

The History of Utah

Student Volume



THIS BOOK IS THE PROPERTY OF:

STATE _____
 PROVINCE _____
 COUNTY _____
 PARISH _____
 SCHOOL DISTRICT _____
 OTHER _____

Book No. _____
 Enter information
 in spaces
 to the left as
 instructed.

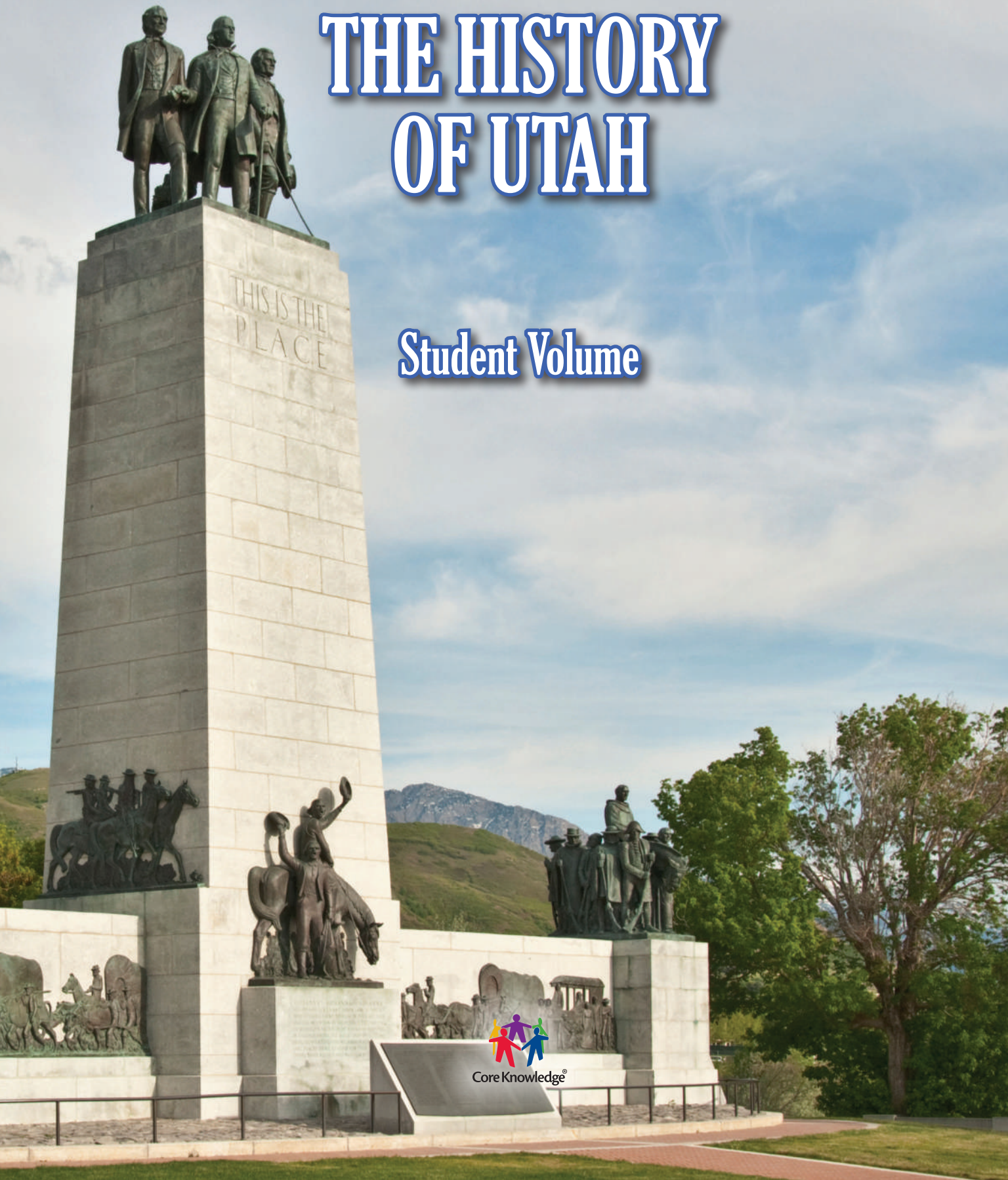
ISSUED TO	Year Used	CONDITION	
		ISSUED	RETURNED

PUPILS to whom this textbook is issued must not write on any page or mark any part of it in any way, consumable textbooks excepted.

1. Teachers should see that the pupil's name is clearly written in ink in the spaces above in every book issued.
2. The following terms should be used in recording the condition of the book:
 New; Good; Fair; Poor; Bad.

THE HISTORY OF UTAH

Student Volume



Creative Commons Licensing

This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International License.



You are free:

to Share—to copy, distribute, and transmit the work

to Remix—to adapt the work

Under the following conditions:

Attribution—You must attribute the work in the following manner:

This work is based on an original work of the Core Knowledge® Foundation (www.coreknowledge.org) made available through licensing under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International License. This does not in any way imply that the Core Knowledge Foundation endorses this work.

Noncommercial—You may not use this work for commercial purposes.

Share Alike—If you alter, transform, or build upon this work, you may distribute the resulting work only under the same or similar license to this one.

With the understanding that:

For any reuse or distribution, you must make clear to others the license terms of this work. The best way to do this is with a link to this web page:

<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/>

Copyright © 2025 Core Knowledge Foundation

www.coreknowledge.org

All Rights Reserved.

Core Knowledge®, Core Knowledge Curriculum Series™, Core Knowledge History and Geography™, Core Knowledge In Your State™, and CKHG™ are trademarks of the Core Knowledge Foundation.

Trademarks and trade names are shown in this book strictly for illustrative and educational purposes and are the property of their respective owners. References herein should not be regarded as affecting the validity of said trademarks and trade names.

ISBN: 979-8-88970-498-0



The History of Utah



Table of Contents

01	Chapter 1: Utah's Native Peoples	2
02	Chapter 2: Utah Joins the United States	20
03	Chapter 3: Twentieth-Century Utah	42
04	Chapter 4: Utah Enters the New Millennium	66
05	Chapter 5: Utah Today	76
	Glossary	94

The History of Utah
Student Volume

Core Knowledge In Your State™

Chapter 1

Utah's Native Peoples

Big Question

How have Utah's Native peoples adapted to their environment?



Living with the Land

*From the pine-clad slopes of the Uinta Mountains to the **arid** cliffs of the Colorado Plateau, Utah has a rich and varied geography. Since prehistoric times, people have lived in and adapted to this varied climate and terrain. Change over time is also a part of the story. Shifting weather patterns, new technologies, and changing wildlife populations have all led to the emergence of different ways of life among Utah's Native peoples.*

Vocabulary

arid, adj. very dry



Pictorial rock carvings are one source of information about Utah's ancient peoples. These carvings are part of an extensive group found at Newspaper Rock State Historic Monument near Monticello.



People first came to Utah more than thirteen thousand years ago. We can learn about how they lived by studying the **artifacts** they left behind. These artifacts help us see how the first people in Utah lived as hunter-gatherers who moved around in search of food and resources. We can see that, over time, people came to live in villages and farm the land. In some parts of Utah, where there was more water available, people set up larger settlements, where they grew maize and other vegetables. In other parts of Utah, such as the arid Great Salt Lake Desert, hunting and foraging remained the main food sources for much longer.

We refer to this time period as **prehistory**. One challenge of studying prehistory is that we must make educated guesses about when and where changes took place. When we study recorded history, we can point out the specific dates of historical events, such as August 2, 1776, the date of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. However, there was no

Vocabulary

artifact, n. something made by people in the past

prehistory, n. the part of human history before written historical records

such single date on which the peoples of southern Utah started farming maize or building cliff dwellings. Likewise, we know the year—1776—in which the United States became an independent country, but we cannot point to an exact year that the Ancestral Pueblo culture began.

To tell a story that can be easily followed, scientists and historians treat the periods and cultures of prehistory as distinct, even as they recognize that the truth is more complicated. They focus on what prehistoric peoples had in common within a particular era and region. As you read about these cultures, keep in mind that each one had its own diversity. The Fremont culture, for instance, was widespread over present-day Utah for about a thousand years. Across such an extent of time and space, the Fremont people varied in how they obtained food and built their homes.



The Geography of Utah

Many people think of Utah as a desert state. Around the country and the world, the state's geography is widely recognized for its national parks. Posters, postcards, and documentaries show the red stone spires of Bryce Canyon, the rock

formations of Arches, and the weathered mesas of Canyonlands. Many also know of the Great Salt Lake and the white salt flats to its west.

Yet Utah's geography is much more diverse than these famous examples suggest. In fact, there are three major geographic regions in Utah and many different types of terrain and ecosystems. Besides its deserts and canyons, Utah is also home to numerous mountain ranges, several major rivers, and millions of acres of forest.

The westernmost portion of Utah is part of the Great Basin, an arid region that also includes most of Nevada and parts of Idaho, Oregon, and California. A **drainage basin** is an area where all the surface water in a region eventually flows together. Many basins drain to the sea; the Great Basin is one of the few that do not. The Great Basin region includes Utah's Great Salt Lake Desert, which is the dry lakebed left behind by a huge prehistoric lake.

Vocabulary

drainage basin, n. a geographic area where all the surface water eventually flows together

Southern and eastern Utah are part of the Colorado Plateau. This high desert region

Geographic Regions of Utah



Utah includes part of three large geographic regions that extend into other states.

also occupies parts of the other Four Corners states: Arizona, New Mexico, and Colorado. Some portions of the Colorado Plateau are forested, but for the most part, the land is dry and rocky. All five of Utah's national parks are in this region.

Finally, northern and northeastern Utah are on the western edge of the Rocky Mountains. The largest mountain range in North America, the Rockies run from British Columbia in Canada down to northern New Mexico. They are sometimes considered part of an even larger mountain system that extends through Central America and down into the Andes. Some

Utah mountain ranges, such as the Uinta and the Wasatch Mountains, have their own names but are part of the the Rockies.

The mountainous areas of Utah tend to receive the most precipitation. At these high altitudes, there is significant snowfall in the winter. As this melts in the springtime and flows down the mountains, it fills the reservoirs that provide water to northern Utah.

Think Twice

What are Utah's three major geographic regions, and how do they vary?





The First Peoples of Utah

If you drew a map of Utah as its first peoples saw it, you might not recognize it as the same place. Around sixteen thousand years ago, the Great Salt Lake, Utah Lake, and Sevier Lake were connected as part of a single body of water. Known as Lake Bonneville, this lake was truly enormous, at one point covering



This map shows just how large Lake Bonneville is thought to have been. The light area in the upper middle is the present-day Great Salt Lake.

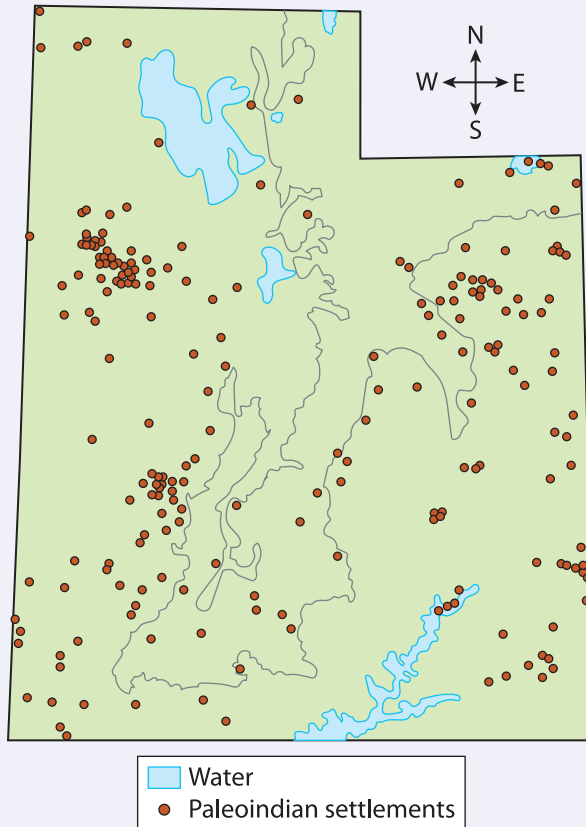
almost a quarter of Utah's present-day area. Some of Utah's earliest inhabitants settled on the shores and islands of Lake Bonneville. Over many years, it dried up and became first a marsh, then the Great Salt Lake Desert. The remaining lake water grew saltier as it shrunk, forming today's Great Salt Lake.

The existence of Lake Bonneville in the past helps explain why prehistoric groups may have settled around the Great Salt Lake Desert. Thirteen thousand years ago, this part of Utah was rich in resources such as fish, animals, and wild plants. Many cave shelters where prehistoric peoples lived have been found in this region. Researchers used to think that the people of this time survived mostly by hunting animals for food. Over the years, archaeologists have found evidence that their diet and way of life were more varied than we used to think.

Archaeologists refer to the period from 11,000 BCE to 7000 BCE as the Paleoindian period. The start of this period is the date of the first concrete evidence of human settlement. About four thousand years later, the climate had warmed and dried so much that people in the area changed their way of life.

In between, several cultures made their home in Utah. The best known

Paleoindian Sites in Utah



Paleoindian settlements were spread throughout Utah, but many have been found in the former wetlands of the west and northwest.

of these is the Clovis culture, once widespread throughout North America. We don't know what these people called themselves. Their modern name comes

from an important archaeological site at Clovis, New Mexico.

The Clovis people developed a unique type of stone spearpoint called the Clovis point. They used this to hunt **megafauna** such as mammoths and ground sloths. To make their weapons, the Clovis people used types of rock that were easy to work and sharpen. Some used chert, a type of sedimentary rock rich in quartz. Others used obsidian, a kind of natural volcanic glass. Although Paleoindian peoples did not have a complex economy like ours today, the stones for making these tools were among the first trade goods. Others included food and decorative objects such as beads.

Vocabulary

megafauna, n. large or giant animals

Although the Clovis point is the most famous type of artifact from this period, the Clovis people also used other specialized stone and bone tools. By



Long, narrow, and sharp, Clovis points were adapted for hunting the large animals that populated prehistoric North America. This one is made of flint, but others were made from chert, jasper, obsidian, and quartz.

studying how these tools were worn down through use, archaeologists can tell that they were used for tasks such as cutting grass (to make roofs) and cutting meat. Sometimes the proteins from hunted animals remain on the spearpoints, so scientists can also learn what species the Clovis people hunted. Elephant proteins have been found on Paleoindian weapons, showing that these peoples hunted ancient elephant relatives such as the mastodon and mammoth. By looking at the makeup of the stone, archaeologists can tell that the tools and weapons found in specific sites came from rock formations far away. This shows that the Clovis people engaged in trade.

Climate change and the overhunting of megafauna led to the decline of the Clovis culture. After them came another culture that is also known for its distinctive stone tools. This was the Folsom culture, whose spears and darts were used to hunt bison. As the kinds of available food and other resources changed, so did the cultures of prehistoric Utah.



Think Twice

What does archaeology tell us about the economies, communities, and other aspects of Clovis culture?

Find Out the Facts



Find out more about the kinds of tools the different Paleoindian cultures left behind. How were they adapted to different ways of life, and how can archaeologists tell them apart so many years later?



People of the Archaic Period

The next and longest period in Utah's prehistory is called the Archaic period. At the start of this period, there were still abundant wetlands. However, over thousands of years, the climate became drier and hotter before gradually growing cooler and wetter again. Partly because of these changes, the technologies people used to obtain food went through several new developments. The terms *Early Archaic*, *Middle Archaic*, and *Late Archaic* are used to talk about different phases in this long period.

The Early Archaic period lasted from around 7000 to 5000 BCE. As the weather began to dry, people sought other foods to add to the fish, meat, and plants they could still obtain from the wetlands. They learned to make use of seeds and roots that might have been overlooked in more plentiful times. Archaeologists have found two examples of new technologies related to these food



Grinding stones and coiled baskets helped people of the Archaic period make and store food. This museum display at Utah State University shows both, with the grinding stones at lower left.

sources: coiled baskets and grinding stones. Although basket weaving itself was not new, tightly woven coiled basketry was useful for storing food and could even be made watertight. Grinding stones, also known as the *metate* and *mano*, are still traditionally used to make masa (corn flour) throughout Latin America. Early Archaic peoples, who were not yet farmers, used the stones to grind seeds and roots into flour, which they then prepared as a porridge.

During the Middle Archaic (about 5000 to 1000 BCE), the wetlands dried out more severely, making food and materials **scarce**. Archaeological sites from this time are harder to find. The more desertlike conditions in Utah could not support as

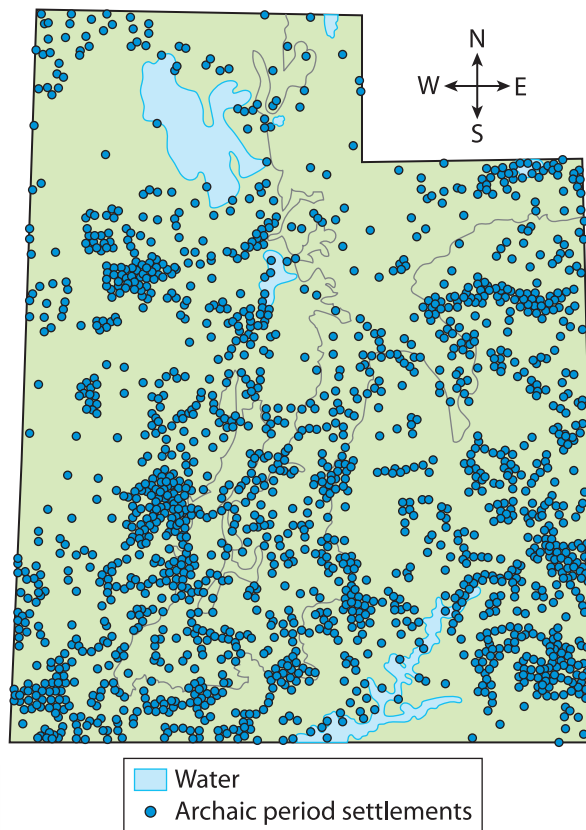
Vocabulary

scarce, adj. in short supply; not having enough

large a population as before. Those who remained foraged far and wide. Though they still hunted larger animals when they could, they also refined their techniques for trapping small animals. In fact, archaeologists have found more rabbit bones from this period than any other food animal.

Several life-changing developments took place during the Late Archaic (from about 1000 BCE onward). One was the return of wetter weather, which supported more plant and animal life—and thus, more people.

Archaic Period Sites in Utah



Archaeologist have found evidence of Archaic period settlements across all regions of Utah.

Another was the invention of the bow and arrow, which revolutionized hunting practices. Yet another was the arrival of new crops from Central America, such as maize (corn) and squash. Both plants originally grew wild in Mexico and were cultivated there for thousands of years before making their way north. Gradually, through trade and migration, these crops spread to present-day Arizona and New Mexico and eventually to Utah. Because people could now grow larger amounts of nutritious food, migration became less common, and people made larger permanent settlements.

By about 500 BCE, these changes had become so significant that archaeologists consider it the beginning of a new period. At this point in Utah's prehistory, two distinct cultures emerged: the Fremont people in the northern and central parts of Utah and the Ancestral Pueblo in the south.



Think Twice

How did changes in the climate of prehistoric Utah affect the lives and cultures of the Archaic peoples?

Writers' Corner

Write a paragraph about the ways that life changed for Utah's ancient peoples during the Archaic period. Mention some of the technologies they used to adapt to their changing environment.



The Ancestral Pueblo

Beginning about 300 BCE, the Ancestral Pueblo emerged in southern Utah and the Four Corners region. Their societies were more **sedentary** than the migratory hunter-gatherer cultures of the Archaic period. Within this period, new technologies developed, and the way of life changed. Archaeologists further subdivide the Ancestral Pueblo period into the Basketmaker and Pueblo periods, based on the kind of artifacts each left behind.

