

## Juab County Agriculture Profile

Economics Department

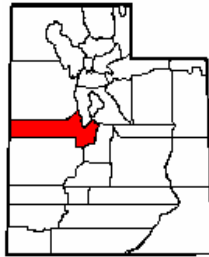
**Juab County**

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Area: 3,392 square miles  
 (2,170,880 acres)

Population: 8,792 (U.S.  
 Census Bureau  
 Estimate, 2003)



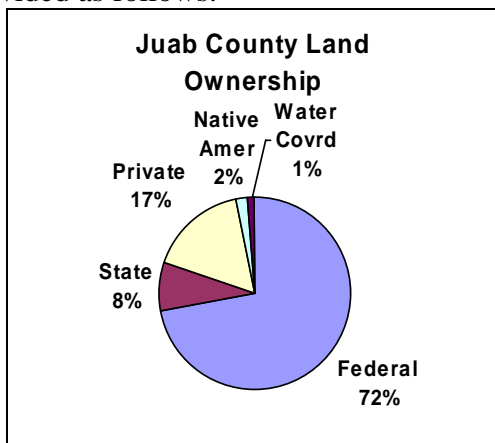
County seat: Nephi

### Location

Juab County is located in the western central part of Utah. Its primary economic base comes from agriculture, manufacturing, mining, recreation and electrical power.

### Land Ownership

The land ownership within the county is divided as follows:



Source: (Utah County Fact Book, 2002)

The majority of the federally-owned ground, about 96%, is under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and

the U.S. Forest Service (USFS). The state owned ground is primarily under the jurisdiction of the Utah School and Institutional Trust Land Administration (SITLA). The private ground is primarily farm ground and grazing areas.

The 2002 Census of Agriculture indicated that there were 270,350 acres in farms or ranches in the county with an average size of 1146 acres and an average value of \$569 per acre. The county had 63,003 acres in cropland of which 25,226 acres were harvested and 22,043 were irrigated. The value of livestock and crops produced was listed at \$12,200,000.

### Agricultural Snapshot

The major crops grown in Juab County with 2004 yields and total acres harvested were:

2004 Primary Crops	Yields	Total harvested acres	Average yield/acre
All alfalfa hay	62,000 tons	15,500	4.0 tons
Other Hay	6,000 tons	3,000	2.0 tons
Corn for silage	15,000 tons	800	19 tons
Corn for grain	112,000 bu	800	140 bu
Barley	46,000 bu	700	66 bu
All Wheat	52,000 bu	900	58 bu

Most dry land grain in the county is planted utilizing no-till drilling systems. Typical ground preparation for planting in irrigated grain ground is done by plowing up

any ground coming out of alfalfa. The land is disked and then harrowed after plowing. Land-leveling is often done before alfalfa is replanted to provide a smooth and level surface. About 60% of all planted wheat is winter wheat and 40% is spring wheat.

The most prevalent crop rotation practice is to leave alfalfa in for seven years, plow it up, plant small grains for a year, then replant alfalfa. Producers typically get three cuttings of alfalfa each year. About 75% of all inputs (e.g., seed, fertilizer, pesticides, etc.) are purchased locally while the remaining 25% is bought in a neighboring county. About 95% of all farming done within the county is done in the eastern part near Nephi while 5% is done in the extreme west. The majority of all grazing in the county occurs near the areas that are farmed. Those areas are adjacent to the borders and 15 miles inward from the west border and 100 miles inward from the east border. As a result, much of the land in the central part of the county is not used for agricultural purposes.

Juab County boasts one of the largest herb farms in the world. Young Living Farms is located 10 miles north of Nephi in Mona, and covers more than 1,600 acres of production ground. Various herbs used for therapeutic grade essential oils are grown there. Phillips Turf Farm, the state's largest producer of Utah grown turf grass with over 1,100 acres in production, is located at Levan, ten miles south of Nephi.

The majority, about 75% of the irrigation water available in Juab County, is from deep well pumping. The other 25% is from rivers and streams.

### Growing Season

The growing season in Juab County averages just over four months. Callao is in the northwestern part of the county and Nephi is in eastern part of the county.

Following are some of the details on climatology in the two areas.

<b>Juab</b>	<b>Climate Characteristics</b>			
County locations	Annual Precip.	Last spring freeze	First fall freeze	Freeze -free period
Callao	5.75in	May 16	Sept. 25	132 days
Nephi	14.55 in	May 15	Sept. 30	139 days

The average precipitation received countywide varies significantly, because it straddles two climatic zones. The western part is a desert zone within the Great Basin, Mojave Desert Region. The eastern part is still within this region, but it is a transition zone on the eastern desert edge and is part of a semiarid steppe climate.

The major classes of livestock produced in the county along with their associated inventories as of January 2004 were:

<b>Livestock Type</b>	<b>Number of Head</b>
All Cattle & Calves	16,000
Beef Cows	7,500
Dairy Cows	900

For more information visit these Web sites:  
<http://utahreach.org/juab/visitor/about.htm>

<http://www.wrcc.dri.edu/htmlfiles/ut/ut.ppt.html>

<http://climate.usu.edu/utahclim/freeze/default.htm>

<http://www.wrcc.dri.edu/summary/listut.html>

[http://www.utahweather.org/UWC/utahs\\_climate/climate\\_of\\_utah.html](http://www.utahweather.org/UWC/utahs_climate/climate_of_utah.html)

<http://biology.usgs.gov/s+t/SNT/noframe/gb150.htm>

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