Wellbeing in Salt Lake County, Utah – Preliminary Survey Results

To better understand individual and community wellbeing in Utah, Dr. Courtney Flint and her students conducted public-intercept iPad surveys in 16 cities across 9 counties in Summer 2019. Surveys were conducted at a combination of venues including: grocery stores, Wal-Mart stores, city offices, libraries, and public events.

This is a five-year study and data collection will continue in the future. We are currently meeting with city and county representatives to gather input on local wellbeing and reactions to preliminary survey findings. We look forward to your input!

While this study is targeted at the city scale, we are able to report county-level findings. Please note that the survey participants are not representative of all cities or towns in the county. In Salt Lake County, we surveyed 430 people from 13 different cities. The cities we targeted for surveying were Draper, Salt Lake City, and South Jordan. We also collected responses from individuals living in Herriman, Magna, Midvale, Murray, Riverton, Sandy, Taylorsville, West Jordan, and West Valley City. Shown below is a table comparing our respondent demographics with American Community Survey estimates (collected by the Census Bureau) for Salt Lake County.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study Site: Salt Lake County</th>
<th>Demographics of Survey Respondents</th>
<th>American Community Survey 2013-2017 Estimates for Population Demographics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sample size: 430</td>
<td>Age 18-50</td>
<td>64.4% of adults 18 or over</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Age 50 or Over</td>
<td>35.6% of adults 18 or over</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Non-Female (Male, Other,</td>
<td>50.2% (Male only)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Prefer Not to Say)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>49.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No College Degree</td>
<td>47.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>College Degree (4-year)</td>
<td>52.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Median Household Income</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Income Under $25,000</td>
<td>$67,922</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Income $25,000 to $99,999</td>
<td>11.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Income $100,000 or over</td>
<td>14.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Religion Latter-Day Saints</td>
<td>53.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Religion Non-Latter-Day Saints</td>
<td>55.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Race/Ethnicity White</td>
<td>34.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Race/Ethnicity Non-White</td>
<td>29.9%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Survey Results Compiled and Presented by Professor Courtney Flint
Utah State University
courtney.flint@usu.edu
(435) 797-8635

Funding for this study has been provided by the Utah Agricultural Experiment Station, the USU Office of Research, and the USU College of Humanities and Social Sciences.
The following graphs present findings on survey questions.
Median Household Incomes (2017)

- Summit: $94,952
- Salt Lake: $67,922
- Utah: $67,042
- Tooele: $66,542
- Weber: $62,036
- Washington: $55,175
- Cache: $53,812
- Carbon: $46,994
- Iron: $45,422

Life Satisfaction in Salt Lake County

All things considered, how satisfied are you with your life overall?

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10

Percent of Respondents

Financial Satisfaction in Salt Lake County

How satisfied are you with the overall financial situation of your household?

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10

Percent of Respondents

Life Satisfaction Scores from Utah Counties (2019)
(On a scale from 1=Completely dissatisfied to 10=Completely satisfied)

- Summit: 8.50
- Cache: 8.16
- Utah: 8.12
- Washington: 8.05
- Iron: 8.04
- Tooele: 7.97
- Salt Lake: 7.93
- Carbon: 7.61
- Weber: 7.40

Overall Average: 7.69

Financial Satisfaction Scores from Utah Counties (2019)
(On a scale from 1=Completely dissatisfied to 10=Completely satisfied)

- Summit: 7.69
- Cache: 7.32
- Utah: 7.20
- Washington: 7.13
- Iron: 7.01
- Tooele: 6.90
- Weber: 6.90
- Carbon: 6.44
- Weber: 6.36

Overall Average: 7.13

Median Household Incomes (2017)

- Summit: $94,952
- Salt Lake: $67,922
- Utah: $67,042
- Tooele: $66,542
- Weber: $62,036
- Washington: $55,175
- Cache: $53,812
- Carbon: $46,994
- Iron: $45,422
Happiness in Salt Lake County
Taking all things together, would you say you are:

Not at all happy
Not very happy
Neither happy nor unhappy
Rather happy
Very happy

Percent of Respondents

Happiness in Utah Counties
Taking all things together, would you say you are:

Weber
Carbon
Tooele
Salt Lake
Iron
Washington
Cache
Utah
Summit

Percent of Respondents

Not at all happy
Not very happy
Neither happy nor unhappy
Rather happy
Very happy

Percent of Respondents that are 'Rather' or 'Very' Happy from Utah Counties (2019)

94.9% • Summit
90.1% • Utah
87.6% • Cache
87.5% • Washington
86.5% • Iron
86.0% • Salt Lake
85.4% • Tooele
81.3% • Carbon
73.2% • Weber
All Respondents

Percent of 'rather' or 'very' happy respondents
Attitudes toward Landscape Features in Salt Lake County
How does the presence of the following landscape features influence your wellbeing?

- Industry
- Urban Development
- Farmland
- Red Rock
- Lakes
- City Parks
- Rivers and Streams
- Mountains

Percent of Respondents

Very Negatively  | Negatively  | Neither  | Positively  | Very Positively

Influence of Landscape Features on Wellbeing in Utah Counties (2019)
1=Very Negatively, 2=Negatively, 3=Neither, 4=Positively, 5=Very Positively

Average (Mean) Rating

Overall  | Salt Lake  | Other Counties
Wellbeing Domain Importance in Salt Lake County

How important are the following categories to your overall personal wellbeing?

Cultural Opportunities
Social Connections
Connection to Nature
Leisure Time
Education
Living Standards
Local Environmental Quality
Physical Health
Safety and Security
Mental Health

Percent of Respondents

Not at all  Slightly  Moderately  Important  Very

Average Importance of Wellbeing Domains in Utah Counties (2019)

1=Not at important, 2= Slightly important, 3= Moderately important, 4= Important, 5= Very important

Mental Health
Safety and Security
Physical Health
Living Standards
Education
Local Environmental Quality
Leisure Time
Connection to Nature
Social Connections
Cultural Opportunities

Average (Mean) Importance

Overall  Salt Lake  Other Counties
The graph below illustrates the relationship between the average rating of wellbeing domains and the average importance of each of those domains for individuals in Salt Lake County. Local Environmental Quality and Mental Health were wellbeing domains deemed very important yet rated relatively low.