

2021 COST OF CITY GOVERNMENT

A REPORT BY THE UTAH TAXPAYERS ASSOCIATION



2021 Cost of City Government Fiscal Year 2020

This report is based on FY 2020 data and shows the relationship between city government revenue and citizen income in Utah's 50 largest cities.

This data provides a snapshot on average of how much of each thousand dollars earned by a citizen is consumed by the city government.

In interpreting the cost of government in these various cities, readers should keep in mind that each city provides a different mix of services.

In addition, some cities receive public safety services through a special district that directly levies a property tax. Tax collection from these public safety districts are included in our calculations.

To see where your city ranks, head to the table on the last page.

Sources:

Population Data: US Census Bureau, 1-Year estimates from Data.Census.Gov.

Per Capita Income Data: US Census Bureau, 5-year estimates from Data.Census.Gov.

Government Revenue Data: Utah State Auditor's Office, audited city financial reports

City Government Revenue Per Capita

City Government Revenue from Taxes and Fees Per Capita	
<u>Best 5</u>	
Clinton	\$355.59
Syracuse	\$427.13
Bountiful	\$430.05
Taylorsville	\$441.32
Kaysville	\$441.33
<u>Worst 5</u>	
Salt Lake City	\$1643.53
South Salt Lake	\$1252.07
American Fork	\$1076.48
St. George	\$982.10
Murray	\$958.08

This metric, revenue from taxes and fees per capita, shows how much revenue the city collects in taxes and fees per resident in the city.

This figure is especially useful in comparing different cities and indicates the level of fiscal restraint exercised by elected officials.

Salt Lake City's revenue per capita increased \$94 from the prior year. South Salt Lake increased by \$46, and American Fork increased by \$129 over FY 2018.

On average, Utah cities collected **\$668.27** per capita in taxes and fees.

Revenue per \$1,000 of Citizen Income

City Government Revenue from Taxes and Fees per \$1,000 of Citizen Income	
<u>Best 5</u>	
Holladay	\$9.05
Cottonwood Heights	\$12.17
Bountiful	\$12.29
Clinton	\$12.65
Syracuse	\$13.67
<u>Worst 5</u>	
South Salt Lake City	\$51.95
Salt Lake City	\$44.69
American Fork	\$38.97
Logan	\$36.42
Hurricane	\$34.45

This second metric, revenue from taxes and fees per \$1,000 of citizen income, shows the individualized burden on taxpayers by controlling for income.

This figure indicates how much a taxpayer's consumption ability is impacted by the city government and illustrates the personal impact of government spending on individuals.

This can be used to compare government spending in cities with similar resident income.

On average, Utah cities collected **\$23.31** per \$1,000 in citizen income.

