

# Reality Check

Working Families Benchmarking Project

2017 edition

## Utah vs. Minnesota



November 2017

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## Acknowledgements

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This second edition of the *Working Families Benchmarking Project* was authored by Holly Hatfield, Sarah Waugaman, and Matthew Weinstein. Holly Hatfield is a graduate teaching assistant and Ph.D. student at the University of Utah's Department of Economics. Sarah Waugaman is a 2014 graduate of the University of Utah in economics and international studies. Matthew Weinstein is state priorities partnership director at Voices for Utah Children. Additional research support for this project was provided by Anastasia Baranowska, a 2017 M.S. in Economics graduate of the University of Utah.

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Voices for Utah Children is the Utah affiliate of the State Priorities Partnership, a 42-state consortium of independent nonprofit research and policy organizations that use evidence and analysis to advance public policies and investments that reduce poverty and give all people the opportunity to achieve the American Dream.

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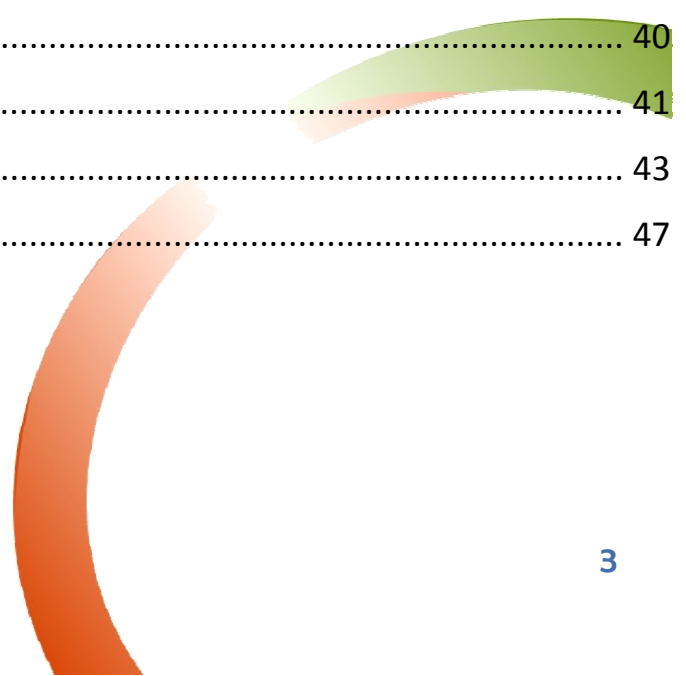
### Voices for Utah Children

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# Table of Contents

Summary of Key Findings .....	4
Executive Summary.....	6
Policy Implications .....	8
Part I: Economic Opportunity.....	10
Business .....	11
GDP.....	12
Productivity.....	14
Employment .....	15
Education.....	17
Equity.....	27
Gender.....	28
Part II: Standard of Living.....	29
Income.....	30
Wages.....	31
Poverty .....	33
Cost of Living.....	38
Taxes.....	40
Quality of Life.....	41
Health .....	43
Civic Engagement.....	47



Working Families Benchmarking Project  
**Summary of Key Findings**



**Part I: Economic Opportunity**  
 (“winner” highlighted and bolded)

	Utah	Minnesota
<b>Business Climate Metrics</b>		
Business climate average rank 2010-2016	<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>	11 <sup>th</sup>
Kauffman Index 2016 startup activity indicators: startups per 1,000 firms/% of new business owners not unempl before	<b>94/83.6%</b>	63/75.2%
<b>Productivity and GDP</b>		
Real per-worker GDP 2016 (US = \$84,386) \$ and rank	\$70,647/39 <sup>th</sup>	<b>\$79,702/19<sup>th</sup></b>
Change in real GDP 2007-2016 (US = 10.4%)	15.8%	<b>10.9%</b>
Change in real per capita GDP 2007-16 (US = \$1,451 / 3.0%)	-\$657 / -1.5%	<b>\$2,353/4.6%</b>
<b>Employment</b>		
Unemployment rate 2016 (US = 4.9%)	<b>3.4%</b>	3.9%
Labor force participation rate 2016 (US = 62.8%)	68.7%	<b>69.5%</b>
Change in labor force participation rate 2006-2016 (US = -3.4%)	<b>-3.1%</b>	-3.2%
<b>Education</b>		
Current public K-12 spending per pupil & rank of K-12 finances per \$1,000 personal income 2015 (US = \$11,392)	\$6,570/32 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>\$11,949/30<sup>th</sup></b>
Percent/rank of 3- and 4-year-olds below 200% of poverty level not enrolled in any educ program 2011-2015 (US = 60%)	66%/38 <sup>th</sup>	<b>60%/15<sup>th</sup></b>
Percent in full-day kindergarten 2013 (US = 75%)	25%	<b>75%</b>
NAEP rankings: average rank of 4 <sup>th</sup> and 8 <sup>th</sup> grade math and reading scores 2013-2015	18 <sup>th</sup>	<b>6<sup>th</sup></b>
Average higher education state spending per full-time student 2015 & rank (US avg = \$6,711)	<b>\$9,312/5<sup>th</sup></b>	\$5,088/28 <sup>th</sup>
Bachelor's degree or higher, ages 25-64, 2016 (US = 32.6% all, 30.5% men, 34.7% women)	All: 32.8%	<b>All: 36.9%</b>
	M: 33.2% F: 32.4%	<b>M: 34.0% F: 39.9%</b>
Bachelor's degree or higher, ages 25-34, 2016 (US = 34.9% all, 31.0% men, 38.9% women)	All: 33.6%	<b>All: 40.1%</b>
	M: 31.0% F: 36.3%	<b>M: 35.0% F: 45.4%</b>
Associate's degree or higher 2014 ages 25-64 (US = 40.4%)	41.9%	<b>48.9%</b>
School-to-prison fairness index: referral to law enforcement by race, where 1 is fair, >1 is more referrals than fair and <1 is fewer referrals than fair (US = 1.06 Hisp., 1.72 black, 0.8 white)	Hisp: 1.60 <b>Black: 2.18</b> White: 0.76	Hisp: <b>1.42</b> Black: 2.50 White: <b>0.79</b>
<b>Income and Gender Equity + Mobility</b>		
Income inequality (Gini) state rank 2016 (1 = lowest)	<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	9 <sup>th</sup>
Intergenerational mobility rank, 50 largest metros (1 is best)	<b>1<sup>st</sup> (SLC metro)</b>	8 <sup>th</sup> (Mpls metro)
Status of women: Composite Index 2015 rank	39 <sup>th</sup>	<b>10<sup>th</sup></b>
Gender wage ratio (female/male) & rank 2015	70%/48 <sup>th</sup>	<b>80%/19<sup>th</sup></b>

## Part II: Standard of Living ("winner" highlighted and bolded)

	Utah	Minnesota
<b>Income &amp; Wages</b>		
Real median household income & rank 2016 (US = \$57,617)	<b>\$65,977/11<sup>th</sup></b>	\$65,559/13 <sup>th</sup>
Average rank for median household income 2007-2016	13 <sup>th</sup>	<b>11<sup>th</sup></b>
Real median hourly wage & rank 2016 (US = \$17.80)	\$17.42/25 <sup>th</sup>	<b>\$19.85/6<sup>th</sup></b>
Real med hourly wage adj for cost of living 2015 (US = \$17.53)	\$17.39	<b>\$19.64</b>
Minimum wage, small/large employer (US = \$7.25/\$7.25)	\$7.25/\$7.25	<b>\$7.75/\$9.50</b>
% of workers earning below poverty wage 2015 (US = 25.9%)	26.2%	<b>20.3%</b>
<b>Poverty</b>		
Household poverty rate 2016 (US = 14.0%)	10.2%	<b>9.9%</b>
Child poverty rate 2016 (US = 19.5%)	<b>11.1%</b>	12.7%
Hispanic poverty rate 2016 (US = 21.0%)	<b>17.6%</b>	18.1%
Hispanic child poverty rate 2016 (US = 28.0%)	<b>20.0%</b>	22.0%
Single-parent family poverty rate 2015 (US = 35%)	28%	<b>26%</b>
Share & rank of all children/Latino children in single-parent households 2015 (US = 35%/42%) (1 is best)	<b>All: 19% (1<sup>st</sup>) Latino: 33% (3<sup>rd</sup>)</b>	All: 28% (6 <sup>th</sup> ) Latino: 41% (21 <sup>st</sup> )
Child food insecurity rate & rank 2015 (US = 17.9%)	16.4%/9 <sup>th</sup>	<b>13.8%/4<sup>th</sup></b>
Child homelessness rate & rank 2014 (US = 2.26%)	2.22%/30 <sup>th</sup>	<b>1.57%/17<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Cost of Living</b>		
BEA Cost of Living Level 2015 (US = 100)	<b>97.0</b>	97.4
Housing cost burden ranking 2015 (1 is best/lowest)	<b>7<sup>th</sup></b>	14 <sup>th</sup>
Home energy costs 2016 as % of 2011 costs (US = 94.2%)	139%	<b>91.1%</b>
Transport. cost as % of HH inc (metro average) 2009-2013	25.3%	<b>23.0%</b>
State & local own-source revenue as percent of personal income & rank 2015 (1 is lowest) (US = 15.3%)	<b>16.0%/35<sup>th</sup></b>	16.7%/38 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Quality of Life Metrics</b>		
Commute time to work in minutes, 2015 (US = 26.4)	<b>21.3</b>	23.4
Homeownership rate & rank 2017 (US = 63.6%)	71.2%/7 <sup>th</sup>	<b>73.4%/3<sup>rd</sup></b>
Kids Count overall ranking (2017)	7 <sup>th</sup>	<b>4<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Health</b>		
State health system performance rank 2017 (Commonwealth Fund rank/US News rank)	15 <sup>th</sup> / 15 <sup>th</sup>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> / 3<sup>rd</sup></b>
Population without health insurance 2015 (US = 9.4%)	10.5%	<b>4.5%</b>
ALA State of the Air 2017, # of metros in top 20 for ozone pollution/# of metros top 10 for short-term PM2.5	1/2	<b>0/0</b>
<b>Civic Engagement</b>		
Percent of eligible adults that voted in general election 2016 & rank (US = 60.2%)	57.7%/35 <sup>th</sup>	<b>74.8%/1<sup>st</sup></b>
Volunteerism rank 2015 (CNCS)	<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	24 <sup>th</sup>

# Executive Summary

The goal of the Working Families Benchmarking Project is to identify economic and related issues affecting Utah families and examine them through a comparative lens, evaluating Utah using a peer state as a benchmark.

Many existing economic comparison studies and rankings look at the economy as a whole or at its impact on specific sectors or employers. This project seeks to augment those very useful comparisons by focusing on how the economy is experienced by moderate- and lower-income families. It is these families whose children are most at risk of not achieving their potential in school and later in the workplace. Thus, how they experience the economy is of particular interest to Voices for Utah Children.

Colorado was chosen for the inaugural edition last year, in part for its geographic proximity to Utah — and thus relatively similar regional identity — as well as for its comparable rates of economic and population growth.

For this year's second edition, our benchmark is Minnesota. Like Colorado, Minnesota compares well to Utah both for economic success (rapid growth, low unemployment) and social metrics (high household incomes, low poverty rates). The two states also claim similar histories of settlement by European (especially northern European) immigrants in the past, with strong indicators of social cohesion, as well as similarly welcoming attitudes toward international immigrants today. Moreover, as with Colorado, Minnesota offers potential lessons in certain areas (education, productivity, wages), while also allowing Utah to shine in areas like business climate and poverty.

We hope that this benchmarking project may contribute in a constructive way to the broader economic policy conversation among experts, policymakers, and the general public.

Our findings are summarized on the next page.



## Part I: Economic Opportunity

The dynamism, flexibility, and competitiveness of a state’s economy is a major contributor to economic opportunity, so we look at this topic through a wide range of metrics, from business climate and entrepreneurship rankings to educational attainment and demographic gaps. **Our most significant findings are as follows:**

**Utah ranks ahead of Minnesota in business climate rankings, entrepreneurship, and unemployment.**

Utah also invests far more public dollars per student in its higher education system and benefits from lower levels of income inequality and higher levels of social mobility.

**Minnesota outpaces Utah in most education metrics,**

including both investment and performance, as well as higher education attainment, workforce productivity, and the status of women in the economy. Minnesota can’t match Utah’s overall GDP growth but is far ahead on growth in per capita economic output during the current economic cycle.

## Part II: Standard of Living

Ultimately, it is by standard of living that we judge the success of our economy. We measure standard of living for average and below-average families by looking at such measures as wages, poverty, and affordability of major household expenditures such as housing, transportation, and energy. **Our most significant findings are as follows:**

**Minnesota is the clear winner on wages,** with a median hourly wage 14% higher than Utah’s last year (and with very little difference in cost of living between the two states). Minnesota’s higher median hourly wage is consistent with the state’s 14% advantage over Utah in higher education attainment (Bachelor’s degrees and above) and 16% advantage over Utah in worker productivity (see Part I). In addition, Minnesota’s higher minimum wage means fewer workers earning a poverty-level wage, and that advantage is strengthened by Minnesota’s state Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), which added an average of \$741 to the annual after-tax incomes of 345,858 working Minnesota households in Tax Year 2014.

**Utah and Minnesota are essentially tied by our poverty metrics,** with Minnesota enjoying a lower overall poverty rate and Utah having lower poverty rates for children and for our Latino minority. Both perform well in the annual Kids Count rankings, with Minnesota coming in 4<sup>th</sup> and Utah 7<sup>th</sup> this year for child well being.

**Utah ranks #1 for volunteerism,** indicative of a strong social fabric. Minnesota consistently ranks #1 for voter participation, while Utah was far behind in 35<sup>th</sup> place in 2016 and 33<sup>rd</sup> in 2012.

# Policy Implications

Our findings raise important questions about Utah's choices in the years ahead. Utah and Minnesota are both high performers economically and socially, with valuable lessons for each other. The lessons that Utah learns could help to determine whether we are able to ensure economic opportunity and a rising standard of living for Utah's middle class as well as for our most vulnerable populations.

## **Education Investment to Raise Productivity and Wages**

Minnesota invests 82% more than Utah on a per-pupil basis in K-12 education and outperforms us in the National Assessment of Educational Progress 4<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade math and reading tests. Minnesota also has a far higher rate of working-age adults who have completed post-secondary education. Thus, it is not surprising that their average worker is 16% more productive and earns 14% higher wages (while the two states have roughly equal costs of living). Utah has set an ambitious goal of increasing the share of our workforce with a post-secondary degree or certification to 66% by 2020. The state's business leaders say that getting there will cost more than we can possibly invest without a significant increase in taxes. But many of Utah's political leaders believe that such a tax increase will "kill the goose that laid the golden egg" by driving away businesses that would have otherwise located or expanded here. However, Minnesota's success seems to imply that the additional upfront investment may be key to Utah's long term competitiveness and our ability to transition from a mid-wage to a high-wage economy.