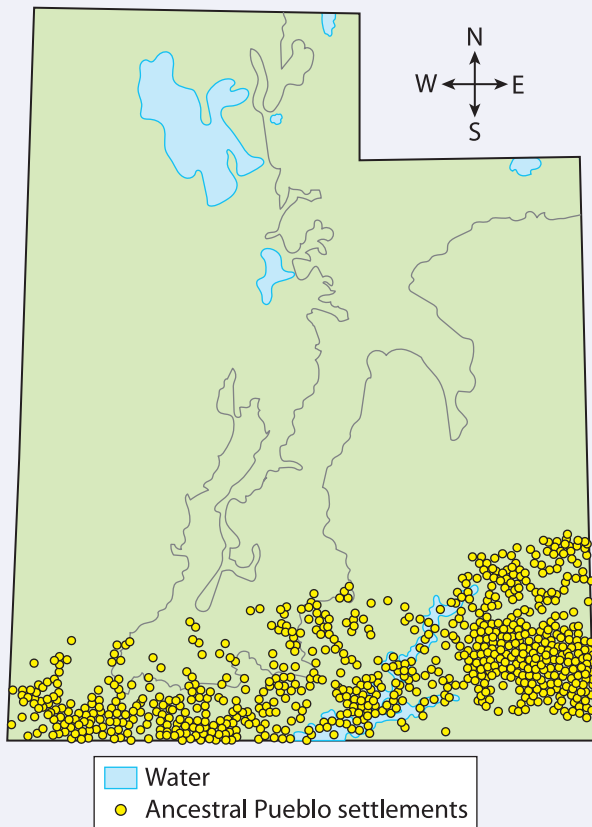
The Basketmaker period (c. 300 BCE–750 CE) gets its name from the fact that intricate baskets, but no pottery, survive from the Puebloan culture of this era. The baskets themselves were expertly made and were among the many textile goods that archaeologists have found from this era. The main type of home for the Basketmakers was the **pit house**, a mound- or pyramid-shaped structure with

Vocabulary

sedentary, adj. settling in one area rather than migrating repeatedly from place to place

pit house, n. a partly underground dwelling traditionally built by various peoples of the Southwest

Ancestral Pueblo Sites in Utah



The Ancestral Pueblo settled the southernmost part of Utah, where rivers provided water for irrigating corn and other crops.

an entrance at the top. The structure was partly dug into the ground. A timber frame was then built on top and covered with earth.

The Basketmakers were both farmers and gatherers. At first, they grew corn, but by around 500 CE they had expanded their farming to include both squash and beans. These combine with corn to create a more nutritious diet than any one plant alone. Together, these plants are sometimes known as the Three Sisters. They thrive

when grown together, as farmers throughout the Americas have known since ancient times.

The later Pueblo period lasted from roughly 750 to 1300 CE. During this time, the Ancestral Pueblo began producing pottery for cooking and storage. Though it was used for everyday purposes, this pottery often had intricate designs. Some vessels had red and black glazes; others had detailed raised patterns. Many Pueblo jars, bowls, and cups survive today that show the skills of these ancient artisans.

The Ancestral Pueblo peoples also began to make large, sturdy buildings from **adobe**. These gradually developed from the pit houses, starting with the addition of interior walls to create multiple rooms. Eventually, instead of separate dwellings, Puebloan homes were built together with flat roofs, interior walls, and often multiple stories. Constructed of stone or adobe blocks, these more extensive settlements are called **pueblos**. The name comes from the Spanish word meaning “town”

Vocabulary

adobe, n. a type of brick made from sun-dried clay

pueblo, n. a settlement constructed of stone or adobe houses and other buildings



The Ancestral Pueblo are well known for their many structures made of adobe, like this grain storehouse at Road Canyon (left). However, they also used stone masonry, as seen in this complex of ruins at Hovenweep National Monument (right).

or “village” and is the source of the term *Pueblo*. A common feature of the pueblos was the **kiva**, a large underground chamber, usually circular, that was used for ceremonial gatherings.

Vocabulary

kiva, n. a large underground room used for ceremonies by the Ancestral Pueblo and their descendants

drought, n. a period of prolonged, often severe dry weather

Throughout both periods, the Ancestral Pueblo cultivated crops as well as a gathering variety of native plants for food and materials. The yucca was of special importance. Its fibrous leaves provided material for making baskets, sandals, twine, and rope. Thanks to the dry climate and the durability of Ancestral Pueblo architecture, many woven goods from this period have been preserved.

About 1250 CE, a lengthy **drought** made it difficult for farmers to survive in southern Utah. Thus, the Ancestral Pueblo of Utah migrated to settlements in what is now New Mexico, Arizona, and Texas. Their descendants include various Indigenous peoples, such as the Hopi, Zuni, Acoma, and Laguna.

Think Twice



How is the building of pueblos related to the Ancestral Pueblo’s farming practices?

The Fremont People

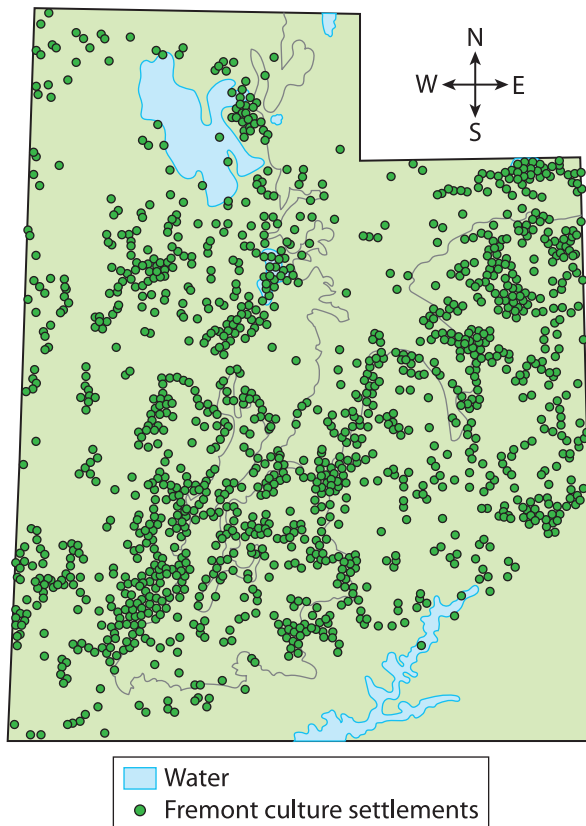
Like the Ancestral Pueblo, the Fremont people emerged as a distinct culture in Utah around two thousand years ago. They were present from about 300 CE to, at the latest, 1500 CE. Scholars today

do not know what these people called themselves. Thus, archaeologists use the name of the Fremont River in southeastern Utah, where an important site of this culture was found.

The Fremont people are thought to be descendants of Ancestral Pueblo farmers and Archaic hunter-gatherers. Their culture had many similarities to the Ancestral Pueblo but developed its own distinct traditions in architecture, artwork, and handicrafts. Like the

Ancestral Pueblo, the Fremont were farmers, mainly of corn. Like their Archaic ancestors, they hunted animals such as deer, bison, and bighorn sheep. More mobile than the Ancestral Pueblo yet not as migratory as the Archaic peoples, the Fremont are sometimes said to have a “semi-sedentary” way of life. Remains of their settlements have been found throughout Utah, though they are sparser in the southernmost part of the state where the Ancestral Pueblo lived.

Fremont Culture Sites in Utah



Partly farmers and partly foragers, the Fremont people adapted to climates and terrain across almost the entirety of Utah. Often, their settlements concentrated around lakes and rivers.

Fremont social groups were small, with the largest known villages having a few hundred people. More often, they lived in units of a few families organized into a farmstead. Like the Ancestral Pueblo, the Fremont used pit houses as their main type of dwelling. Larger Fremont settlements also had **granaries** for storing corn, as well as communal structures whose purpose remains unknown. Some of these structures resemble the kivas built by the Ancestral Pueblo. Anthropologists think these structures may have been used for feasts or other community rituals.

Vocabulary

granary, n. a building or structure used for the storage of grain

The Fremont culture began to decline around 1250 CE, and archaeological evidence suggests that they were gone by 1500. Today's researchers are not certain what happened to the Fremont: They may have died out, moved away, or joined a larger and more powerful tribal group. There was a major drought at the time, which probably disrupted the Fremont people's livelihoods, the same way it did those of the Ancestral Pueblo.

Remember that while the Ancestral Pueblo eventually left Utah, they and

their descendants remained in the Southwest. Thus, their crafts, customs, and stories survive in a living tradition. The Fremont, however, disappeared more than five hundred years ago. How do we know how they lived and what they were like? Some clues can be found in the belongings they left behind. For instance, we know which animals the Fremont hunted because they made moccasins from these animals' hides, unlike the woven, plant-based sandals worn by the Ancestral Pueblo. Anthropologists also



This Fremont petroglyph is known as the Great Hunt Panel. It depicts prehistoric bowhunters assembling to hunt a large herd of horned animals.

know that the Fremont farmed because they left behind supplies of corn and the tools for grinding it.

Another important source of information is their artwork, including **pictographs** and **petroglyphs**. Both are important ways to learn about prehistoric cultures, including the Fremont.

Vocabulary

pictograph, n. a picture, usually ancient or prehistoric, that is painted on a natural rock surface

petroglyph, n. a picture or design that is carved into a rock surface



Think Twice

What role did geography play in the innovations created by Utah's Fremont and Ancestral Puebloan peoples?



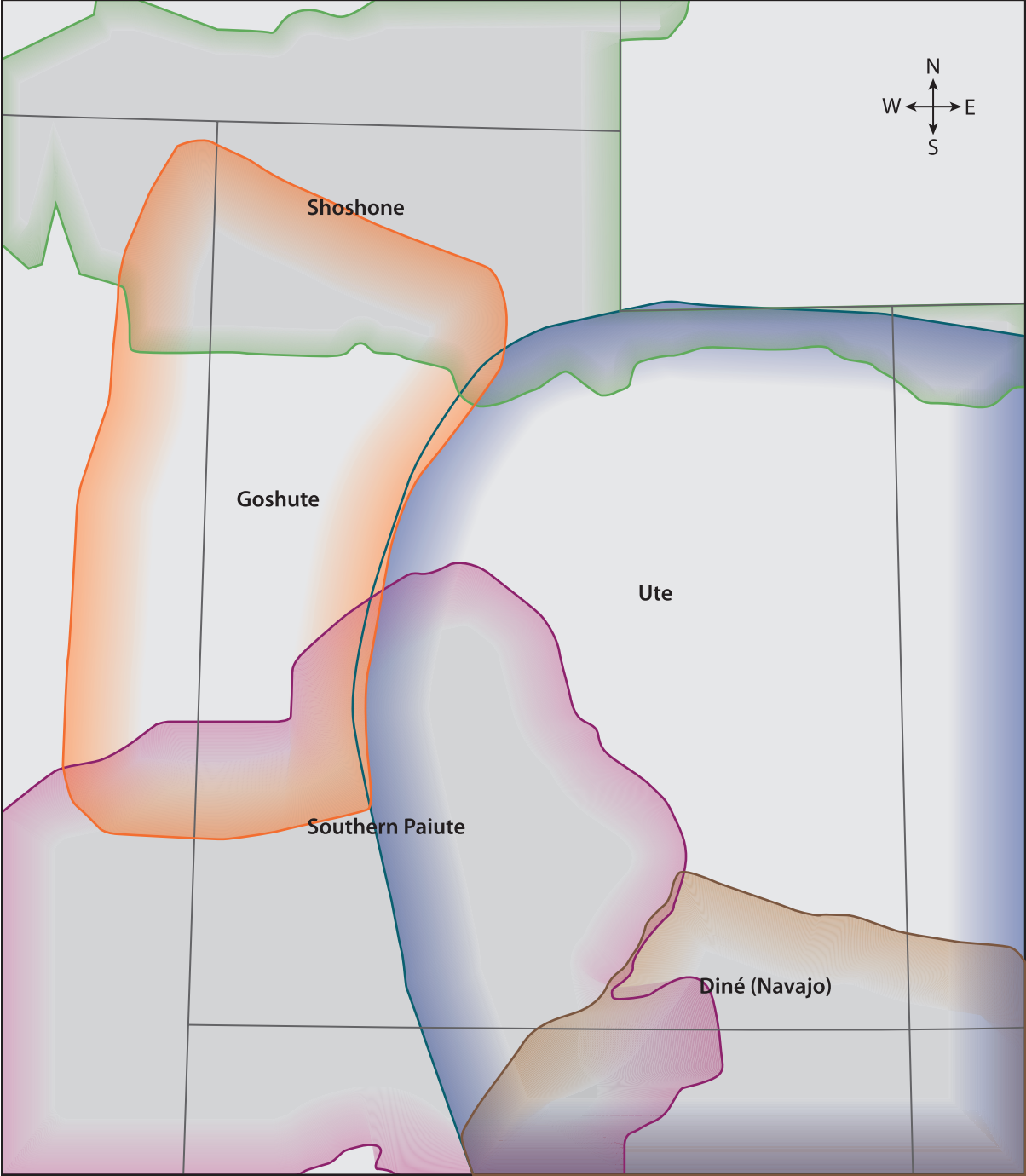
The Historic Tribes of Utah

By around 1800, there were five major Native tribes in present-day Utah. They lived in different but overlapping regions and adapted differently to the climate and resources there. Members of all five historic tribes live in Utah today, organized into a variety of tribes, bands, and nations.

Members of the Ute tribe emerged as a distinct culture around 1000 CE in the southern Great Basin before moving northeast to Utah and Colorado. In Utah, Ute society was subdivided into twelve independent bands. Each band gathered every year for the Bear Dance to celebrate the arrival of spring. This ceremony is still observed today. The rest of the year, the Ute lived in small villages and family groups. Fishing, gathering, and hunting were all important sources of food prior to European contact. Known for their horsemanship, the Ute first raised horses acquired from Spanish explorers in the late seventeenth century and excelled at both hunting and fighting on horseback.

The Goshute are thought to have come to Utah around 1000 CE, migrating from California. They lived in the deserts of northwestern Utah, near where the Nevada border is now. Like other parts of the Great Basin, this region is hot and arid, making it hard to grow crops. In these tough conditions, the Goshute traditionally lived as hunter-gatherers without building large settlements. They relied on their knowledge of seasonal plants and the habits of game animals to survive.

Historic Tribes of Utah



The territories of Utah’s five historic tribes shifted over the years and often overlapped.



Lightweight brush shelters called wickiups traditionally served as a common form of dwelling for many Native peoples of the Southwest, including the Ute, Goshute, Paiute, and Shoshone.

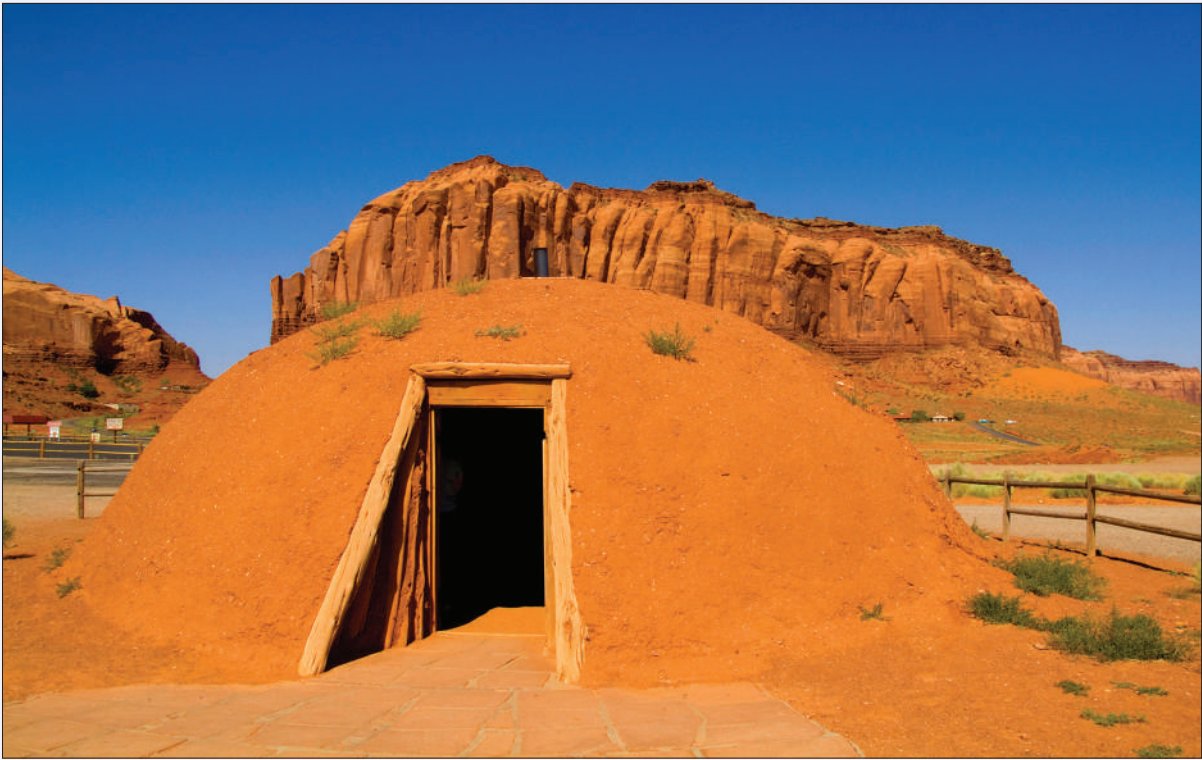
Unlike the extensive adobe structures built by cultures in the Southwest, the Goshute created **wickiups**, or brush shelters, dome-shaped dwellings with a wood frame and a thatch or hide roof. These could be assembled from easily found

materials as the Goshutes moved from place to place.

The term *Paiute* refers to several different tribal groups with loosely related languages and cultures. Those who settled in Utah are the Southern Paiute, who have lived in the southwestern part of Utah since about 1100 CE. As you read earlier in this chapter, southwestern Utah is where the Great Basin and the Colorado Plateau meet. Thus, some parts of the Paiutes'

Vocabulary

wickiup, n. a dome-shaped shelter assembled of branches and covered with thatch or hide



The traditional Navajo dwelling, called a hogan, is timber-framed and covered with earth. The entrances of hogans typically face east, toward the rising sun.

traditional territory are water-rich and suitable for farming while others are arid and support only hunting and gathering.

The Paiute who settled along the rivers raised a variety of crops, including corn, squash, and sunflowers. Both they and their desert neighbors also hunted wild sheep, deer, and small game and gathered seeds, roots, and berries. The Southern Paiute further adapted to the climate of their region by seasonally migrating between low-lying areas where crops could be planted and cooler upland areas where game could be found. Like the

Goshute, they built wickiups at stopping points on their migratory journeys.

The Shoshone, whose name comes from *sosoni*, a Shoshone word meaning “high-growing grass,” are another tribe with several different divisions. Those in Utah lived in largely independent family units and, like the Goshute, were migratory hunter-gatherers who met in larger groups infrequently. Family groups wintered together in larger camps, and every several years, Shoshone men would assemble for a large communal hunt of pronghorn antelope. Pine nuts were a

staple food, gathered in large quantities every fall.

The Navajo, or Diné, are today the second-most populous Native tribe recognized by the U.S. government. They are thought to have migrated south from present-day Canada in prehistoric times. Their territory historically spread across portions of the Four Corners region, including southeastern Utah. Navajo entry into this region coincided with the departure of the Ancestral Pueblo. By the time Spanish explorers arrived, the Navajo, formerly hunter-gatherers, had come to rely on farming as the Ancestral Pueblo did. With the acquisition of horses, sheep and goat herding became another important part of the tribal economy. The traditional Navajo dwelling is known as a **hogan** and is typically made of logs arranged in a dome shape

and then covered with earth. In modern times, hogans are used mainly for ceremonies.

Life for the Navajo and Utah's other historic tribes changed dramatically after 1776. While the United States was fighting for its independence, Utah's tribes were encountering a new people: the Spanish. That encounter would change Utah forever.

Vocabulary

hogan, n. a traditional Navajo dwelling framed with timber and covered with earth

Find Out the Facts

Choose one of the historic tribes from this section. Find out where the members or descendants of this tribe live today.



Chapter 2

Utah Joins the United States

Big Question

How did Utah grow and develop prior to statehood?



“This Is the Place”

The date is July 24, 1847. After a thousand-mile journey from Nebraska, a wagon train of settlers has reached the Salt Lake Valley. These settlers are members of a religious community, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Winding their way through a canyon, the wagons arrive at a small hilltop. Their leader, Brigham Young, is resting under the canvas roof of his wagon. He has been sick with a severe fever. As the train summits the hill, Young sits up, draws the canvas aside, and looks out over the desert landscape.



The "This Is the Place" Monument was dedicated in 1947, a century after Latter-day Saints settlers first arrived in the Salt Lake Valley. The bronze sculptures commemorate those settlers as well as Spanish explorers, fur traders, and other groups who opened the West to Euro-american settlement.



