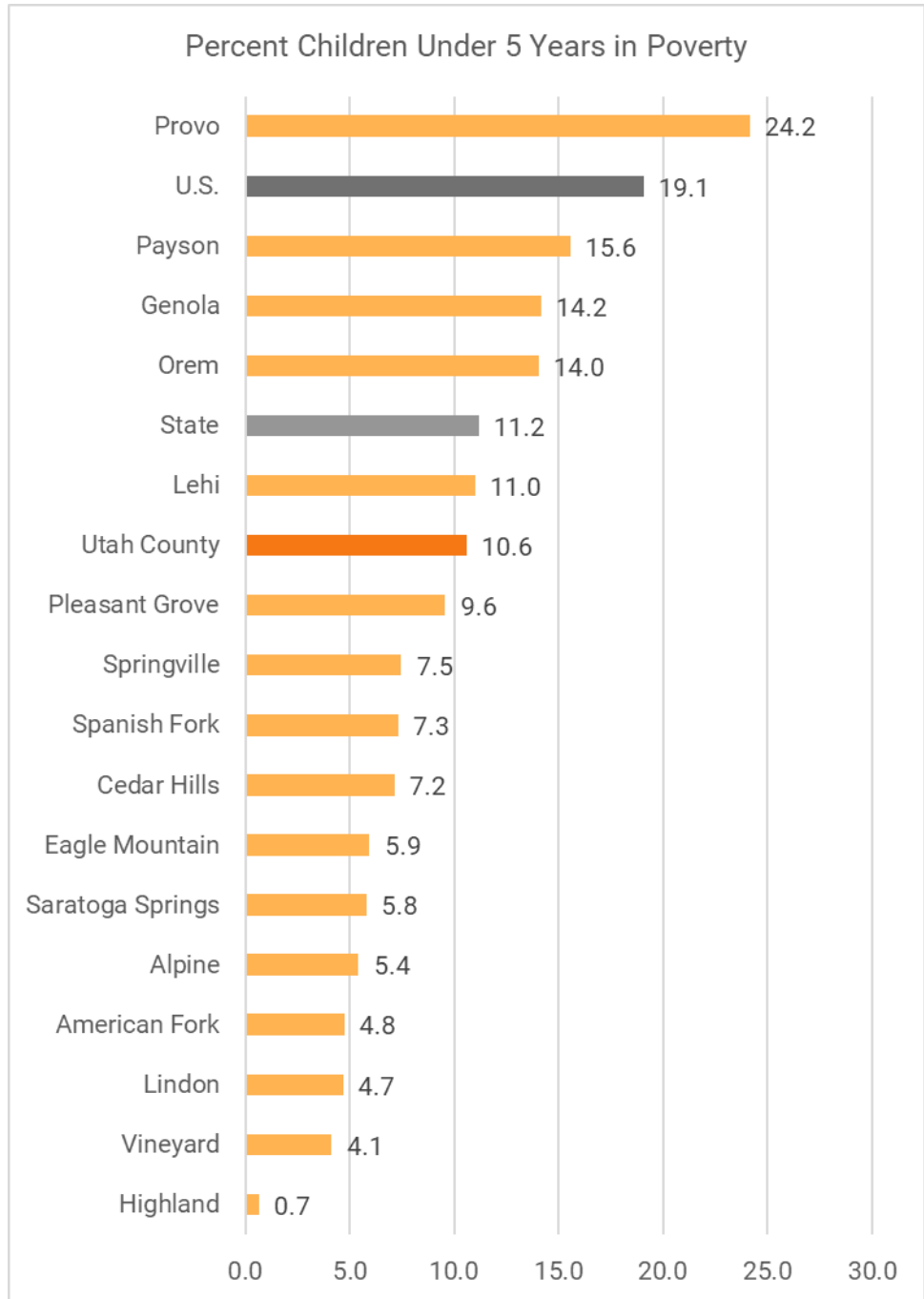
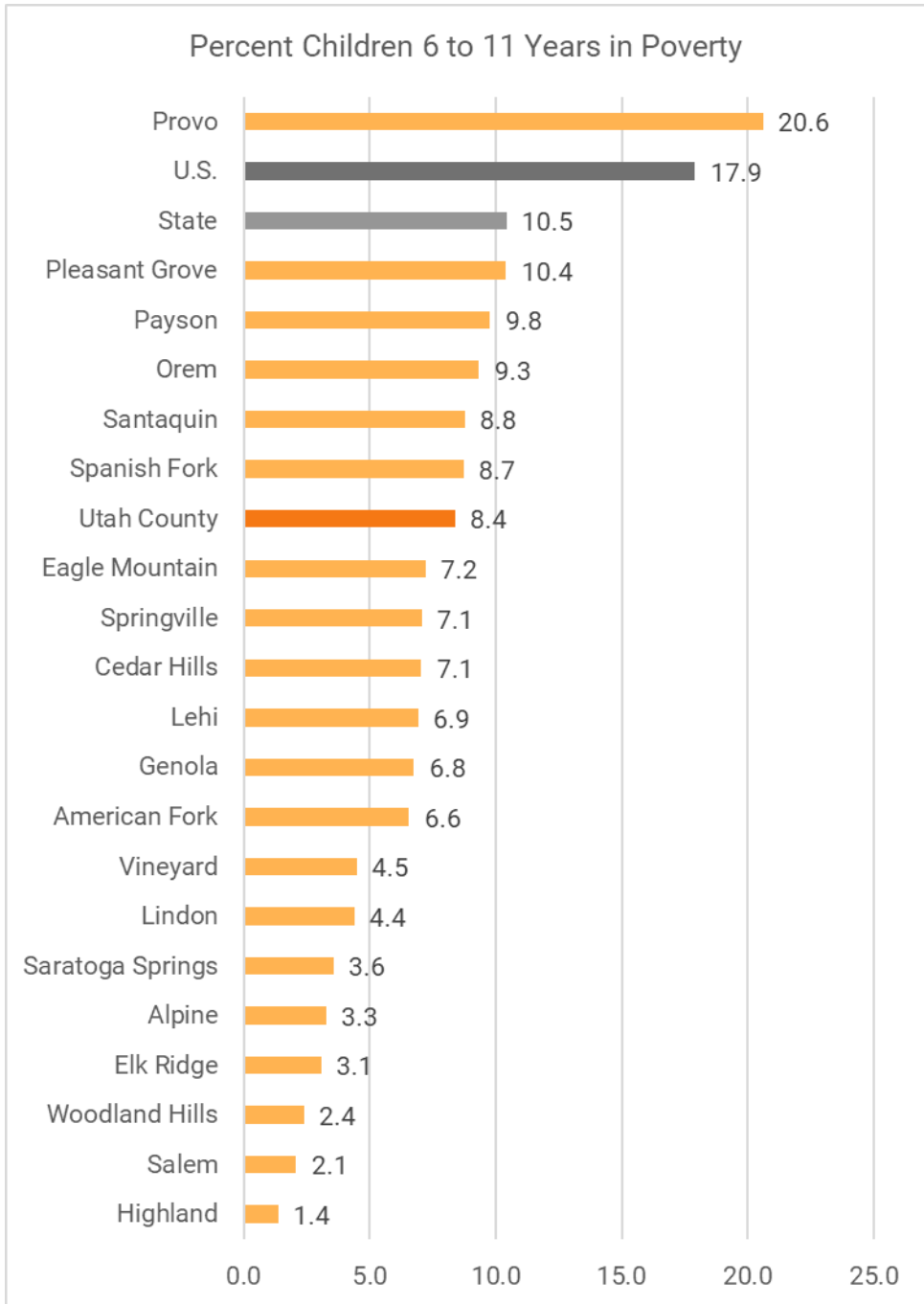


Figure 217: Percent Children Under 5 Years in Poverty

Provo has the highest percentage of children under age 5 who are living in poverty, at 24.2 percent. Payson, Genola, and Orem are above the state average of 11.2 percent. Lehi, slightly below the state number at 11.0 percent, is higher than the Utah County average (10.6 percent). In the figure depicting community percentage of children under 5 years in poverty, those communities with fewer than 20 such children have been removed.<sup>218</sup>

<sup>218</sup> Ibid.



Provo also has the highest percentage of children 6 to 11 years who are in poverty, at 20.6—higher than the national average of 17.9, and nearly twice the state’s rate of 10.5 percent. Pleasant Grove is next highest, at 10.4 percent, followed by Orem, Santaquin, and Spanish Fork. Communities with fewer than 20 children in this age group have been removed from this figure.<sup>219</sup>

Figure 218: Percent Children 6 to 11 Years in Poverty

<sup>219</sup> Ibid.

About 3.6 percent of children age 5 to 17 years who speak a language other than English at home in Utah County speak Spanish. This compares to 5.4 percent for Utah and 6.0 percent for the United States. About 0.4 percent of Utah County children in poverty in this age group speak other Indo-European languages at home, and the same percent speak Asian and Pacific Islander languages. About 0.3 percent speak other languages at home.<sup>220</sup>

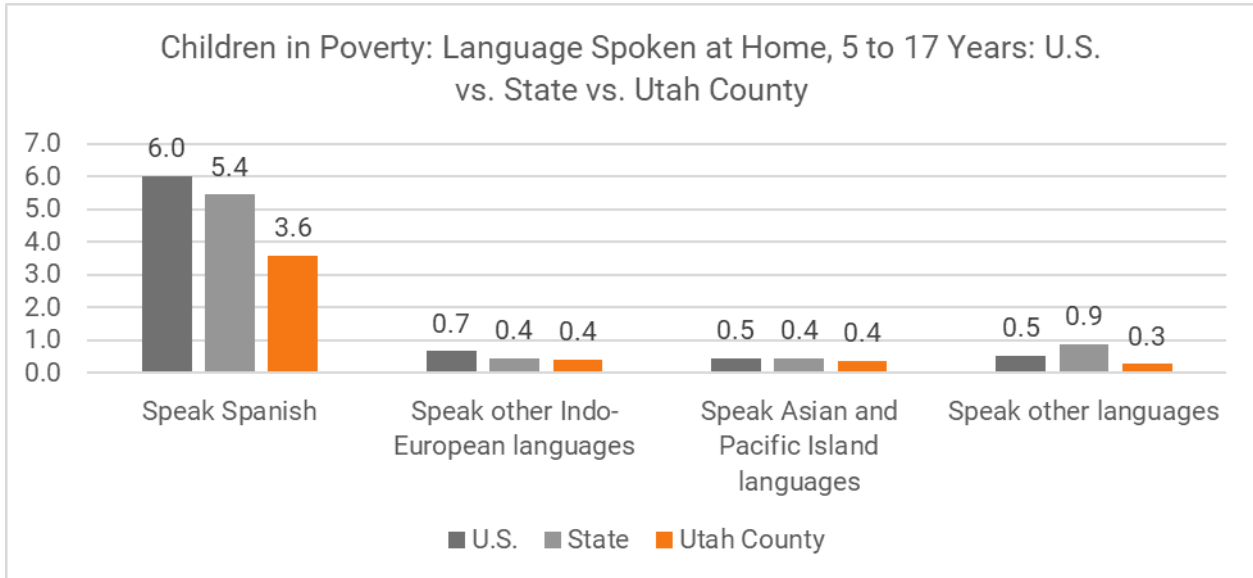
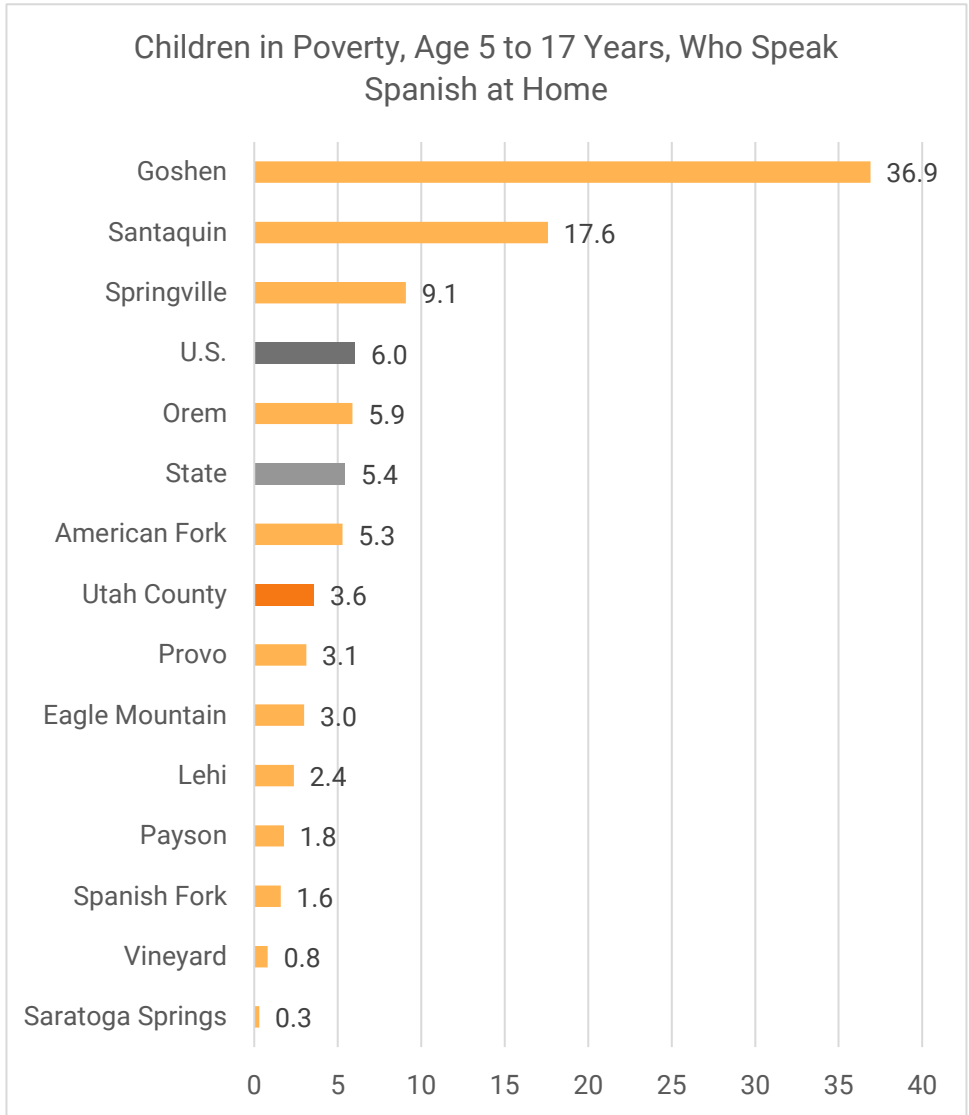


Figure 219: Children in Poverty: Language Spoken at Home, 6 to 11 Years: U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County

<sup>220</sup> Ibid., Table 16009





Goshen is the Utah County community with the highest rate of children in poverty age 5 to 17 who speak Spanish at home, with nearly 37 percent. With Goshen’s small population, this equates to only about 40 children. Santaquin has the next highest rate, at 17.6 percent and about 104 such children. Springville’s 9.1 percent (191 children) is followed by Orem’s 5.9 percent (554 children).<sup>221</sup>

Figure 220: Children in Poverty, Age 5 to 17 Years, Who Speak Spanish at Home

<sup>221</sup> Ibid.

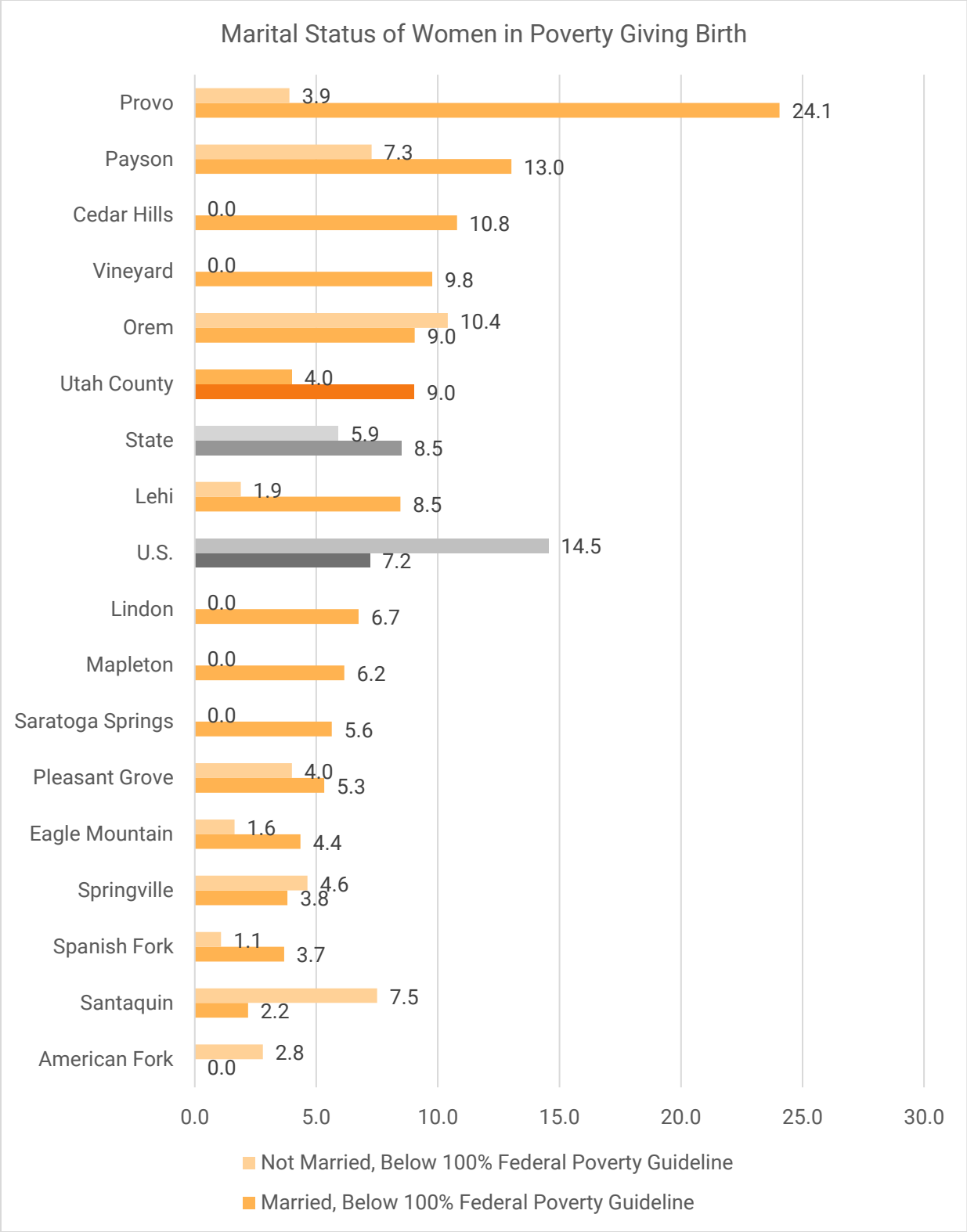
In the United States, about 14.5 percent of women in poverty who give birth and live below the federal poverty guideline are not married, while about half that number—7.2 percent—are married. Utah and Utah County follow the opposite trend: twice the number of women in poverty who give birth are married as opposed to unmarried.<sup>222</sup> This trend bodes well for children born into poverty: having two married biological parents greatly mitigates the negative effects of childhood poverty. For example, one study showed that a child born and raised by a never-married mother is nine times more likely to live in poverty than a child born and raised by two married parents. The study also showed that marriage has a significant positive effect on reducing child poverty, “even if the marriage does not last throughout the child's entire childhood.”<sup>223</sup> Being raised in a married two-parent family for just half of one's childhood reduces poverty as much as adding four years to the mother's education.<sup>224</sup>

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<sup>222</sup> Ibid., Table B13010

<sup>223</sup> Rector, R. & Johnson, K. A., (2002). *The Effects of Marriage and Maternal Education in Reducing Child Poverty. A Report of the Heritage Center for Data Analysis*. Heritage Foundation, Washington, D.C.

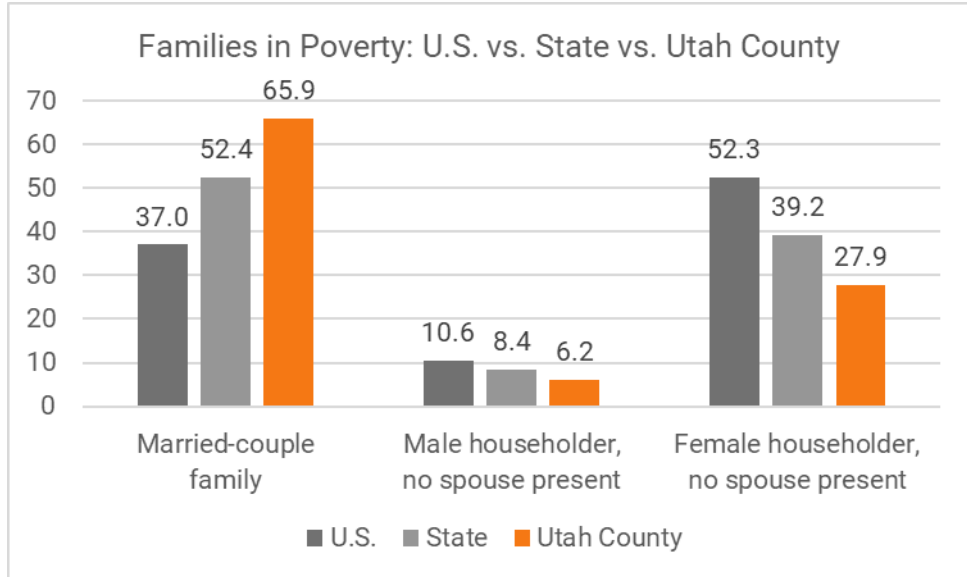
<sup>224</sup> Ibid.



**Figure 221: Marital Status of Women in Poverty Giving Birth; Communities < 20 births not included**

### 2.3.3.4 Families in Poverty

In Utah County, the most common family type to be in poverty is married-couple families; nearly two out of every three families in poverty fall into this category. Utah County bucks the



national trend in this regard—only 37 percent of all families in poverty nationally are married-couple families. For all three comparison geographies (U.S., state of Utah, and Utah County), male

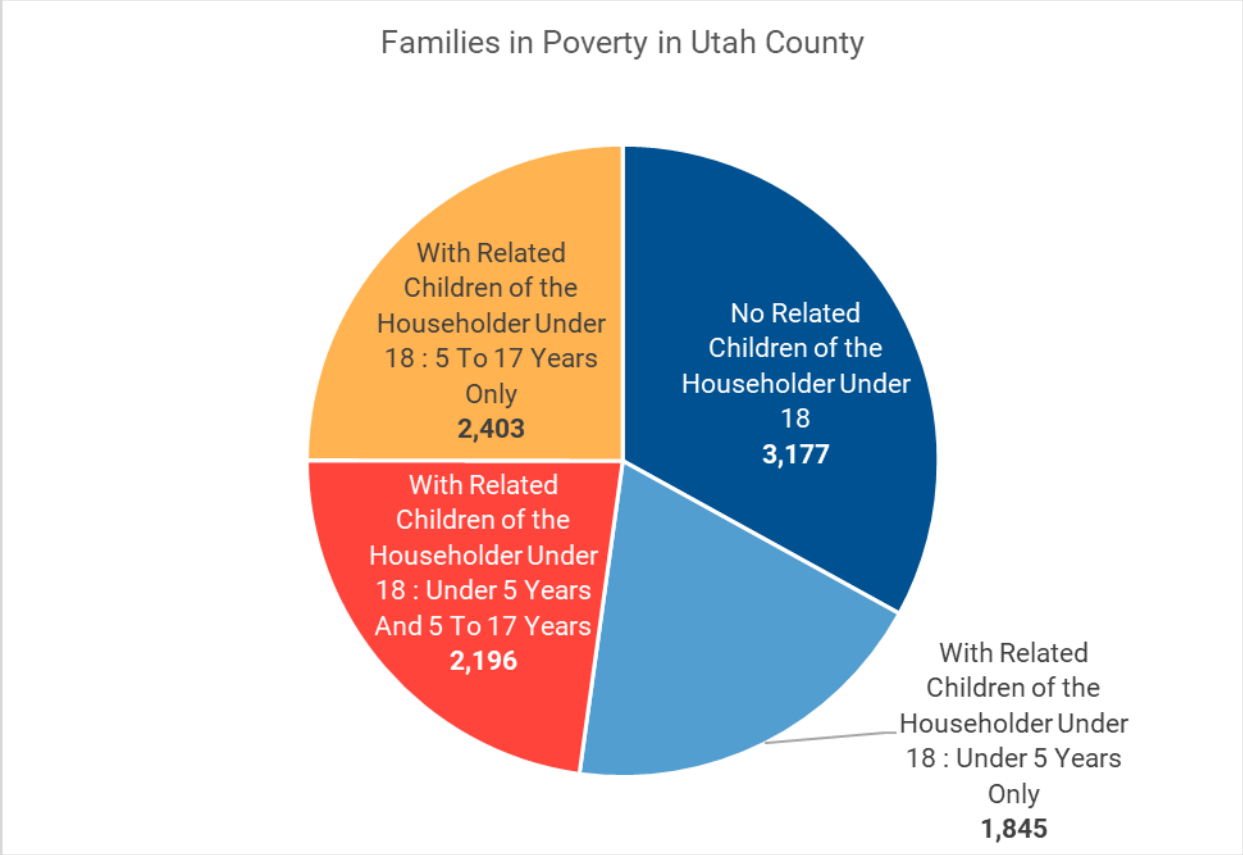
**Figure 222: Families in Poverty: U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County**

householders with no spouse present are the least likely family type to be in poverty.<sup>225</sup>

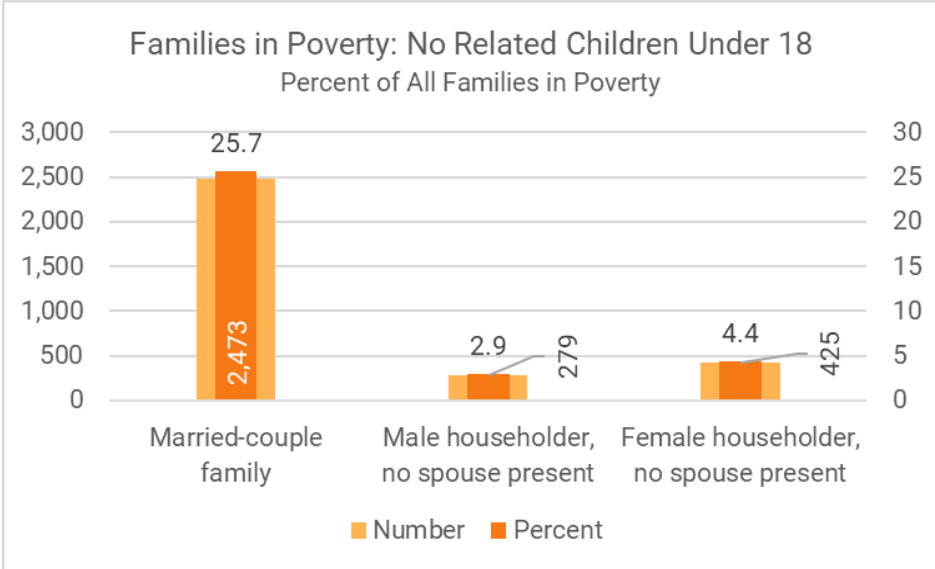
There are about 9,621 families living in poverty in Utah County. One-third of these are families without related children under 18 years living with them. This could include married-couple families without this age group of children or single-parent families without this age group. One of every four families in poverty in Utah County has related children between the ages of 5 and 17 only—that is, no younger children in the family. About 23 percent have both younger children and older children; 19 percent have young children under age 5 only.<sup>226</sup>

<sup>225</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 ACS, Table B17010

<sup>226</sup> Ibid.



**Figure 224: Families in Poverty in Utah County**



**Figure 223: Families in Poverty: No Related Children Under 18**

Of all families in poverty in Utah County, 25.7 percent, or 2,473, are married-couple families without children under 18 years. Female-householder families without children under 18 comprise 4.4 percent.<sup>227</sup>

<sup>227</sup> Ibid.

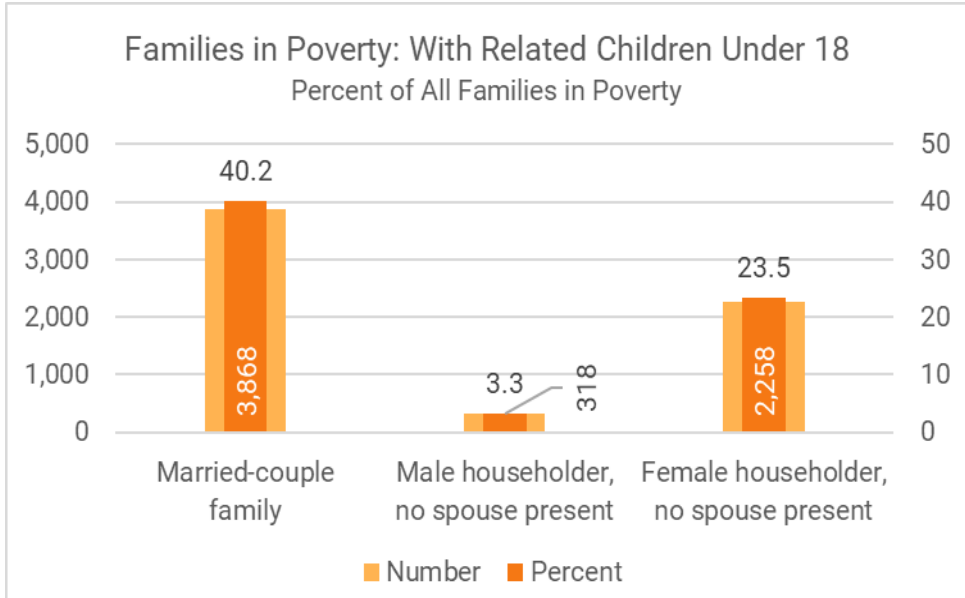


Figure 225: Families in Poverty: With Related Children Under 18

Just over 40 percent of all families in poverty in Utah County are married-couple families with children under 18, accounting for 3,868 families. Female-householder families are the

second largest group, making up 23.5 percent of all families in poverty.<sup>228</sup>

About 1,307 families in poverty are married-couple families whose only children are under 5 years. This demographic makes up 13.6 percent of all families in poverty in Utah County.

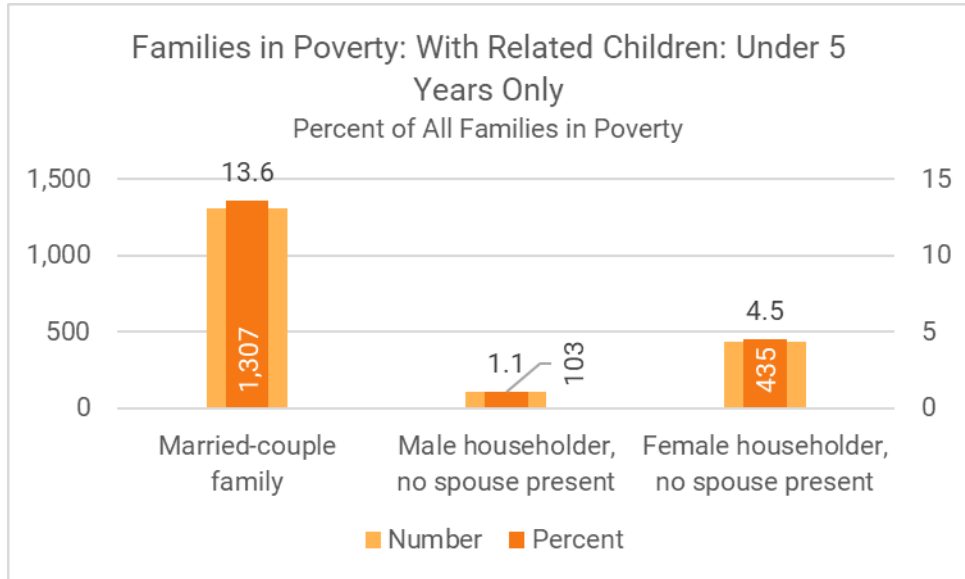


Figure 226: Families in Poverty: With Related Children: Under 5 Years Only

Female-householder families with small children make up 4.5 percent of all families in poverty in Utah County; this represents about 435 families. Only about 103 male-householder

families with small children are in poverty (1.1 percent).<sup>229</sup>

<sup>228</sup> Ibid.

<sup>229</sup> Ibid.

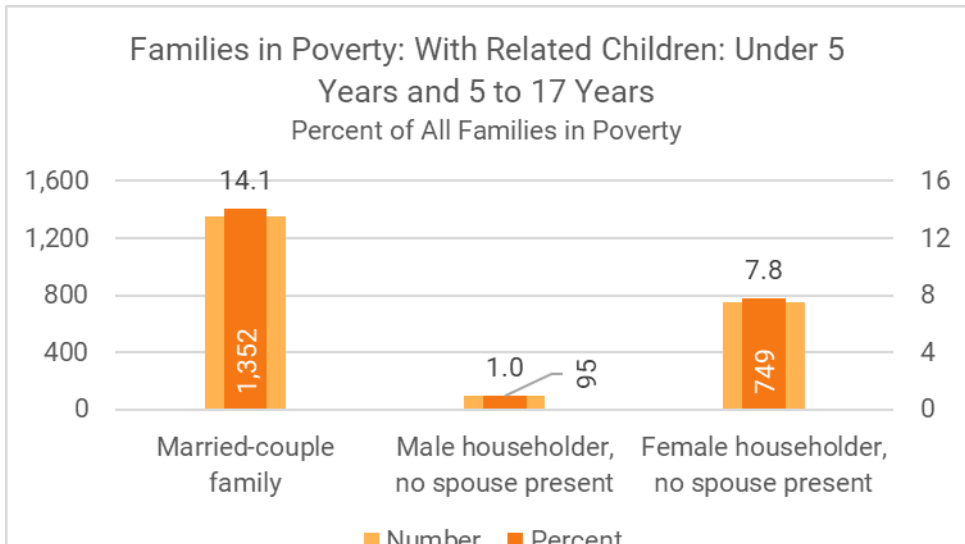


Figure 227: Families in Poverty: With Related Children: Under 5 Years and 5 to 17 Years

The ratios for families with children under 5 and 5 to 17 are similar to those with only small children. In Utah County, married-couple families with children in both under 5 years and 5

to 17 years ranges make up 14.1 percent (1,352) of all families in poverty. Female-householder families with these children make up 7.8 percent and include 748 families. Fewer than 100 male-householder families with these age ranges of children are in poverty in Utah County.<sup>230</sup>

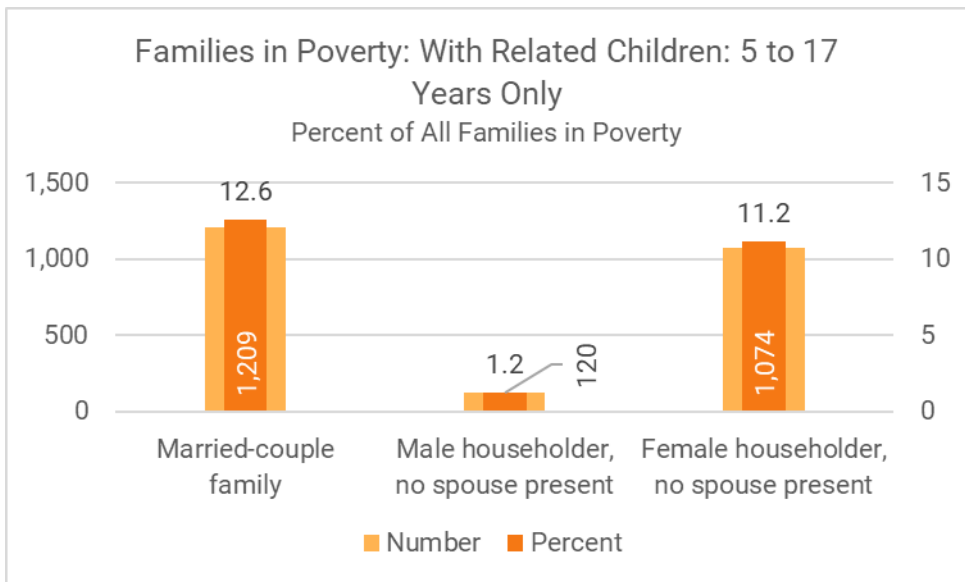


Figure 228: Families in Poverty: With Related Children: 5 to 17 Years Only

For families in poverty with only older children—that is, children age 5 to 17 years, the ratio of married-couple families to female-householder families evens out. About 1,209 married-couple families with older

children are in poverty—this represents 12.6 percent of all families in poverty. Female-householder families with this age group of children comprise 11.2 percent of all families in

<sup>230</sup> Ibid.

poverty, or about 1,074 families. Male-householder families in this category make up only 1.2 percent of all families in poverty in Utah County.<sup>231</sup>

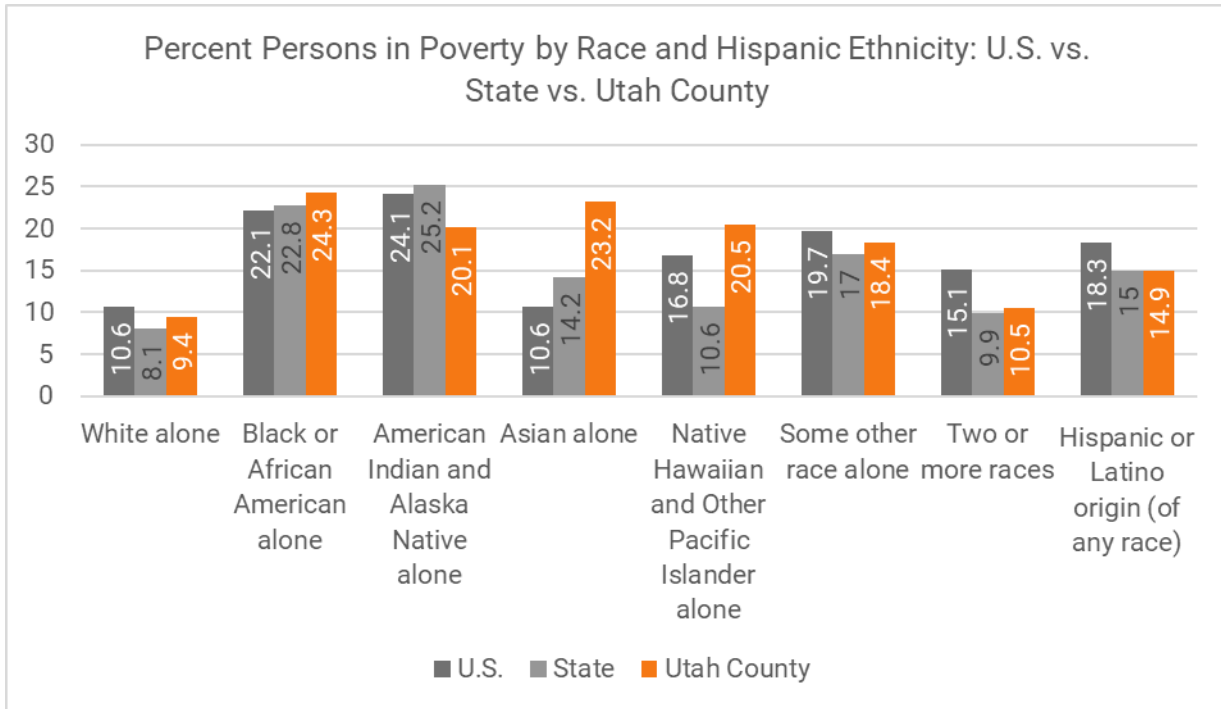
### **2.3.3.5 Poverty by Race and Ethnicity**

In Utah County, black or African American persons are most likely to be in poverty, at 24.3 percent. This is followed by Asian persons, at 23.2 percent, Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islanders (20.5 percent) and American Indian and Alaska Native persons (20.1 percent). Slightly less than 15 percent of Hispanic persons are in poverty.

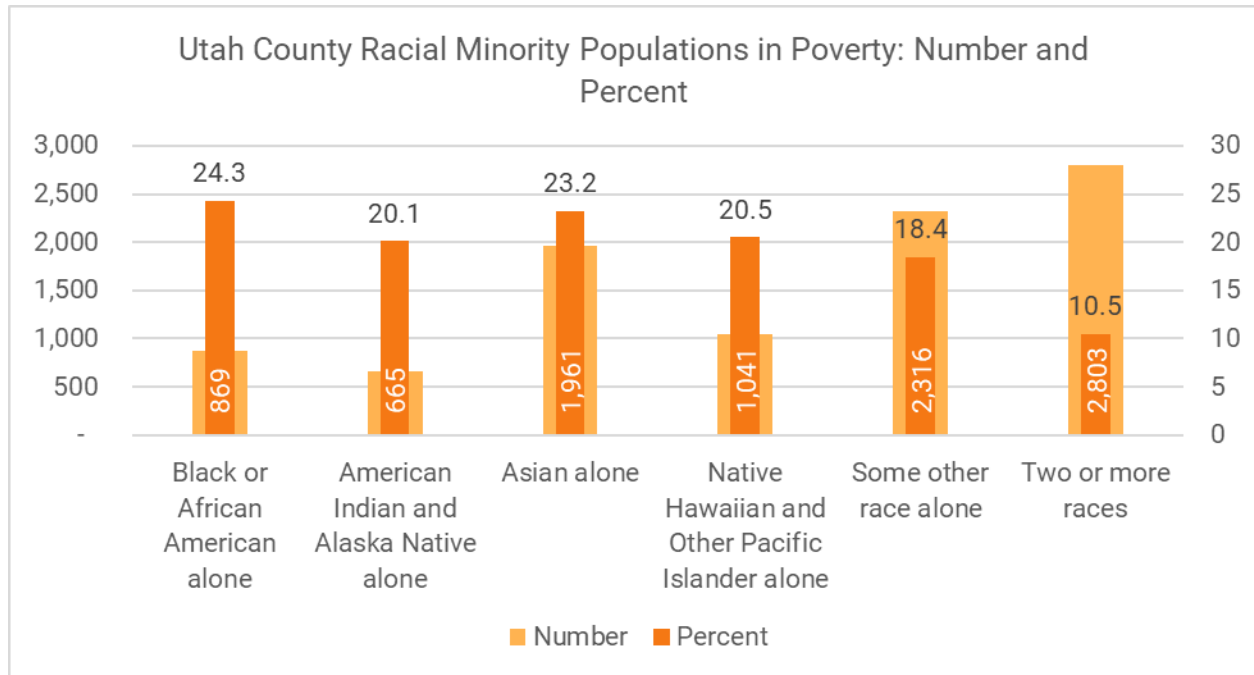
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<sup>231</sup> Ibid.





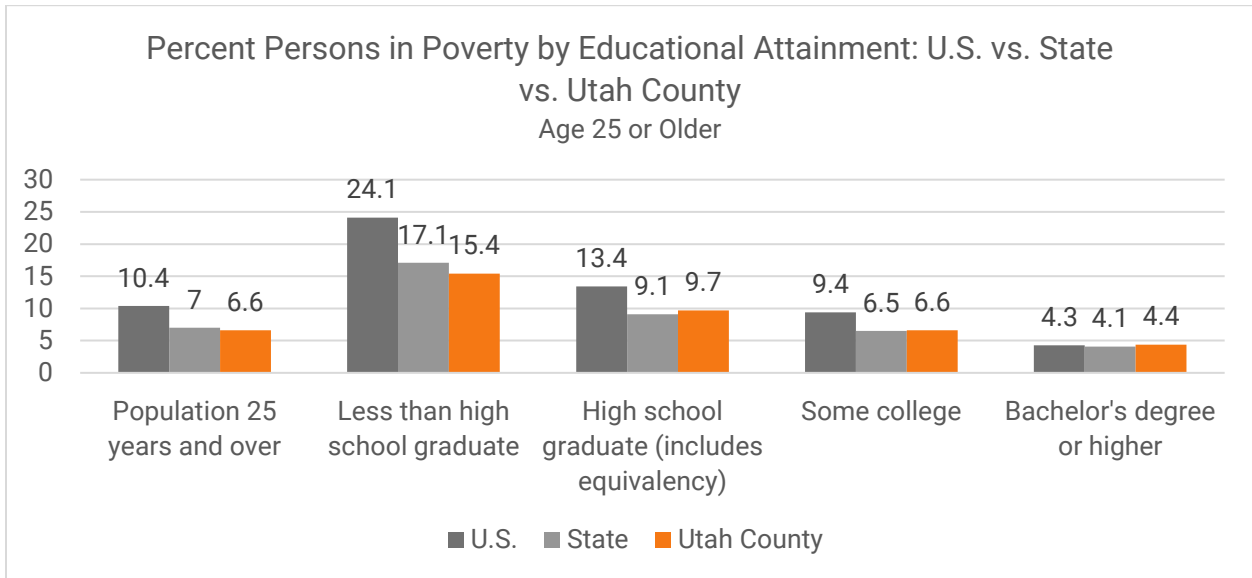
**Figure 229: Percent Persons in Poverty by Race and Hispanic Ethnicity: U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County**



**Figure 230: Utah County Racial Minority Populations in Poverty: Number and Percent**

### 2.3.3.6 Poverty and Educational Attainment

Educational attainment and poverty are inextricably linked to one another. The greater the level of one’s education, the less likely one is to experience living in poverty. In Utah County, this fact is born out. Only 4.4 percent of persons age 25 and older with a bachelor’s degree or higher are in poverty. This compares to 15.4 percent of those who did not graduate from high school. Overall, 6.6 percent of persons in this age group are in poverty in Utah County.<sup>232</sup>



**Figure 231: Percent Persons Age 25 or Older in Poverty by Educational Attainment: U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County**

<sup>232</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 ACS, Table S1701

### 2.3.3.7 Poverty and Educational Enrollment

One of the unique characteristics of poverty in Utah County is the number of college

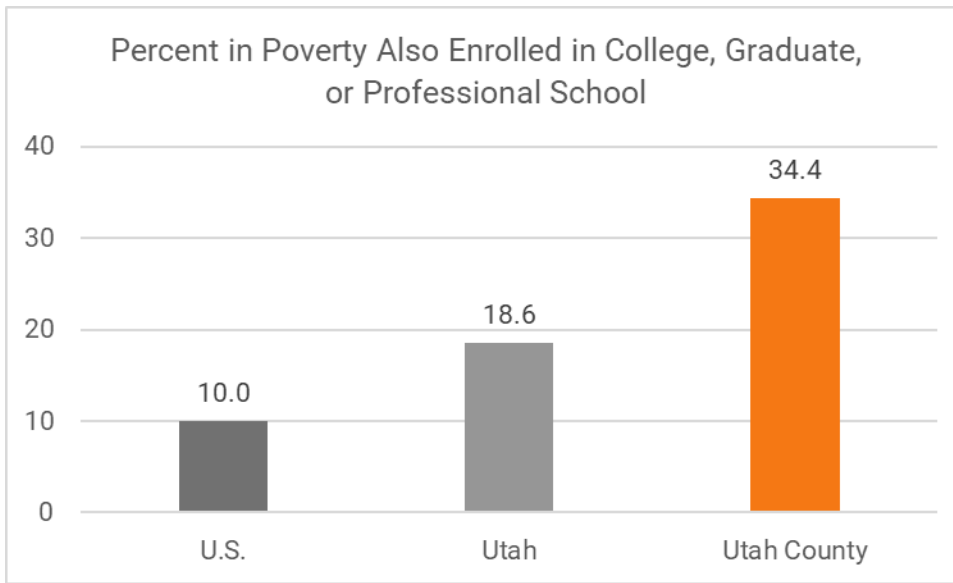


Figure 232: Percent in Poverty Also Enrolled in College, Graduate, or Professional School

students. Of the nearly 57,000 persons in poverty in Utah County, 34.4 percent—more than 19,000—are enrolled in higher education. This compares to 18.6 percent statewide and 10.0 percent nationally.<sup>233</sup>

Census Bureau statistics do not specify whether these college students are enrolled full time or part time. However, with two major universities making up a combined enrollment of

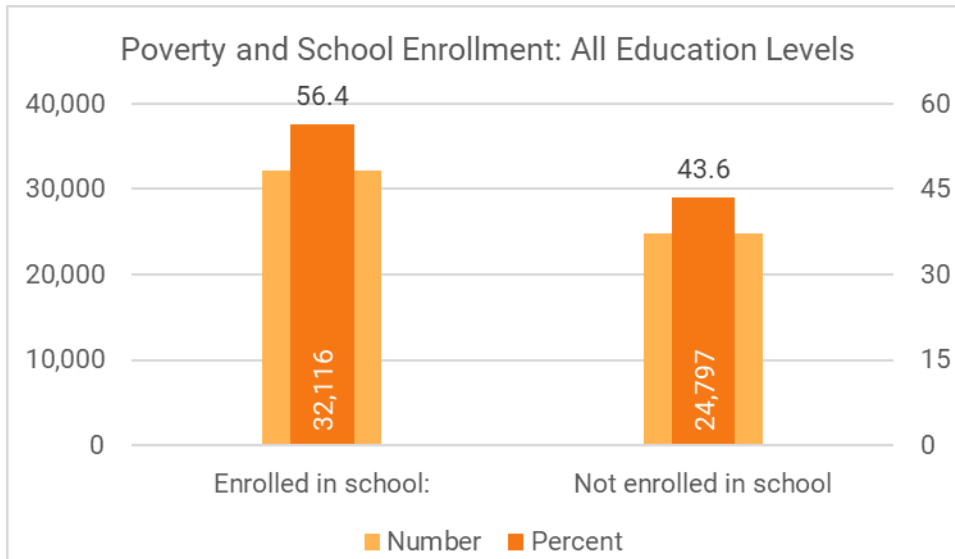


Figure 233: Poverty and School Enrollment: All Education Levels

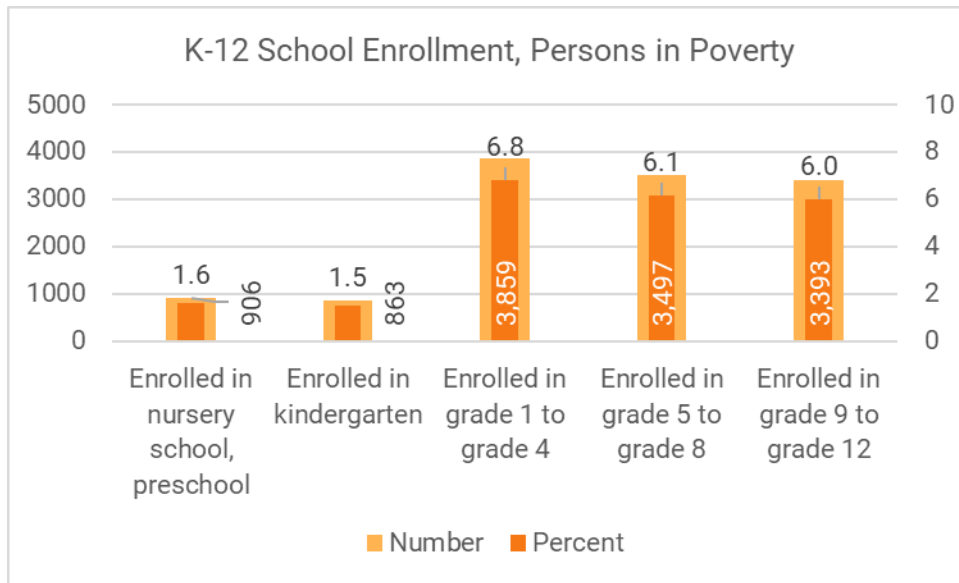
more than 70,000 students, it is not unlikely that most of the students living in poverty are full-time students. Although these students are dealing with the effects of poverty, many of them likely

have additional social support systems that others in poverty do not have.

<sup>233</sup> Ibid., Table B14006

Looking more closely at the data, more than half of all persons in poverty in Utah County are enrolled in school at some level, representing 32,116 students. These are students from preschool through graduate school.<sup>234</sup>

Of the 57,000 persons in poverty in Utah County, about 12,518 are enrolled in preschool through high school. About 3,393 high school students are in poverty.<sup>235</sup> Students in poverty



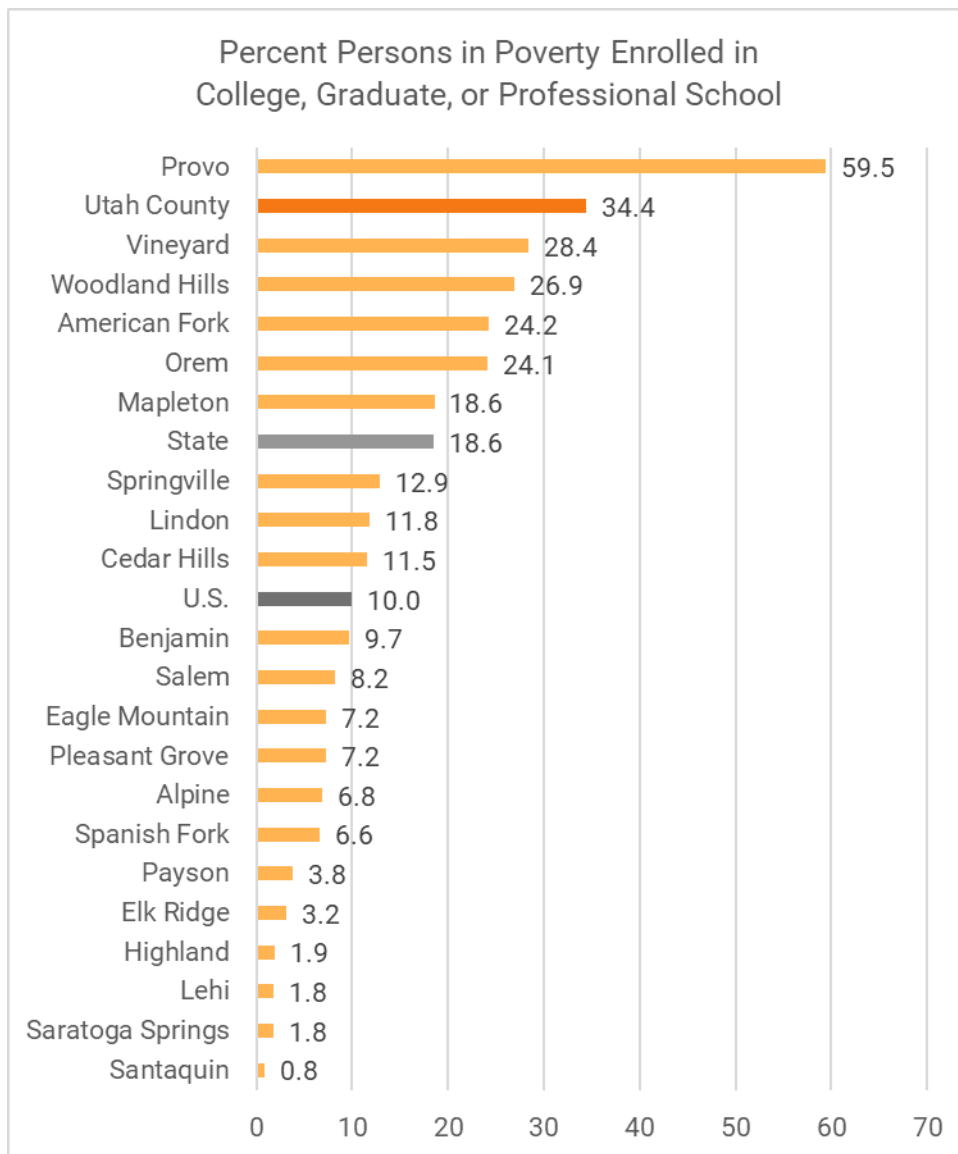
have additional barriers to academic success, including ability to participate in extracurricular activities.<sup>236</sup>

**Figure 234: K-12 School Enrollment, Persons in Poverty**

<sup>234</sup> Ibid.

<sup>235</sup> Ibid.

<sup>236</sup> See, for example, Wai, J., & Allen, J. (2019). What Boosts Talent Development? Examining Predictors of Academic Growth in Secondary School among Academically Advanced Youth across 21 Years. *Gifted Child Quarterly*, 63(4), 253–272. Also, Hoff, D. L., & Mitchell, S. N. (2007). Should Our Students Pay to Play Extracurricular Activities? *Education Digest: Essential Readings Condensed for Quick Review*, 72(6), 27–34.



**Figure 235: Percent Persons in Poverty Enrolled in College, Graduate, or Professional School**

When looking at individual communities, Provo has, by far, the greatest percentage of its residents in poverty who are also enrolled in higher education (59.5 percent). Vineyard (28.4), Woodland Hills (26.9), American Fork (24.2), and Orem (24.1) round out the top five. Less than 1 percent of Santaquin’s population living in poverty are also

enrolled in higher education.<sup>237</sup> Communities with no such students are removed from this figure.

<sup>237</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 ACS, Table B14006

### 2.3.3.8 Homelessness

The homeless population in Utah County has increased over the last three years, going from 148 in 2020 to 206 in 2022. In 2022, 91 were sheltered individuals and 115 unsheltered.<sup>238</sup>

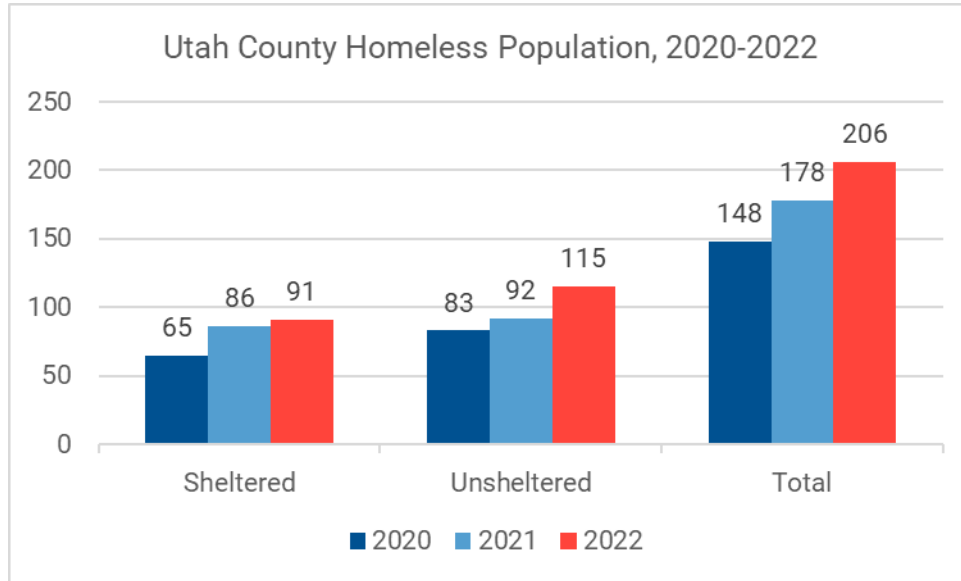


Figure 236: Utah County Homeless Population, 2020-2022

The 206 homeless individuals in Utah County included in the annual Point-in-Time Count are in 152 households; 14 are households with adults and children, five are households with only children, and

133 are households without children.<sup>239</sup>

<sup>238</sup> Annual Data Report on Homelessness 2022, Utah Department of Workforce Services

<sup>239</sup> Ibid.

Table 60: Utah County Homeless Count Summary Data<sup>240</sup>

Utah County Homeless Count Summary Data										
		2020			2021			2022		
		Sheltered	Unsheltered	Total	Sheltered	Unsheltered	Total	Sheltered	Unsheltered	Total
<b>Total</b>	Households	42	75	117	57	N/A	N/A	60	92	152
	Individuals	65	83	148	86	92	178	91	115	206
<b>Adults and children</b>	Households	11	0	11	12	N/A	N/A	13	1	14
	Individuals	34	0	34	41	N/A	N/A	44	2	46
<b>Households of Only Children</b>	Households	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	5	0	5
	Individuals	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	5	0	5
<b>Households No Children</b>	Households	31	75	106	45	N/A	N/A	42	91	133
	Individuals	31	83	114	45	N/A	N/A	42	113	155

The table below provides detailed counts for various demographic groups, referred to in the homeless prevention and providers community as “subpopulations.” The demographic group making up the highest percentage of individuals in Utah County in 2022 is chronically homeless persons (31.6 percent), followed by adults with mental illness (29.1 percent) and survivors of domestic violence (26.2 percent). Note that individuals may be included in more than one demographic group.<sup>241</sup>

<sup>240</sup> Ibid.

<sup>241</sup> Ibid.

**Table 61: Utah County Homeless Count Demographic Detail**

Utah County Homeless Count Demographic Detail								
	Number of Persons							
	Sheltered		Unsheltered		Total in Demographic Group		Demographic Group as Percentage of Total Individuals Counted	
	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022
<b>Survivors of Domestic Violence (Adults and Minors)</b>	37	45	N/A	9	37	54	N/A	26.2%
<b>Survivors of Domestic Violence (Adults Only)</b>	13	17	N/A	9	13	26	N/A	12.6%
<b>Adults with HIV/AIDS</b>	0	0	N/A	3	0	3	N/A	1.5%
<b>Adults with Substance Abuse Disorders</b>	26	8	N/A	22	26	30	N/A	14.6%
<b>Adults with Mental Illness</b>	35	20	N/A	40	35	60	N/A	29.1%
<b>Veterans</b>	1	1	N/A	3	1	4	N/A	1.9%
<b>Chronically Homeless Veterans</b>	0	0	N/A	2	0	2	N/A	1.0%
<b>Chronically Homeless Persons in Households of Adults and Minors</b>	0	4	N/A	2	0	6	N/A	2.9%
<b>Total Chronically Homeless Persons</b>	4	6	N/A	59	4	65	N/A	31.6%
<b>Unaccompanied Youth (Under Age 24)</b>	3	7	N/A	1	3	8	N/A	3.9%
<b>Youth Parent (Under Age 24)</b>	0	1	N/A	0	0	1	N/A	0.5%
<b>Child of a Youth Parent</b>	0	1	N/A	0	0	1	N/A	0.5%

This table presents data regarding shelter type, demographic group, and utilization rates. In 2022, emergency shelters were utilized 69 percent of the nights, and permanent supportive housing projects were utilized 86 percent of the nights. Other data for 2020, 2021, and 2022 are presented below.<sup>242</sup>

<sup>242</sup> Ibid.



