

**“We cannot simply wait for the next Zenefits or Tesla to come along for us to conclude that many laws are now onerous and unnecessary. We must streamline government today to allow the 21st century economy to continue growing uninhibited by outdated laws, rules and regulations.”**

— Gov. Gary Herbert, in his speech to the Utah legislature Jan. 27, 2016

**Economic Development Corporation of Utah**  
201 S. Main St., Ste. 2150  
Salt Lake City, UT 84111

Michael Flynn  
INTERIM CHIEF OF STAFF  
801-328-8824

**Gov. Gary Herbert (R)**

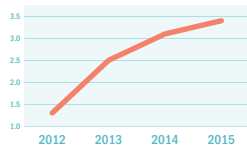
**edcutah.org**

**Utah**

**Pop. (2016):** 3,029,951  
**Median household income:** \$60,914  
**Credit Rating:** AAA/Stable

**Pop. growth 2016–2021:** 1.52%  
**Median age:** 30.2  
**Right-to-work state:** Yes

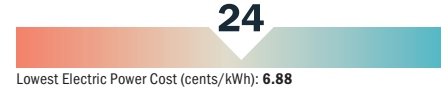
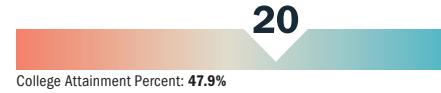
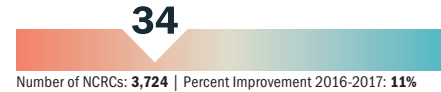
**GDP**  
**32<sup>nd</sup>**



**2015 GDP**  
(in millions of current US\$)  
**\$147,503**

### Legislative Update

- In late March, Gov. Herbert signed legislation to set aside more than \$50 million toward helping to build a shipping port in Oakland, California. The port would allow expanded access to Asia for Utah's slumping coal industry.
- SB80 is to funnel millions of dollars from a transportation fund into a water development account that could eventually help fund projects such as the planned Lake Powell water pipeline. The account could also fund another planned pipeline out of the Bear River in northern Utah.
- Gov. Herbert tried but failed to secure an internet sales tax from state lawmakers. The plan, which faced heavy pushback from bloggers, would have required online retailers to calculate Utah sales tax in the shopping cart. Herbert says the lack of an enforceable internet tax is costing the state hundreds of millions of dollars.



### Selected Corporate Facility Projects 2015

COMPANY	CITY	COUNTY	TYPE	NEW/ EXPANDED	PRODUCT	INVESTMENT (US\$ M)	EMP
Honeyville	Honeyville	Box Elder	MF	E	Flour	23	115
Ram Manufacturing Co.	Saint George	Washington	MF	E	Industrial Valves	11	100
Press Ganey Holdings		Utah	OF/MF/RD	N	Biotechnology	11	97
Social Finance		Salt Lake	OF	N	Mortgages	8	400
Healthequity	Draper	Salt Lake	HQ	E	Administrative Services	7	200
Entrata	Lehi	Utah	HQ	N	Computer Systems	6	191
Selle Royal		Weber	MF	E	Motorcycles	4	65
First American Exchange Co.	Salt Lake City	Salt Lake	OF	N	Financial Services	4	
Peek Travel	Draper	Salt Lake	HQ	N	Business Associations	3	100
Snowsports Industries America	Park City	Summit	HQ	N	Business Associations		30

DT = Data Center | MF = Manufacturing | OF = Office | HQ = Headquarters | RD = Research & Development | DW = Distribution/Warehouse

### Did You Know?

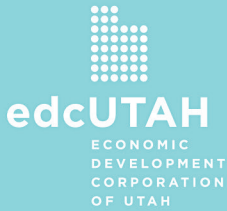
According to the Governor's Office of Economic Development, Utah's fastest-growing occupations are in computer software and applications, home healthcare, compensation and benefits and medical assistance.

Utah ranks in the top 10 states in the US for life expectancy. The obesity rate is sixth lowest in the country, and the poverty rate is eleventh lowest.

Utah boasts of spending \$660 million per year on road expansion, among the most in the nation. In ranking Utah as the best state in the nation for business, CNBC cited infrastructure investments as a key consideration.

The 2016 Sundance Film Festival — held as always in Park City, Salt Lake City, Ogden and Sundance — was attended by more than 46,000 people and generated \$143.3 million in economic activity and \$72.5 in gross state product to Utah.

According to Akamai Digital, Utah is no. 5 in the nation for Internet speeds.



Utah Governor's Office of  
Economic Development



[www.forbes.com/  
best-states-for-business](http://www.forbes.com/best-states-for-business)

# Nobody's Perfect

**2010 - #1 BEST STATE FOR BUSINESS**  
**2011 - #1 BEST STATE FOR BUSINESS**  
**2012 - #1 BEST STATE FOR BUSINESS**  
**2013 - #3 BEST STATE FOR BUSINESS**  
**2014 - #1 BEST STATE FOR BUSINESS**  
**2015 - #1 BEST STATE FOR BUSINESS**  
**2016 - #1 BEST STATE FOR BUSINESS**

**Contact** *Mike Flynn, CMO and Acting Chief of Staff, [mflynn@edcutah.org](mailto:mflynn@edcutah.org)  
Economic Development Corporation of Utah 1-800-574-UTAH(8824)  
[edcutah.org](http://edcutah.org)*

*Thomas Wadsworth, Business Development & Corporate Recruitment Director, [twadsworth@utah.gov](mailto:twadsworth@utah.gov)  
Governor's Office of Economic Development 1-855-204-9046  
[business.utah.gov](http://business.utah.gov)*