The land is dry, the lake is so salty that it was once mistaken for the ocean, and only narrow passages lead in and out of the valley. To most people, this would not seem like a favorable place to build a city. But Young says, "This is the right place. Drive on." He is certain that he and his followers will survive and even thrive here.

As they get to work building homes and plowing fields, news of their settlement travels back east. Over the next two decades or so, many more Latter-day Saints settlers will arrive—about seventy thousand in all. Some, like Young's party, will come in trains of ox-drawn wagons like those used on the Oregon Trail. Others, who cannot afford oxen or horses, will travel on foot across the Great Plains and over the rough terrain of the Rockies, pulling their possessions along in handcarts.

Young and his followers timed their departure to avoid the worst of the winter weather. They started out from the Midwest in the spring and hoped to arrive in Utah before autumn and cold weather began. Even with this precaution, hundreds died from hunger, cold, and disease.

Today, a monument and a historic village mark the site where the first Latter-day



CROSSING THE PLAINS WITH A HAND-CART.

Thousands of settlers made their way to Utah not in covered wagons but with carts that they pulled by hand.

Saints settlers entered the Salt Lake Valley. Sculptures on the monument commemorate these pioneers, as well as many others who explored and settled in the valley. The canyon itself is known as Emigration Canyon, and July 24 is celebrated statewide as Pioneer Day.

The Domínguez–Escalante Expedition

On the south side of the monument is a Spanish priest on horseback. Beside him walks another priest, along with several other Spanish and Native American men. These are the members of the

Domínguez and Escalante expedition. In 1776, Francisco Atanasio Domínguez and Silvestre Vélez de Escalante led a group of explorers from the Spanish territory of New Mexico into Utah searching for a route to California. They were assisted by two Utes, whom they referred to by the Spanish names Silvestre and Joaquin. The expedition made it nearly as far as Utah Lake before turning back to avoid the harsh winter. It was only with the help of supplies from the Hopi, a Native American group living in what is now Arizona, that they survived their return trip.

Domínguez and Escalante's goal was to find a route between the Santa Fe and Monterey missions, making it easier to transport goods, people, and information between Spanish settlements in North America. At this they failed. But the expedition helped open Utah to further exploration and settlement by Europeans. From their Native American guides and their own observations, the expedition gained knowledge of the geography of Utah. Maps based on their discoveries show many of Utah's rivers, mountains, and other landmarks with names that they still bear today (although many have been translated into English). The expedition also brought Europeans into contact with

effective, and the trade persisted into the middle of the nineteenth century.



Think Twice

What is the historical significance of the Domínguez and Escalante expedition?

The Fur Trading Companies

The northern end of the “This is the Place” Monument shows a different group of explorers. These are the Mountain Men: fur traders and trappers who came west seeking wealth and independence. The central figure in this part of the sculpture is William Ashley of the Rocky Mountain Fur Company, which also employed explorers Jedediah Smith and Jim Bridger.

While the Spanish were moving northward, settling much of the present-day American Southwest, settlers from the United States were pushing westward from Missouri. In the early nineteenth century, the Lewis and Clark expedition (1804–06) helped open much of the West to American, British, and French trappers and traders. These groups eventually made their way into the Rocky Mountains and the Great Basin, including parts of what is now Utah.

The trappers made their living by catching and killing various animals that were prized

for their fur. Beavers were the main animal the trappers sought. Beaver fur is soft, thick, and water-resistant, providing the animals with protection in the streams they live in. These same qualities made beaver fur a valued material for hat making in early nineteenth-century North America and Europe. Traders would buy or barter for the furs and sell them to others for a profit.

Beavers were plentiful in the Rockies, attracting many trappers and traders who hoped to get rich. Seeing potential for profit, **entrepreneurs** set up several different fur trading companies. These businessmen did not necessarily go into the woods and trap beavers themselves but would provide trappers with supplies in exchange for a portion of the furs they obtained.

Vocabulary

entrepreneur, n. a person who starts a business

As companies expanded, however, competition grew fierce, and explorers had to search more and more widely to find good trapping grounds. Many fur trappers came to the region from the United States. By the 1820s, these American fur trappers had displaced Spanish and Mexican traders as far south as New Mexico.



Beaver hats were fashionable across Europe and North America during the nineteenth century. Because beavers tend to make their homes in streams, the search for beaver trapping grounds led to the mapping of many American waterways.

Fur trappers and traders found routes that eventually stretched across much of the American West. Some routes they discovered themselves. Others they learned from Native American guides and trading partners. For example, while scouting for new beaver habitats, Jim Bridger arrived at the Great Salt Lake in 1824. The first known European American to set eyes on the lake, Bridger mistook it for part of the Pacific Ocean because of the saltiness of its water. Eventually, trails and trade routes connected Utah with the Oregon Country to the northwest, with New Mexico to the south, and with Missouri back east. Many such routes have since become part of the U.S. highway system.

Like the Spanish traders who preceded them, the American newcomers both

helped and harmed the Native American communities of Utah. On the one hand, they provided the Ute and other tribes with tools, weapons, and manufactured goods. On the other hand, they used up natural resources that the Native Americans had relied on for centuries. For instance, American trappers hunted many of the animal species of the Rocky Mountains, not only for fur but for food. By about 1840, they had nearly wiped out the bison herds of the Rockies while **diminishing** the populations of many other game species. Beavers, especially, suffered a large decline in their population due to the activities of American trappers.

Vocabulary

diminish, v. to decrease or make less

The trappers, like the Spanish, also brought diseases such as smallpox, measles, and the flu. Because Europeans had been exposed to these diseases over many generations, they had developed some immunity to them. Native Americans had no such immunity, and many died of these illnesses.



Think Twice

How did the arrival of European and American trappers change the human geography of Utah?



The Migration of the Latter-day Saints

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints was founded in the late 1820s as part of the Second Great Awakening. This period of religious enthusiasm and experimentation gave rise to many new religious movements throughout the United States. In 1830, amid this climate of growing religious diversity, the Vermont-born farmer and treasure hunter Joseph Smith published the Book of Mormon. This is a collection of scriptures that Smith said were translated from golden plates revealed to him by an angel. At various points throughout the church's history, Smith's followers have been known as

Mormons by people outside of the faith, after the title of the Book of Mormon.

However, the church's followers prefer to be called Latter-day Saints.

Smith quickly gained followers in upstate New York. Smith's followers faced persecution almost immediately. Members of other Christian groups often viewed Latter-day Saints with fear and suspicion. They tended to dislike Latter-day Saints teaching that other Christian faiths had "gone astray," and that Smith's church was the true one. When the Latter-day Saints population of a town grew large, other members of the community often feared losing control of the town's government and laws.

As a result, violent confrontations sometimes broke out between Latter-day Saint militias and local authorities. Smith himself was arrested for disrupting the public order, although he was found not guilty. Gradually, under his leadership, members of the Latter-day Saint congregation moved west from New York to Ohio, then to Missouri, and then to Nauvoo, Illinois. After Smith's death in 1844, his successor, Brigham Young, led a group of Latter-day Saint settlers to present-day Utah. There, Young and his followers hoped to establish a religious homeland separate from the broader American culture.

When Brigham Young told his followers that they had arrived at their new home in 1847, they knew that their wandering was at an end. Young believed in and promoted a “Gathering of the Saints” that would draw more Latter-day Saints to Utah. Over the next decade, Latter-day Saint settlers established approximately ninety towns and villages across Utah. They quickly became the largest cultural group in the region, outnumbering the Native Americans who had made Utah their home for centuries. But their success did not come easily. Utah’s lack of water resources posed a

challenge to European and American agricultural practices. The settlers responded by building small farms that grew a variety of crops. They redirected streams from plateaus and mountains to irrigate low-lying farmland. During the first decades of settlement, crops and livestock mainly served local community needs and were not raised for a wider market.

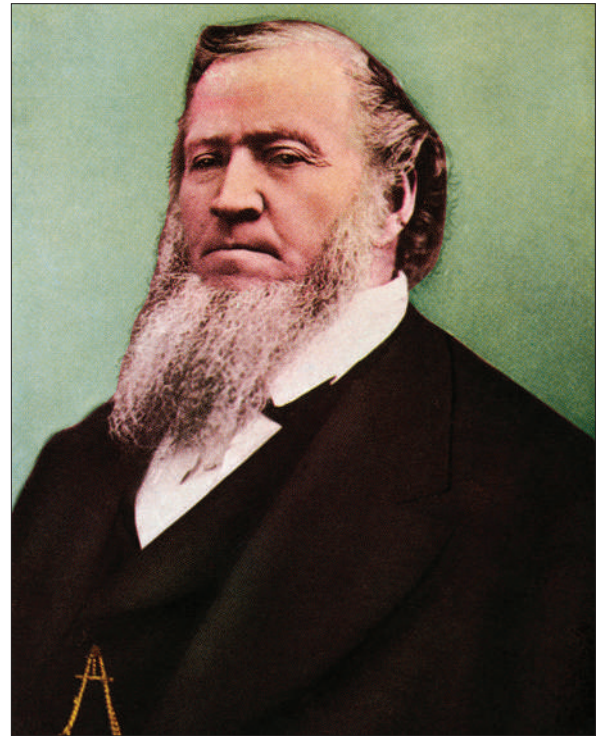
Think Twice



What were the roles of Brigham Young and other leaders in the settlement of Utah?



Joseph Smith (1805–44), founder of the Latter-day Saint movement, led his followers west from New York to Illinois.



Brigham Young (1801–77) led the Latter-day Saints to Utah, where they founded Salt Lake City.

Major Latter-day Saint Settlements in Utah, 1847–56



This map shows major settlements founded during the first decade of Latter-day Saint migration and colonization.

The Utah Territory

During the heyday of the fur traders, Utah was still a Mexican territory. In 1846, the United States went to war with Mexico. This war is called the Mexican-American War. During the conflict, the United States defeated Mexico's armed forces.

Mexico **ceded** Utah, along with much of the rest of the Southwest, in early 1848.

This land transfer became known as the Mexican Cession.

Vocabulary

cede, v. to grant or transfer

Almost immediately, Latter-day Saint settlers launched a bid for statehood. The proposed state of Deseret would have occupied not only present-day Utah but also most of Nevada and portions of several adjoining states. Plans for statehood were set back, however, when the Utah Territory was created as part of the Compromise of 1850. In this period, as the United States grew, so too did sectionalism. Sectionalism meant prioritizing one's own region over the national interest. One of the main sectional conflicts was between the North and South over the issue of slavery. Slavery was legal in Southern states and illegal in Northern states. Opponents of slavery wanted to end the practice nationwide. Supporters of slavery wanted it to be legal everywhere. As new states and territories joined the United States, Congress tried to solve the conflict by maintaining a balance between the two sides. Some feared that any imbalance would lead to a violent conflict breaking out over the issue. The Compromise of 1850 was intended to settle disputes over slavery and thus prevent war between slave states and free states. In the compromise, Congress admitted California as a free state and established

the Utah and New Mexico Territories, which would decide the question of slavery for themselves.

Despite being a U.S. territory, Utah mostly governed itself. The Utah Territory was subject to the U.S. Constitution and federal laws. However, being geographically remote from the rest of the United States, Utah had little interference from the federal government at first. By appointing Brigham Young as governor of Utah, President Millard Fillmore gave the Latter-day Saints Church and its leaders power to make the rules in the new territory. Back east, many worried that this system would undermine the separation of church and state.

Chief Wakara and Wakara's War

The Indigenous peoples of Utah had varying responses toward the Latter-day Saints, fur traders, and other European and American settlers. Some valued the trade that these settlers brought; they saw it as an economic and political advantage for their tribe or band. Others resented the overhunting and competition for lands and wanted the settlers gone.

As the extent and impact of settlement grew, the various tribes and bands felt the effects differently. Some groups

prospered from trade, but for others the main effect was a loss of land and a depletion of the food supply.

A key leader in the Native American response was the Ute chief Wakara. Wakara was a member of a Ute band called the Tumpanawach. Wakara was born in the early 1800s near present-day Spanish Fork, Utah. He became the leader of the Tumpanawach in the 1820s by trading with and collecting **tribute** from settlers and explorers who crossed Tumpanawach territory. Wakara also cooperated with Mountain Men to conduct horse-stealing raids along the Old Spanish Trail, a trade route connecting Santa Fe and Los Angeles.

Vocabulary

tribute, n. payment of money or goods by a people or their ruler to another country or ruler in exchange for protection

Wakara's skill as a leader and as a trader convinced other Ute leaders and their bands to combine lands and resources under him. By the mid-1840s, Wakara had gathered a large following among the Ute. When the Latter-day Saints arrived in 1847, the beaver trade was declining, and so was the presence of fur traders. Chief Wakara

initially welcomed the settlers as potential partners in trade, but as more and more settlers arrived, they soon proved disruptive. Apart from the strain that they placed on the food supply, the Latter-day Saint settlers strongly opposed the trade in enslaved people. In 1851, at Governor Young's recommendation, they followed a policy of buying enslaved Native Americans in the hope of converting them. In 1853, the territorial legislature banned the trade outright.

For decades, the trade in enslaved people and commodities such as horses had been a major source of wealth for Wakara, and he resented the settlers' interference. Tensions came to a head in July 1853, when a settler killed one of Wakara's followers after a trade dispute. The settler did not receive any punishment, prompting Wakara to seek revenge.

The conflict that followed is known as Wakara's War. Over a period of about ten months, the Tumpanawach conducted raids on Latter-day Saint settlements. The Nauvoo Legion, as the Latter-day Saint militia was known, not only fought back but also killed numerous Ute who were not involved in the conflict. Wakara agreed to peace in May 1854 and died the following winter. He never ceded his lands.



Think Twice

How did Euro-American settlement affect Native American communities?

Chief Pocatello and the Bear River Massacre

About a decade after Chief Wakara made peace with Latter-day Saint settlers, Chief Pocatello of the Shoshone became another important figure in Native American resistance to settlement. Born in about 1815, Pocatello became known by the late 1850s as a leader of raids on settlements and wagon trains. Settlers were occupying Shoshone hunting grounds and depleting the land of game animals and native plants that the Shoshone depended on for survival. As a result, the Shoshone no longer had access to these important resources and suffered greatly. Pocatello's raids were not only retaliation but also a way for desperate people to get food and supplies. Nonetheless, Pocatello and his band were treated as outlaws by both Latter-day Saints and U.S. authorities.

By 1858, the U.S. military had brought thousands of troops to Utah and established forts there. Eventually,

U.S. Army officers decided to conduct their own raid on the Shoshone people as a form of revenge on Pocatello. Colonel Patrick Edward Connor led a force of about two hundred soldiers to a Shoshone encampment along the



Hunted as an outlaw in his own time, today Chief Pocatello is honored in some parts of the West. The town of Pocatello, Idaho, where this statue is located, is named after him.

Bear River, north of Ogden. Pocatello escaped, but hundreds of Shoshone were slaughtered in the Bear River Massacre. Recognizing that more death and destruction were likely to follow, Pocatello sought peace. He agreed to move, with his followers, to a reservation in what is now Idaho.



Find Out the Facts

Find out more about the ways that the Ute, the Shoshone, and other tribes interacted with the settlers who arrived in Utah in the nineteenth century. What were sources of conflict? What were some ways they cooperated?



The Crossroads of the West

In the years following the Latter-day Saint migrations, Utah's population boomed. Many new arrivals to the East Coast of the United States would continue westward to make their home in Utah. Others would journey across the Pacific Ocean to California before making their way east, following the country's growing rail network. Within two generations of their first arrival at the Great Salt Lake, Latter-day Saint families were joined by thousands of immigrants, most of whom came from Europe or Asia.

The Transcontinental Railroad

The first people to come to Utah did so on foot more than thirteen thousand years ago. In the 1800s, many settlers came pulling handcarts or riding horses or wagons. Railways, however, brought greatest surge of immigration to Utah.

Beginning in 1863, companies supported by the U.S. government worked to join railroads in the eastern United States with those on the Pacific Coast: in other words, to build a transcontinental railroad. A telegraph line already ran through Salt Lake City, reaching westward to San Francisco and eastward to Omaha. The telegraph greatly improved communication between the east and the west. The transcontinental railroad was a much bigger project to improve the flow of goods and people across North America.

To accomplish this goal, three separate companies built more than 1,900 miles (3,000 km) of railroad line in six years. The Western Pacific Railroad connected San Francisco, a major ocean port, to Sacramento, California's state capital. The Central Pacific Railroad began construction in Sacramento and worked eastward. The Union Pacific Railroad began construction in Council Bluffs, Iowa,

and worked westward. On May 10, 1869, the Central Pacific and the Union Pacific Railroads joined at Promontory Summit, about 65 miles (105 km) northwest of Salt Lake City. The transcontinental railroad was officially complete.

The joining of the rail lines at Promontory Summit was the scene of a great ceremony, known as the “Wedding of the Rails.” During this ceremony, a spike made of gold was hammered in to complete the track. The driving of the golden spike has often been celebrated as an achievement of American industry and a milestone in the history of the American West.

The transcontinental railroad made it easier to come to Utah and to do business here. Rail traffic brought **commerce** and provided a wider market for the produce of Utah farmers. In 1873, Salt Lake City also established a farmers market to help small farmers sell more of their goods locally. Farming underwent another boom in the late nineteenth century as many more settlers came to Utah to buy land. In the 1890s alone, the amount of cultivated land in Utah tripled.

Vocabulary

commerce, n. the buying and selling of goods and services; trade



The driving of the golden spike on May 10, 1869, officially connected the Atlantic and Pacific coasts by rail.

Think Twice



What geographic factors positioned Utah to become “the crossroads of the West”?

Writers' Corner

Imagine you are one of the people present at Promontory Summit when the transcontinental railroad is completed in 1869. Write a paragraph describing how you feel on this occasion. How do you think the railroad will affect life in Utah for you and others? What do you hope will happen?



Waves of Immigration

The transcontinental railroad was largely built by immigrants. More than twelve thousand Chinese immigrants worked on the Central Pacific Railroad. When its construction ended in Utah, many Chinese immigrants stayed there. As

Utah's rail system expanded in the 1870s and 1880s, hundreds settled in Ogden. By the end of the century, Chinatowns with specialty stores and restaurants had sprung up in Ogden, Salt Lake City, and Park City.

Now that they could reach the West quickly and safely by train, immigrants arriving in New York from Europe often continued westward. Some found jobs in Utah's constantly growing railroad industry. Others worked mining iron, lead, and precious metals—an occupation originally discouraged by Latter-day Saint leaders and widely taken up by non-Latter-day Saints.

Among the newcomers were thousands of Italians, who began to immigrate to the United States in large numbers in the 1880s. Most planned to return to Italy once they saved enough money to help their families; about half ultimately did so.

Around 1900, young men also began coming to Utah from Greece. War and crop failures had brought poor economic conditions to their homeland. Like their Italian predecessors, they would work tough, dangerous jobs in the rail, mining, and metalworking industries. Also like Italian immigrants, many expected to build savings in America and bring them back to their families in Europe. Instead,



Landmarks often reflect the rise of Utah's immigrant communities. Seen here is Holy Trinity Cathedral, a Greek Orthodox church in Salt Lake City.

despite hardship and discrimination, many ended up staying and sending for friends and relatives to join them. In 1900, there were just three Greek people recorded in the Utah census. By 1910, the number had grown to more than four thousand, and a Greek Orthodox church stood in Salt Lake City's Greek Town district.

Thanks in large part to immigration, the late nineteenth century was a period of vast growth for Utah and for the United States as a whole. The U.S. population more than doubled between 1860 and 1890, and Utah's increased fivefold during this period. Yet, although it continued to attract many settlers and immigrants, Utah's path to statehood was not easy.

Think Twice

What factors led various peoples to settle in Utah?





Think Twice

How did improved transportation, industry, and mining transform Utah's economy, politics, and other aspects of culture?



Conflicts

In the decade after the first Latter-day Saints arrived at the Great Salt Lake, tensions with the federal government grew. A major issue was political control of the Utah Territory. Brigham Young and his followers wanted to govern the territory as a **theocracy**, making decisions and resolving conflicts mainly through church organizations. The U.S. government, meanwhile, wanted to ensure that federal laws were enforced by officials it trusted and administered by **secular** courts.