Many Utahns believe that gaining control of Utah's federal lands is the solution to the state's public revenue shortage. Indeed, Minnesota does have 33% more non-federal land per capita than Utah. On the other hand, Utah and Minnesota both rank in the top half of states for per-capita non-federal land, and Utah already has 24% more non-federal land per capita than the national average – 6.5 acres vs. 5.2.<sup>1</sup>

Whatever the policy measures that we pursue, there can be little question about the urgency of action. A 2015 Utah Foundation study found Utah at a multi-decade low for our overall level of public revenues, counting all local and state taxes and fees as a share of state personal income.<sup>2</sup> This finding came at the end of a decade of tax cutting, most notably the reduction in the state's top income tax rate from 7% to 5% that was passed under Governor Huntsman in 2007, that mostly came at the expense of K-12 education.<sup>3</sup> While everyone enjoys paying lower taxes and having more money in our pockets today, these findings raise important questions about whether the current generation of Utahns is doing its part, as earlier generations did, to invest in our children and lay the foundations for the state's future growth and prosperity.

<sup>1</sup> Source: [www.nrcm.org/documents/publiclandownership.pdf](http://www.nrcm.org/documents/publiclandownership.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> Source: [www.utahfoundation.org/reports/easing-burden-utah-tax-burden-lowest-20-years](http://www.utahfoundation.org/reports/easing-burden-utah-tax-burden-lowest-20-years)

<sup>3</sup> Source: [www.utahfoundation.org/getting-less-two-decades-k-12-education-revenue-spending](http://www.utahfoundation.org/getting-less-two-decades-k-12-education-revenue-spending) + [www.utahfoundation.org/2015/02/public-schools-shoulder-burden-tax-cuts/](http://www.utahfoundation.org/2015/02/public-schools-shoulder-burden-tax-cuts/)



## **Utah's Secret Weapons: Strong Families and the Beehive Work Ethic**

The secret to Utah's success has long been our strong families and the "Beehive work ethic" that is the very symbol of our state. We enjoy the nation's highest rate of married-couple households and the highest share of children growing up in two-adult households. This is why we can have lower hourly wages than Minnesota yet enjoy comparable household incomes and poverty rates. Utah's strong work ethic is evident in our high labor force participation rate (though not as high as Minnesota's) and our longer-than-average workweek (13<sup>th</sup> longest in 2016 at 34.7 hours, vs 30<sup>th</sup> longest for Minnesota at 34 hours<sup>4</sup>). Thus, our high share of two-adult and two-worker households combined with our hard-working ways more than offset the state's low hourly wages for most households.

This offsetting effect is especially important at the bottom of the wage scale, since Utah's minimum wage of \$7.25 per hour is 6% lower than Minnesota's for employees at small businesses and 24% lower at large companies, an hourly difference that adds up over the course of a year of full-time employment to \$1,000 and \$4,500 respectively. Low-wage workers in Minnesota also receive a state Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), which added an average of \$741 to the annual after-tax incomes of 345,858 working households in 2014.<sup>5</sup>

## **Utah Works Harder, Minnesota Works Smarter**

Even as we celebrate our greatest strengths, we should be mindful of how our families could be even stronger and our standard of living higher if Utah workers had the skill levels of Minnesota workers and were therefore able to earn more while also having more time for their families and children. While it is certainly laudable that we are ready, willing, and able to work harder to keep up with high-skill, high-wage states like Minnesota, imagine how much better off we could be if we had the option to work smarter as well.

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<sup>4</sup> Source: <https://www.bls.gov/sae/eetables/annavg4.xlsx> via <http://www.bls.gov/sae/#tables>

<sup>5</sup> Source: <http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/hrd/pubs/ss/sseitcwfc.pdf>

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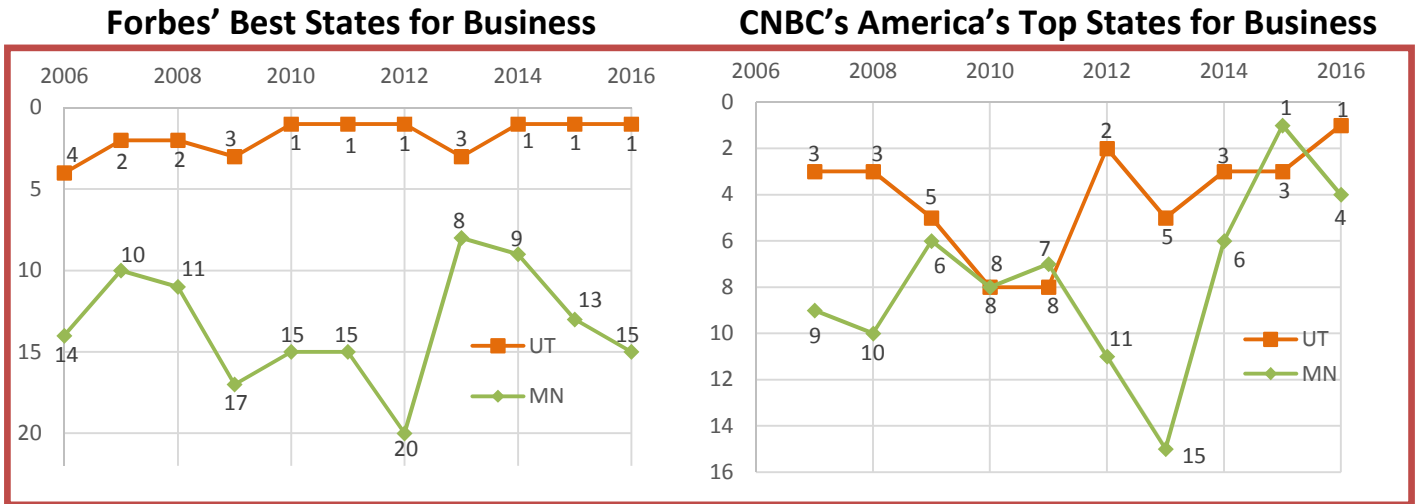
# Part I: Economic Opportunity



# Business

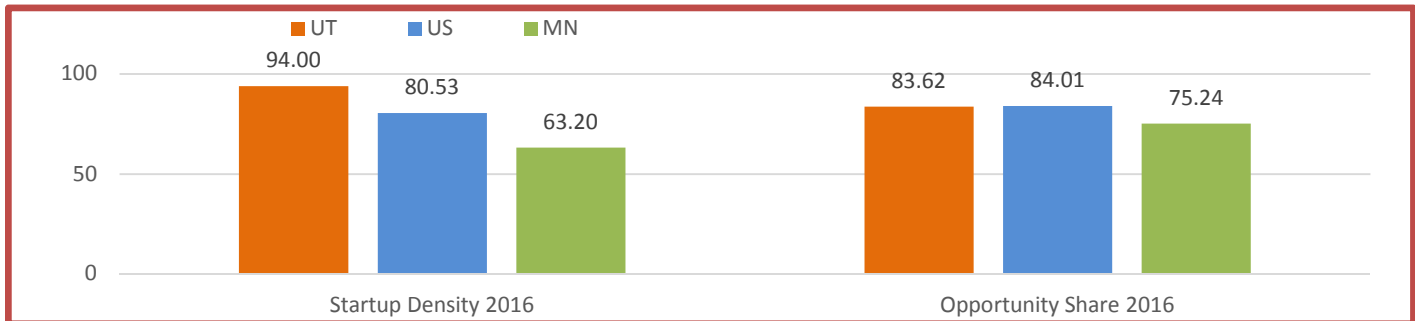
Utah has remained one of the top-rated states for business over the last decade.

Figure 1 – Business Climate Rankings (1 is best, 50 worst)



Source: Forbes Best States for Business: [www.forbes.com/best-states-for-business/](http://www.forbes.com/best-states-for-business/); CNBC America's Top States for Business: <http://www.cnbc.com/americas-top-states-for-business/>

Figure 2 – Kauffman Index 2016: Startup Activity



Source: Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation: [www.kauffman.org/microsites/kauffman-index/rankings/state](http://www.kauffman.org/microsites/kauffman-index/rankings/state); startup density is the number of startup firms per 1,000 firms; opportunity share is percent of new entrepreneurs not unemployed before starting new business

Figure 3 – Hachman Index of Industry Diversity Rank 2015

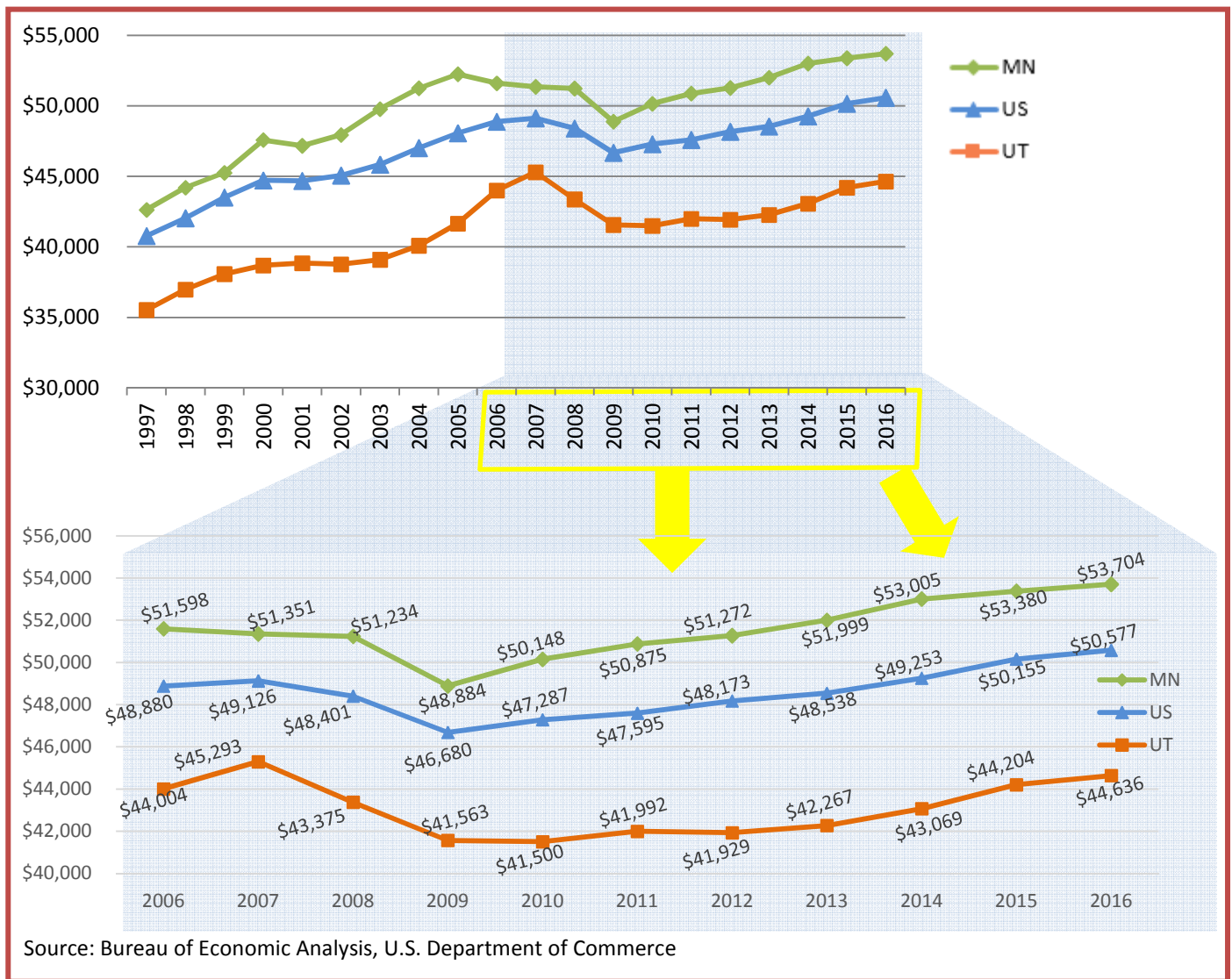
UT	MN
1 <sup>st</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>

The Hachman Index measures economic diversity by comparing the industry composition of a state to the industry composition of the nation. Source: Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute Analysis of Bureau of Economic Analysis data, available online at: <http://edcutah.org/news/2016/05/26/research-weekly-utah-1-economic-diversity>

# GDP

Fueled by our high birth rate, Utah's GDP growth leads the nation. However, Utah's per capita GDP has yet to recover from the Great Recession, and we have fallen farther behind both Minnesota's and the nation's in the current economic cycle.