**Table 62: Utah County Homeless Count by Beds, Demographic Group, and Utilization Rates**

Utah County Homeless Count by Beds, Demographic Group, and Utilization Rates									
	2020 PIT Count	2020 Total Bed	2020 Utilization Rate	2021 PIT Count	2021 Total Bed	2021 Utilization Rate	2022 PIT Count	2022 Total Bed	2022 Utilization Rate
<b>Emergency Shelter</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>41%</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>76%</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>69%</b>
Domestic Violence dedicated	14	25		17	25		14	25	
Youth dedicated	0	12		0	1		5	12	
<b>Permanent Supportive Housing</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>92%</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>98%</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>86%</b>
Veteran dedicated	-	-		1	1		4	5	
<b>Other Permanent Housing</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>99%</b>
<b>Rapid Rehousing</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>100%</b>
Domestic Violence dedicated	-	-		7	7		25	25	
Veteran dedicated	-	-		3	3		-	-	
<b>Transitional Housing</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>91%</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>89%</b>
Domestic Violence dedicated	20	20		20	22		27	27	
<b>County Total Beds</b>	<b>268</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>85%</b>	<b>303</b>	<b>323</b>	<b>94%</b>	<b>342</b>	<b>389</b>	<b>88%</b>

## 2.3.4 Housing

### 2.3.4.1 Housing Units

Housing and housing costs in Utah County continue to be a topic of top priority for community members and elected officials. Demand is not letting up; population growth and lifestyle choices are creating demand for various types of housing structures.

Although the data from the Census Bureau lags in the ever-growing world of housing construction, this data does have some value in showing trends. Since 2010, Utah County has added approximately 40,000 housing units—growing from 142,770 in 2010 to 180,088 in 2020.

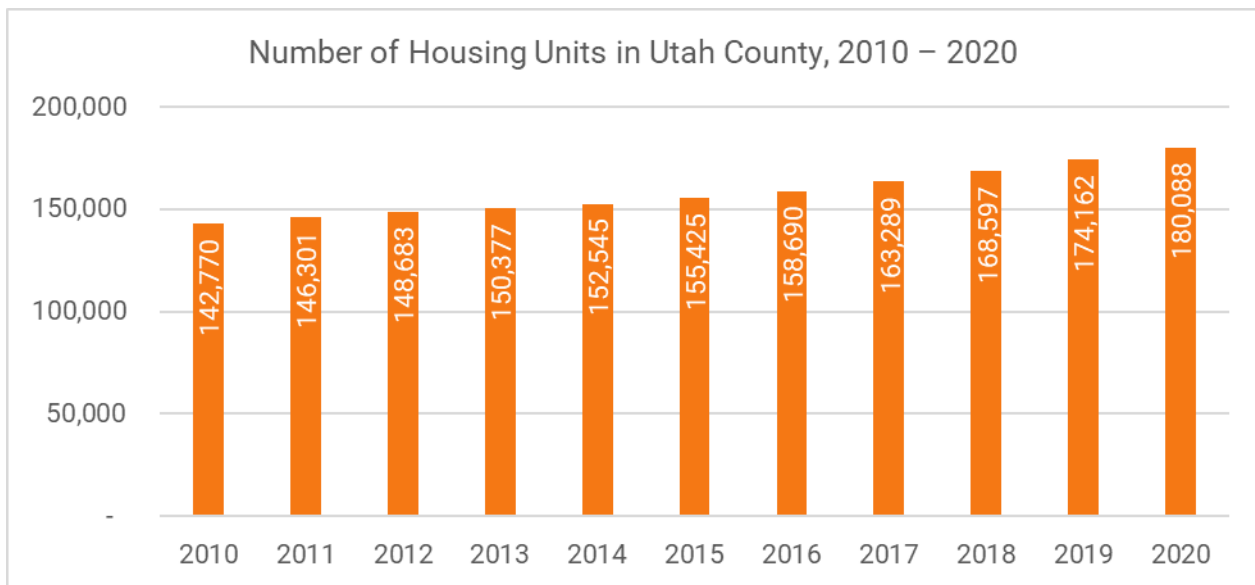


Figure 237: Number of Housing Units in Utah County, 2010 – 2020

Another set of data to consider in understanding Utah County's housing market is the number of permits issued. This dataset also has the advantage of being more current, as the Ivory-Boyer Database and the Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute at the University of Utah updates its data each month. As of May 2022, there were 2,617 permits issued for residential housing units in Utah County. This is on par with 2021's 6,641, which was the most permits issued this century.<sup>243</sup>

<sup>243</sup> Ivory-Boyer Database, Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute, University of Utah

About 94 percent of the permits issued from January through May 2022 are for single-family detached homes.<sup>244</sup>

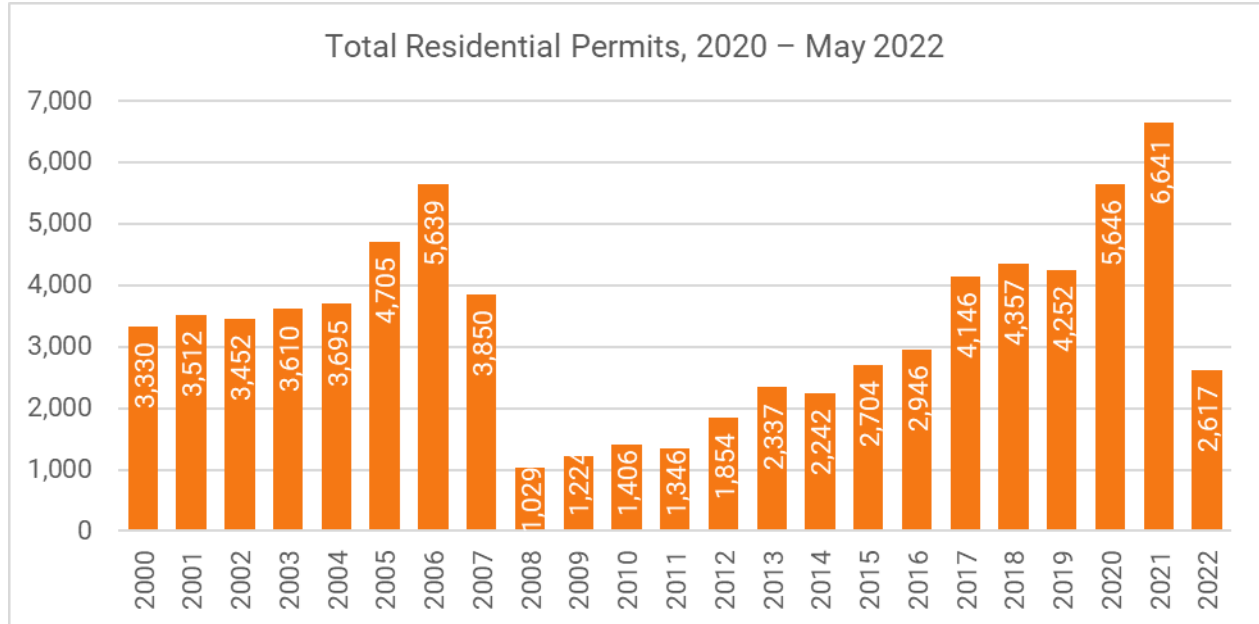


Figure 239: Total Residential Permits, 2020 – May 2022

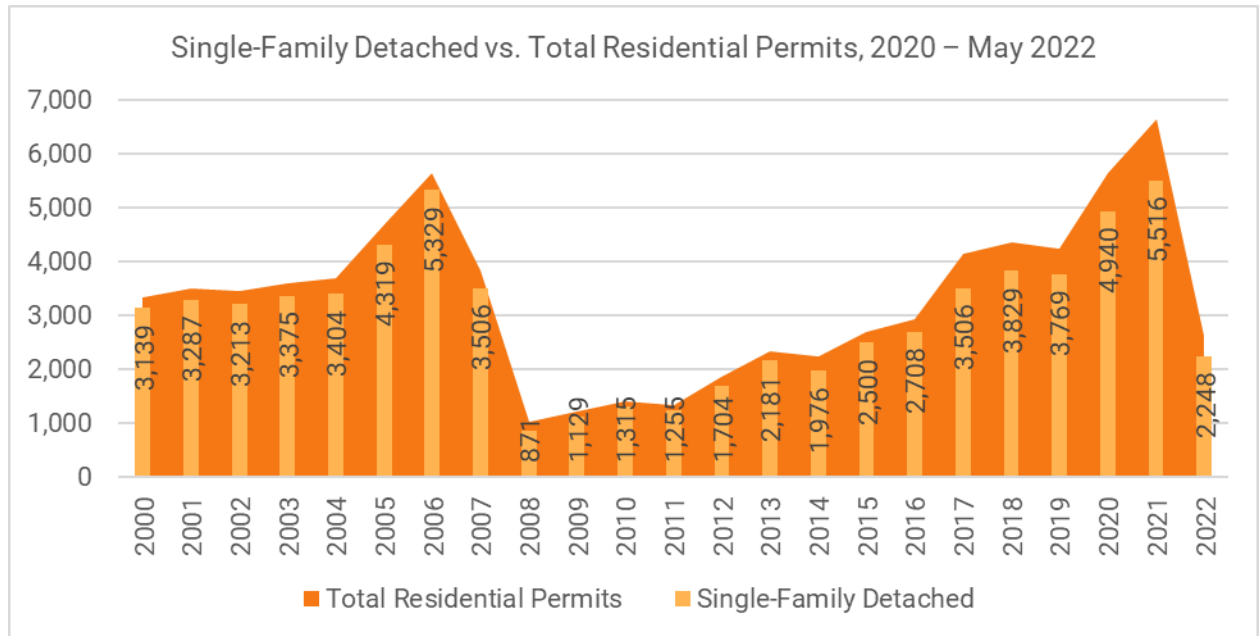


Figure 238: Single-Family Detached vs. Total Residential Permits, 2020 – May 2022

<sup>244</sup> Ibid.

The figure below further demonstrates the relatively small number of building permits that are issued for multi-family dwellings. Of the 6,641 residential building permits issued in Utah County in 2021, only 1,125 are for multi-family structures. Of these, 142 are for structures that hold 5 or more families.<sup>245</sup>

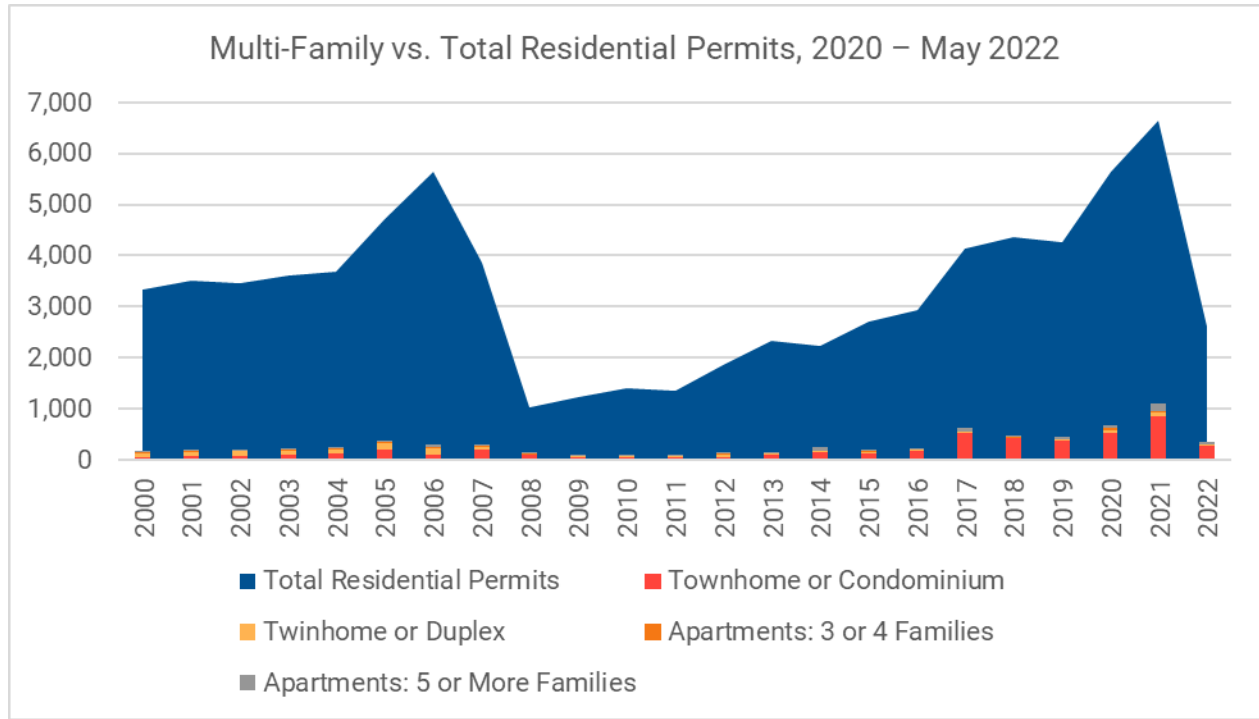


Figure 240: Multi-Family vs. Total Residential Permits, 2000 – May 2022

The table below provides details on the types of residential units permitted in Utah County each year since 2000.<sup>246</sup>

<sup>245</sup> Ibid.

<sup>246</sup> Ibid.

**Table 63: Utah County Residential Permits Issued, by Type, January 2020 – May 2022**

Utah County Residential Permits Issued, by Type, January 2020 – May 2022							
	Total Residential Permits	Single-Family Detached	Townhome or Condominium	Twin home or Duplex	Apartments: 3 or 4 Families	Apartments: 5 or More Families	All Other Residential Types
2000	3,330	3,139	57	73	18	15	28
2001	3,512	3,287	80	73	31	15	26
2002	3,452	3,213	78	89	10	23	39
2003	3,610	3,375	90	83	15	17	30
2004	3,695	3,404	130	76	15	28	42
2005	4,705	4,319	197	128	19	28	14
2006	5,639	5,329	98	119	45	34	14
2007	3,850	3,506	191	62	27	22	42
2008	1,029	871	104	8	4	6	36
2009	1,224	1,129	44	24	7	8	12
2010	1,406	1,315	50	28	2	4	7
2011	1,346	1,255	45	20	2	19	5
2012	1,854	1,704	58	48	8	22	14
2013	2,337	2,181	94	20	9	27	6
2014	2,242	1,976	161	24	2	74	5
2015	2,704	2,500	127	25	12	35	5
2016	2,946	2,708	173	23	5	25	12
2017	4,146	3,506	532	27	0	72	9
2018	4,357	3,829	419	14	12	42	41
2019	4,252	3,769	386	23	3	39	32
2020	5,646	4,940	522	53	45	62	24
2021	6,641	5,516	843	79	31	142	30
2022	2,617	2,248	281	13	17	46	12

Although the number of building permits for multi-family structures is a small percentage of all residential permits issued, the number of units being built increased sharply in 2021. In that year, 6,641 residential permits were issued for 12,430 total units.<sup>247</sup>

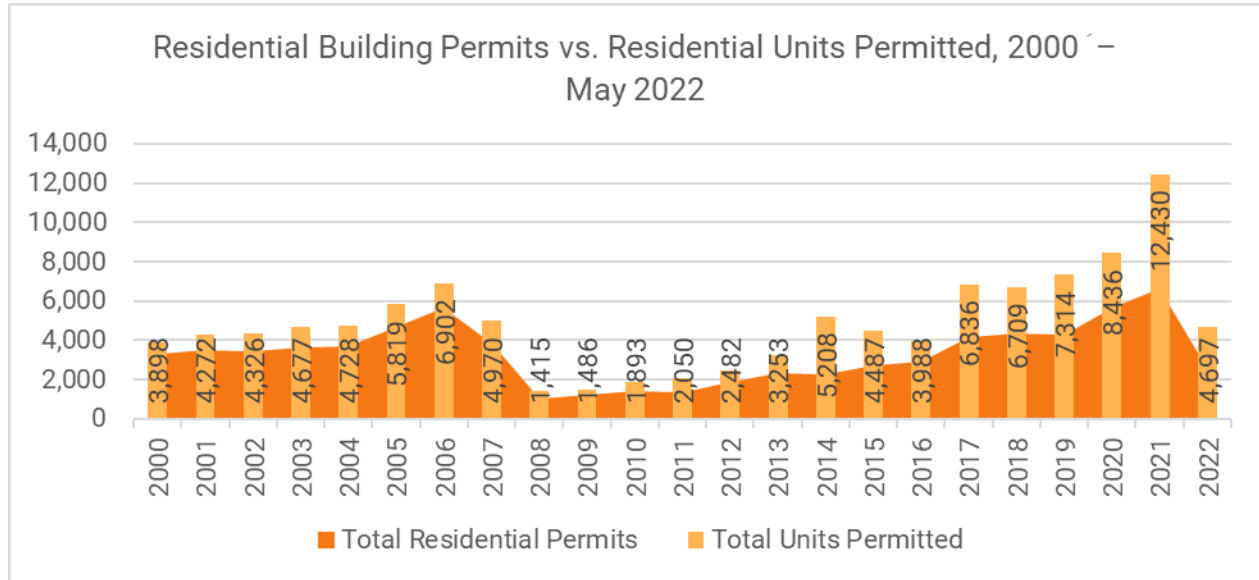


Figure 241: Residential Building Permits vs. Residential Units Permitted, 2000 - May 2022

<sup>247</sup> Ibid.

The ratio of units to permits in 2022 (1.8) is rivalling 2021's (1.9), and is on the higher end of annual ratios this century. It is well below the multi-family building boom of 2014 (2.3 units per residential permit), although the number of actual units permitted in 2021 (12,430) far exceeds the number in 2014 (5,208).<sup>248</sup>

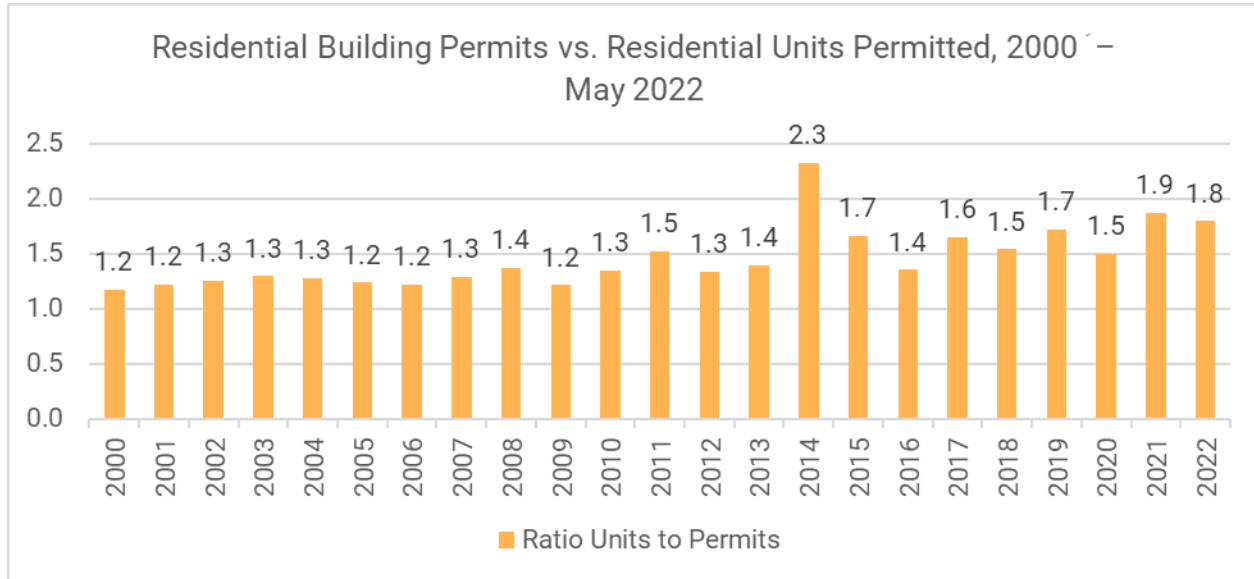


Figure 242: Residential Building Permits vs. Residential Units Permitted, 2000 - May 2022

The value of new single-family homes permitted has continued to increase, with 2022's average value calculated at \$367,764. Average value is in current-year dollars.<sup>249</sup>

<sup>248</sup> Ibid.

<sup>249</sup> Ibid.

The multi-family unit construction industry has increased output in Utah County during the growth boom. From 2017 through 2021, more than 6,000 new multi-family units (that is, units in structures that include multiple housing units) have been completed. It is anticipated

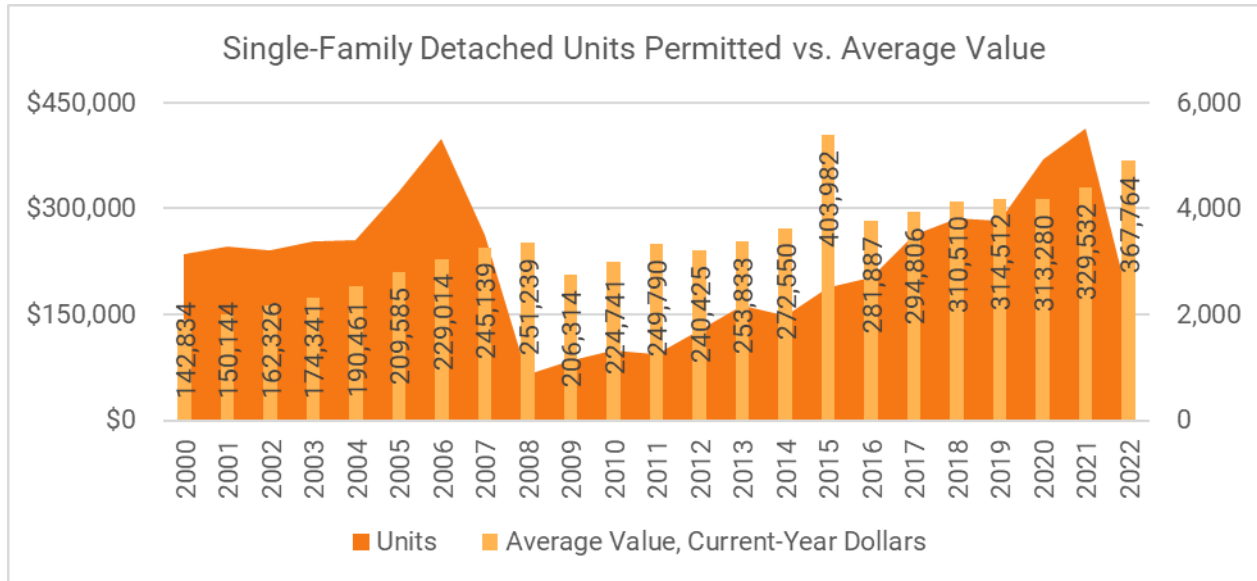


Figure 243: Single-Family Detached Units Permitted vs. Average Value

that 4,171 will be added to the market in 2022 through 2024.<sup>250</sup>

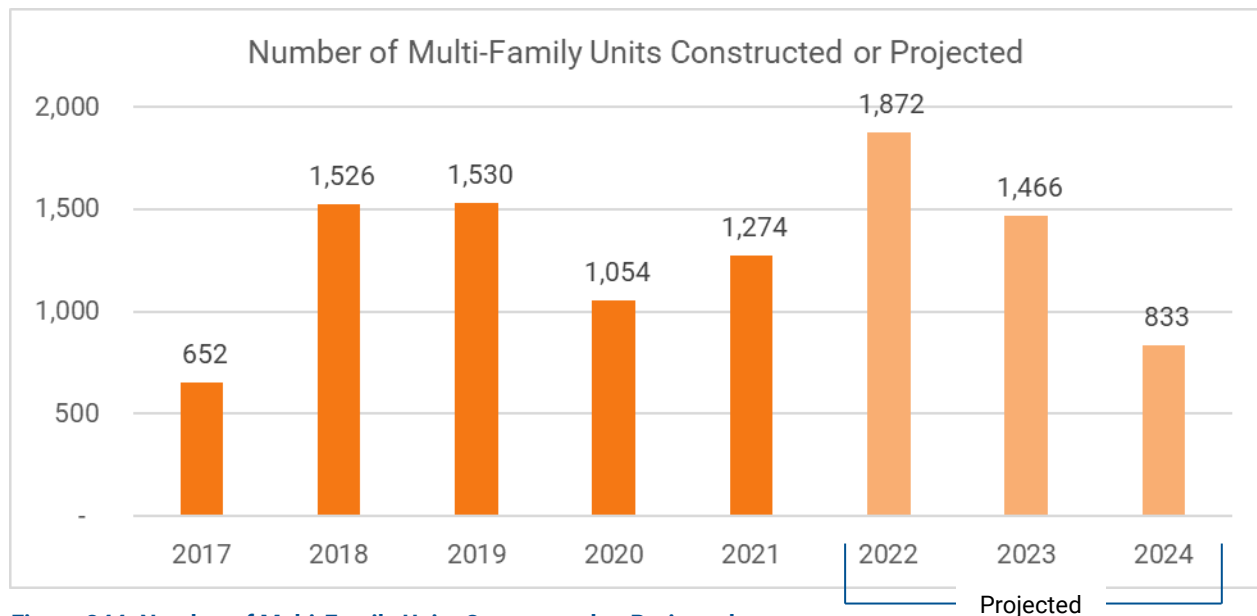


Figure 244: Number of Multi-Family Units Constructed or Projected

<sup>250</sup> The Greater Salt Lake Area Multifamily Market Report: 2021 Review 2022 Outlook (2022). CBRE.



### 2.3.4.2 Housing Units and Tenure

Utah County has about 171,899 housing units, 67.9 percent of which are owner-

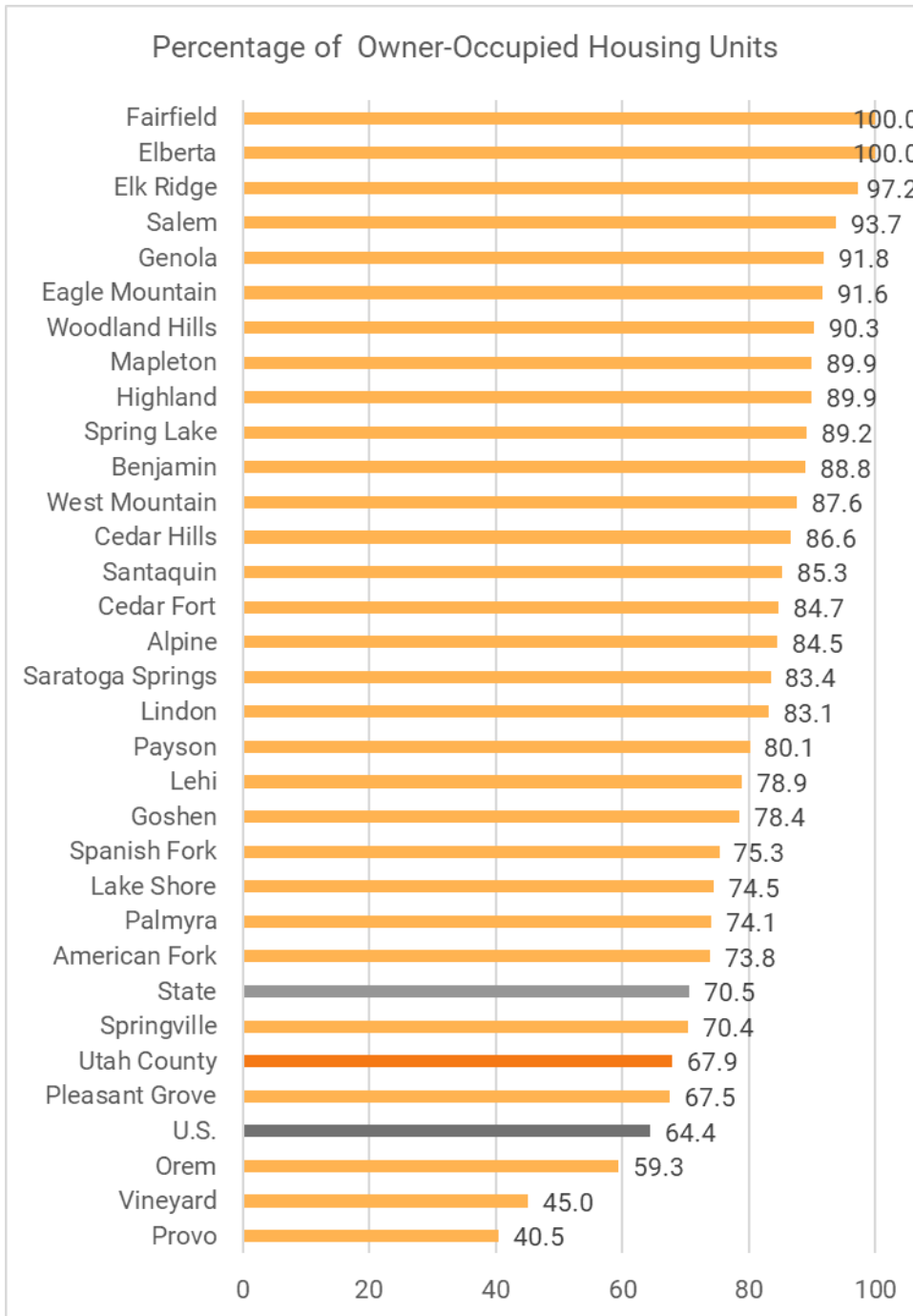


Figure 245: Percentage of Owner-Occupied Housing Units

occupied. This compares to the state's rate of 70.5 percent and the U.S. rate of 67.9 percent. Given that more than 11 percent of the residents are full-time students, it is not surprising that the county's rate is lower than the state's rate. In fact, Provo's owner-occupied rate of 40.5 percent is the lowest of any community in the County, followed by Vineyard (45.0) and Orem(59.3). The smaller communities of

Fairfield and Elberta have no (or virtually no) renters; Elk Ridge, Salem, Genola, Eagle Mountain, and Woodland Hills have over 90 percent owner-occupied housing.<sup>251</sup>

### 2.3.4.3 Housing Units and Unit Age

Utah County’s housing market is new: nearly 42 percent of all residential structures were built since 2000. This compares to 31.1 percent for the state and 20.1 percent for the U.S. Nearly 70 percent of all housing in Utah County was built since 1980.<sup>252</sup>

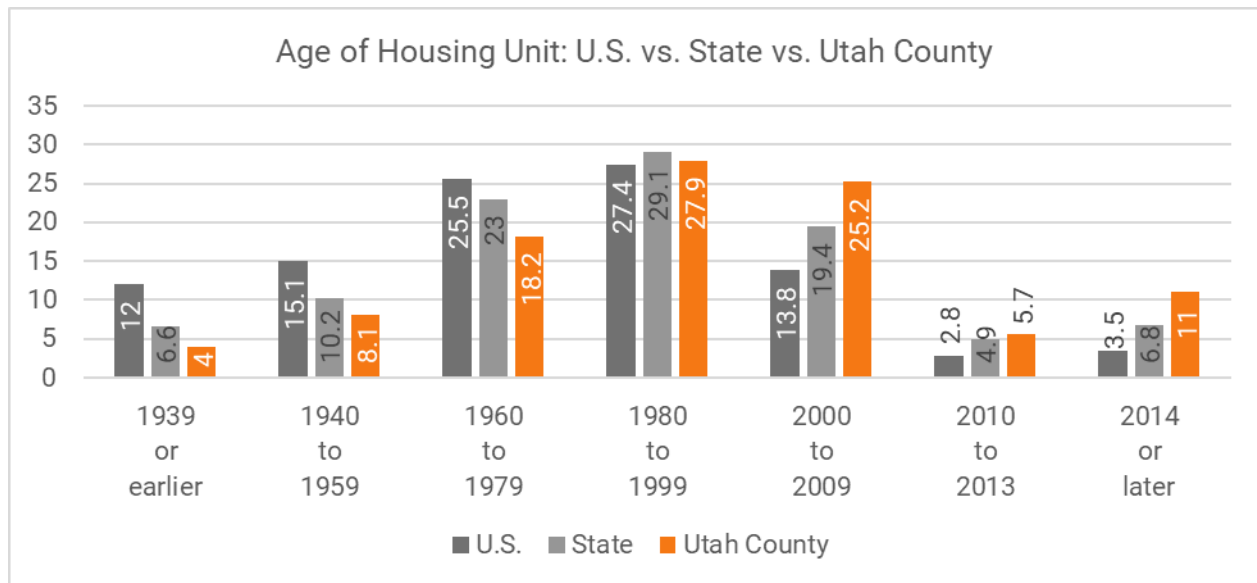


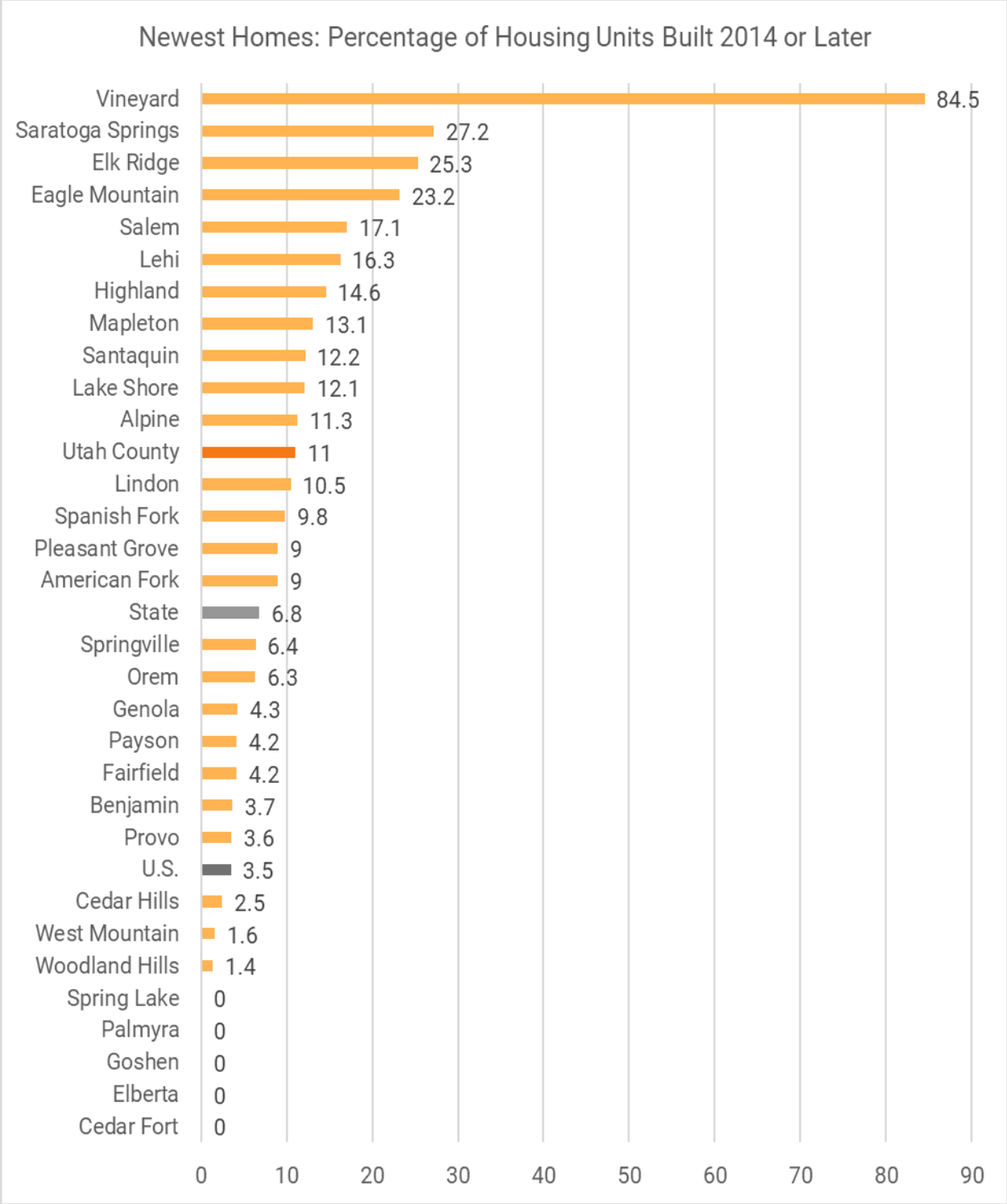
Figure 246: Age of Housing Unit: U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County

Vineyard has the distinction of being the community in Utah County with the highest percentage of newer housing units, at 84.5 percent being built in 2014 or later. This is followed by Saratoga Springs (27.2), Elk Ridge (25.3), Eagle Mountain (23.2), and Salem (17.2). The communities with the largest percentages of homes built in 1959 or earlier are West Mountain (44.3 percent), Goshen (33.4), Benjamin (32.7), Mapleton (31.8), and—perhaps surprisingly—Vineyard (27.1).<sup>253</sup>

<sup>251</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 ACS, Table B25003

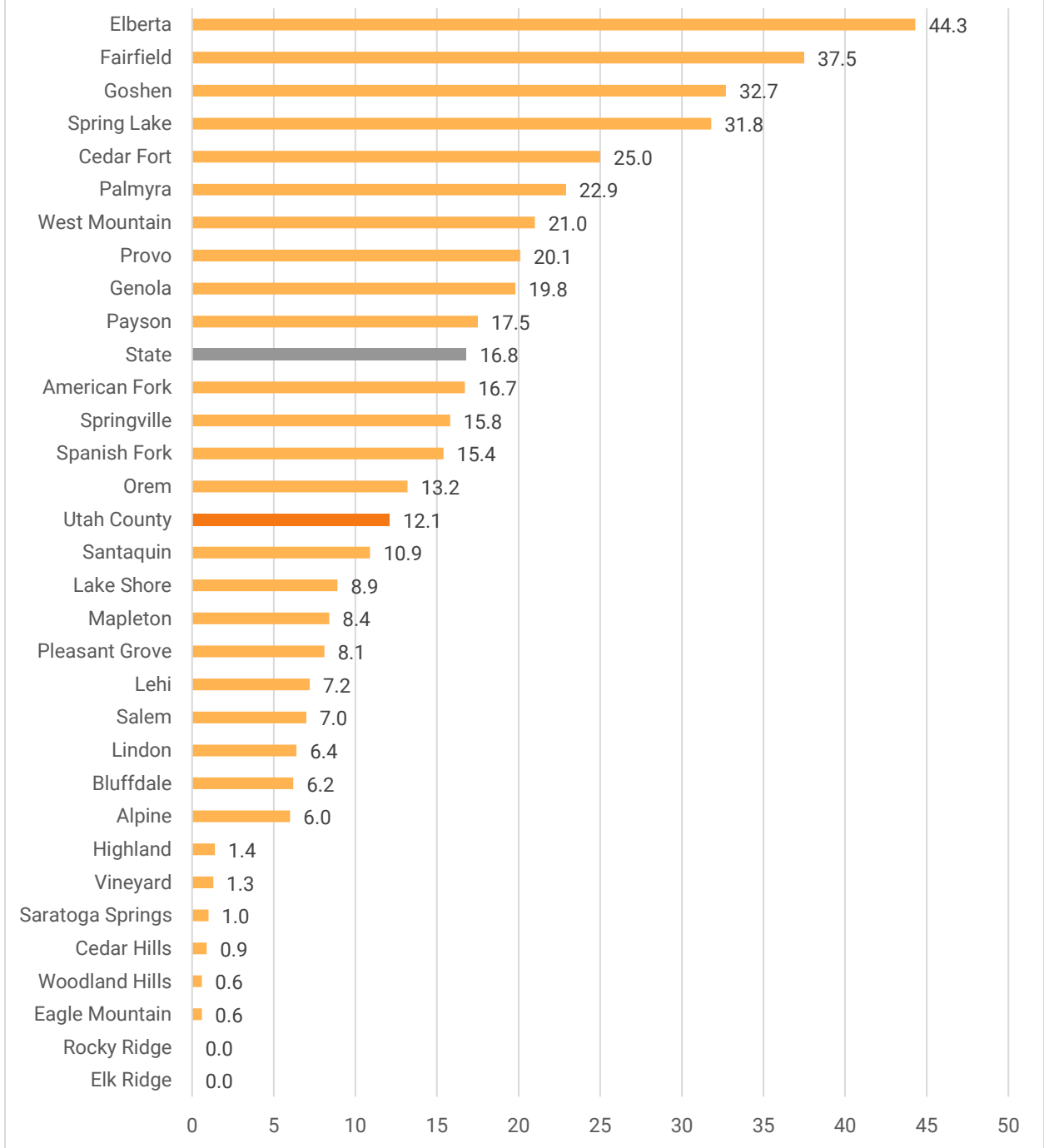
<sup>252</sup> Ibid., Table S2504

<sup>253</sup> Ibid.



**Figure 247: Newest Homes: Percentage of Housing Units Built 2014 or Later**

## Oldest Homes: Percentage of Occupied Housing Units Built 1959 or Earlier



**Figure 248: Oldest Homes: Percentage of Housing Units Built 1959 or Earlier**

### 2.3.4.4 Residential Sales

Over the past 10 years, home sales in Utah County have been strong: prices have increased, days on market have decreased, average sale to list ratio has increased (exceeding 100 percent regularly since the end of 2014), and the number of homes sold has increased. With population growth remaining steady and increasing in rate, residential real estate has been strong. June 2022, the month for which the latest data is available, does show a slight dip in prices and other indicators of a strong market; rising interest rates and escalating inflation may slow the housing market.

In February 2012, the median sales price of a home in Utah County was \$180,000; by June 2020, the median had doubled to \$360,000; in June 2022, the median sales price was \$535,000.<sup>254</sup>

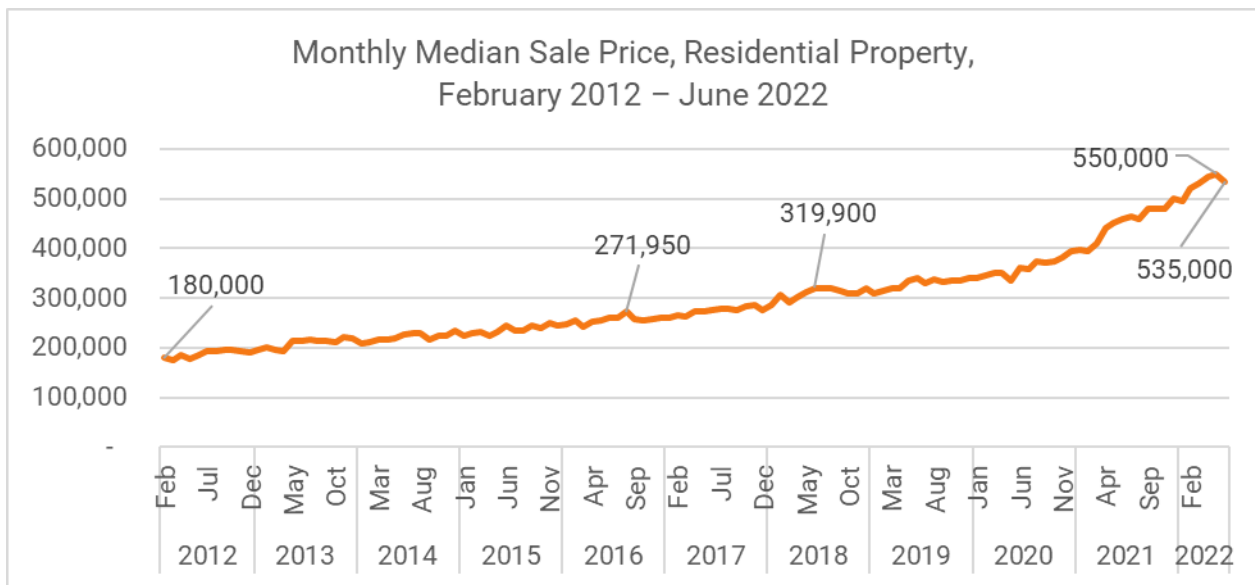


Figure 249: Monthly Median Sale Price, Residential Property, February 2012 – June 2022

Median sales prices continued to increase even when the inventory increased; as the inventory dropped beginning in mid-2018, sales prices rose even more. In February 2012, there were 3,212 homes on the market; this increased to a high of 3,959 in July 2013, and reached a

<sup>254</sup> Redfin Data Center

low of 719 in January 2021. In June 2022, there were 1,722 residential properties on the market.<sup>255</sup>

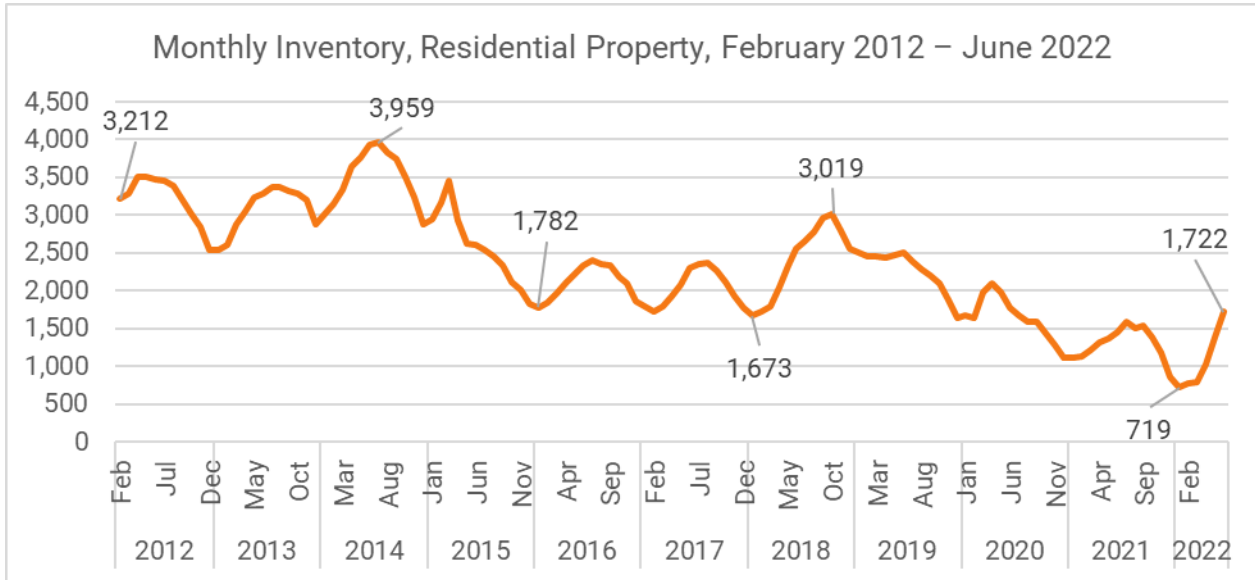


Figure 250: Monthly Inventory, Residential Property, February 2012 – June 2022

<sup>255</sup> Ibid.

What was once a four-month marketing effort for residential properties has turned into a 15-day-or-less effort. Through most of 2012, the average monthly days on the market was 105. Through the first six months of 2022, the average is down to 11.<sup>256</sup>

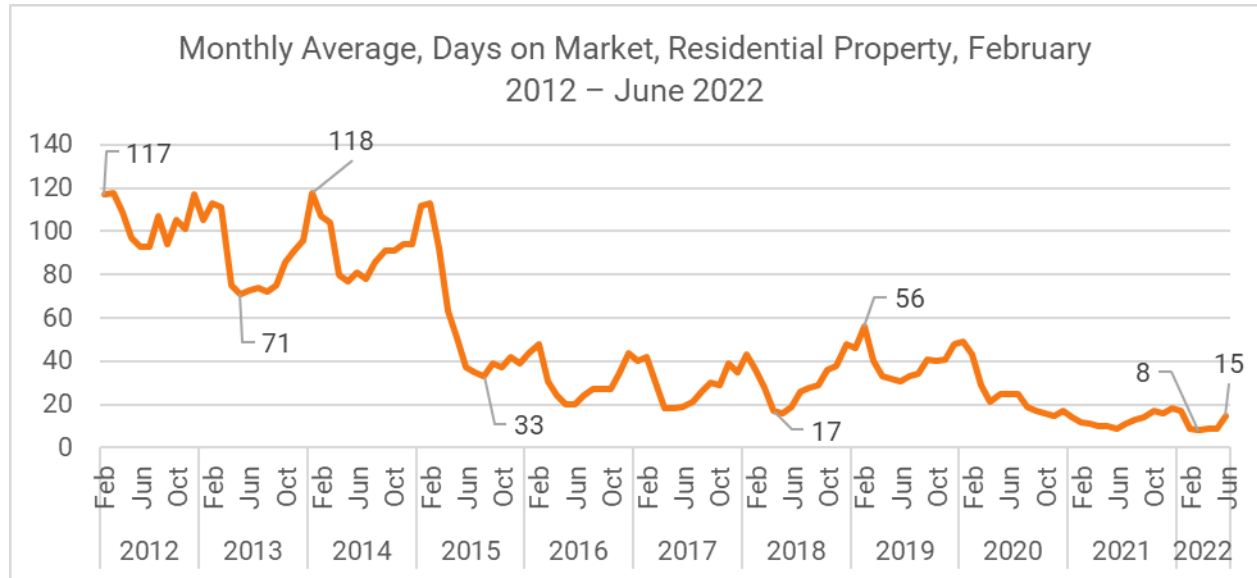


Figure 251: Monthly Average, Days on Market, Residential Property, February 2012 - June 2022

There is still clearly a home-buying season in Utah County. Dips in monthly sales are seen each winter, but the general trend has been an increase over the last 10 years. In February 2012, 381 homes were sold; the warm months of summer brought a year-high 602 in August 2012. By comparison, 581 homes were sold in February 2022, and 796 in June.<sup>257</sup>

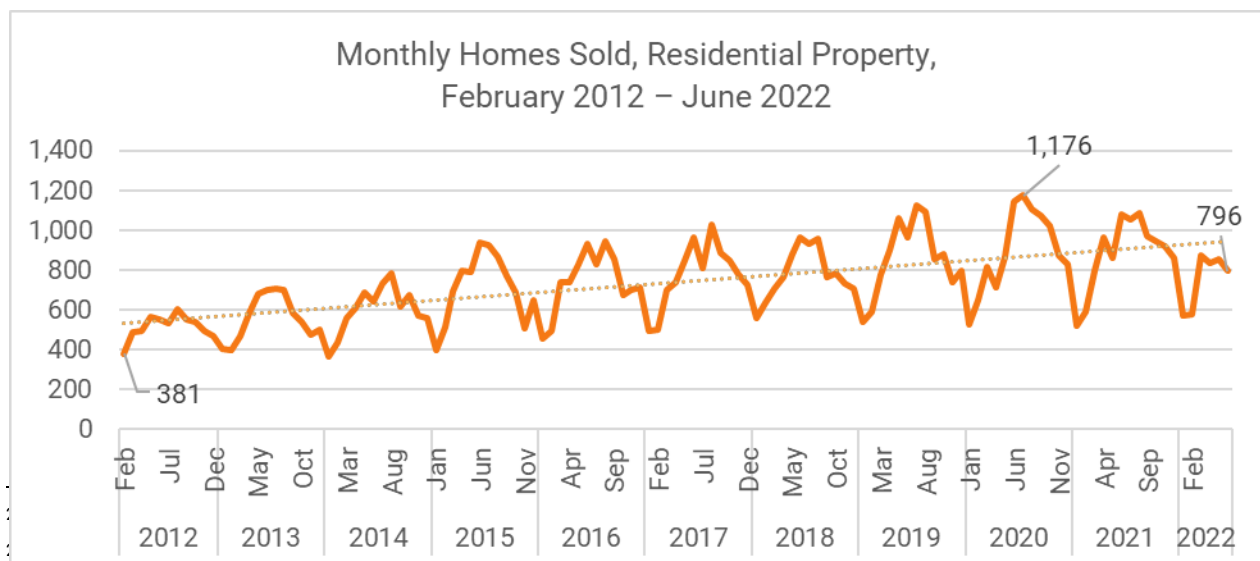


Figure 252: Monthly Homes Sold, Residential Property, February 2012 - June 2022

Sales prices seem to have hit a sweet spot, as sellers are pricing their homes right at or just below market expectations. Since March 2019, sales prices have been 100 percent or more of asking price, except for June, when sales prices were only 99.9 percent of asking price.<sup>258</sup>



Figure 253: Monthly Average Sale to List Price, Residential Property, February 2012 – June 2022

While the hot housing market in Utah County may be acceptable to sellers and to buyers who can afford the increased prices, it presents serious problems to those making median household incomes or less. The National Association of Home Builders and Wells Fargo track home affordability data in Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) report and report it quarterly. Known as the NAHB/Wells Fargo Housing Opportunity Index, the score takes two major factors into consideration: home sales prices and income. In essence, the score is a representation of the share of homes sold in the MSA that would have been affordable to a family earning the local median income—based, of course, on standard underwriting criteria for credit worthiness, debt-to-income ratio, and so on. A higher score (close to or at 100) means that more homes are affordable to families in the area. A lower score indicates just the opposite.

<sup>258</sup> Ibid.



In the Provo-Orem MSA, the Housing Opportunity Index (HOI) in the first quarter of 2012 was 86.6. In other words, 86.6 percent of the homes sold in that quarter were affordable to families earning the area’s median income. This is a good score for homebuyers. By the same quarter in 2022, however, the HOI dropped to 35.0—only 35 percent of the homes sold were affordable to families earning the area median income.<sup>259</sup>

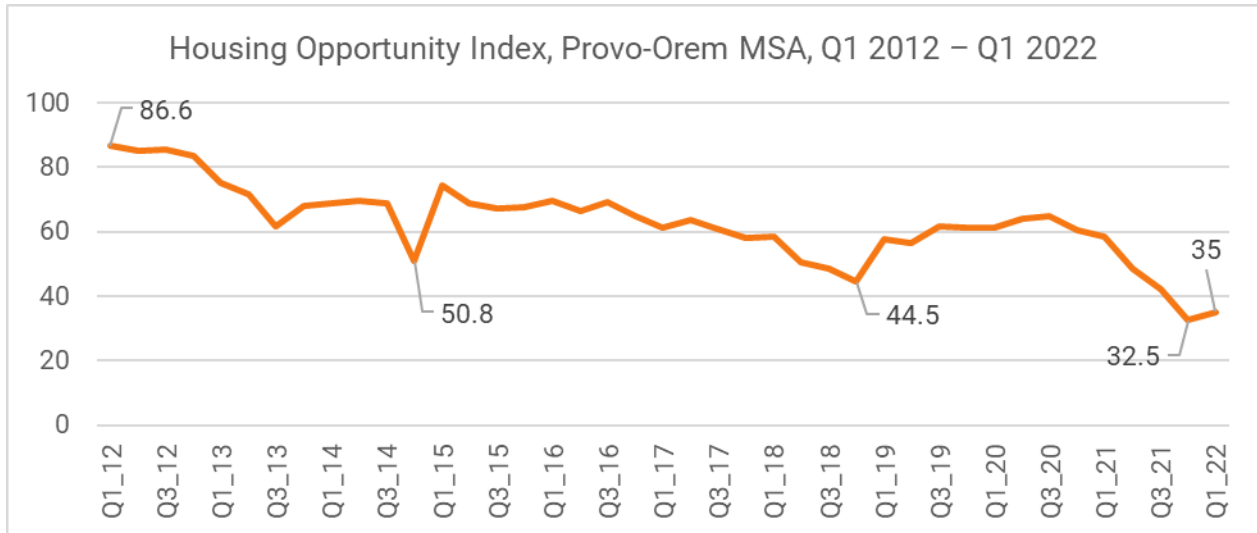


Figure 254: Housing Opportunity Index, Provo-Orem MSA, Q1 2012 – Q1 2022

<sup>259</sup> NAHB/Wells Fargo Housing Opportunity Index Dataset

As the Provo-Orem area continues to experience high home prices, and as median incomes fail to catch up to home prices, the financial attraction of the area diminishes. The area is now number 210 of 240 markets in the nation. In other words, only 29 markets in the United States have even less affordable housing costs than the Utah County area.<sup>260</sup>

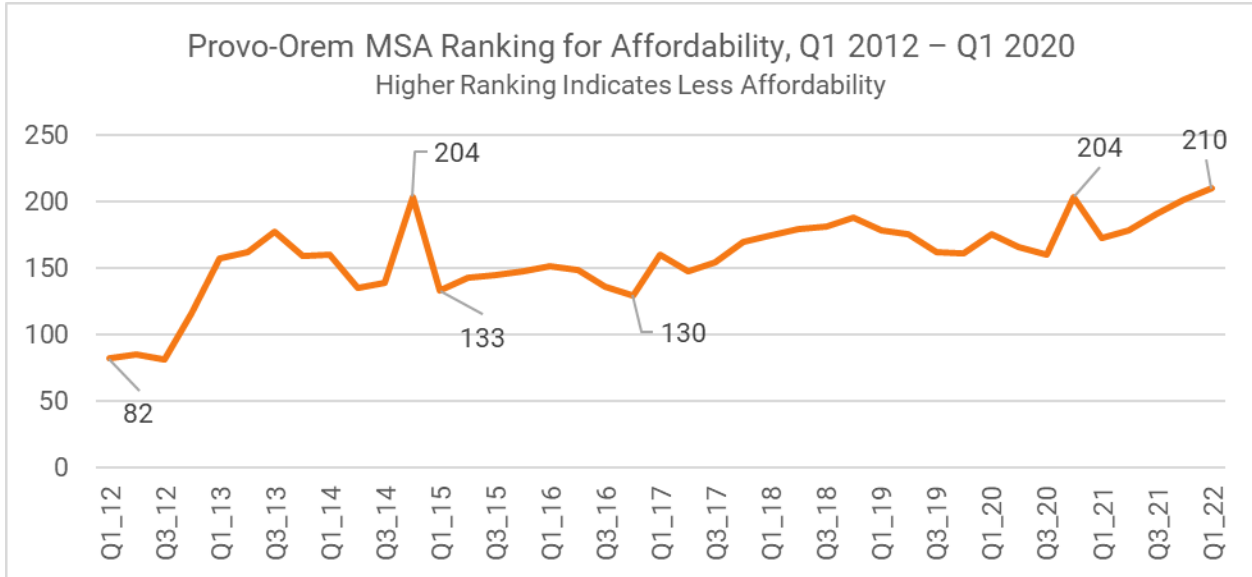


Figure 255: Provo-Orem MSA Ranking for Affordability, Q1 2012 – Q1 2020

<sup>260</sup> Ibid.

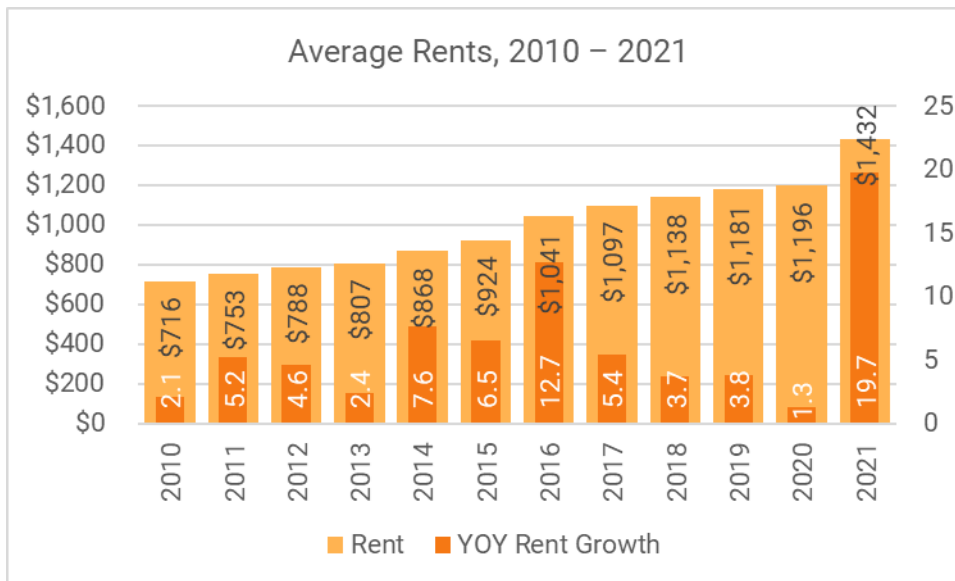
### 2.3.4.5 Rents

Just as homeownership and home construction are moving at a fast pace in Utah County, so are rents. As of January 2022, rent for a 2-bedroom, 2-bathroom unit was \$1,585; reduce the number of baths to one and rent drops to \$1,238. The same 2-bedroom, 2-bathroom unit was rented for \$1,287 in 2019—an increase of 23.2 percent in two years.<sup>261</sup>

**Table 64: Utah County Rental Rates**

Utah County Rental Rates			
	2019	2020	2021
<b>Studio</b>	\$982	\$1,009	\$1,218
<b>1 Bed 1 Bath</b>	\$1,010	\$1,006	\$1,216
<b>2 Bed 1 Bath</b>	\$1,033	\$1,130	\$1,238
<b>2 Bed 2 Bath</b>	\$1,287	\$1,305	\$1,585
<b>3 Bed 2 Bath</b>	\$1,491	\$1,502	\$1,821
<b>Overall</b>	\$1,181	\$1,196	\$1,432

Since 2010, rents in Utah County have increased dramatically—but especially in 2021.



**Figure 256: Average Rents, 2010 - 2021**

Average rents increased 19.7 percent year over year in 2021—and this was following a 12.7 percent increase five years earlier. Between 2015 and 2021, average rents increased nearly 55 percent.<sup>262</sup>

<sup>261</sup> *The Greater Salt Lake Area Multifamily Market Report: 2021 Review 2022 Outlook* (2022). CBRE.

<sup>262</sup> *Ibid.*

Rental rates vary based on several factors, including the amenities and size of the complex, as well as the number of bedrooms and bathrooms in the unit itself. Generally, the rental rate per square foot decreases with larger units. In 2021, a two-bedroom, one-bathroom unit in a smaller complex rents for \$995 per month; the same unit in a larger complex with over 100 units would rent for \$1,291.<sup>263</sup>

**Table 65: Current Rental Rates by Unit Size, 2021**

Current Rental Rates by Unit Size, 2021 <sup>264</sup>						
	50-99 Units		100+ Units		Overall	
	Rent	\$/SF	Rent	\$/SF	Rent	\$/SF
<b>Studio</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$1,218	\$2.11
<b>1 Bed 1 Bath</b>	\$882	\$1.63	\$1,245	\$1.63	\$1,216	\$1.62
<b>2 Bed 1 Bath</b>	\$995	\$1.39	\$1,291	\$1.51	\$1,238	\$1.49
<b>2 Bed 2 Bath</b>	\$1,318	\$1.25	\$1,591	\$1.51	\$1,585	\$1.51
<b>3 Bed 2 Bath</b>	N/A	N/A	\$1,822	\$1.38	\$1,821	\$1.38
<b>Overall</b>	\$980	\$1.42	\$1,454	\$1.53	\$1,432	\$1.52

### 2.3.4.6 Mortgage Status

Of the approximately 116,732 owner-occupied homes in Utah County, 74.1 percent, or 86,514, have a mortgage. This compares with 70.1 percent for the state and 62.1 percent nationally. The age group most likely to have a mortgage on their home is the 35 to 44 years age group; 30.4 percent have a mortgage. This is higher than the state's 27.1 percent and the nation's 20.9 percent.<sup>265</sup>

<sup>263</sup> Ibid.

<sup>264</sup> Ibid.