One issue—**polygamy**—loomed especially large. Officially since 1852 but unofficially for some time before, the

Latter-day Saints had encouraged their men to have more than one wife. This practice was deeply unpopular with many people outside of the Latter-day Saint community.

Although President Fillmore had appointed Young as the territory's governor, other appointees came from Washington, D.C., and were expected to work alongside Young. These men made no secret of their opposition to polygamy and other Latter-day Saint practices. They quickly came into conflict with the Latter-day Saint population. They returned to Washington and reported that the Latter-day Saint settlers were on the verge of rebellion. Newspapers back east also spread exaggerated accounts of violence and disorder in Utah, which further turned popular opinion against the territory's government.

For all these reasons, U.S. political leaders—including President James Buchanan—felt pressure to take control of the Utah Territory, by force if necessary.

Vocabulary

theocracy, n. a system of government ruled by religious leaders

secular, adj. not religious

polygamy, n. marriage between one man and two or more women

The Utah War

In 1857, a misunderstanding between Latter-day Saints Church leaders and the federal government nearly brought about a civil war. President Buchanan

had become convinced that Brigham Young had to be replaced as governor of the Utah Territory. He appointed a new governor, Alfred Cumming, and ordered 2,500 federal troops to follow Cumming to Salt Lake City to defend the new governor if necessary.

There was no fast way for Buchanan and Young to communicate, as telegraph service did not reach Utah until 1861. Consequently, Young learned of the coming troops from fellow Latter-day Saints, who noticed the U.S. Army's preparations. From Young's point of view, an army was marching on Utah for unknown and likely sinister reasons. He began to prepare for war. Advance messengers assured Young that no invasion or attack was being planned. Young, however, distrusted the messengers and soon declared **martial law**. He stationed more than a thousand militiamen in the canyons east of Salt Lake City and ordered the immediate training of many more.

Vocabulary

martial law, n. rule by the military, usually imposed in times of war or emergency

Cumming arrived in the Utah Territory in November. A standoff between federal

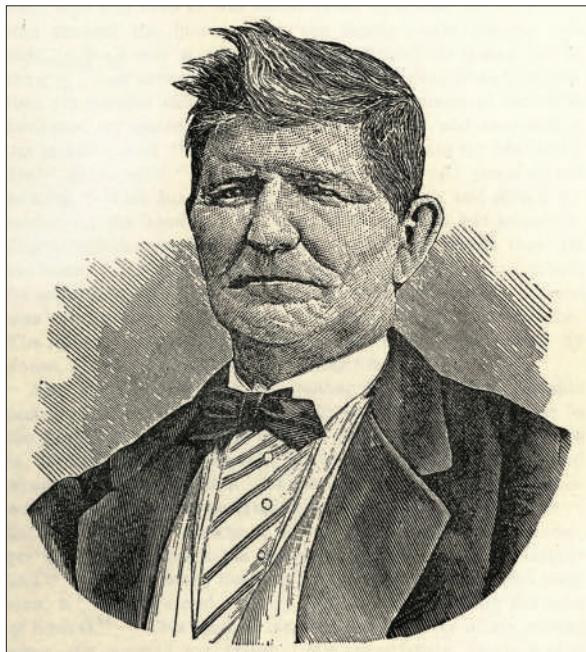
troops and Latter-day Saint militiamen prevented him from reaching Salt Lake City. In March 1858, expecting fighting to break out, Young ordered most of the Latter-day Saint settlers to evacuate Salt Lake City and move south. Some thirty thousand people relocated to Provo and the surrounding area, where some remained permanently.

The widespread conflict that both sides feared never materialized. Letters and messengers between Latter-day Saint and federal leaders eventually led to an agreement. By April, Cumming was able to safely visit Salt Lake City, where Young handed over the governorship peacefully. Although a war was avoided, distrust between Latter-day Saint settlers and federal authorities continued.

When the rest of the U.S. Army expedition finally marched into Salt Lake City in June 1858, it met no opposition. A New York newspaper, having expected a civil war between federal and Latter-day Saint forces, summarized the crisis: "Killed, none; wounded, none; fooled, everybody." That phrase is only half true. It is true that there was no formal war between the U.S. Army and the Nauvoo Legion, but this does not mean that there was no violence during the Utah War.

One of the darkest episodes in the Utah War was the Mountain Meadows Massacre. In September 1857, fifty to sixty members of the Nauvoo Legion attacked a wagon train passing through southern Utah. Joining forces with Southern Paiute and disguising themselves as Native Americans, the attackers murdered more than a hundred people. Only seventeen people, all of them young children, were spared. Anyone old enough to serve as a witness was killed.

To this day, historians debate how the Mountain Meadows Massacre came about and who was responsible. Records show that Young had ordered Latter-day Saints



John Lee was one of the leaders of the Latter-day Saint militia that carried out the Mountain Meadows Massacre. Lee was eventually excommunicated from the church and lived for some time in exile. He was later tried and executed for his role in the massacre—the only person brought to justice.

not to interfere with non-Latter-day Saint wagon trains. However, he and other Latter-day Saint leaders tried to cover up the militia's involvement. Some leaders of the militia were later **excommunicated** from the Latter-day Saints Church. One of the militia leaders was tried and executed by the U.S. government.

Vocabulary

excommunicate, v. to punish a person by excluding or expelling them from church membership

Think Twice

What did the Utah War show about the relationship between Utah and the federal government?



The American Civil War

The presidential election of 1860 turned the nation's argument about slavery into a full-blown crisis. Abraham Lincoln won the election. Lincoln opposed slavery, and his party, the Republican Party, was committed to ending slavery in the United States. Before Lincoln was even inaugurated, Southern states began to secede from, or leave, the Union in defense of slavery. By June 1861, eleven Southern states had seceded and founded the Confederate States of America. The

Confederacy set up its own government, drafted its own constitution, and raised its own army. It swiftly began seizing federal property, including forts, mints, and arsenals. Fort Sumter in Charleston, South Carolina, refused to surrender to the Confederacy. In response, on April 12, 1861, Confederate forces opened fire on the fort. This was the beginning of the American Civil War, which would rage until its conclusion, a Union victory, in 1865.

When the American Civil War broke out, the recent experience of the Utah War led federal officials to carefully avoid any conflict with Utah and the Latter-day Saint community. "Tell Brigham Young," President Abraham Lincoln reportedly said, "that if he will let me alone, I will let him alone." Although he was no longer Utah's governor, Young was still president of the Latter-day Saints Church and a very influential figure in Utah. Lincoln did not want more conflicts while the federal government was fighting the Civil War.

Utah had little direct involvement in the Civil War. Like other territories, it had been granted the ability to decide the question of slavery within its borders by popular sovereignty, meaning the will of the people of a territory. At first, slavery was legal in the Utah, as permitted by a territorial law of 1852. However,

Latter-day Saint leadership was divided about the practice. Joseph Smith had called for abolition. Slavery was never a widespread practice among Utah's Latter-day Saint settlers: Of the fifty African Americans who appear in the 1850 Utah census, twenty-four are listed as free and twenty-six as enslaved. Overall, Utah's leaders did not want to go to war in support of slavery. In 1862, while the Civil War was being fought, Congress abolished slavery in U.S. territories, including Utah.

Discouraged by the Latter-day Saints Church from fighting in the Civil War only a few Utahns volunteered to fight on the war's faraway battlefields. Just one Utahn soldier, the Union volunteer Henry Wells Jackson, is known to have died in battle during the Civil War. Others Utahns served in the Utah militia, whose main responsibility was to protect mail routes and telegraph lines. The war's most immediate effect on the Utah Territory was an increased presence of U.S. troops. The commander of U.S. forces in Utah was Colonel Patrick Edward Connor, the same man who had brought about the Bear River Massacre.

The Black Hawk War

Although it remained largely distant from the Civil War, Utah had a major conflict of its own soon after. This was the Black

Hawk War (1865–72), which pitted settlers against the Ute and their allies. Like Wakara’s War a decade earlier, it took the form of many small-scale battles, raids, and skirmishes between Native American bands and settler militias, with civilians on both sides often caught up in the fighting.

After the negotiation of peace with Chief Wakara, Latter-day Saint settlers and the Tumpanawach lived alongside one another uneasily but without major conflicts. This changed in 1865, when the killing and stampeding of settlers’ cattle, along with the spreading of smallpox among the Ute, led to great mutual distrust. A dispute over cattle theft grew violent when one of the Latter-day Saint settlers pulled a Ute chief—known as Black Hawk—off his horse. Greatly insulted by this action, Black Hawk led a growing band of Ute, along with Paiute and Navajo allies, in cattle and horse raids on Latter-day Saint settlements. Settlers responded by fortifying their towns and villages and sometimes by preemptively attacking neighboring Native American encampments regardless of tribe or band. The fighting diminished in 1867, when Black Hawk negotiated peace with Latter-day Saint leaders. A formal treaty followed in 1868, but occasional skirmishes continued. Initially reluctant

to get involved, the federal government finally sent troops in 1872, bringing an end to the conflict.



The Path to Statehood

Since the founding of Salt Lake City, Latter-day Saint leaders had dreamed of building a religious homeland that would be physically separate from the world of nonbelievers. Young’s policies in Utah from his arrival in 1847 to roughly the end of the Civil War reflect this goal. As both a religious and political leader, Young had called for Latter-day Saint believers to join the growing community in Utah while discouraging or limiting activities such as mining that might have attracted “gentile” (non-Latter-day Saint) immigrants.

In the 1870s, however, immigration and industry brought major changes to Utah. More people from outside the Latter-day Saint community arrived in the territory. They had their own beliefs and interests. A new political party, known as the Liberal Party, emerged specifically to represent the interests of these communities. The Liberals promoted the mining industry and pushed back against Church

influence in political matters. Many also denounced polygamy, which was unpopular nationwide.

Gradually, the leaders of the Latter-day Saints abandoned their goal of living in a society completely apart from people of other beliefs. Instead, they engaged in conflict and compromise. By the end of the nineteenth century, in order to finally achieve statehood, Utahns worked together to create a state constitution that reflected the values of both Latter-day Saints and “gentiles”.



Think Twice

What was the relationship of the Latter-day Saints with other immigrant groups in Utah?

Throughout its time as a U.S. territory, Utah sought admission to the Union as a state. As early as 1849, Utah’s leaders had proposed the creation of the state of Deseret as an **autonomous** community. Congress refused this request, largely because Utah had too few eligible voters at the time. Instead, Congress created the Utah Territory. Two later attempts at statehood, in the 1850s and 1860s, were also rejected because of

Vocabulary

autonomous, adj. self-governing; having the power and freedom to make choices

Americans’ widespread disapproval of polygamy and the distrust caused by the Utah War. Further attempts in the 1870s and 1880s failed for the same reasons. All the while, federal laws against polygamy grew harsher and were more strictly enforced.

Finally, in 1890, Wilford Woodruff, president of the Latter-day Saints Church, called for an end to the practice of polygamy. This was a major compromise on the part of the Latter-day Saint leadership, but it removed the main obstacle to statehood. In 1894, Congress passed the Enabling Act, a federal law laying out rules for Utah and other U.S. territories to become states. In 1895, Utah’s leaders created a constitution that, among other things, permanently banned polygamy, and on January 4, 1896, Utah joined the Union as the forty-fifth state.

Think Twice

Why did Utah struggle to attain statehood?



The Utah constitution outlines the basic structure of Utah’s government, describes the rights of Utahns, and identifies the kinds of laws that can and cannot be made. Like many other state constitutions, Utah’s begins with a list of inalienable rights of individuals.

These include the rights to life, liberty, and property, freedom of religion, and freedom of speech and assembly. The constitution promotes the civic virtue of participation in public life by guaranteeing voting rights and stating how jury trials will be conducted. It promotes personal accountability by securing broad rights for individuals and holding them responsible for how those rights are exercised.

Like the U.S. Constitution, the Utah constitution divides power among three branches of government: legislative, executive, and judicial. It dictates what responsibilities and powers each branch has, lists the qualifications for officeholders, and describes how officials will be elected or appointed. The state constitution also defines the structures and powers of local governments.

Other aspects of the Utah constitution reflect the territory's history and its struggle for statehood. For example, the constitution affirms the separation of church and state, addressing concerns that Utah would be governed as a theocracy by the Latter-day Saints church leadership. It sets up a system of public schools that will be "free from sectarian control." It also states that the U.S. Constitution is the supreme law of the land, allaying worries that Utah's leaders would ignore or undermine federal laws. Provisions like these were included in Utah's constitution to show that the people of Utah were willing to conform to the requirements of federal law—an essential requirement for statehood.

Think Twice

What is the function of a state constitution?



Chapter 3

Twentieth-Century Utah

Big Question

How did national and global events affect life in Utah?



Utah in the Progressive Era

Just fifty years after the driving of the Golden Spike, Salt Lake City seemed like an entirely different place. The city was more built up, and its population had grown tenfold between 1870 and 1920. An even more obvious change was the widespread use of electricity. Electric streetcars rolled up and down Salt Lake City's major avenues, carrying passengers north as far as Centerville and south toward Sandy. At night, electric lamps illuminated many of those same streets. Electric lighting was common in homes, too, and electric motors increasingly drove industry.



Brightly lit electric marquees were a feature of Utah's early movie theaters, as they were nationwide. Technologies including electricity and movies gradually transformed life for many Utahns.



Electricity was slow to come to Utah, even compared to its gradual progress in the rest of the country. Some streets in Salt Lake City had electric lights as early as 1881, but in the subsequent decade, only four more cities, all in the north of the state, would be electrified. After that, however, progress picked up quickly, thanks to innovations in the generation and distribution of electric power. Within four decades, electricity went from novelty to luxury to utility.

The electrification of Utah proved to be a source and symbol of its growing connection to the rest of the nation. It brought new forms of entertainment, such as the cinema, and new modes of communication, such as the radio. Meanwhile, generating and selling electricity became big business in Utah, with one firm, Utah Power & Light, supplying most of the state's electricity.

Technologically, this was a period of great progress. The use of electricity became widespread, and communication technologies, such as the telephone and radio, rapidly increased their reach. As a result, Utah became even more connected to the rest of the country. In 1914, Utah reprised its role as the "crossroads of the West" when Wendover became the final link in the first transcontinental telephone line.

The early twentieth century was a period of dramatic social, technological, and economic change for Utah. In some respects, the state followed national trends, but in other ways, Utah was unique. For instance, on the coasts, **urbanization** proceeded rapidly: In 1890, one in three U.S. residents lived in a city, but by 1920, more than half did so. Utah's population, however, remained primarily rural until about 1930, and urbanization only really accelerated during the Second World War. This led to periods when farm products and raw materials were in high demand and prices were high. Some farmers and businesspeople made a lot of money. However, their reliance on national demand and pricing for food and raw materials left Utah's economy vulnerable to changes in prices. When prices suddenly dropped after World War I, some Utahns were ruined.

Vocabulary

urbanization, n. the formation and growth of cities

In some ways, however, Utah remained remote and preserved its distinctive culture. Labor reform, for instance, was well underway in the rest of the country by the time it arrived in Utah. Other developments saw Utah lead the nation by decades.



Over a span of about five decades, railroads, telegraph cables, and telephone lines all connected Utah to the rest of the United States.

Starting around the 1890s, the United States entered an era marked by many social reform movements. The goals of these movements included reducing poverty, improving labor conditions, securing women's rights, and ending corruption in politics. Because these movements saw themselves as working toward social progress, the period from the 1890s through the 1910s is often known as the Progressive Era.

One major Progressive goal was to secure the right to vote for women. In this, Utah was ahead of its time. There were some brief and limited instances of women's **suffrage** in other states, as in New Jersey from 1790 to 1807. However, it was not until after the Civil War that the women's

Vocabulary

suffrage, n. the right to vote

suffrage movement gained momentum across the United States. Women nationwide organized to protest their unequal political rights and to campaign for their right to vote, with varying success in different states.

Utah women were the first in the nation to exercise the right to vote, following a law passed in 1870. Women's suffrage was revoked in 1887 by a federal law targeting polygamy. However, it was restored by the new state constitution when Utah became

a state in 1896. It took until 1920 for that same right to be adopted nationwide.

Labor reformers in Utah faced their own challenges. In Utah, as nationwide, early efforts focused on jobs that were dangerous, physically difficult, and poorly paid. In Chicago, for instance, reformers focused on the meatpacking industry, where workers toiled in unsanitary conditions amid sharp blades and enormous boiling vats. In Utah, the mines were key sites of labor activism. Silver and



Utah women's suffrage inspired campaigners in other states. This group of campaigners for women's suffrage, photographed in 1913, display the names of states where women already had the right to vote.

gold mining had been occurring in Utah since the 1860s. The development of Salt Lake City had also led to the exploitation of iron and coal deposits nearby.

All forms of mining were hazardous and poorly regulated. Coal mines, which were often filled with toxic, flammable dust, were very dangerous for miners. Long-term exposure to coal dust caused serious lung ailments, and explosions could bury miners in rubble or leave them trapped with limited air. As in other industries, miners sought to organize in pursuit of safer working conditions and higher pay.

They repeatedly went on **strike** in the 1880s and 1890s to try to achieve these aims. However, management brought in strikebreakers to keep the mines going. Often, the strikebreakers were newly arrived immigrants with few other opportunities.

Vocabulary

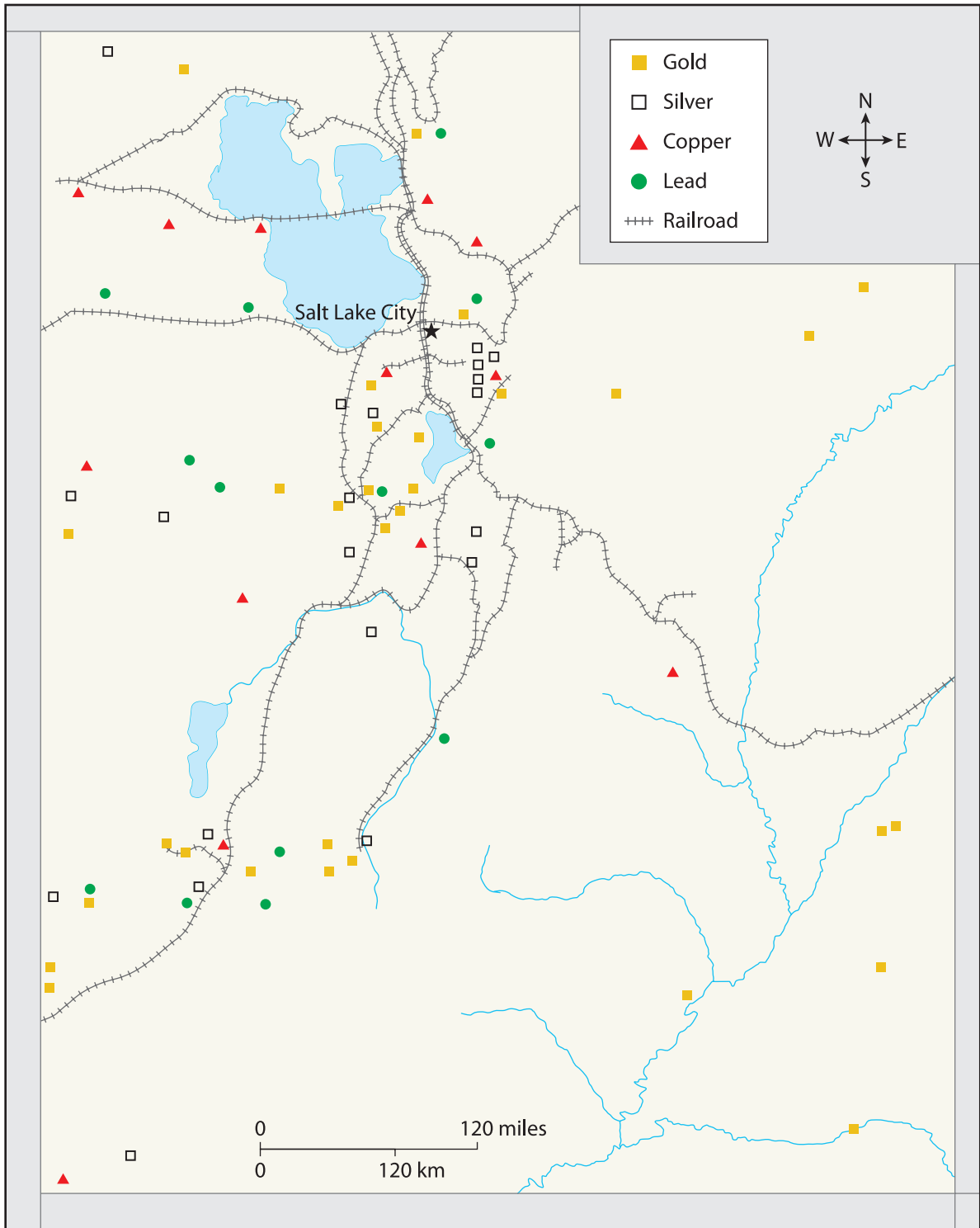
strike, n. a temporary work stoppage organized by workers as a protest

In May 1900, an explosion at the Winter Quarters coal mine near Scofield killed more than two hundred miners. At the time, this was the deadliest mining



The Scofield mine disaster killed over two hundred miners. The loss of life was so great that additional coffins had to be transported from Denver.