Figure 4 – Real GDP per capita (chained 2009 dollars)

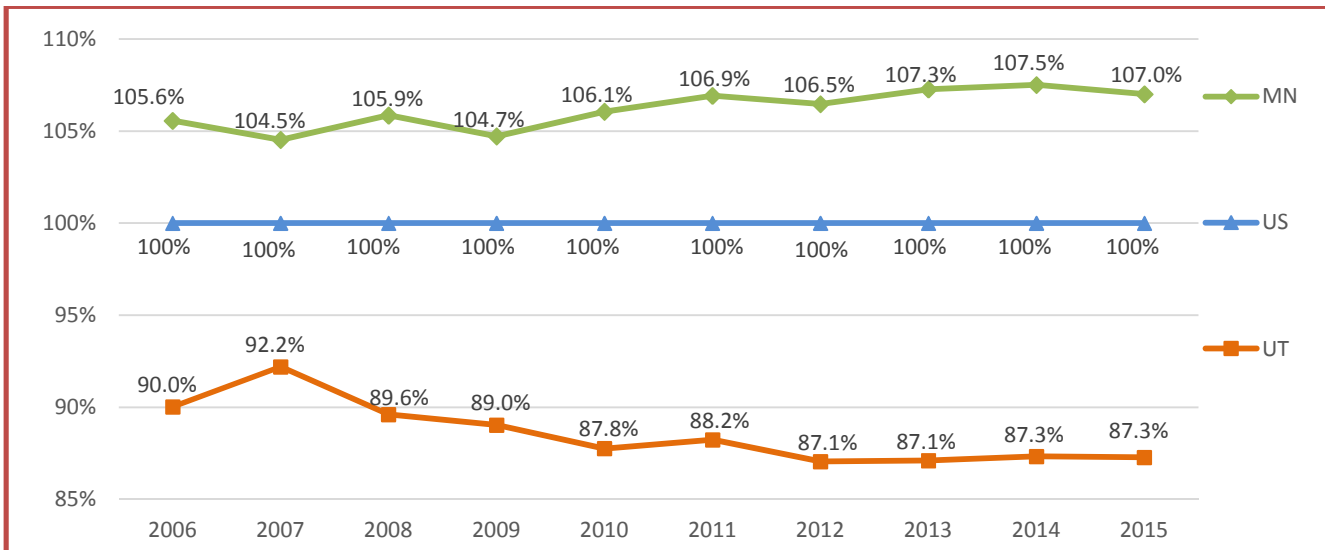


**Figure 5 – Change in Real GDP per Capita, 2016 Compared to Pre-Recession (2007) (“winner” bolded and highlighted)**

UT	MN	US
-\$657	<b>\$2,353</b>	\$1,451

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce

**Figure 6 – GDP per Capita as Percent of US Average**



Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce

**Figure 7 – Growth in Real GDP 2007-2016 (“winner” bolded and highlighted)**

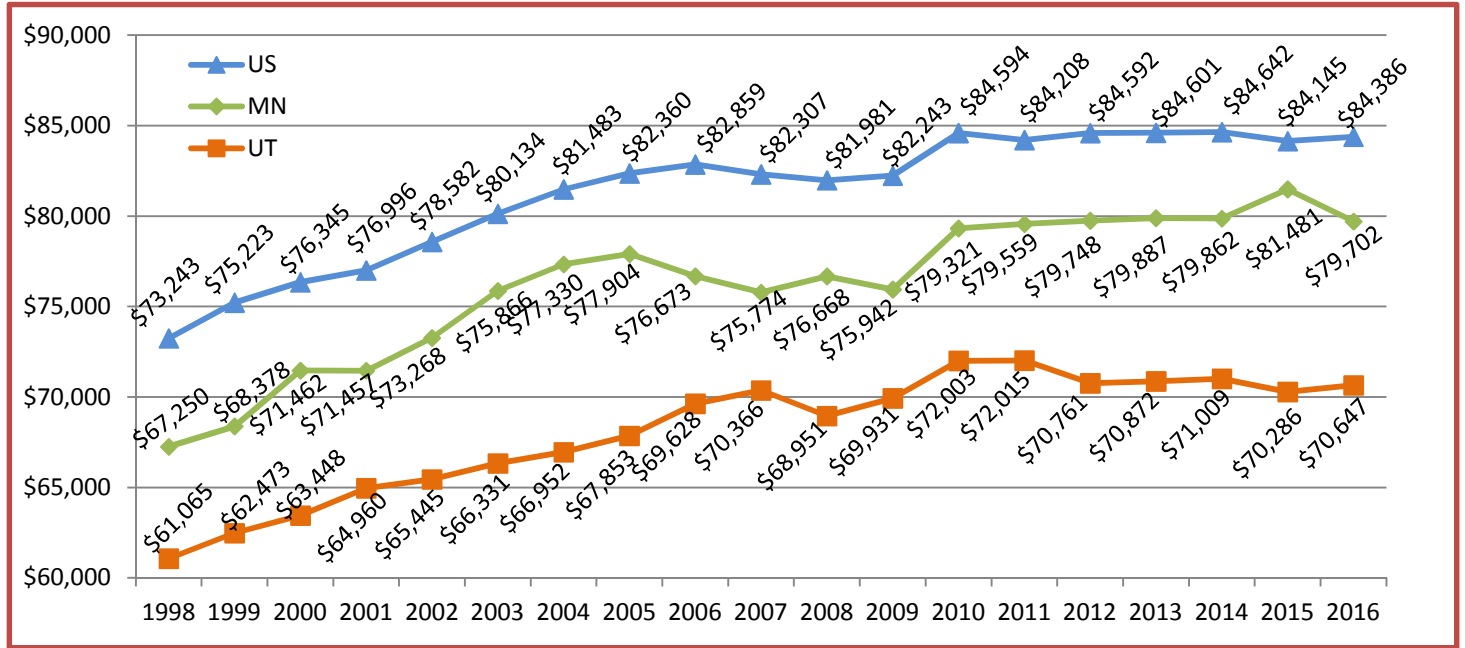
UT	MN	US
<b>15.8%</b>	10.9%	10.4%

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce

Utah continues to lag behind the U.S. average and Minnesota in productivity per worker.

# Productivity

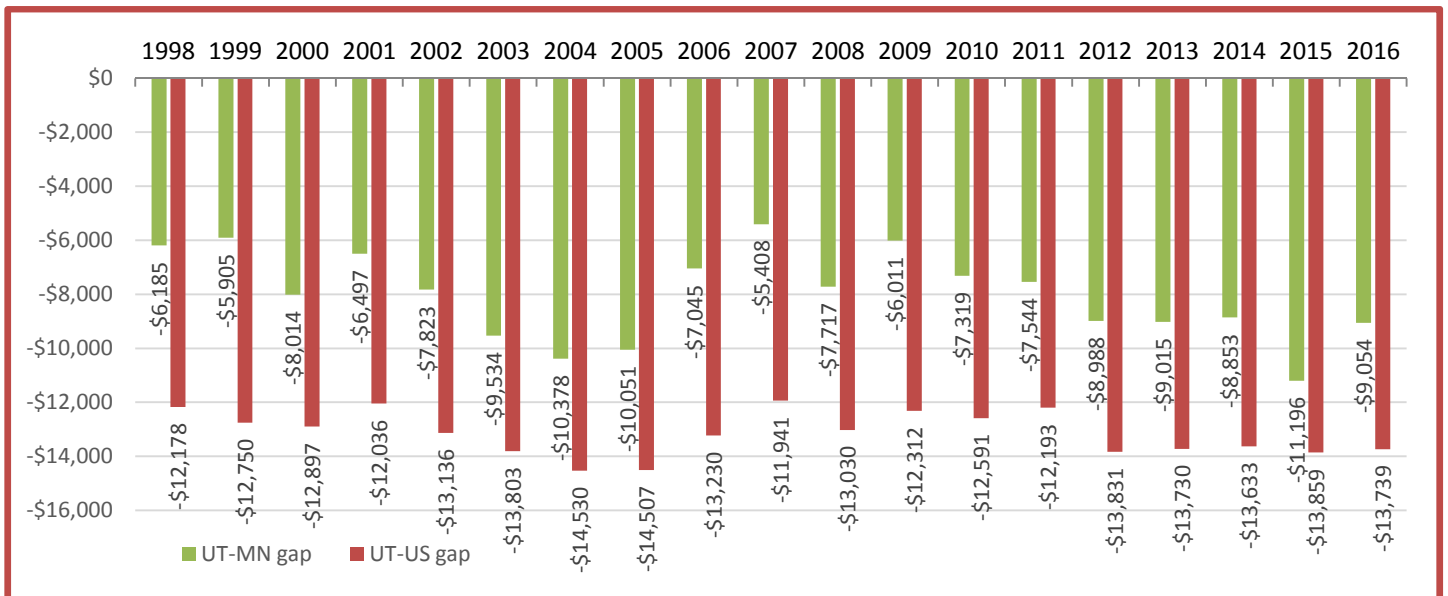
Figure 8 – Real Per-Worker GDP



Source: U.S. Department of Commerce Bureau of Economic Analysis, in chained 2009 dollars

Figure 9 – Real Per-Worker GDP Gap

As difference between UT and MN (= UT - MN), and UT and US (= UT - US)

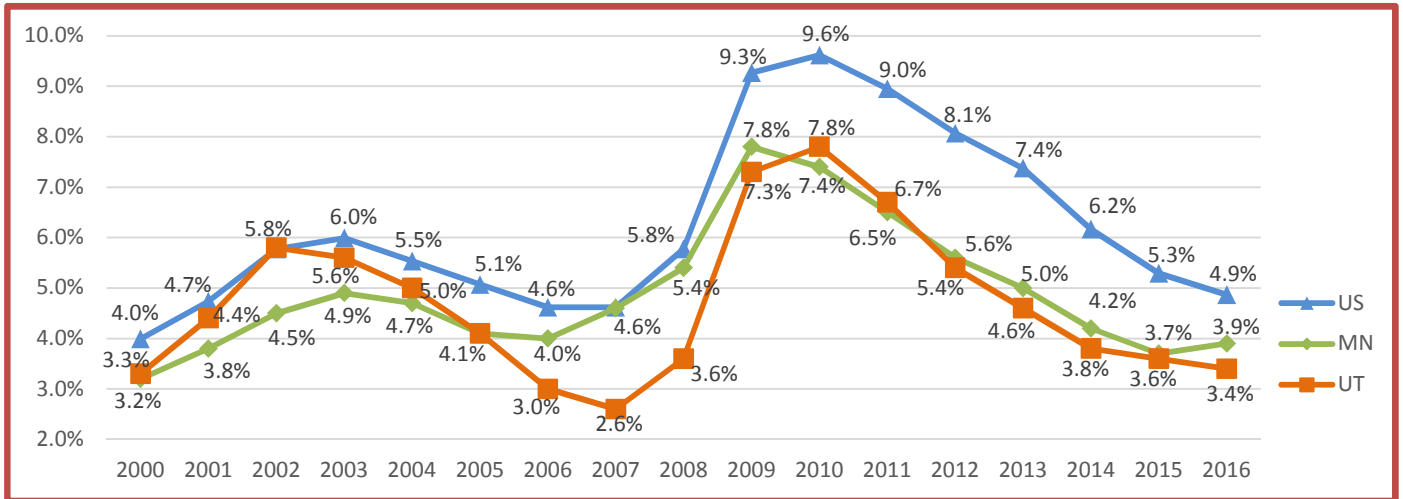


Source: U.S. Department of Commerce Bureau of Economic Analysis, in chained 2009 dollars

# Employment

Unemployment rates have fallen below pre-Great Recession levels nationally and in Minnesota in recent months.

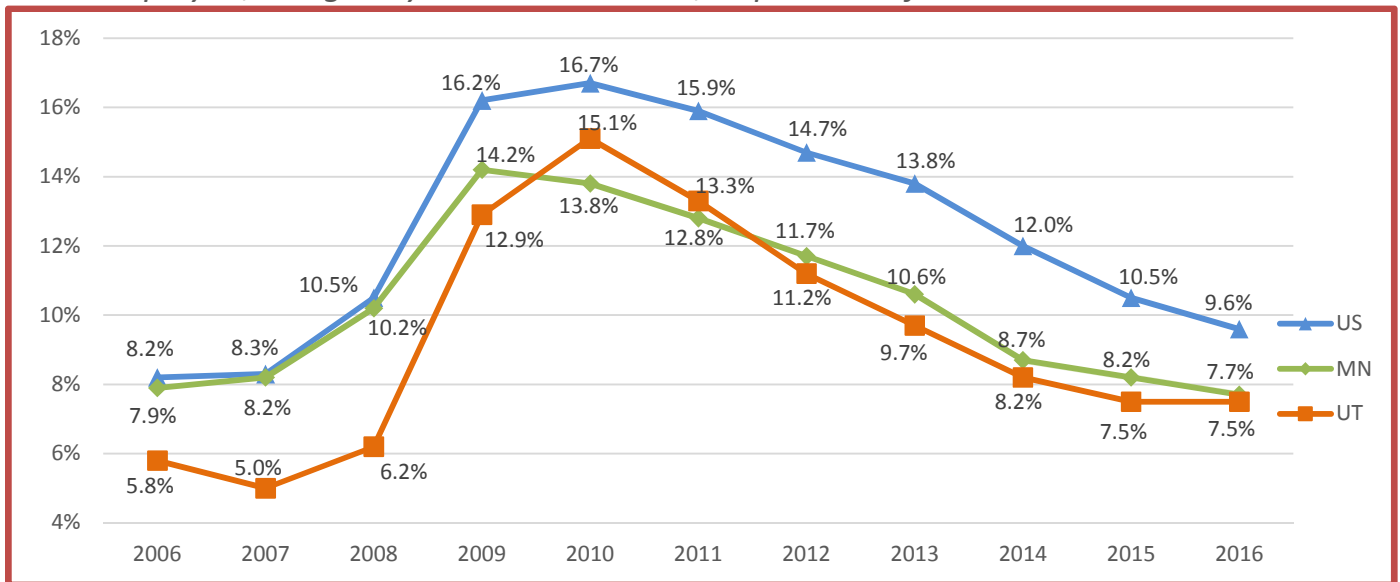
Figure 10 – Unemployment Rate



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, US: table LNU04000000 annual averages of monthly estimates; States: Employment status of the civilian noninstitutional population, 1976 to 2016 annual averages, available online at: <https://www.bls.gov/lau/staadata.txt>

Figure 11 – Underemployment Rate

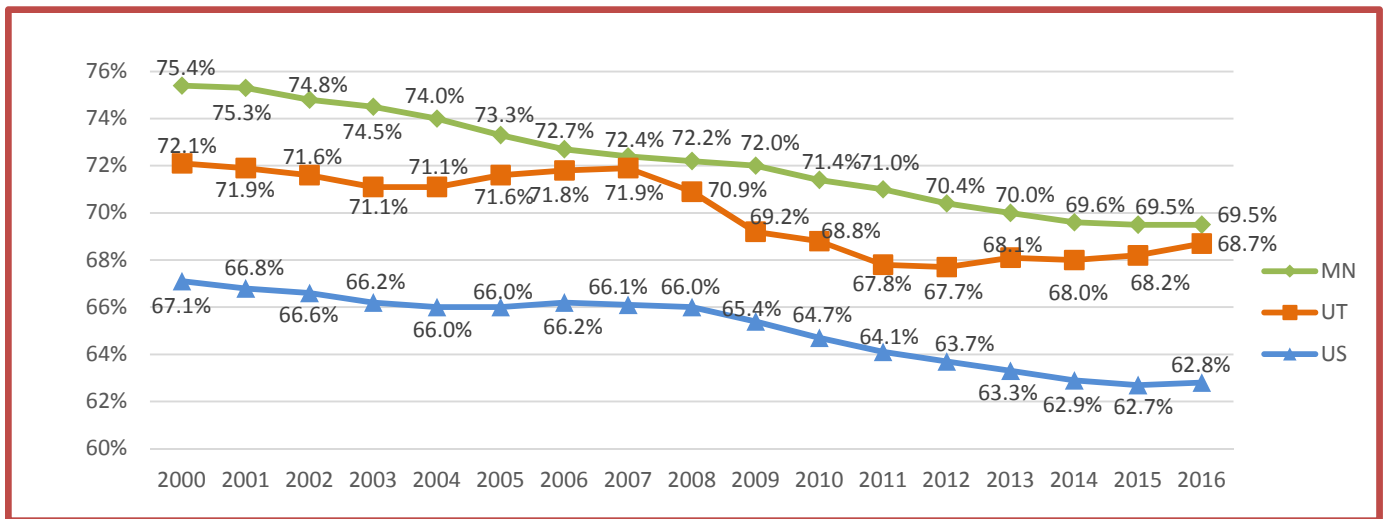
Defined as the percentage of the civilian labor force and marginally attached workers who are unemployed, marginally attached workers, or part-time for economic reasons



Source: Economic Policy Institute analysis of Current Population Survey data.