<sup>265</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 ACS, Table B25027

Of those who have a mortgage in Utah County, only 3.5 percent are age 75 or older, compared to 4.2 percent for Utah and 5.4 percent for the U.S.<sup>266</sup>

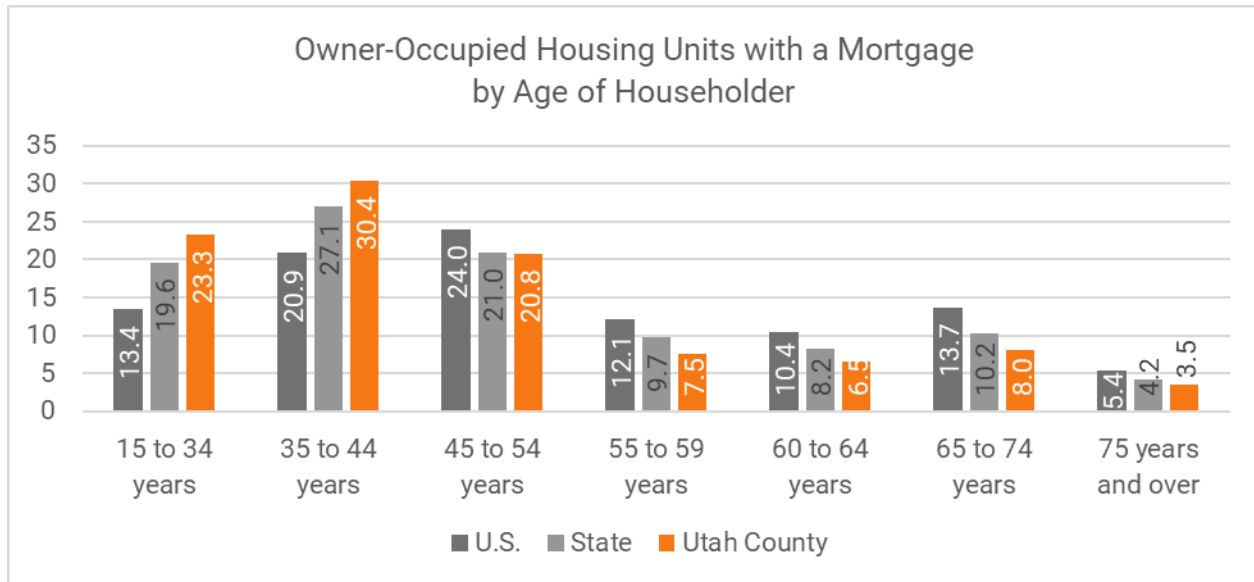


Figure 258: Owner-Occupied Housing Units with a Mortgage by Age of Householder

Utah County appears to be in line with state and national figures when it comes to owner-occupied housing units without a mortgage. About half—49.7 percent—of these units are

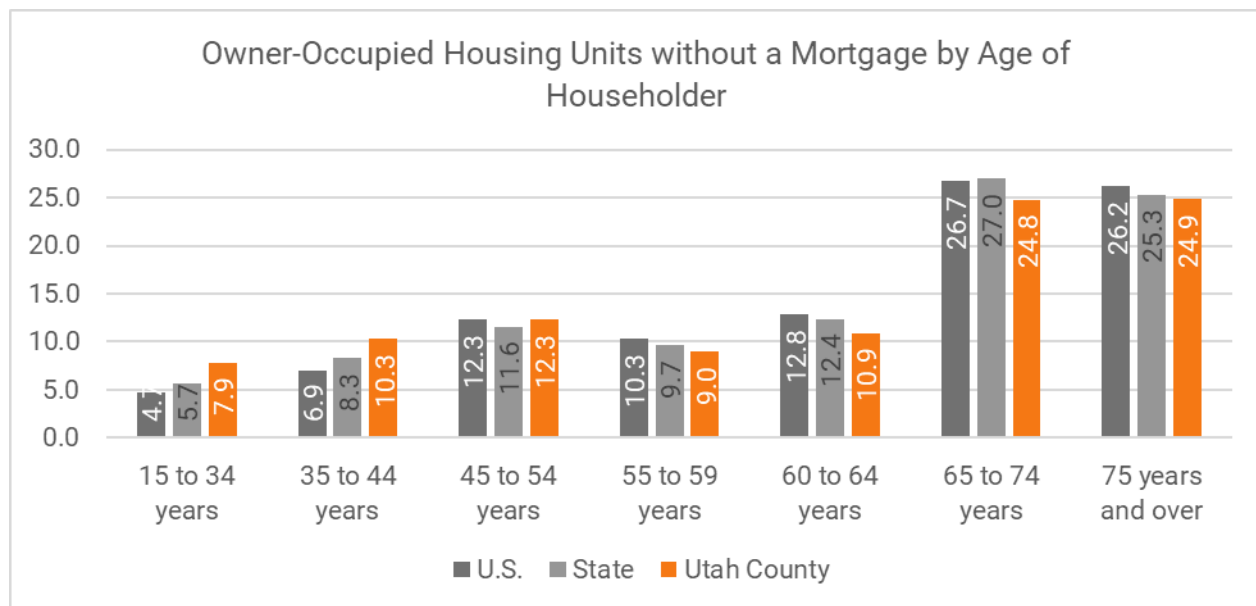
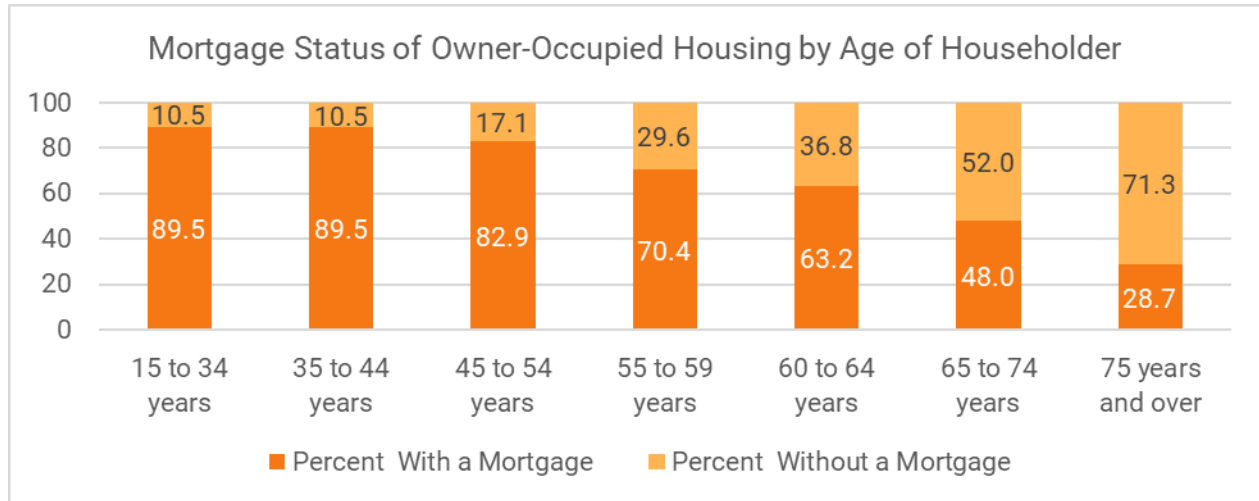


Figure 257: Owner-Occupied Housing Units without a Mortgage by Age of Householder

<sup>266</sup> Ibid.

owned by individuals age 65 or older, compared to 52.3 percent statewide and 52.9 percent nationally. In Utah County, 30,218 owner-occupied housing units do not have a mortgage.<sup>267</sup>

Looking at Utah County’s owner-occupied housing units’ mortgage status by age group presents a clearer understanding of owner debt. Of all owner-occupied units with a householder age 75 or older, 71.3 percent do not have a mortgage. For those between ages 65 and 74, 52 percent do not have a mortgage.<sup>268</sup>



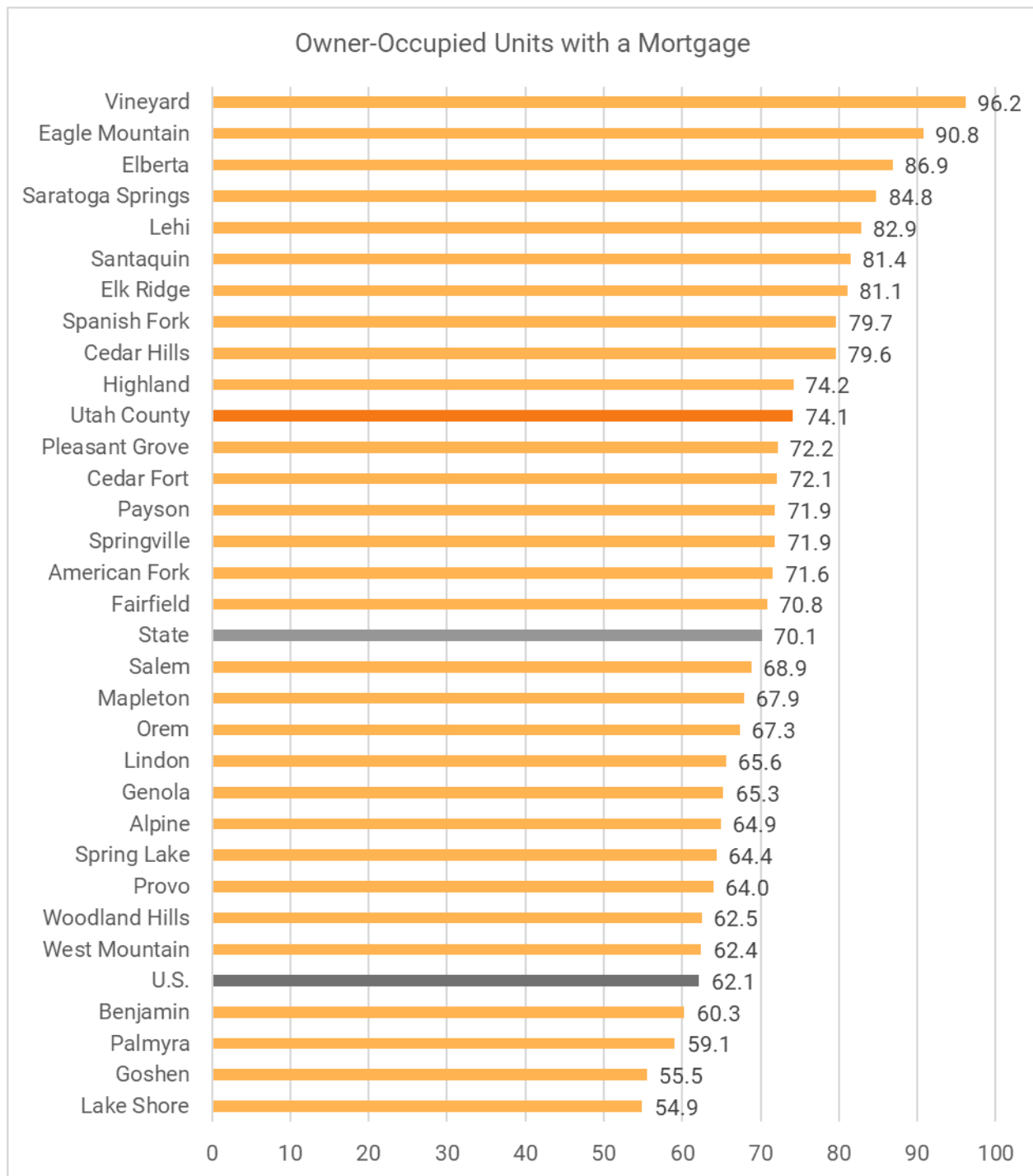
**Figure 259: Mortgage Status of Owner-Occupied Housing by Age of Householder**

Just over 96 percent of all owner-occupied units in Vineyard are mortgaged; Eagle Mountain (90.8), Elberta (86.9), Saratoga Springs (84.8) and Lehi (82.9) complete the top five. Lake Shore (54.9), Goshen (55.5), Palmyra (59.1), Benjamin (60.3), and West Mountain (62.4) have the lowest percentages of owner-occupied units with a mortgage.<sup>269</sup>

<sup>267</sup> Ibid.

<sup>268</sup> Ibid.

<sup>269</sup> Ibid.



**Figure 260: Owner-Occupied Units with a Mortgage**

### 2.3.4.7 Household Size and Persons per Room

With Utah's large families, households are expected to be larger than national averages. In Utah

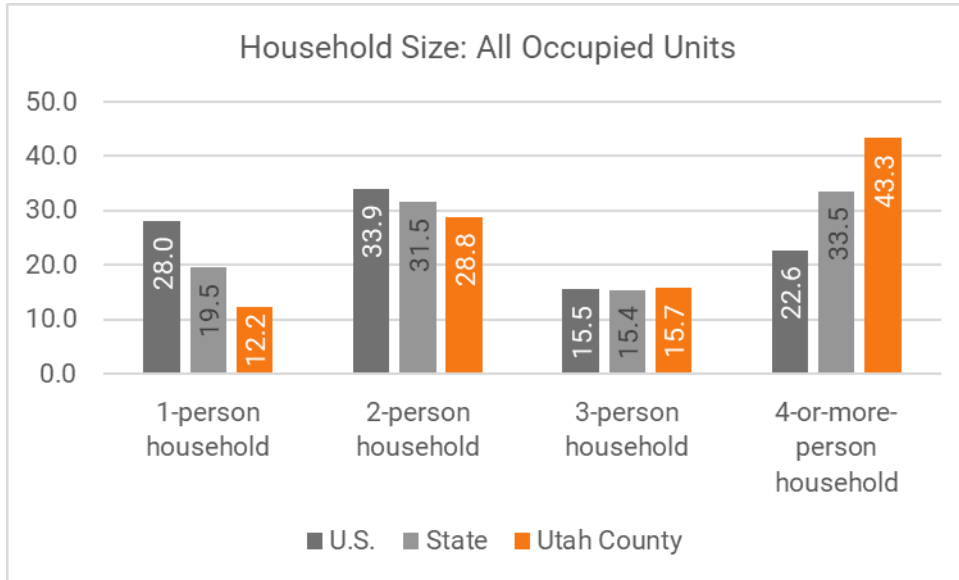


Figure 261: Household Size: All Occupied Units

County, 43.3 percent of households have four or more people; 49.1 percent of all owner-occupied households have four or more. These ratios are higher than state and national figures.<sup>270</sup>

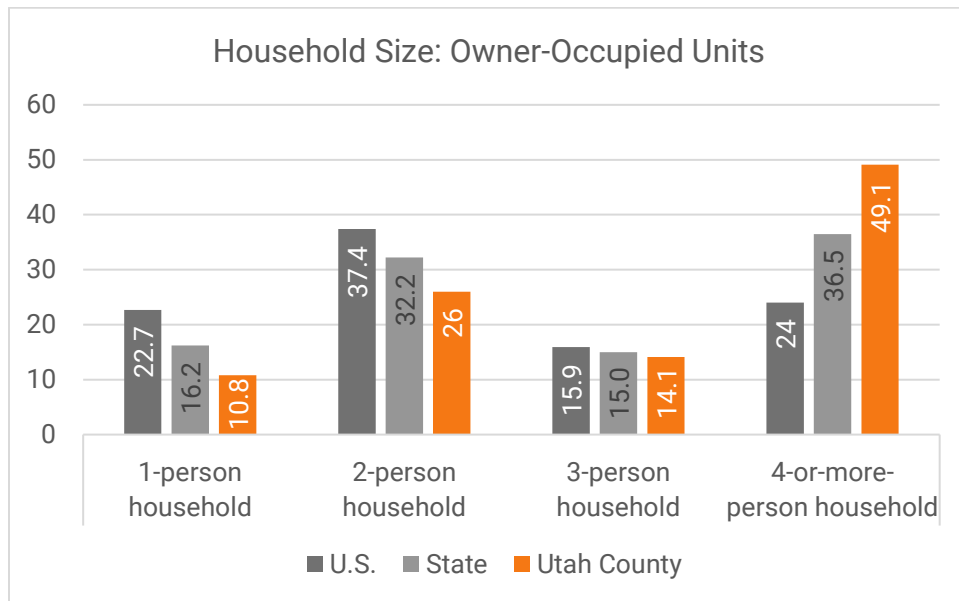


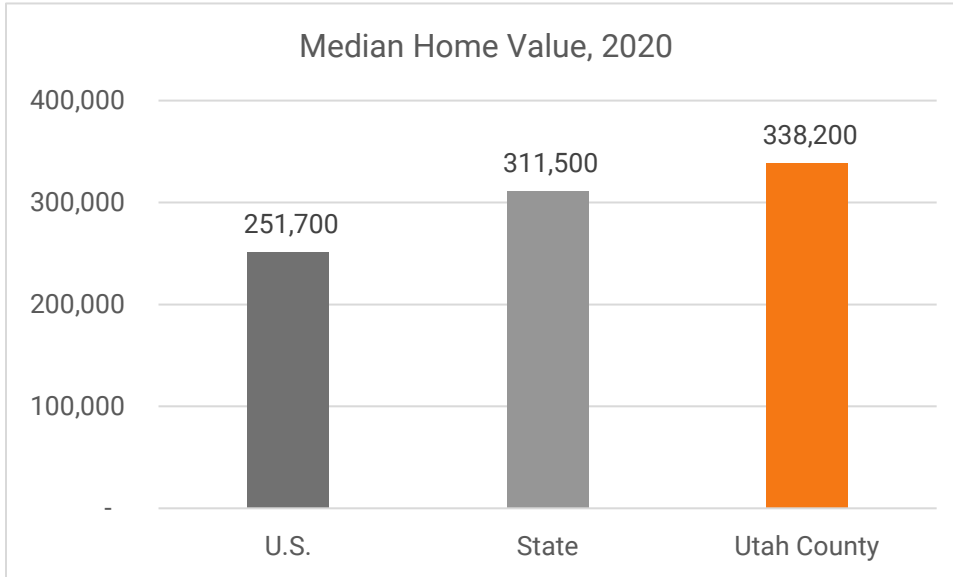
Figure 262: Household Size: Owner-Occupied Units

<sup>270</sup> Ibid., Table S2501



### 2.3.4.8 Home Value to Household Income

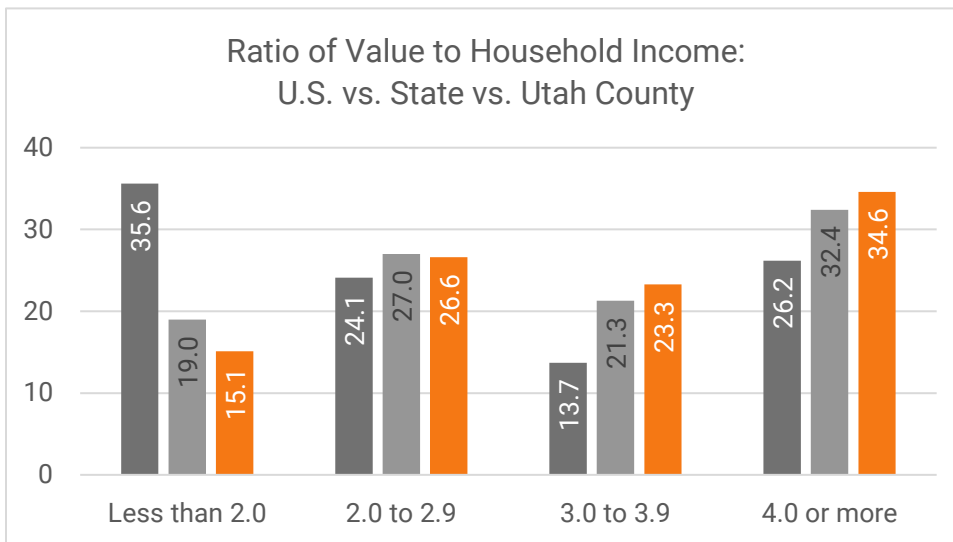
The ratio of home value to household income is a helpful metric of community and household financial health. The lower the ratio of home value to household income, the stronger



a family is—and the stronger families are, the stronger neighborhoods and communities are. In Utah County, the median home value as of the 2020 Census is \$338,200, compared to the state’s \$311,500

Figure 263: Median Home Value, 2020

and the nation’s \$251,700.<sup>271</sup> Of course, Utah and Utah County property values, and possibly the nation’s, have only increased since this data was gathered.



Just over 15 percent of Utah County’s owner-occupied homes have a value of less than 200 percent of household income—this compares with 35.6 percent nationally and 19.0

Figure 264: Ratio of Value to Household Income: U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County

<sup>271</sup> Ibid., Table S2506

percent statewide. And on the other end of the scale, 34.6 percent of Utah County's households are in homes worth 400 percent or more of their household income; given that so many homes are mortgaged, this indicates a high level of debt.<sup>272</sup>

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<sup>272</sup> Ibid.

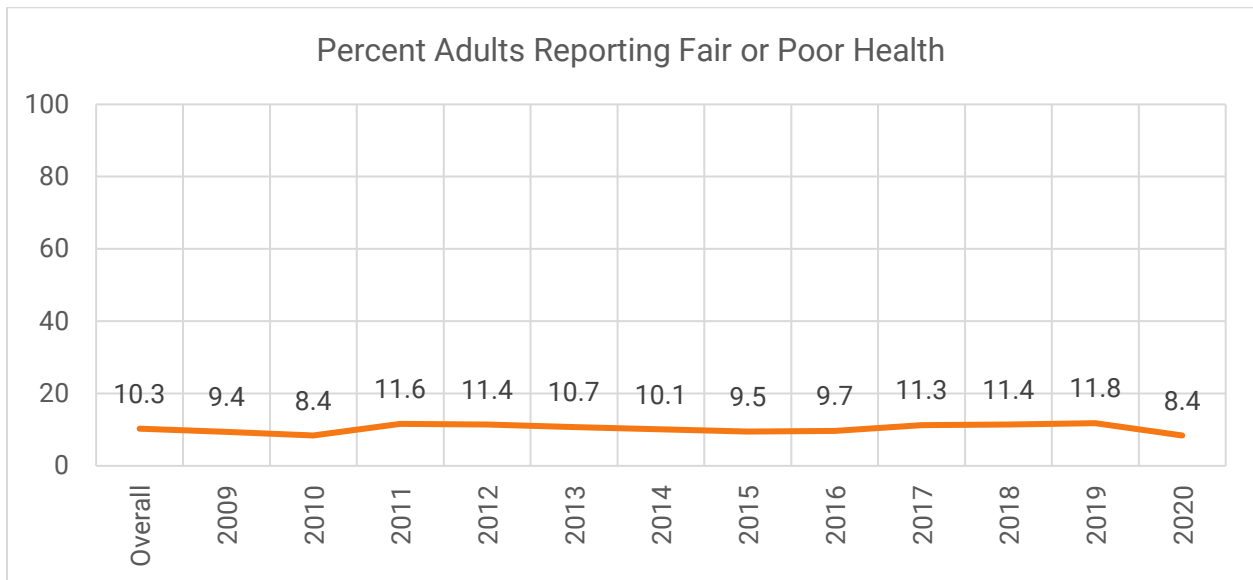


## 2.4 Health

### 2.4.1 Self-Reported Health Status

The Utah Department of Health conducts annual Indicator-Based Information System surveys, known as IBIS. Conducted by telephone (both landline and cell phone), these surveys present data in several domains, from health status to health habits to adverse childhood experiences. The sampling is such that data can be presented at the county level in most cases. Much of the data regarding health and adults in this assessment is from this source.

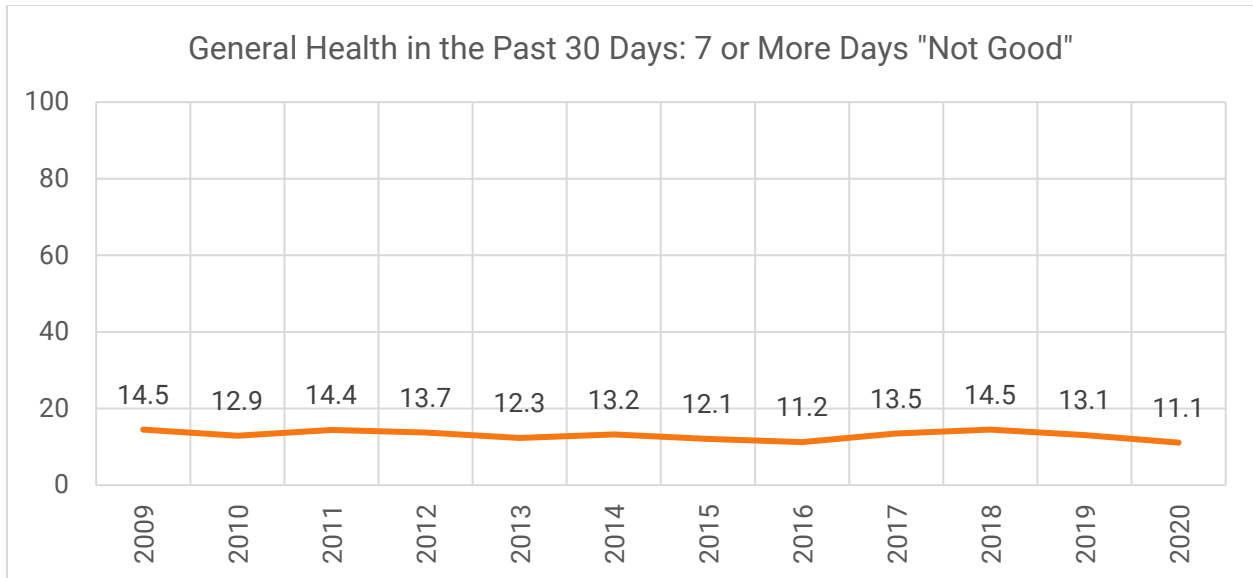
Utah County residents report being in good or very good health, with only 8.4 percent saying that their health is fair or poor. This is the lowest percentage of this rating since 2010.<sup>273</sup>



**Figure 265: Percent Adults Reporting Fair or Poor Health**

A similar question is asked about general health in the past 30 days. Just over 11 percent of respondents indicated their health has been “not good” for seven days or more.

<sup>273</sup> Data retrieved August 2022 from the Utah Department of Health: Indicator-Based Information System for Health web site: <http://ibis.health.utah.gov>



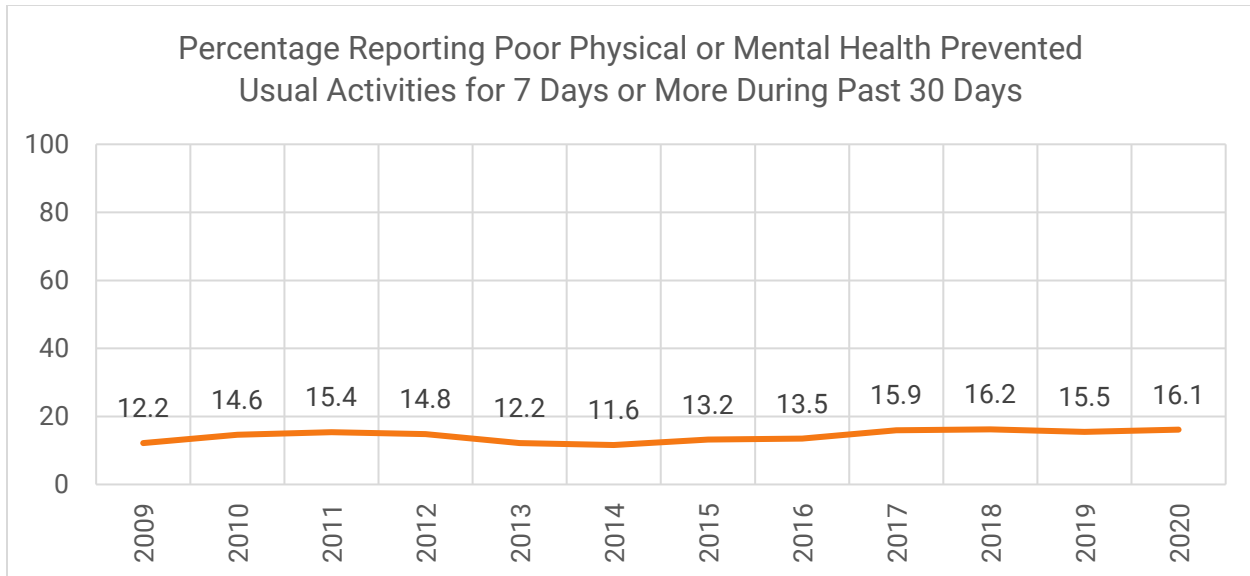
**Figure 266: General Health in the Past 30 Days: 7 or More Days "Not Good"**

In the same period (“the past 30 days”), 24.3 percent indicated their mental health has been not good. This continues an upward trend that began in 2015, when 16.5 percent reported the same—up from 14.5 percent in 2014.<sup>274</sup>

In 2020—the latest year for which data is available—16.1 percent of Utah County adults reported that over the past 30 days, poor physical or mental health prevented them from doing usual activities, such as work or recreation, for seven days or more. This percentage has remained about the same for the past several years.<sup>275</sup>

<sup>274</sup> Ibid.

<sup>275</sup> Ibid.



**Figure 267: Percentage Reporting Poor Physical or Mental Health Prevented Usual Activities for 7 Days or More During Past 30 Days**

## 2.4.2 Health Measures and Indicators

### 2.4.2.1 Health Rankings

The Robert Woods Johnson Foundation, in collaboration with the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute, produces an annual health ranking of counties within states. Multiple data sources are utilized, including the IBIS survey cited in this assessment. These rankings are based on “health outcomes” and “health factors.”

Health outcomes include length of life and quality of life. Quality of life includes self-reported health status items already shared at the beginning of this section and low birth weight.

Health factors include health behaviors such as tobacco use, alcohol use, diet and exercise, and sexual activity; clinical care, including access to care and quality of care; social and economic factors, such as education, employment, income, family and social support, and community safety; physical environment, including air and water quality and housing and transit systems.<sup>276</sup>

The following tables provide more detail on how the rankings are developed.

<sup>276</sup> Robert Woods Johnson Foundation, countyhealthrankings.org, 2022 Health Rankings Dataset

**Table 66: Health Outcomes Explained**

Health Outcomes		
<b>Length of Life</b>	Premature death*	Years of potential life lost before age 75 per 100,000 population (age-adjusted).
<b>Quality of Life</b>	Poor or fair health‡	Percentage of adults reporting fair or poor health (age-adjusted).
	Poor physical health days‡	Average number of physically unhealthy days reported in past 30 days (age-adjusted).
	Poor mental health days‡	Average number of mentally unhealthy days reported in past 30 days (age-adjusted).
	Low birthweight*	Percentage of live births with low birthweight (< 2,500 grams).
<i>*Indicates subgroup data by race and ethnicity is available; + Not available in all states; ‡ 2018 data for New Jersey.</i>		

**Table 67: Health Factors Explained**

<b>Health Factors</b>		
<b>Health Behaviors</b>		
<b>Tobacco Use</b>	Adult smoking‡	Percentage of adults who are current smokers (age-adjusted).
<b>Diet and Exercise</b>	Adult obesity‡	Percentage of the adult population (age 18 and older) that reports a body mass index (BMI) greater than or equal to 30 kg/m2 (age-adjusted).
	Food environment index	Index of factors that contribute to a healthy food environment, from 0 (worst) to 10 (best).
	Physical inactivity‡	Percentage of adults age 18 and over reporting no leisure-time physical activity (age-adjusted).
	Access to exercise opportunities	Percentage of population with adequate access to locations for physical activity.
<b>Alcohol and Drug Use</b>	Excessive drinking‡	Percentage of adults reporting binge or heavy drinking (age-adjusted).
	Alcohol-impaired driving deaths	Percentage of driving deaths with alcohol involvement.
<b>Sexual Activity</b>	Sexually transmitted infections	Number of newly diagnosed chlamydia cases per 100,000 population.
	Teen births*	Number of births per 1,000 female population ages 15-19.
<b>Clinical Care</b>		
<b>Access to Care</b>	Uninsured	Percentage of population under age 65 without health insurance.
	Primary care physicians	Ratio of population to primary care physicians.
	Dentists	Ratio of population to dentists.
	Mental health providers	Ratio of population to mental health providers.
<b>Quality of Care</b>	Preventable hospital stays*	Rate of hospital stays for ambulatory-care sensitive conditions per 100,000 Medicare enrollees.
	Mammography screening*	Percentage of female Medicare enrollees ages 65-74 that received an annual mammography screening.
	Flu vaccinations*	Percentage of fee-for-service (FFS) Medicare enrollees that had an annual flu vaccination.
<i>Continued next page</i>		



Health Factors (continued)		
<b>Social &amp; Economic Factors</b>		
<b>Education</b>	High school completion	Percentage of adults ages 25 and over with a high school diploma or equivalent.
	Some college	Percentage of adults ages 25-44 with some post-secondary education.
<b>Employment</b>	Unemployment	Percentage of population ages 16 and older unemployed but seeking work.
<b>Income</b>	Children in poverty*	Percentage of people under age 18 in poverty.
	Income inequality	Ratio of household income at the 80 <sup>th</sup> percentile to income at the 20 <sup>th</sup> percentile.
<b>Family and Social Support</b>	Children in single-parent households	Percentage of children that live in a household headed by a single parent.
	Social associations	Number of membership associations per 10,000 population.
<b>Community Safety</b>	Violent crime	Number of reported violent crime offenses per 100,000 population.
	Injury deaths*	Number of deaths due to injury per 100,000 population.
<b>Physical Environment</b>		
<b>Air and Water Quality</b>	Air pollution – particulate matter	Average daily density of fine particulate matter in micrograms per cubic meter (PM2.5).
	Drinking water violations+	Indicator of the presence of health-related drinking water violations. 'Yes' indicates the presence of a violation, 'No' indicates no violation.
<b>Housing and Transit</b>	Severe housing problems	Percentage of households with at least 1 of 4 housing problems: overcrowding, high housing costs, lack of kitchen facilities, or lack of plumbing facilities.
	Driving alone to work*	Percentage of the workforce that drives alone to work.
	Long commute – driving alone	Among workers who commute in their car alone, the percentage that commute more than 30 minutes.
<i>*Indicates subgroup data by race and ethnicity is available; + Not available in all states; ‡ 2018 data for New Jersey.</i>		

Based on the data and formulae of the organization, Utah County ranks number 5 of 29 counties in Utah (Daggatt, however, is not ranked due to insufficient data) for health outcomes, and number 1 in health factors. Morgan, Summit, Wasatch, and Davis Counties rank higher than Utah County.

Table 68: County Health Rankings

County Health Rankings		
County	Outcomes Ranking	Factors Ranking
Morgan	1	2
Summit	2	3
Wasatch	3	5
Davis	4	4
Utah	5	1
Cache	6	6
Washington	7	7
Salt Lake	8	9
Kane	9	14
Box Elder	10	8
Rich	11	10
Beaver	12	12
Tooele	13	13
Juab	14	20
Grand	15	23
Weber	16	15
Iron	17	11
Sanpete	18	17
Piute	19	25
Emery	20	19
Millard	21	18
Garfield	22	24
Sevier	23	16
Wayne	24	21
Duchesne	25	26
Uintah	26	27
Carbon	27	22
San Juan	28	28
Daggett	NR	NR

### 2.4.2.2 Physical Health and Safety

Perhaps because of Utah County’s age demographic—that is, young and, presumably healthy—the percentage of adults who have had a routine medical checkup in the past 12 months is only 34.7. This is down from a high of 48.6 in 2010.<sup>277</sup>

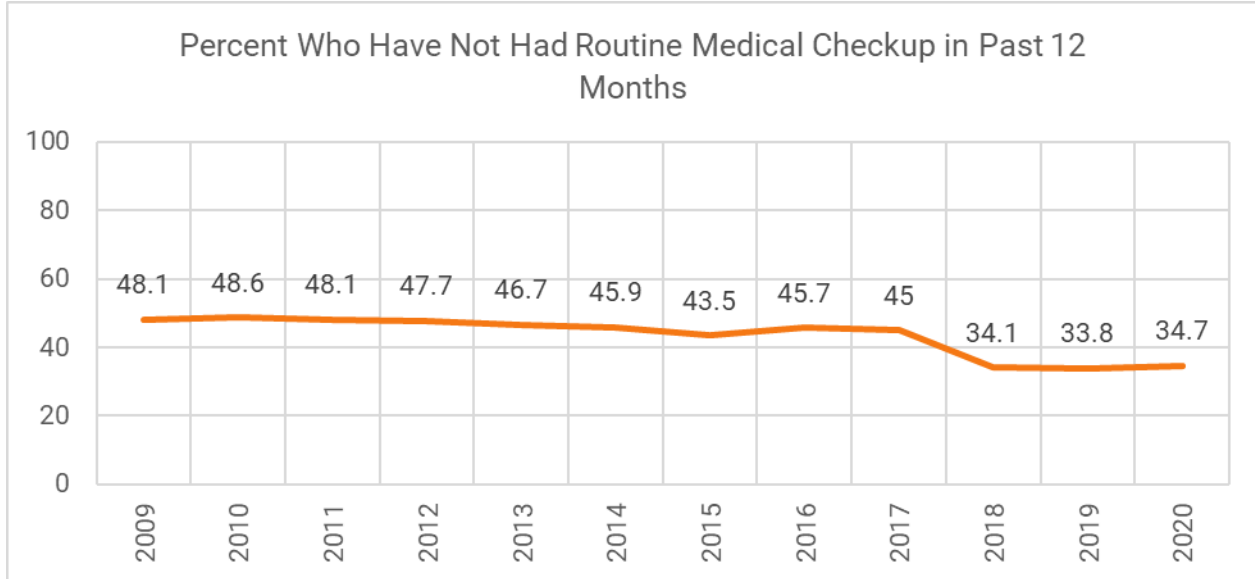
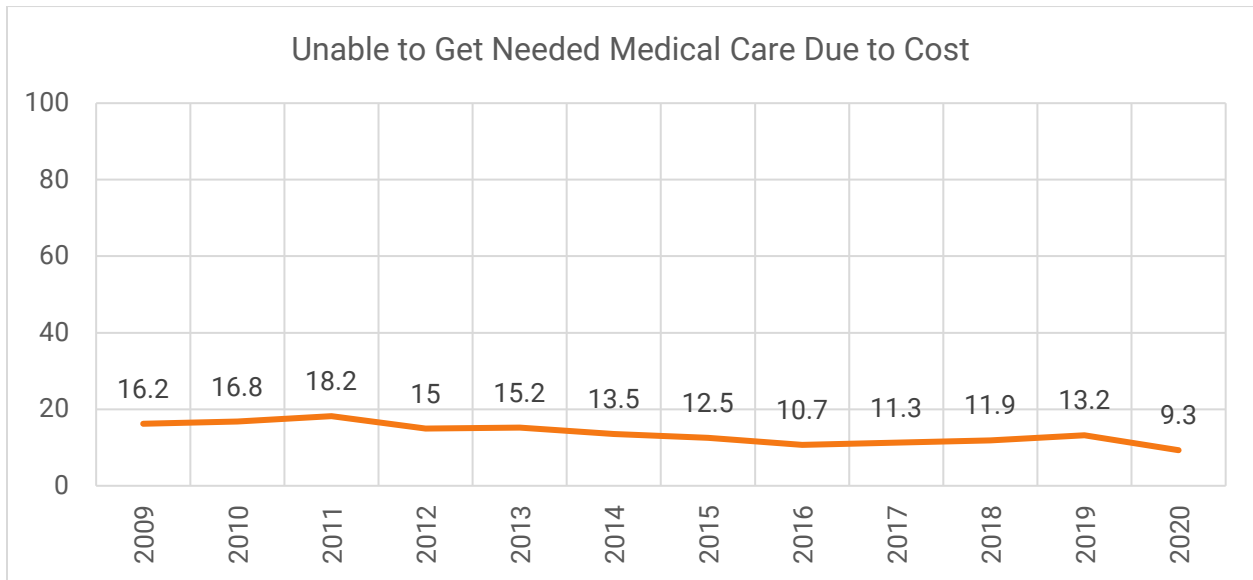


Figure 268: Percent Who Have Not Had Routine Medical Checkup in Past 12 Months

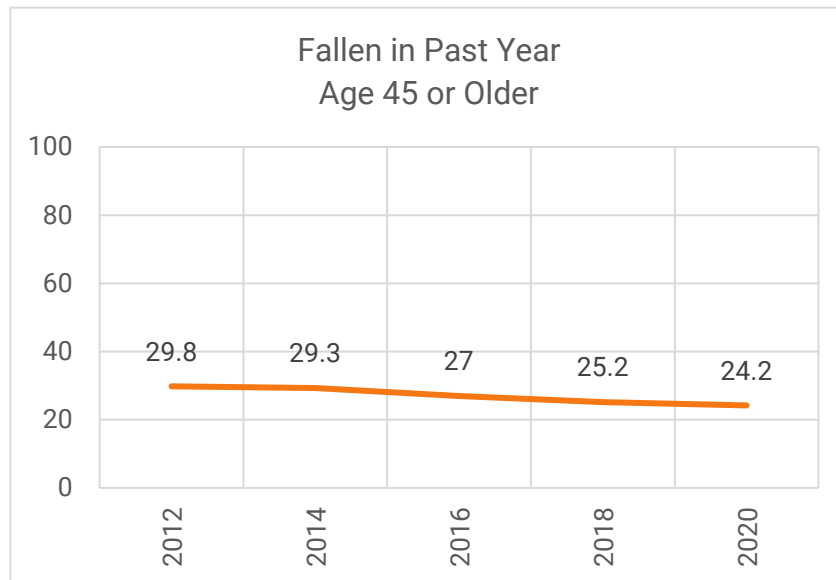
<sup>277</sup> Utah Department of Health IBIS

About one out of every 10 Utah County adults say they are not able to get the medical help they need due to cost. This percentage has decreased since 2011.<sup>278</sup>



**Figure 269: Unable to Get Needed Medical Care Due to Cost**

Fractures are considered one of—if not the—most common injury among elderly persons, and these often result from falls. Fractures in older persons can lead to other serious



conditions, such as hematoma, joint dislocation, severe lacerations, sprains, and injuries to soft tissues.<sup>279</sup> In the annual health survey conducted by the Utah Department of Health, 24.2 percent of persons age 45 or

**Figure 270: Fallen in Past Year Age 45 or Older**

<sup>278</sup> Ibid.

<sup>279</sup> *The Second Fifty Years: Promoting Health and Preventing Disability* (1992). Institute of Medicine (US) Division of Health Promotion and Disease Prevention; Berg RL, Cassells JS, editors.

older reported they had fallen in the past year.<sup>280</sup>

#### 2.4.2.2.1 Violence

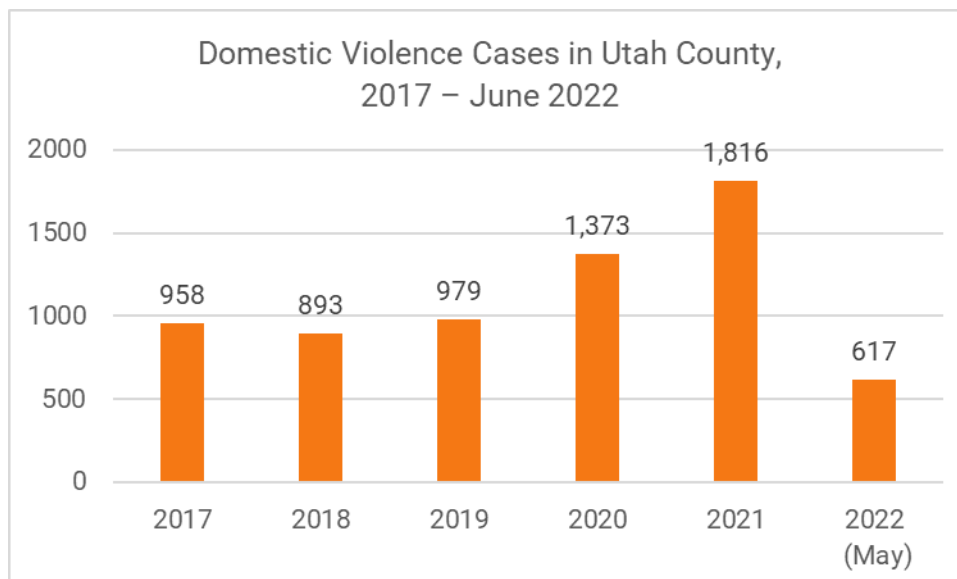
At 78 violent crimes per 100,000 for the latest year county-level data is available, Utah County is one of the safest in the state—behind only Beaver (54 violent crimes per 100,000), Sanpete (64), Cache (65), and Piute (66). The state rate is 229; Salt Lake County’s is 384.<sup>281</sup>

For detailed data on crime—including crime against persons—see 2.1.5 Crime and Justice. This section reports domestic violence and child abuse and neglect.

##### 2.4.2.2.1.1 Domestic Violence

Domestic violence is a societal issue that is gaining in public awareness. The National Network to End Domestic Violence, a support and training network for domestic violence service providers, sponsors a national Domestic Violence Counts day each year. In Utah, all fourteen programs participated, including The Refuge, Utah County’s domestic violence shelter. On September 9, 2021, 916 victims of domestic violence were served throughout the state, with 607 of these victims receiving sheltering services. More than 320 domestic violence hotline calls were taken—an average of 14 contacts per hour. During the 24-hour period, victims made 217 requests for services that went unmet due to lack of resources; about 44 percent of these unmet requests were for housing or emergency shelter.<sup>282</sup>

Despite the growing attention to domestic violence, data remains difficult to obtain. A



major reason for this difficulty is that domestic violence *per se* is not a crime—assault and many other acts are. And so,

Domestic Violence Counts Report.

WASHINGTON, DC. RETRIEVED FROM [NNEDV.ORG/DV/COUNTS](https://www.nnedy.org/dvcounts)  
**Figure 271: Domestic Violence Cases in Utah County, 2017 – June 2022**

relationships of victims to perpetrators must be ascertained, reported, and tabulated to get an understanding of the scope of domestic violence.

From 2010 to 2019, there were 18 homicides committed by intimate partners in Utah County, and 117 statewide. Of the 18 Utah County victims, 14 were female.<sup>283</sup>

Given the limitations in reporting, the number of domestic violence cases in Utah County appears to have increased significantly in 2020 and 2021. From 2017 through 2019, there were about 900 to 1,000 cases per year; this increased to 1,373 in 2020 and then to 1,816 in 2021. Through June 2022, there were 617 cases reported (subject to revision).<sup>284</sup>

January is the worst month for domestic violence events, with 654 cases in the years 2017 through 2022. May has 605. Data for June through December 2022 is not yet available.<sup>285</sup>

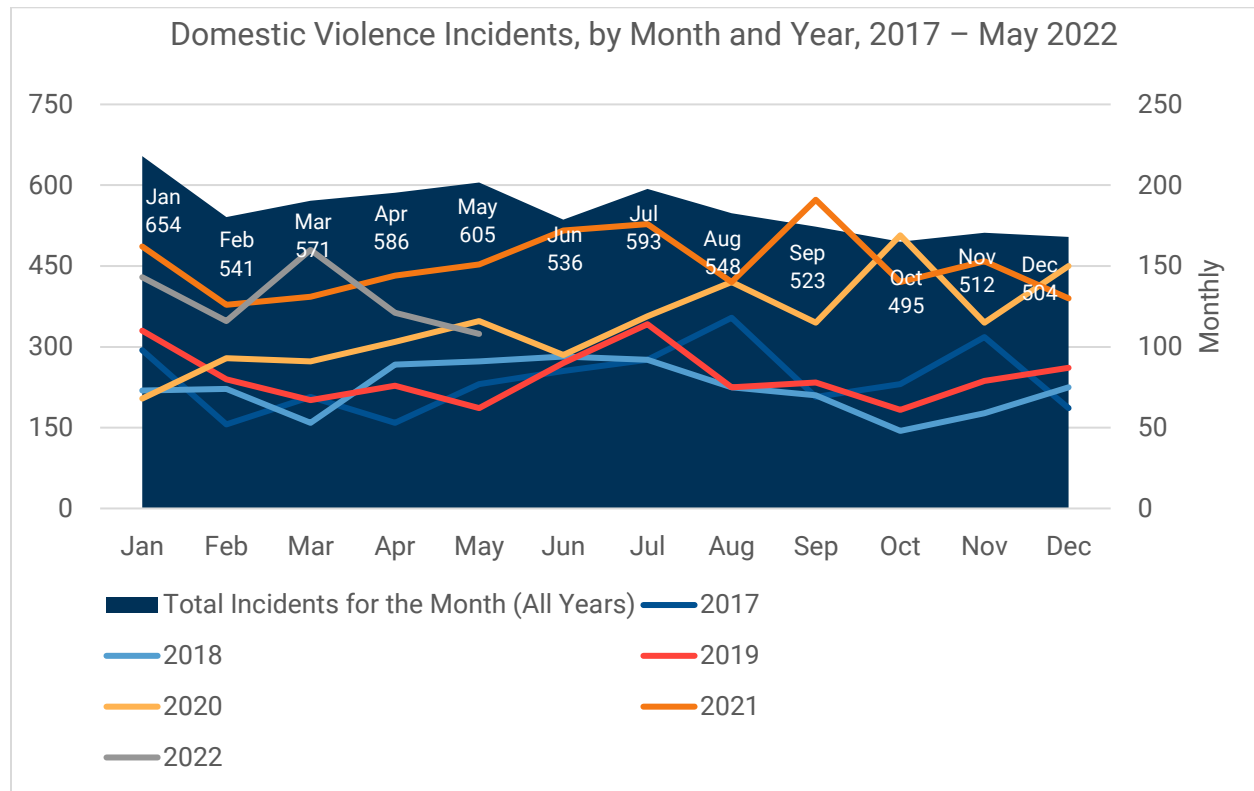


Figure 272: Domestic Violence Incidents, by Month and Year, 2017 – May 2022

<sup>283</sup> Utah Department of Health, IBIS

<sup>284</sup> Utah Department of Public Safety, Crime in Utah Dashboard, Domestic Violence Analysis Dataset

<sup>285</sup> Ibid.

The most common relationship of victim to perpetrator in Utah County's domestic violence incidents is boyfriend or girlfriend, with 1,668 cases from January 2017 through May 2022. Spouse is the next most common, with 1,399 cases.<sup>286</sup>

**Table 69: Domestic Violence Victim Relationship, 2017 – May 2022**

Domestic Violence Victim Relationship, 2017 – May 2022							
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Total
<b>Babysittee</b>	3	2	2	3	3		<b>13</b>
<b>Boyfriend/Girlfriend</b>	220	210	269	353	477	139	<b>1,668</b>
<b>Child</b>	199	136	180	237	362	111	<b>1,225</b>
<b>Common-Law Spouse</b>	1	1	1	6	15	3	<b>27</b>
<b>Ex-Spouse</b>	14	13	10	36	23	8	<b>104</b>
<b>Grandchild</b>	11	11	4	11	25	10	<b>72</b>
<b>Grandparent</b>	3	2	5	7	10	9	<b>36</b>
<b>Homosexual Relationship</b>	5	2	3				<b>10</b>
<b>In-Law</b>	13	15	6	10	17	9	<b>70</b>
<b>Other Family Member</b>	40	53	43	86	100	50	<b>372</b>
<b>Parent</b>	75	69	85	119	161	63	<b>572</b>
<b>Sibling</b>	110	113	100	145	157	56	<b>681</b>
<b>Spouse</b>	207	197	201	287	382	125	<b>1,399</b>
<b>Stepchild</b>	33	15	15	16	31	14	<b>124</b>
<b>Stepparent</b>	6	9	4	12	15	7	<b>53</b>
<b>Stepsibling</b>	4	6	11	10	7	13	<b>51</b>
<b>Total</b>	944	854	939	1,338	1,785	617	<b>6,477</b>

<sup>286</sup> Ibid.

The most common weapon used in domestic violence cases, besides one’s own hands, is a knife or other cutting instrument. In the 5.5 years of data accessible through the Department of Public Safety dashboard, such a weapon was used in 203 incidents.<sup>287</sup>

**Table 70: Domestic Violence: Weapons Used, 2017 – May 2022**

Domestic Violence: Weapons Used, 2017 – May 2022															
	Asphyxiation	Blunt Object Drugs/Narcotics/ Sleeping Pills	Firearm	Handgun	Knife/Cutting Instrument	Motor Vehicle	None	Other	Personal Weapons	Rifle	Shotgun	Other Firearm	Unknown	Total	
<b>2017</b>		4	4	7	25	2	3	35	874		1		3	958	
<b>2018</b>		13	10		40	10	1	25	791	1		1	1	893	
<b>2019</b>		5	6	8	30	2	2	43	882		1			979	
<b>2020</b>	4	11	4	13	45	4	87	57	1,131	2	3		13	1,374	
<b>2021</b>	11	10	2	9	18	45	10	139	66	1,491	7		1	7	1,816
<b>2022</b>		11	1		7	18	4	69	21	511			2	4	648
<b>Total</b>	15	54	3	33	53	203	32	301	247	5,680	10	5	4	28	6,668

<sup>287</sup> Ibid.



### 2.4.2.2.1.2 Child Abuse and Neglect

There are two significant sources of data to help understand the scope of child abuse and neglect in Utah County: 1) crime data from law enforcement, and 2) allegations, investigations, and child placement data from the state.

In 2021, the number of cases investigated by law enforcement involving domestic violence with child victims increased from 264 the previous year to 418. Through May 2022, 135 cases have been or are being investigated.<sup>288</sup>

**Table 71: Law Enforcement Cases: Domestic Violence Child Victim Cases, 2017 – May 2022**

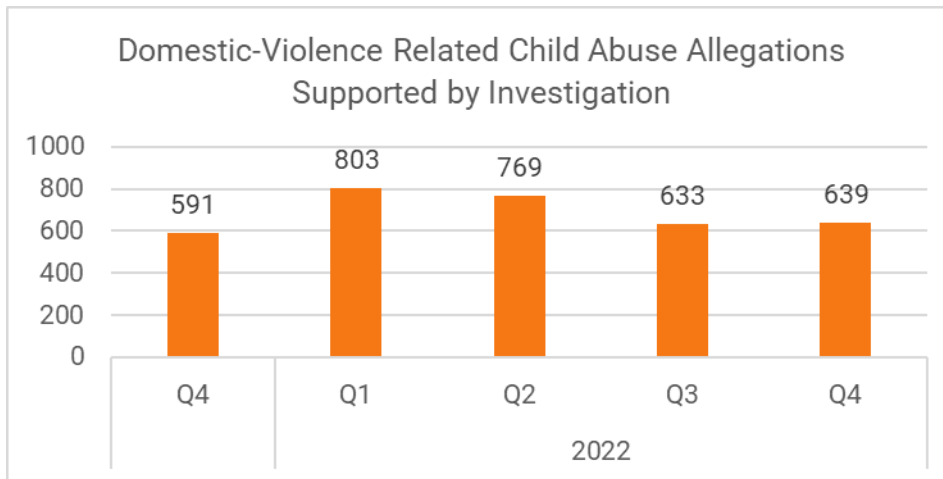
Law Enforcement Cases: Domestic Violence Child Victim Cases, 2017 – May 2022							
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Total
<b>Child</b>	199	136	180	237	362	111	<b>1,225</b>
<b>Grandchild</b>	11	11	4	11	25	10	<b>72</b>
<b>Stepchild</b>	33	15	15	16	31	14	<b>124</b>
<b>Total</b>	243	162	199	264	418	135	1,421

The Utah Division of Child and Family Services reports cases of child abuse and neglect by regions. Utah County is in the Western Region of DCFS’s structure; this region also includes Summit, Wasatch, and Juab Counties. It is important to note that not every allegation of child abuse or neglect is substantiated by investigation; nor is every case referred for criminal complaint. Therefore, the data from DCFS presented in the following graphs and narrative include foster care data as well as child abuse and neglect data.

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<sup>288</sup> Ibid.

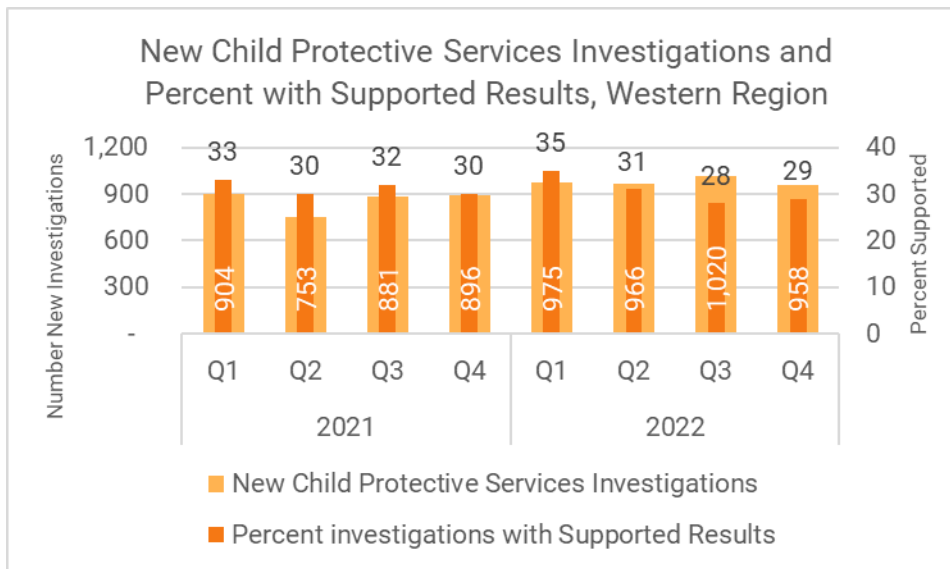
In the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2022 (ended June 30, 2022), there were 639 substantiated



cases of domestic violence involving children in the Western Region (the bulk of the population in this region is in Utah County). Some cases involve multiple child victims. Note that some allegations are

**Figure 273: Domestic-Violence Related Child Abuse Allegations Supported by Investigation**

not supported by follow-up investigations. However, this does not mean the allegation was false—it means only that Child Protective Services was not able to find evidence supporting the allegation.<sup>289</sup>

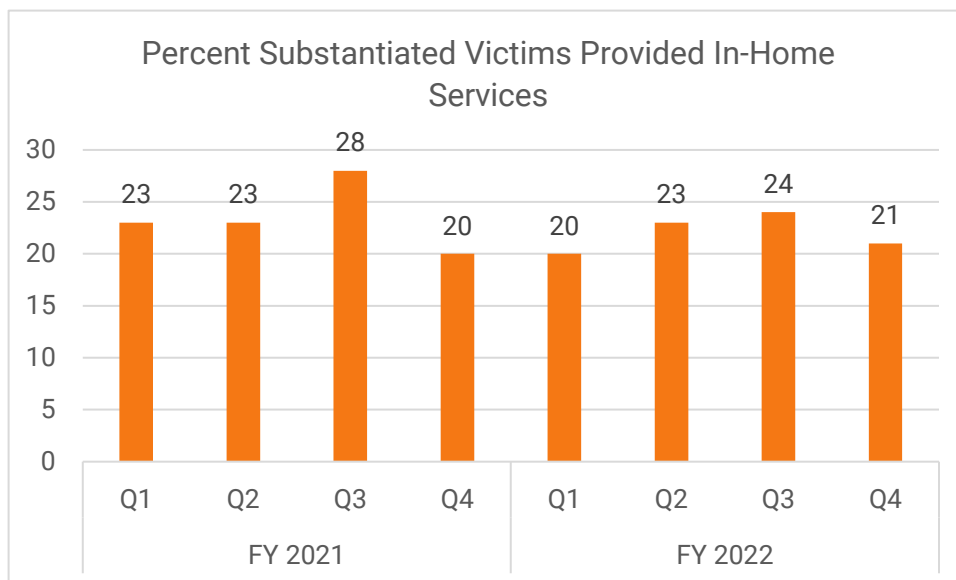


Between 28 and 35 percent of all new allegations are substantiated by investigations. For fourth quarter fiscal year 2022 (April through June 2022), 29 percent of the 958 new cases were found to have supported results.<sup>290</sup>

**Figure 274: New Child Protective Services Investigations and Percent with Supported Results, Western Region**

<sup>289</sup> Utah Department of Human Services, Child and Family Services, Quarterly Reports

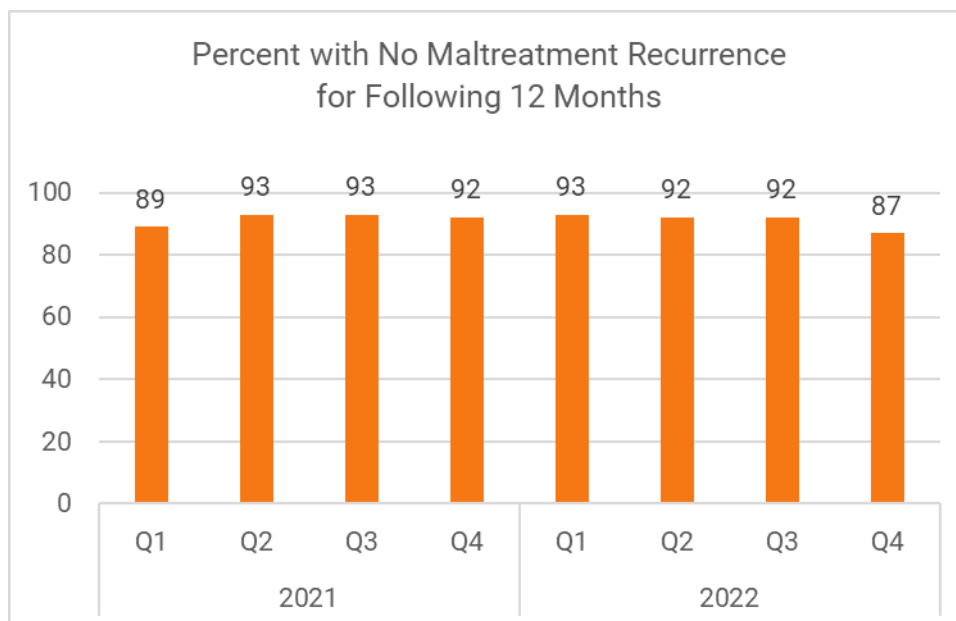
<sup>290</sup> Ibid.