Utah's Mines, 1912



Despite its dangers, mining has been hugely important to Utah's economy throughout the state's history. Shown here are the gold, silver, copper, and lead mining sites that had been established by 1912.

disaster in U.S. history. The explosion led to a strike in Scofield in 1901 and one in Carbon County in 1903–04. However, it took several more strikes and a nationwide movement before Utah’s mine workers finally **unionized** in 1933. The United Mine Workers of America, which still exists today, pushed for tighter safety regulations that would prevent cave-ins and make the air in the mines less toxic. It also bargained for better pay and retirement benefits for its members.

Vocabulary

unionize, v. to form or join a labor union



Think Twice

What were the main goals of the Progressive movement? How successful was that movement in Utah?



Think Twice

What factors can influence social reform movements?



Utah and the First World War

In 1914, an assassination in Europe sparked a conflict that became a world war. Russia, France, and the United Kingdom

led an alliance called the Entente or the Allies. They were opposed by the Central Powers: Austria-Hungary, Germany, and the Ottoman Empire. More countries were pulled into the fighting as the war went on.

At first, the United States tried to stay out of the war. U.S. politicians viewed the war as a European problem and were reluctant to put American lives at risk. The people of Utah generally shared this opinion, although Utah’s German American population rallied in support of Germany.

Germany made U.S. neutrality very costly. To prevent supplies from reaching its enemies, Germany announced a policy of unrestricted submarine warfare. Any ship that German submarines found in the North Atlantic would be targeted and sunk, including civilian ships. Soon enough, American merchant ships were sunk and American civilians killed. In response, President Woodrow Wilson asked Congress to declare war.

The people of Utah aided the war effort in many ways. About 21,000 Utahns served in the war as soldiers, sailors, or airmen. They fought in Europe along the Western Front, in battles such as the Meuse–Argonne Offensive in the fall of 1918. This was the war’s deadliest battle for Americans, and those who survived sent letters home



Utahns mobilized to serve the war effort not only in the military but in a variety of civilian capacities. This photo shows a group of Red Cross volunteers from Salt Lake City accompanied by two U.S. Army lieutenants.

describing grim conditions in the trenches. Utahns at home donated supplies, raised money, and conserved food and other resources to help those on the front lines.

Two decades after Utah gained statehood, many still worried that it was culturally and politically separate from the rest of the country. Utahns' enthusiastic participation in the war effort showed otherwise. Utah also took part in some practices that were seen as patriotic at the time but that are viewed less positively today, such as banning German language instruction in schools and jailing **dissidents**.

Economically, the war helped Utah. The state's ranches and farms contributed

meat and produce to feed U.S. troops overseas and provide relief to Allied countries. Its mines produced coal and metals for the manufacture of weapons, aircraft, and vehicles. The end of the war, though welcomed and celebrated by Utahns, also brought an end to this period of prosperity.

Vocabulary

dissident, n. a person who opposes the official views of a regime

Think Twice

What were some ways that Utahns participated in the First World War?





Utah's schools and universities changed their offerings to meet wartime needs. Here, students at the University of Utah, Salt Lake City, practice radio communication using Morse Code.



The 1918 Influenza Outbreak

With the First World War still underway, a deadly disease began circulating around the globe. This variety of influenza was much more severe than the usual seasonal flu. At the time, people knew little about viruses and were unsure what caused the flu. National, state, and local governments tried many different measures to stop the spread of the **pandemic**. Even so, the 1918 flu ultimately infected half a billion people worldwide and killed about fifty million.

Vocabulary

pandemic, n. a disease outbreak that spreads across multiple countries or even worldwide

The pandemic was sometimes called the Spanish flu. Despite this name, the disease did not originate in Spain. The name came about because the nations involved in the First World War were censoring newspaper reports. The movements and concentrations of soldiers on the front lines helped spread the disease. Leaders worried that if news of sickness got out, it would give



Utahns, like other people worldwide, tried a mixture of traditional and novel strategies to fight an illness that was then poorly understood. Here, nurses and volunteers serve a special diet to people recovering from the flu.

their enemies an opportunity to exploit areas where the flu had sickened many soldiers. As a result, it was forbidden to report infection and mortality rates. Spain, however, was not involved in the war. Newspapers there reported about the disease and its effects. This created an illusion that the flu was a uniquely Spanish problem—an illusion that shattered after the end of the war.

Think Twice



How did the 1918 influenza outbreak become known as the Spanish flu? Is that name an accurate one?

The 1918 Flu in Utah

By March 1918, cases of the flu were being reported in the United States. It arrived in Utah by September; by October, it had reached Salt Lake City. Utah's experience with the pandemic was like that of other states. At first, public health officials recommended only basic measures, such as covering one's mouth when coughing.

In the first weeks of October, as the first flu deaths were reported, the state's board of health ordered the closing of all

churches, schools, and other public places. A columnist in the *Salt Lake Telegram* complained that these measures would leave the city “schoolless, churchless, and amusementless.” Nearby Fort Douglas was placed under **quarantine**, and a mask mandate was briefly imposed. Ultimately, some ten thousand people contracted the flu in Salt Lake City alone, of whom about five percent died.

Vocabulary

quarantine, n. a period of isolation, either self-imposed or required by law, to prevent the spread of disease



Think Twice

How did people in Utah respond to the 1918 influenza outbreak?



Utah's Economy After the First World War

Despite its worries and hardships, the First World War was a period of economic prosperity for Utah. The state's farming and mining products were greatly needed by the military. Following the war, both industries suffered serious decline. Sharp decreases in defense spending meant that

demand for metals weakened. Meanwhile, Utah's farmers faced repeated droughts and falling crop prices.

As a result, Utah slid into an economic depression that lasted from 1919 to 1922. Before the state's economy could fully recover, the Great Depression hit in 1929. Other states had also experienced some economic difficulties as the wartime economy tapered off. However, many of these states had strong manufacturing or financial industries that allowed them to recover quickly. In Utah at this time, neither the manufacturing nor the finance industry was well-developed. The state was still highly dependent on agriculture and thus at the mercy of fluctuating prices for produce. As long as prices remained low, Utah's economy would remain stagnant. While much of the country enjoyed the



With demand for metals greatly reduced, many of Utah's mines closed. The surrounding communities often became ghost towns. Today, many of these mines have been boarded up or left in ruins.

prosperity that produced the Roaring Twenties, Utah did not experience an economic boom.



Think Twice

Why was Utah left out of the prosperity of the 1920s that many other states experienced?

In October 1929, a crash of the New York Stock Exchange signaled the start of a widespread economic depression in the United States and eventually around the world. Known today as the Great Depression, the extended economic downturn caused many banks, factories, mines, and mills to shut down, putting millions out of work. Many farmers were unable to sell their crops for an adequate price. To repay money they had borrowed for planting, they had to sell their land or risk foreclosure. Young people who could not find work left home to look for jobs elsewhere, but there were hardly any jobs to be found.

Utahns felt the effects of the Depression as badly as their neighbors. The factors that had made Utah's economy vulnerable to depression in the 1920s continued through the 1930s.

With nowhere for people to work, unemployment spiked. In the spring of 1930, both state and national unemployment rates stood at about 15 percent. This was a

substantial increase over the late 1910s and 1920s, when unemployment nationwide had hovered around 5 percent. By 1933, when the Depression was at its worst, more than one-third of working-age Utahns were unemployed, compared with one-quarter nationwide.

In 1932, Franklin Delano Roosevelt won the presidency on the promise that he would address this growing crisis. He did so through a series of reforms called the New Deal. These reforms included the creation of Social Security and guaranteed minimum prices for farm products. There were also federal programs to hire unemployed people for work that would benefit the public. The Works Progress Administration (WPA) organized construction of roads, schools, and courthouses and even the creation of public art such as murals. The murals in the rotunda of the Utah State Capitol building were painted by artists working through the WPA. The Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) helped maintain the nation's forests and fight floods, fires, and erosion. CCC workers built a modern, all-weather road, Highway 12, to Boulder, Utah, which had previously lacked such access. The CCC also worked on projects such as the Midview Dam. Across Utah's forests and mountains,

CCC workers helped maintain the natural environment and improve facilities and access, constructing facilities for visitors, building new and improved roads, and installing new telephone lines.

Nearly a hundred years later, many New Deal buildings and projects are still widely used throughout the country, including dozens in Utah. Several prominent Utah organizations, such as the Utah Symphony Orchestra, got their start with New Deal funding.

Similar efforts were organized at the state and local levels. Salt Lake City led the way in establishing a citywide relief committee. In 1930, the city provided school lunches, along with land and seeds for people to grow their own vegetables. The Salt Lake Chamber of Commerce did on a citywide scale what New Deal agencies did nationwide, creating “make-work” projects such as the construction of a new zoo.

Religious and charitable organizations also sought to do their part. The Latter-day Saints Church introduced its own welfare plan in 1936 alongside those of various government agencies. Through the efforts of government and charitable enterprises, Utah gradually emerged from the worst of the Great Depression. However, it would take another war for the state’s—and the nation’s—economy to truly recover.



New Deal programs employed millions of people across the country in conservation, construction, and the arts. Through the Works Progress Administration, Utahns created trails and roads through Arches National Monument (now Arches National Park). They also painted the murals that adorn the State Capitol rotunda and built schools, armories, and courthouses across the state.



Find Out the Facts

Find out what Utah's leaders and leaders of the United States did to try to limit the harms of the Great Depression. Which programs that they created are still in use today?



Utah in the Second World War

In 1939, when another major war broke out in Europe, Americans responded much as they had to the First World War. Initially, many hoped that the war would remain limited to Europe and not affect the United States. Americans widely supported sending supplies, money, and arms to U.S. allies—just not troops. As in the First World War, it took a crisis to bring about the United States' direct involvement. After a surprise attack by Japan on the U.S. naval base at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, on December 7, 1941, the United States immediately entered the war.

The Topaz Internment Camp

One part of national security policy during World War II was the internment of Japanese Americans. U.S. leaders feared, without any basis, that Japanese Americans might prove more loyal to

Japan than to the United States and act as spies. In 1942, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed an executive order to relocate more than one hundred thousand people of Japanese heritage to internment camps. Everyone of Japanese heritage living in an "exclusion area" spanning much of the West Coast were forced to move far inland.

Roosevelt's order effectively imprisoned people, including many U.S. citizens, who had not been charged with any crime. The order was controversial at the time, but the Supreme Court allowed it to be implemented. Since then, the wartime internment of Japanese Americans has widely come to be viewed as an injustice and a violation of civil rights under the Constitution. The U.S. government formally apologized and offered **compensation** to families of internees in 1988.

Vocabulary

compensation, n. money given to someone who has suffered a loss or a wrongdoing

In Utah, the main internment facility was the Topaz War Relocation Center, near Delta. Camp conditions were basic, and few comforts were provided to help internees deal with the harsh climate of



The Topaz War Relocation Center, one of ten internment camps operated by the U.S. government, housed Japanese Americans in stark, prisonlike conditions.

the Sevier Desert. Some internees were allowed to find work offsite. All were subject to intense questioning about their cultural background and loyalty to the United States. Those deemed disloyal or not sufficiently Americanized were relocated to a **segregation** camp in California.

The Americans imprisoned at Topaz did their best to maintain some semblance of a normal life under these severe conditions. They sent their children to camp schools, wrote for the camp

newspaper, and created art that reflected their struggles. Today, Topaz is a National Historic Landmark with a museum documenting internees' experiences.

Vocabulary

segregation, n. the separation of people, usually on the basis of race

Utahns Join the War Effort

As they had twenty-four years prior, the people of Utah contributed to the war effort in many ways. More than



Find Out the Facts

Japanese Americans interned at Topaz included people from all walks of life: farmers and businesspeople, chefs and artists. Find out what you can about one of the Topaz internees, such as painter Chiura Obata, historian Yuji Ichioka, or activist Fred Korematsu. What was this person's life like before World War II? What did they do during their internment? What did they go on to accomplish afterward?

Writers' Corner



Use what you found out about one of Topaz's internees to write a one-page profile of that person.

sixty thousand Utahns served in the armed forces. Many of these were women who, though not permitted to serve in combat roles, joined units such as the WAVES (Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service) and the WAC (Women's Army Corps). These servicewomen worked as mechanics, drivers, nurses, and translators, and in numerous other roles.

Tens of thousands more civilians supported Utah's servicemembers at the state's fourteen military installations. Air bases for the U.S. Army were built or expanded throughout northern Utah.

Some of these bases still serve military purpose today. Others were sold and modified to serve as commercial airports.

There were several reasons to create and expand air bases in Utah and elsewhere in the sparsely populated West. Utah is far inland and surrounded by rugged terrain, so it was relatively safe from an attack via either the Pacific or the Atlantic. Western and northern Utah also have many areas with wide expanses of flat, rocky ground—ideal for building airfields.

In 1941, the United States established Hill Field, later known as Hill Air Force Base. It became the site for maintenance and repair for much of the nation's air fleet. The base at Wendover played a special role near the end of the war. Japan surrendered on September 2, 1945. The surrender came after the United States dropped atomic bombs on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Atomic bombs, or nuclear weapons, are frighteningly powerful weapons that had been developed in secret by the United States during the war. At both Hiroshima and Nagasaki, a single atom bomb was enough to destroy hundreds of buildings and kill thousands of people in seconds. The crews of the planes that dropped these bombs trained at Wendover.



Hill Air Force Base, formerly Hill Field, still plays an important role in the United States' air defense. This 2020 photo shows fighter aircraft assembled at Hill Air Force Base for a training exercise.

At the beginning of World War II, Utah's economy was still mainly reliant on farming and mining. These industries remained important throughout the war. However, two other industries also became very significant: defense and manufacturing. By 1945, more than 10 percent of Utah's population was serving in the armed forces. Another 7 percent held civilian jobs at the state's military bases. The manufacture of steel, arms, and ammunition employed tens of thousands. Utah had both mobilized and industrialized, a stance that the state's

economy and workforce would maintain in future conflicts.

Think Twice

What role did Utah play in World War II, and what impact did the war have on Utah?



Utah in the Cold War

After World War II, global politics was shaped by a conflict between the United States and the Soviet Union. These two

superpowers had very different political and economic visions. The United States and its allies wanted to spread capitalism and encourage democratically elected governments. The Soviet Union advocated communism and total government control of both economy and society. The rivalry lasted from the late 1940s until the Soviet Union broke up in 1991.

Vocabulary

superpower, n. a country with very great economic, military, and political power

Although the United States and the Soviet Union were fierce rivals, their armies never fought directly, which is why the conflict is called the Cold War. Instead, the two superpowers competed through diplomacy, economic policy, and covert activity. They also tried to expand their influence by backing different groups in regional and domestic conflicts. For instance, in the Vietnam War (1954–75), the United States backed South Vietnam while the Soviet Union backed North Vietnam.

The Cold War led to a revival of the U.S. defense industry, which had begun tapering off after World War II. In Utah, this meant a vast expansion of air bases and **depots**, such as the one at Ogden. This, in turn, led to a surge in employment within the defense industry.

As the United States and the Soviet Union built up their militaries, nuclear weapons were at the forefront of both nations' policies. The United States had deployed atomic bombs at the end of World War II against Japan, and the Soviet Union had developed their own by 1949. Nuclear weapons could destroy entire cities and their populations in seconds, as they had in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Leaders in the United States and Soviet Union decided that the only way to prevent the other side from unleashing a massive nuclear attack was to possess the capability to launch an equally devastating counterattack. This sparked a nuclear **arms race**, with both countries trying to build as many nuclear weapons as possible. Suddenly, there was a great and growing demand for rare minerals used to make nuclear weapons, including uranium.

Vocabulary

depot, n. a large-scale facility for the storage of military supplies or equipment

arms race, n. a competition between nations for military superiority, especially through the amassing of weapons

Think Twice

How do the Cold War and other twentieth-century events show economic interdependence between Utah and the rest of the country?



The Uranium Boom

The Four Corners—the region in which Utah, Colorado, New Mexico, and Arizona all meet—experienced multiple mining booms in the 1900s. At the beginning of the century, when radioactivity had just been discovered, radium was the sought-after mineral. Later, in the 1920s, it was vanadium, a metal used in advanced steelmaking. In the years after World War II, with the arms race underway, it was uranium, an essential metal for producing nuclear energy and nuclear weapons. Hoping to secure a reliable supply of uranium, the U.S. government set a guaranteed minimum price it would pay for uranium and offered an additional \$10,000 for opening new mines.

The handling of mine debris and other radioactive waste was, at the time, much less regulated than it is today. In Utah and other Western states where uranium was mined and processed, radioactive waste from mines and mills was often simply piled up in mounds. In other states, closer to the coasts, radioactive waste was simply dumped in the oceans. Efforts to clean up and properly secure such waste can take years, even decades.

In each prior mining boom, a rush of prospectors had descended on southern

Utah seeking their fortune. The uranium boom was no different. In 1952, geologist Charlie Steen found the largest deposit of high-purity uranium ore ever seen in the United States. With that discovery, the race was on. The search for uranium attracted everyone from mining professionals to weekend hobbyists. By 1955, Utah was producing nearly \$10 million worth of uranium ore per year. In 1960, the figure reached \$27 million.

The widespread mining and milling of uranium, however, had dire results for the health of the people exposed



Moab was one of the centers of Utah's uranium boom and the site of a major uranium ore refining facility. The Uranium Building, a refinery built during the boom days, still stands on Main Street, but sections of the surrounding country have been marked off as contaminated.

to it. Uranium is used to make nuclear weapons because of its radioactivity. But radioactivity is poisonous to humans. The effects of uranium mining were especially harsh for the Diné (Navajo), who had long lived in southwestern Utah and adjoining states. Mine operators knew about the dangers of radioactivity but did not communicate them to Diné workers, who only later found out that they had been exposed to a poisonous mineral. Miners also brought the danger home in the form of spring water. Water is scarce in the Utah desert, but it is plentiful in mines. However, springs in uranium mines are contaminated by radioactive uranium. Many Diné mine workers and their families developed long-term lung and kidney diseases.

Since 1990, the U.S. government has offered compensation to those exposed to radiation. Advocates argue that these funds are too little, too late, and too hard to obtain. Today, uranium mining in the Navajo Nation, though conducted for peaceful purposes, remains controversial. Diné leaders have sought to limit both the dangers of toxic uranium ore and the ways that companies can exploit their land.

While uranium prospectors and mine owners sought to cash in, other Utahns were taking measures to preserve the

state's natural landscape. The Cold War era was not just the time of the uranium boom but the period during which three of Utah's national parks were established. Canyonlands, near Moab, gained national park status in 1964. Arches and Capitol Reef National Parks followed in 1971. These parks took their place alongside Zion (1919) and Bryce Canyon (1928) National Parks, making Utah the state with the most national parks until 1980, when several national parks were established in Alaska. Utah's national parks continue to draw millions of tourists. Zion alone saw roughly five million visitors per year in the early 2020s.

When people visit a national park or other attraction, they tend to spend money locally on dining, accommodations, gasoline, and other things. When tourist traffic grows substantial, tourism industries arise that cater to visitors. Accommodations, from ski lodges to bed-and-breakfasts, are built to provide tourists with places to stay. Various tourism services, including guided park tours as well as "adventure" tourism experiences such as rafting and zip-lining, provide visitors with more options for spending their leisure time. These services also provide locals with employment and nearby towns with revenue. As the nation's

highway system improved and air travel became commonplace, Utah benefited from the growth of tourism-related industries throughout the late twentieth century.



Think Twice

How did land use change in Utah during the Cold War?