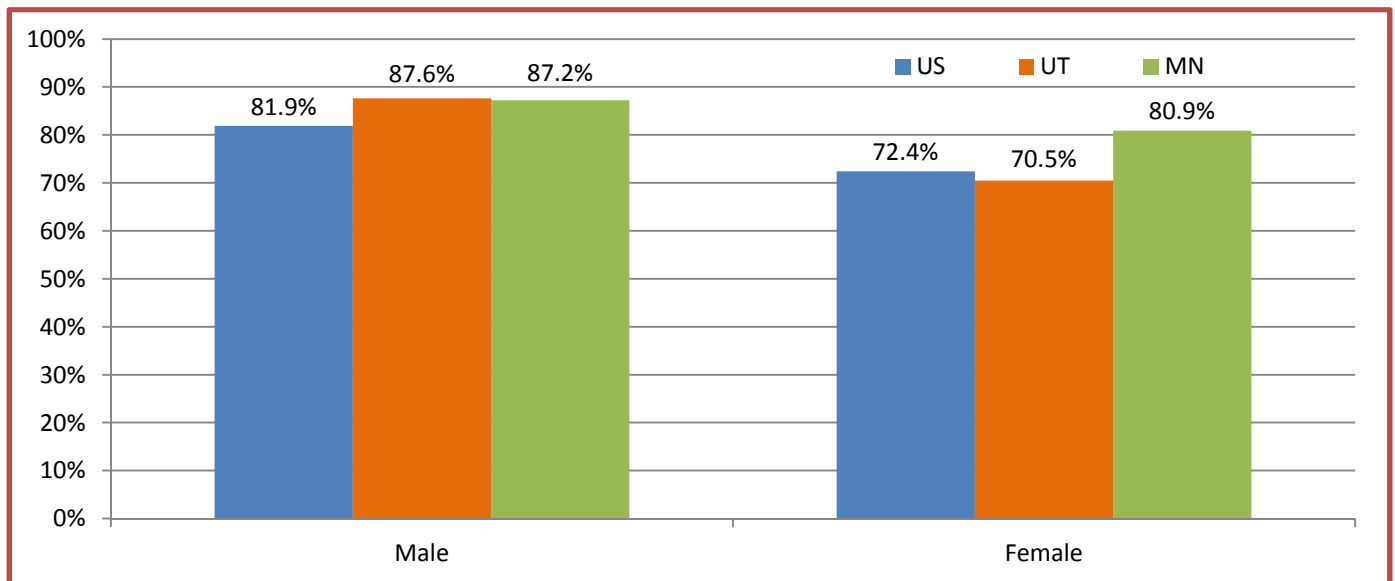
Utah's labor force participation rate fell sharply due to the Great Recession but began rising again in 2013, nearly converging with Minnesota in 2016. Utah's female labor force participation rate still lags behind, though.

Figure 12 – Labor Force Participation Rate, Age 16+



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics analysis of Current Population Survey, employment status of the civilian noninstitutional population age 16 and older. **US:** table LNU01300000 annual average of monthly estimates; **States:** 1976 to 2016 annual averages, available online at: <https://www.bls.gov/lau/staadata.txt>

Figure 13 – Labor Force Participation Rate by Gender, 2016, Ages 20-64



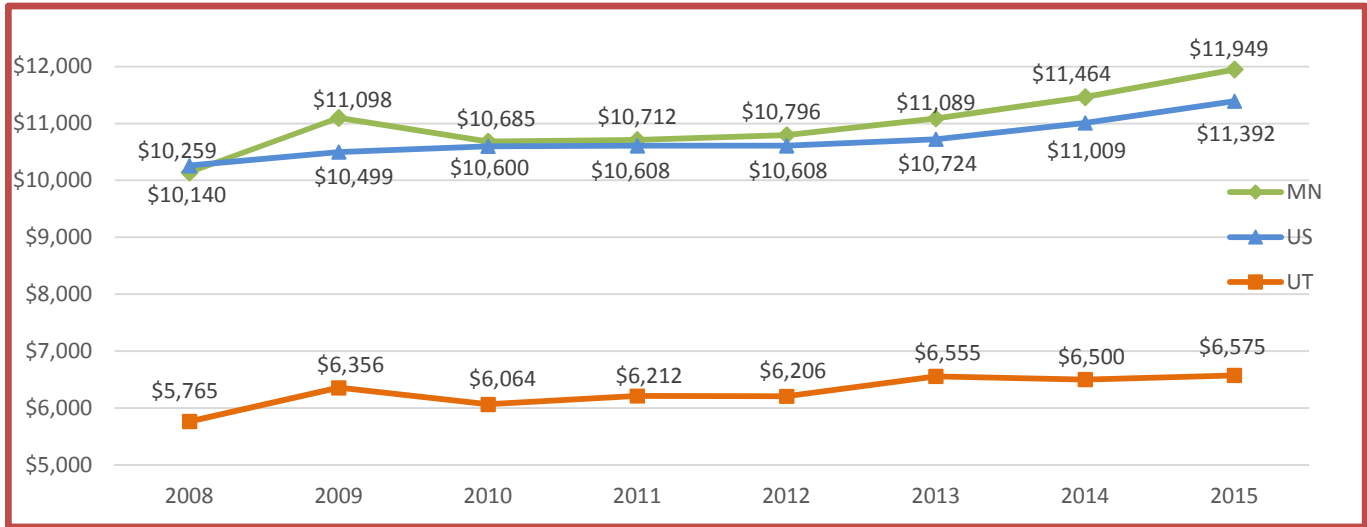
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 1-year Estimates (table S2301); Labor Force Participation Rate ages 20-64 by gender



# Education

Utah still falls far short of meeting national or Minnesota per-pupil investment in K-12 education. But both states do well in education funding equity.

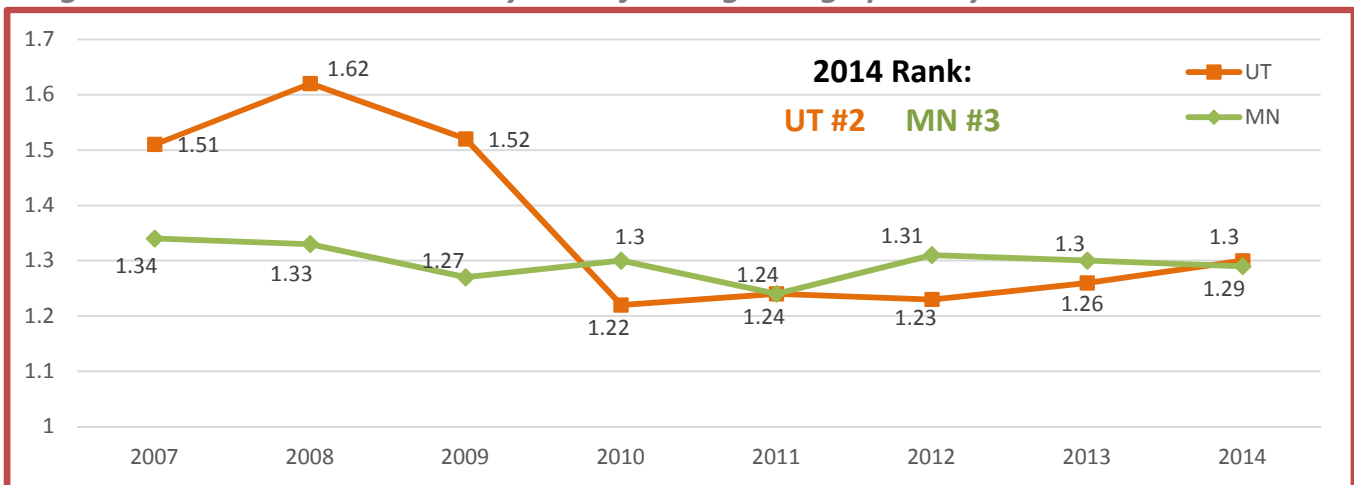
Figure 14 – State Current Spending per Pupil, Public Elementary and Secondary Schools (not adjusted for inflation)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Annual Survey of School System Finances, tables SS1300A20 and SS1400A08

Figure 15 – State Education Funding Fairness

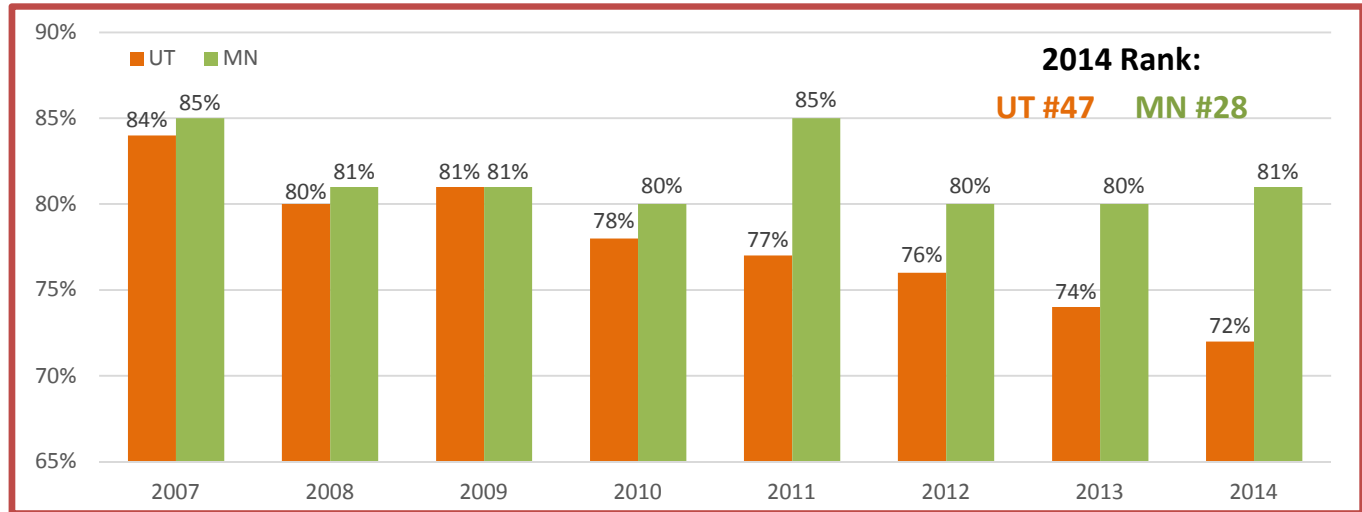
as a ratio of: (funding for high poverty areas) / (funding in low poverty areas); a higher value indicates relatively more funding to high poverty areas



Source: Rutgers Graduate School of Education, Education Law Center, School Funding Fairness Interactive Data, online at <http://www.schoolfundingfairness.org/is-school-funding-fair/interactive-data>

## Figure 16 – Wage Competitiveness for Teachers

*Ratio of teacher compensation to that received by non-teachers with similar education*



Source: Rutgers Graduate School of Education, Education Law Center, School Funding Fairness Interactive Data, online at <http://www.schoolfundingfairness.org/is-school-funding-fair/interactive-data>

## Figure 17 – Public K-12 School System Finance per \$1,000 Personal Income, FY 2015

	UT	MN	US
K-12 spending per \$1,000 personal income	\$42.40	\$43.00	\$43.42
Rank	32 <sup>nd</sup>	30 <sup>th</sup>	

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Annual Survey of School System Finances, tables SS1300A20 and SS1400A08

## Figure 18 – School Staffing Fairness in Pupil-to-Teacher Ratio

*Staffing fairness is a ratio of teachers per 100 students in: (high poverty areas) / (low poverty areas); a higher value indicates relatively smaller classroom size in high poverty areas*

	UT	MN
Staffing Fairness ratio	121%	129%
Staffing Fairness rank	5 <sup>th</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Pupil-teacher ratio in average district (teacher:pupil)	4.7:100	6.7:100

Source: Rutgers Graduate School of Education, Education Law Center, School Funding Fairness Interactive Data, online at <http://www.schoolfundingfairness.org/is-school-funding-fair/interactive-data>

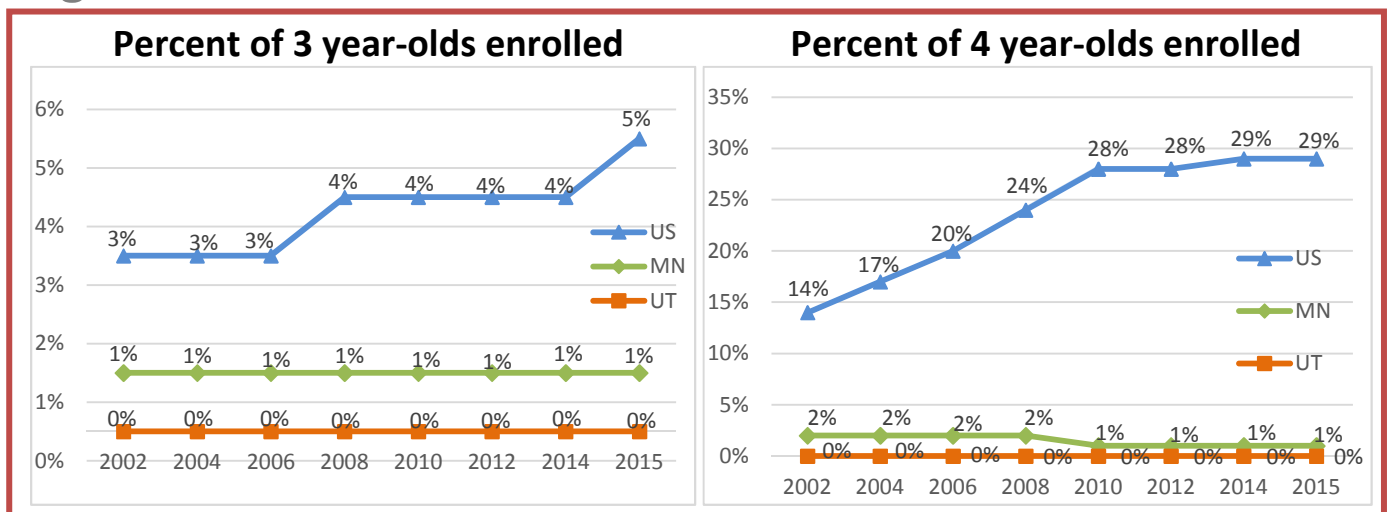
Utah provided no state preschool funding in FY 2015. Minnesota’s preschool funds are all dedicated to Head Start.