**Figure 275: Percent Substantiated Victims Provided In-Home Services**

Instead of taking a child into protective custody immediately, DCFS determines whether the child would be better served—and safely served—by in-home services or a referral to local agencies. If a child is safe at home, it

is better to remain in the home. Over the past two years, between 20 and 28 percent of child abuse or neglect victims in the Western Region of DCFS remain in their home because it is deemed safe to do so.<sup>291</sup>

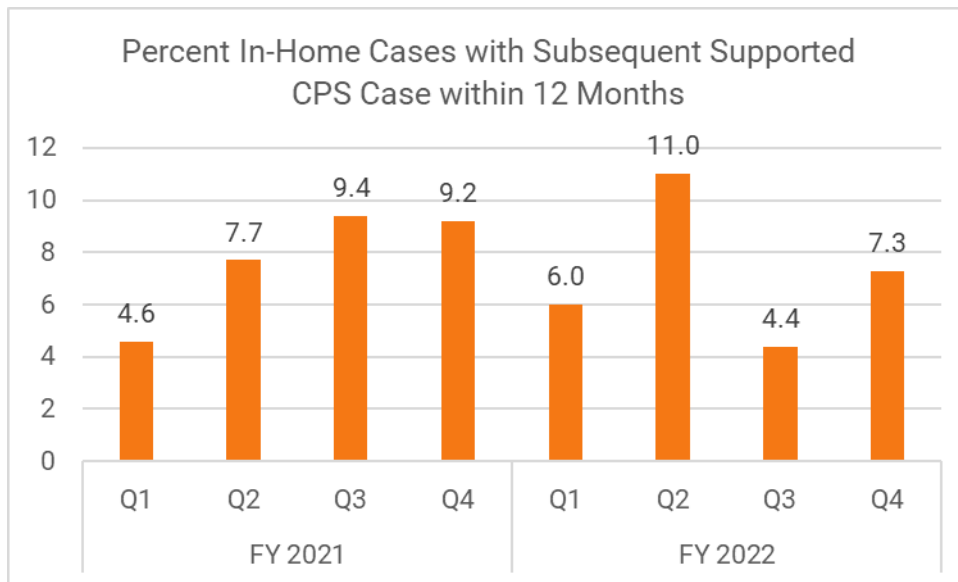


**Figure 276: Percent with No Maltreatment Recurrence for Following 12 Months**

Fortunately, most of the children who are found to have been neglected but are left in the home are found to have experienced no maltreatment in the 12 months following the investigation. In the Western Region, 87 percent of the

<sup>291</sup> Ibid.

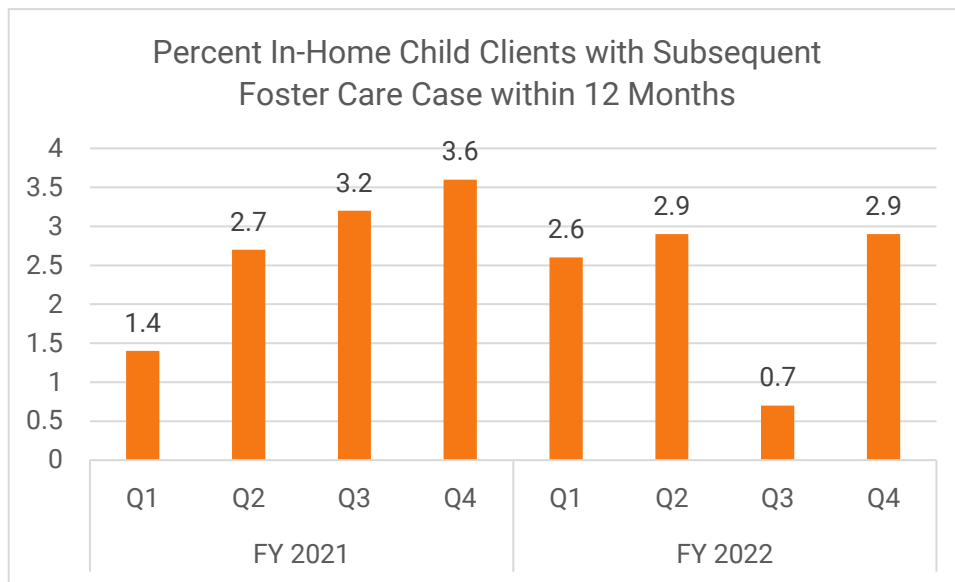
children who remained in the home were safe for at least the next twelve months.<sup>292</sup>



**Figure 277: Percent In-Home Cases with Subsequent Supported CPS Case within 12 Months**

The percentage of in-home cases with substantiated recurrence in the following 12 months is small. In the quarter ended June 30, 2022, 7.3 percent of these cases had subsequent events. Keep in mind that

there may be more than one child victim in each case.<sup>293</sup>



**Figure 278: Percent In-Home Child Clients with Subsequent Foster Care Case within 12 Months**

Some children who are initially referred to local agencies and remain in their home are later found to need foster care placement. In the quarter ended June 2022, 2.9 percent of in-home child clients ended up in

the foster care system within 12 months.<sup>294</sup>

<sup>292</sup> Ibid.

<sup>293</sup> Ibid.

For many children who are not safe with their custodial parent or parents, kinship care is a first option. Kinship can be grandparents, non-custodial parent, extended relatives, or even

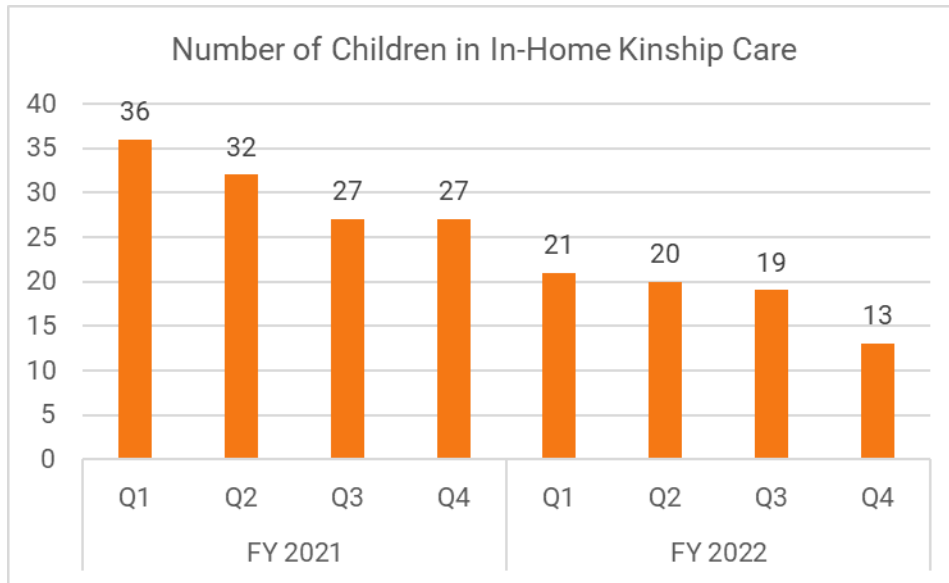


Figure 279: Number of Children in In-Home Kinship Care

friends of the family whom the child knows and with whom the child is comfortable. In some cases, kinship care can be accomplished in the child’s home by removing the offending caregiver and designating

another kin as the guardian. The number of children in kinship care in their own home at the end of June 2022 in the Western Region is 13. Over the past two years, the quarterly number was as high as 36.<sup>295</sup>

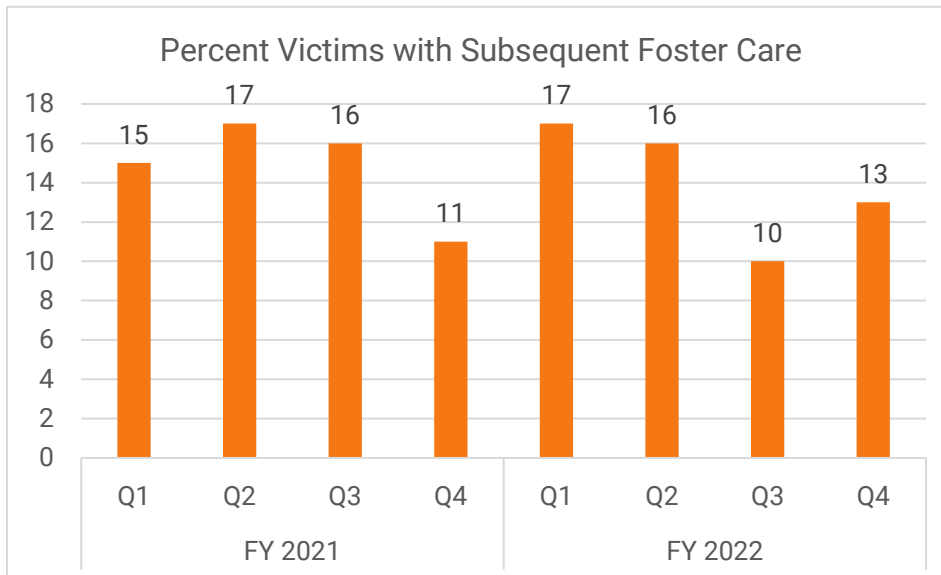


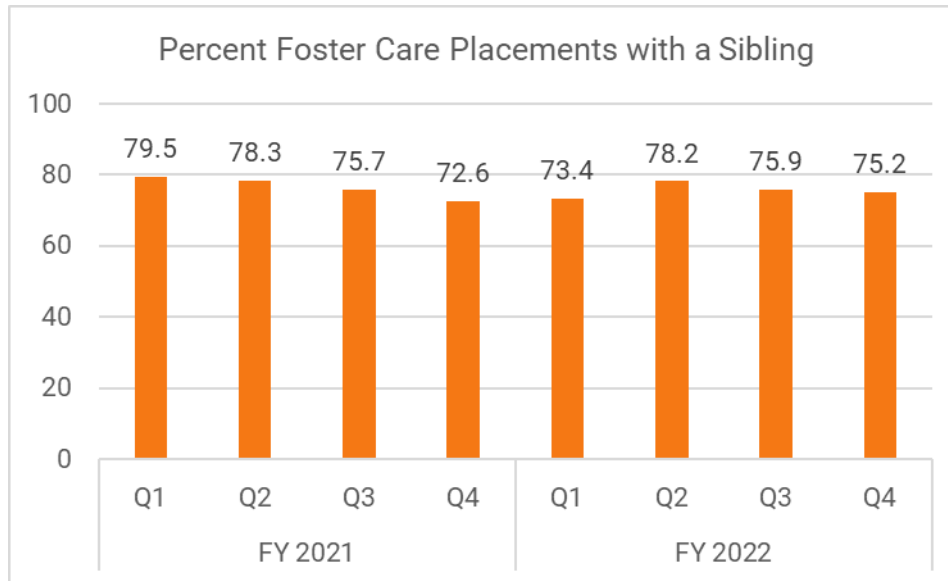
Figure 280: Percent Victims with Subsequent Foster Care

Kinship care is not always an option. About 13 percent of child abuse or neglect victims with CPS involvement were removed from their homes and placed foster care in the Western

<sup>294</sup> Ibid.

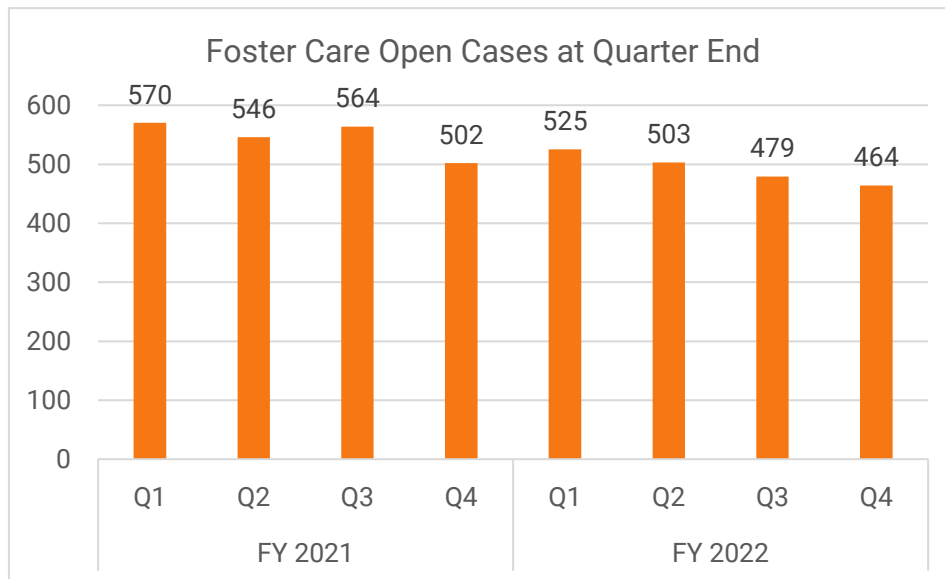
<sup>295</sup> Ibid.

Region.<sup>296</sup>



If child victims have siblings, every effort is made to place all siblings together in foster homes. About three out of four children in sibling groups are placed together.<sup>297</sup>

Figure 281: Percent Foster Care Placements with a Sibling



The number of open foster care cases in the Western Region at the end of each quarter remains between 450 and 600.<sup>298</sup>

Figure 282: Foster Care Open Cases at Quarter End

<sup>296</sup> Ibid.

<sup>297</sup> Ibid.

<sup>298</sup> Ibid.



### 2.4.2.3 Vaccinations

For many years, Utah and Utah County officials have encouraged parents to immunize their children against common communicable diseases. Additionally, adults—particularly the elderly or other at-risk groups—have been encouraged to receive annual influenza and other vaccines. These public education efforts have resulted in fairly high levels of vaccination, creating a healthier community.

#### 2.4.2.3.1 COVID-19 Vaccinations

With the COVID-19 worldwide pandemic, Utah County residents began receiving vaccinations as early as December 2020. By the end of 2020, 7,722 persons who would eventually become fully vaccinated received at least one dose that was available at that time. Eventually, 377,960 persons would be fully vaccinated in Utah County as of 1 August 2022.<sup>299</sup>

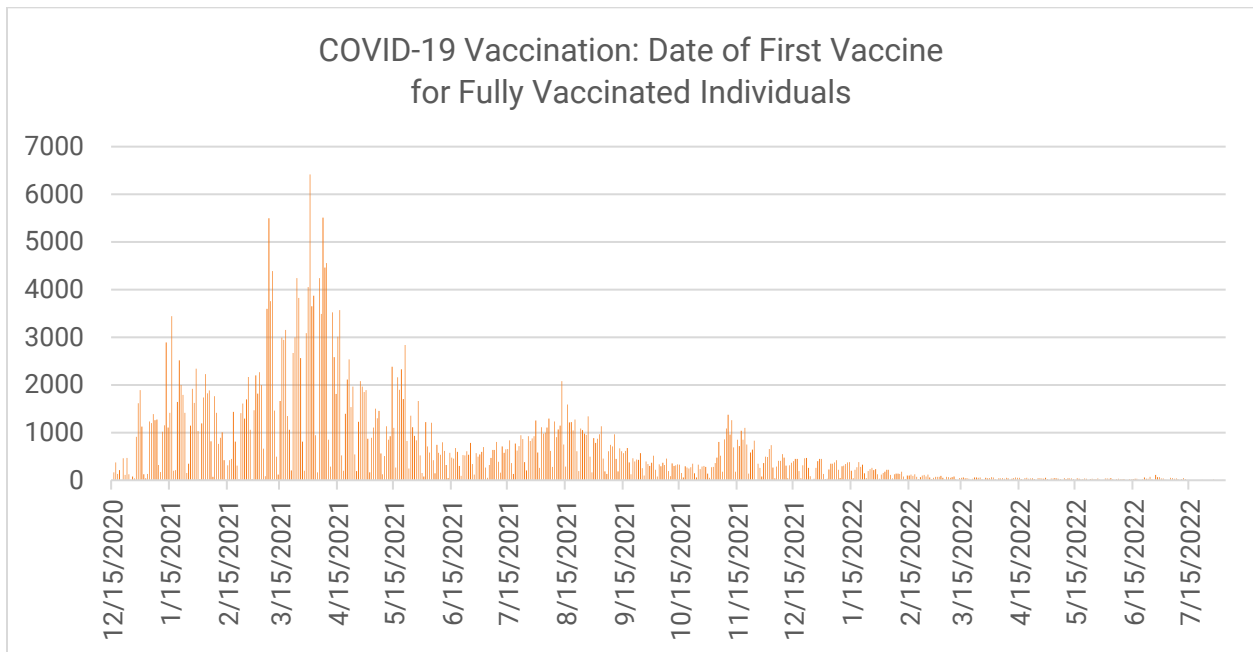


Figure 283: COVID-19 Vaccination: Date of First Vaccine for Fully Vaccinated Individuals

<sup>299</sup> Utah Department of Health IBIS



The Utah Department of Health COVID-19 Dashboard reports that nearly 7 million doses of COVID-19 vaccine were delivered to Utahns as of summer 2022, and 419,387 Utah County residents received at least one dose. In Utah County, 940,475 doses were administered.<sup>300</sup>

Utah COVID-19 Vaccinations					
Jurisdiction	Doses Delivered	People Received at Least One Dose	People Fully Vaccinated	People Received a Booster	Total Doses Administered
<b>Bear River</b>	328,326	119,315	105,527	46,572	272,471
<b>Central Utah</b>	122,067	39,253	34,849	14,787	88,261
<b>Davis County</b>	701,449	248,234	230,891	113,370	598,843
<b>San Juan</b>	25,860	8,559	7,704	3,737	20,375
<b>Salt Lake County</b>	2,993,804	886,721	795,769	428,705	2,131,534
<b>Southeast Utah</b>	74,632	23,809	21,080	10,515	55,273
<b>Southwest Utah</b>	514,854	139,896	126,166	57,845	318,718
<b>Summit County</b>	95,513	42,799	35,920	19,850	99,935
<b>Tooele County</b>	103,384	45,928	41,127	18,043	104,462
<b>TriCounty</b>	85,358	25,654	21,552	8,386	54,988
<b>Utah County</b>	1,115,611	419,387	374,582	154,971	940,475
<b>Wasatch County</b>	59,820	22,905	20,729	9,736	53,779
<b>Weber-Morgan</b>	522,711	177,631	161,289	74,485	416,762
<b>Out of State/Unknown</b>	0	102,669	64,253	12,401	173,840
<b>Delivered, address pending</b>	39,969	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	6,783,358	2,302,760	2,041,438	973,403	5,329,716

#### 2.4.2.3.2 Childhood Vaccinations

Immunize Utah is the state’s effort to encourage full immunizations for Utah’s children and youth. Infants are vaccinated at high rates, with 97 percent or more of children younger than three months having received at least one dose of all recommended immunizations. However, by the time a child reaches age 2, the completion rate drops dramatically.

By the time they are 3 months old, most Utah children have received at least one dose of diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis vaccine, one dose of polio vaccine, one dose of Haemophilus

<sup>300</sup> Utah Department of Health COVID-19 Dashboard

influenzae type B vaccine, one dose of hepatitis B vaccine, and one dose of Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine, all of which are recommended by healthcare professionals.<sup>301</sup>

The following tables, provided by the Utah Department of Health, summarize the status of childhood immunizations in Utah County.

**Table 72: Vaccination of Infants at 3 Months**

<b>≤ 3 Months of Age</b>		
<b>Type</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
<b>≥1 dose DTaP</b>	1,637	98.4
<b>≥1 dose Polio</b>	1,625	97.7
<b>≥1 dose Hib</b>	1,629	98
<b>≥1 dose HepB</b>	1,637	98.4
<b>≥2 doses HepB</b>	1,501	90.3
<b>≥1 dose PCV</b>	1,622	97.5

**Table 73: Vaccination of Infants at 5 Months**

<b>≤ 5 Months of Age</b>		
<b>Type</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
<b>≥2 doses DTaP</b>	1255	39.5
<b>≥2 doses Polio</b>	1247	39.3
<b>≥2 doses Hib</b>	1244	39.2
<b>≥2 doses HepB</b>	2896	91.2
<b>≥2 doses PCV</b>	1227	38.6

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<sup>301</sup> Utah Statewide Immunization Information System (USIIS)

Table 74: Immunization of Children at 13 Months

≤ 13 Months of Age		
Type	Total	Percentage
≥3 doses DTaP	5120	55
≥2 doses Polio	7074	76
≥1 dose MMR	439	4.7
≥2 doses Hib	7088	76.1
≥3 doses Hib	4917	52.8
≥2 doses HepB	8765	94.1
≥3 doses HepB	4828	51.9
≥1 dose Varicella	397	4.3
≥3 doses PCV	5029	54

Table 75: Vaccination of Children at 19 Months

≤ 19 Months of Age		
Type	Total	Percentage
≥3 doses DTaP	9901	67
≥4 doses DTaP	1800	12.2
≥3 doses Polio	9828	66.5
≥1 dose MMR	4365	29.5
≥3 doses Hib	9595	64.9
≥1 dose Hib	14631	99
≥3 doses HepB	9530	64.5
≥1 dose Varicella	4190	28.4
≥3 doses PCV	9813	66.4
≥4 doses PCV	3814	25.8
4:03:01	1760	11.9
4:3:1:3	1758	11.9
4:3:1:4	1719	11.6
4:3:1:3:3	1740	11.8
4:3:1:0:3	1742	11.8
4:3:1:4:3	1629	11
4:3:1:3:3:1	1731	11.7
4:3:1:0:3:1	1733	11.7
4:3:1:4:3:1	1620	11

**Table 76: Vaccination of Children at 24 Months**

<b>≤ 24 Months of Age</b>		
<b>Type</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
<b>≥3 doses DTaP</b>	14428	73.4
<b>≥4 doses DTaP</b>	5333	27.1
<b>≥3 doses Polio</b>	14322	72.9
<b>≥1 dose MMR</b>	8442	42.9
<b>≥3 doses Hib</b>	14066	71.6
<b>≥1 dose Hib</b>	19484	99.1
<b>≥3 doses HepB</b>	13849	70.5
<b>≥1 dose Varicella</b>	8236	41.9
<b>≥3 doses PCV</b>	14283	72.7
<b>≥4 doses PCV</b>	7523	38.3
<b>4:03:01</b>	5240	26.7
<b>4:3:1:3</b>	5237	26.6
<b>4:3:1:4</b>	5084	25.9
<b>4:3:1:3:3</b>	5112	26
<b>4:3:1:0:3</b>	5115	26
<b>4:3:1:4:3</b>	4807	24.5
<b>4:3:1:3:3:1</b>	5082	25.9
<b>4:3:1:0:3:1</b>	5085	25.9
<b>4:3:1:4:3:1</b>	4777	24.3
<b>4:3:1:3:3:1:4</b>	4954	25.2

Table 77: Vaccination of Children 24 – 35 Months

24 – 35 Months of Age		
Type	Total	Percentage
≥3 doses DTaP	10804	91.2
≥4 doses DTaP	9170	77.4
≥3 doses Polio	10682	90.2
≥1 dose MMR	10341	87.3
≥3 doses Hib	10676	90.1
≥1 dose Hib	11704	98.8
≥3 doses HepB	10330	87.2
HepB Birth	10028	84.7
≥1 dose Varicella	10179	85.9
≥3 doses PCV	10694	90.3
≥4 doses PCV	9341	78.9
≥2 doses HepA	8422	71.1
≥1 dose Rota	11068	93.4
4:03:01	9005	76
4:3:1:3	8982	75.8
4:3:1:4	8648	73
4:3:1:3:3	8734	73.7
4:3:1:0:3:1	8707	73.5
4:3:1:3:3:1	8688	73.3
4:3:1:4:3:1	8124	68.6
4:3:1:0:3:1:4	8397	70.9
4:3:1:3:3:1:4	8392	70.8

Table 78: Vaccination of Children 12 – 17 Years

12 – 17 Years		
Type	Total	Percentage
1 HPV	42372	49.5
2 HPV	25871	30.2
3 HPV	3075	3.6
HPV UTD	25500	29.8

**Table 79: Meningococcal and Meningitis B Vaccination of Children 16 – 18 Years**

<b>16 – 18 Years</b>		
<b>Type</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
<b>≥2 doses Meningococcal</b>	5739	20.1
<b>≥1 dose MenB</b>	4010	14.1

**Table 80: Influenza Vaccination of Children ≤ 18 Years**

<b>≤ 18 Years</b>		
<b>Type</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
<b>≥1 dose Influenza in lifetime</b>	171158	68.8
<b>≥1 dose Influenza last flu season (7/1/2020 to 6/30/2021)</b>	88572	35.6

The following table provides key immunization data by school district, charter schools, and private schools in Utah County.<sup>302</sup>

**Table 81: Immunization Rate by School District, Charter Schools, Private Schools**

Immunization Rate by School District, Charter Schools, Private Schools										
	Alpine		Nebo		Provo		Charter Schools		Private Schools	
	Adequately Immun. (%)	Total Exempt (%)	Adequately Immun. (%)	Total Exempt (%)	Adequately Immun. (%)	Total Exempt (%)	Adequately Immun. (%)	Total Exempt (%)	Adequately Immun. (%)	Total Exempt (%)
<b>Kindergarten School Entry</b>	88	3.3	91.3	3.3	87	3.6	85	13	83	7.7
<b>Second-dose MMR (K-12)</b>	96	3.6	95.6	3.8	96	2.9	91	8.5	87	11
<b>7th Grade School Entry</b>	86	4.2	89.3	4.4	48	4.4	82	13	67	24

#### 2.4.2.3.3 Adult Vaccinations

This report considers two sources of data for adult vaccination rates. The first is data from the Utah Statewide Immunization Information System (USIIS), which tracks immunizations provided by partner providers such as hospitals, clinics, and so on. It is voluntary immunization registry that preserves patient confidentiality and improves delivery of healthcare. The second is the Utah Department of Health’s Indicator-Based Information System (IBIS), which tracks health indicators through in-depth telephone interviews of large samples of the population.

<sup>302</sup> Ibid.

USIIS shows that many adults in Utah County are lacking in vaccinations.

**Table 82: USIIS Adult Immunization Data**

<b>≥19 Years of Age</b>			
<b>Type</b>	<b>Common Description</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percent</b>
<b>≥1 dose Flu last season*</b>	Influenza	138,301	25.7
<b>≥1 dose Tdap</b>	Tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis	249,404	46.3
<b>≥1 dose Varicella</b>	Herpesvirus that causes chickenpox and shingles	76,485	14.2
<b>≥1 dose HPV</b>	Human papillomavirus, a sexually transmitted infection	37,199	6.9
<b>≥1 dose Zoster**</b>	Shingles	23,879	15.0
<b>≥1 dose MMR</b>	Measles, mumps, and rubella,	172,100	31.9
<b>≥1 dose PCV</b>	Prevents pneumococcal bacteria illnesses	60,979	11.3
<b>≥1 dose PPSV23***</b>	Prevents pneumococcal bacteria illnesses in older persons	57,199	69.2
<b>≥1 dose Hep A</b>	Hepatitis A	176,002	32.7
<b>≥1 dose Hep B</b>	Hepatitis B	192,378	35.7
<b>≥1 dose Meningococcal</b>	Meningitis	75,718	14.1
<b>≥1 dose Men B</b>	Meningitis B	8,792	1.6
<b>≥1 dose Hib</b>	Haemophilus influenzae, a bacterium that can cause many different infections	107,450	19.9
* Last flu season between 7/1/2020 and 6/30/2021.			
** Zoster vaccination only available to adults age 50+. This measure reports only the percentage of adults age 50+ who are vaccinated with the Zoster vaccine.			
*** PPSV23 vaccination only recommended for adults age 65+. This measure reports only the percentage of adults age 65+ who are vaccinated with PPSV23.			



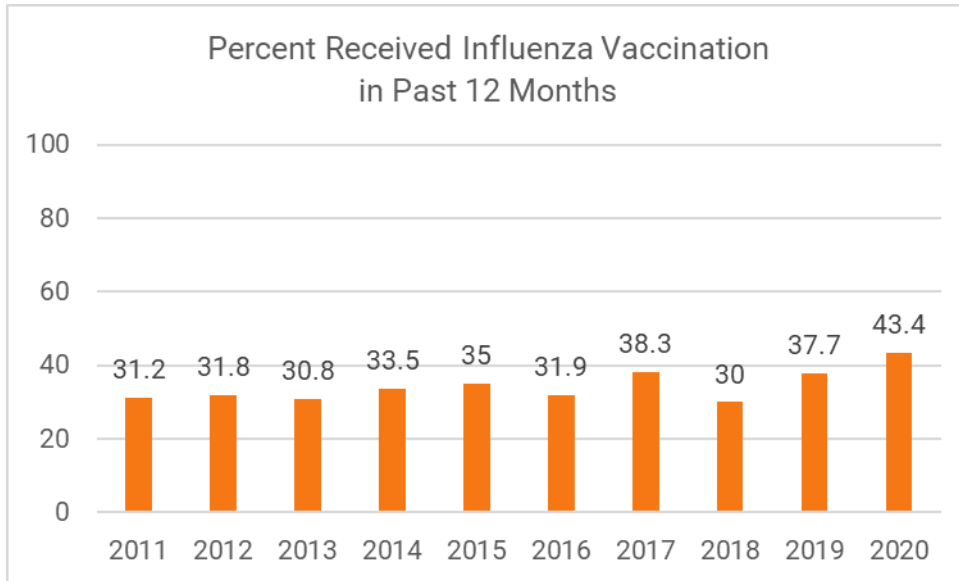


Figure 284: Percent Received Influenza Vaccination in Past 12 Months

According to IBIS, the percentage of Utah County residents who have received an influenza vaccine in the past 12 months has increased from 31.2 percent in 2011 to 43.4 percent in 2020.<sup>303</sup>

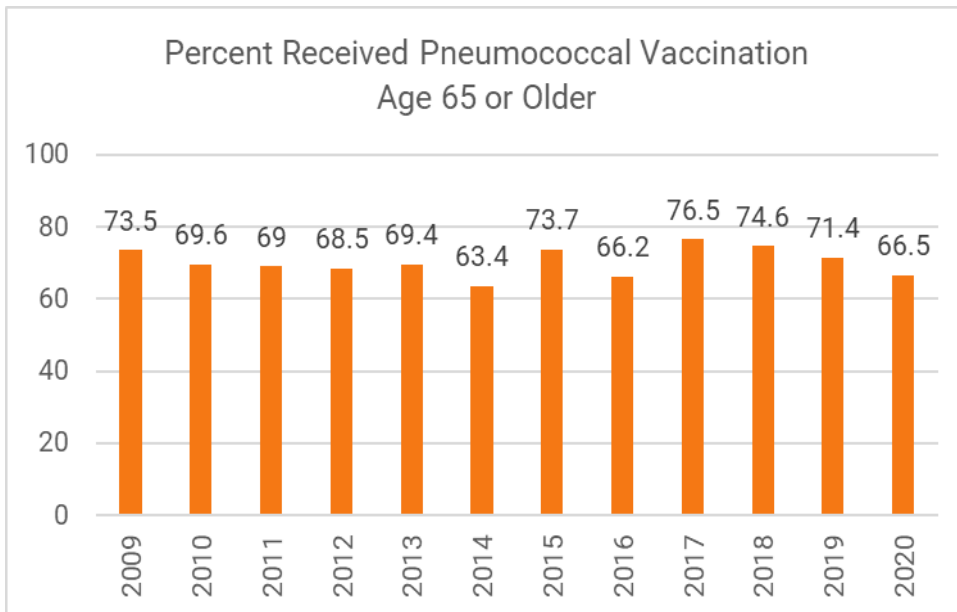


Figure 285: Percent Received Pneumococcal Vaccination Age 65 or Older

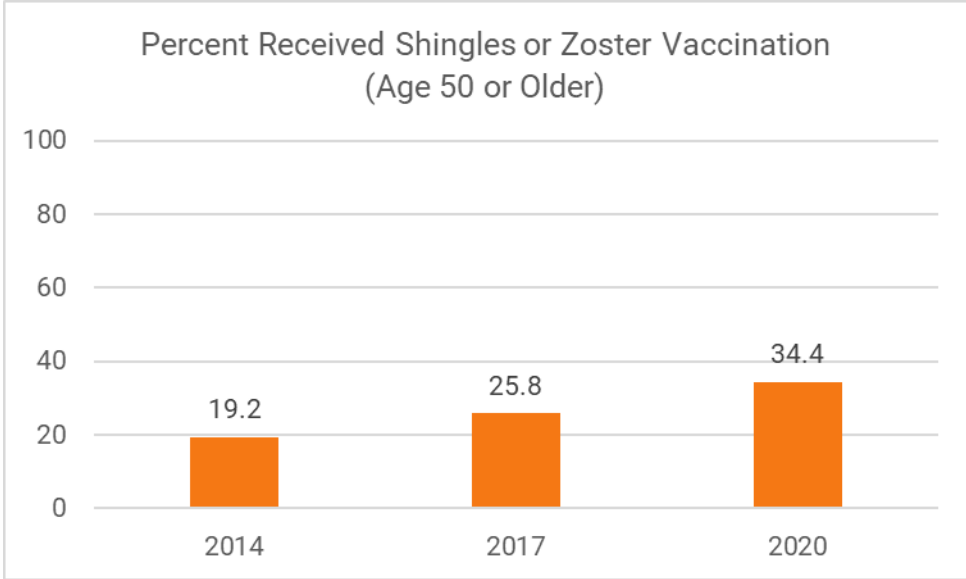
The percentage of Utah County's older population who have received a pneumococcal vaccination has declined slightly, from 73.5 percent in 2009 to 66.5 percent in 2020.<sup>304</sup>

those age 65 or older.

This vaccine is recommended for

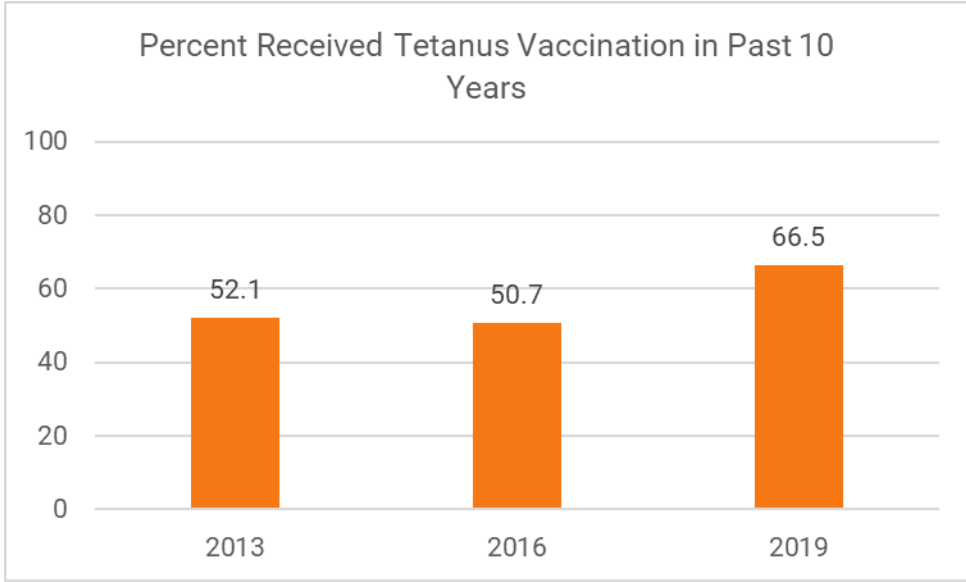
<sup>303</sup> Utah Department of Health IBIS

<sup>304</sup> Ibid.



Only about one in three Utah County residents age 50 or older has received a shingles vaccination, according to IBIS. This is up from 19.2 percent in 2014.<sup>305</sup>

Figure 286: Percent Received Shingles or Zoster Vaccination (Age 50 or Older)



Two of every three Utah County adults have received a tetanus vaccination in the past 10 years. This is higher than 2013's 52.1 percent and 2016's 50.7 percent.<sup>306</sup>

Figure 287: Percent Received Tetanus Vaccination in Past 10 Years

<sup>305</sup> Ibid.

<sup>306</sup> Ibid.

## 2.4.2.4 Health Risk Factors

Doctors have identified multiple factors that place individuals at risk for health problems, including physical activity, obesity, and tobacco or alcohol usage.

### 2.4.2.4.1 Physical Activity

Nearly nine of 10 adults in Utah County report that they are currently engaging in leisurely physical activity or exercises such as running, golf, gardening, or walking.<sup>307</sup>

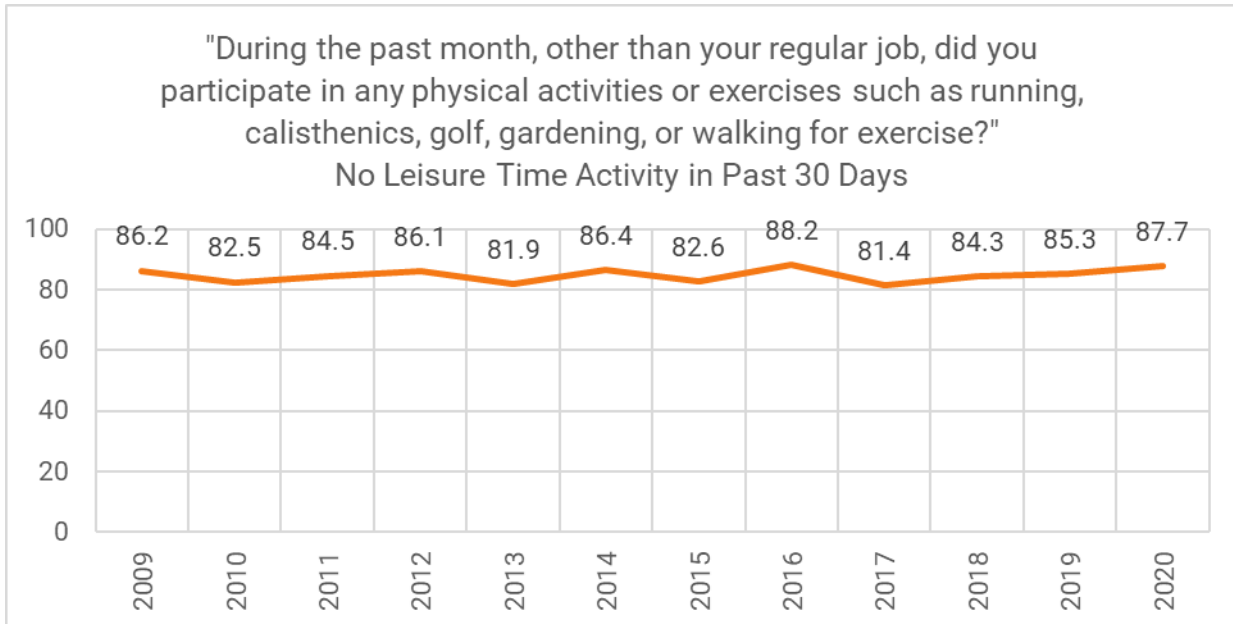


Figure 288: Adults Currently Engaged in Leisurely Physical Activity

<sup>307</sup> Ibid.

#### 2.4.2.4.2 Obesity

Despite the high level of physical activity, overweight and obesity remains a problem in Utah County. Nearly 60 percent of adults report a body mass index of 25 or greater.<sup>308</sup> BMIs greater than 25 but less than 30 are classified as overweight; BMIs of 30 or greater are considered obese.<sup>309</sup>

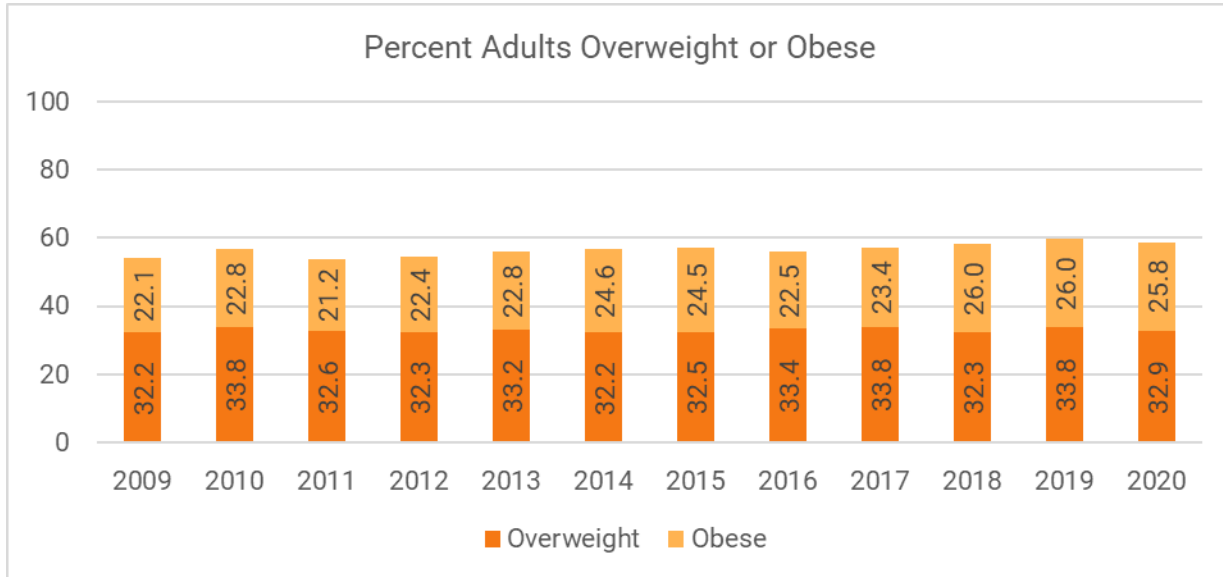


Figure 289: Percent Adults Overweight or Obese

<sup>308</sup> Ibid.

<sup>309</sup> Ibid.

### 2.4.2.4.3 Tobacco Usage and E-Cigarettes

About one in 20 adults in Utah County is a current smoker. The rate of current smokers has remained below 7.5 percent at least since 2009. 2020's rate of 5.1 percent is much lower

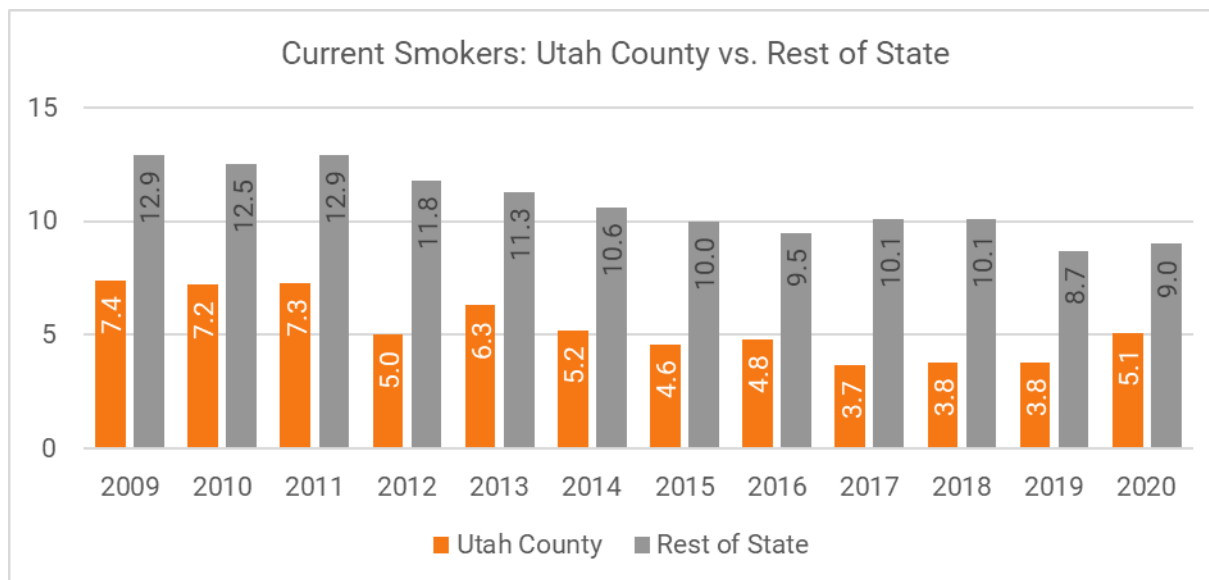


Figure 291: Current Smokers: Utah County vs. Rest of State

than the rest of the state, which comes in at 9.0 percent.<sup>310</sup> The national rate is 12.5 percent.<sup>311</sup>

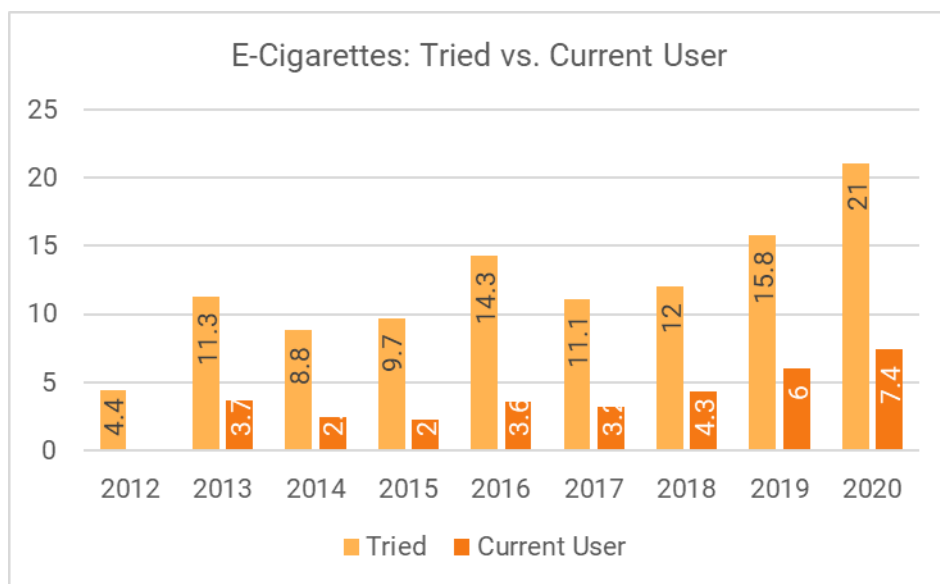


Figure 290: E-Cigarettes: Tried vs. Current User

E-cigarettes entered the U.S. market in 2006. Beginning in 2012, the Utah Department of Health tracked e-cigarette usage among adults. Utah County's rate of 7.4 percent of adults currently using e-cigarettes is twice the

U.S. rate of 3.7 percent.<sup>312</sup>

<sup>310</sup> Ibid.

<sup>311</sup> U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, *Burden of Cigarette Use in the U.S.*

Utah County’s rate of smokeless tobacco usage among adults has been similar to the rest of the state at least since 2009. In 2020, 3.2 percent of Utah County adults reported currently using smokeless tobacco, compared to 2.5 percent for the rest of the state; these numbers are nearly the inverse of 2019’s numbers.<sup>313</sup>

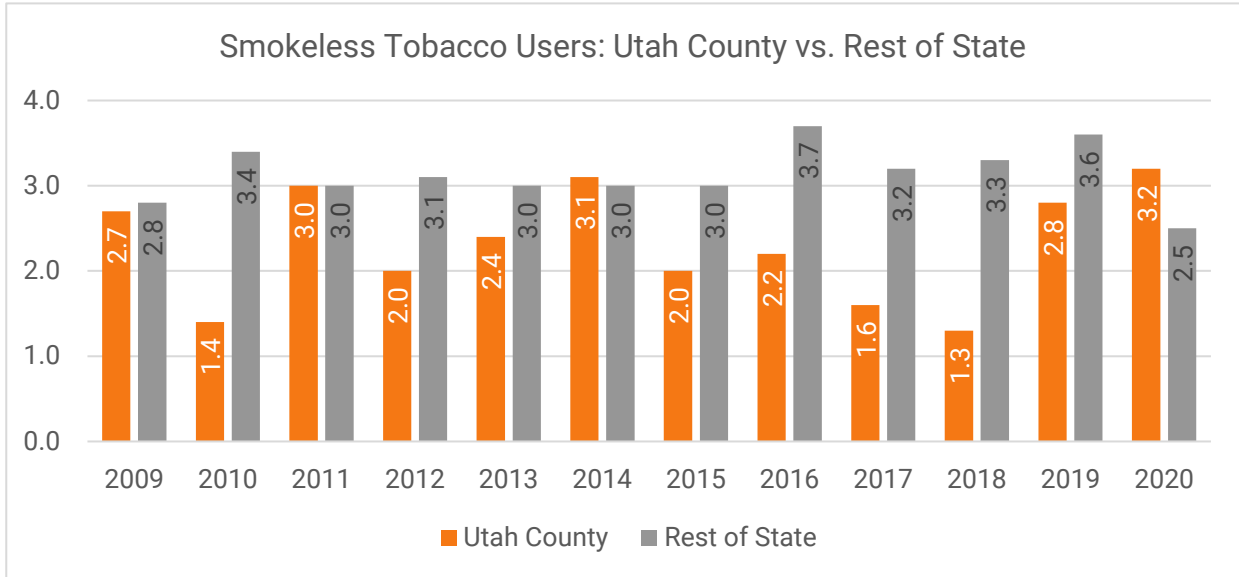


Figure 292: Smokeless Tobacco Users: Utah County vs. Rest of State

<sup>312</sup> Ibid.; Utah Department of Health IBIS

<sup>313</sup> Utah Department of Health IBIS

#### 2.4.2.4.4 Alcohol Usage

Utah County adults use alcohol at a much lower rate than the rest of the state and of the

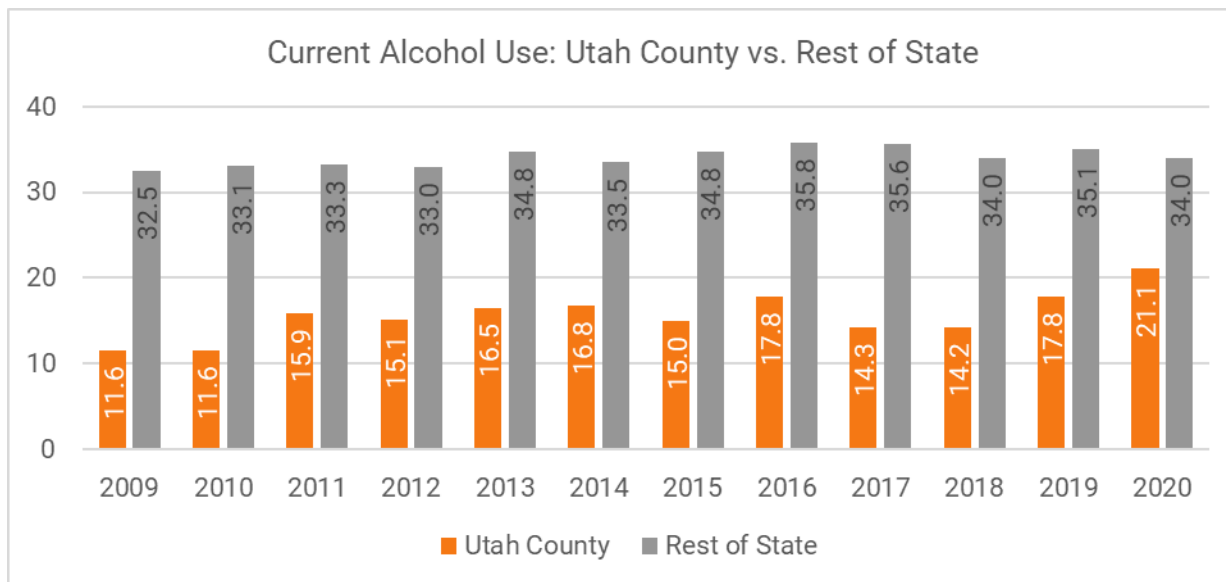


Figure 293: Current Alcohol Use: Utah County vs. Rest of State

nation. In 2020, 21.1 percent of Utah County adults report having at least one alcoholic drink in the past 30 days, compared to 34.0 percent for the rest of the state.<sup>314</sup> Nationally, 54.9 percent report current alcohol usage.<sup>315</sup>

<sup>314</sup> Ibid.

<sup>315</sup> National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism

Heavy drinking (more than seven drinks per week for women, or more than 14 drinks per week for men) and binge drinking (four or more drinks for women, and five or more for men on one occasion) are more serious issues than less-frequent or less-intense alcohol use. In Utah County, 9.0 percent of adults report they engaged in binge drinking in the past 30 days. The average number of binge drinking events was 5.5, and the average number of drinks was 9.7.<sup>316</sup>

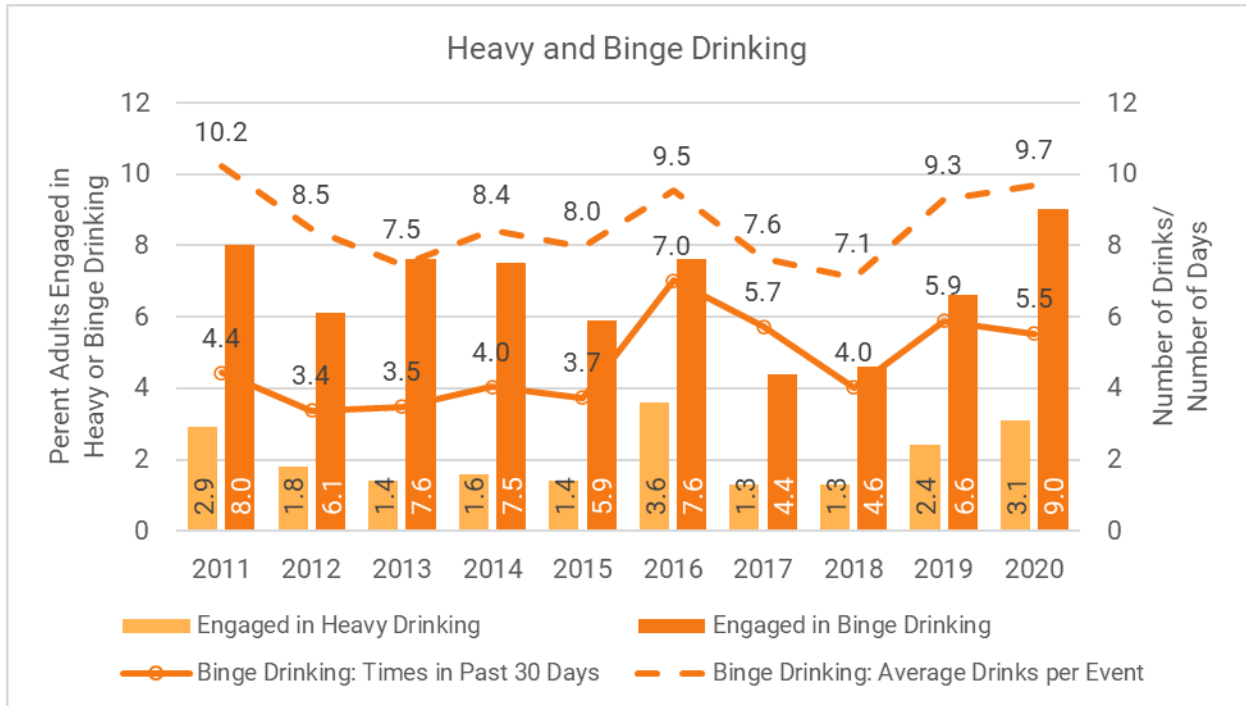


Figure 294: Heavy and Binge Drinking

<sup>316</sup> Utah Department of Health IBIS



### 2.4.2.5 Health Care Access

At 92.3 percent, Utah County's ratio of persons with health insurance is higher than the state's (91.0 percent) and the nation's (91.3 percent).<sup>317</sup>

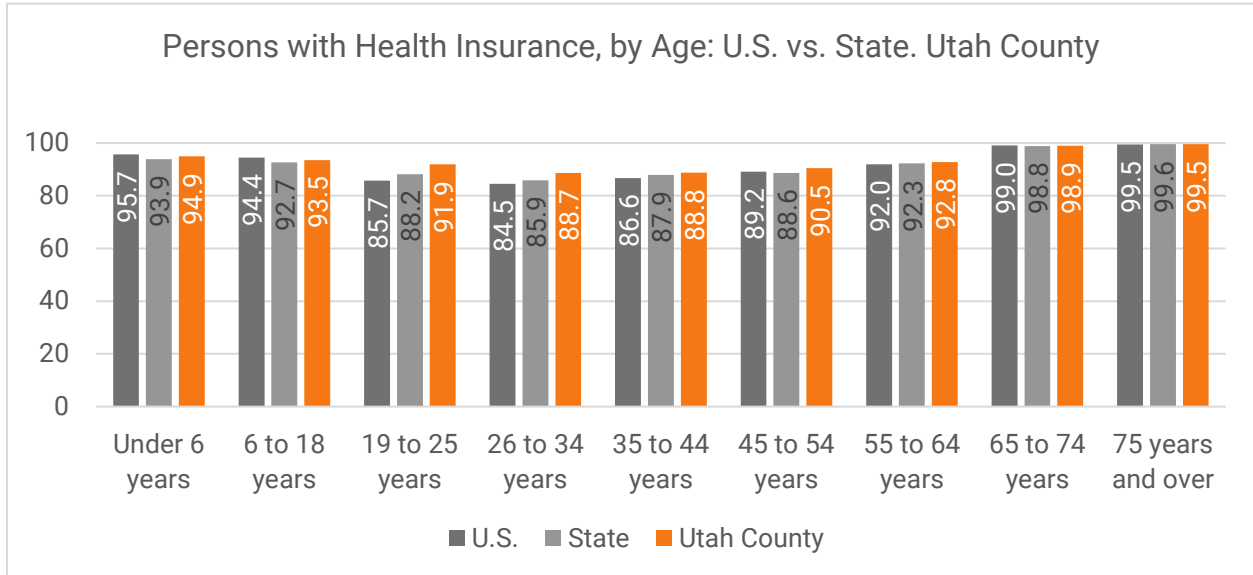
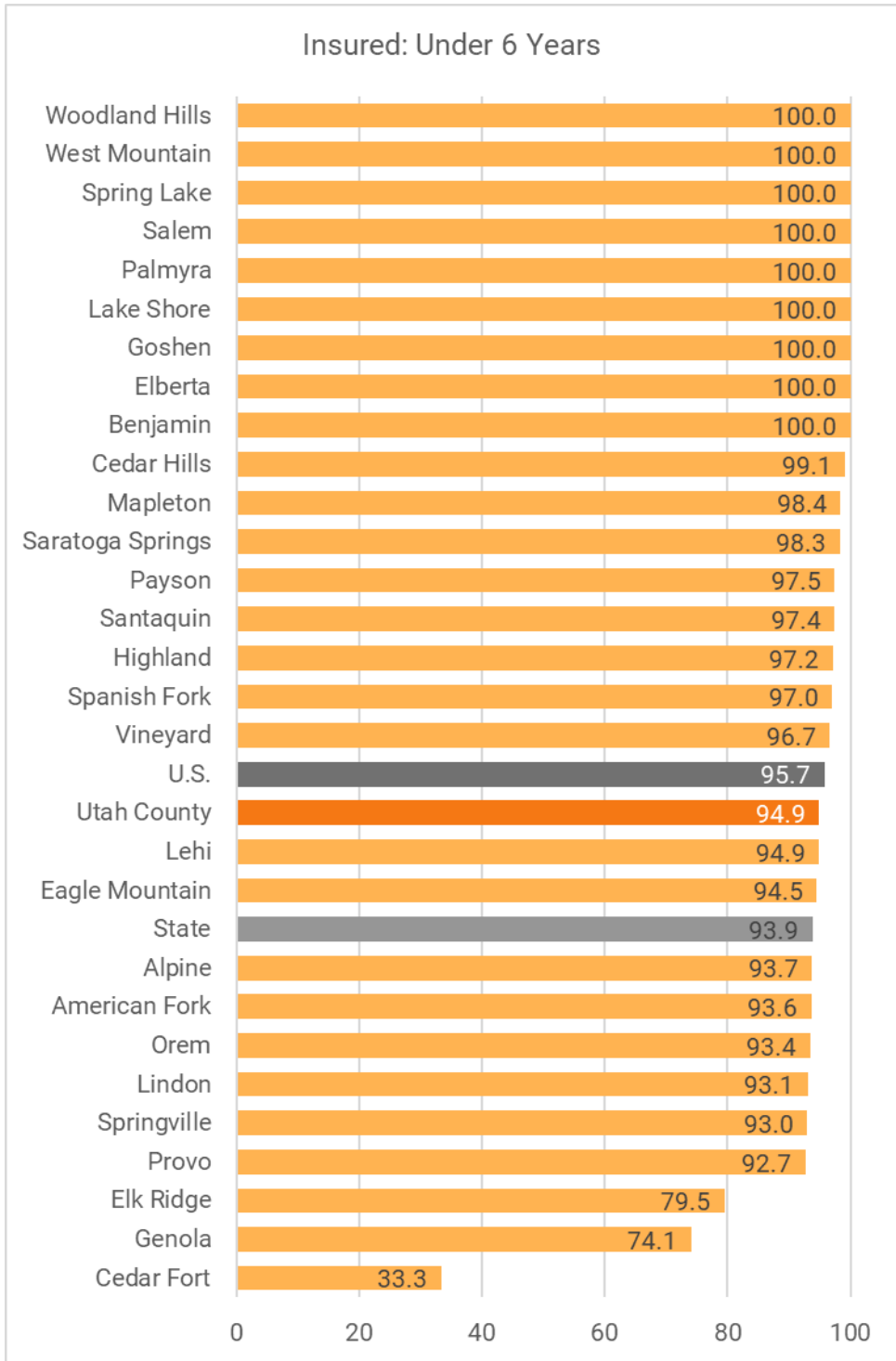


Figure 295: Persons with Health Insurance, by Age: U.S. vs. State. Utah County

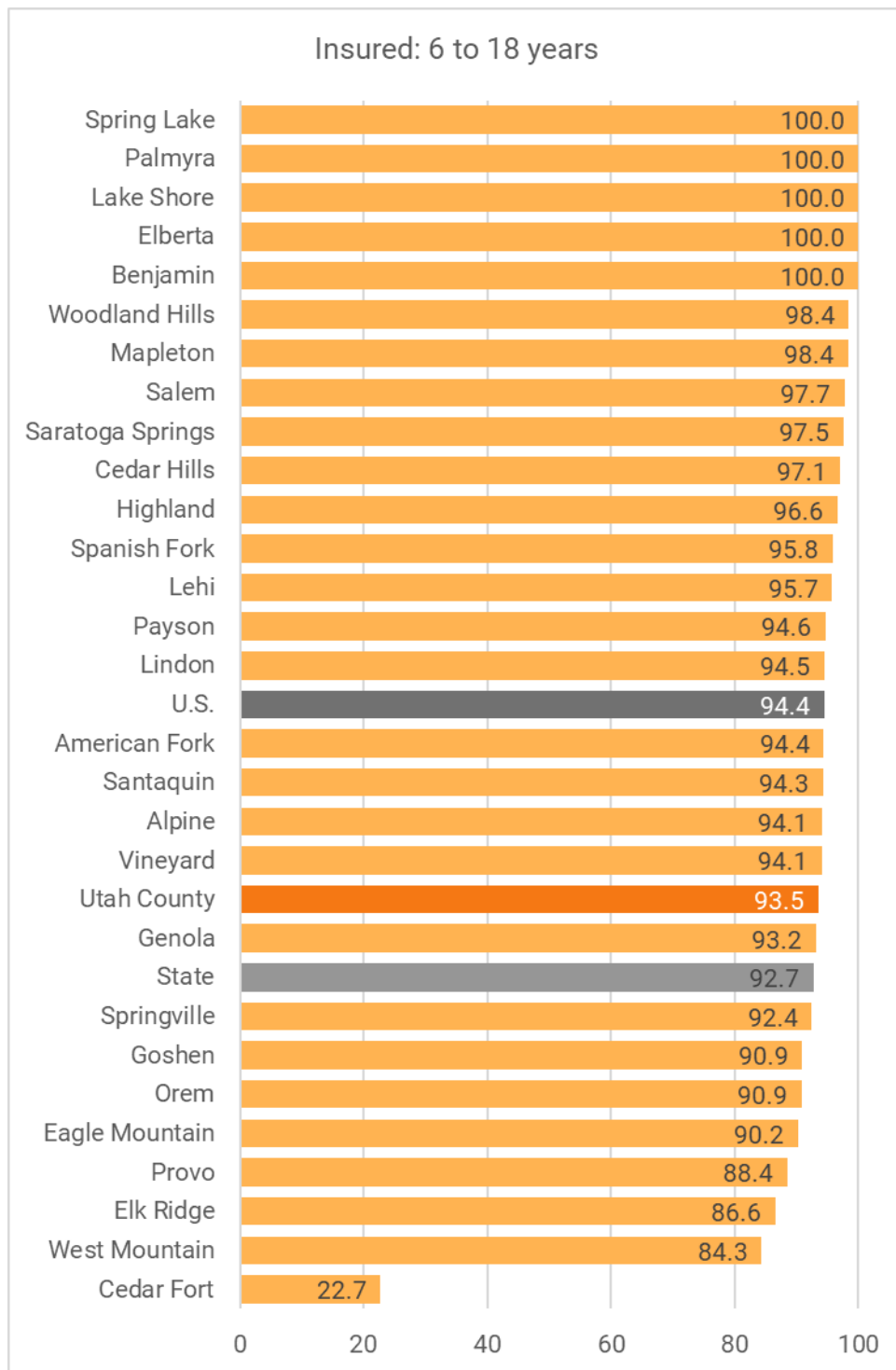
<sup>317</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 ACS, Table B27001



Most communities in Utah County experience high rates of insured children under age 6. Utah County's rate of 94.9 is only slightly below the nation's rate of 95.7 and ahead of the state's rate of 93.9. Nearly 20 communities have rates higher than the county average. Only Elk Ridge (79.5), Genola (74.1), and Cedar Fort (33.3) have rates below 90 percent.<sup>318</sup>

Figure 296: Insured: Under 6 Years

<sup>318</sup> Ibid.