The Civil Rights Movement

In the Cold War, the United States spoke about rights, democracy, and freedom to contrast with the Soviet Union and its allies. But many in the United States knew that this language stood in contrast to significant inequalities in the country. Black people were treated as second-class citizens across the United States, especially in the South. State and local governments enforced a system of segregation. That meant there were separate facilities for Black people. These separate facilities were usually poorer quality than facilities for white people. Nearly everywhere, Black people were discriminated against in terms of housing and employment. Those who tried to challenge segregation were breaking the same laws that kept it in force.

The civil rights movement aimed to challenge and overturn segregation throughout the United States. Supporters of the movement used a variety of tactics to challenge segregationist laws and policies, and to show the wider nation the injustices African Americans experienced. The movement gathered momentum through the 1950s and 1960s. A major high point of the movement was the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom in 1963, which brought about 250,000 people to Washington, D.C. At this event, Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. gave his famous “I Have a Dream” speech.

Utah had segregationist laws and policies, which local supporters of the civil rights movement sought to overturn. A state law from 1898 banned marriage between people of different races. Another law banned Black people from swimming in public pools. Yet another banned Native Americans from voting. But most segregation in Utah was not the result of laws but rather of decisions and policies made by businesses and communities. For example, some real estate companies refused to sell or rent homes to Black people. This practice is called redlining. Redlining meant that Black Utahns were limited in their options of where to live and what property they could own.

At the time of the civil rights movement, the main African American neighborhoods in Utah were in Salt Lake City, on the city's west side, and in Ogden, south of Twenty-Fifth Street and west of Washington Boulevard. Black Utahns did not just have their own neighborhoods. They had their own churches, social groups, and businesses.

Some of these things began to change in Utah earlier and more quickly than they did in the South. Segregation was not so much a part of Utah's culture as it was in the South. Soon after World War II ended, some business owners decided to set an example by **integrating** their businesses. Robert E. Freed was one of them. He started working at the Lagoon amusement park in Farmington, Utah, as the assistant manager in 1947. He decided that it was wrong for the park to be segregated. He joined the local chapter of a national civil rights organization called the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). Freed worked with the NAACP to change the law that banned African Americans from public

swimming pools. Later, he and his brothers bought the Lagoon park and integrated it. In 1963, Freed received the NAACP's human rights award in recognition of his efforts.

The civil rights movement succeeded at achieving many of its goals. President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Civil Rights Act of 1964, prohibiting employment discrimination based on race. The Voting Rights Act of 1965 followed. It outlawed practices such as voting taxes and tests.

Over time, Black Utahns became more involved in state politics and government. In 1982, Terry Lee Williams became the first African American to serve in Utah's state senate. Williams proposed bills in 1985 and 1986 to make Martin Luther King Jr. Day a holiday in Utah. He was successful in his second attempt, although the holiday was called Human Rights Day at first (it was renamed Martin Luther King Jr. Day in 2000). Later, Mia Love, the daughter of migrants from Haiti, was elected in 2014 as the first Black Republican woman to serve as a member of the House of Representatives. She served two terms from 2015 to 2019, representing Utah's 4th district. She had previously served as mayor of Saratoga Springs between 2010 and 2014.

Vocabulary

integrate, v. to end a policy that keeps apart people of different races; to make a place open to everyone



Further Growth and Change in the Late Twentieth Century

In Utah, the Cold War came into the spotlight in 1979, when the U.S. Air Force announced it was developing a new nuclear missile system called MX. The plan was to establish an Air Force base somewhere in the West to house dozens of such missiles. Sites in Nevada, Utah, and Wyoming were considered. In each state, controversies arose over whether the base should be placed there. The proposed site in Utah was in western Beaver County.

Those in favor of placing MX missiles in Utah noted the potential economic benefits and their importance to national security. They said that in rural Beaver County, there were few opportunities for employment and that a new defense project would offer steady work to many people. They argued, too, that Utah must do its part for national defense.

Those opposed cited the dangers to Utahns should war break out, the harms to the environment, and the dangers of nuclear war in general. They claimed it would be dangerous for Utahns to have missile silos so close by. Missile launch sites would be prime targets in any enemy

attack. Utahns in opposition also pointed out that excavating huge missile silos would ruin the land for other uses, such as tourism or cattle grazing. Finally, they argued that the nuclear arms race was dangerous and misguided and that Utah should not play a part in it. Prominent among the opposition was the Latter-day Saints Church, which in 1981 cited all of these reasons for opposing a MX deployment in Utah.

Ultimately, after a period of great controversy in the early 1980s, the plan to place the missiles in Utah was abandoned. Instead, they were deployed at an Air Force base near Cheyenne, Wyoming.

While the MX controversy was ongoing, the Cold War entered a new phase when Ronald Reagan was elected U.S. president in 1980. Reagan had a hostile stance toward the Soviet Union. He, like many Americans, felt that tough leadership was necessary to prevent the Cold War from becoming "hot." He also enthusiastically supported the MX project, although he eventually agreed to a plan that would limit the land area affected by the missiles and thus decrease their impact on the environment. Reagan's critics, however, thought that his aggressive gestures made nuclear war more likely, and they favored a more cooperative approach.

As it turned out, the Cold War formally ended only two years after Reagan left office. In 1991, the Soviet Union collapsed, breaking up into fifteen independent nations and leaving the United States as the world's lone superpower.

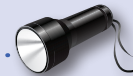
Meanwhile, other social, economic, and technological changes were underway in Utah. Like the United States at large, Utah shifted toward a **service economy** during the 1980s and 1990s. The education and health care sectors continued the growth that had begun after the end of World War II, joined by increasingly prominent finance, insurance, and technology sectors. Some traditional industries declined while others flourished: Farming and mining shrank while manufacturing and construction continued to grow. Likewise, the railroad industry—a major employer

in Utah as late as the 1950s—declined due to competition from the airline and trucking industries. Utah was also affected by the rise of the Internet. This new form of communication did what the telegraph and telephone had done before it, bringing far-flung parts of the state and the country closer together.

Vocabulary

service economy, (phrase) an economy in which most income comes from providing services rather than producing goods

Find Out the Facts



Find out what the largest industries in Utah were at the end of the twentieth century. Compare your list to the major Utah industries at the beginning of the century. How do these two lists illustrate the social and technological changes that Utah has experienced?

Chapter 4

Utah Enters the New Millennium

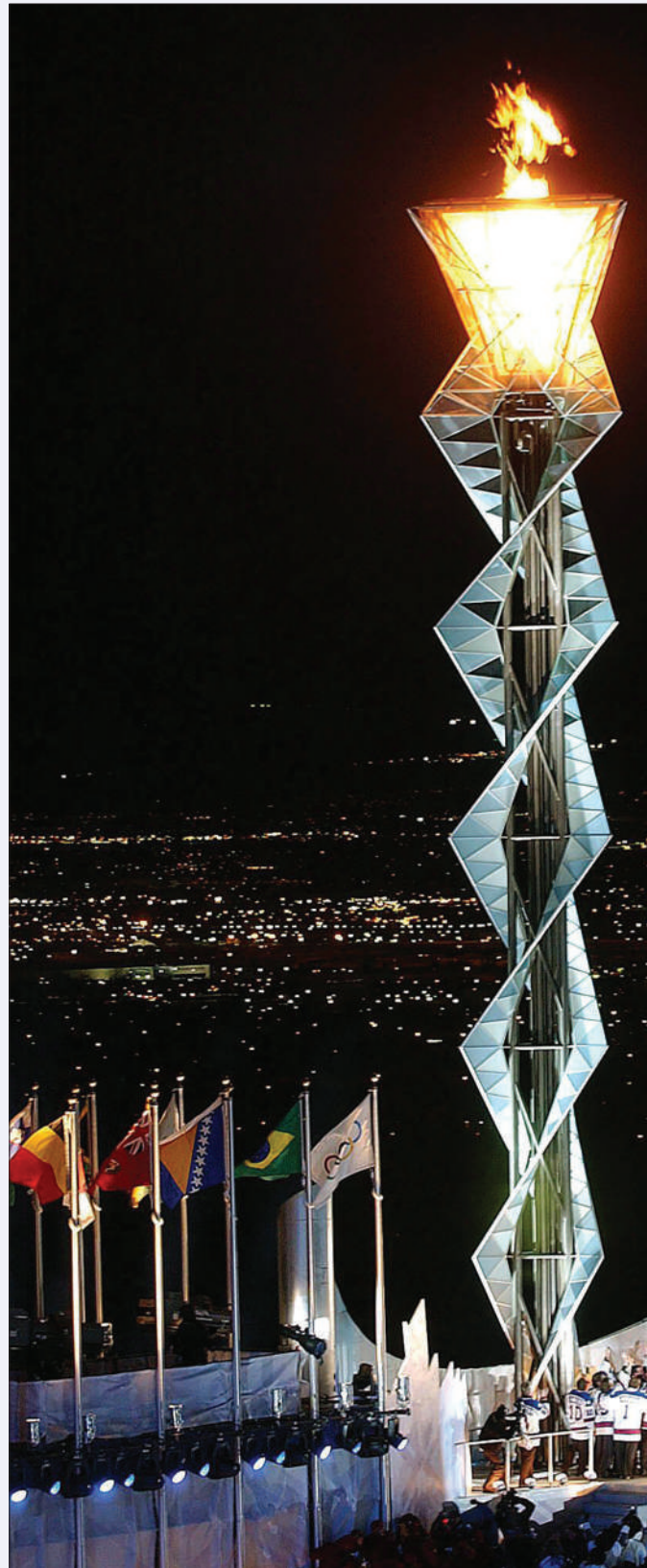
Big Question

How did Utah change in the first two decades of the twenty-first century?



The World Comes to Utah

The Olympic Torch took a great and winding path to reach Salt Lake City, the site of the 2002 Winter Olympics. It was first lit in Olympia, Greece, in December 2001. It was then taken to the United States, arriving in Atlanta, the site of the 1996 Olympics. There, famed American boxer Muhammad Ali began a relay that zigzagged across forty-six states, including Alaska. The torch visited New York, Chicago, and Los Angeles, along with three hundred other towns and cities of all sizes. More than twelve thousand people had the honor of carrying it. Finally on the night of February 8, 2002, it arrived in Salt Lake City.



The 2002 Winter Olympics took place in Salt Lake City just five months after the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. The flag from the World Trade Center flew during the opening ceremony.



The final torchbearers were the U.S. hockey team who had won gold in the 1980 Olympics. With more than fifty-five thousand people in Rice–Eccles Stadium at the University of Utah, the team lit the torch that would burn over Salt Lake City for the duration of the Olympic Games. The eyes of the entire world were on Utah as the games began.

Economic Growth in Utah in the Early Twenty-First Century

Utah's history in the 2000s and 2010s was, in some ways, a continuation of twentieth-century trends. Patterns of population growth and change also continued and even sped up.

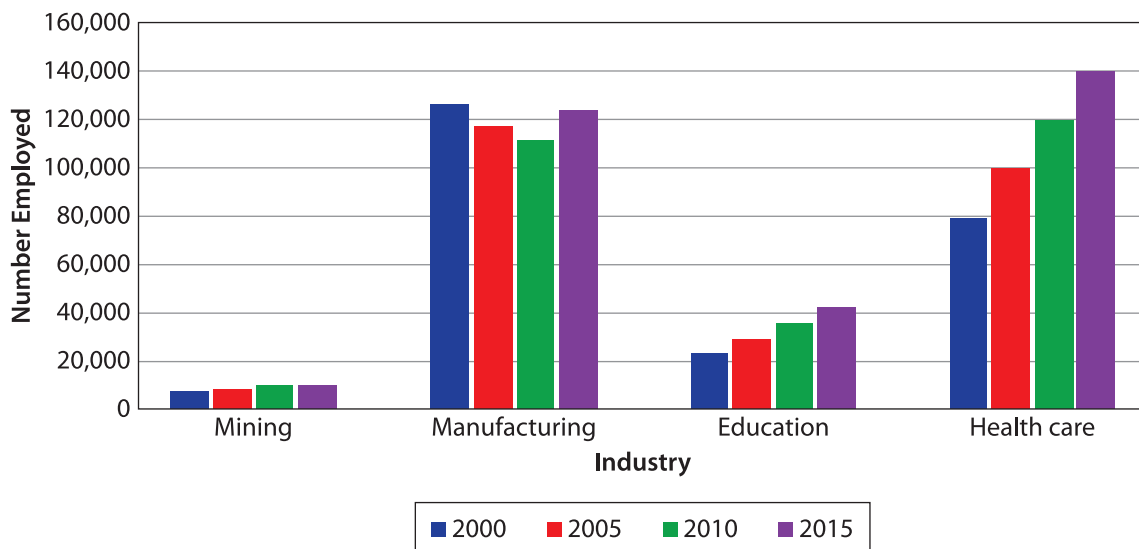
One historic trend that continued was Utah's role in the defense industry. In the 1990s, national defense spending dipped after the end of the Cold War. Defense became a spending priority again after the September 11, 2001, terrorist

attacks on the United States. In these attacks, terrorists hijacked passenger jets and flew them into the World Trade Center in New York City and the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. The U.S. government launched a war on terror to defeat terrorist groups worldwide, deploying troops in Afghanistan and Iraq. As America went to war, Utah's air bases and other military infrastructure played a major role—as they had done during the two world wars.

Another long-running trend was urbanization, which got underway in the nineteenth century and gathered momentum in the twentieth. Today, about 90 percent of Utahns live in an urban area, which means nine-tenths of the state's population lives on about 1 percent of Utah's land. Salt Lake County and Utah County, home to Salt Lake City and its major suburbs, have remained the most populous counties in the state.

Utah's cities first grew in the nineteenth century

Utah Workers in Selected Industries, 2000–15



Although Utah’s working population has grown during the twenty-first century, not all industries have grown at the same rate.

as people moved to cities to work in industry. Now, the growth in Utah’s cities is driven by all kinds of jobs. In the twenty-first century, service industries, including health care and education, have become major employers in the cities. Service industries provide essential services such as finance, health care, administration, and education. Service-oriented businesses tend to concentrate in cities because cities offer infrastructure, education, and other support for these businesses.

Additionally, older forms of industry, such as manufacturing, have given way to new high-technology industries. Salt Lake City in particular has seen a surge in its technology industry, especially since the

2010s. This growth was part of a wider trend of technology firms establishing new headquarters away from the tech industries’ traditional home in Silicon Valley, California.

Think Twice



How does the story of Utah’s economy in the twenty-first century continue the trends of the twentieth century? In what ways does it break with those trends? Consider the graph on this page as you think about your answer.

Utah’s State Leaders

Five governors have served the state since 2001, with several going on to major roles in the federal government.

Mike Leavitt, a former insurance executive, served as governor from 1993 to 2003. He later became the administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency and the secretary of health and human services. Ogden native Olene Walker was Utah's first-ever female governor, from 2003 to 2005. Landmarks of her term included efforts to promote literacy and education, support conservation programs, and expand affordable housing initiatives.

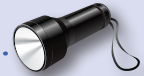
Walker was succeeded by Jon Huntsman Jr., who served from 2005 to 2009 before being appointed ambassador to China. His lieutenant governor, Gary Herbert,



Olene Walker (left) was the first woman to serve as lieutenant governor and governor of Utah.

won the governorship in 2008 and served from 2009 to 2021. Herbert held office during the pivotal years after the global financial crisis of 2008. Helping the state recover from that crisis was a priority of his term. Spencer Cox took office in 2021 after serving as lieutenant governor under Herbert. His policy priorities included promoting entrepreneurship and strengthening the state's health care system.

Find Out the Facts



Choose one of Utah's twenty-first-century governors, and research their major policy goals and initiatives. What did this governor accomplish during their time in office?

Utahns in National Politics

Utahns have also played prominent roles on the national political scene. Among the most notable is U.S. Senator Orrin Hatch, who served in Congress from 1977 to 2019. During his tenure, Hatch was considered one of the major leaders of the Republican Party in the U.S. Congress. He is also remembered for leading some important **bipartisan** efforts.

Vocabulary

bipartisan, adj. involving cooperation between both major political parties

A good example of Hatch's bipartisanship is his attempts to reform immigration law. In 2001, he and Democratic colleague Dick Durbin of Illinois proposed the DREAM Act, which would provide a pathway to permanent residency—and eventually to citizenship—for children of undocumented immigrants. In the years since, similar proposals have frequently been made in Congress or undertaken through executive action. Hatch also sought to make more visas available to foreign workers who bring specialized, in-demand skills to the United States.

Mitt Romney, who led the Salt Lake Organizing Committee that helped prepare for the 2002 Olympics, also



In 2012, Brigham Young University graduate and former Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints bishop Mitt Romney ran as the Republican nominee for U.S. president. He later succeeded Orrin Hatch as one of Utah's U.S. senators.

has a long-standing relationship with Utah. A Brigham Young University graduate, Romney served as governor of Massachusetts after his time on the Olympic committee and then ran for U.S. president in 2012 before becoming one of Utah's U.S. senators in 2019.

Think Twice



Who are some of the most influential leaders in Utah, at a variety of levels? What have been their most significant contributions to the betterment of life in Utah?



The 2002 Olympics and Their Legacy

One important element of Utah's service sector and of the state's culture overall is tourism. Long famous among hikers, backpackers, and skiers for its natural scenery, Utah became better known worldwide during the 2002 Olympics.

The 2002 Olympics brought together people from around the world and helped cement Utah's reputation as a winter sports destination. The legacy of those games can be seen in monuments, museums, and sporting venues throughout the Salt Lake region.

The 2002 Olympics started and ended in Salt Lake City, but events took place throughout the region. Many outdoor competitions were held in nearby Park City, where an enormous Olympic Park was built to host ski jumping, luge, and bobsled racing. Provo hosted the ice hockey matches, and speed skating took place in Kearns. The Wasatch Mountains provided excellent **terrain** for skiing and snowboarding. Salt Lake City hosted indoor sporting events, and its hotels and restaurants accommodated the huge crowd of visitors. These events highlighted many of the things that make Utah special.

Vocabulary

terrain, n. the physical features, such as mountains and valleys, within an area of land

The Olympics also reaffirmed Utah's connection to the rest of the country and the rest of the world. The games provided Americans with a moment of unity and celebration in the wake of a historic tragedy. The Olympics are also traditionally a symbol of world peace, and by welcoming athletes from seventy-seven different countries, the Olympics gave Utah a chance to play host to the world's sporting elite. In this, the Olympics point toward a larger trend in Utah's history:

people from all over coming to the state to visit, to do business, or even to make their homes here.

Think Twice

How did the 2002 Winter Olympics show Utah's connectedness to the United States and the world?



Hosting the Olympics is a huge investment for any community. Host cities must build special facilities to house the events and the athletes, as well as accommodate the huge crowds that will visit. Rice–Eccles Stadium alone was a massive upgrade over the existing Rice Stadium and cost approximately \$50 million to construct. Utah Olympic Park, which included the ski and bobsled facilities, cost even more.

Long before the games begin, Olympic hosts must find a future purpose for the facilities they will build. The Olympics only last a few weeks, but the facilities should be useful for years to come in order to justify the expense of building them. Utah is no exception: Rice–Eccles Stadium has gone back to serving its role as a college football venue, though the 2002 Olympic cauldron still stands outside the stadium as a monument. Utah Olympic Park today serves as a training ground for athletes of both summer and winter sports. Parts



Snowboarding, which developed from a 1960s practice of “snow surfing,” experienced breakout popularity in the 1990s and 2000s. Utah’s Wasatch Mountains provide excellent conditions for this sport.

of it also operate as a public recreational facility. Winter sports are one of the main drivers of tourism in Utah; of the more than \$11 billion spent annually by tourists within the state, nearly a quarter of which comes from the ski industry alone.

Utah Olympic Park will be called into service again to host another set of Winter Games in 2034. However, stadiums and bobsled tracks are not “one-and-done” expenses that are paid once and free thereafter. These facilities must be maintained, refurbished, and upgraded over the years. Some estimate that it will cost as much as \$4 billion for Salt Lake City to host another Olympic Games.



Think Twice

What would be the costs and benefits of Utah hosting another Winter Olympics?

Writers’ Corner

Imagine you are in charge of organizing the 2034 Winter Olympics. What are the biggest challenges you think you will face? These could include challenges related to money, logistics (getting people and goods from place to place), or infrastructure (the buildings and services that support people). Write one or two paragraphs explaining how you would try to address those challenges.



