

A blue-tinted photograph of the Utah State Capitol building, featuring its prominent dome and classical columns. Two flags, the American flag and the Utah state flag, are visible in front of the building.

2024 LEGISLATIVE GUIDE

UTAH VALLEY

CHAMBER *of* COMMERCE

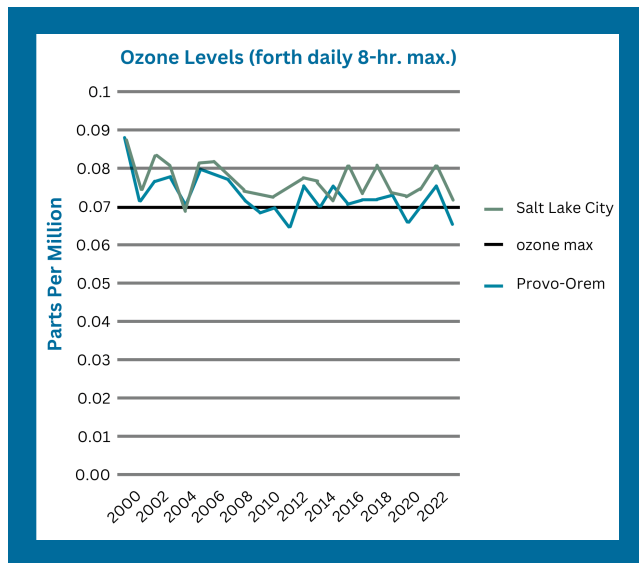
Helping make Utah Valley the best
place to live, learn, work, and play.





Natural Resources

Careful stewardship of our natural resources is critical to business success in Utah Valley. Our priorities for 2024 include the preservation of open space, expansion of pedestrian and cycling trails, and careful conservation and sustainable use of water.



2024 Priority Areas:

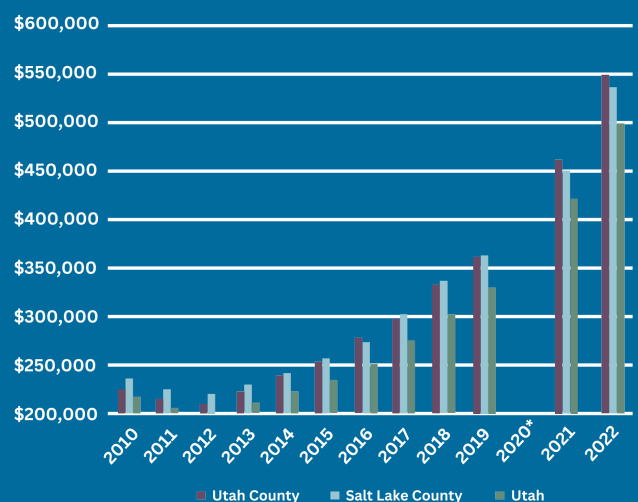
- Utah Lake/Great Salt Lake watershed preservation
- Efforts to address toxic algal bloom for all Utah County water sources
- Expansion of trails, parks & open space
- Our priorities include protection of ecologically sensitive areas and access thereto, clean air, and renewable energy (hydro, solar, and wind).



Housing Gap

Utah County's population will double in the next 20 years. This will create tremendous pressure on housing. We agree with Governor Cox that we must plan for a future where every Utahn, "has the opportunity to own a home."

Median Home Value, Owner-Occupied



2024 Priority Areas:

- A greater overall supply of housing with a blend of housing types for all stages of life
- Support for high-density near public transit hubs
- Support first-time home buyers
- Support the elimination of municipal ordinances that hamper development

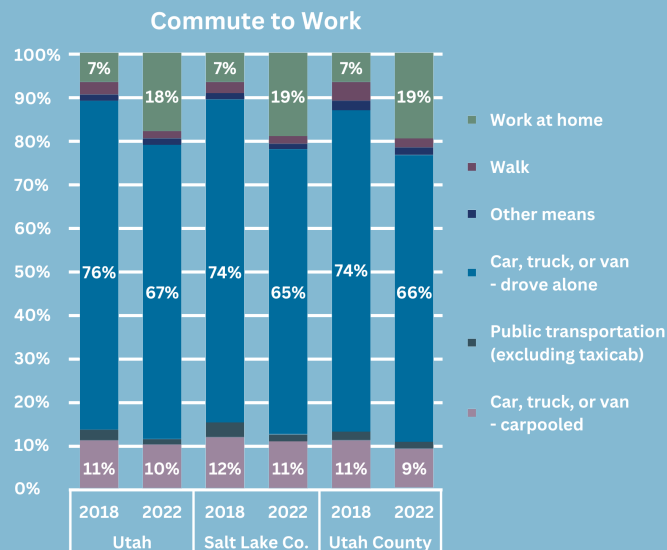


Transportation

With Utah County's rapid expansion, the need for transportation grows too. The state has wisely invested in existing transportation infrastructure over the past few years. We support efforts to look even further.