Again, nearly 20 communities have higher rates of insured children between 6 and 18 years than the Utah County average of 93.5 percent. Provo (88.4), Elk Ridge (86.6), West Mountain (84.3 percent), and Cedar Fort (22.7) have fewer than 90 percent of this age group are uninsured.<sup>319</sup>

Figure 297: Insured: 6 to 18 years

<sup>319</sup> Ibid.

#### 2.4.2.6 Disease

With the strong health of Utah County residents—due in large part to its young population and low rates of substance abuse—the rates and counts of hospitalizations are relatively good. The National Center for Health Statistics’ 50 Leading Causes of Death are a good measure for the health and wellbeing of Utah County residents. Of these 50, the most common in terms of number and rate per 10,000 for routine hospital discharges is “Other Conditions,” accounting for 21,674 discharges in 2020. The rate per 10,000 population is 332.9. The second-most-common routine discharge is for pregnancy, childbirth, and the puerperium: 11,199 routine discharges and a rate of 172 per 10,000 population. The third-most common reason for hospitalization is heart disease, with 1,171 discharges and a rate of 17.99 per 10,000 population.<sup>320</sup>

Excluding the pregnancy-related and “other” conditions, the figure below identifies the 25 most common hospitalizations based on routine discharges in Utah County in 2020.

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<sup>320</sup> Utah Department of Health, IBIS

## 25 Most Common Conditions for Hospitalization, 2020

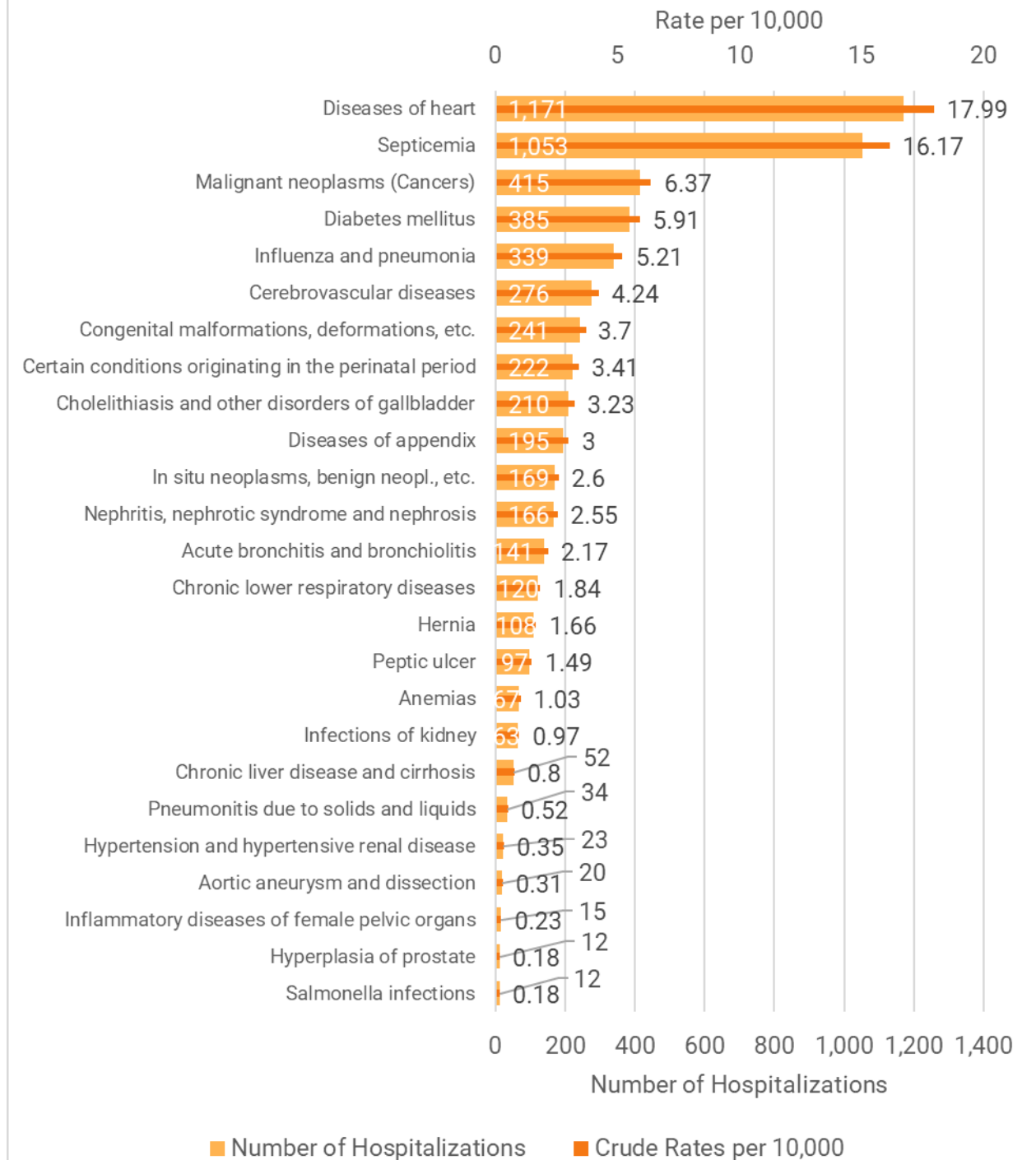
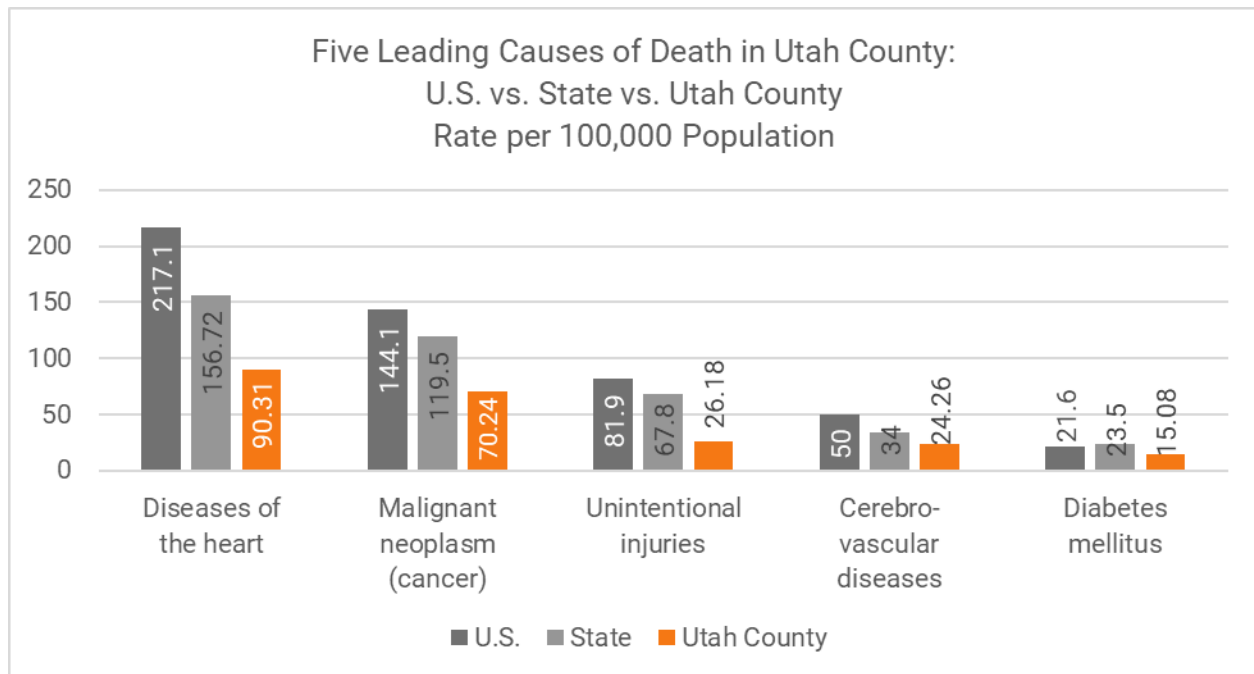


Figure 298: 25 Most Common Conditions for Hospitalization, 2020

Considering the causes of death in Utah County over a period of years brings additional perspective to the health of the community. In the time period of 2000 to 2020, heart disease took the lives of 9,665 individuals—a rate of 90.31 per 100,000 population. This is much lower than the national rate of 217.1 deaths per 100,000 population. Cancer was the second-leading cause of death in Utah County of the 21-year time period, with 7,517 deaths and a rate of 70.24 per 100,000; this is less than half the nation rate of 144.1. The third most common cause of death was unintentional injuries—2,802 such deaths occurred from 2000 to 2020. Utah County’s death rate from unintentional injuries per 100,000 population is 26.18, compared to the national rate of 81.9.<sup>321</sup>



**Figure 299: Five Leading Causes of Death in Utah County: U.S. vs. State vs. Utah County Rate per 100,000 Population**

The figure below presents the 25 leading causes of death in Utah County from 2000 to 2020; it includes both the rate per 100,000 population and the number of deaths.

<sup>321</sup> Ibid.; U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

## Top 20 Causes of Death, Rate and Number, 2000 – 2020

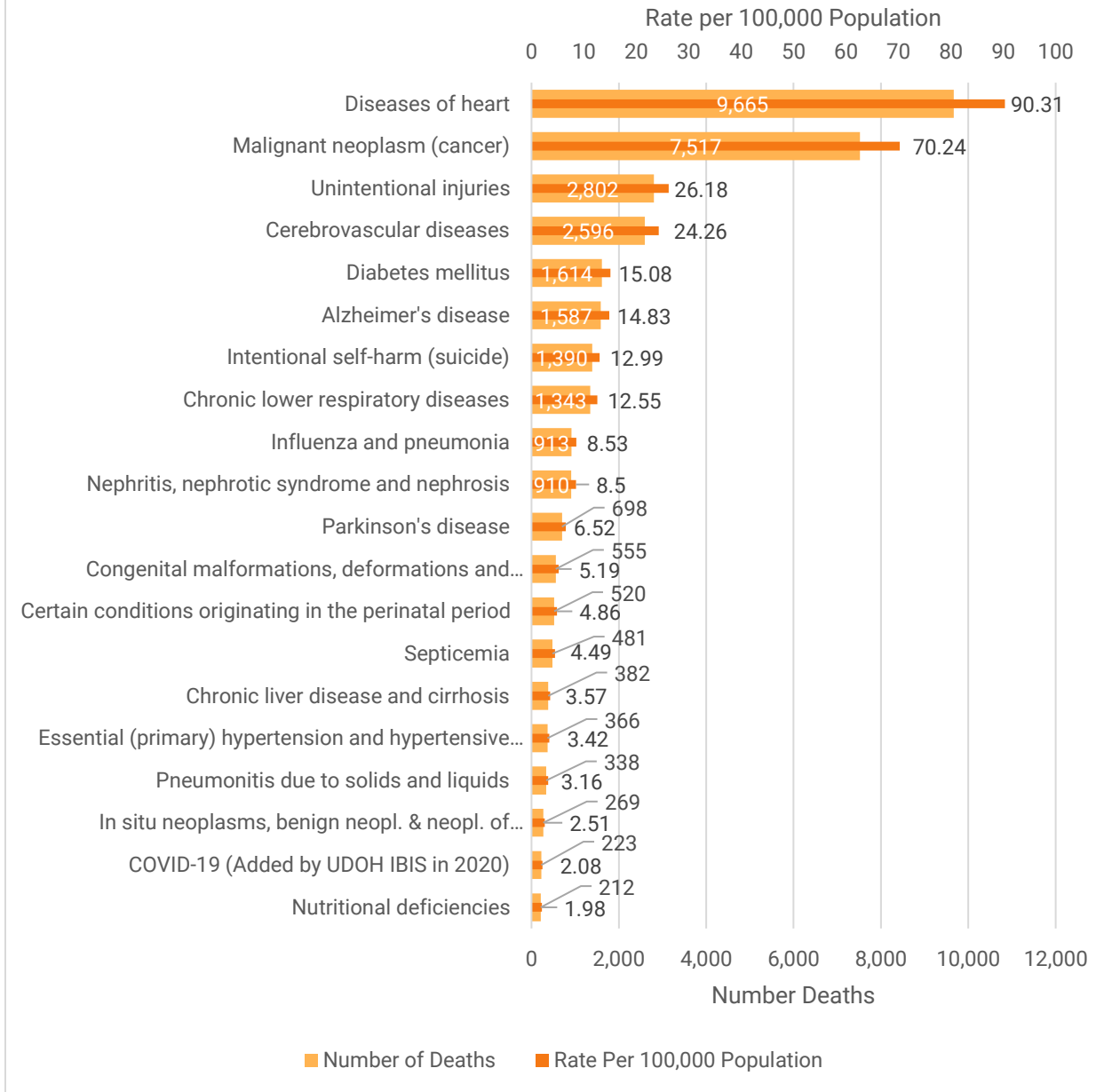


Figure 300: Top 20 Causes of Death, Rate and Number, 2000 – 2020

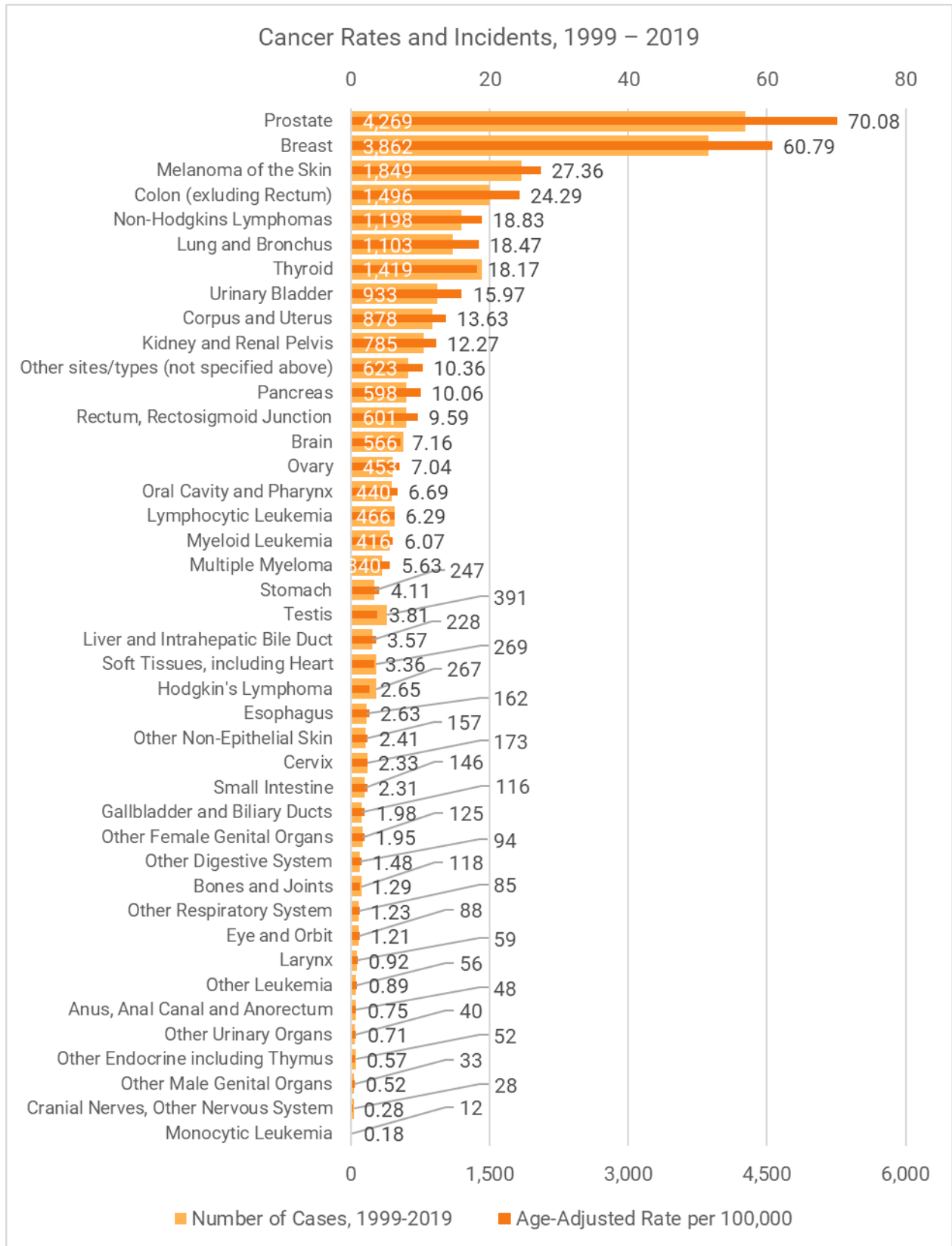
#### 2.4.2.6.1 Cancer

The most frequent types of cancer in Utah County, in terms of both rate per 100,000, are prostate and breast cancer.<sup>322</sup>

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<sup>322</sup> Ibid.





**Figure 301: Cancer Rates and Incidents, 1999 – 2019**

### 2.4.2.7 Suicide

General data on suicide, including rates and incidents by age and by year, is in section 2.1.8.2.7. As suicide rates have increased, public discussion on the topic has become more common. Between 1999 and 2020, Utah County has lost 1,422 persons to suicide; in the five

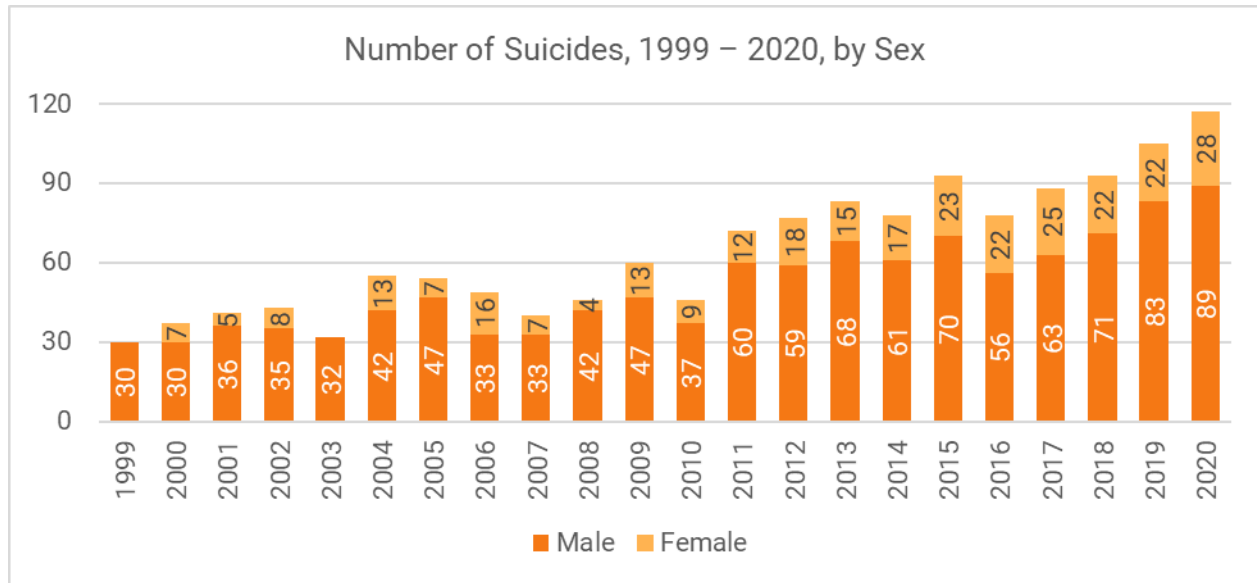


Figure 302: Number of Suicides, 1999 – 2020, by Sex

years between 2016 and 2020, 481 persons took their own lives.<sup>323</sup>

<sup>323</sup> Utah Department of Health, IBIS

Suicide in Utah County is most likely between the ages of 15 and 44.<sup>324</sup>

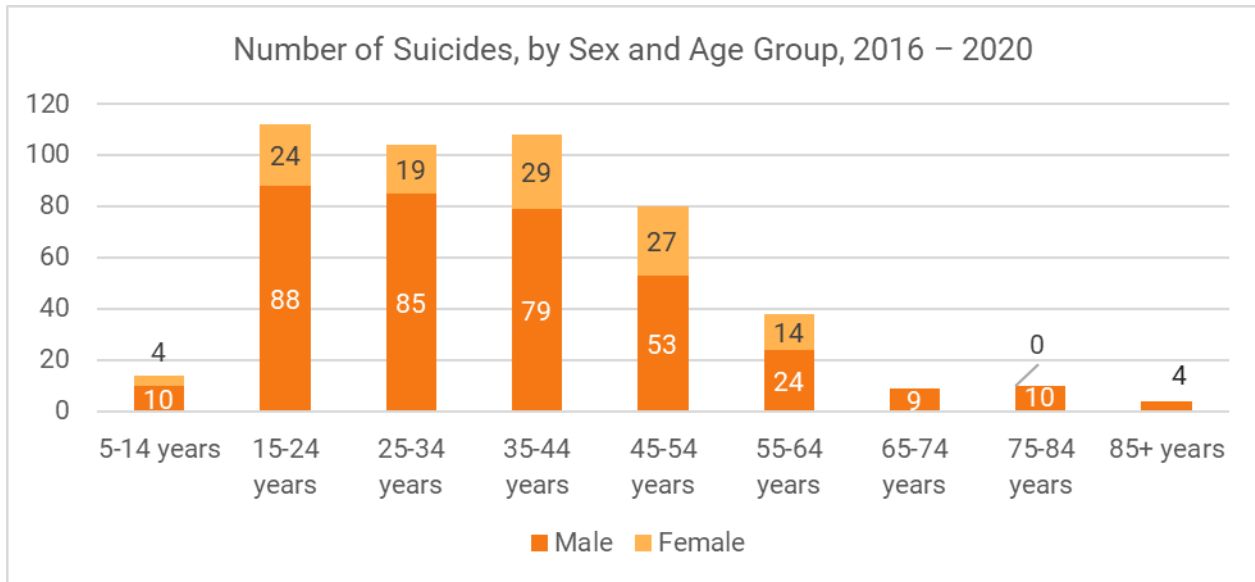


Figure 303: Number of Suicides, by Sex and Age Group, 2016 - 2020

From 2016 to 2020, more suicides were committed in March than any other month.<sup>325</sup>

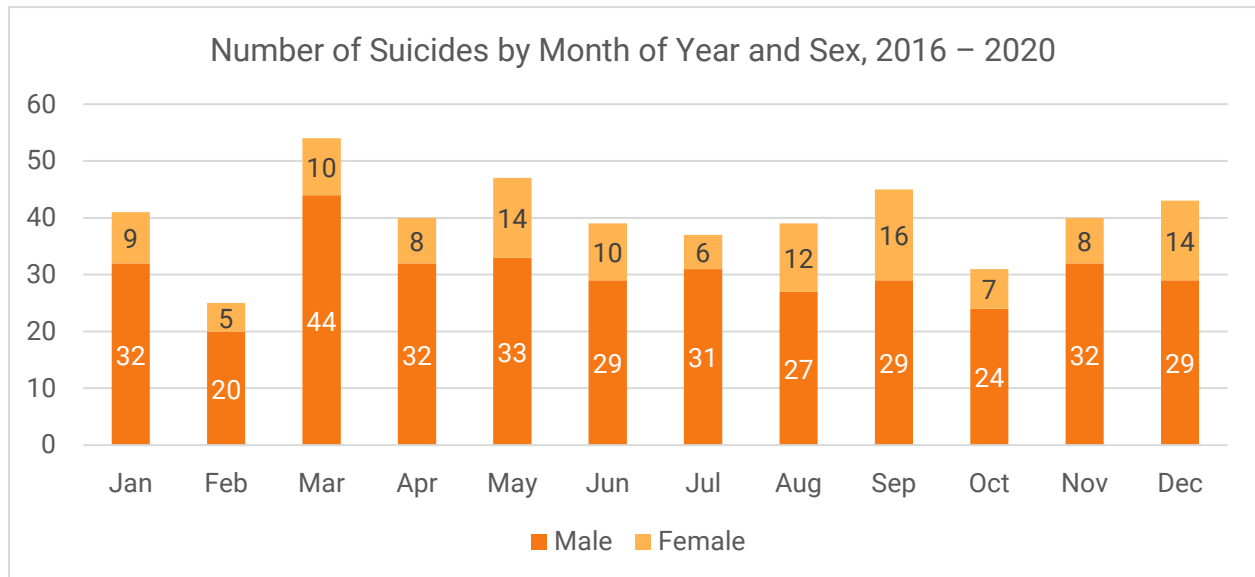


Figure 304: Number of Suicides by Month of Year and Sex, 2016 - 2020

<sup>324</sup> Ibid.

<sup>325</sup> Ibid.

Between 1999 and 2020, about 52 percent of the suicides in Utah County were committed with firearms.<sup>326</sup>

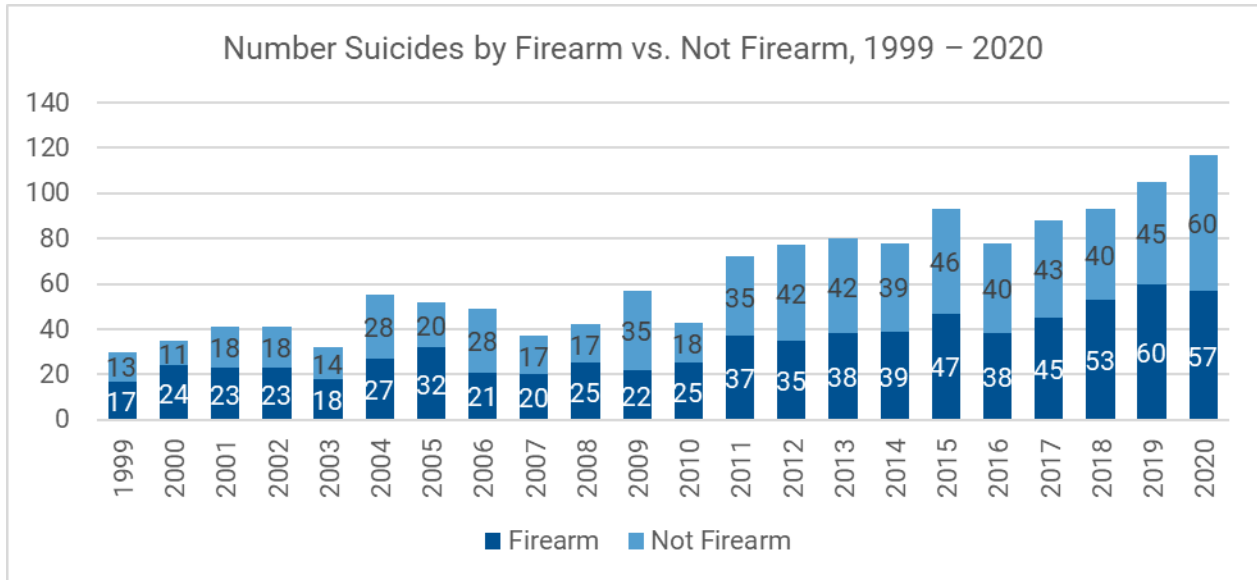


Figure 305: Number Suicides by Firearm vs. Not Firearm, 1999 – 2020

Males appear to be more likely to use a firearm when committing suicide than females. Between 1999 and 2020, 58.6 percent of male suicides were by firearm, compared to 24.7 percent of female suicides.<sup>327</sup>

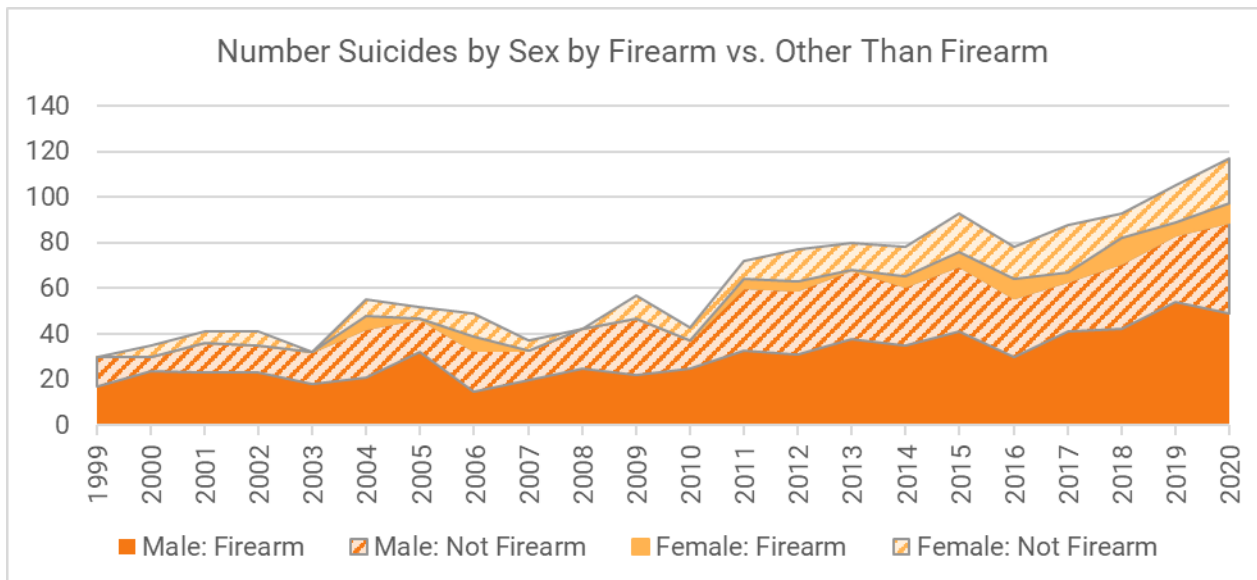


Figure 306: Number Suicides by Sex by Firearm vs. Other Than Firearm

<sup>326</sup> Ibid.

<sup>327</sup> Ibid.

### 2.4.2.7.1 Suicidal Ideation and Youth

Suicide among young people has increased over the years, as discussed in sections 2.1.8.2.7 and 2.4.2.7. Suicidal ideation is another area to consider; the SHARP survey (discussed in more detail in 2.4.2.9.1) includes a handful of items in this regard.

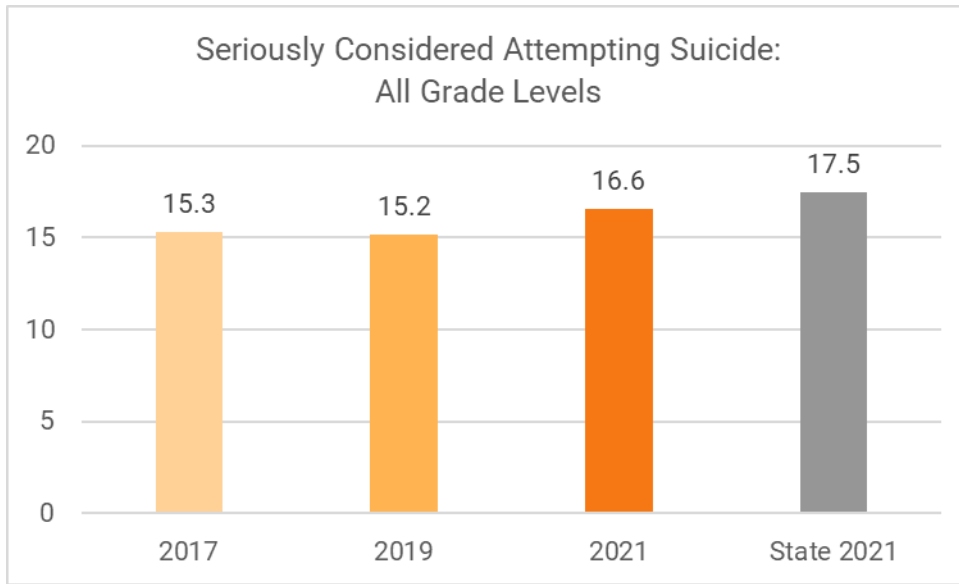


Figure 308: Considered Attempting Suicide: All Grade Levels

The percentage of all Utah County students who report having seriously considered attempting suicide has remained relatively flat, going from 15.3 percent in 2017 to 15.2 percent in 2019 and 16.6 percent in 2021.<sup>328</sup>

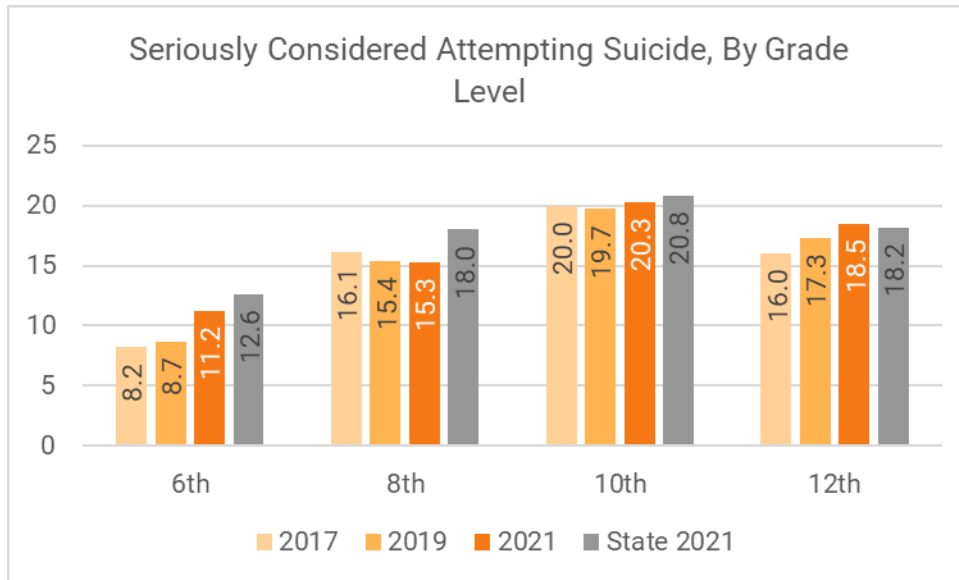


Figure 307: Seriously Considered Attempting Suicide, By Grade Level

<sup>328</sup> 2021 Student Health and Risk Prevention Needs Assessment Survey Results for Utah County

The percentage of grade 6 students who reported seriously considering suicide has increased

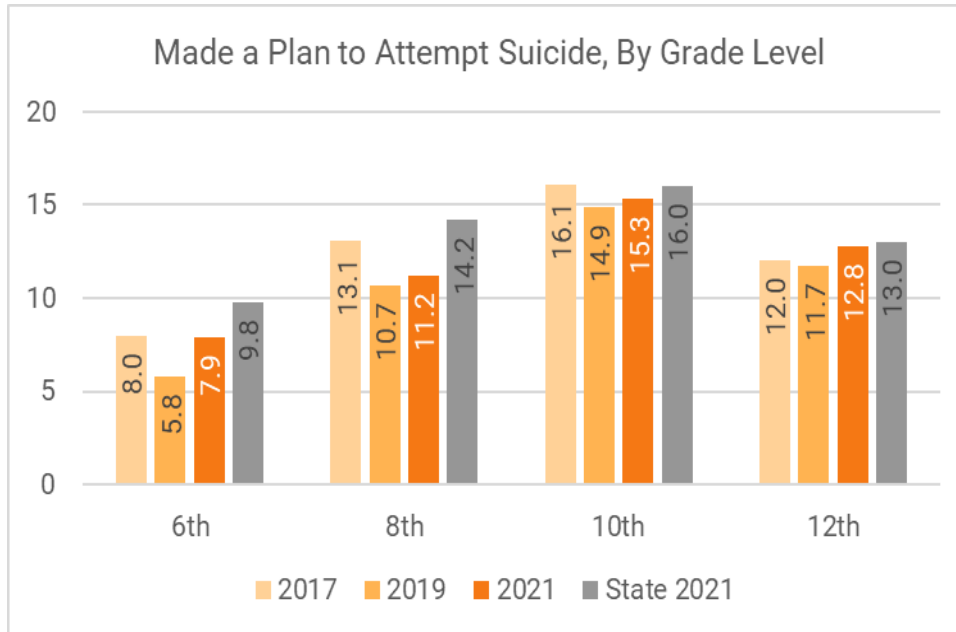


Figure 309: Made a Plan to Attempt Suicide, By Grade Level

from 8.2 percent in 2017 to 12.6 percent in 2021; this is the group with the largest increase.<sup>329</sup>

When looking at the percent of students who report having made a plan to commit suicide, the numbers are a bit more encouraging

because they have not increased dramatically—although they have increased slightly since 2017.<sup>330</sup>

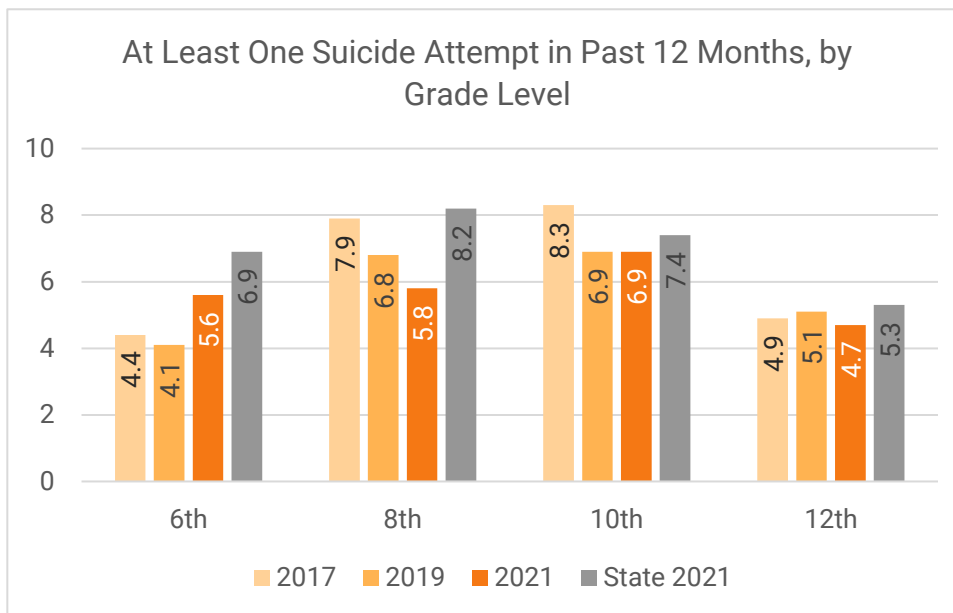


Figure 310: At Least One Suicide Attempt in Past 12 Months, by Grade Level

The percentage of Utah County 6<sup>th</sup> graders who reported attempting suicide in the past 12 months increased from 4.1 percent in 2019 to 5.6 percent 2021. Other grade levels in Utah County

<sup>329</sup> Ibid.

<sup>330</sup> Ibid.

experienced a decrease.<sup>331</sup>

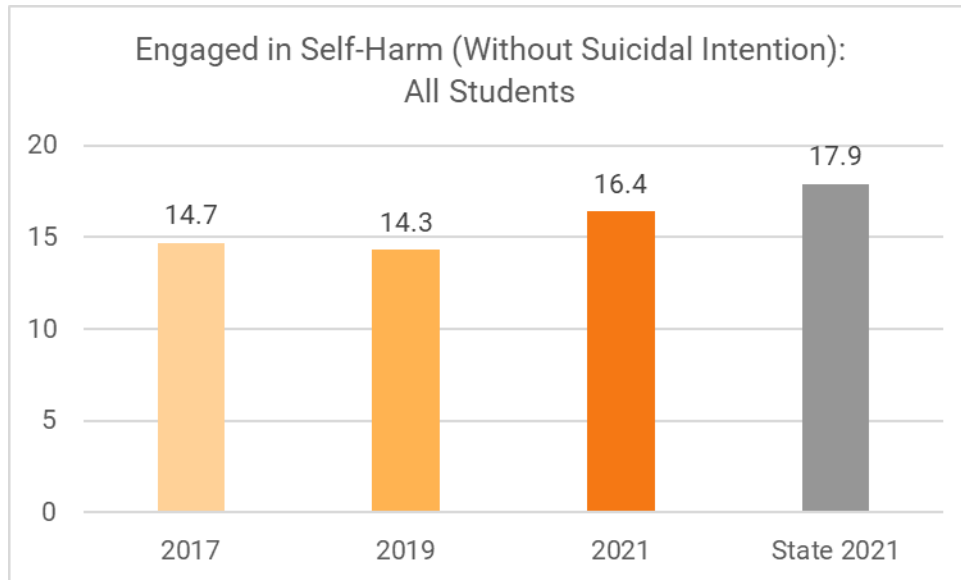


Figure 311: Engaged in Self-Harm (Without Suicidal Intention): All Students

The percentage of students who hurt themselves without intending to commit suicide—that is, they engaged in cutting, burning, etc.—increased from 14.3 percent in 2019 to 16.4

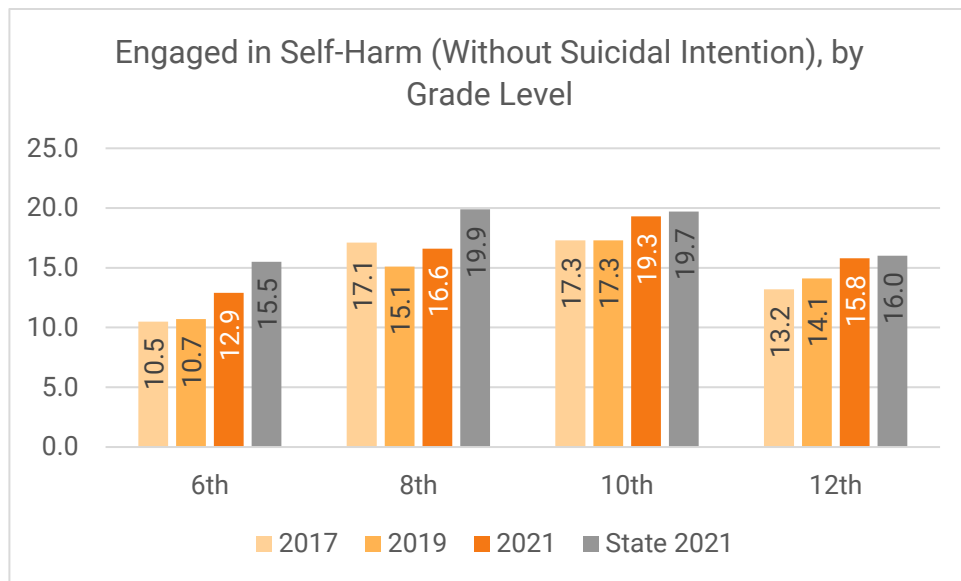


Figure 312: Engaged in Self-Harm (Without Suicidal Intention), by Grade Level

percent in 2021. Statewide, 17.9 percent of students report such actions.<sup>332</sup>

In 2021, every grade level saw an increase in the percentage of students who purposefully engaged in self-

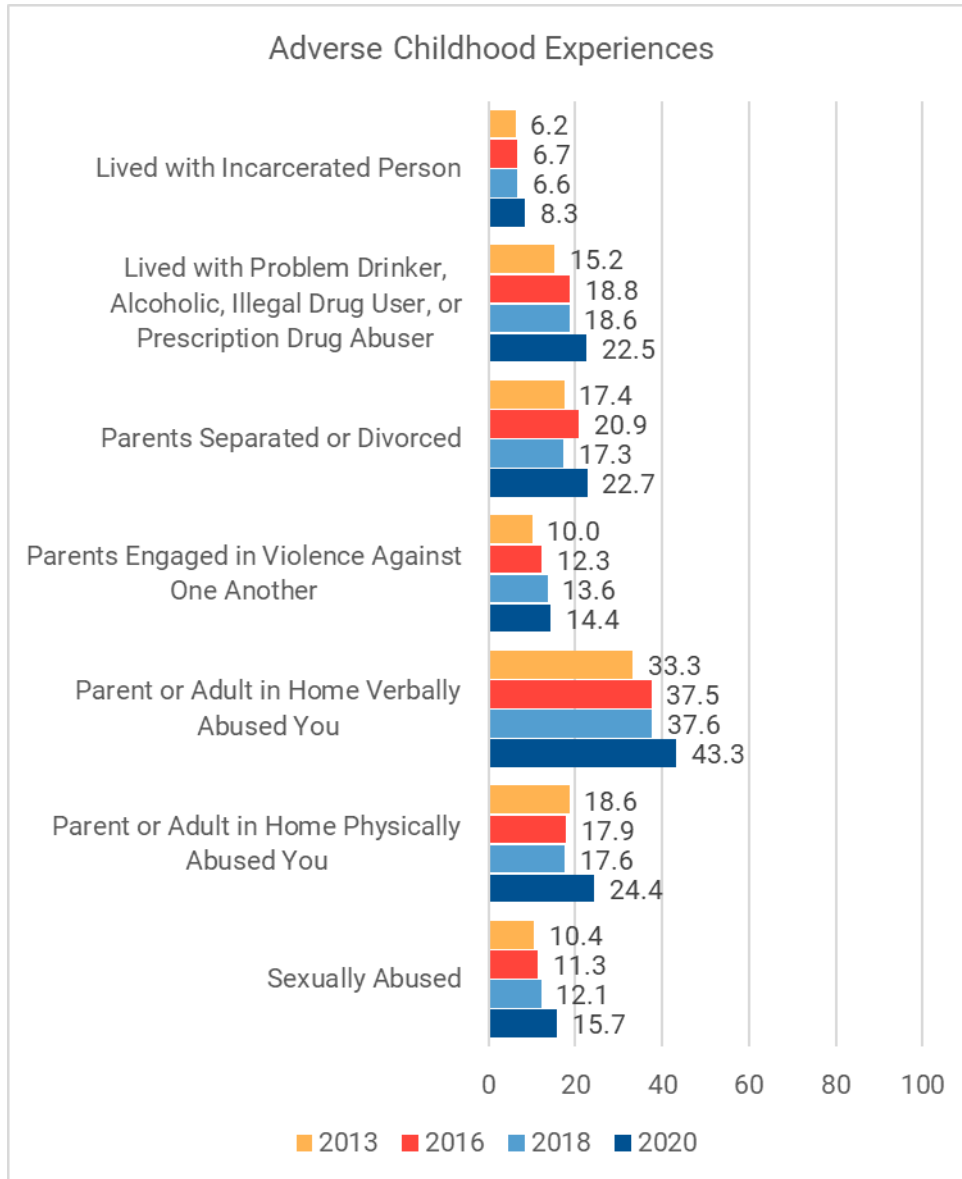
harm without suicidal intention. 10<sup>th</sup> graders have the highest level, with nearly one in five students reporting this type of behavior. Still, Utah County students remain below the statewide numbers.<sup>333</sup>

<sup>331</sup> Ibid.

<sup>332</sup> Ibid.

### 2.4.2.8 Adverse Childhood Experiences

Adverse childhood experiences (ACE) have occurred throughout time, but only in recent decades have medical and social scientists discovered links between these experiences and long-term resiliency and productivity as an adult. These experiences can include witnessing or being a victim of violence, having a family member die, living with someone who was incarcerated, had severe drinking or substance abuse problems, or suffered from significant



mental health challenges. They can also include having a family member or other household member attempt suicide or victimize a child through emotional abuse or neglect. ACEs are common occurrences, but frequent, severe, or multiple ACEs have been linked to long-term health problems, mental illness, substance abuse, and other concerns.<sup>334</sup>

Figure 313: Adverse Childhood Experiences by Type

<sup>333</sup> Ibid.

<sup>334</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Fast Fact: Preventing Adverse Childhood Experiences



The Utah Department of Health began collecting data on several ACEs through IBIS in 2013. In 2020, 18.4 percent of adults in Utah County reported experiencing four or more ACEs. This is up from 9.9 percent in 2013, 13.5 percent in 2016, and 14.2 percent in 2018.

The most common ACE reported in 2020 was verbal abuse, with 43.3 percent—up from 33.3 percent in 2013. The next most common ACEs are being physically abused (24.4 percent), divorced or separated parents (22.7 percent) and living with a problem drinker, alcoholic, or person who abuses other substances (22.5 percent). Nearly 16 percent report being sexually abused as a child, and 14.4 percent had parents who were physically violent with one another. Just over 8 percent lived with a person who had been or was later incarcerated.<sup>335</sup>

#### 2.4.2.9 Mental and Emotional Well-Being

Mental health and well-being is recognized as a critical aspect of overall health. The links between mental, emotional, and physical health are well documented; policymakers, employers, school and elected officials, and others are working to improve the quality of life in all these areas.

For the past several years, the Utah Department of Health IBIS reporting has tracked

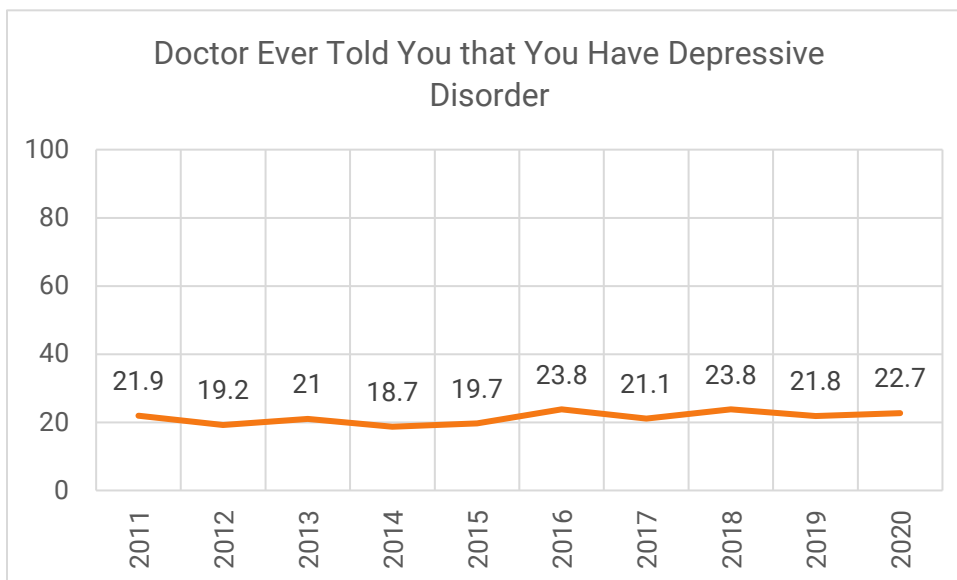


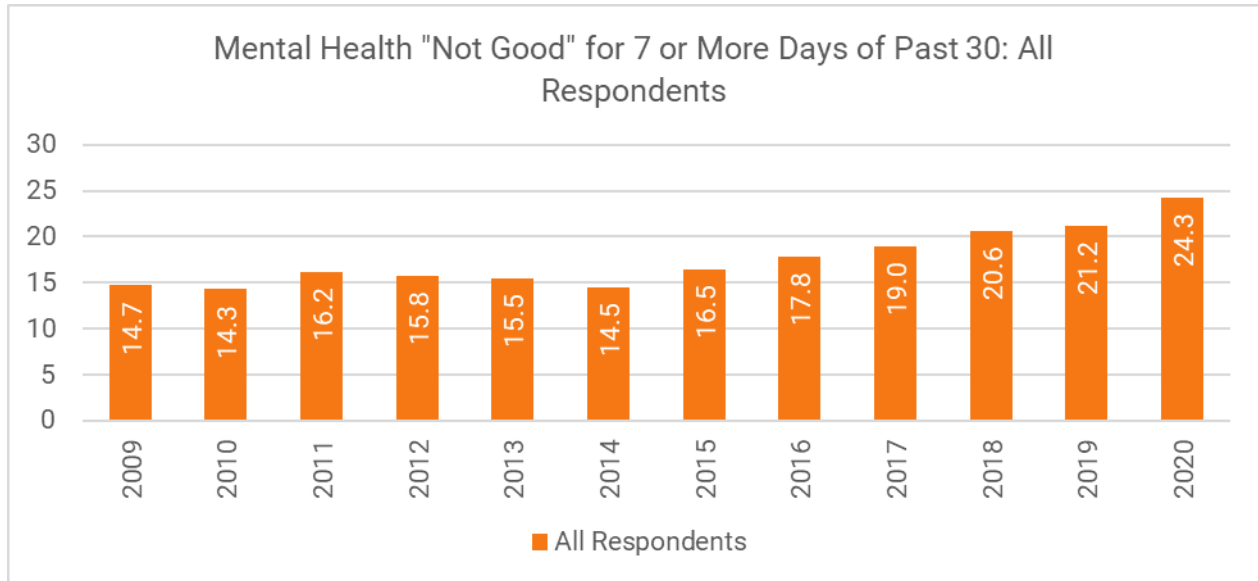
Figure 314: Doctor Ever Told You that You Have Depressive Disorder

whether adults have been told by their doctor that they have depressive disorder. Since 2011, the percentage who say they have depression has remained between 18.7 percent (2014)

<sup>335</sup> Utah Department of Health, IBIS

and 23.8 percent (2016 and 2018). In 2020, the number was 22.7.<sup>336</sup>

Although the percentage of adults who report that their doctor has told them they have depressive disorder has remained about the same, the percentage who say their mental health has been “not good” at least seven of the past 30 days has increased. It has gone from 14.7 percent in 2009 to 16.2 percent in 2011 and 24.3 percent in 2020—the highest it has ever been.<sup>337</sup>



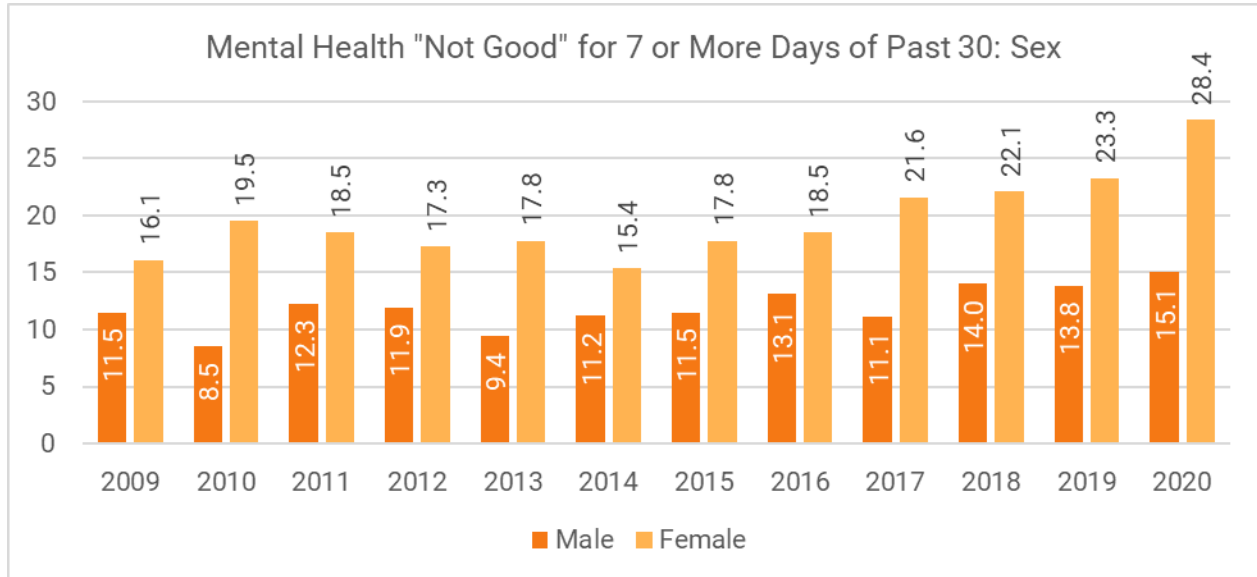
**Figure 315: Mental Health "Not Good" for 7 or More Days of Past 30: All Respondents**

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<sup>336</sup> Ibid.

<sup>337</sup> Ibid.

Historically, more women have reported seven or more days of poor mental health than men, with a sharp increase in 2020. In 2019, slightly more than 23 percent of women reported poor mental health of seven days or more in the past 30; in 2020, this percentage jumped to 28.4. During the 12-year period of data available (2009 through 2020), the percentage of men reporting this number has increased from 11.5 to 15.1; for women, the increase has gone from 16.1 to 28.4.<sup>338</sup>



**Figure 316: Mental Health "Not Good" for 7 or More Days of Past 30: Sex**

<sup>338</sup> Ibid.

As might be expected, individuals with lower income report having seven or more days of poor mental health at higher rates than others. In 2020, nearly 40 percent of individuals making less than \$25,000 annually have poor mental health for seven or more days of the last 30, compared to 18.4 percent of those making more than \$75,000.<sup>339</sup>

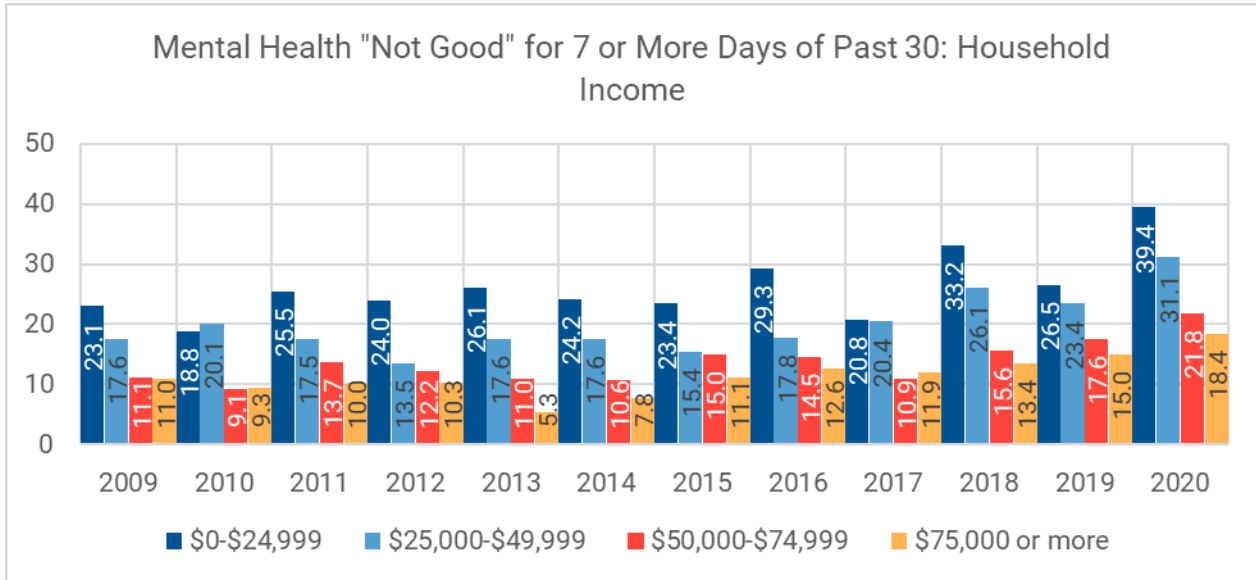


Figure 317: Mental Health "Not Good" for 7 or More Days of Past 30: Household Income

<sup>339</sup> Ibid.