Figure 19 – Preschool Support 2015 (“winner” bolded and highlighted)

	UT	MN	US (average)
State pre-k spending	\$0	<b>\$12,813,108</b>	\$147,816,036
Local match required?	N/A	<b>Yes</b>	14 state programs require local match
State Head Start spending	\$0	<b>\$12,813,108</b>	\$3,315,164
State spending per child enrolled	\$0	<b>\$7,924</b>	\$4,976
4 year-olds: access to state-funded preschool rank	Tied for last place w 7 other states	<b>44<sup>th</sup></b>	
3 year-olds: access to state-funded preschool rank	Tied for last place w 20 other states	<b>24<sup>th</sup></b>	
Percent/rank of all 3- and 4-year-olds not enrolled in school (2013-2015)	58%/33 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>56%/25<sup>th</sup></b>	53%
Percent/rank of 3- and 4-year-olds below 200% of poverty level not enrolled in school (2011-2015)	66%/38 <sup>th</sup>	<b>60%/15<sup>th</sup></b>	60%

Source: Barnett, W. S., Friedman-Krauss, A. H., Weisenfeld, G. G., Horowitz, M., Kasmin, R., & Squires, J. H. (2017). The State of Preschool 2016: State Preschool Yearbook. New Brunswick, NJ: National Institute for Early Education Research.; percent of young children not enrolled in school from Kids Count: DataCenter.KidsCount.org.

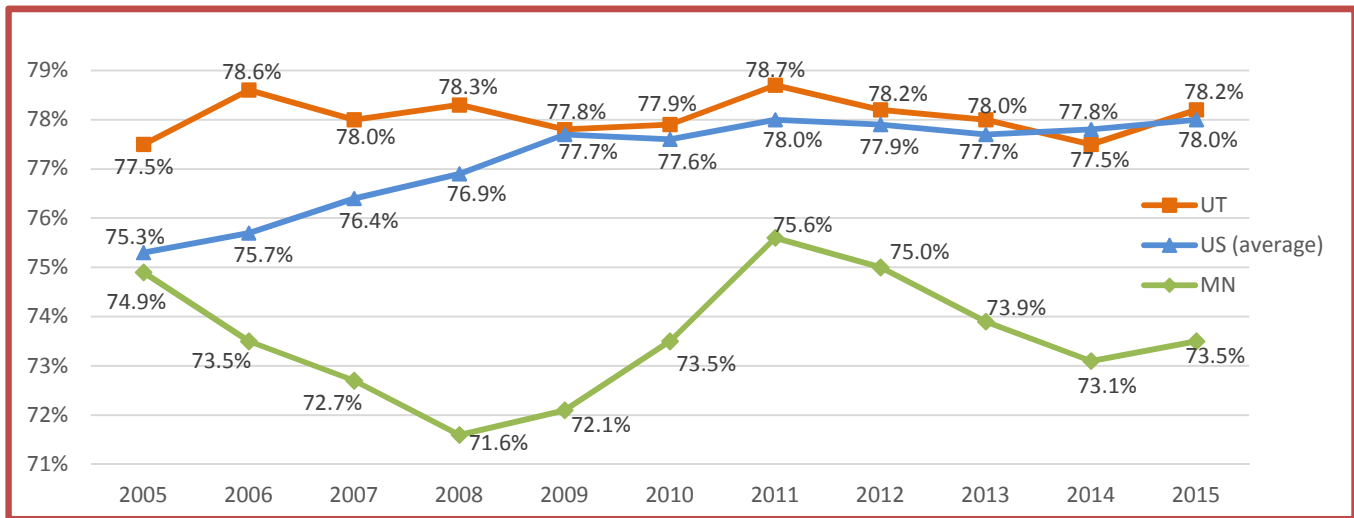
Figure 20 – State-funded Preschool Enrollment Rates



Source: National Institute for Early Education Research, The State of Preschool 2015 report, available online at: [http://nieer.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/Yearbook\\_2015\\_rev1.pdf](http://nieer.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/Yearbook_2015_rev1.pdf)

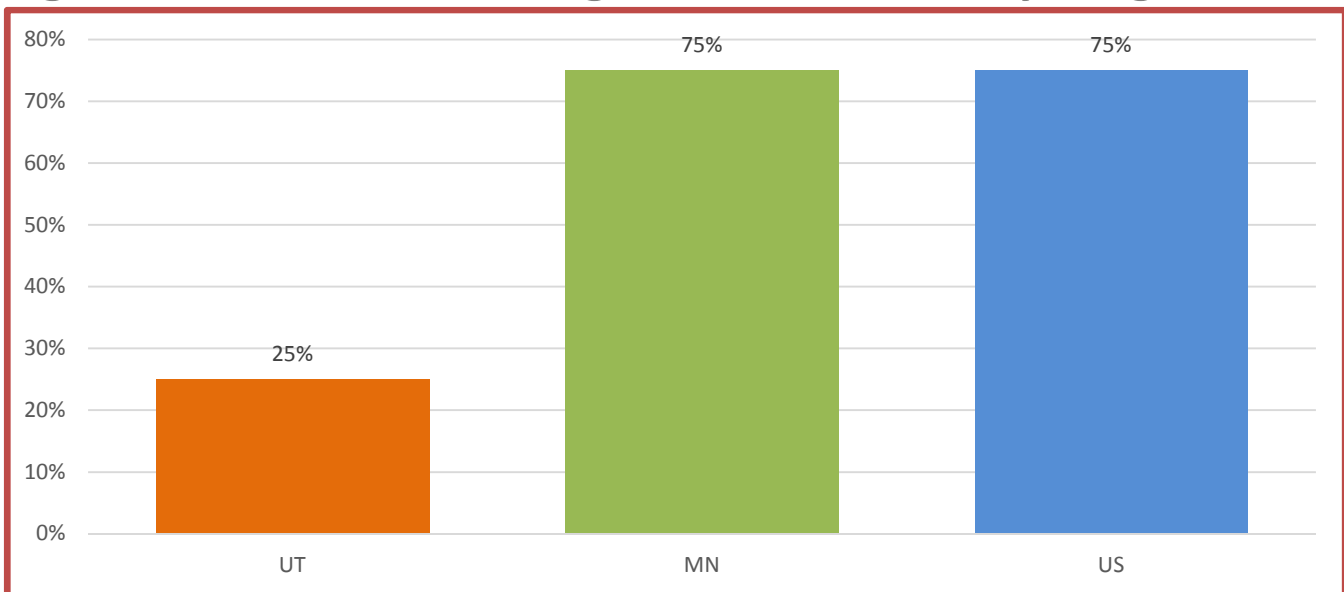
Utah kindergarten enrollment matches the national level, but only 25% attend full-day K, compared to 75% nationally and in Minnesota.

Fig. 21 – Percent of Eligible Children Enrolled in Kindergarten



Source: Education Week, Education Counts Research Center, Early-Childhood Education Statistics, online at: <http://www.edcounts.org/createtable/step1.php?clear=1>

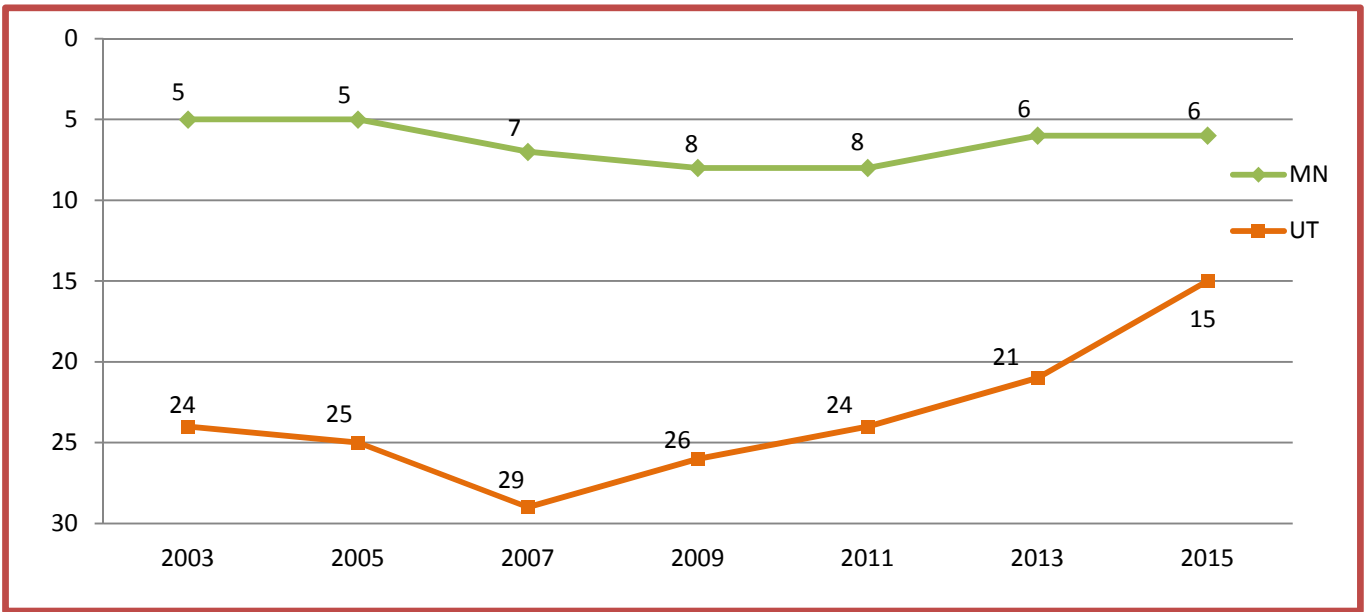
Fig. 22 – Percent of Kindergarteners in Full-Day Programs 2013



Source: Education Week, Education Counts Research Center <http://www.edcounts.org/createtable/viewtable.php>

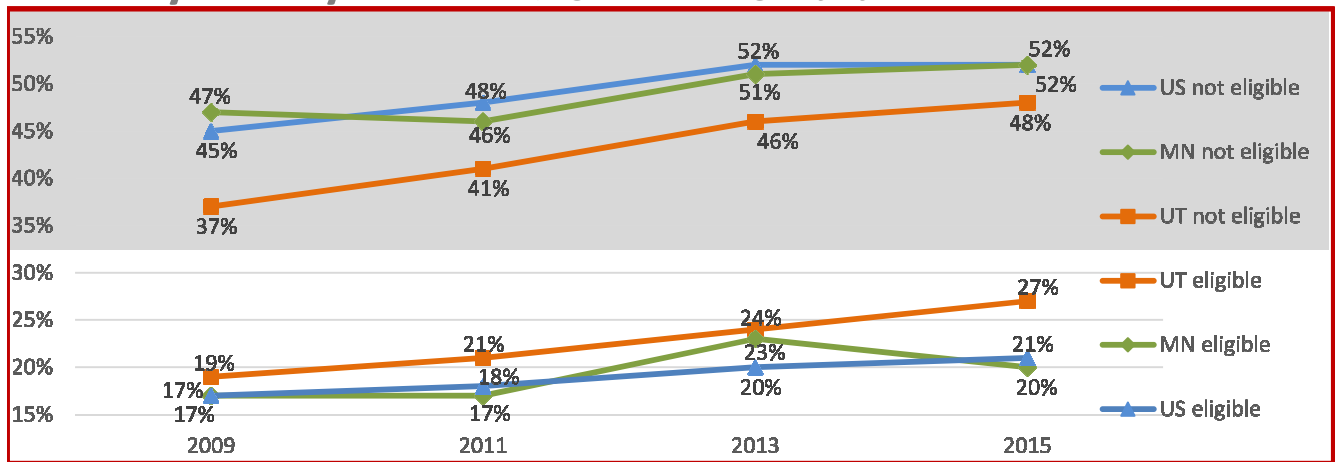
Minnesota is a long-time leader in school performance. Utah has been climbing steadily since 2007.