2024 Priority Areas:

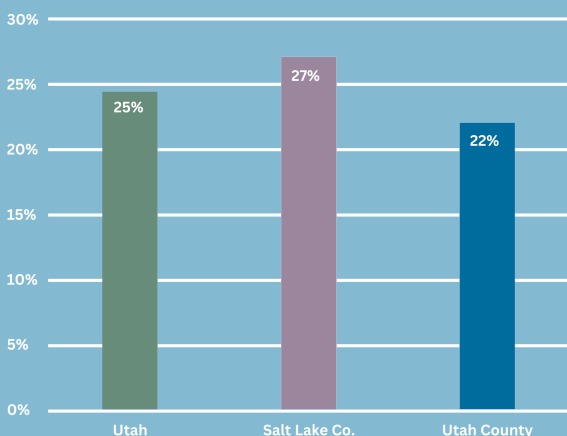
- Support the Governor's Recommended reallocation of 1% of the sales tax earmark from the Transportation Investment Fund (TIF) to the Transit Transportation Investment Fund (TTIF) which enhances our transit system for improved convenience, frequency, and reliability and doubles ongoing funding for transit projects including double tracking of FrontRunner and the new station at The Point.
- Promote the expansion of active transportation, walking and biking trails, to provide Utahns with transportation choices - all while saving water and improving our air quality.



Healthcare Reform

A strong healthcare system and policies are critical to the economic and physical health and well-being of Utah Valley residents and businesses. We face particular challenges with regard to accessing mental health services and removing the stigma surrounding mental health in the workplace.

Seven or more days of poor mental health in the past 30 days, 2021



2024 Priority Areas:

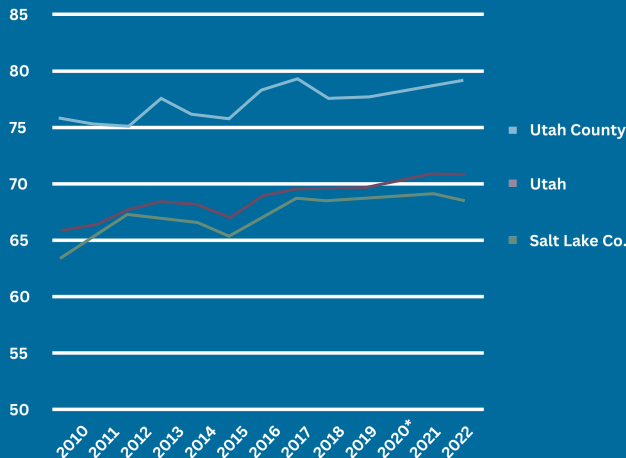
- Right Care: Promote the education of employers and employees around health plan benefit design to maximize outcomes (Primary care vs. Urgent Care vs. ER. End of Life planning and care. Cultivating a healthy workforce.)
- Right Time: Promote preventative health care to avoid disease vs. treating disease, focusing on key community resources to inform and create a healthy community.
- Right Place: Help consumers understand the tools that they have around pricing transparency, beginning with the business community.
- Right Resources: Empowerment of self-funded employers to develop employer sponsored health plans to meet their specific needs and which comply with Federal ERISA legislative guidelines. Additionally, provide support to programs for all employers which increase healthcare resources and access.



Education & Workforce Development

Utah Valley remains a vibrant economic engine thanks to the high degree of education attainment and workforce development in our community. We must continue to adapt to retain our edge.

Educational Attainment -- Post-secondary Certification, Some College, and More



2024 Priority Areas:

- Expand performance-based funding for higher education
- Expand education opportunities in the life sciences and technical education to achieve a high degree of workforce alignment



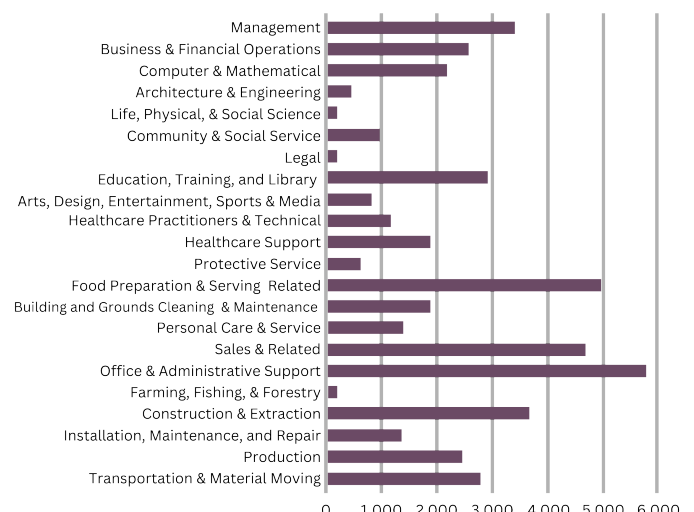
Business Environment

Business environment is largely a byproduct of good natural resource stewardship, housing, healthcare, education, transportation, and workforce opportunities. Utah Valley businesses seek a free and open market in which to compete and operate.

2024 Priority Areas:

- Policies that achieve the above goals without creating undue burdens on business

Annual Job Openings, Provo-Orem MSA, 2020-2030
(includes growth of 10,440 and replacement of 36,170)



PILLARS OF VALLEY VISIONING



By 2065, Utah Valley will add one million people to our community, making this county one of the most populous counties in the State.

The Valley Visioning process explores potential growth models, so policy makers and leaders will know which goals and planning strategies resonate best with residents and stakeholders as ways to achieve desired outcomes.

Learn more at: utahvalleyvisioning.org

6 KEY PILLARS FOR OUR VALLEY'S GROWTH:



Natural Resources



Housing



Transportation



Healthcare



Education



Business

GET TO KNOW THE CHAMBER

Visit thechamber.org to learn more about Valley Visioning and becoming a member of the Utah Valley Chamber

Scan the QR code to access the Chamber's bill tracking system:



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