Respondents in greater poverty report poor mental health more frequently, with slightly more than half of respondents in 2020 so reporting in 2020.<sup>340</sup>

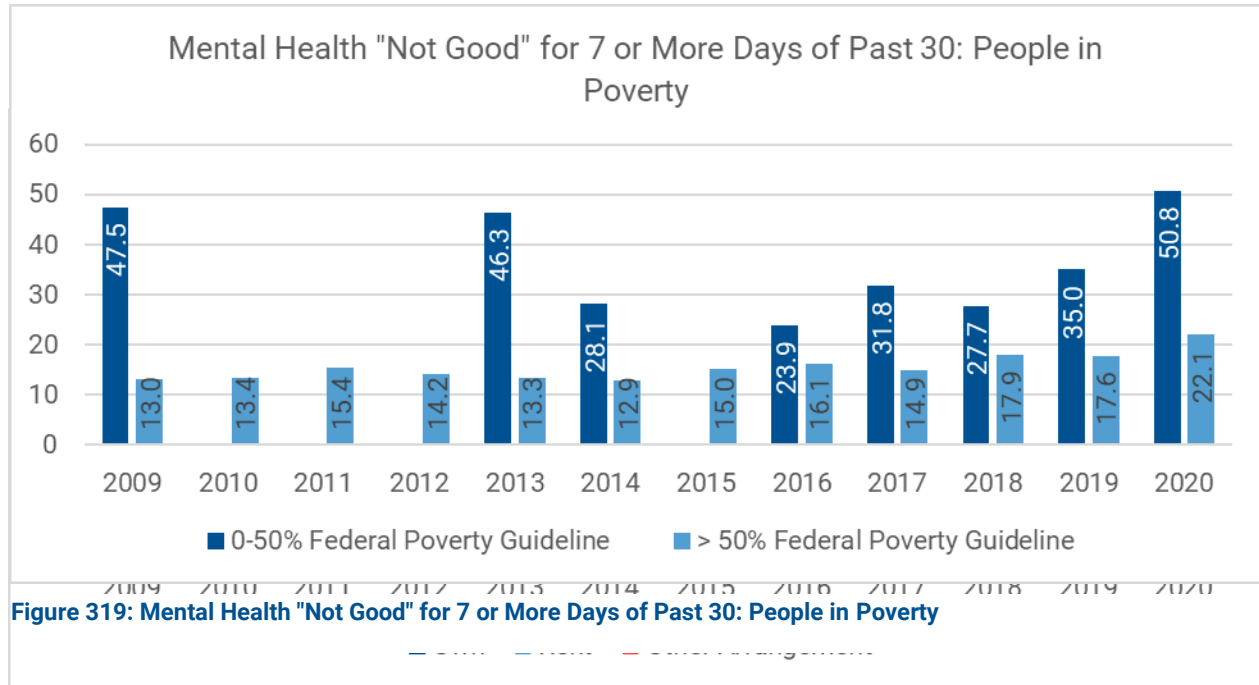


Figure 319: Mental Health "Not Good" for 7 or More Days of Past 30: People in Poverty

Figure 320: Mental Health "Not Good" for 7 or More Days of Past 30: Own vs. Rent

More renters report poor mental health than homeowners: 33 percent versus 20.4 percent in 2020.<sup>341</sup>

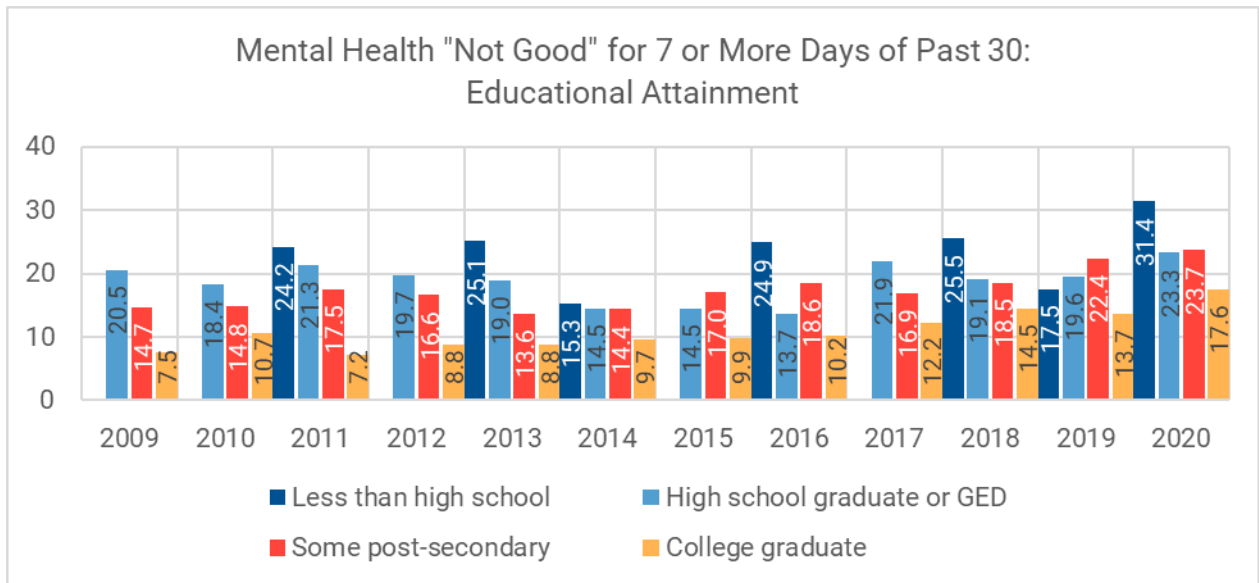


Figure 318: Mental Health "Not Good" for 7 or More Days of Past 30: Educational Attainment

<sup>340</sup> Ibid. Note that years with no data indicate sample size too small to be reliable.

<sup>341</sup> Ibid.

Higher educational attainment appears to correlate with lower rates of poor mental health. In 2020, 17.6 percent of college graduates indicated seven or more days of poor mental health in the past 30; all other education levels reported higher.<sup>342</sup>

Employment status appears to make a difference as well. More of those who are unable to work report poor mental health than those who are employed or even unemployed, with 42.6 percent of those unable to work reporting poor mental health in 2020. Missing data in these figures indicates the sample size was too small to draw conclusions.<sup>343</sup>

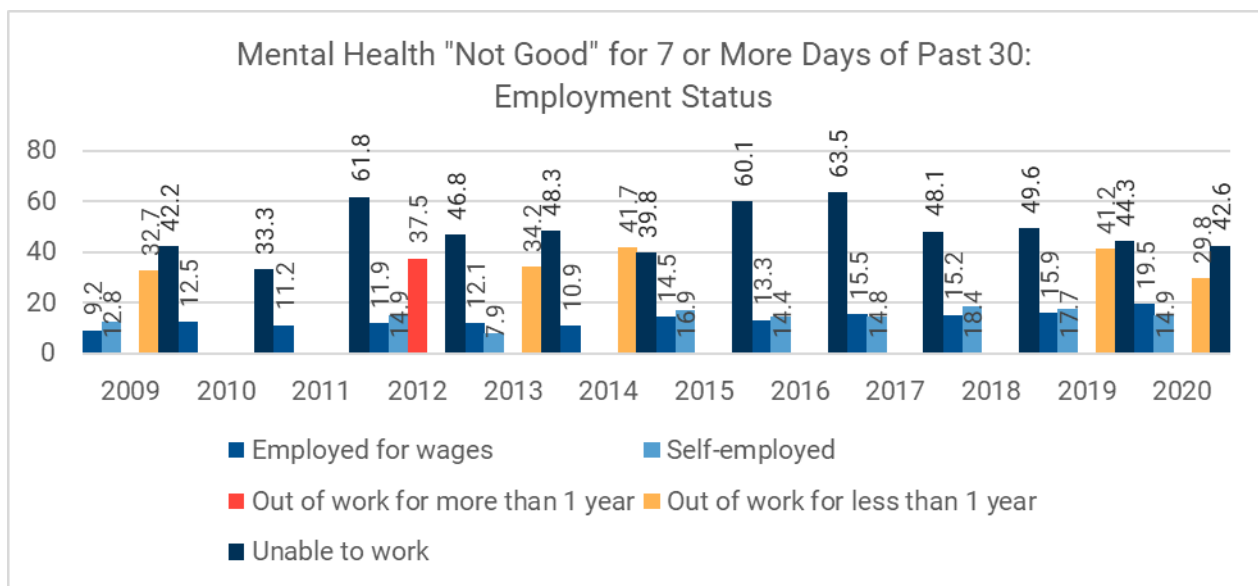


Figure 321: Mental Health "Not Good" for 7 or More Days of Past 30: Employment Status

<sup>342</sup> Ibid.

<sup>343</sup> Ibid.

In recent years, a greater magnitude of full-time students reported poor mental health than homemakers or those who are employed: nearly half of all students so reported in 2020.<sup>344</sup>

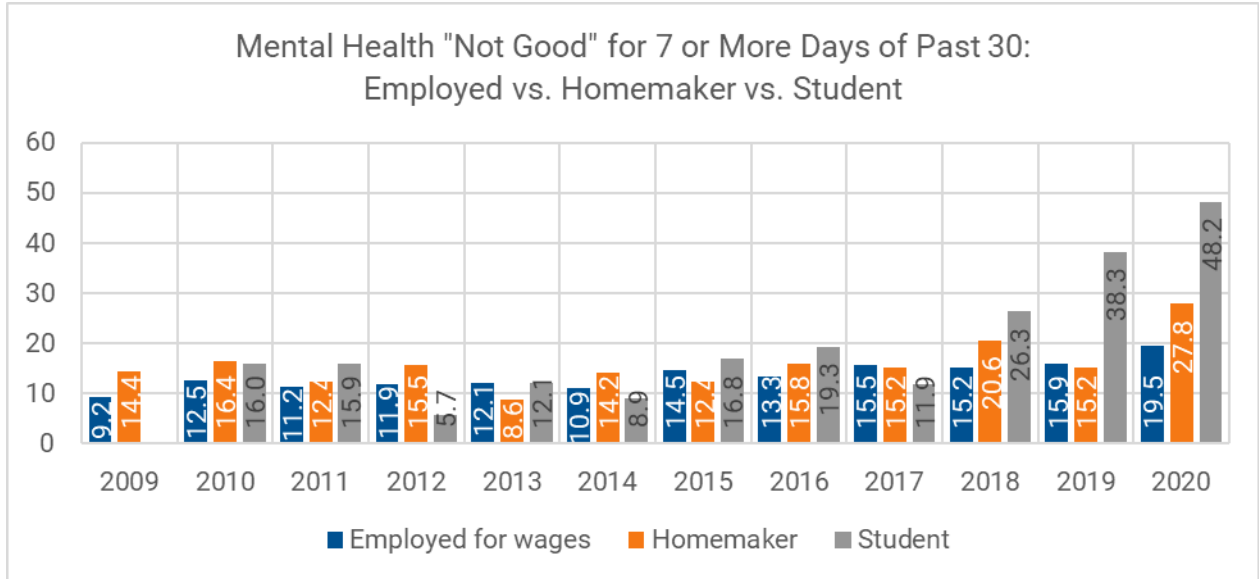
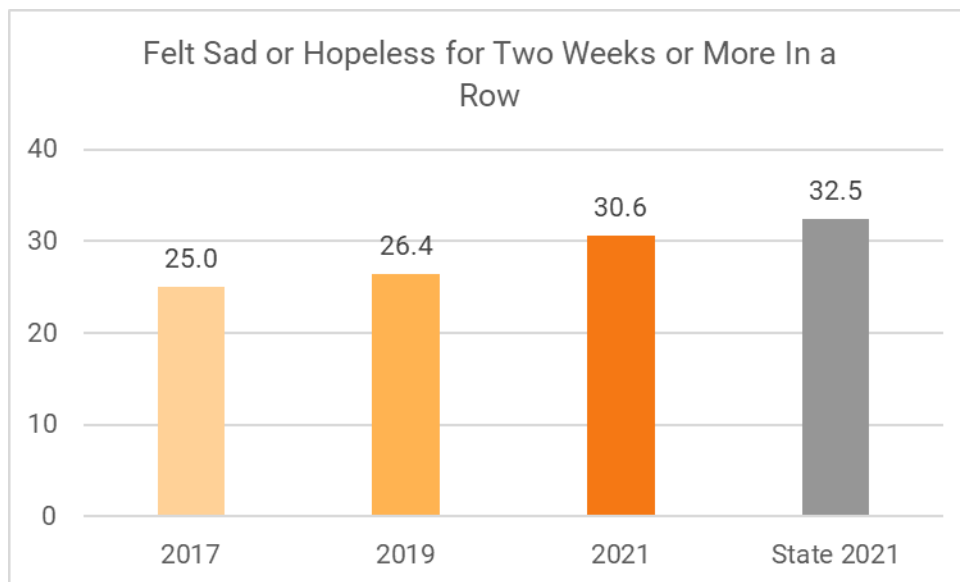


Figure 322: Mental Health "Not Good" for 7 or More Days of Past 30: Employed vs. Homemaker vs. Student

<sup>344</sup> Ibid.

### 2.4.2.9.1 Youth Mental and Emotional Well-Being

The Utah Office of Substance Use and Mental Health, which is part of the Utah Department of Health and Human Services, administers the Student Health and Risk Prevention survey throughout Utah every two years. Known as the SHARP survey, the data provides insights



into students in grades 6, 8, 10, and 12. In 2021, 16,030 Utah County students completed the survey. One of the items on the survey that measures youth mental and emotional wellbeing

**Figure 323: Felt Sad or Hopeless for Two Weeks or More In a Row**

is, "During the past 12 months, did you ever feel so sad or hopeless almost every day for two weeks or more in a row that you stopped doing some usual activities?" In 2021, 30.6 percent of Utah County students reported they did have this experience in the past 12 months, compared to 32.5 percent of students statewide.<sup>345</sup>

<sup>345</sup> 2021 Student Health and Risk Prevention Needs Assessment Survey Results for Utah County



Older students seem to experience this degree of sadness or hopelessness more often than younger students. In 2021’s survey—which was administered during the COVID-19 pandemic—21.3 percent of 6<sup>th</sup> graders reported feeling this sad or hopeless, compared to 30.1 percent of 8<sup>th</sup> graders, 37.6 percent of 10<sup>th</sup> graders, and 38.0 percent of 12<sup>th</sup> graders. Similar ratios are seen statewide, although at higher levels than in Utah County.<sup>346</sup>

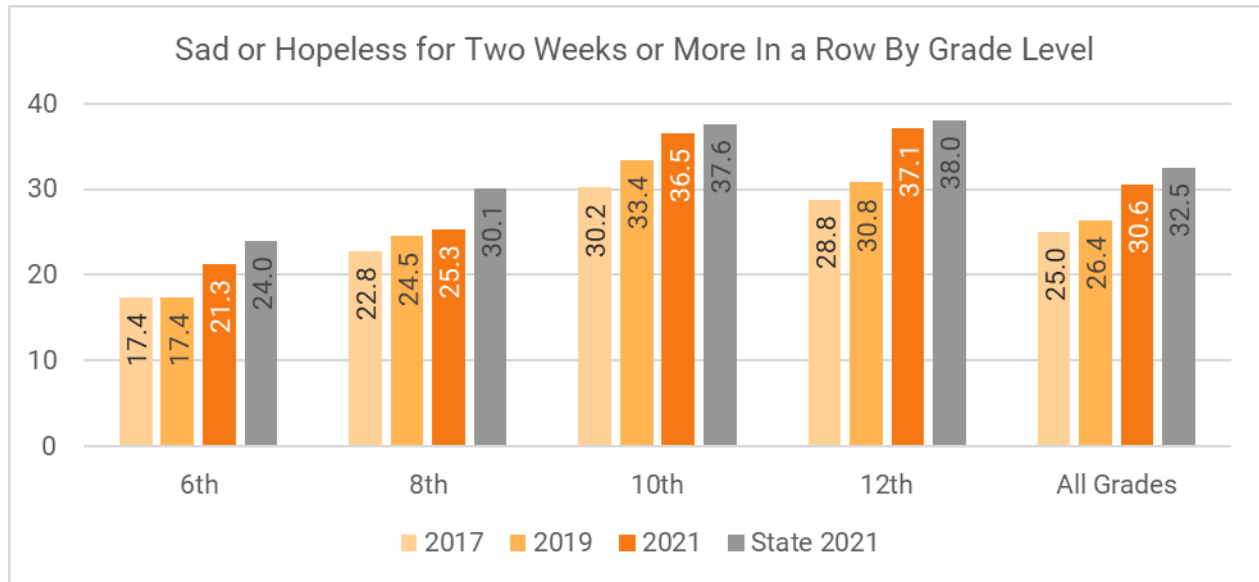
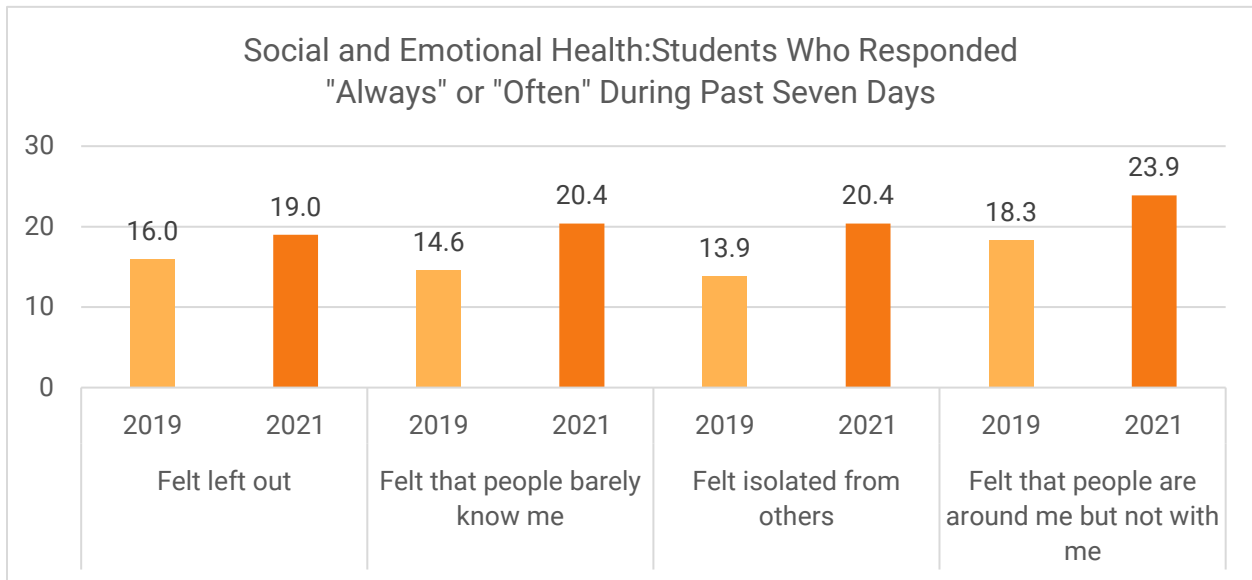


Figure 324: Sad or Hopeless for Two Weeks or More In a Row By Grade Level

<sup>346</sup> Ibid.

The SHARP study looks at other elements of youth resilience and emotional wellbeing. For example, respondents are asked whether in the past seven days they have felt left out, felt isolated, or felt that people “are around me but not with me,” or felt that “people barely know me.” Responses are on a Likert scale: never, rarely, sometimes, often, or always. These items were added in 2019, and each saw an increase in 2021.<sup>347</sup>



**Figure 325: Social and Emotional Health: Students Who Responded "Always" or "Often" During Past Seven Days**

<sup>347</sup> Ibid.

Nineteen percent of all Utah County students say they felt left out always or often during the past seven days.<sup>348</sup>

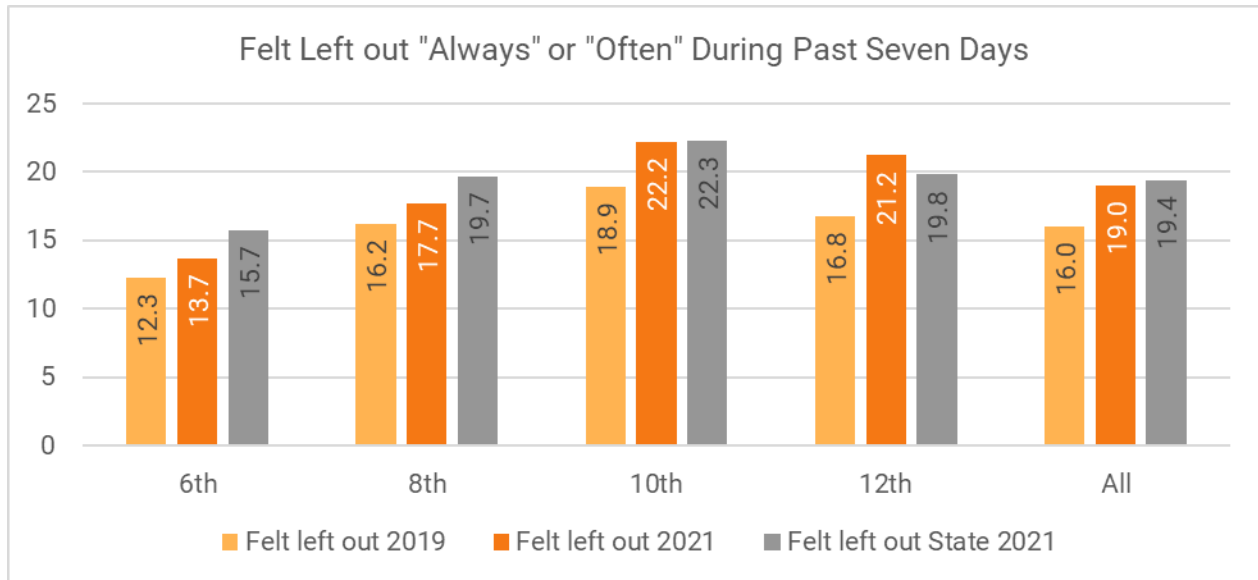


Figure 326: Felt Left out "Always" or "Often" During Past Seven Days

<sup>348</sup> Ibid.

Slightly more than 20 percent say they felt people barely know them always or often during the past seven days.<sup>349</sup>

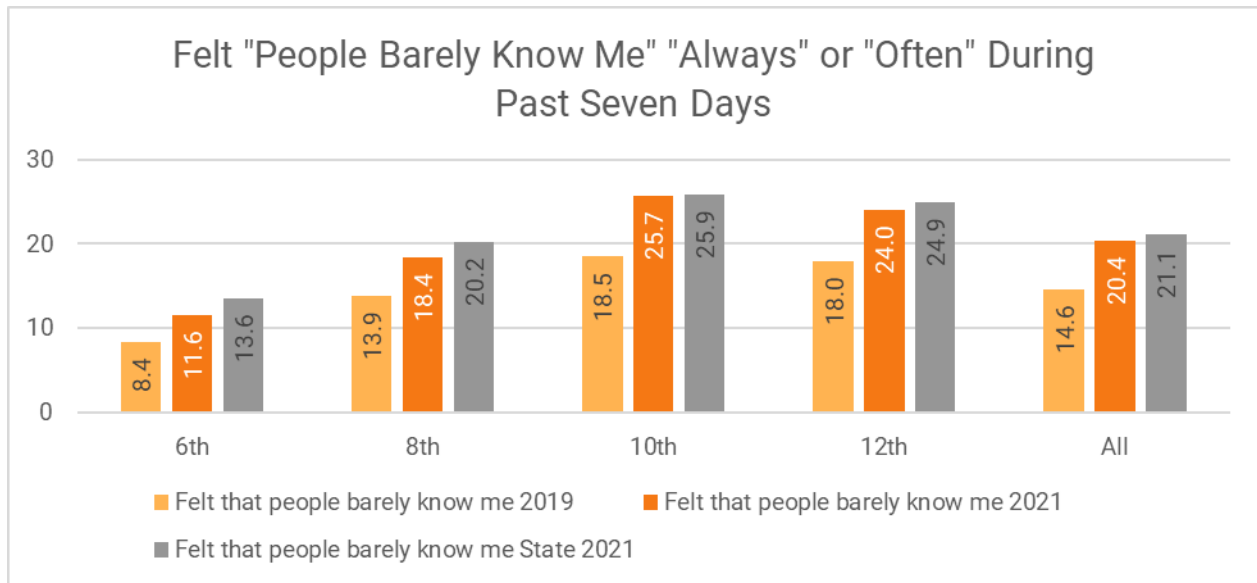


Figure 328: Felt "People Barely Know Me" "Always" or "Often" During Past Seven Days

From 2019 to 2021, the percentage of all Utah County students who reported they felt isolated from others always or often in the past seven days jumped from 13.9 percent to 20.4 percent. The statewide percentage is 21.7.<sup>350</sup>

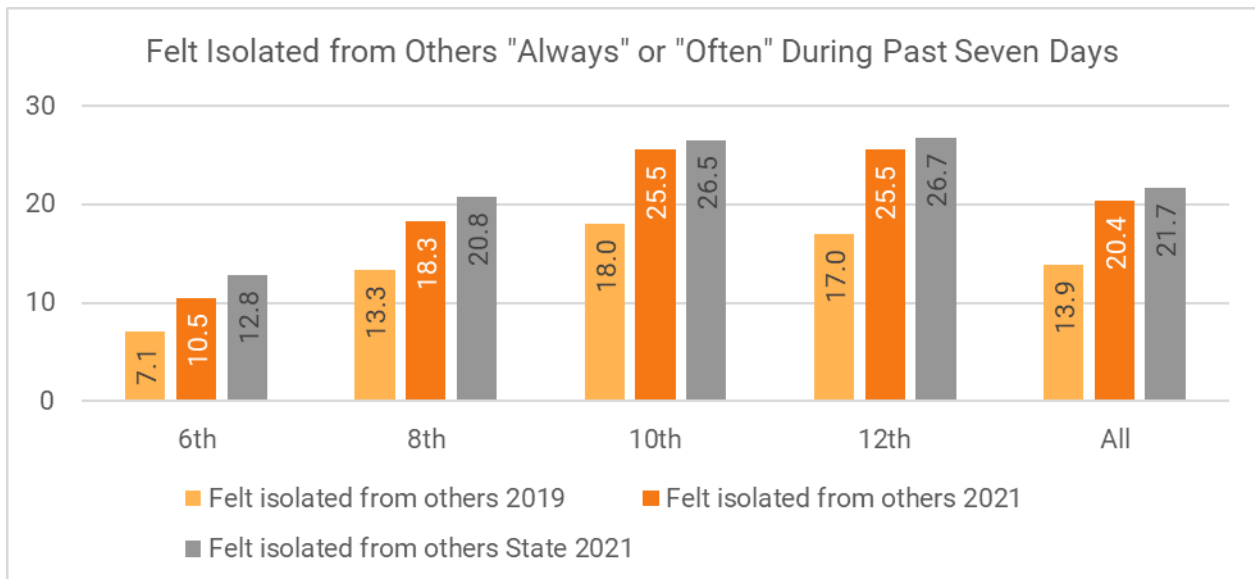


Figure 327: Felt Isolated from Others "Always" or "Often" During Past Seven Days

<sup>349</sup> Ibid.

<sup>350</sup> Ibid.

More students are feeling that people “are around me but not with me.” In 2019, 18.3 percent of respondents indicated they felt this always or often in the past seven days; in 2021, 23.9 percent did.

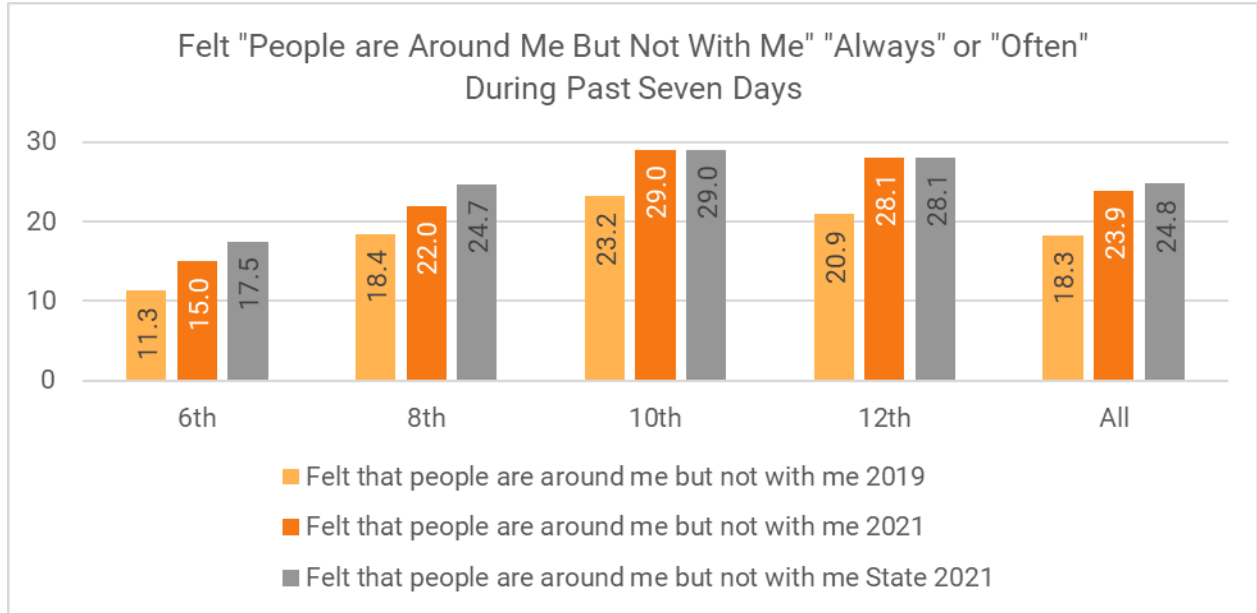


Figure 329: Felt "People are Around Me But Not With Me" "Always" or "Often" During Past Seven Days

Using an algorithm that has tested both valid and reliable, the creators of this instrument can categorize respondents into level of depressive symptoms. In 2017, 5.9 percent of all students in Utah County were categorized as having high depressive symptoms; in 2021, this figure increased to 9.4 percent—and 10.6 percent statewide.

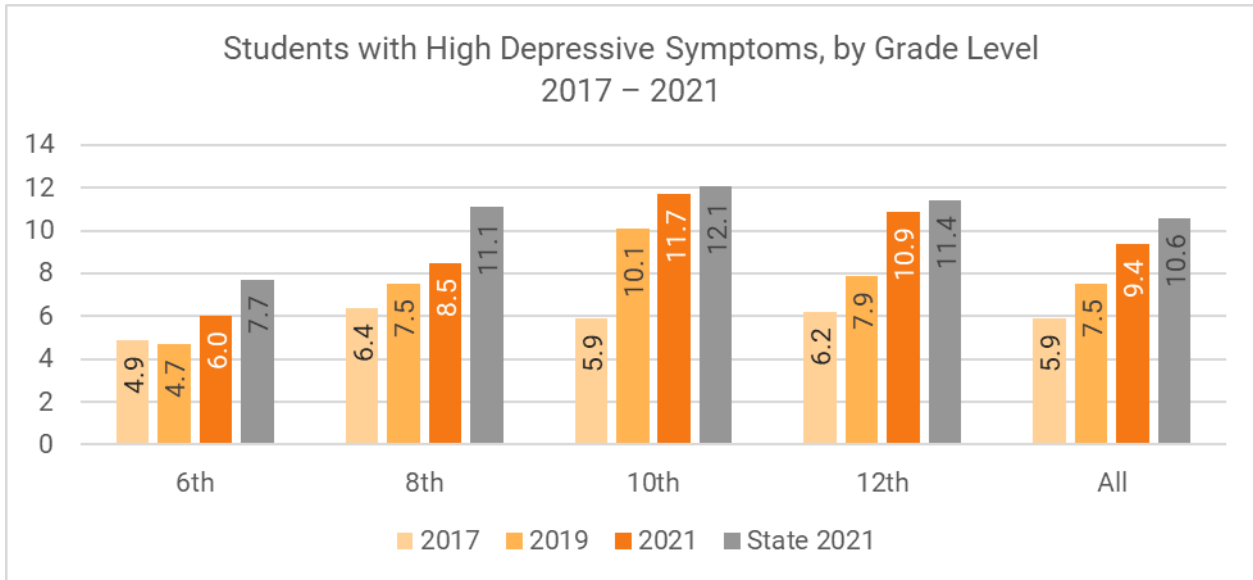


Figure 330: Students with High Depressive Symptoms, by Grade Level, 2017 – 2021

#### 2.4.2.10 Disabilities

The Utah Department of Health, in its annual Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System survey, asks the following questions regarding disability status:

- Are you blind or do you have serious difficulty seeing, even when wearing glasses?
- Because of a physical, mental, or emotional problem, do you have serious difficulty concentrating, remembering, or making decisions?
- Do you have serious difficulty walking or climbing stairs?
- Do you have difficulty dressing or bathing?
- Because of physical, mental, or emotional condition, do you have difficulty doing errands alone such as visiting a doctor's office or shopping?
- Are you deaf or do you have serious difficulty hearing?

Those who answer in the affirmative to any of these questions are classified as having a disability. In 2020, 19.7 percent of adults have at least one type of disability. This is down from 2019’s 22.5 percent, but very much in line with prior years’ data.<sup>351</sup>

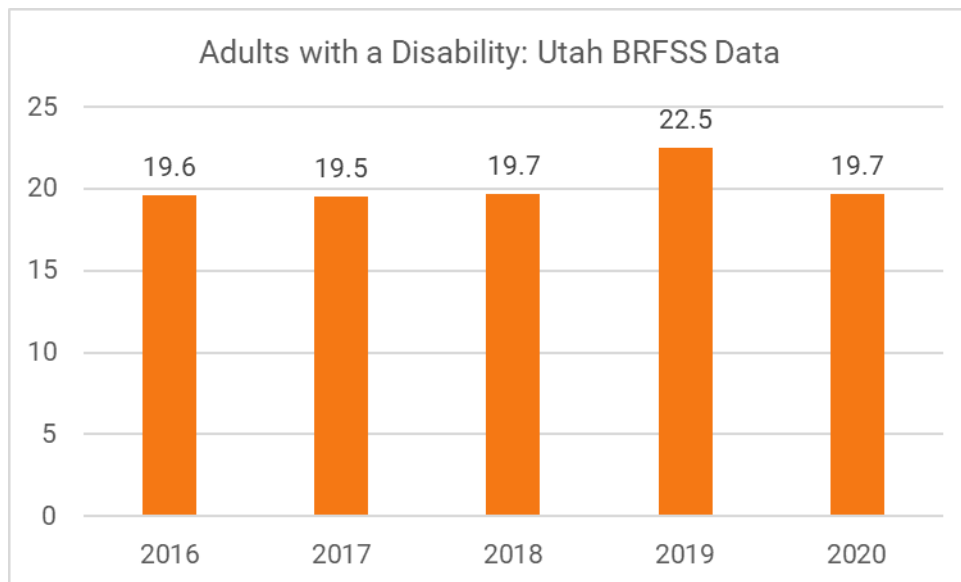


Figure 331: Adults with a Disability: Utah BRFSS Data

Another source of data on frequency of disability status is the U.S. Census Bureau. When using its data to report disability status, it is important to understand how disability status is determined. For

sake of accuracy, this report includes the following multi-paragraph excerpt from *American Community Survey and Puerto Rico Community Survey 2020 Subject Definitions*:

Hearing difficulty was derived from question 17a, which asked respondents if they were “deaf or ... [had] serious difficulty hearing.” Vision difficulty was derived from question 17b, which asked respondents if they were “blind or ... [had] serious difficulty seeing even when wearing glasses.” Prior to the 2008 ACS, hearing and vision difficulty were asked in a single question under the label “Sensory disability.”

Cognitive difficulty was derived from question 18a, which asked respondents if due to physical, mental, or emotional condition, they had “serious difficulty concentrating, remembering, or making decisions.” Prior to the 2008 ACS, the question on cognitive functioning asked about difficulty “learning, remembering, or concentrating” under the label “Mental disability.”

Ambulatory difficulty was derived from question 18b, which asked respondents if they had “serious difficulty walking or climbing stairs.” Prior to 2008, the ACS asked if respondents had “a condition that substantially limits one or more basic physical

<sup>351</sup> Utah Department of Health, IBIS

activities such as walking, climbing stairs, reaching, lifting, or carrying.” This measure was labeled “Physical difficulty” in ACS data products.

Self-care difficulty was derived from question 18c, which asked respondents if they had “difficulty dressing or bathing.” Difficulty with these activities are two of six specific Activities of Daily Living (ADLs) often used by health care providers to assess patients’ self-care needs. Prior to the 2008 ACS, the question on self-care limitations asked about difficulty “dressing, bathing, or getting around inside the home,” under the label “Self-care disability.”

Independent living difficulty was derived from question 19, which asked respondents if due to a physical, mental, or emotional condition, they had difficulty “doing errands alone such as visiting a doctor’s office or shopping.” Difficulty with this activity is one of several Instrumental Activities of Daily Living (IADL) used by health care providers in making care decisions. Prior to the 2008 ACS, a similar measure on difficulty “going outside the home alone to shop or visit a doctor’s office” was asked under the label “Go-outside-home disability.”

Disability status is determined from the answers from these six types of difficulty. For children under 5 years old, hearing and vision difficulty are used to determine disability status. For children between the ages of 5 and 14, disability status is determined from hearing, vision, cognitive, ambulatory, and self-care difficulties. For people aged 15 years and older, they are considered to have a disability if they have difficulty with any one of the six difficulty types.<sup>352</sup>

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, 8.1 percent of Utah County residents have some sort of disability. This compares to the state’s 9.7 percent and the country’s 12.7 percent. Those age 75 and older tend to have more disabilities, but this is true across geographies. In Utah County, 48.1 percent of those age 75 or older have disabilities. This is the same percentage as nationally and slightly above the state’s 46.4 percent.<sup>353</sup>

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<sup>352</sup> American Community Survey and Puerto Rico Community Survey 2020 Subject Definitions, pp. 63-64

<sup>353</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 ACS, Table S1810



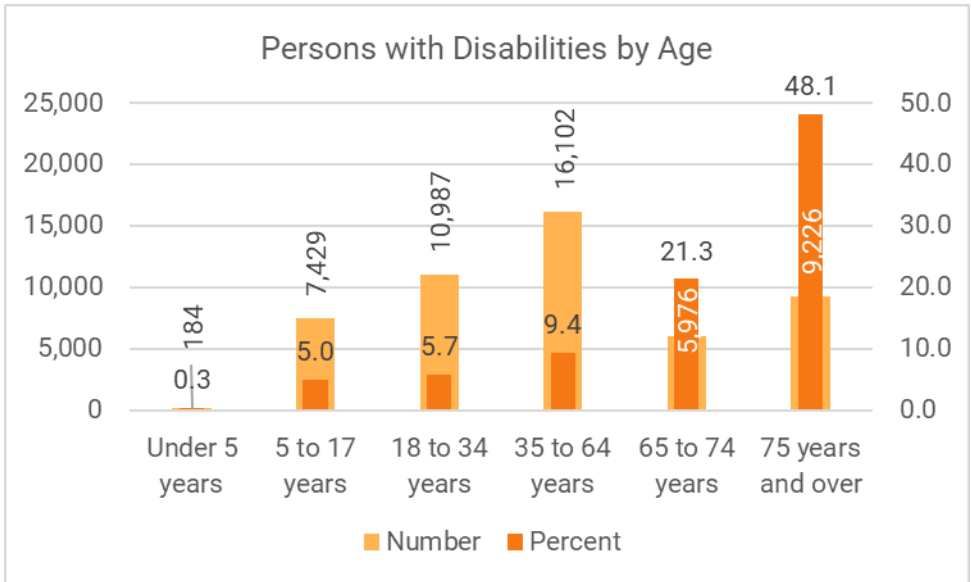


Figure 332: Persons with Disabilities by Age

The older one becomes, the more likely one is to have a disability. In Utah County, only 0.3 percent of those under age 5 are classified by the U.S. Census Bureau as having a disability, although the number is

likely higher than that. Five percent of those age 5 to 17 have disabilities, and 5.7 percent of those age 18 to 34. About 9.4 percent of those age 35 to 64 have disabilities, and 21.3 percent of those age 65 to 74.<sup>354</sup>

The table below details the percentage of persons with the specified type of disability in Utah County communities.

<sup>354</sup> Ibid.

Percent Persons with Specified Disability <sup>355</sup>							
	Any Disability	Hearing	Vision	Cognitive	Ambulatory	Self-Care	Independent Living
<b>Alpine</b>	8.9	2.9	1.0	3.9	4.5	1.6	4.0
<b>American Fork</b>	9.0	2.6	1.4	4.0	4.1	1.3	4.4
<b>Benjamin</b>	10.0	4.6	0.0	1.0	6.8	3.4	5.1
<b>Cedar Fort</b>	9.9	4.2	0.0	6.5	6.5	2.0	8.9
<b>Cedar Hills</b>	5.9	1.9	0.2	1.9	2.5	1.1	3.4
<b>Eagle Mountain</b>	4.7	1.1	0.4	3.2	1.4	0.6	2.1
<b>Elberta</b>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Elk Ridge</b>	6.5	1.8	2.2	2.9	2.1	0.9	2.7
<b>Fairfield</b>	16.0	7.4	1.2	5.3	8.0	5.3	10.4
<b>Genola</b>	8.3	3.0	2.1	2.6	3.3	1.3	4.6
<b>Goshen</b>	11.5	4.0	2.7	3.4	4.8	2.3	6.3
<b>Highland</b>	3.8	1.3	0.4	2.1	1.3	0.9	1.5
<b>Lake Shore</b>	7.9	3.3	1.2	2.2	1.8	0.0	1.1
<b>Lehi</b>	6.7	1.5	1.3	3.5	1.8	0.8	3.2
<b>Lindon</b>	9.1	2.7	1.1	4.9	4.2	1.7	5.6
<b>Mapleton</b>	7.6	3.4	1.2	2.7	3.4	1.3	4.2
<b>Orem</b>	9.7	2.3	1.5	5.1	4.2	1.2	4.2
<b>Palmyra</b>	18.3	3.4	1.1	12.0	2.1	0.6	8.6
<b>Payson</b>	10.6	3.0	1.6	5.2	5.3	2.3	5.6
<b>Pleasant Grove</b>	9.1	2.5	1.2	5.2	4.0	1.7	4.2
<b>Provo</b>	8.7	2.3	1.3	5.0	3.2	1.2	3.3
<b>Salem</b>	8.0	2.5	1.9	3.5	3.8	1.4	4.3
<b>Santaquin</b>	7.8	1.7	0.8	4.5	2.9	1.0	3.9
<b>Saratoga Springs</b>	4.6	1.1	0.6	2.4	1.4	0.8	2.2
<b>Spanish Fork</b>	9.2	3.0	1.3	3.9	3.7	1.2	4.2
<b>Spring Lake</b>	17.4	4.0	0.6	10.7	11.2	3.9	3.7
<b>Springville</b>	9.8	2.4	1.3	5.1	4.4	2.2	6.0
<b>Vineyard</b>	2.2	0.4	0.0	1.4	1.1	0.1	0.7
<b>West Mountain</b>	7.4	3.6	1.8	2.4	3.4	0.0	0.6
<b>Woodland Hills</b>	6.0	2.7	1.6	1.8	2.9	0.7	2.5
<b>State</b>	9.7	2.9	1.6	4.4	4.4	1.6	4.3
<b>Utah County</b>	8.1	2.1	1.2	4.2	3.2	1.2	3.7

<sup>355</sup> Ibid.

#### **2.4.2.11 Vital Statistics**

For Utah County's vital statistics, see section 2.1.8.

## 2.5 Attitudes and Concerns

The community assessments completed in 2011, 2015, and 2018 included primary data about community values, opinions, and concerns. This year, the telephone survey was expanded to include a major sample of nearly 1,300 Utah County adults—more than three times the number of respondents we have interviewed in the past. In addition, we conducted one-on-one interviews with persons of various racial and ethnic backgrounds; more focus groups were conducted this year than in the past. As Utah County is becoming more diverse, the intent is to better understand shifts in public attitudes, if any. Additionally, with the worldwide pandemic and its effects, this research provides additional insights into possible changes in lifestyle.

### 2.5.1 Methodology

#### 2.5.1.1 Sampling

In past community assessments, approximately 420 telephone interviews with adults age 18 or older were completed. This year, 1,295 telephone interviews were completed, for a study-wide margin of error of  $\pm 2.8$  percent. The sample was stratified to residency locations based on population distribution in Utah County.

**Table 83: Telephone Survey Geographic Strata: Planned and Actual**

Telephone Survey Geographic Strata		
Strata	Planned Percent	Actual Percent
<b>Saratoga Springs, Eagle Mountain</b>	13.8	13.1
<b>Alpine, Cedar Hills, Highland, Lehi</b>	19.9	18.9
<b>American Fork, Pleasant Grove, Lindon</b>	14.9	14.2
<b>Orem</b>	17.5	19.8
<b>Provo</b>	20.2	19.8
<b>Salem, Springville, Spanish Fork</b>	13.7	14.2
<b>Total</b>	100	100

Both cell phone and landline telephone numbers were used at a ratio of 53 percent cell phone and 47 percent landline. Area codes for cell phone numbers were not limited to 801 or

435 codes; all cell phone numbers in use in Utah County constituted the universe from which the sample was drawn.

### 2.5.1.2 Method of Analysis

Responses were recorded at the time of the interview. Responses to open-ended questions were coded both during the interview (for pre-identified possible responses) and after the interviews were completed.

Data was analyzed using IBM SPSS, the industry standard in statistical analysis software. Frequency distributions, cross tabulations, tests of association, prediction, and variance were conducted. With more than 100 variables in about 25 survey items, the data provides abundant opportunities for analysis. Only the summary analysis is presented in this report.

### 2.5.1.3 Limitations

Although the instrument was executed in geographic strata, sample sizes within strata are not adequate to draw specific conclusions without larger-than-normal margins of error. For example, the margin of error for the Orem strata is  $\pm 6.1$  percent.

**Table 84: Telephone Survey Geographic Strata Margin of Error**

Telephone Survey Geographic Strata Margin of Error			
Strata	Planned Percent	Actual Percent	Margin of Error
<b>Saratoga Springs, Eagle Mountain</b>	13.8	13.1	7.5
<b>Alpine, Cedar Hills, Highland, Lehi</b>	19.9	18.9	6.3
<b>American Fork, Pleasant Grove, Lindon</b>	14.9	14.2	7.2
<b>Orem</b>	17.5	19.8	6.1
<b>Provo</b>	20.2	19.8	6.1
<b>Salem, Springville, Spanish Fork</b>	13.7	14.2	7.2

In addition, other clusters of data, such as race and ethnicity, do not always present a statistically viable sample size to draw conclusions about the specific clusters. Examples of data clusters that do not meet the threshold of  $< \pm 5$  percent are individual races (except white), household income levels (except \$50,000 to  $< \$100,000$ ), those in domestic partner

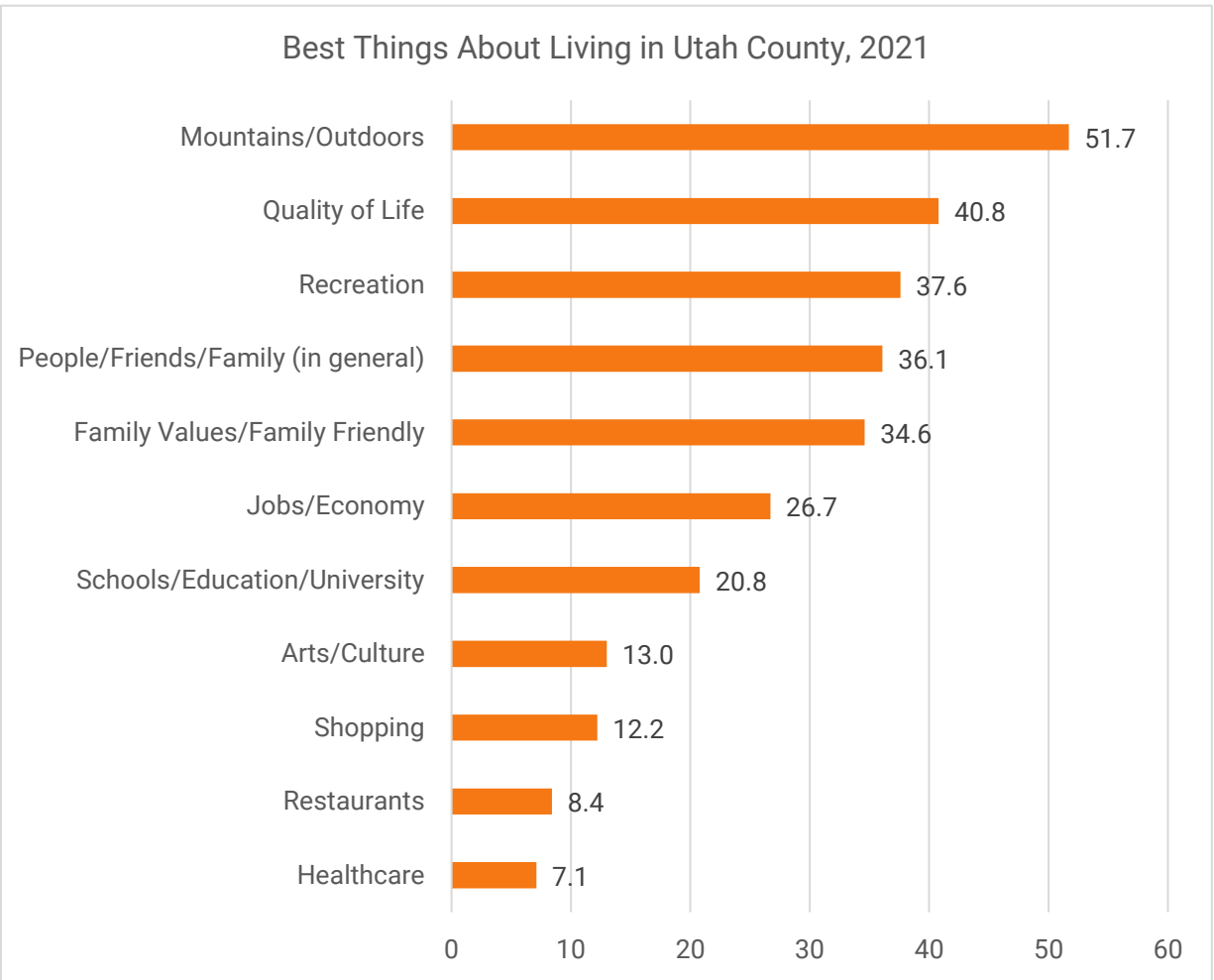
relationships, and persons of Hispanic descent. To adequately understand these demographic groups on their own, additional data must be gathered.

Despite any similarities the Utah County population may have with other counties or regions, this data is valid only for Utah County.

Although the margin of error for this study is the smallest ever achieved for this community assessment ( $\pm 2.8$  percent), there is still a chance that some data may not accurately reflect the true values, perceptions, attitudes, and behaviors of the population as a whole.

### **2.5.2 Best and Worst Things About Utah County**

In each of the community assessment surveys (2015, 2018, 2021-2022), respondents are asked to identify the best things about living in Utah County. Respondents were probed for up to five answers. This year, respondents were more eager to respond, with a greater percentage than ever before giving five answers. The mountains or outdoor living was the most commonly cited response, with 51.7 percent naming this. Overall quality of life was second, with 40.8 percent; this was followed by recreation (37.6 percent), people, family or friends (in general) (36.1 percent), and family values or family friendly environment (34.6 percent).



**Figure 333: Best Things About Living in Utah County, 2021**

When comparing the top five responses to prior years' data, it's clear that mountains and outdoor living opportunities is a much more common response today.

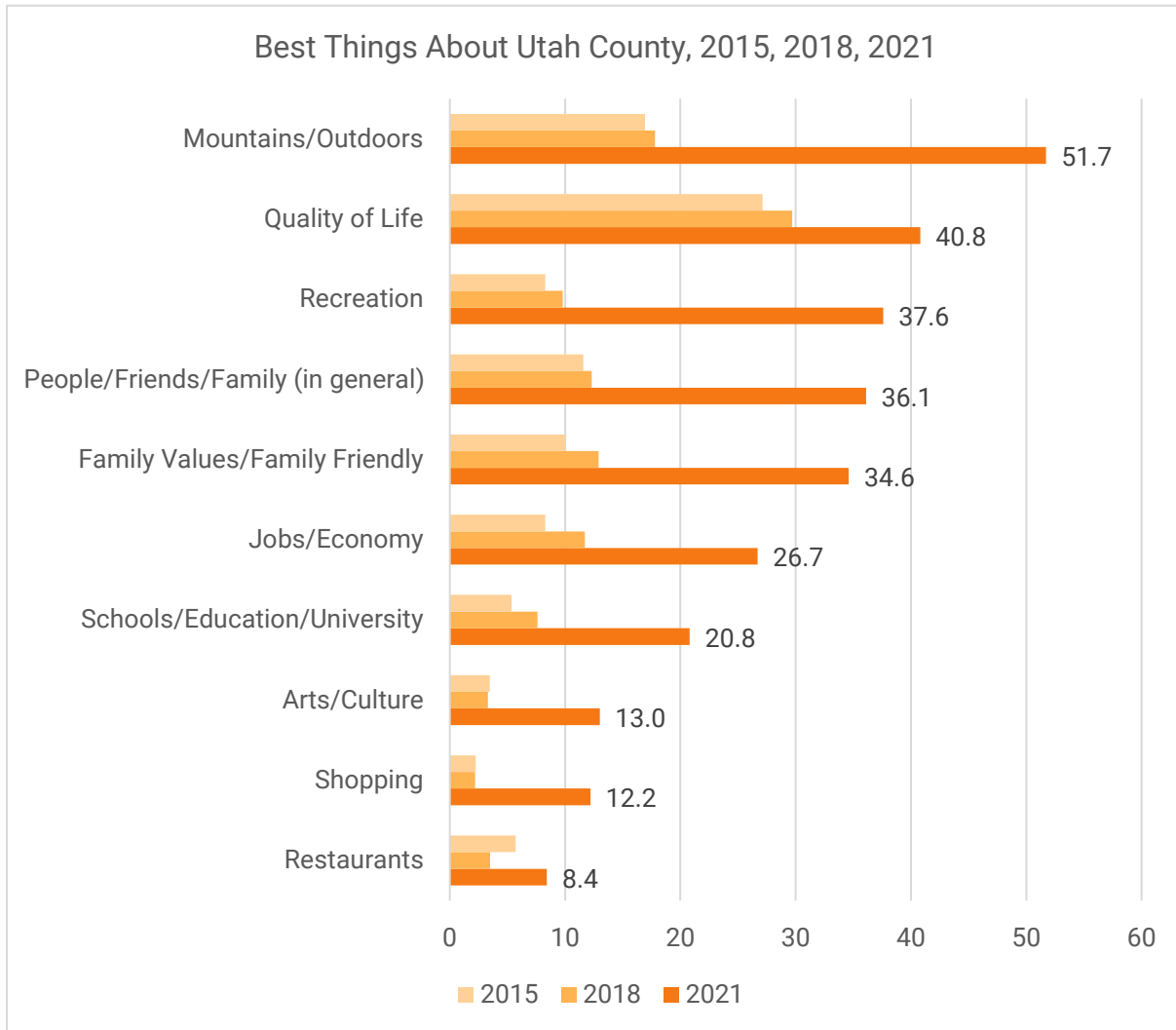


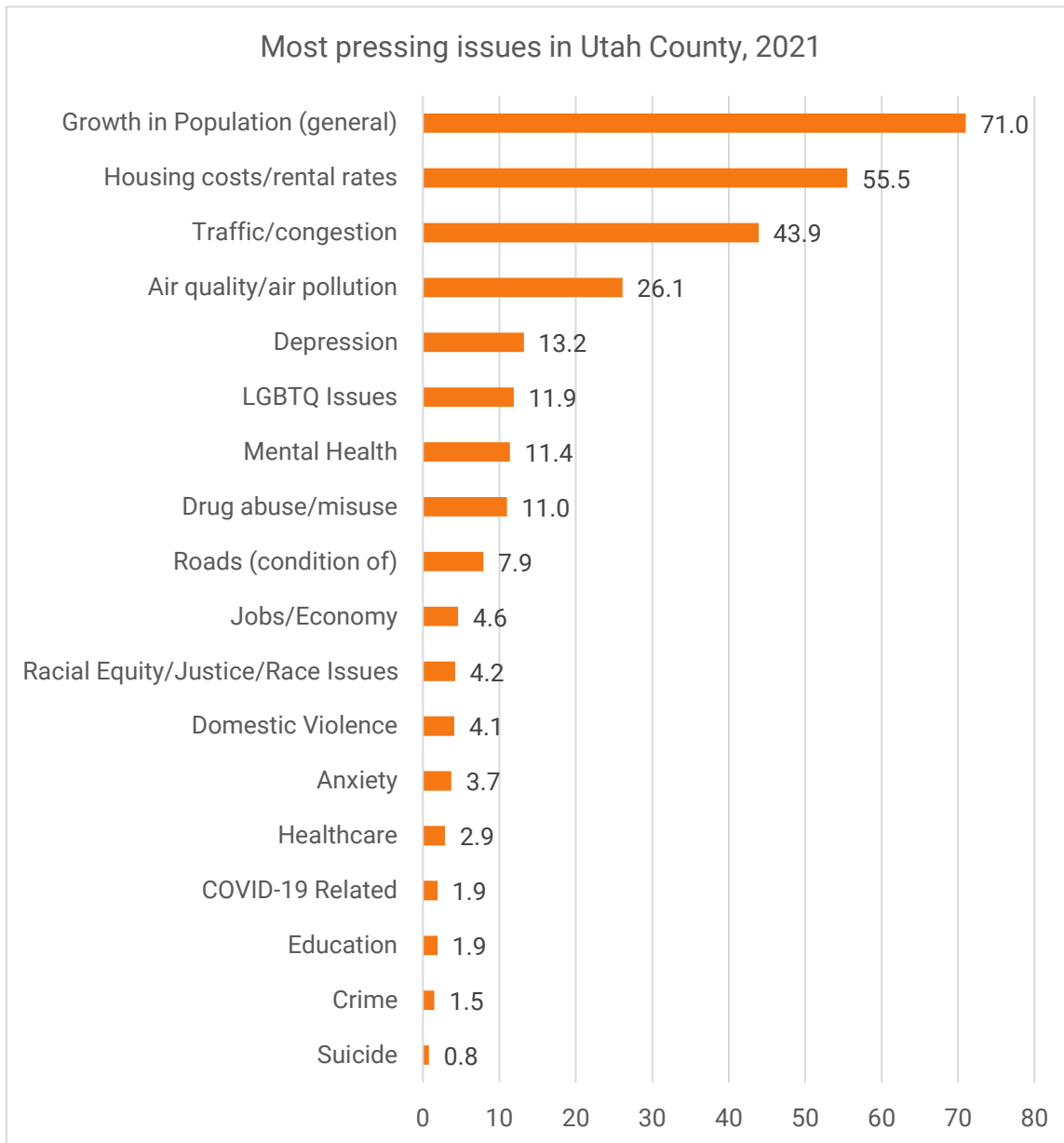
Figure 334: Best Things About Utah County, 2015, 2018, 2021

Note that healthcare, which was named by 7.1 percent of respondents in 2021, was not mentioned in 2015 or 2018.

When asked about the most pressing issues in Utah County, growth in population was far and away the most common response, far outpacing prior year's numbers and all other concerns in 2021. More than seven out of 10 (71 percent) of respondents cited growth in general as a "most pressing issue" in the county. This is followed by issues related to growth:



housing costs (55.5 percent), traffic or congestion (43.9 percent), and air quality or air pollution (26.1 percent). Depression took a distant fifth place, at 13.2 percent.



**Figure 335: Most pressing issues in Utah County, 2021**

The survey was implemented in May 2021; at that point, COVID-19 related issues were mentioned by only 1.9 percent of respondents.

Comparing the 2021 responses to those of prior years reveals some interesting shifts in attitudes. First, note the higher response rates. Respondents were probed for up to five total answers; in 2015 and 2018, it was much more common for respondents to provide only two or

three answers. Second, five issues with greater than 0.5 percent appeared for the first time: LGBTQ (11.9 percent), race or racial justice issues (4.2 percent), domestic violence (4.1 percent), anxiety (3.7 percent), and COVID-19 issues (1.9 percent).

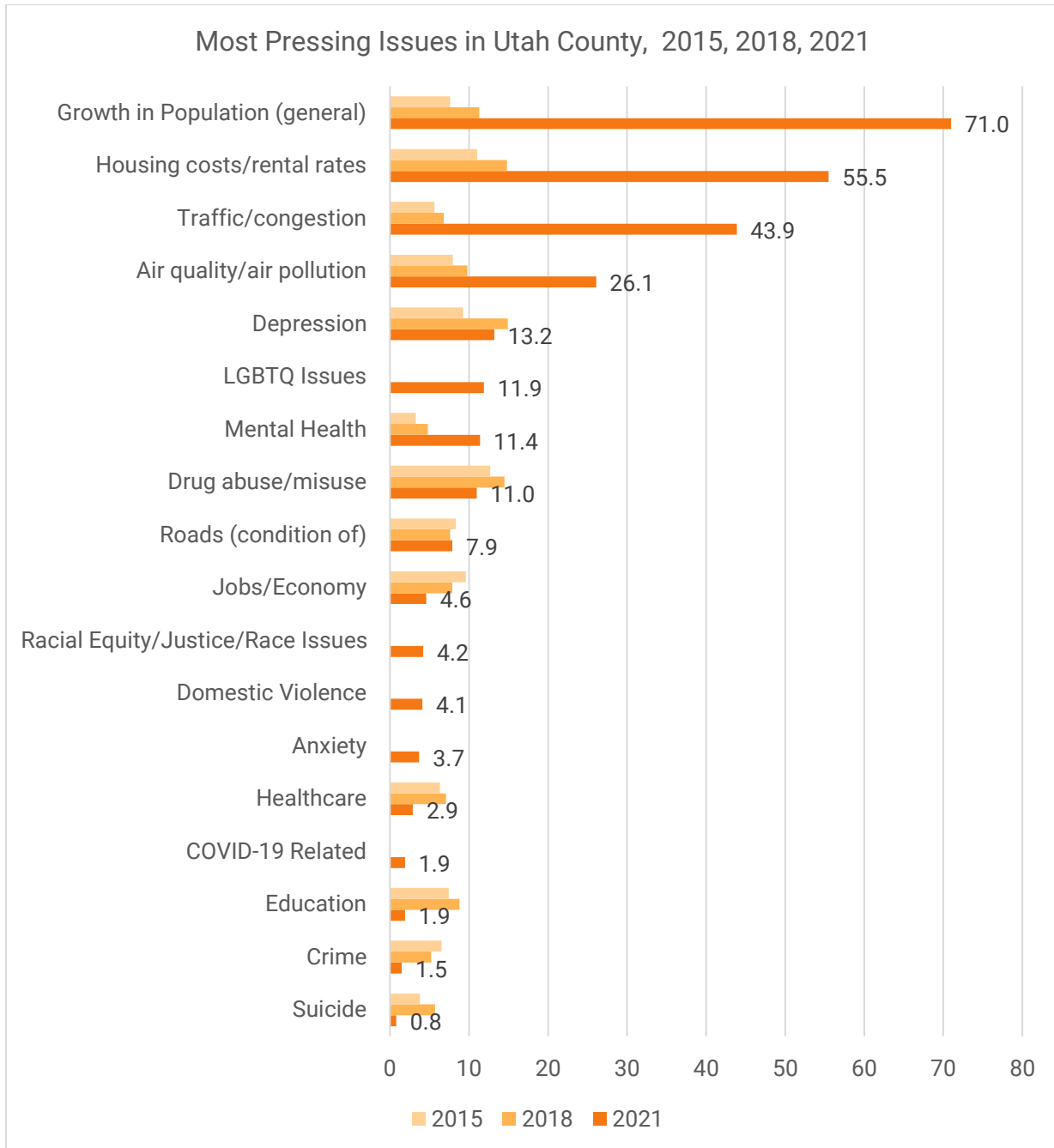


Figure 336: Most Pressing Issues in Utah County, 2015, 2018, 2021

Of course, some of these issues can be grouped together—particularly mental and behavioral health issues—to understand better how the community is viewing larger concerns.