Utah’s Sports Teams

The Olympics are not Utah’s only connection to athletics. For almost fifty years, the state has hosted professional teams in a growing variety of sports.

The state’s oldest major league sports team is its basketball team, the Utah Jazz. The team was formed in New Orleans—widely considered the birthplace of jazz—and moved to Utah in 1979. Since then, the Jazz has won eleven Midwest Division titles and twice been the Western Conference champion. The team’s home court is the Delta Center in downtown Salt Lake City.

Several other professional teams—minor and major league, in sports from rugby to lacrosse—have been established in Utah or moved here. The Major League Soccer team Real Salt Lake was founded in 2004

and is headquartered in Sandy, a southern suburb of Salt Lake City. The state also has a National Women's Soccer League team as of 2024, the Utah Royals. Like Real Salt Lake, they play their home games in Sandy at America First Field. Also starting in 2024, Utah has a National Hockey League ice hockey team, the Utah Hockey Club (now called the Utah Mammoth). The team is based in Salt Lake City.

Together, these sports teams represent an important part of Utah's tourist economy, especially within the Salt Lake area. On average, about eighteen thousand people go to see each Jazz game, amounting to four hundred thousand tickets sold per year, as well as millions of dollars in dining, lodging, and other tourism-related spending. Real Salt Lake boasts similar numbers, hosting an average of twenty thousand spectators per game, or more than three hundred thousand per year.



Growth and Change in Utah's Population

Changes in Utah's sporting culture reflect broader changes in the Utahn population. The soccer teams provide a

good example: historically, soccer (called *football* abroad) has been tremendously popular in Europe and Latin America but less so in the United States. As Utah's population has diversified, demand for a wider variety of professional sports has grown. Salt Lake City's large and growing Hispanic population is credited with boosting the popularity of soccer within the city overall. Today, about 20 percent of Salt Lake City residents identify as Hispanic or Latino, as compared with 15 percent statewide and a nationwide average of 19 percent.

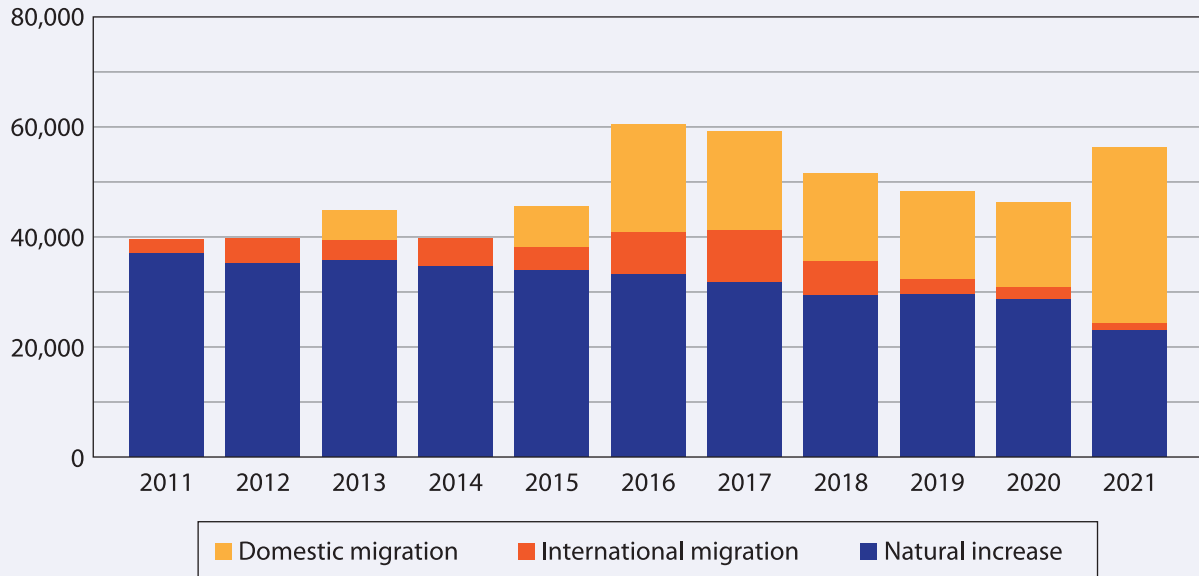
In the twenty-first century, Utah retains some distinctive **demographic** patterns compared to the rest of the country. Utahns are, on average, younger than Americans in general, with the youngest average age of any state. The median age in Utah as of 2020 was thirty-one, and nationwide it was thirty-eight. The average Utahn family size, as of 2015, was 3.67 people, compared to a national average of 3.26 in the same year.

Vocabulary

demographic, adj. having to do with the characteristics of a population

Overall, Utah's population has continued to grow since the year 2000. At the beginning of the century, some 2,240,000

Sources of Utah's Population Growth, 2011–21



Over time, Utah's population growth comes increasingly from in-migration rather than natural increase.

people lived in the state. By 2024, that number had grown to 3,500,000.

Most of Utah's population growth in the early twenty-first century has come from people moving into the state. Between 2015 and 2019, on average 106,000 people per year moved to Utah from elsewhere in the United States. Of course, at the same time, people left Utah too—an average of 87,000 people per year in the same period. This means that, on average, 19,000 new residents were added each year.

In the same period, international migration to Utah has been another

source of population growth. Between 2015 and 2019, an average of 22,000 people a year moved to Utah from other countries. In 2020 and 2021, the number fell sharply due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but international migration to the state resumed after pandemic restrictions were lifted.

Not everyone who comes to Utah from another country is an immigrant. In addition to the state's numerous leisure visitors, many people come as temporary or guest workers. Often, they arrive through visa programs targeting specific

professions in which workers are in high demand. Jobs are lined up in advance, and pay is relatively good. Nursing is one example, with many guest workers and immigrants helping to meet a growing need for health care professionals and technicians. Software is another high-education, high-demand industry: New and growing companies in the technology industry recruit talented engineers from

around the world. On the other hand, many others work seasonally on farms or in construction. For these migrants, the work is unsteady, and pay is often poor.

Think Twice



How do you think Utah's population will continue to grow and change in the twenty-first century? What do you think will be the main drivers of that change?

Chapter 5

Utah Today

Big Question

What challenges does Utah face today?



Water in Utah

Human life in Utah has always been tied to the changing availability of water. It has been this way since prehistoric times: The first people who came to the region found an enormous lake that supported them with fish and wildlife. Long after that lake had dwindled, Indigenous peoples used rivers and upland water resources to sustain complex societies. Water was also a key resource for the explorers, fur traders, and settlers who came to Utah in the 1700s and 1800s. It often served as a point of conflict between those settlers and Utah's Native population. Even today, water in Utah is a precious commodity.



In this photo of the Antelope Island marina on the depleted Great Salt Lake, the docks sit on dry ground. Grass has begun to grow where boats once floated.



Utah's water supply can be unreliable. Take the Colorado River—the nation's sixth-longest river and the primary source of water for tens of millions of people. The Colorado is fed by snowmelt from the Rockies. If there is too little snow, the river runs low, and the lakes and reservoirs begin to dry out. That lesson has been learned and relearned by the Paiutes, by nineteenth-century Latter-day Saint settlers, by Depression-era farmers, and by modern Utahns. These so-called "wet-dry" cycles are a fact of Utah's climate and have been for many centuries. The dry parts of the cycle have historically been times of great scarcity.

Over time, many advancements have been made to ease the worst effects of drought. Today, Utah's people rely on dams and reservoirs to capture and store water from upstream. Researchers from the state and federal governments, along with scientists from Utah's universities, track the amount of water in the soil throughout the year. They advise farmers on how to get more water to their plants and lose less to runoff and evaporation. Still, water management remains an important challenge, and conditions in this century have been worse than average so far. Utah now faces what some climate scientists call a "megadrought." In response, the

state's leaders have called on residents to conserve water however they can in their homes, yards, farms, and ranches.



Think Twice

How can Utah ensure its growing water needs will be met?

The Roles of Government

Solving problems such as drought requires the cooperation of multiple levels of government. The top level of government is the federal government. The structure of the federal government comes from the U.S. Constitution. The federal government makes and enforces laws that affect the whole country while states have their own governments to make and enforce their own laws. For instance, the federal government makes treaties, or agreements, between the United States and other countries. It decides who can be a U.S. citizen and maintains the country's armed forces. If states had different rules for these matters, it would create many problems.

Utah's state government makes rules and policies that apply within Utah. Like other states, Utah sets its own policies in areas such as education and health care; has its own university system; and operates its own programs for housing, tourism, and transportation.



Utah's State Government

The state government of Utah today follows the same structure laid down in the constitution of 1896. The constitutions of the states, including Utah's, are strongly influenced by the U.S. Constitution. Like the federal government, the Utah state government has three branches, called executive, legislative, and judicial.

The executive branch's job is to carry out the laws. Its leader is the governor, who is elected to a four-year term. The governor oversees the many agencies that make up the government. These agencies deal with education, the environment, health, taxation, and numerous other matters in the state. To accomplish this, the governor leads a cabinet of officials, each of whom is in charge of one of the agencies. Unlike their federal counterparts, known as secretaries, most of Utah's cabinet officials are called commissioners or executive directors. The governor also appoints state judges, who must then be confirmed by the state senate.

Utah's lieutenant governor also serves a four-year term. Like a vice president, the lieutenant governor takes over if the governor dies or resigns from office. The lieutenant governor has a

few other duties, including overseeing elections and leading the state's civics education program. Historically, Utah's lieutenant governor has also worked closely with the state legislature to communicate the governor's policy priorities and push for their enactment as law.

Utah's legislature, like that of almost all other states, is **bicameral**. This means it has two bodies, or houses, called the Senate and the House of Representatives. Utah's state senators serve four-year terms, and state representatives serve two-year terms. Each

house has its own process for drafting bills, but the two houses must both approve a bill before it can go to the governor to be signed into law. If the governor **veto**s a bill, the legislature can still pass it into law with a two-thirds majority.

Vocabulary

bicameral, adj. (of a legislature) having two houses

veto, v. to reject a bill and refuse to sign it into law

The state judiciary interprets the laws and applies them to court cases.



The chambers of Utah's legislature, as well as the governor's offices, are located in the Utah State Capitol. Shown here is the interior of the Senate chamber.

Misdemeanors and other small infractions, such as traffic violations, are handled by Justice Courts. These operate at the county or city level. District Courts handle civil cases (lawsuits) and serious crimes, known as **felonies**. The ultimate say on the meaning and application of state laws rests with the five-member Utah Supreme Court. Unlike their federal counterparts, Utah's Supreme Court justices serve ten-year terms instead of being appointed for life. They are also subject to elections that determine whether they remain in office.

Vocabulary

misdemeanor, n. a minor crime punishable by a fine or a short jail term

felony, n. a serious crime punishable by a jail term of a year or more

Sometimes, state and federal governments come into conflict where their responsibilities overlap. A prominent example of this in Utah concerns land use. About two-thirds of land in Utah is owned by the federal government. That is the second-highest amount of any state after Nevada. The Utah state government has argued that this land should remain public but should be managed locally rather than federally. The federal government often imposes narrow restrictions on land use, arguing that these will protect the

natural environment. Utahns argue that the restrictions will prevent people from camping, grazing cattle, or using the land in other sustainable ways. Instead, they say the land will be treated like a museum exhibit. The ultimate resolution of this dispute will likely fall to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Think Twice

What is the best way to balance federal and state power?



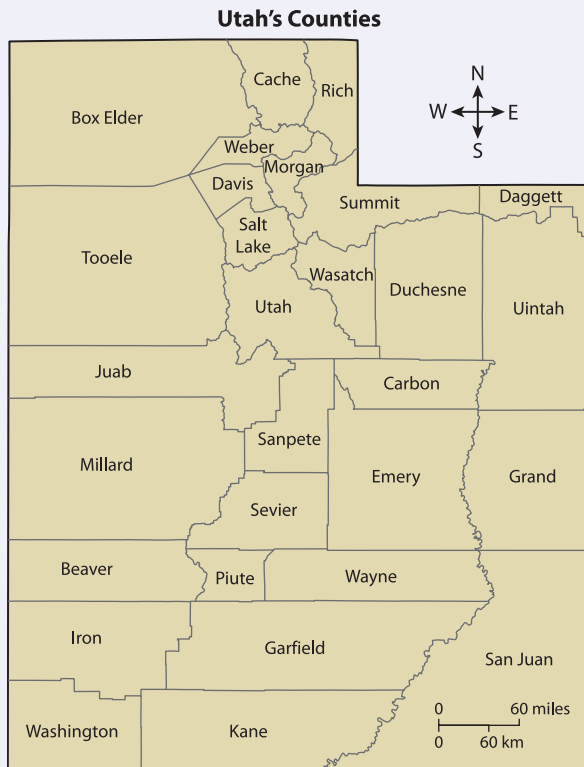
Local Governments

On the local level, Utah has twenty-nine counties that vary greatly in population. Salt Lake County has more than a million residents while Daggett County in the northeast has around a thousand. Most counties are led by a commission that combines executive and legislative powers. The commission oversees the enforcement of local laws. They also raise revenue for the services that the county provides, such as fire protection and road maintenance.

Cities and towns have their own governments as well. These **municipal** governments are usually headed by a mayor and either a city or town council or by a city commission.

Vocabulary

municipal, adj. relating to a town or city with its own government



Utah's twenty-nine counties have their own county governments and elected officials.

Tribal Governments

Also important in Utah are the eight tribal nations whose members live within the state. These are the descendants of the state's five historic tribes—the Ute, Goshute, Paiute, Shoshone, and Navajo. Sometimes, specific bands of a tribe have developed into separate modern-day tribal nations. For example, the Ute are divided into two tribes: the White Mesa Community and the Ute Indian Tribe. Moreover, some tribal nations span the borders of multiple U.S. states.

The Navajo Nation has territory in parts of Arizona and New Mexico as well as Utah.

These tribes have their own governments. Their jurisdiction extends over the use of tribal lands and the conduct of tribal citizens on those lands, though not necessarily over that of nonmembers. While preserving traditional values and Indigenous customs, the tribal governments have often gradually developed structures and systems similar to those of the United States.

For example, the Navajo people were recognized as an independent, self-governing community as early as the Spanish colonial period. However, the Navajo Nation did not form an official tribal government until 1923. It did so in response to the challenges posed by the discovery of ample oil reserves on Navajo territory. This tribal government provided a systematic way for Navajo leaders to bargain with oil companies and other outside groups.

Over the decades, the Navajo Nation developed a three-branch system that follows the same broad structure as the Utah and federal governments. However, it retains many practices specific to Navajo tradition. In the Navajo judicial system, for example, there is a Peacemaking Program,

which is not found in most court systems. This program helps to prevent lawsuits and criminal trials by having people undergo mediation with a counselor.

The tribal nations are **sovereign** in the sense that they officially control their own affairs within their territory. They are, legally speaking, “domestic dependent nations.” This phrase, whose meaning has been debated in courts over the years, means that tribal nations are less independent from the federal government than foreign countries such as France or China but more independent than U.S. states. A member of one of these nations is a citizen of both that nation and the United States.

Vocabulary

sovereign, adj. having control over one’s own people, territory, and economy

Many of the functions of a tribal government parallel those of states, cities, or counties. For instance, tribal nations maintain their own courts, police forces, tax systems, and business licensing schemes. They determine who is a tribal citizen. They control mineral and water rights and handle other land-use issues such as zoning. Depending on their membership and the size of their territory, tribal authorities

may also provide emergency services, like firefighting, and provide utilities, such as electricity, water, and wastewater management.

Federal and state governments, including Utah’s, must respect tribal sovereignty in these matters. For example, states may not prosecute tribal members for crimes committed on tribal lands; that is the responsibility and the right of the tribal nation. However, in some ways, tribal governments still fall under the purview of the federal government. They cannot declare war, form treaties with foreign countries, or mint their own currency. In other areas, such as water rights, tribal and state governments frequently come into conflict, and any agreement between the two must be approved on both sides.

The relationship between tribal governments and the federal government is managed by the federal Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA). The bureau is part of the Department of the Interior. The Bureau of Indian Affairs helps to protect and manage the land and assets of Native Americans and tribal nations throughout the country. It also provides some other services, such as assisting tribes with legal issues and providing support for the welfare of children.



The flags of tribal nations, a symbol of sovereignty, often fly alongside those of the United States and individual states. Seen here beside the U.S. flag is the Navajo Nation flag.



Think Twice

What are some of the most influential leadership roles in the different levels of Utah's government? How do these leaders contribute to the betterment of life in Utah?

Utah's Governments in Action

Many issues that concern Utahns involve multiple layers of government working together. For instance, counties handle the repair and maintenance of local roads.

Because these mainly serve local residents and businesses, they are considered the county's responsibility, even though some of the money comes from state tax revenue. Meanwhile, the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) builds and maintains highways that serve travel and commerce throughout the state.

Likewise, Utah's Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) works with local health departments to ensure that public health needs are met. DHHS monitors health issues, such as disease outbreaks, statewide. Local agencies conduct their own disease monitoring as well, sharing information with DHHS and vice versa. They also monitor the safety of the local water supply and ensure that food service, housing, and commercial establishments follow **sanitary** practices.

Vocabulary

sanitary, adj. clean and healthy

The response to a disease outbreak often involves coordination between federal, state, and local governments. When DHHS discovers a disease outbreak, it shares information about the disease with local health agencies and helps them obtain resources—such as funding, testing kits, and vaccines—to help monitor and contain it. DHHS also engages in

public messaging to tell citizens how they can protect themselves. The actual administration of tests and vaccines is often handled locally, and local health departments may make their own rules about how to limit the spread of disease.

If the outbreak is especially widespread or severe, the federal government may also get involved. Federal agencies such as the CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) perform many of the same roles as a state health department but on a larger scale. They may purchase supplies and provide them to state and local agencies, offer advice and training to local practitioners, coordinate information sharing between states, and conduct their own public information campaigns to help fight the spread of the illness.

Like the federal government, Utah's state government has a Division of Indian Affairs. This agency works with tribal governments to promote the well-being of the state's Native American population. Those living on reservations often face economic, health, and infrastructure challenges that can be addressed in part by tribal, state, and federal governments working together.

One area of frequent state-tribal collaboration is the provision of utilities, such as power and Internet access.

At the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, programs were launched to improve the quality of rural broadband Internet. Like rural communities elsewhere, Utah's tribal communities lag somewhat behind their urban counterparts in Internet access.

Using money from state COVID-relief grants, however, tribal utility commissions were able to help remedy this issue. The state government provided the money to help pay for improvements to Internet service, and the tribal governments helped local communities determine what improvements were most important to make.

Another area of collaboration is the building and maintenance of roads. As Utah's economy comes to rely more on services, technology, and tourism, it is more important than ever that people be able to move about the state freely to access work opportunities. Yet some areas of the state are hard to access, either because the quality of the roads is poor or because the routes from major population centers are long and indirect.

By working with tribal governments, the state can prioritize roadbuilding in these hard-to-reach areas. Tribal governments contribute funds to these projects and give permission for new roads to be built within their jurisdiction. When successful,

these projects serve the interests of multiple groups without hindering land use or disrupting local landmarks. However, friction between state and tribal governments can also arise. Often, state and tribal representatives have different ideas about what projects should take priority.

Two roadbuilding projects—one recently begun and one still unrealized—show both the promise and the challenge of these joint initiatives. In 2024, officials from the Utah state government joined those from the Navajo Nation in breaking ground on a road upgrade in San Juan County. This upgrade aims to provide greater access to tourism sites and oil fields. It will also help with floodwater management, livestock safety, and the provision of Internet access through an underground cable.

In this case, state, federal, and tribal resources were combined for a project that will benefit locals as well as tourists and commuters. The federal government provided money in the form of a grant, and state and tribal governments consulted on where and how the improvements would be made. The state Department of Transportation hired and coordinated workers to design and improve the roads.



Utah's roads are a public good, and keeping them in good repair takes a great deal of work. Federal, state, local, and tribal governments all play a part.

Other projects, such as a long-sought section of road to remote Navajo Mountain, have not received the same level of support from the state. These projects matter greatly to tribal leaders and the people they represent. However, when the interests of tribal communities do not clearly match up with those of the state at large, state and federal funds can be harder to access.

Think Twice

How do Utah's different levels of government cooperate to meet the needs of Utah's people?