Figure 23 – Average NAEP 4<sup>th</sup> + 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Math + Reading Rank



Source: U.S. Dept. of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), 2015 Mathematics Assessment. [nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/naepdata/report.aspx](http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/naepdata/report.aspx)

Figure 24 – 4<sup>th</sup> Graders Scoring At or Above Proficient Reading Level by Family Income (eligible vs. not eligible for free/reduced school lunch)

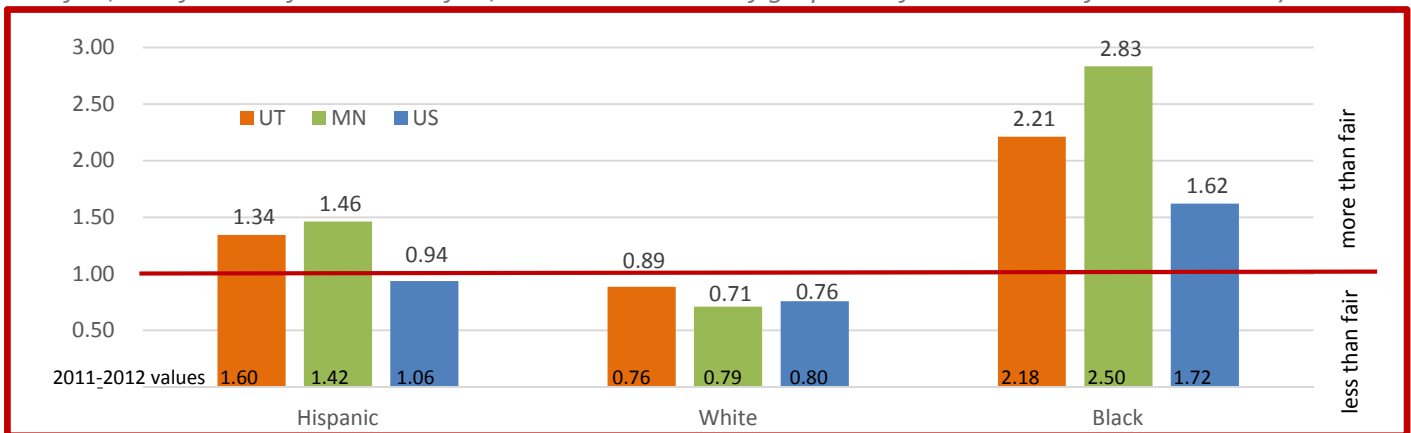


Source: Kids Count, online at <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/rawdata.axd?ind=107&loc=1>, accessed 02/09/2017

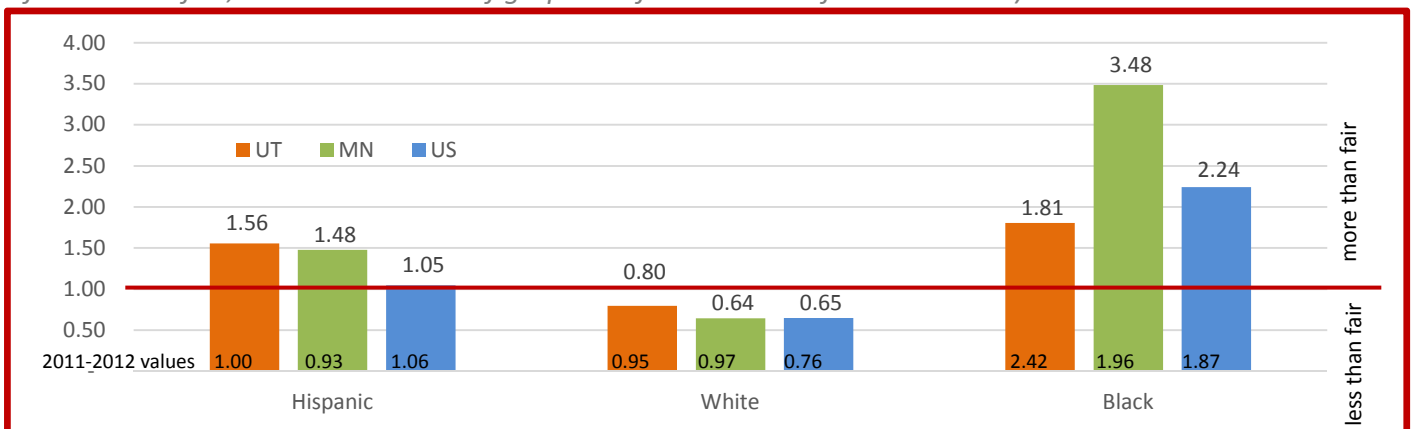
**Figure 25 - School-to-Prison Referrals, Arrests, and Racial Fairness Indices 2013-14** (for students without disabilities)  
 (arrows indicate whether rates have increased or decreased since 2011-12)

	UT	MN	US
Rate of students referred to law enforcement (as % of all students)	0.248%↓	0.364%↓	0.288%↓
Rate of students with school-related arrests (as % of all students)	0.027%↓	0.103%↑	0.089%↓

**Referral to law enforcement fairness index 2013-14:** referrals to law enforcement by race in ratio to enrolled student population racial makeup (1=totally fair, >1=more referrals than fair, <1= fewer referrals than fair; values at bottom of graph are fairness index for 2011-2012.)

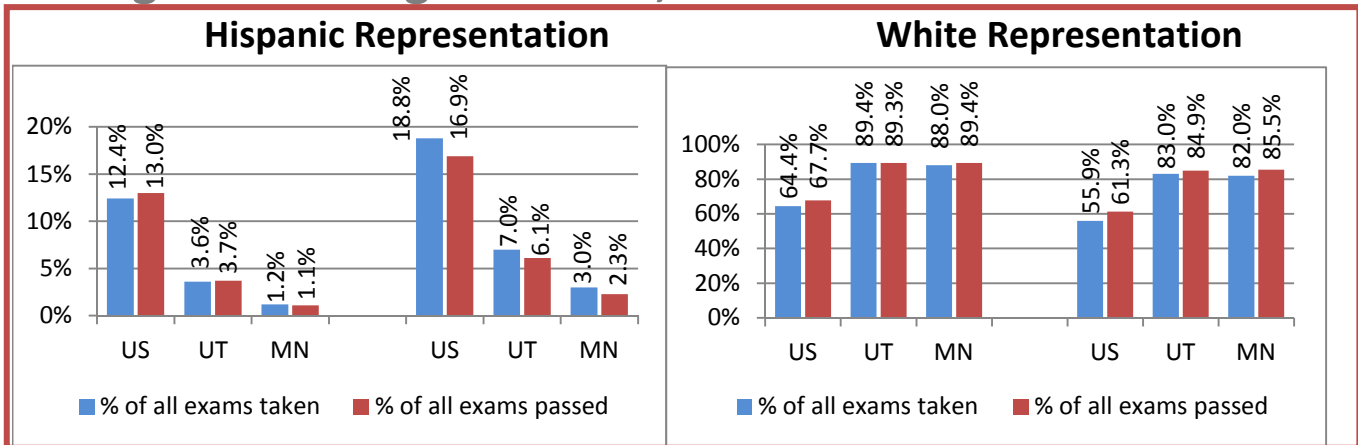


**School-related arrests fairness index 2013-14:** school-related arrests by race in ratio to enrolled student population racial makeup (1=totally fair, >1=more referrals than fair, <1= fewer referrals than fair; values at bottom of graph are fairness index for 2011-2012.)



Source: Civil Rights Data Collection, U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights, available online at: <http://ocrdata.ed.gov/DataAnalysisTools/>

**Figure 26 – Hispanic and White Makeup of Student Population Taking and Passing AP Exams, 2003 and 2013**



Source: The College Board, *AP Report to the Nation 2014*, available at [research.collegeboard.org/programs/ap/data/nation/2014](http://research.collegeboard.org/programs/ap/data/nation/2014)

**Figure 27 – High School Students Not in School and Not Graduating on Time (“winner” bolded and highlighted)**

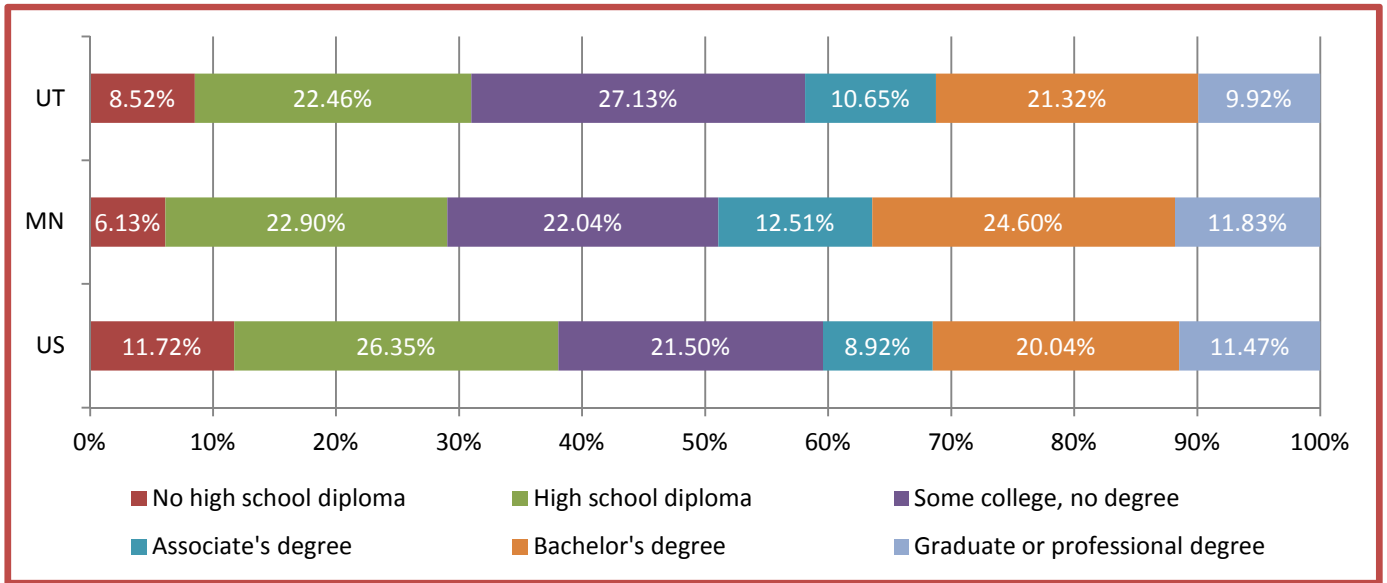
	UT	MN	US
Teens (ages 16-19) not in school and not high school graduates (2016)	5%	<b>3%</b>	4%
High school students not graduating on time (2014-15)	<b>15%</b>	18%	17%

Source: Kids Count, available at <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>, accessed 11/06/2017



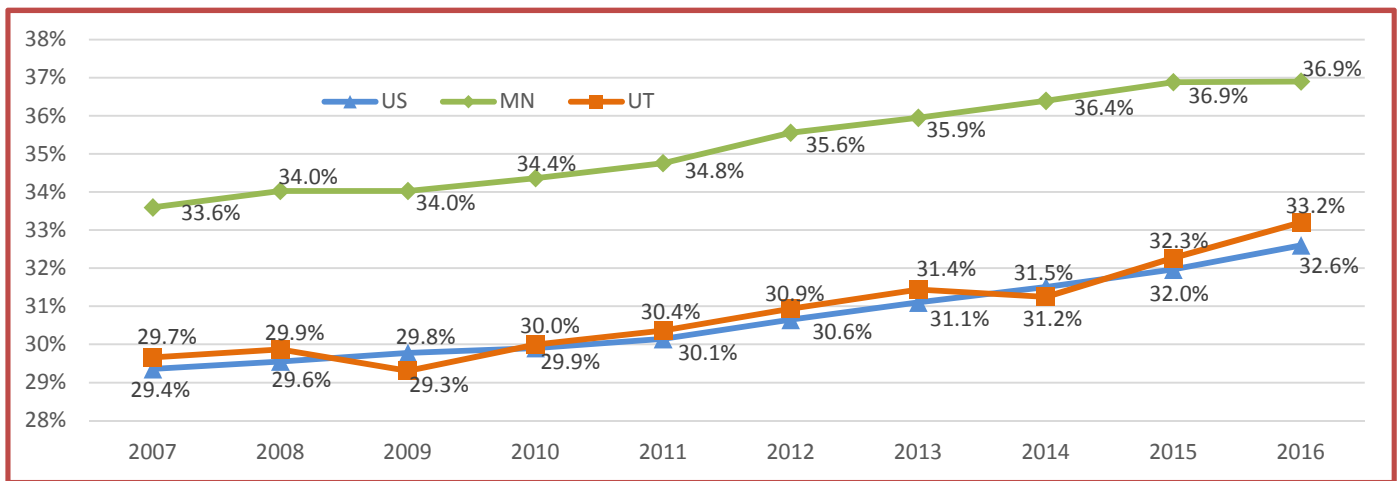
Utah outperforms the nation for starting college and earning Associate's degrees, matches the nation for Bachelor's degrees, and lags for graduate/professional degrees. Minnesota outperforms Utah and the nation for all four categories.

Figure 28 – Educational Attainment 2014, ages 25-64



Source: Lumina Foundation analysis of U.S. Census Bureau ACS data, available at: <http://strongernation.luminafoundation.org/report/#nation>

Figure 29 – Adults Ages 25-64 with a Bachelor's Degree or More

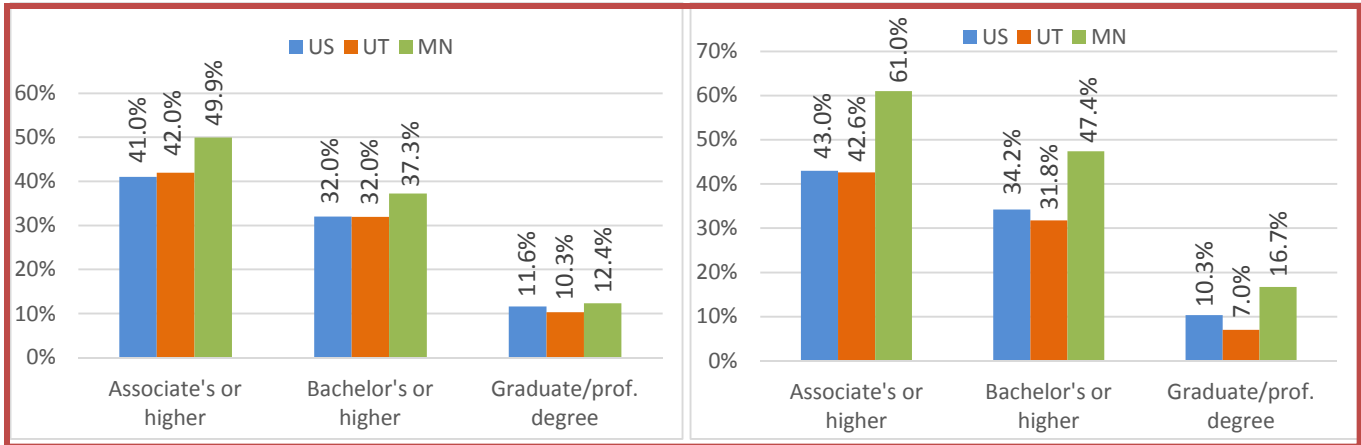


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, table S1501 Educational Attainment



Utah's Millennial generation has not seen the higher education gains experienced in Minnesota and the nation.