### 2.5.3 Rating of Specific Community Issues

Respondents were also given eight specific community issues—issues that have been commonly cited in the past—and asked to rate how significant of an issue each is on a scale of one to five, where one means “not at all significant,” and five means “very significant.” Mean scores help compare one issue against another. Individual scores for each help understand the intensity of concern about particular problems.

In 2021, growth had the highest mean score, at 4.5. This was followed by housing (4.4), depression (3.5), mental health in general (3.4), drug abuse or misuse (3.2), suicide (2.9), jobs or the economy (2.7), and education (1.9).

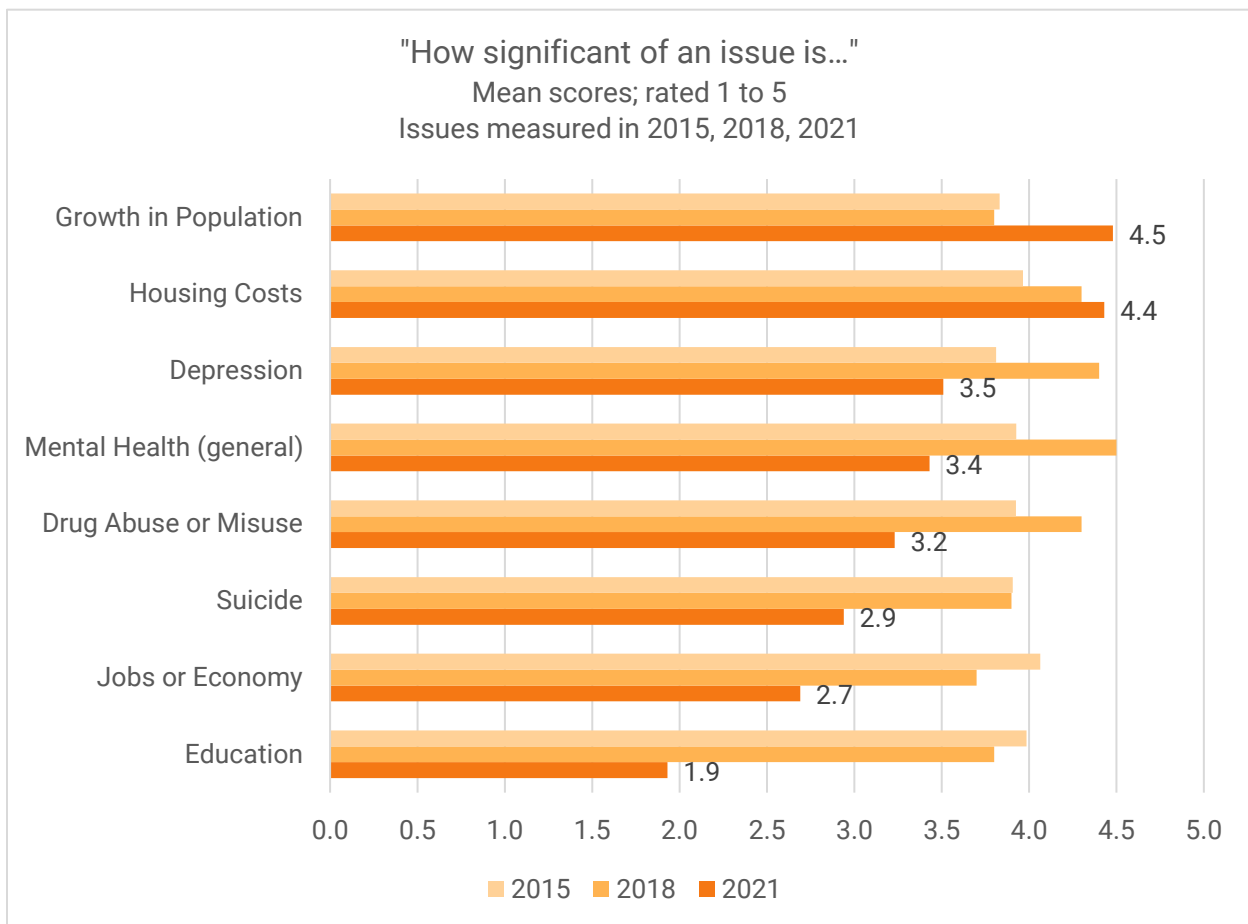


Figure 337: "How significant of an issue is..." Mean Scores, 2015, 2018, 2021

The swing of education from a mean of 4.0 in 2015 to a mean of 1.9 in 2021 is intriguing. The significant increases in scores for growth and housing costs are not unexpected.

Looking at the issues individually presents additional insight. In both 2015 and 2018, growth in population saw about 40 percent of respondents rate it a five out of five; in 2021, more than 63 percent gave it this rating.

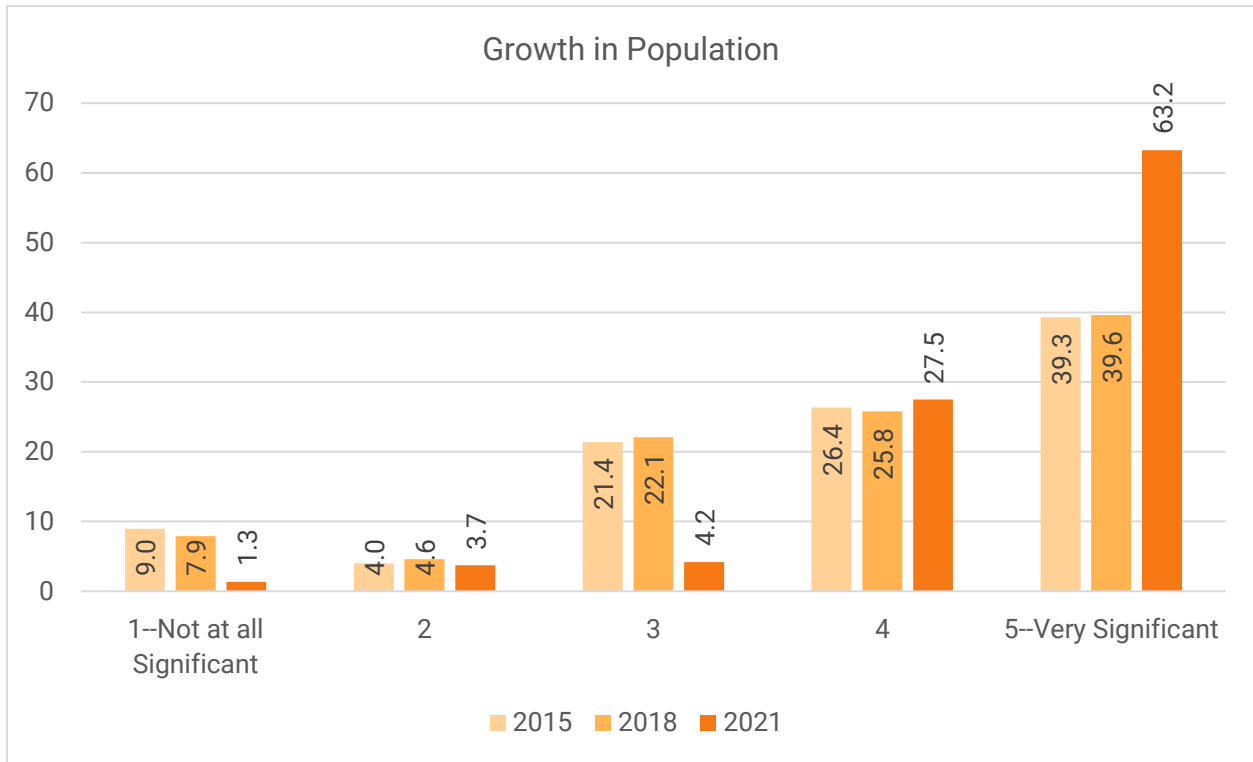


Figure 338: Growth in Population, 2015, 2018, 2021

Housing costs had similar, though not as dramatic changes. In 2015 and 2018, about 47 percent of respondents gave it a five; in 2021, this percentage jumped to 61.5 percent.

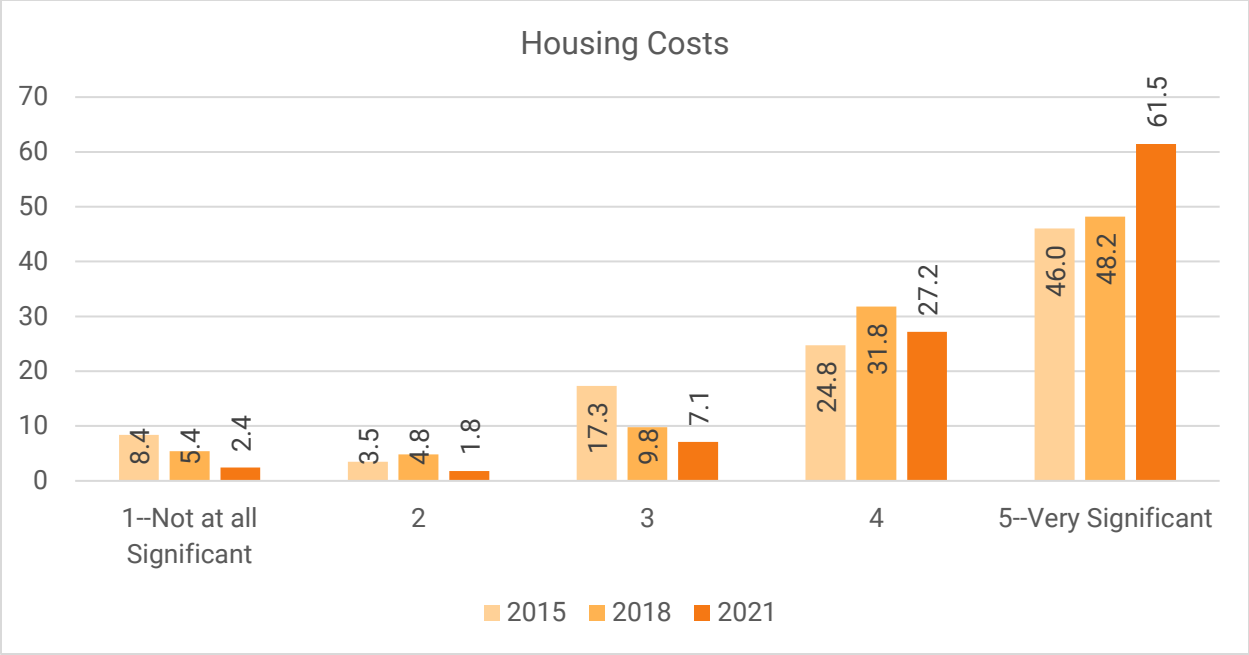
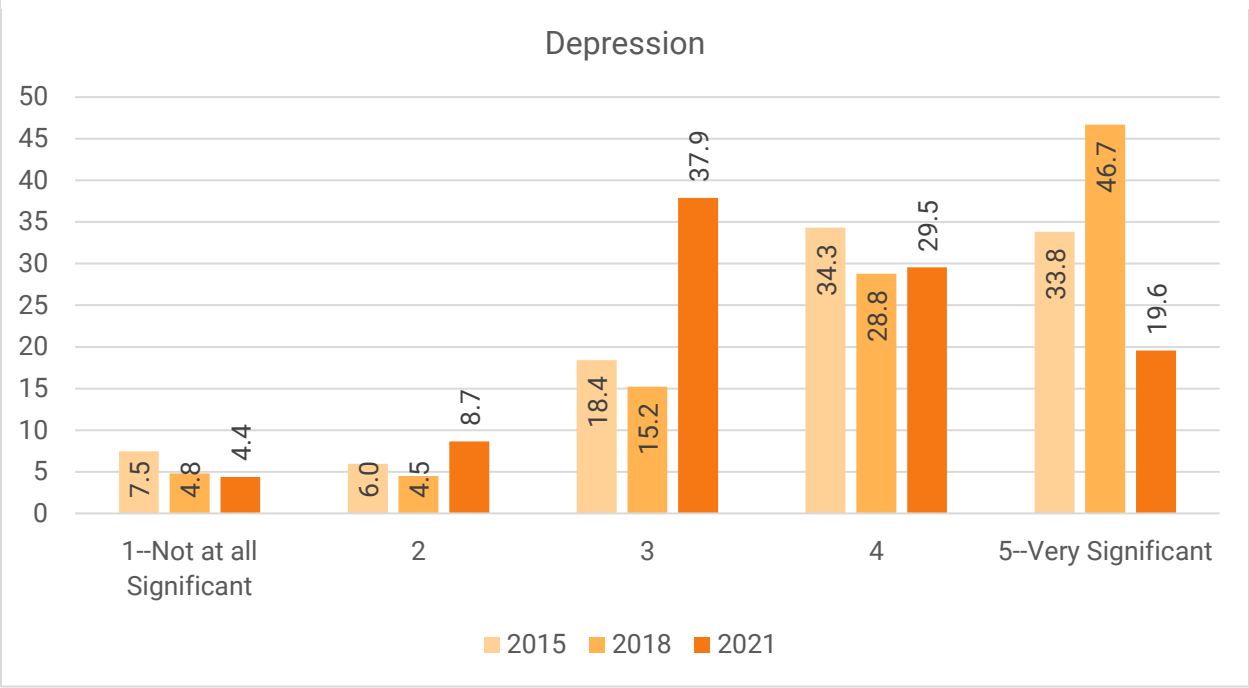


Figure 339: Housing Costs, 2015, 2018, 2021

Depression, which had 46.7 percent of respondents rate it a five in 2018, had only 19.6 percent of respondents rate it this high in 2021. Nearly 38 percent rated it a three.

Figure 340: Depression, 2015, 2018, 2021



Mental health saw a similar change in rating in 2021, with 20.4 percent rating it five.

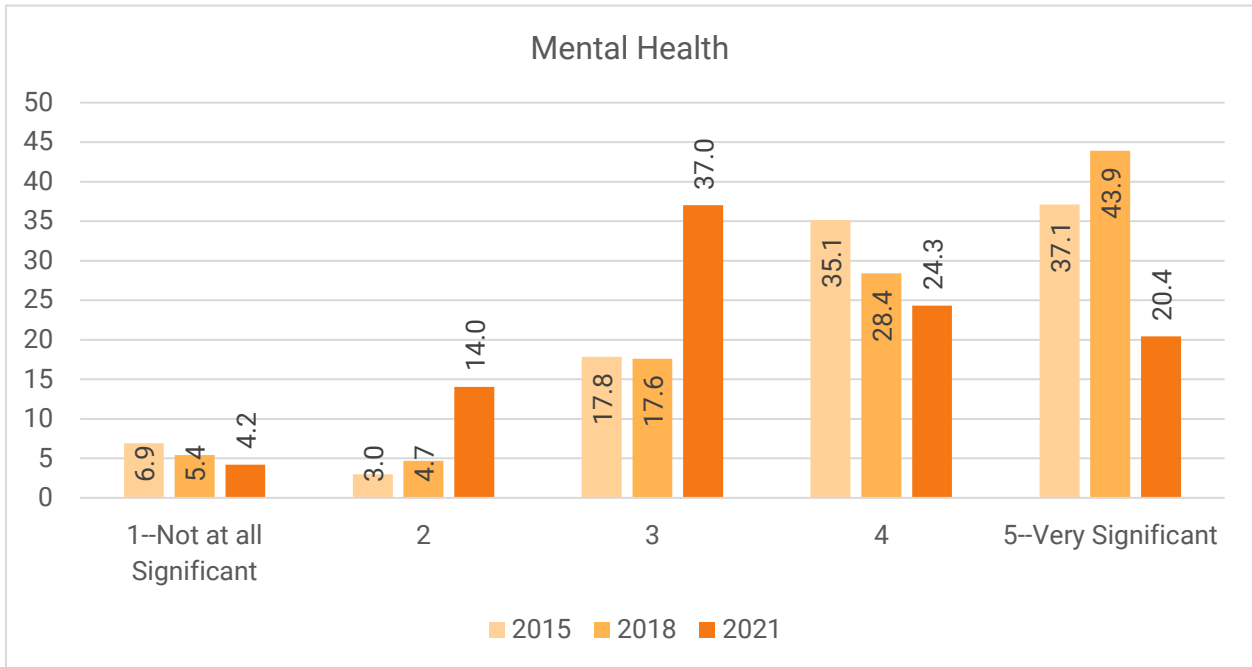


Figure 341: Mental Health, 2015, 2018, 2021

Drug abuse or misuse also is viewed as not as significant of an issue, with 51.4 percent giving it a three.

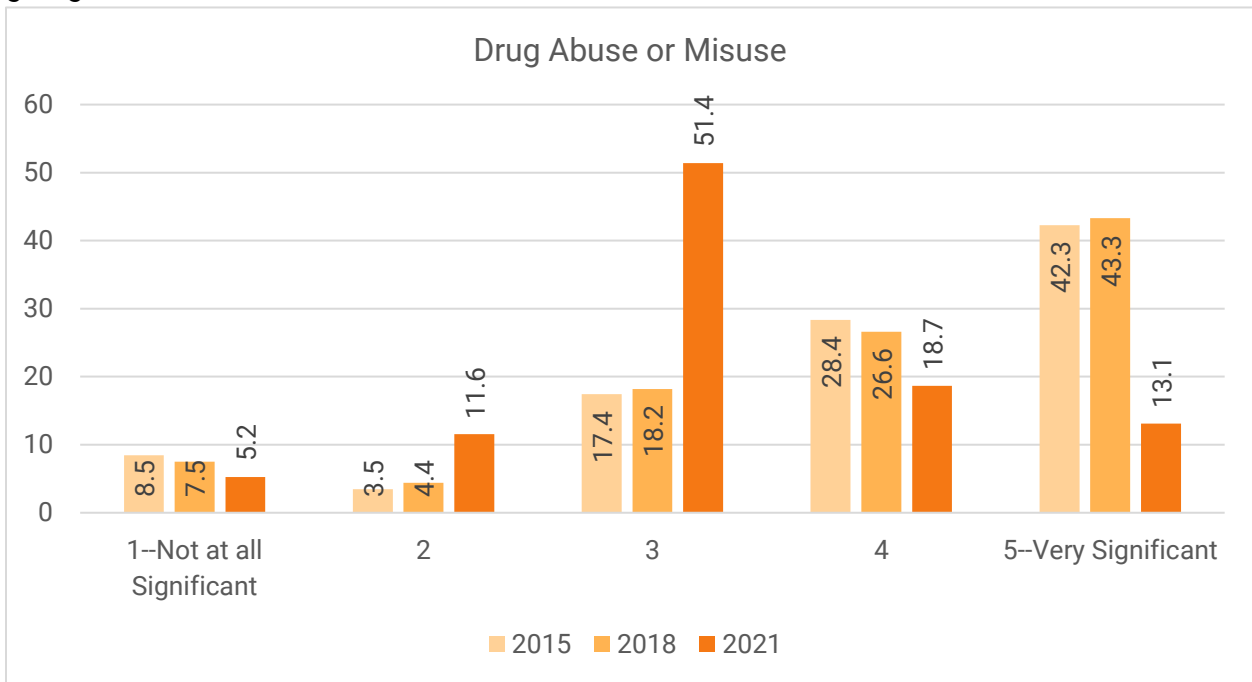


Figure 342: Drug Abuse or Misuse, 2015, 2018, 2021

The significance of suicide has also declined sharply in 2021.

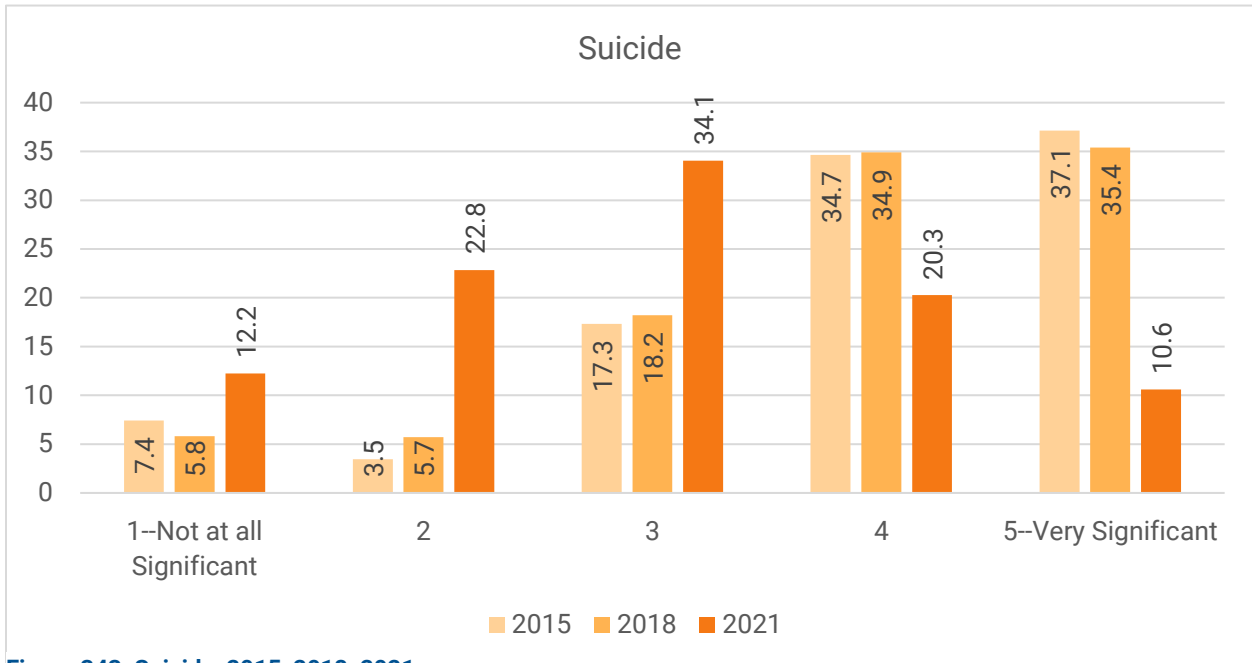


Figure 343: Suicide, 2015, 2018, 2021

Jobs or the economy, which elicited strong responses of significance in 2015, is rated a five by only 6.9 percent of respondents.

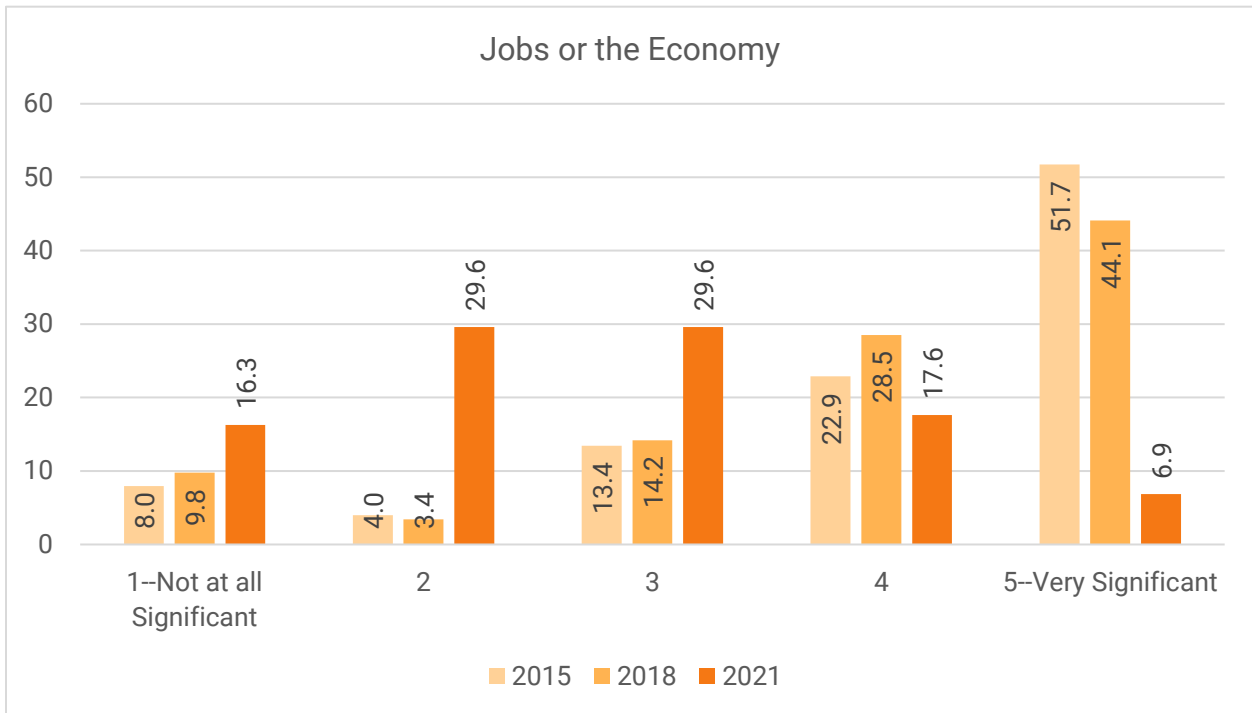
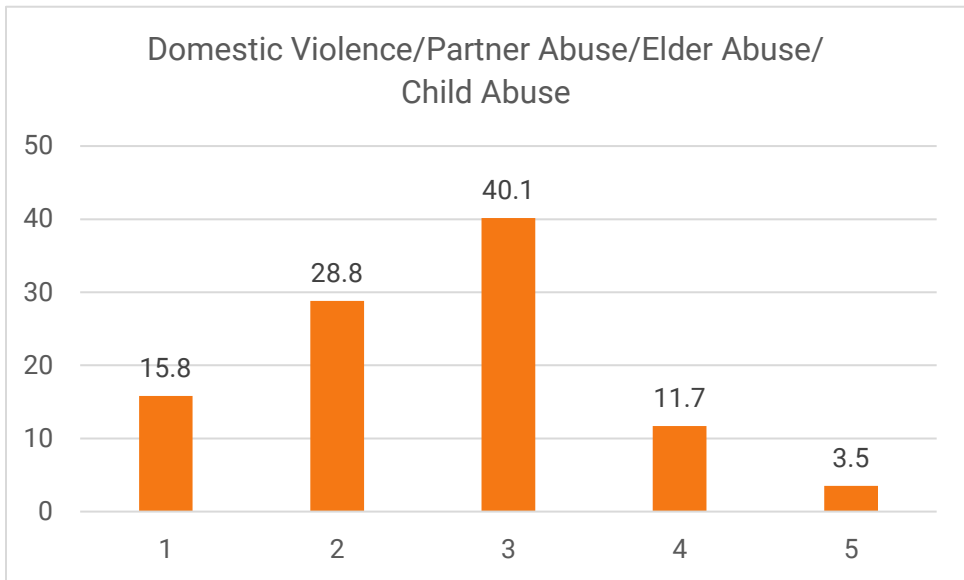


Figure 344: Jobs or the Economy, 2015, 2018, 2021

There were also eight additional possible community issues that were rated for the first time this year:

- Domestic violence/partner abuse/elder abuse/child abuse
- Food/hunger
- Poverty
- No sense of belonging in neighborhoods
- Racial equality or other race issues
- LGBTQ equality or other LGBTQ issues
- COVID-19
- Emerging from the pandemic



Domestic violence had a mean score of 2.6, with 41.8 percent of respondents rating it a 3 on our scale of one to five. Only 3.5 percent of respondents rated it a five.

Figure 345: Domestic Violence, Partner Abuse, Elder Abuse, Child Abuse, 2021



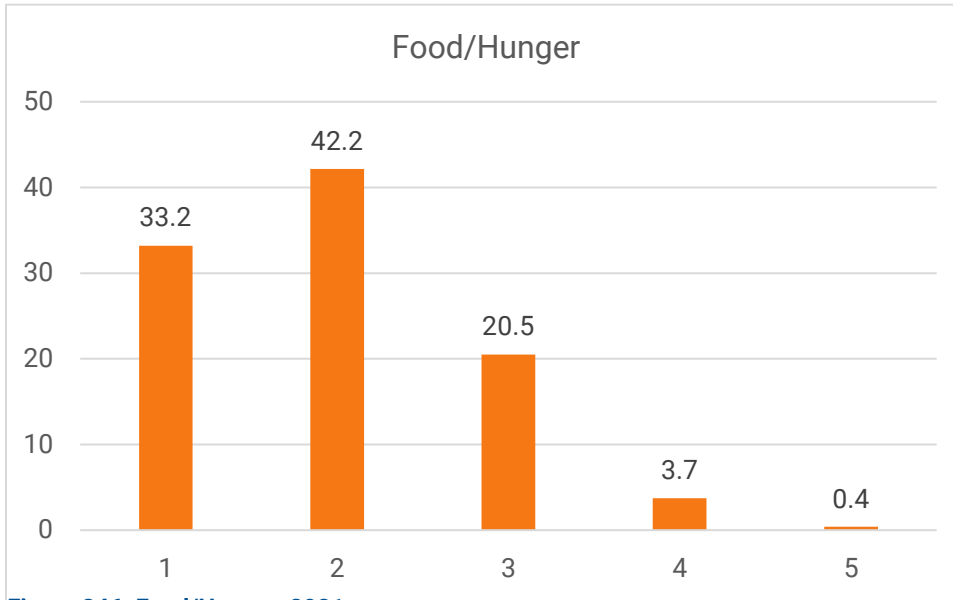


Figure 346: Food/Hunger, 2021

Food and hunger, as well as poverty, rate low as well. About three out of four respondents gave food and hunger a 1 or 2 on the five-point scale, and less than one-half of one percent gave it a 5.

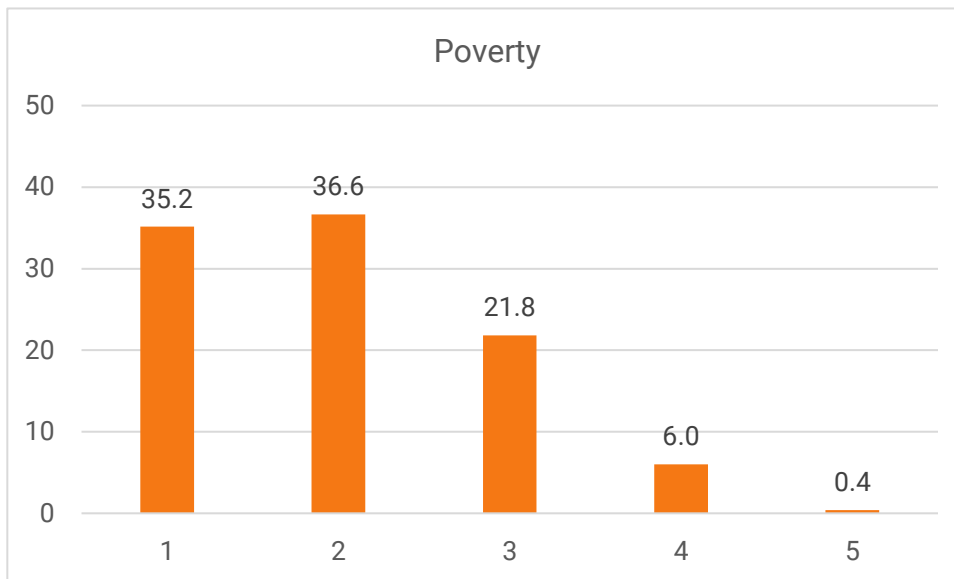
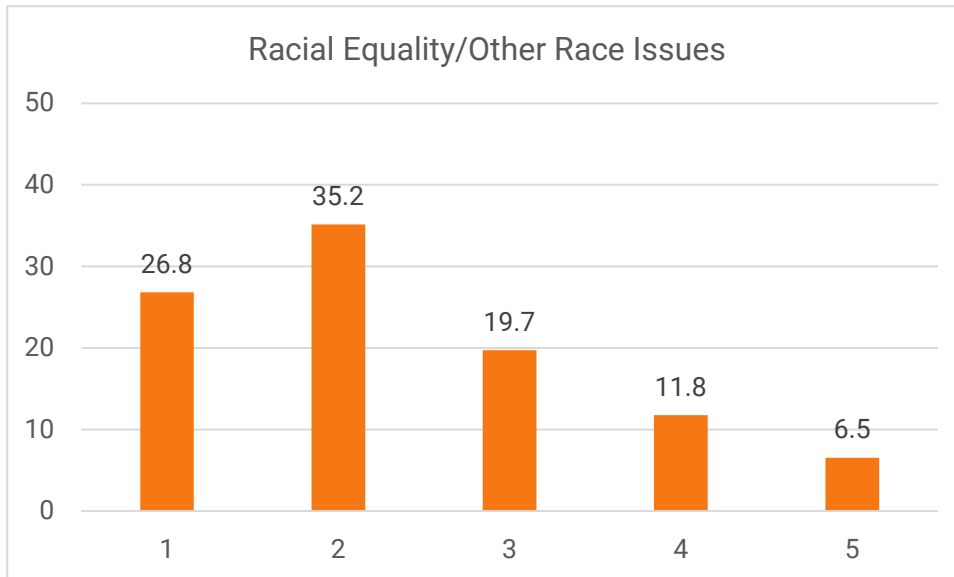


Figure 347: Poverty, 2021

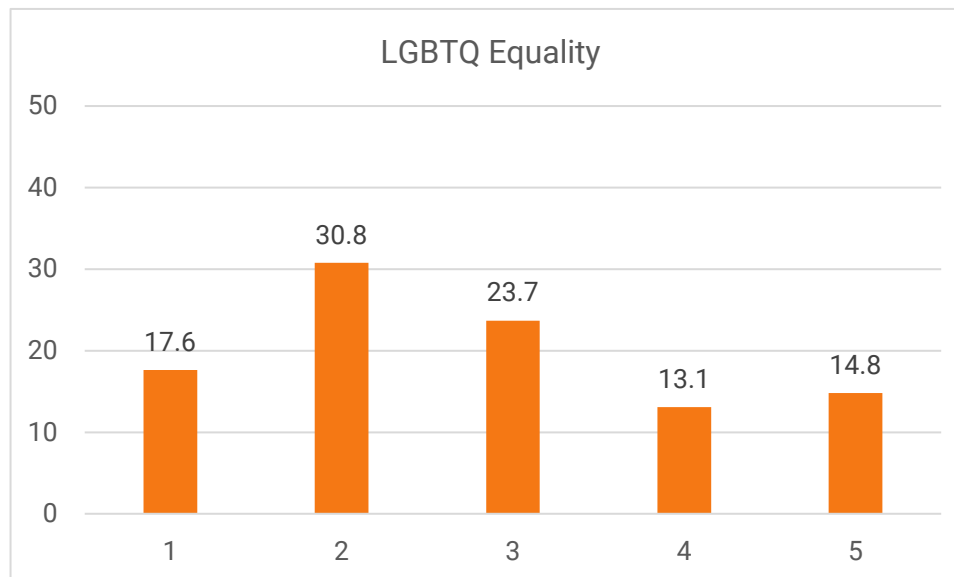
Poverty fares only slightly better, with 6.0 percent of respondents giving it a 4 and 21.8 percent rating it in the middle at 3. More than 70 percent give it only a 1 or 2.



**Figure 348: Racial Equality/Other Race Issues, 2021**

With much public discourse around race issues emerging in 2020 and 2021, we asked respondents whether racial equality or other race issues were significant issues in Utah County.

More than 18 percent of respondents rated these as a 4 or 5; more than 60 percent rated them at 1 or 2.



**Figure 349: LGBTQ Equality, 2021**

In a similar vein, we asked about LGBTQ equality. This issue had more significance than racial issues, with nearly 28 percent giving it a 4 or 5. Less than half of survey respondents—48.4 percent—rated it at the lowest levels of 1 or 2.

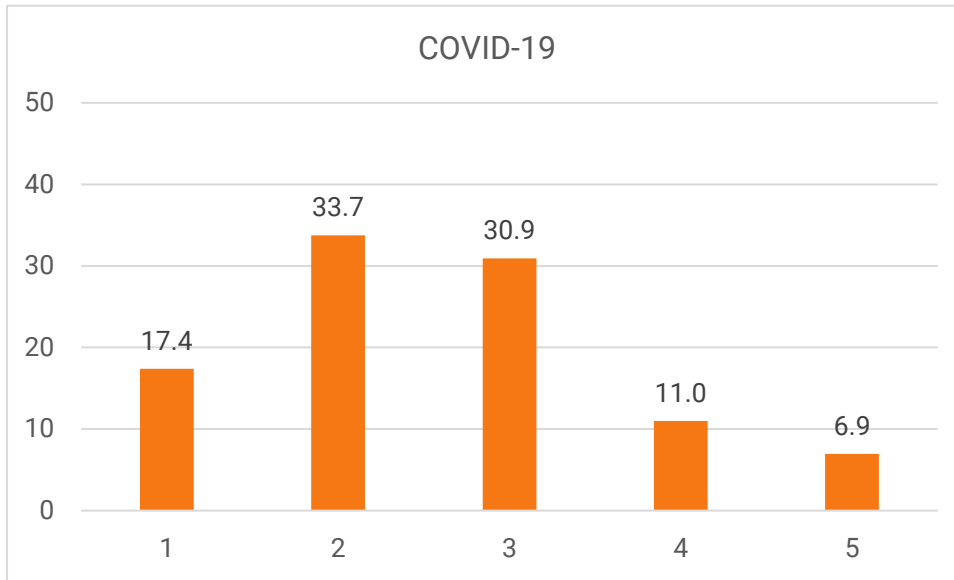


Figure 350: COVID-19, 2021

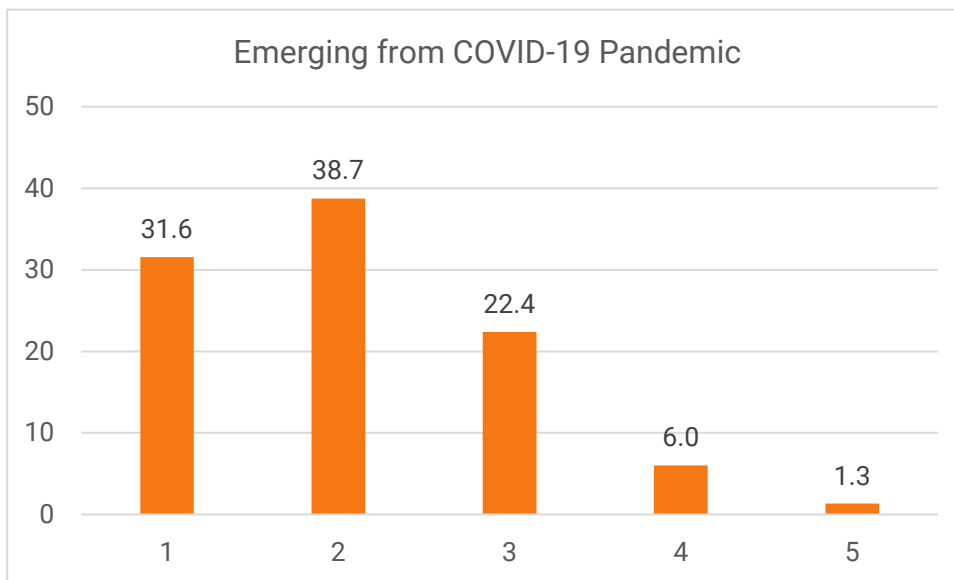


Figure 351: Emerging from COVID-19 Pandemic

Of course, COVID-19 was on our list of first-time community issues in 2021. By the time the survey was taken—May 2021—fewer than 18 percent of respondent believed

it was a significant issue and gave it a 4 or 5. About half—51.1 percent—rated it at 1 or 2.

Emerging from the COVID-19 pandemic was rated even lower. About seven out of 10 respondents gave this facet of COVID-19 a 1 or 2, while only 7.3 percent

gave it a 4 or 5. Only 1.3 percent gave it the highest rating possible.

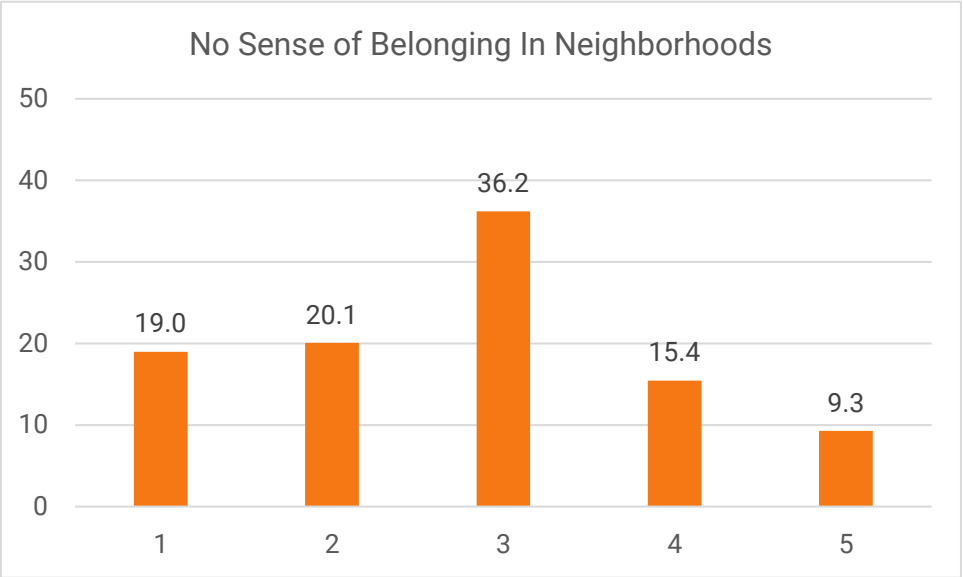
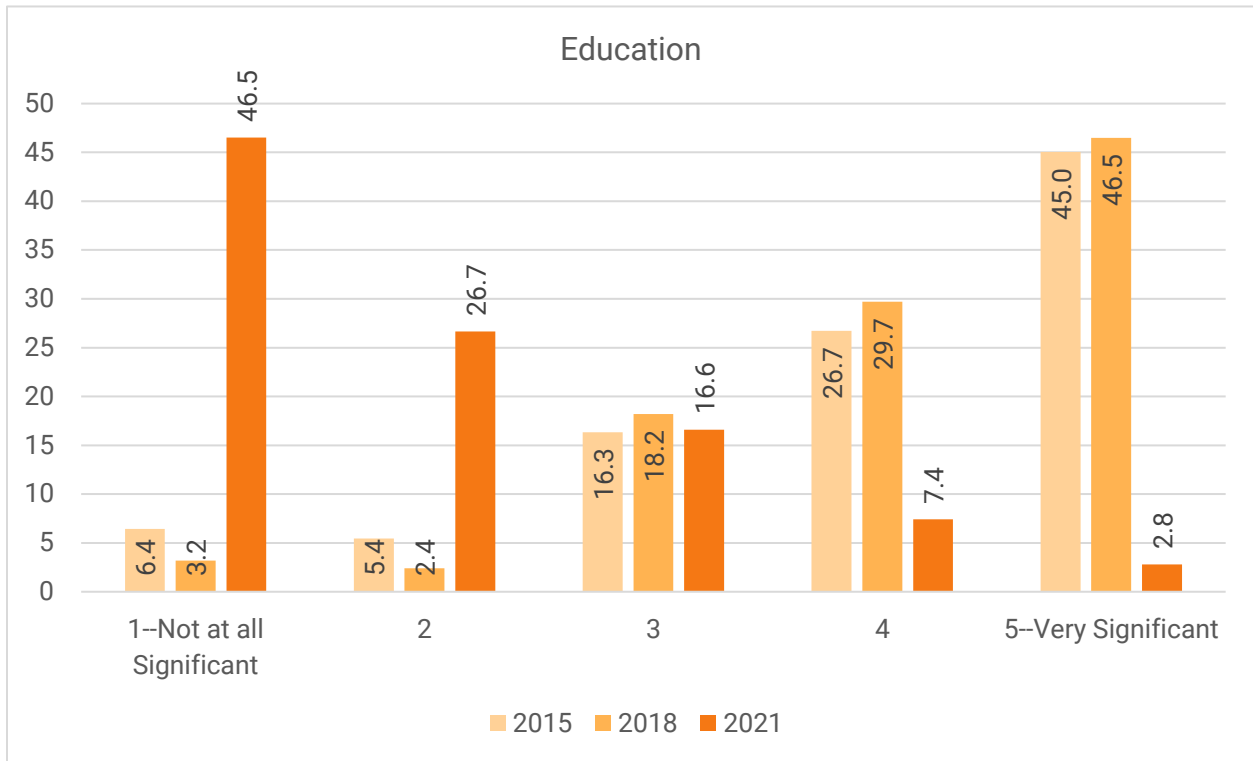


Figure 352: No Sense of Belonging in Neighborhoods, 2021

Because we included several items about neighborhood attachment later in the survey, we added “sense of belonging” to our list of issues for respondents to rate. Interestingly, about one in four

respondents gave “no sense of belonging in neighborhoods” a 4 or 5, while about 40 percent gave it a 1 or 2. Slightly more than 36 percent gave it a moderate score of 3. This report analyzes neighborhood attachment later.

Education, which has been among the highest rated in 2015 and 2018, saw a significant swing in passionate feelings in 2021: 46.5 percent of respondents said it is “not at all significant.”



**Figure 353: Education, 2015, 2018, 2021**

Certainly the pandemic must have some impact on the May 2021 rating of community issues—particularly regarding education. As one insightful research report points out,

Make no mistake, people do not believe the pandemic caused the challenges they’re now wrestling with; rather, it laid them bare and often exacerbated them. Here’s how a Stamford, Connecticut, man explained this: “This pandemic has put the system under a microscope. We’re able to see all the cracks that are within this faulty machine.”<sup>356</sup>

The report suggests that perhaps more individuals are seeing systems and institutions in different lights than they once did—that these institutions are being more scrutinized, partially due to the pandemic, and that citizens are not gathering and connecting in person as they have in the past. This isolation can aggravate a sense of chaos and disorder—which can lead to additional questioning of once-stable influences and institutions in communities and society. One Utah County woman who participated in the study expressed that there’s a feeling of helplessness in local communities because so many areas of daily life cannot be controlled—

<sup>356</sup> Harwood, Richard C. (2022). *Civic Virus: Why Polarization is Misdiagnosis*. The Harwood Institute for Public Innovation, Bethesda, Maryland, p. 13.

wages, housing markets, and job markets, for example.<sup>357</sup> Perhaps the swing in public perception of institutions in general is at the core of the change in this survey's data regarding education.

### **2.5.3.1 Education Ratings Examined**

Because the swing in rating for education as a community issue was so large, additional analysis was conducted. Tests of association indicated correlations between rating of education and respondent age group, sex, housing dwelling type, marital status, race, Hispanic ethnicity, household income, region of residence, tenure in Utah County, own versus rent, and life satisfaction.

#### **2.5.3.1.1 Education and Age Group**

Older respondents appear to be more likely to be concerned about education, with 44.4 percent of those age 75 or older rating it 5 and 44.7 percent rating it 4. Just over 47 percent of 65- to 74-year-olds rated it 4, while 47.2 percent of 18- to 24-year-olds gave it a 1. Chi square analysis showed association between age group and ratings of education. A Kruskal-Wallis H test was run to determine if there were differences in education scores between the seven groups of respondents. Distributions of education scores were not similar for all groups, as assessed by visual inspection of a boxplot. The mean ranks of education scores were statistically significantly different between groups,  $\chi^2(6) = 118.497, p = .000$ .

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<sup>357</sup> Ibid.

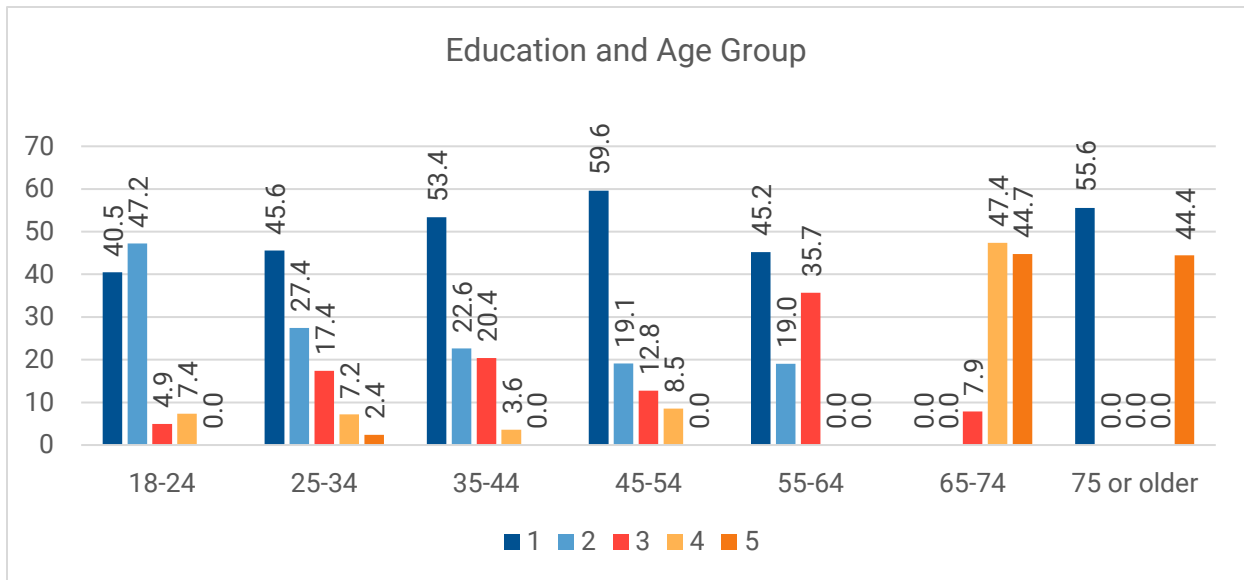


Figure 354: Education and Age Group

### 2.5.3.1.2 Education and Sex

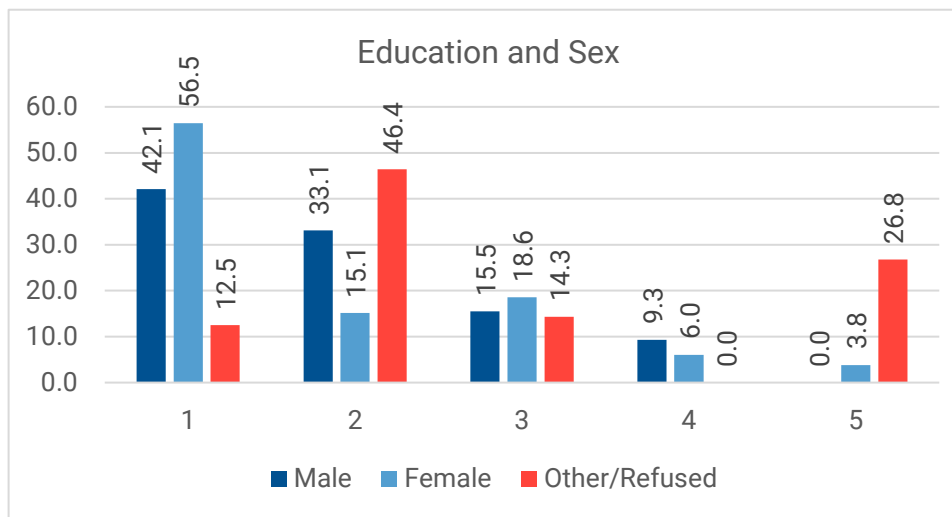


Figure 355: Education and Sex

More than 56 percent of women rated education a 1 on the five-point scale, while 42.1 percent of men gave it the same score. 46.4 percent of those who refused to disclose their sex or indicated they are

neither male nor female rated it a 2. The differences between the groups were significant on a chi square test, with  $p \leq .000$ . To conduct further analysis, a Kruskal-Wallis H test was run to determine if there were differences in education scores between the three groups of respondents. Distributions of education scores were not similar for all groups, as assessed by

visual inspection of a boxplot. The mean ranks of education scores were statistically significantly different between groups,  $\chi^2(2) = 37.605, p = .000$ .

### 2.5.3.1.3 Education and Housing Dwelling Type

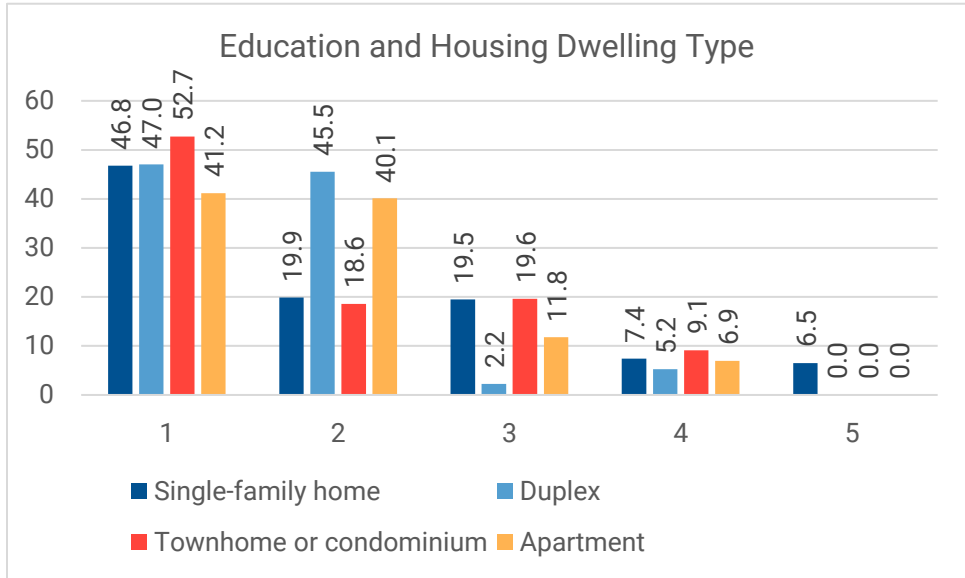


Figure 356: Education and Housing Dwelling Type

Living in various types of housing does have an impact on one's ratings of education. For example, only those living in apartments gave education a 5 on our five-point scale. A chi square analysis indicated

differences in the four types of housing dwellings—single-family home, duplex, townhome or condominium, and apartment—and so a Kruskal-Wallis H test was run. Results indicated that distributions of education scores were not similar for all groups, as assessed by visual inspection of a boxplot. The mean ranks of education scores were statistically significantly different between groups,  $\chi^2(3) = 9.373, p = .025$ .



### 2.5.3.1.4 Education and Marital Status

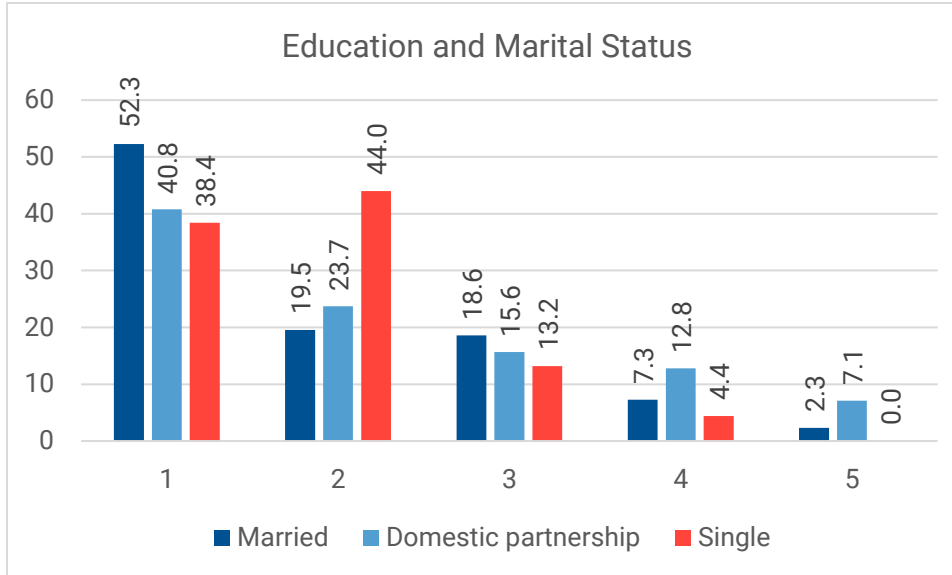


Figure 357: Education and Marital Status

Marital status does play a role in how respondents rated education. No single persons gave it a 5, and only 4.4 percent gave it a 4. More than 52 percent of married respondents rated it a 1. A chi square test indicated

association between education and marital status, with  $p \leq .000$ . A Kruskal-Wallis H test was run to determine if there were differences in education scores between the three groups of respondents with different marital status (married, living with a domestic partner, and single). Distributions of education scores were not similar for all groups, as assessed by visual inspection of a boxplot. The mean ranks of education scores were statistically significantly different between groups,  $\chi^2(2) = 24.902, p = .000$ .

### 2.5.3.1.5 Education and Race

Race also plays a role in the way respondents rated education as a community issue. Every respondent who identifies as Asian rated education 1; every black or African American respondent rated it 2. Slightly more than half of white respondents gave it a 1, and another 24.4 percent gave it a 2. Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islanders rated it 1 or 2. Both chi square and Kruskal-Wallis tests indicate statistically significantly different responses between groups, with  $\chi^2(6) = 47.902, p = .000$ .

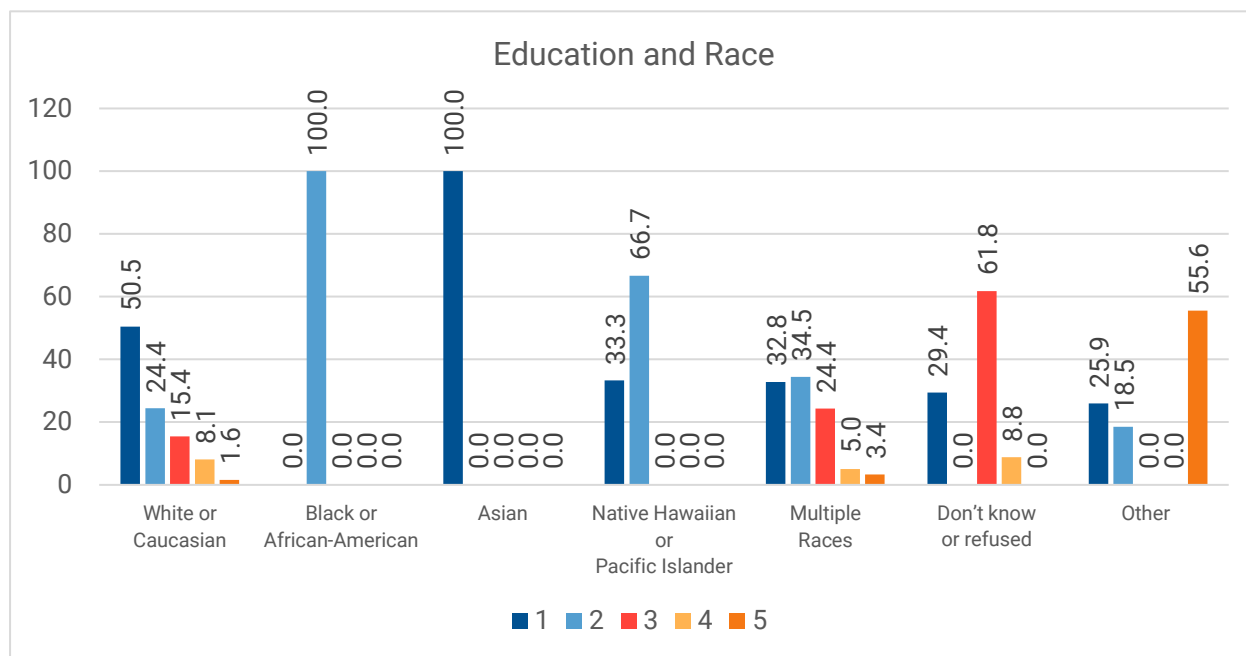


Figure 358: Education and Race

### 2.5.3.1.6 Education and Hispanic Ethnicity

More than 68 percent of respondents of Hispanic ethnicity rated education 1 on the five-

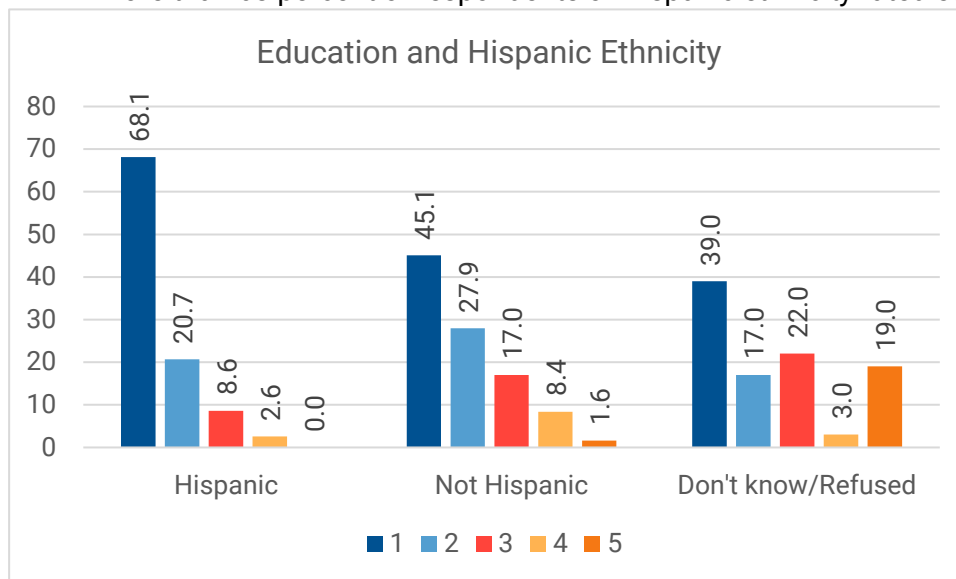


Figure 359: Education and Hispanic Ethnicity

point scale, while 45.1 percent of non-Hispanic individuals gave it the same score; 39 percent of those who do not know or refused to indicate their Hispanic

ethnicity also

scored it a 1. The

differences between the groups were significant on a chi square test, with  $p \leq .000$ . To conduct further analysis, a Kruskal-Wallis H test was run to determine if there were differences in education scores between the three groups of respondents with different Hispanic ethnicity identity. Distributions of education scores were not similar for all groups, as assessed by visual inspection of a boxplot. The mean ranks of education scores were statistically significantly different between groups,  $\chi^2(2) = 34.815, p = .000$ .

### 2.5.3.1.7 Education and Household Income

Household income is associated with ratings of education. Higher income households appear to rate education lower; none of the respondents with households incomes between \$250,000 and \$500,000 gave it a 4 or 5. More than 60 percent of households with incomes between \$15,000 and \$25,000 rated it 2. Chi square and Kruskal-Wallis H tests indicate statistically significant differences, with H test results being  $\chi^2(8) = 97.313, p = .000$ .