The People of Utah

Utah's Native American people have faced many challenges over the years. Like Indigenous populations throughout the United States, they have confronted policies that would either force them onto reservations or force them to assimilate to Euro-american culture. Today, Native Americans in Utah are not isolated, nor have their traditions been "assimilated away" into the cultural mainstream. Instead, they are a vital part of Utah's life and culture. Many continue to live on reservations, but most live in towns and cities throughout the state.

As Indigenous communities continue to modernize, Utah's Native American peoples preserve many distinctive traditions. Some traditional ceremonies and celebrations are open to the public. For example, the Navajo Nation holds an annual fair in the fall. There, the traditional Gourd Dance is performed alongside rodeo events honoring the Navajo Nation's long history of horsemanship. Skill at riding and training horses has long been a defining part of Navajo culture. The rodeo, originally a cowboy tradition of the American West, gives Navajo riders and trainers a way to showcase their talent.

The passage of the seasons has been important to Utah's Indigenous people since ancient times. Many today make their living as farmers or ranchers and still have a very practical connection to the seasons. Folk traditions reinforce this connection and explain its spiritual significance. For example, the Ute people perform an annual Bear Dance to celebrate the coming of spring, as they have for centuries. For the Ute, as for the Navajo, dance serves as a form of ritual storytelling and a way of sharing Indigenous cultural practices with a wider audience.

As of 2024, Utah's Native American peoples constitute about 1.6 percent of the state's population. About 75.7 percent of Utahns identify as white (not Hispanic or Latino). Asian Americans account for about 2.9 percent; Black Americans, 1.6 percent; and Pacific Islander groups, about 1.2 percent. About 3 percent



Horsemanship has long been important to the Ute as well as the Navajo. This saddle, richly adorned with beadwork, is meant for ceremonial use.

identify as multiracial. Roughly 16 percent of residents identify as Hispanic or Latino. Overall, as Utah relies more on migration from other states or other countries for its population growth, the state's racial and ethnic makeup is growing closer to that of the United States overall. For instance, the proportion of multiracial Americans has increased over the years as more people of diverse backgrounds form households and raise families. This is true in Utah as it is for the country at large.

As Utah's population has become more diverse, some customs have changed

to reflect that diversity. For instance, Pioneer Day began as a Latter-day Saint celebration. It commemorates the migration of the first Latter-day Saints to Utah led by Brigham Young. However, over the years, Pioneer Day festivities have come to acknowledge the many different groups that make up modern-day Utah. The journeys that brought them, whether by wagon train, railcar, or airplane, are seen as part of a broader "pioneer spirit." Groups representing the state's Chinese American, Pacific Islander, and Native American populations, among others, have joined in the "Days of '47" parade



Many Pioneer Day events, such as this reenactment of a handcart trek, reflect the holiday's Latter-day Saint origins.

that anchors the festivities. By bringing symbols and traditions of their cultures to this statewide holiday, these groups declare, “We, too, are a part of Utah’s past and present.”



Think Twice

How do various ethnic and religious communities in Utah maintain and celebrate their unique cultures?



Find Out the Facts

Find out about one of Utah’s immigrant communities. When did people from this country start coming to Utah, and what led them to migrate here? How has the population of this community in Utah changed over time?



Utah’s Modern Economy

As the population of Utah has grown more diverse, so too has the range of industries in which Utahns are employed. New economic opportunities, in turn, attract people to Utah from around the country and all over the world.

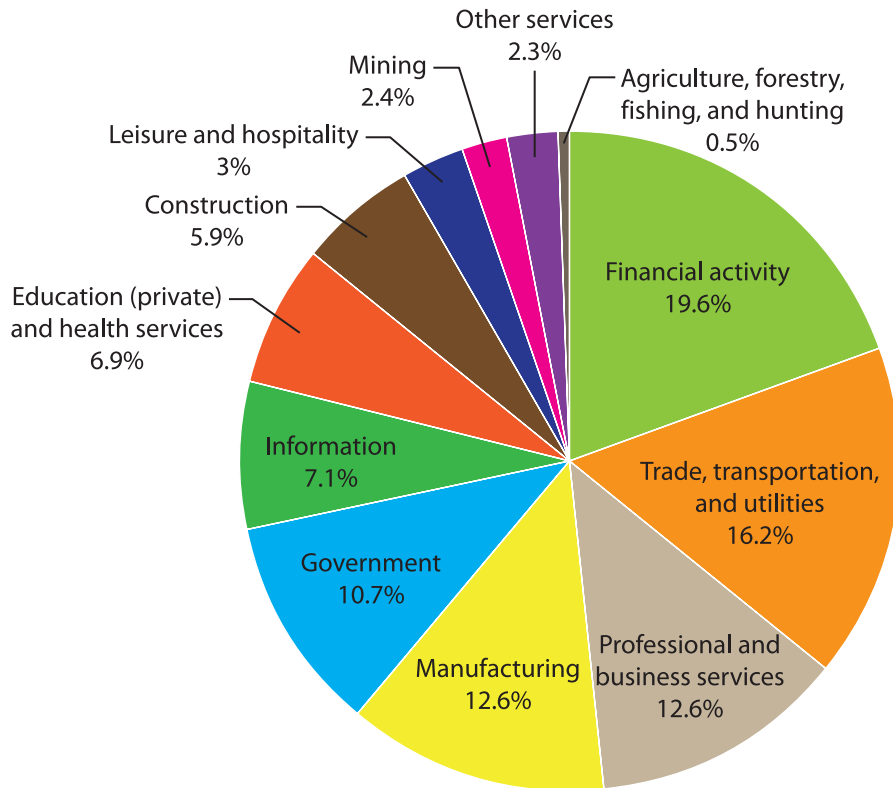
At the beginning of the twentieth century, Utah’s economy was dominated by companies from other states. These companies controlled the railroads, mines, and banks that employed much of the

Utahn workforce. This story continued somewhat during the world wars and the Depression. At those times, the federal government created many of the jobs. Some it created directly, through the military. Others were created by the federal government indirectly, through government actions like buying minerals for wartime manufacturing. During this time, manufacturing grew to become an important part of Utah’s economy, in addition to the traditional industries of agriculture and mining.

As Utah’s economy has begun to diversify and shift toward services, however, Utah-based businesses have been growing, and out-of-state companies are becoming less dominant. Today, some of the state’s biggest employers are organizations based in Utah. These include technology firms that relocated their headquarters to the “Silicon Slopes” of the Wasatch Front.

Despite the growth of service industries, exporting goods remains one of the main connections between Utah’s economy and the world’s. Electronics, raw materials, and food are all exported from Utah to countries throughout Europe and Asia, as well as to North American neighbors Canada and Mexico. Although future economic trends are hard to predict, Utah seems poised to

Utah's Gross Domestic Product, by Sector, 2021



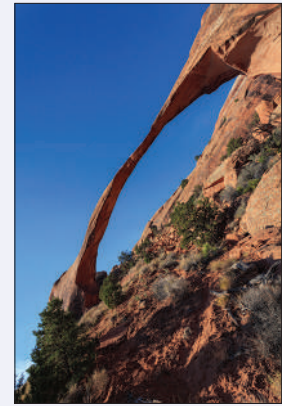
Service activities, such as finance, education, health care, and government, account for a large and growing share of Utah's gross domestic product (GDP).

be a major player in the evolving high-tech economy. In terms of employment and growth potential, Utah frequently ranks near the top of national lists.

The other main industry linking Utah to the rest of the world is tourism. Leisure and hospitality account for just 3 percent of Utah's total goods and services. Nonetheless, tourism is the lifeblood of numerous small Utah communities. Outdoor tourism in particular continues to be a big draw for visitors to Utah. In addition to its five national parks, Utah

has dozens of state parks, forests, and historic trails that attract adventurous tourists.

The economic impact of these parks goes well beyond the hospitality industry. The National Park Service, the Department of Natural Resources, and other agencies employ rangers, groundskeepers, fish and wildlife specialists, and firefighters. These professionals help maintain the natural environment while keeping visitors safe. About a hundred thousand more people work in the hotels, restaurants, gas stations,



Utah's national parks feature spectacular vistas that draw millions of visitors per year. Shown from left to right are Bryce Canyon, Zion, and Arches National Parks.

and shops of so-called “gateway towns”. These are the places that tourists choose as launching-off points for their park visits.

Utah's wealth of outdoor recreation sites was a boon to the state's tourism industry during the first years of the COVID-19 pandemic. In late 2020 and 2021, many people sought leisure activities that avoided large crowds and indoor spaces. Utah's national parks fit the bill and drew record traffic. Many in hospitality and tourism jobs welcomed the extra business during a difficult time for the state's tourism industry. Others, including park officials, worried about the parks' ability to sustain such heavy traffic. They feared that pollution from vehicles and litter from park guests would degrade the natural environment, harming the landscape that people had come to see.



Conservation and Preservation

Stewardship of land and water is important to Utahns for many reasons. Taking care of the land ensures that resources like the national and state parks remain available for all to enjoy. Conserving water helps all Utah's residents weather the state's periodic droughts.

Several state government agencies, such as the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food (UDAF), provide guidance for those who use the land to help them do so responsibly. For instance, UDAF consults with farmers on how to avoid overfertilizing crops. Excessive use of fertilizers has led to contaminated water downstream from farms, hindering the growth of native plants and requiring extensive cleanup to make the drinking

water supply safe. UDAF also helps the state’s water conservation efforts while helping to protect farmers from the effects of drought by giving farmers advice on efficient irrigation.

Preserving Air Quality

In addition to the land and water, air quality plays a major role in Utahns’ quality of life. Although Utah is not a heavily industrialized state, it has some special features that make it prone to specific air pollution problems. Northern Utah, on the Wasatch Front, experiences a process called **inversion**, in which a high layer of warm air moves in and traps cool air underneath. Valleys are especially susceptible to inversions because valley walls help prevent the cool air from escaping.

Vocabulary

inversion, n. a weather formation in which a layer of warm air traps a layer of cooler air below it

Utah’s geography has other properties that affect the likelihood and effects of inversions. One is the high frequency of winter snowstorms along the Wasatch Front: Snow cover keeps the air temperature near the ground lower than the air higher in the atmosphere. Another is the concentration of population in that

same region. Small-particle pollution, known as PM2.5, gets generated by traffic and industry and then trapped in inversions. High-population areas, such as Salt Lake City, tend to generate large amounts of PM2.5. When this air pollution is trapped in an inversion, it creates the brownish haze known as **smog**, which causes respiratory problems.

Vocabulary

smog, n. air pollution that appears as a thick fog or haze

Researchers have explored various ways to improve air quality by reducing pollution and lessening its effects. They found that people often use heavily polluting vehicles and equipment because upgrading to newer, less polluting options is costly. Thus, statewide and in individual counties, Utah’s Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) offers programs that help businesses, nonprofits, and households replace high-emissions equipment, such as old lawn mowers and diesel engines. Another source of air pollution is old oil wells, which produce a disproportionate amount of pollution to the oil that they yield. Here, too, the DEQ provides money and expert advice to help with the safe closure of these old, low-producing wells.



Inversions, coupled with the density of the Salt Lake population, contribute to the periodic smog shown here.



Find Out the Facts

Find out about one type of air pollution in Utah. What is this kind of pollution, and what kind of activities generate it? What are its effects on people and animals? How can it be controlled or reduced?

The Trust Lands

One unique aspect of Utah's conservation regime is the Trust Lands. These are more than four million acres (1.6 million hectares) of land granted to the state of Utah by the U.S. Congress. Initially, funds generated by the Trust Lands were to be used to support public schools. Over the years, other beneficiaries of the trust have been

added. These include colleges and universities, schools for the deaf and the blind, hospitals, and the juvenile justice system.

The Trust Lands Administration (TLA), a state government agency, manages the land. Over half a million acres (202,000 hectares) have been given protected status. Moreover, many Trust Lands projects involve consultation with other state agencies, such as DEQ and the Department of Natural Resources.

Consider the case of Dark Canyon Lake, a prime fishing spot situated on Trust Lands. When the lake grew in popularity, pollution and overuse threatened to kill off fish populations. The Trust Lands

Administration worked together with two other agencies to solve this problem. The Division of Wildlife Resources, Utah's fish and game agency, monitored the fish populations and helped restock the lake. Meanwhile, the Division of Water Rights helped the Trust Lands staff redirect a stream into the lake. This kept water levels high enough to support a healthy fish population. This kind of coordination between agencies is important because many people use the Trust Lands for fishing, hiking, camping, and other recreational activities.

The rest of the Trust Lands are available to be leased for various uses. For some of the parcels, the state offers mineral leases that allow businesses to prospect for minerals or drill for oil. Others are used for their surface resources, such as timber and livestock grazing. Some are even used for the construction of solar or wind farms to provide sustainable power. Whatever the use, TLA is required to ensure the land is preserved so that it can continue to benefit Utah's schoolchildren.



Looking Ahead

As the twenty-first century unfolds, Utah faces many challenges but also numerous opportunities. Its economy,

much more diverse and robust than a century ago, continues to reinvent itself. Once remote from the rest of the world, Utah has become a destination for tech entrepreneurs, vacationers, and athletes. The state's population, still very young by national standards, is growing not only larger but more diverse, combining new traditions with centuries-old Indigenous practices and the legacy of the Latter-day Saint settlers. As this population continues to grow, the careful use of land resources and the protection of air and water quality will only become more important.

Much of Utah's history has yet to be written. You will play a part in that history. As a citizen and perhaps even as an elected leader, you will help shape the way Utah responds to the challenges of the coming years and seizes new opportunities. Yet there is much more to the state's story than politics and policymaking. For thousands of years, people from all walks of life have made their own stories in this state—and contributed to Utah's life and culture by doing so. By taking the time to learn about Utah's past, you have taken an important step toward helping to write its future.

Glossary

A

adobe, n. a type of brick made from sun-dried clay (11)

arid, adj. very dry (2)

arms race, n. a competition between nations for military superiority, especially through the amassing of weapons (59)

artifact, n. something made by people in the past (3)

autonomous, adj. self-governing; having the power and freedom to make choices (40)

B

bicameral, adj. (of a legislature) having two houses (79)

bipartisan, adj. involving cooperation between both major political parties (69)

C

cede, v. to grant or transfer (28)

commerce, n. the buying and selling of goods and services; trade (33)

compensation, n. money given to someone who has suffered a loss or a wrongdoing (55)

D

demographic, adj. having to do with the characteristics of a population (73)

depot, n. a large-scale facility for the storage of military supplies or equipment (59)

diminish, v. to decrease or make less (25)

dissident, n. a person who opposes the official views of a regime (49)

drainage basin, n. a geographic area where all the surface water eventually flows together (4)

drought, n. a period of prolonged, often severe dry weather (12)

E

entrepreneur, n. a person who starts a business (24)

excommunicate, v. to punish a person by excluding or expelling them from church membership (37)

F

felony, n. a serious crime punishable by a jail term of a year or more (80)

G

granary, n. a building or structure used for the storage of grain (13)

H

hogan, n. a traditional Navajo dwelling framed with timber and covered with earth (19)

I

integrate, v. to end a policy that keeps apart people of different races; to make a place open to everyone (63)

inversion, n. a weather formation in which a layer of warm air traps a layer of cooler air below it (91)

K

kiva, n. a large underground room used for ceremonies by the Ancestral Pueblo and their descendants (12)

M

martial law, n. rule by the military, usually imposed in times of war or emergency (36)

megafauna, n. large or giant animals (7)

misdemeanor, n. a minor crime punishable by a fine or a short jail term (80)

municipal, adj. relating to a town or city with its own government (80)

P

pandemic, n. a disease outbreak that spreads across multiple countries or even worldwide (50)

petroglyph, n. a picture or design that is carved into a rock surface (15)

pictograph, n. a picture, usually ancient or prehistoric, that is painted on a natural rock surface (15)

pit house, n. a partly underground dwelling traditionally built by various peoples of the Southwest (10)

polygamy, n. marriage between one man and two or more women (35)

prehistory, n. the part of human history before written historical records (3)

pueblo, n. a settlement constructed of stone or adobe houses and other buildings (11)

Q

quarantine, n. a period of isolation, either self-imposed or required by law, to prevent the spread of disease (52)

S

sanitary, adj. clean and healthy (83)

scarce, adj. in short supply; not having enough (9)

secular, adj. not religious (35)

sedentary, adj. settling in one area rather than migrating repeatedly from place to place (10)

segregation, n. the separation of people, usually on the basis of race (56)

service economy, (phrase) an economy in which most income comes from providing services rather than producing goods (65)

smog, n. air pollution that appears as a thick fog or haze (91)

sovereign, adj. having control over one's own people, territory, and economy (82)

strike, n. a temporary work stoppage organized by workers as a protest (46)

suffrage, n. the right to vote (44)

superpower, n. a country with very great economic, military, and political power (59)

T

terrain, n. the physical features, such as mountains and valleys, within an area of land (71)

theocracy, n. a system of government ruled by religious leaders (35)

tribute, n. payment of money or goods by a people or their ruler to another country or ruler in exchange for protection **(30)**

U

unionize, v. to form or join a labor union **(48)**

urbanization, n. the formation and growth of cities **(44)**

V

veto, v. to reject a bill and refuse to sign it into law **(79)**

W

wickiup, n. a dome-shaped shelter assembled of branches and covered with thatch or hide **(17)**



Core Knowledge®

CKHG™

Core Knowledge **HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY™**

Editorial Director

Ilene Goldman

Design Manager

Ivan Pestic

Subject Matter Expert

Mason McWatters, Western Governors University

Illustration and Photo Credits

All Canada Photos / Alamy Stock Photo: 25b

American Photo Archive / Alamy Stock Photo: Cover C, 58

Andrew Fare / Alamy Stock Photo: 6

Art Directors & TRIP / Alamy Stock Photo: Cover H, 34

Avalon.red / Alamy Stock Photo: 2–3

BBM / Alamy Stock Photo: 66–67

blickwinkel / Alamy Stock Photo: 18

Cavan Images / Alamy Stock Photo: 72

Danita Delimont / Alamy Stock Photo: 23, 86

David Hayes / Alamy Stock Photo: 44

David R. / Alamy Stock Photo: 54c, 79

Don Despain / Alamy Stock Photo: 60b

FLHC 3 / Alamy Stock Photo: 46

Gary Cook / Alamy Stock Photo: 12a

Gary Whitton / Alamy Stock Photo: 54b

History and Art Collection / Alamy Stock Photo: 42–43

imageBROKER.com / Alamy Stock Photo: Cover D, 85

Jim West / Alamy Stock Photo: Cover B, 12b, 76–77, 87

JohnBlottman / Alamy Stock Photo: 60a

Jon G. Fuller / VWPics / Alamy Stock Photo: 9a

Lebrecht Music & Arts / Alamy Stock Photo: 27b

Maciej Bledowski / Alamy Stock Photo: 54a

Marjorie Kamys Coteria / Bob Daemmrich Photography / Alamy Stock Photo: 70

Melissa Kopka / Alamy Stock Photo: 31

Michael Sayles / Alamy Stock Photo: Cover E, 83

Michele Falzone / Alamy Stock Photo: 90a-c

Niday Picture Library / Alamy Stock Photo: 27a, 37, 51

North Wind Picture Archives / Alamy Stock Photo: Cover F, 22

PF-(bygone1) / Alamy Stock Photo: Cover G, 45

Phil Stock / Alamy Stock Photo: 92

piemags / NSC / Alamy Stock Photo: 49, 50

PR Archive / Alamy Stock Photo: 69

Science History Images / Alamy Stock Photo: 25a

Stephen Saks Photography / Alamy Stock Photo: Cover A, i, iii, 20–21

Tango Images / Alamy Stock Photo: 56

The Protected Art Archive / Alamy Stock Photo: 17

William Scott / Alamy Stock Photo: 7b

Witold Skrypczak / Alamy Stock Photo: 14, 52

World History Archive / Alamy Stock Photo: 33



Core Knowledge K–8 In Your State series

The *In Your State* series includes stand-alone units in science and history focused on individual states and aligned to state standards. Units can be used in conjunction with the *Core Knowledge Sequence* or independently.

In Your State series

History units in this series include

Grade 3: The Story of Arizona

Grade 4: The Story of California

Grade 4: The Story of Colorado

Grade 4: The Story of North Carolina

Grade 4: The Story of Utah

Grade 6: The Story of Minnesota

Grade 7: The History of Utah

Grade 8: The History of North Carolina

www.coreknowledge.org

ISBN: 979-8-88970-498-0

Core Knowledge Curriculum Series™