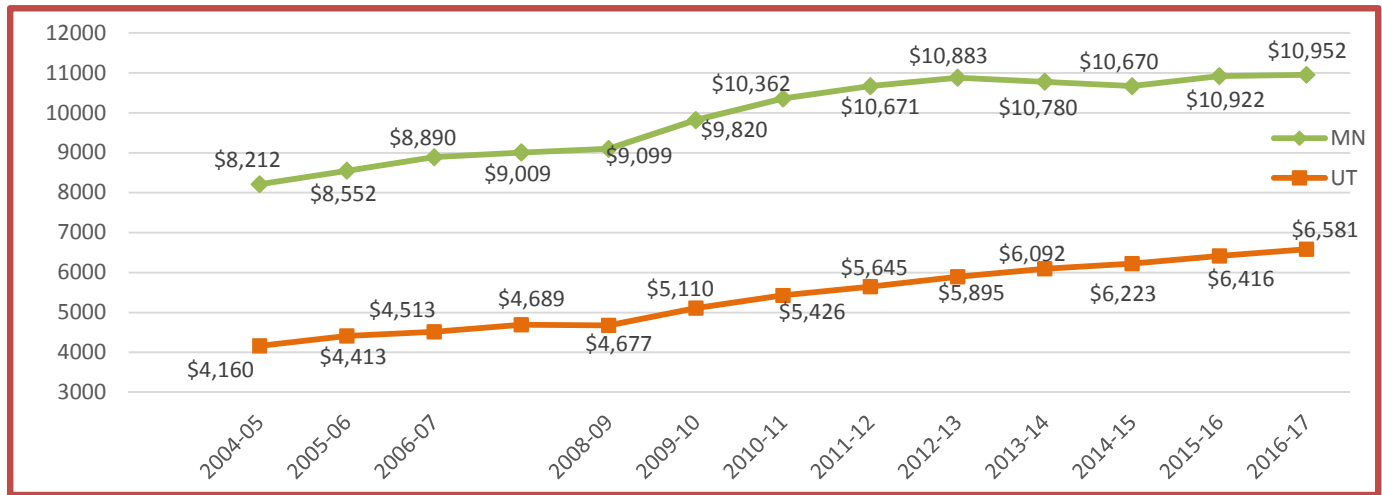
**Figure 30 – Educational attainment by age group, 2015**  
**Working Age Population (ages 25-64)      Millennial Population (ages 25-34)**



Source: Voices for Utah Children analysis of U.S. Census Bureau ACS 1-year data by Anastasia Baranowska.

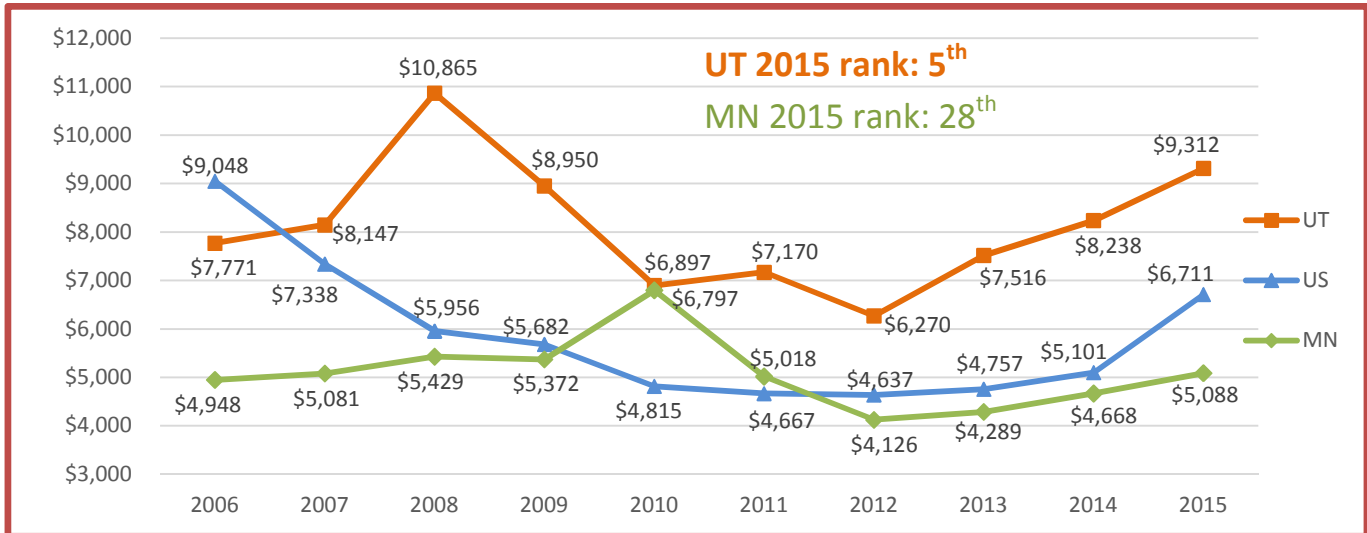
Utah keeps public university tuition relatively affordable with generous state appropriations.

**Figure 31 – Average Public Four-Year In-State Public University Tuition & Fees (in 2016 dollars)**



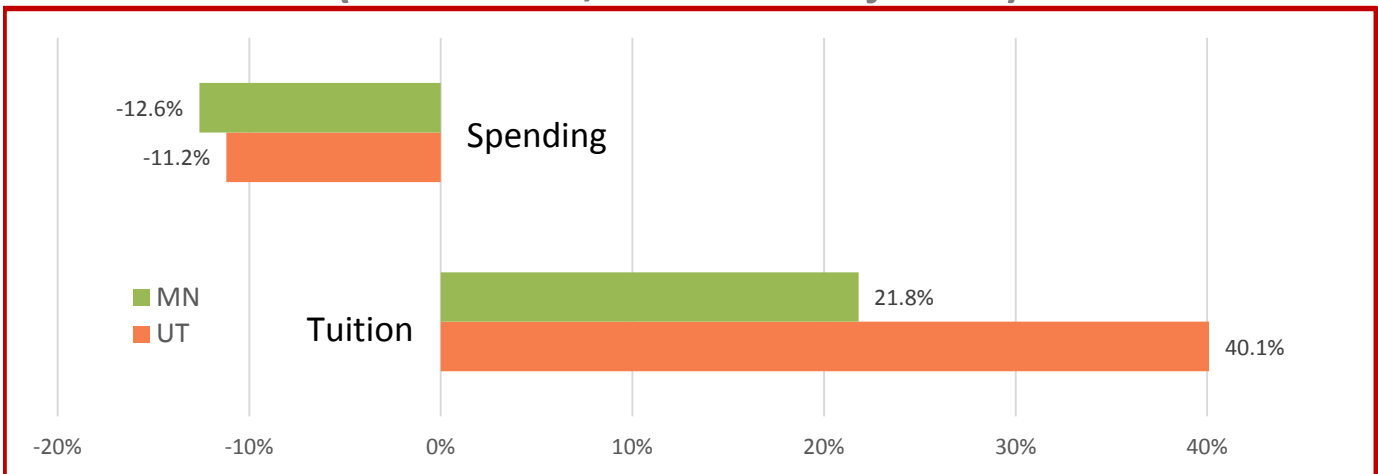
Source: College Board, Annual Survey of Colleges, Table 5 – based on published tuition and fees, available at: <https://trends.collegeboard.org/sites/default/files/cp-2016-table-5.xlsx>

**Figure 32 – Higher Education State Appropriations per Full-time Enrolled Student (in 2015 dollars)**



Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Institute for Education Sciences' Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, online at: <https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/Home/UseTheData>

**Figure 33 – Percent Changes in Total State Spending on Higher Education and Percent Changes in Public Four-year In-state Tuition & Fees (2008-2017, inflation-adjusted)**



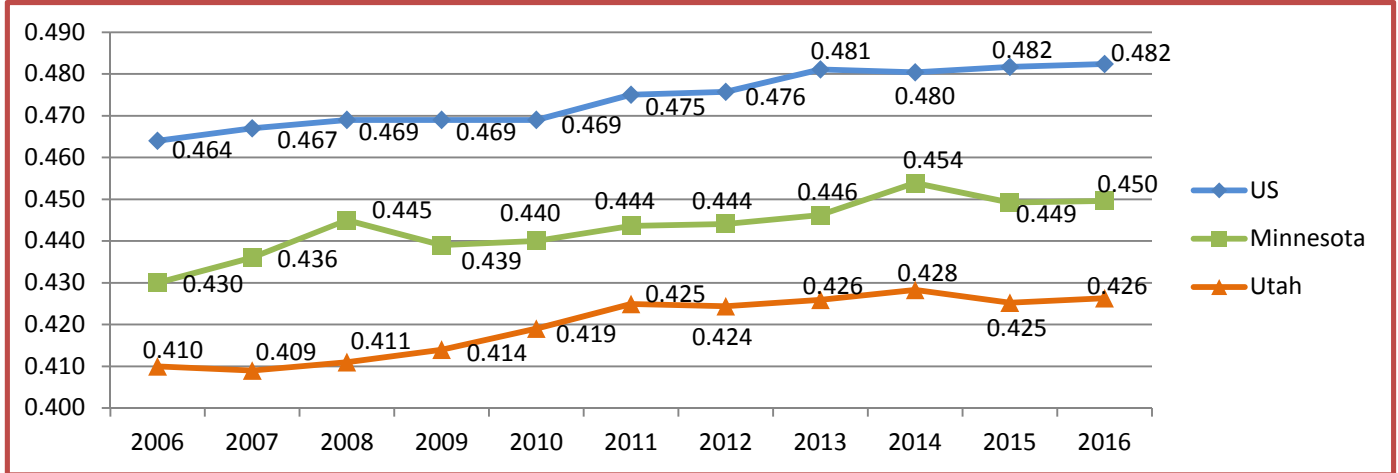
Source: Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, *A Lost Decade in Higher Education Funding State Cuts Have Driven Up Tuition and Reduced Quality*, available online at: <https://www.cbpp.org/research/a-lost-decade-in-higher-education-funding-state-cuts-have-driven-up-tuition-and-reduced>

# Equity

Utah and Minnesota both rank well for income equity and intergenerational social mobility, with Utah ranking at or near the top of the national scale.

**Figure 34 – GINI Index (2006-2016)**

Note: higher values indicate greater inequality



Source: Census Bureau American Community Survey (ACS) GINI Index of Income Inequality 1-year estimates, table B19083, 2006-2016 - UT, MN, & U.S. (Source: American Community Survey, <http://factfinder.census.gov>)

**Figure 35 – Intergenerational Upward Mobility Rankings**

(higher expected income percentile rank for a person whose parents were at the 25th income percentile)

	UT	MN
<b>Among the 50 largest commuting zones (urban + rural) in the US</b>		
	<b>#1 – Salt Lake City, UT</b>	<b>#8 – Minneapolis, MN</b>
<b>Among 381 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (urban only)</b>		
	<b>#3 – Logan, UT</b>	<b>#1 – Saint Cloud, MN</b>
	<b>#16 – Provo-Orem, UT</b>	<b>#7 – Grand Forks, ND-MN</b>
	<b>#35 – Ogden-Clearfield, UT</b>	<b>#9 – Rochester, MN</b>
	<b>#41 – Saint George, UT</b>	<b>#11 – Mankato-North Mankato, MN</b>
	<b>#43 – Salt Lake City, UT</b>	<b>#15 – Fargo, ND-MN</b>
		<b>#26 – La Crosse-Onalaska, WI-MN</b>
		<b>#58 – Duluth, MN-WI</b>
		<b>#67 – Minneapolis-St. Paul – Bloomington, MN-WI</b>
<b>Average MSA rank</b>	<b>28<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>24<sup>th</sup></b>

Source: Chetty, Raj, et al. "Where is the land of opportunity? The geography of intergenerational mobility in the United States." *The Quarterly Journal of Economics* 129.4 (2014): 1553-1623. Data tables online at: <http://www.equality-of-opportunity.org/data/>

# Gender

Minnesota women are high performers, while Utah women rank toward the back of the pack nationally.

**Figure 36 – Status of Women Indices, 2015**

*(“winner” bolded and highlighted)*

Ranking: 1 is best, 50 worst Grades: A is best, F worst	UT		MN	
	Rank	Grade	Rank	Grade
Employment & Earnings	39	D	<b>10</b>	<b>B</b>
Political Participation	50	F	<b>2</b>	<b>B</b>
Poverty & Opportunity	29	C-	<b>9</b>	<b>B-</b>
Health & Well-being	4	B	<b>1</b>	<b>A-</b>
Work & Family	50	F	<b>7</b>	<b>C+</b>

Source: Institute for Women’s Policy Research (IWPR), *Status of Women in the States* dataset, available online at: <https://statusofwomendata.org/explore-the-data/>

**Figure 37 – Gender Pay Gap**

Ranking: 1 is best, 50 worst	UT	UT rank	MN	MN rank
Gender Wage Ratio (Female/Male), 2015	70%	48	<b>80%</b>	<b>19</b>
Gender Wage Ratio for millennials (ages 16-34), 2011-13	78.8%	49	<b>87.3%</b>	<b>28</b>
Projected Year to Close Gender Pay Gap (at current rate of progress since 1959)	2102	48	<b>2054</b>	<b>12</b>

Source: Institute for Women’s Policy Research (IWPR), *Status of Women in the States* dataset, available online at: <https://statusofwomendata.org/explore-the-data/>

A 2015 analysis by Voices for Utah Children found the **disparity between men’s and women’s wages in Utah to be much larger** than the same disparity at both national and regional levels. The research also found that **Utah’s gap is so much larger than the nation’s because of how women’s qualification and characteristics** – such as educational disparities – **put them at a much larger disadvantage in Utah.**

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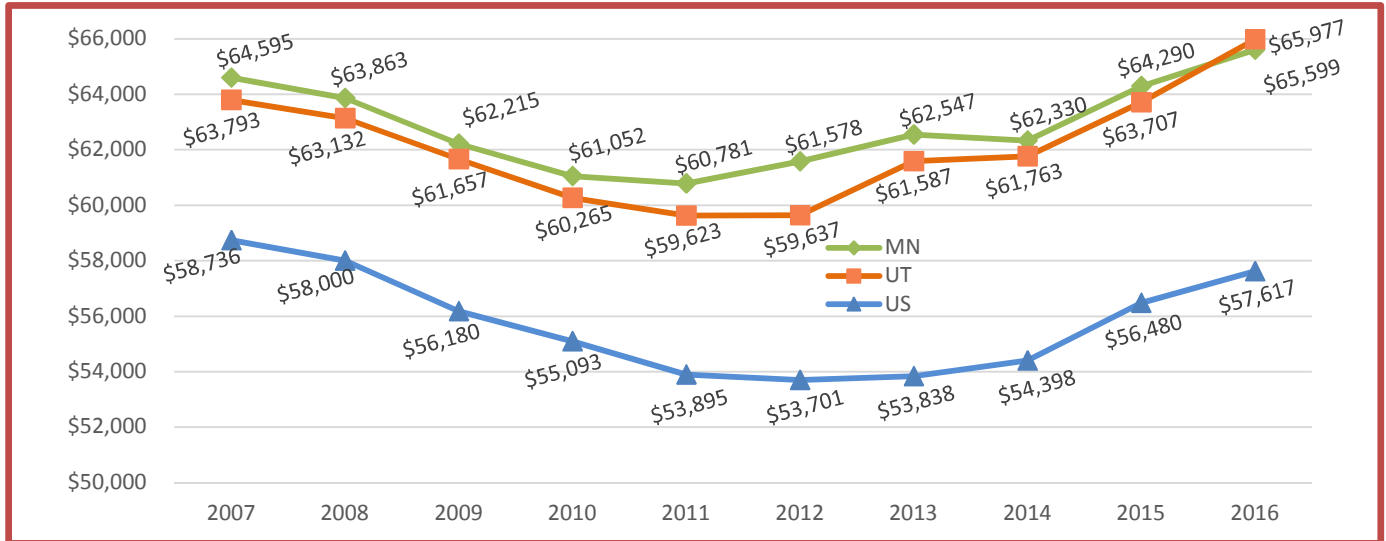
# Part II: Standard of Living