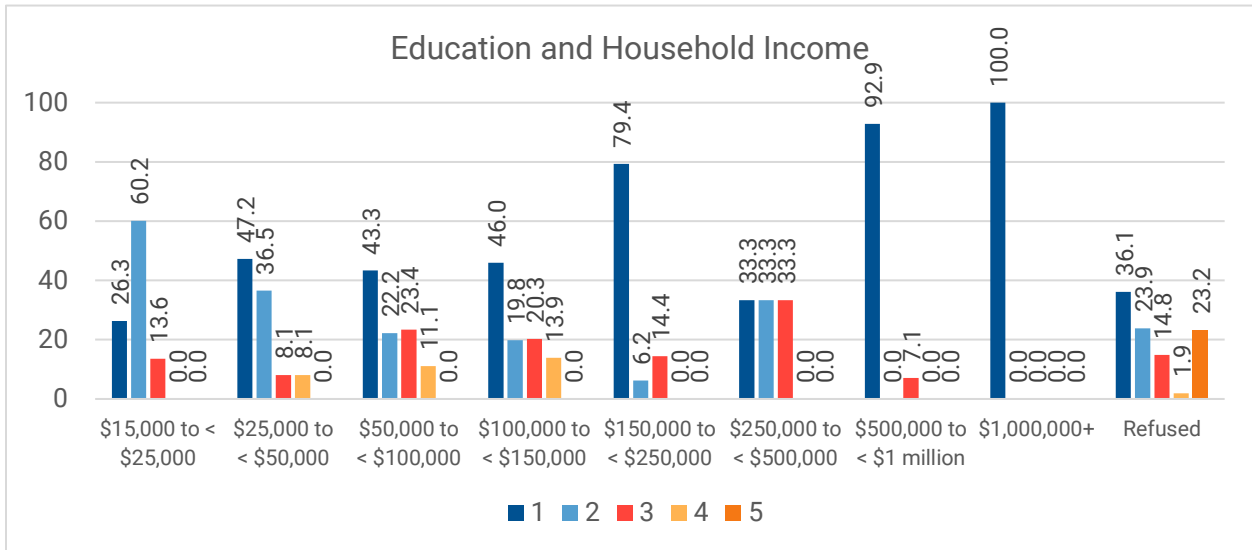


Figure 360: Education and Household Income

### 2.5.3.1.8 Education and Region of Residence

More than half of the respondents in Orem (56.6 percent) rated education at 1 in our survey, while 37.8 percent in Saratoga Springs and Eagle Mountain gave it the same rating. About 38 percent of Provo residents rated it this low. Chi square and Kruskal-Wallis H tests confirmed a statistically significant difference in ratings based on location of residence, with H test results being  $\chi^2(5) = 38.182, p = .000$ .

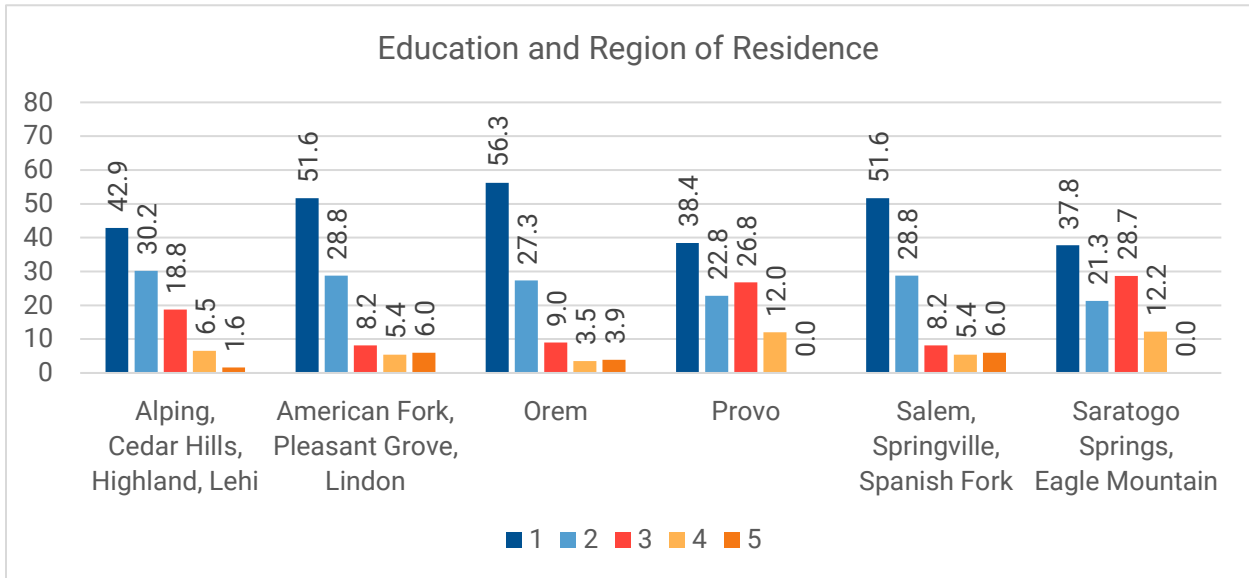
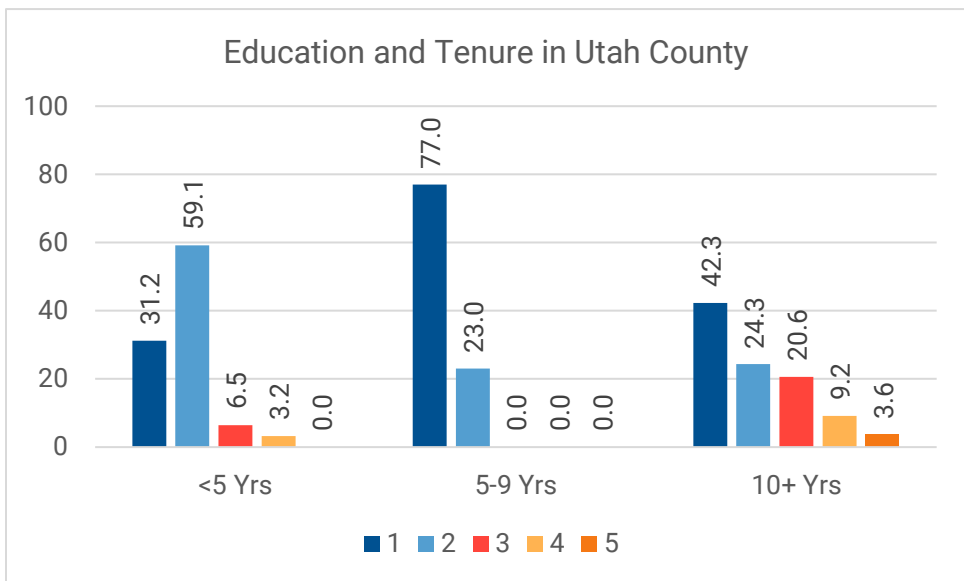


Figure 361: Education and Region of Residence

### 2.5.3.1.9 Education and Tenure in Utah County

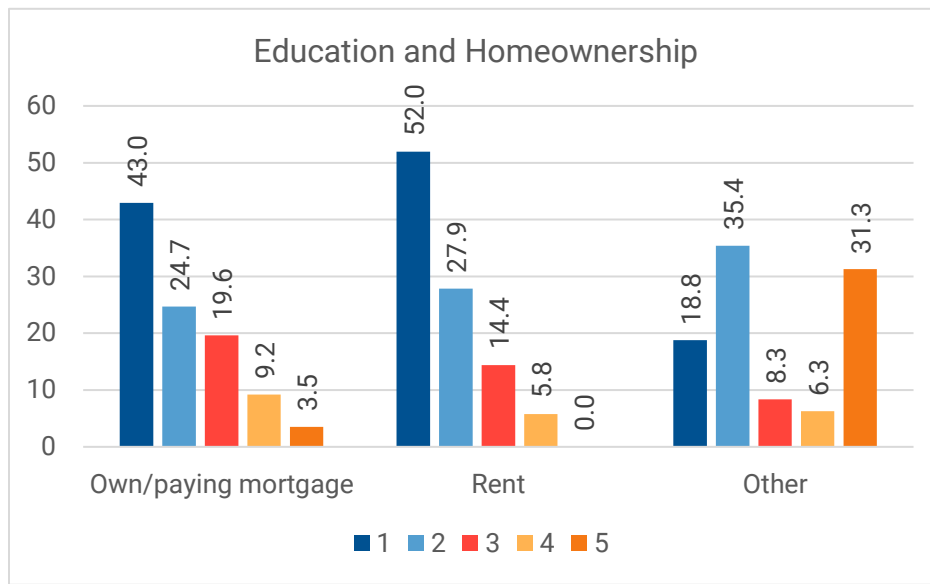


Those who have lived in Utah County the longest tend to see education as a more significant issue than those who have lived here for a shorter time period. Just over 31 percent of those

Figure 362: Education and Tenure in Utah County

who've lived in Utah County for less than five years rated education a 1, and 59.1 percent rated it a 2. Among those who have lived in the county for 10 or more years, about 13 percent rated it a 4 or 5. And about three-fourths of those who have lived in Utah County between five and 10 years rated it a 1. Statistical tests indicate these differences are significant, with the Kruskal-Wallis H test showing  $\chi^2(2) = 101.312, p = .000$ .

### 2.5.3.1.10 Education and Homeownership



Just over half of renters in Utah County rated education a 1 on the scale of one to five, while 43 percent of homeowners rated it this low. About 31 percent who neither own nor rent their home—such as those living with grandparents or

Figure 363: Education and Homeownership

friends—rated education 5. Statistical tests indicate these differences are significant, with the Kruskal-Wallis H test showing  $\chi^2(2) = 45.072, p = .000$ .

### 2.5.3.1.11 Education and Life Satisfaction

Life satisfaction is also correlated with respondents' views of education. Of those who said they were highest on the scale (one to 10) in life satisfaction, 23.4 percent also rated education a 5. Those who are most dissatisfied with their lives currently are among those who rate education low as a community issue. A chi square test indicated statistically significant association between rating of education and life satisfaction, with  $p \leq .000$ . A Kruskal-Wallis H test was run to determine if there were differences in education scores between the eight groups of respondents with different ratings for overall life satisfaction. Distributions of education scores were not similar for all groups, as assessed by visual inspection of a boxplot.

The mean ranks of education scores were statistically significantly different between groups,  $\chi^2(7) = 46.697, p = .000$ .

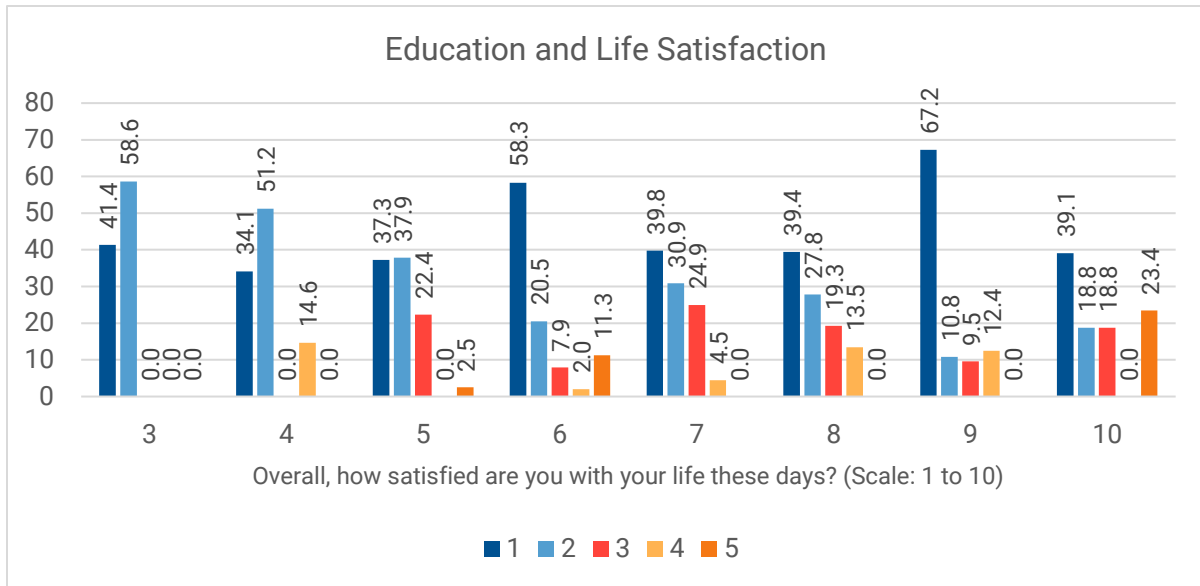


Figure 364: Education and Life Satisfaction

## **2.5.4 Neighborhood Attachment**

### **2.5.4.1 About Neighborhood Attachment and Why It Matters**

Neighborhood attachment is the emotional connection of individuals to their physical and social environments. Bonds created through neighborhood attachment are critical for emotional and physical wellbeing. Studies have shown that strong neighborhood attachment is associated with decreased crime, improved health outcomes, increased income, and improved life satisfaction.<sup>358</sup> For youth, relationships with neighborhood and other caring adults brings about improved emotional intelligence, increased sense of responsibility, improved academics, decreased incidents of risky sexual behavior, and more frequent pro-social behavior.<sup>359</sup>

### **2.5.4.2 Status of Neighborhood Attachment in Utah County**

This year's community assessment marks the first time that neighborhood attachment in Utah County has been measured among a large population. Using survey items that have been demonstrated to be both reliable and valid—as well as two additional items of our own—we asked all 1,295 telephone survey respondents about their attachment to their own neighborhoods. As this is a baseline study, we have no comparative data to further analyze the data; perhaps additional studies will help track the strength of neighborhood attachment in Utah County.

In addition to our primary data, we have the benefit of the state's SHARP study, which includes items that measure adolescent neighborhood attachment. This data is also included in this assessment.

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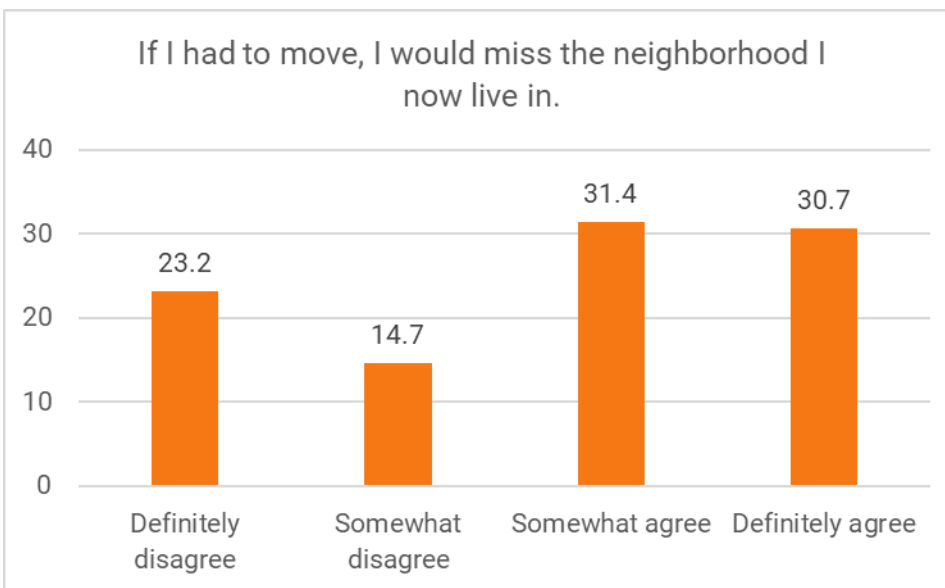
<sup>358</sup> Comstock, N., et. al. Neighborhood Attachment and Its Correlates: Exploring Neighborhood Conditions, Collective Efficacy, and Gardening, *Journal of Environmental Psychology*, 30(4):435-442, December 2010.  
Shaker, L. Community Attachment, *Oxford Bibliographies*, May 2019  
D. Mark Austin & Yoko Baba (1990) Social determinants of neighborhood attachment, *Sociological Spectrum*, 10:1, 59-78, DOI: 10.1080/02732173.1990.9981912

<sup>359</sup> Scales, P. C., Benson, P. L., & Roehlkepartain, E. C. (2011). Adolescent thriving: The role of sparks, relationships, and empowerment. *Journal of Youth and Adolescence*, 40, 263-277. doi: 10.1007/s10964-010-9578-6  
Hurd, N. M., (2010). Influences of Nonparental Adults on the Psychosocial Outcomes of At-Risk African American Adolescents, Doctoral Dissertation, University of Michigan.



Most of the survey items that measured neighborhood attachment use a four-point Likert scale. Respondents were asked if they agree or disagree with various statements, and then whether they definitely agree or definitely disagree. In measuring neighborhood attachment, the distinction between “definitely agree” and “somewhat agree” (or disagree) is a critical one. Think of how a parent would respond to the statement, “I love my child.” A parent who says she “somewhat agrees” is clearly at a different place in her relationship with her child than the parent who responds she “definitely agrees.” So it is with our measures of neighborhood attachment. Although “somewhat agree” is better than disagreeing (or vice versa, as the case may be), the more meaningful data is found in the extremes.

Respondents were asked the degree to which they agree or disagree with the statement,



“If I had to move, I would miss the neighborhood I now live in.” Nearly 31 percent definitely agreed, and 23.2 percent definitely disagreed.

Figure 365: “If I had to move, I would miss the neighborhood I now live in.”

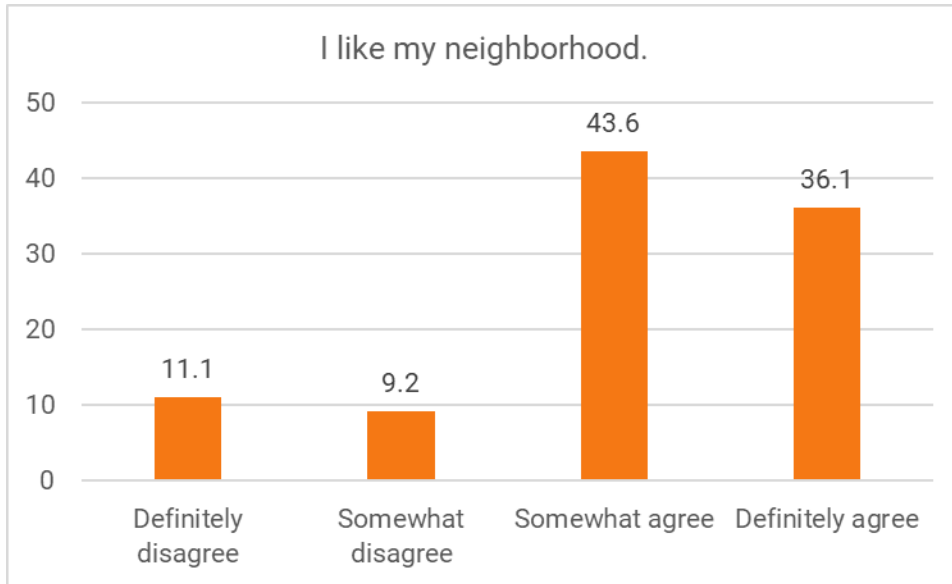


Figure 366: "I like my neighborhood."

About 36 percent definitely agreed with the statement, "I like my neighborhood"; 43.6 percent somewhat agree. Such irresolute response by a plurality of interviewees is revealing.

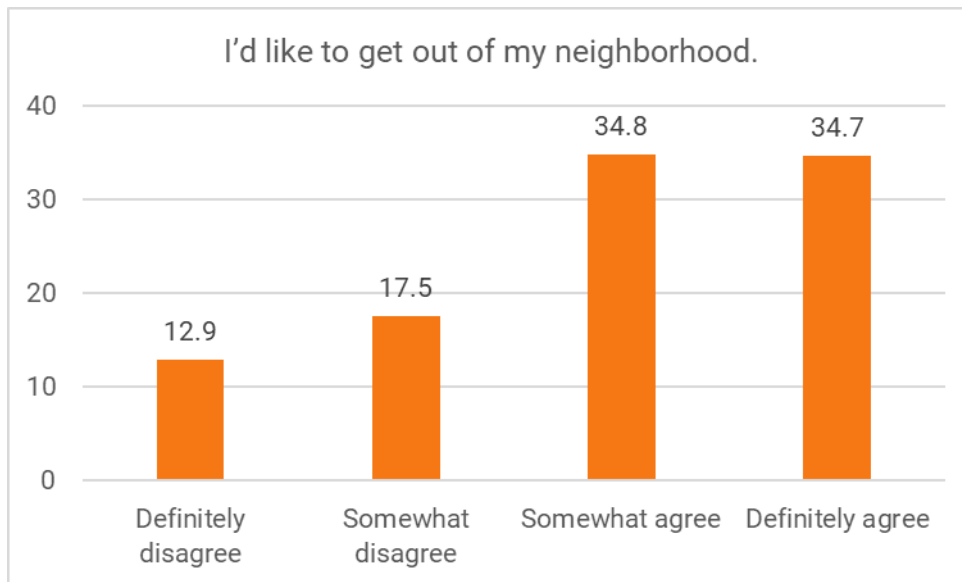
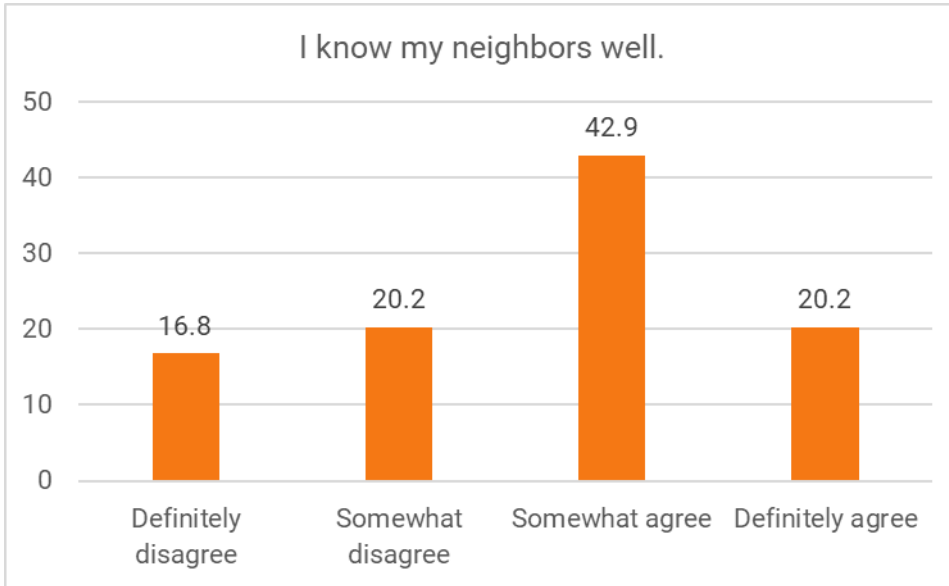


Figure 367: "I'd like to get out of my neighborhood."

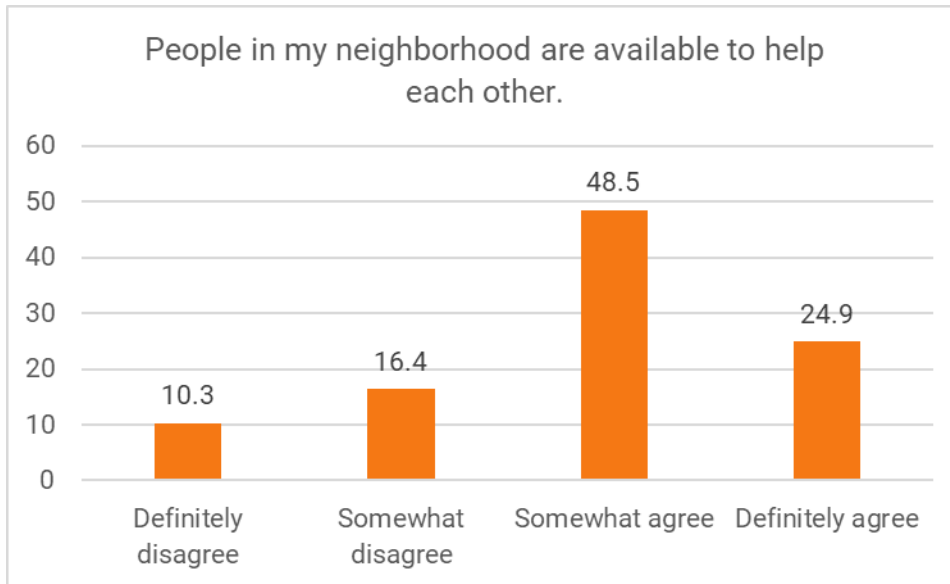
These weak endorsements of one's own neighborhood are echoed by the responses to "I'd like to get out of my neighborhood." Nearly 35 percent of survey participants

definitely agreed with this statement.



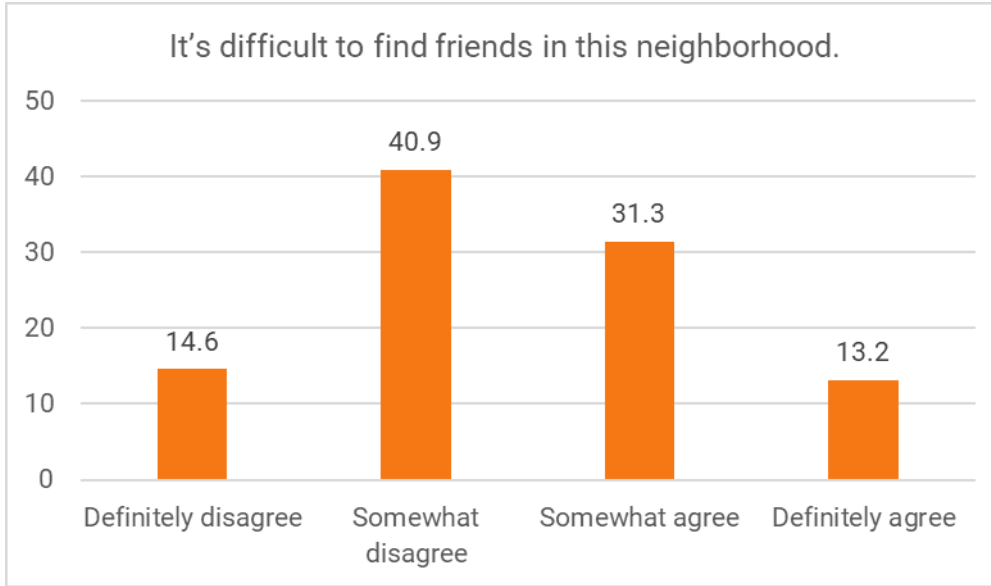
About one out of five respondents definitely agree that they know their neighbors well.

Figure 368: "I know my neighbors well."



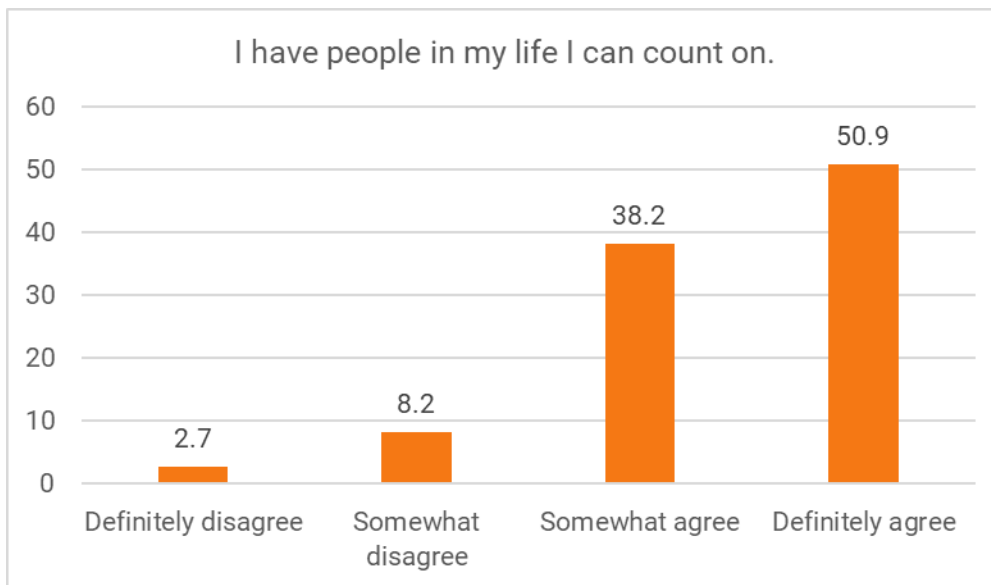
One out of four respondents definitely agree that people in their neighborhood are available to help each other.

Figure 369: "People in my neighborhood are available to help each other."



Only 14.6 percent definitely disagree that “it’s difficult to find friends in this neighborhood.”

**Figure 370: "It's difficult to find friends in this neighborhood."**



To introduce the next set of questions, we asked respondents whether they agree with the statement, “I have people in my life I can count on.” Nearly nine out of ten

**Figure 371: "I have people in my life I can count on."**

respondents definitely agreed or somewhat agreed with this statement. About 8 percent somewhat disagreed, and 2.7 percent definitely disagreed.

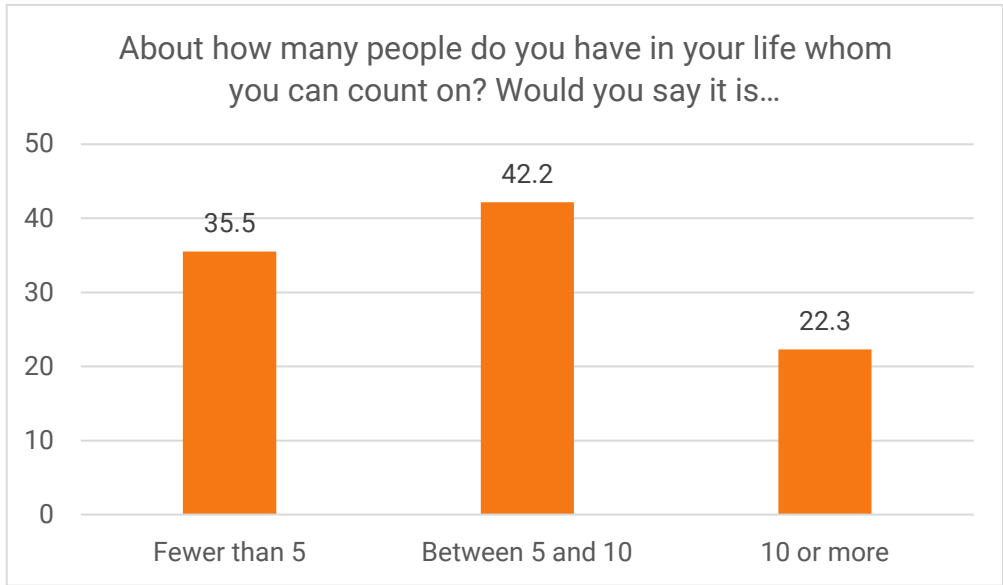


Figure 372: "About how many people do you have in your life whom you can count on?"

Just over 22 percent of respondents indicated they have 10 or more people in their lives they can count on; 42.2 percent said they have between five and 10. About

35 percent indicated they have fewer than five.

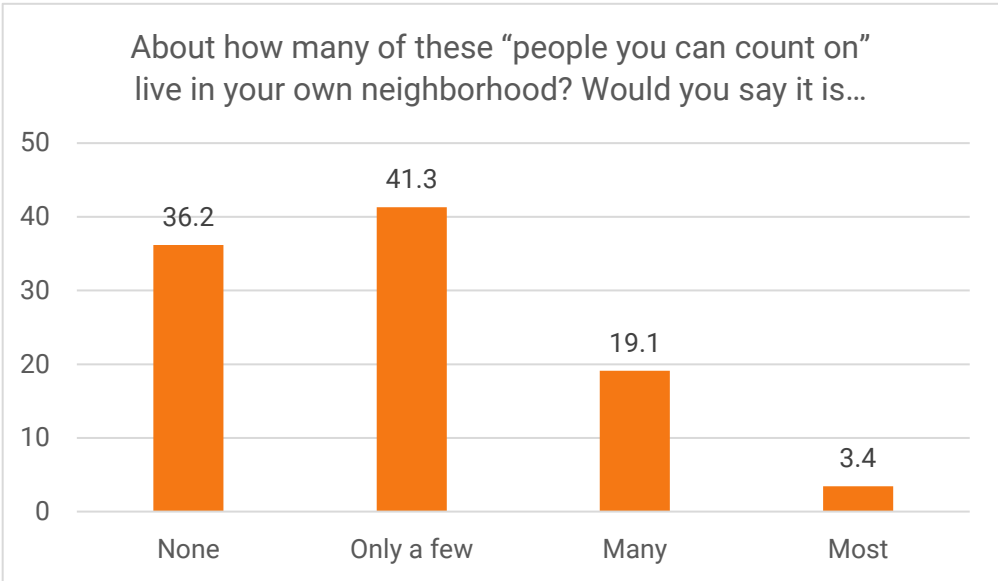


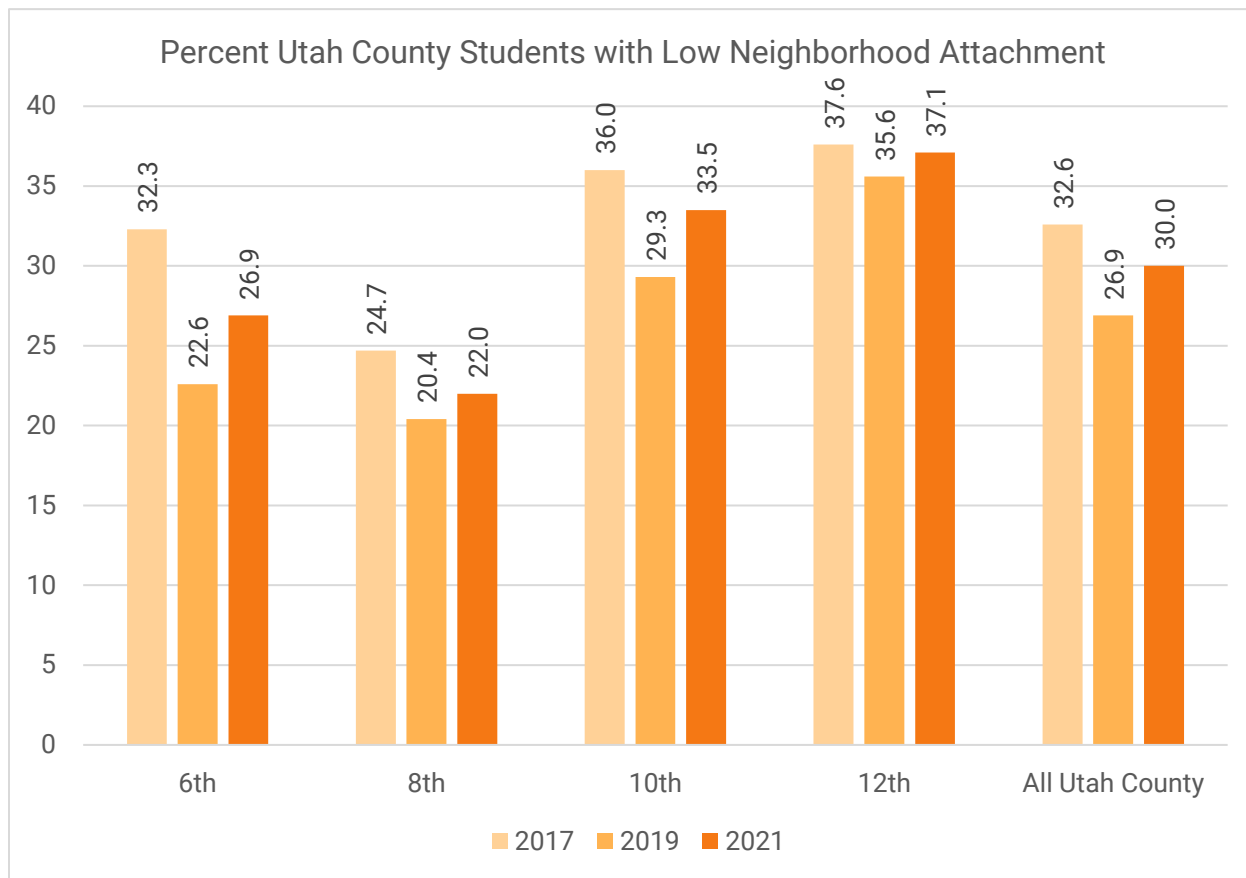
Figure 373: "About how many of these 'people you can count on' live in your own neighborhood?"

Approximately 36 percent of respondents said none of the people they count on live in their own neighborhood; another 41.3 percent said only a few do. About 19 percent

indicated that many of the people they count on live in their own neighborhood; only 3.4 percent said most do.

### 2.5.4.2.1 Youth and Neighborhood Attachment

The Student Health and Risk Prevention (SHARP) study conducted every two years measures neighborhood attachment among adolescents. In Utah County, 30 percent of those surveyed indicate a low level of neighborhood attachment, as measured by multiple items in the survey. Slightly more than 37 percent of 12<sup>th</sup> graders have low attachment, compared to 33.5 percent of 10<sup>th</sup> graders, 22 percent of 8<sup>th</sup> graders, and 26.9 percent of 6<sup>th</sup> graders.



**Figure 374: Percent Utah County Students with Low Neighborhood Attachment**

Generally, these numbers are higher than the 2019 results, but lower than the 2017 results. The possible effects of the pandemic on adolescent neighborhood attachment is an open one.

### 2.5.5 Happiness and Life Satisfaction

In this year’s community assessment telephone survey, we measured general happiness and life satisfaction by utilizing two items from the World Values Survey.<sup>360</sup> Doing so provides an opportunity to compare Utah County residents to the country as a whole.

First, we asked, “All things considered, how satisfied are you with your life as a whole these days? 1 means you are ‘completely dissatisfied’ and 10 means you are ‘completely satisfied.’” The mean score for Utah County was 7.25, compared to 7.27 for the United States. Although less than one-half of one percent of Utah County residents rated their life satisfaction as a 1 or 2 on the ten-point scale, the Utah County curve is remarkably similar to the U.S. curve.

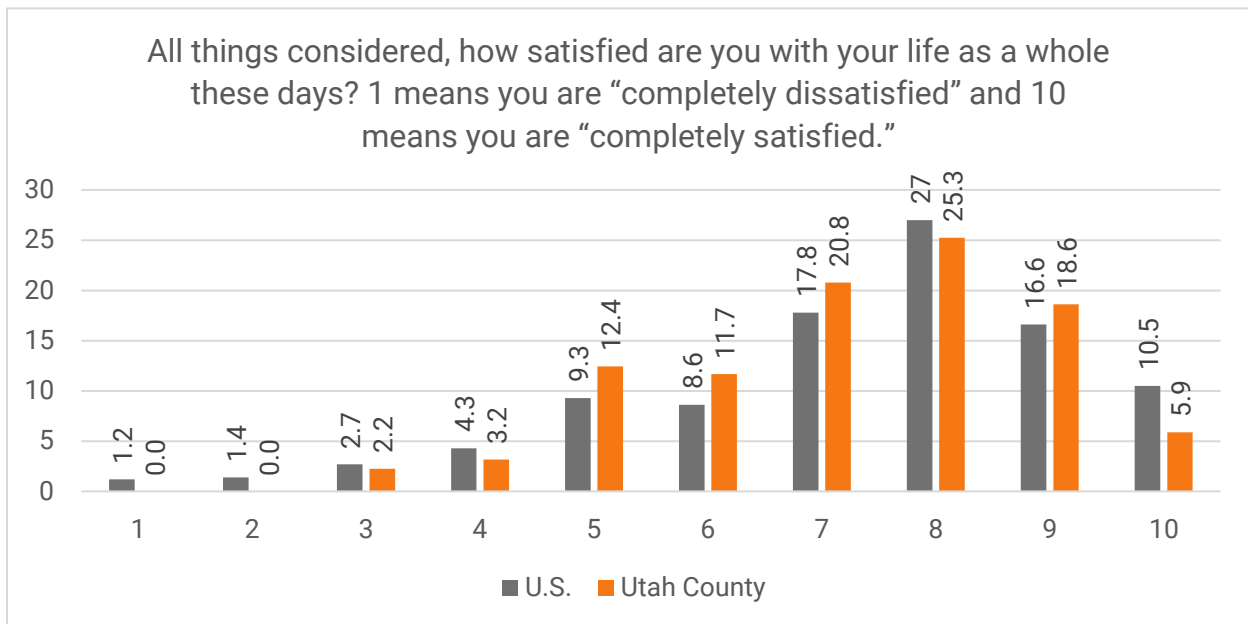
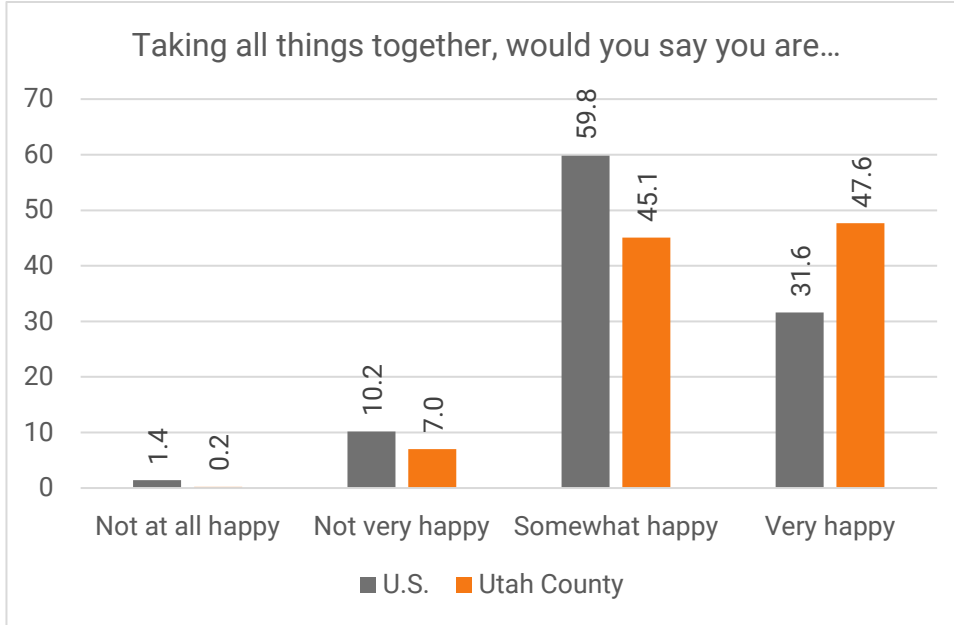


Figure 375: Life Satisfaction, U.S. vs. Utah County

<sup>360</sup> See <https://www.worldvaluessurvey.org/wvs.jsp>



**Figure 376: Happiness, U.S. versus Utah County**

We also asked, “Taking all things together, would you say you are not at all happy, not very happy, somewhat happy, or very happy?” More than 47 percent of Utah County residents said they are very happy, compared to 31.6 percent

nationally. Only 0.2 percent said they are not at all happy.





## **2.6 Racial and Ethnic Minorities: Learning from Our Fellow Residents**

In this year's community assessment, we conducted one-on-one interviews and focus groups with members of various ethnic and racial minorities to better understand their perspectives. These interviews were conducted with black or African American residents, Asian residents, Native American or Alaska Native residents, Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander residents, and Hispanic residents. In all, more than 60 persons were interviewed or participated in focus groups.

### **2.6.1 Methodology**

Participants were recruited through existing networks. Participants were offered a \$25 Amazon gift card in exchange for participating in a 30-minute interview or a one-hour focus group. Due to the pandemic, all interviews and focus group were conducted through video conferencing. In most cases, participants did not know each other; in two cases, participants of focus groups were related by marriage.

For one of the Hispanic focus groups, a native Spanish speaker was recruited to facilitate the group. During the focus group, the facilitator kept notes; following the discussion, she wrote a report based on the notes and her memory.

All other focus groups and interviews were conducted by experienced interviewers and facilitators. In addition, all were video and audio recorded. The recordings were then transcribed and coded by researchers with experience in qualitative research. Analysis was conducted using Quirkos, a software tool for exploring common themes, responses, and assumptions in qualitative research.

### **2.6.2 Results**

Five themes emerged from the interviews and focus groups with racial and ethnic minorities.

First, *favorable or unfavorable treatment*. Participants shared experiences of both positive and negative prejudgment or discrimination which they attribute to their minority status.

Second, the issue of *isolation* was common. Looking different than others in the community causes many of our participants to feel alone yet noticed.

Third, *misunderstanding* of cultural norms and lifestyles is prevalent. Participants shared multiple experiences of being expected to act or be a certain type of person based on their cultural upbringing.

Fourth, *appreciation* for perspective, diversity, and lifestyle was mentioned frequently.

The final theme is termed *extraordinary and memorable*. Many of the participants shared a sense that they are valued and sought out because of their uniqueness in the community.

### **2.6.2.1 Favorable or Unfavorable Treatment**

Looking different than others can invite some intrusive actions. “Quite honestly, I feel like an outsider,” said one African American resident who relocated to Utah County from the East Coast. “It’s difficult because sometimes, just the way that people interact with you, it changes between like—if I’m with a friend that isn’t like me it will change between how [people] interact with me.” She continued: “Right now I have dreads, right? And I cannot tell you how many random people in the store just start touching me—it makes me feel like an object, right? It makes me feel like I’m not a person. I’m just something that they can touch. And I’m like, ‘Well, hold on. Give me some space. Let me breathe. Please don’t put your hands on my hair.’”

Another black woman shared that people make assumptions about her temperament because of her sex and race before she even speaks. “So, assuming that I’m too brash or too ‘intimidating’ was one I’ve gotten a lot—based on appearance or based on what people think that a black person or a black woman specifically is. That has happened quite a bit.”

Some have experienced more aggressive words or actions against them based on their race. An Asian man shared that in a grocery store parking lot, he saw a driver cut a woman off with his vehicle and then “said something to her demeaningly—like, you know, pointed out her race in front of my kids.” A Spanish-speaking participant shared a similar experience: after being “almost run over” by a white man who shouted something she couldn’t understand at her, other white community members ran to her aid. They explained that the man had told her to go back to her country, but that they disagreed with him.

Another Hispanic participant said that she and her husband were comparing prices at an auto parts shop and people started looking at them oddly. They left the store and someone started to follow them. They felt attacked because they were speaking Spanish and were not trying to take anything, they simply were comparing prices. They have not returned to the store and it has been eight years since their negative experience.

Many of those who participated in interviews or focus groups acknowledge that the discrimination they experience is not the universal attitudes or actions of the community at large. "Generally speaking, there's like really good people," said one Pacific Islander who has lived in Utah County for many years. "There's a ton of good people. And then there's a handful of them that just make me feel still as an outsider. I work in a school, so I work with tons of students who are going through it right now. And if I hadn't experienced it myself, I would be like, 'Oh, that's not really going on, is it?' But it really is. It still goes on today with kids from different backgrounds."

One Asian woman saw the positive side of prejudice. "I feel there is some kind—maybe we can say—is good, a stereotype. Like they feel like Asian is more—smarter or like they really know the math or something. But I'm, at least for this point, I feel like it's kind of a compliment to me. So they feel like, 'Oh, your children something, something.' So I think that's a good part. Personally, I did not feel that much of negative signs. I just feel like here, they also treat female is better. I'm Asian. I'm female. So for me, it is good."

A fair-skinned Hispanic man explained that he, too, has had positive experiences. Because of his light skin color, people usually think he is from the United States; laughing, he shared that sometimes he has limited talking to people because as soon as he starts speaking, people know he isn't originally from the United States.

Another Spanish-speaking person mentioned that discrimination has come from other Latinos and not so much from Americans.

A participant from Venezuela indicated that people who know of the country's current situation have told her that it is good that she is here.

One Hispanic participant shared that in his interactions with Americans he commonly is asked three questions: what he was doing here, how long has he been here, and when was he planning on leaving. At first, the questions took him aback, but with time and the consistency of the questions he realized that these questions are typical for Americans to want to know more and they are an indicator of openness to other cultures.

Another participant commented that when she and her friends speak Spanish in public, sometimes they will have people smile at them—presumably returned Latter-day Saint missionaries.

### **2.6.2.2 Isolation**

Being part of a racial or ethnic minority can result in a sense of isolation and alienation. “It’s like just being in your skin is like—it’s a little bit uncomfortable,” said one black resident. “I can’t go anywhere and not be black, right? I will notice that I’m like counting the number of minorities that I see. And oftentimes, I’m the only person that I interact with that is a minority. And that it feels very isolating sometimes.”

Another black participant share that she lives in Salt Lake County, but works in Utah County. She was on a walk along the Jordan River Trail, going under a bridge, and saw some graffiti. “It says, ‘F-U’ and then up top it says the N word. And so, like even situations like that where I’m just like ‘no, I don’t feel comfortable.’ I don’t feel like I belong. I feel like an outsider because there are situations like this. And I’m not saying that those happen all the time, but they do happen and it’s very isolating.”

Participants who are of mixed race or ethnicity can feel even more isolated because they don’t have a “home,” so to speak. A woman whose father is from Samoa and whose mother is white explained that she felt different growing up in Utah County. “I feel like I had been an outsider the whole time, but then we moved to Samoa where my dad was born and raised. And I was an outsider there because I was too fair. And so, wherever I’ve lived...I feel like I’ve always been the outsider no matter where I have been so it’s not necessarily unique to Utah County.

Another Pacific Islander woman had a similar experience. “I grew up in Fiji and so being a Kiribati in Fiji but—well, as a Fijian citizen I always feel like an outsider because the Fijians

wouldn't consider me as Fijian. Whenever people ask me where I am from and they don't know where Kiribati is and because I was born and raised in Fiji, I would introduce myself as 'Oh, I'm from Fiji.' And then the Fijians won't look at me as their own."

"I'm mixed race," said one participant in a Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander focus group. "So I—you know those state forms? I checked everything on that except for African American and Hispanic. So, when I'm in a group, I'm not Native American enough if I'm with a Native American. I'm not Asian enough if I'm with the Asian. You know I'm not Polynesian enough if I'm not Polynesian."

This theme of isolation—of not being part of any racial or ethnic group—is a strong one. One man explained it this way: "I've noticed most of my time here I have been mistaken more as a Hispanic than I have as a Polynesian, and then not being considered Polynesian enough because I'm Micronesian. And then not Micronesian enough because I was born and raised in Fiji."

One Asian woman expressed a brighter view. "I think people treated me differently, it's... how can I say it? Like sometimes, like the people think we don't want to talk to them because we speak our own language, right? So then they might try—they would still befriend nicely—friendly with us but they try not to have a really long conversation with us. But then if we open our hearts, open like ourselves talking like get to know each other, then I think they are pretty nice to like Asian too. I don't know. I don't know other people. I feel like they are pretty nice. Most of the people I know are very nice to me."

### **2.6.2.3 Misunderstanding**

There is a distinction between being discriminated against and being misunderstood.

A black participant expressed that generally speaking, white residents in Utah County don't comprehend what it's like to be black. "The reason why I moved to Salt Lake is because of the blatant lack of diversity but also, not only lack of diversity but I just think—I felt both at my—on my college experience at BYU and those at large in Utah County that there is very, very little understanding of the experience of being black or of color. Very limited understanding of how to

interact equitably with the people with various identities that have historically been minoritized in Utah.”

A Native American participant also expressed a lack of understanding. “When I first came to Utah—like, our humor is different on the Res. We might joke a little too harshly sometimes or people don’t get our jokes. But I felt like when I first came, I was weird because I didn’t – no one understood me. But that was hard for me coming as an 18-year-old like at Reservation, that’s all I grew up with. To a majority Caucasian area and I’m just like, ‘Man, I don’t know how to talk to people.’”

Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander participants and interviewees seem to feel especially misunderstood. “Everything seems to be touristy when it comes to addressing the Polynesian culture, everything is meant to be given as entertainment,” according to one individual. Another told of a social event at work. “A co-worker said, ‘Oh yeah, I made some pork.’ Looks at me and I was like.... Anyway, just little things when it comes to food or dancing, putting on luaus is like the big thing. I love dancing personally and I love food. But there’s more, there’s more to us than just dancing for people and making food.”

Another facet of being misunderstood is that some white residents seem to harbor ill will due to the special treatment members of minorities appear to receive. But the minority residents didn’t choose the public policy or other benefits that are offered to them. One Native American explained that in some communities, elected officials have said derogatory things about minority groups and public policies that may benefit them. “Sometimes we have seen people complain about scholarships for Native or like minorities from people in Utah. And it’s just kind of—sometimes that feeling is not welcoming.” He goes on to explain that individual members of minority groups are not at fault for public policy decisions, scholarships, or other “benefits” that are offered to minority groups. In this sense, there is a lack of understanding of individuals.

#### 2.6.2.4 Appreciation

Despite the negatives of being in a racial or ethnic minority, some recognize the appreciation majority community members have for minority cultures and backgrounds. One black woman shared that recently, she's noticed more interest in her due to her minority status. "My racial identity has led people to treat me differently really more in the past five years of being more like, 'Hey, we would like to hear more lived experiences specifically from somebody of color or specifically from a black person.' So being asked to be on panels or being asked to do whatever in order to inform more of an understanding of the experience of being black has been a positive thing. I think, 'Hey, we are finally in a space where we do want to listen to lived experience.'"

Many participants expressed that majority members of Utah County are eager to learn more about their culture. For example, one Native American woman shared an experience from several years ago: "When my husband and I first got married, we were teaching some young kids in our ward and we were like, 'Yeah, we are Native Americans.' They are like, 'Oh my gosh! You guys are still alive?' And we are like, 'Yeah. What do you know ....' And they were like, 'Wait, you wear regular clothes, though? Don't you guys live in tipis?' And I'm like, 'Well, we are Navajo. Navajos live in hogans.'"

Participants in the Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander groups agreed that people are eager to learn more about their cultures—beyond the tourism, dancing, and entertaining aspects.

A black woman believes Utah County is becoming more inclusive. "Things are getting better. I'm discussing with people who genuinely—you would say they want to know. They want to even not just know now but make change because people are not educated about other cultures. They really want to be more inclusive. They are creating opportunities."



### 2.6.2.5 Extraordinary and Memorable

A fascinating phenomenon in common themes was that despite the negative elements of being in a racial or ethnic minority, many participants and interviewees felt treated especially well—and this due primarily to their race or ethnicity. One of the black participants pointed out that “because there’s not a lot of diversity in Utah County, when diversity is seen, it’s kind of like it’s put on this little pedestal and it’s like, ‘Look at this! Look at this person and look how they are different.’ Little kids in grocery stores ask questions about me, and I’m like, ‘Oh, this is awesome.’”

Another black participant agreed, though the special attention she receives makes her feel uneasy. “In certain situations, I feel like I’ve been treated better because like people—like in work situations or in friendly environments I feel like I draw attention, right? They want to come up to me and they want to talk to me because I am different, which quite honestly, I mean it’s flattering but also extremely uncomfortable.”

An Asian participant shared her experience. “I feel more exotic or...I don’t know if that’s the right word, but people generally are drawn towards me because I look different and they’re genuinely curious where I’m from. [They say,] ‘Oh, you must be so smart because you’re Asian,’ and I’m like, ‘Not really. I just work hard.’ They say, ‘Yeah. Where are you from and what language do you speak?’ And they’re kind of disappointed that I’m Korean but I’m also American, like I don’t have an accent or things like that.”

A Native American reported his experience: “I’m pretty much always the only Native American. So, it’s mostly that people are kind of in awe maybe and curious and they want to know a little bit more, which is cool, and I love it. I am open to all the questions, and I think it’s really good that people ask because it’s like, how else are they supposed to come to understand my culture and stuff? I like it. It’s nice.”

An Asian woman shared the following.

For me, I’ve got very positive experience here. One of the families, they are living near us that’s from Provo. They invited for mother’s birthday, 100 years she completed. So, when we—when for that even, me and my family, we’re really

surprised because that family, they invited all of their really close members like their parents and their daughters, granddaughters and their relatives and all and like more than 100 people, we, only two Asian people are there. And we spent there more than three, four hours but we didn't feel that we are outsiders.

Everyone was talking with us very gently. They're asking about Asian culture and they're asking about what research we are—my husband is doing in BYU. And the good thing is that the family who invited for her mother's birthday, she introduced me and my husband to all people. And when I talked with them, I realized that they all are very close relative of that grandmom, that lady. So, we are very fortunate we saw the American culture very closely how they meet, how they talk, how they're bonding.



### **3 Supplement 1: Survey Instrument**

## Telephone Survey Instrument

**INTERVIEWER:** Hello, my name is \_\_\_\_\_, and I'm calling from Civicus Consulting Group. We are conducting a study on attitudes toward community issues, and we would like to include your opinions. Please be assured that we are NOT asking for any donations.

1. First, what would you say are the best things about living in Utah County? **[PROBE:]** Any others? **[DO NOT READ LIST. ACCEPT UP TO 5 RESPONSES.]**

- Arts/culture
- Family values/family-friendly
- Jobs/economy
- LDS Church
- Mountains
- People/friends/family (in general)
- Quality of life
- Recreation
- Restaurants
- Schools/education/universities
- Shopping
- Healthcare

2. What would you say are the most pressing issues or problems facing residents of Utah County? **[PROBE:]** Any others? **[DO NOT READ LIST. ACCEPT UP TO 5 RESPONSES.]**

- Air quality/air pollution
- Anxiety
- Crime
- Depression
- Domestic violence
- Drug abuse/misuse (over-the-counter, prescription, or illicit)
- Education
- Growth in population (including traffic, construction)
- Healthcare (access to, quality of, or other related)
- Housing costs/rental rates or related

Jobs/Economy  
Mental health  
Roads (condition of)  
Suicide  
Traffic/congestion  
LGBTQ issues  
Racial equality/race issues  
COVID-19 related  
Other (specify)  
Other (specify)  
Other (specify)

3. The following are community issues that are important to some people. For each one, please indicate how big of a problem you believe the issue is in Utah County by using a scale of one to five— with one being “a minor problem” and five being “a significant problem.”

Depression or anxiety  
Other mental health issues  
Domestic violence/partner abuse/elder abuse/child abuse  
Food or hunger  
No sense of belonging in neighborhoods  
Drug abuse or misuse  
Education  
Growth in population  
Housing costs  
Jobs or the economy  
Mental health  
Suicide  
COVID-19  
Racial equality or other race issues  
LGBTQ equality  
Poverty  
Emerging from COVID-19 pandemic

4. In what ways has COVID-19 and the pandemic affected you? **[Do not read. Probe: any other ways?**

**Mark all that are mentioned.]**

- No effects/nothing significant
- Death of a friend
- Death of a family member or other loved one
- Serious illness (self)
- Serious illness (friend or loved one)
- Reduced income/reduced employment
- Increased income/increased employment
- Difficulty finding new employment
- School attendance disrupted
- Kids at home/hard to manage with no or reduced school
- Shopping habits changed
- Bothersome disruptions, nothing major
- Opposed to wearing face coverings
- Opposed to receiving vaccine
- Church attendance disruption/difficulty
- Other

5. Would you say your life today is worse, better, or about the same as it was before the pandemic?

6. Thank you. Now, if you had reason to believe your child was suffering from depression or anxiety, where would you go for help? **[PROBE:]** Any others? **[DO NOT READ LIST. ACCEPT MULTIPLE RESPONSES.]**

- Church
- Doctor
- Family member
- Friend
- Other (specify)

Okay. Now I have a few questions about your neighborhood. I'm going to read a few statements and ask if you definitely agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or definitely disagree with each of them. Think about your current neighborhood as you respond to these statements.

7. If I had to move, I would miss the neighborhood I now live in.

Definitely yes, somewhat yes, somewhat no, definitely no

8. I like my neighborhood.

Definitely yes, somewhat yes, somewhat no, definitely no

9. I'd like to get out of my neighborhood.

Definitely yes, somewhat yes, somewhat no, definitely no

10. I know my neighbors well.

11. People in my neighborhood are available to help each other.

12. It's difficult to find friends in this neighborhood.

13. Now a few questions about you. First, would you agree or disagree with this statement? I have people in my life I can count on. (definitely agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, definitely disagree)

14. About how many people do you have in your life whom you can count on? Would you say it is

- a. Fewer than 5
- b. Between 5 and 10
- c. 10 or more

15. About how many of these "people you can count on" live in your own neighborhood? Would you say it is

- a. None
- b. Only a few
- c. Many
- d. Most

16. All things considered, how satisfied are you with your life as a whole these days? Let's use a 10-point scale where 1 means you are "completely dissatisfied" and 10 means you are "completely satisfied." Where would you put your satisfaction with your life as a whole? (Likert scale of 1 to 10)

17. Great. Now, how optimistic are you about your long-term financial future? (Not at all optimistic, not very optimistic, neither optimistic nor pessimistic, optimistic, very optimistic)

18. Taking all things together, would you say you are very happy, somewhat happy, not very happy, not at all happy

## **DEMOGRAPHY**

**INTERVIEWER:** Great. Now we just have a few questions to see how people with similar



characteristics responded to the earlier questions. All information is confidential.

19. First, how old are you?

20. How long have you lived in Utah County in years?

21. What sort of housing dwelling do you have? Do you live in a

- a. Single-family home
- b. Duplex
- c. Townhome or condominium
- d. Apartment

22. Do you own or rent your home?

23. What city do you live in?

24. What is your marital status? **[READ LIST.]**

Married

Domestic partnership

Single

Refused **[DO NOT READ]**

25. Which of the following best describes your household's total annual income before taxes? **[READ LIST.]**

Under \$15,000

\$15,000 to less than \$25,000

\$25,000 to less than \$50,000

\$50,000 to less than \$100,000

\$100,000 to less than \$150,000

\$150,000 to less than \$250,000

\$250,000 to less than \$500,000

\$500,000 to less than \$1 million

\$1,000,000+

Refused **[DO NOT READ]**

26. Which of the following racial groups describes you? You can stop me when I've read your group.

**[READ LIST. CHOOSE ONE.]**

White or Caucasian

Black or African-American

Asian

Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander

Native American

Multiple Races

Other **SPECIFY [DO NOT READ]**

Don't know/refused **[DO NOT READ]**

27. Do you consider yourself to be Latino or Hispanic?

Yes

No

Don't know **[DO NOT READ]**

28. And your sex?

Male

Female

Other

Prefer not to say

**Thank you very much. Goodbye.**



**4 Supplement 2: Focus Group and One-on-One Interview Guide**

Use the following as a guide to your one-on-one interviews. Keep the interview casual. Make certain you obtain permission to record the interview.

- The purpose of our discussion is to learn more about how people in various racial or ethnic minorities view life in Utah County. There are no correct or incorrect answers. We are interested only in your honest responses.
- May I have permission to record this interview? In our written report, we will not attribute your comments to you by name or by any other personally identifiable information.
- May we use the video recording to conduct training for our staff or volunteers? We will not share it online or publicly in any way.
- First, how long have you lived in Utah County? In what cities?
- Where did you move here from?
- Tell me about your family.
- What are the best things about living in Utah County?
- What are some of the worst things about living in Utah County?
- How has the pandemic affected you and people you know?
- When it comes to living in Utah County, would you say you feel more like an insider or more like an outsider? Why?
- Have you ever felt like you were judged poorly or treated badly because of your race or ethnicity here in Utah County? Please share your experience.
- Have you ever felt like you were treated better because of your race or ethnicity? Please share your experience.