City	Population	Rank	City Government Revenue from Taxes and Fees	Rank	City Per Capita Income	Rank	Revenue from Taxes and Fees Per Capita	Rank	Revenue from Taxes, Fees Per \$1000 of Citizen Income	Rank
Salt Lake City	204087	1	\$ 335,424,114	1	\$ 36,779	8	\$ 1,643.53	1	\$ 44.69	2
South Salt Lake	26679	37	\$ 33,403,899	18	\$ 24,102	39	\$ 1,252.07	2	\$ 51.95	1
American Fork	34434	28	\$ 37,067,603	15	\$ 27,625	29	\$ 1,076.48	3	\$ 38.97	3
St. George	92378	7	\$ 90,724,509	3	\$ 28,507	26	\$ 982.10	4	\$ 34.45	5
Murray	48355	17	\$ 46,327,861	11	\$ 34,107	13	\$ 958.08	5	\$ 28.09	13
South Jordan	78503	10	\$ 71,126,464	5	\$ 39,453	5	\$ 906.03	6	\$ 22.96	25
Washington	32151	34	\$ 28,617,018	19	\$ 33,864	14	\$ 890.08	7	\$ 26.28	20
Lehi	73383	11	\$ 62,826,862	10	\$ 29,203	24	\$ 856.15	8	\$ 29.32	9
Sandy	94871	6	\$ 75,562,013	4	\$ 38,011	7	\$ 796.47	9	\$ 20.95	29
Hurricane	21033	42	\$ 16,638,438	34	\$ 25,348	36	\$ 791.06	10	\$ 31.21	6
Herriman	55756	14	\$ 43,935,069	12	\$ 29,962	22	\$ 787.99	11	\$ 26.30	19
Draper	48963	16	\$ 37,918,351	14	\$ 33,023	15	\$ 774.43	12	\$ 23.45	24
Saratoga Springs	35960	26	\$ 27,530,071	20	\$ 27,086	33	\$ 765.57	13	\$ 28.26	11
Ogden	87387	8	\$ 64,731,862	9	\$ 24,813	37	\$ 740.75	14	\$ 29.85	8
West Valley	133894	2	\$ 94,289,350	2	\$ 22,588	43	\$ 704.21	15	\$ 31.18	7
Logan	51680	15	\$ 36,281,413	16	\$ 19,274	50	\$ 702.04	16	\$ 36.42	4
Bluffdale	19241	46	\$ 13,262,581	40	\$ 35,797	10	\$ 689.29	17	\$ 19.26	32
Heber City	17972	47	\$ 11,974,791	42	\$ 27,584	30	\$ 666.30	18	\$ 24.16	22
Tooele	37046	24	\$ 24,527,717	24	\$ 24,067	40	\$ 662.09	19	\$ 27.51	16
Orem	98970	5	\$ 64,944,372	8	\$ 25,600	35	\$ 656.20	20	\$ 25.63	21
Cedar City	36090	25	\$ 23,603,275	25	\$ 22,355	44	\$ 654.01	21	\$ 29.26	10
Midvale	35501	27	\$ 23,173,089	26	\$ 28,532	25	\$ 652.74	22	\$ 22.88	26
South Ogden	17133	49	\$ 11,015,838	44	\$ 32,891	16	\$ 642.96	23	\$ 19.55	31
Brigham City	20990	43	\$ 13,123,094	41	\$ 23,691	41	\$ 625.21	24	\$ 26.39	18
Springville	33896	29	\$ 21,080,448	28	\$ 23,401	42	\$ 621.92	25	\$ 26.58	17
Clearfield	32420	33	\$ 19,887,005	29	\$ 21,847	45	\$ 613.42	26	\$ 28.08	14
Eagle Mountain	42013	20	\$ 25,316,944	23	\$ 21,406	47	\$ 602.60	27	\$ 28.15	12
West Jordan	116530	3	\$ 70,161,930	6	\$ 28,501	27	\$ 602.09	28	\$ 21.13	28
North Salt Lake	25248	39	\$ 15,050,451	36	\$ 34,435	12	\$ 596.10	29	\$ 17.31	36
Riverton	44369	18	\$ 26,088,155	22	\$ 31,931	18	\$ 587.98	30	\$ 18.41	34
Millcreek	60507	12	\$ 35,470,118	17	\$ 40,611	4	\$ 586.22	31	\$ 14.43	43
Cottonwood Heights	33572	30	\$ 19,573,626	30	\$ 47,907	2	\$ 583.03	32	\$ 12.17	49
Highland	19855	44	\$ 11,485,816	43	\$ 41,751	3	\$ 578.48	33	\$ 13.86	44
Provo	116295	4	\$ 66,937,014	7	\$ 20,792	49	\$ 575.58	34	\$ 27.68	15
Centerville	17828	48	\$ 10,129,097	47	\$ 38,538	6	\$ 568.16	35	\$ 14.74	42
Farmington	29885	36	\$ 16,562,761	35	\$ 36,115	9	\$ 554.22	36	\$ 15.35	40
West Haven	19717	45	\$ 10,318,833	45	\$ 30,540	21	\$ 523.35	37	\$ 17.14	38
Spanish Fork	41268	21	\$ 21,372,483	27	\$ 24,333	38	\$ 517.89	38	\$ 21.28	27
Pleasant Grove	38241	23	\$ 19,553,467	31	\$ 27,372	31	\$ 511.32	39	\$ 18.68	33
Layton	79012	9	\$ 40,022,537	13	\$ 29,470	23	\$ 506.54	40	\$ 17.19	37
Santaquin	13507	50	\$ 6,794,409	50	\$ 21,077	48	\$ 503.03	41	\$ 23.87	23
North Ogden	21204	41	\$ 9,684,676	48	\$ 30,905	20	\$ 456.74	42	\$ 14.78	41
Roy	39559	22	\$ 17,877,685	33	\$ 25,819	34	\$ 451.92	43	\$ 17.50	35
Payson	22728	40	\$ 10,265,961	46	\$ 21,799	46	\$ 451.69	44	\$ 20.72	30
Holladay	31939	35	\$ 14,280,988	38	\$ 49,422	1	\$ 447.13	45	\$ 9.05	50
Kaysville	33327	31	\$ 14,807,600	37	\$ 32,271	17	\$ 444.31	46	\$ 13.77	45
Taylorsville	59402	13	\$ 26,215,374	21	\$ 27,318	32	\$ 441.32	47	\$ 16.15	39
Bountiful	43921	19	\$ 18,888,092	32	\$ 34,988	11	\$ 430.05	48	\$ 12.29	48
Syracuse	32603	32	\$ 13,925,591	39	\$ 31,241	19	\$ 427.13	49	\$ 13.67	46
Clinton	25387	38	\$ 9,027,255	49	\$ 28,112	28	\$ 355.59	50	\$ 12.65	47
Median	36,025		\$ 23,388,182		\$ 28,520		\$ 617.67		\$ 22.92	
Average	49,534		\$ 37,176,159		\$ 29,923		\$ 668.27		\$ 23.31	

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