# Income

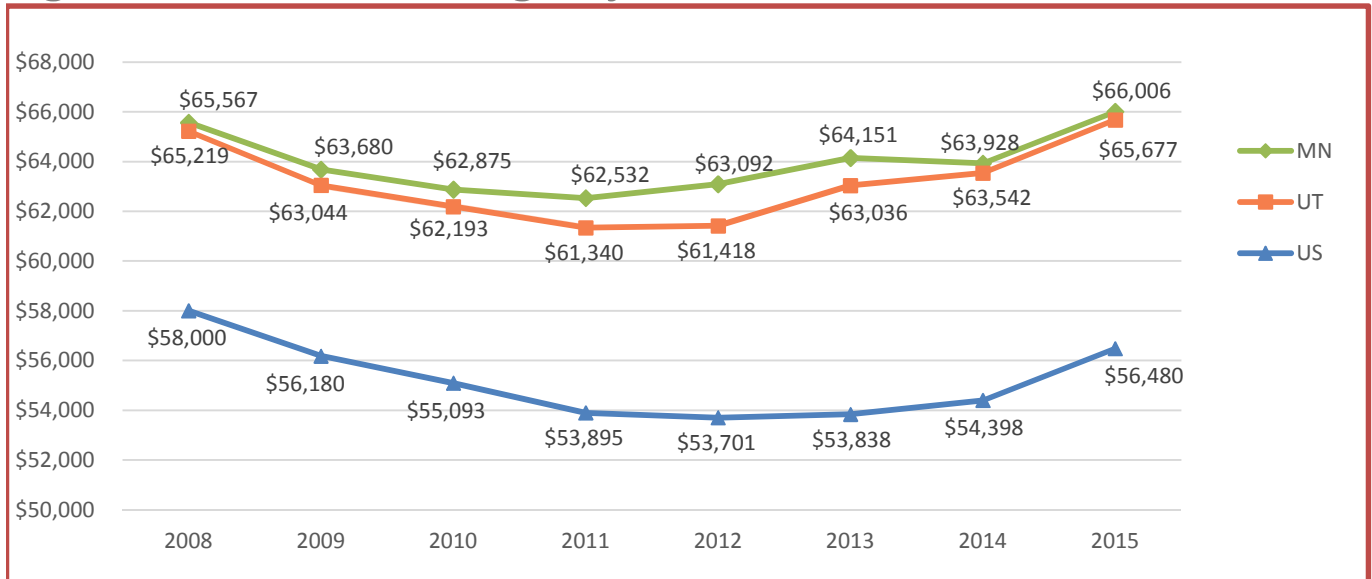
Utah's and Minnesota's median household incomes have moved in tandem over the past decade, well above the national average, with Utah moving ahead in 2016 for the first time. Both states enjoy a similarly low cost of living.

Figure 38 – Real Median Household Income (2016\$)



Source: Census Bureau American Community Survey (ACS) Median Household Income table B19013, 2007-2016 - UT, MN, & U.S. (available online: American Community Survey, <http://factfinder.census.gov>)

Figure 39 – Cost-of-Living-Adjusted Real Median Household Income

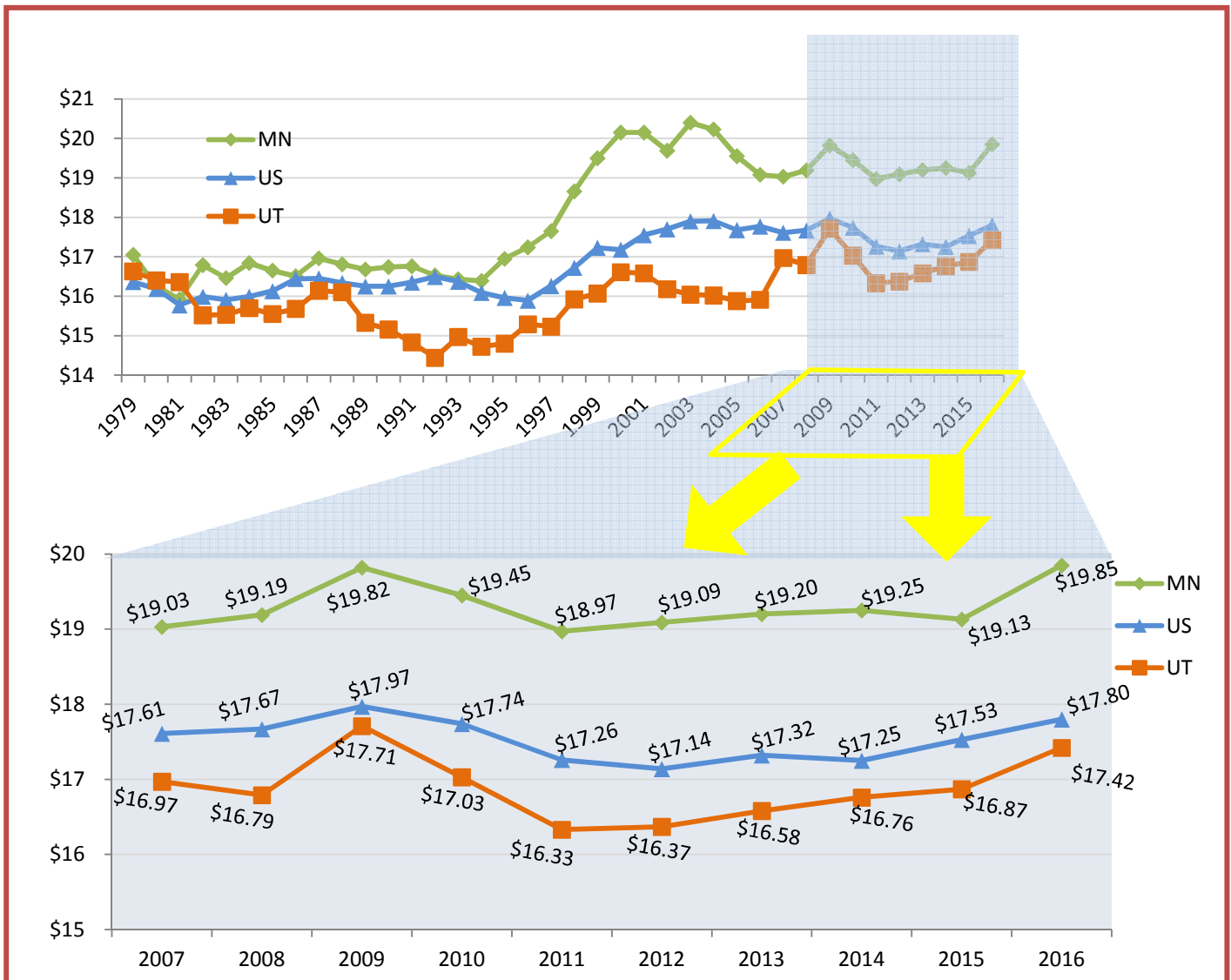


Source: Census Bureau American Community Survey (ACS) table B19013; adjusted by BEA Regional Price Parities, all items (available online: American Community Survey, <http://factfinder.census.gov> & Bureau of Economic Analysis, <http://bea.gov>)

# Wages

Since the mid-1990s, Minnesota's real median hourly wage has been higher than the US average, while Utah's has been below the US average since the 1980s. In 2016, Minnesota ranked #6 and Utah #25 for median hourly wage.

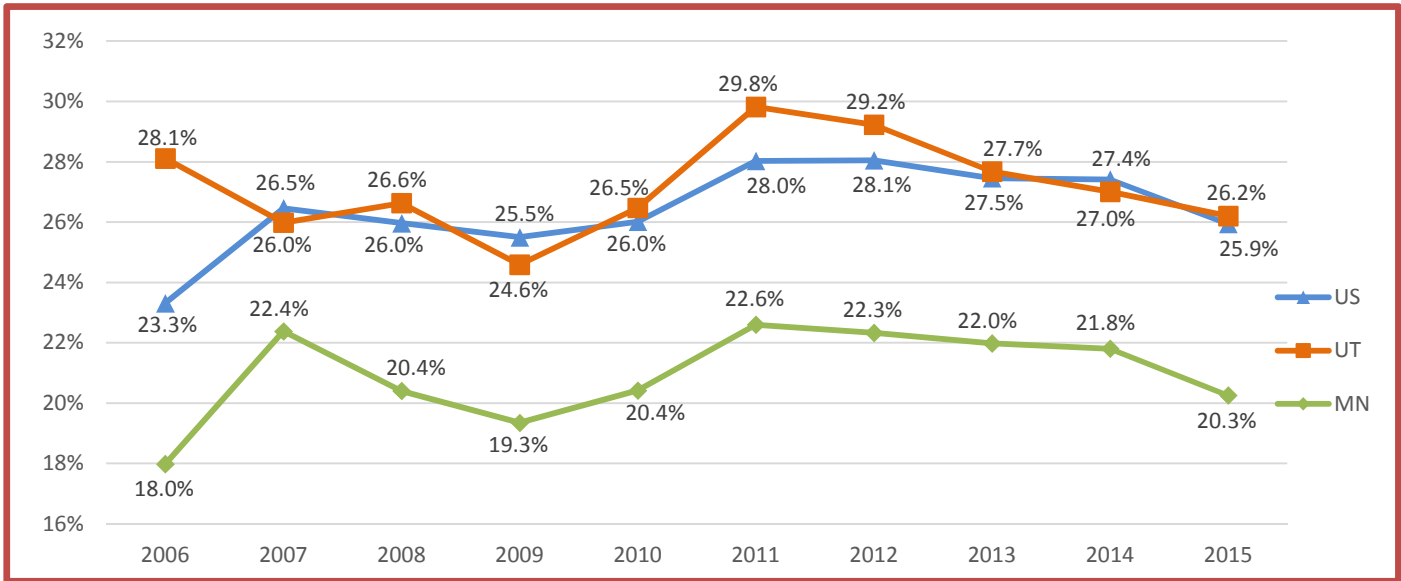
Figure 40 – Real Median Hourly Wage



Source: Economic Policy Institute analysis of Current Population Survey data.

Compared to Minnesota, many more Utahns earn a poverty-level wage. Minnesota ranks #1 in the nation for hourly wages for low-skilled workers (10<sup>th</sup> percentile of hourly wages); Utah ranks #21.

**Figure 41 – Share of Workers Earning Below Poverty Wage (poverty wage is \$11.66 in 2015 CPI-U-RS adjusted dollars)**



Source: EPI analysis of CPS-ORG using poverty threshold of family of four (\$24,230 in 2014) divided by (52weeks\*40hours/week), see <https://www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/income-poverty/historical-poverty-thresholds.html>

**Figure 42 – Minimum Wage 2017 and 10<sup>th</sup> Percentile Wage 2016 ( “winner” bolded and shaded)**

	US	UT	MN
<b>Large employer min. wage</b> (annual receipts of \$500,000+)	\$7.25	\$7.25	<b>\$9.50</b>
<b>Small employer min. wage</b> (annual receipts of less than \$500,000)	\$7.25	\$7.25	<b>\$7.75</b>
<b>Minimum wage inflation indexing</b>	No	No	<b>Yes, begins January 1, 2018</b>
<b>Hourly wage/rank at the 10<sup>th</sup> percentile in 2016</b>	\$9.26	\$9.42/#21	<b>\$10.13/#1</b>

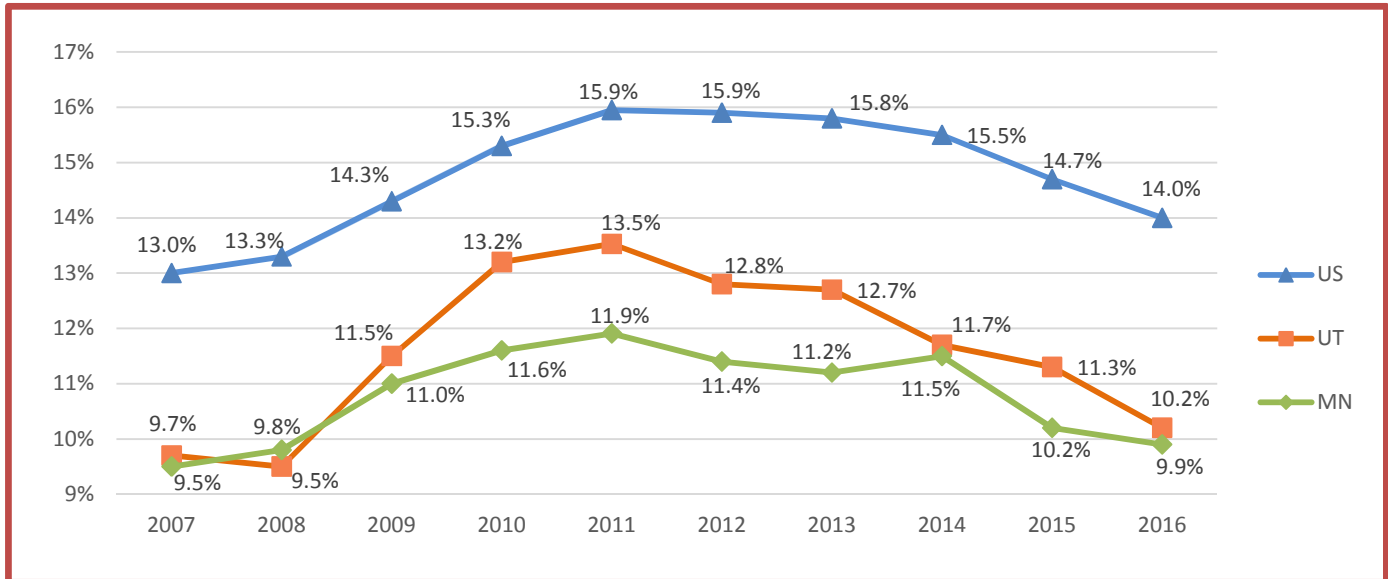
Sources: Minimum wage data from US Department of Labor, available online at <https://www.dol.gov/whd/minwage/america.htm>. 10<sup>th</sup> percentile wages from EPI analysis of Census Bureau CPS data.



# Poverty

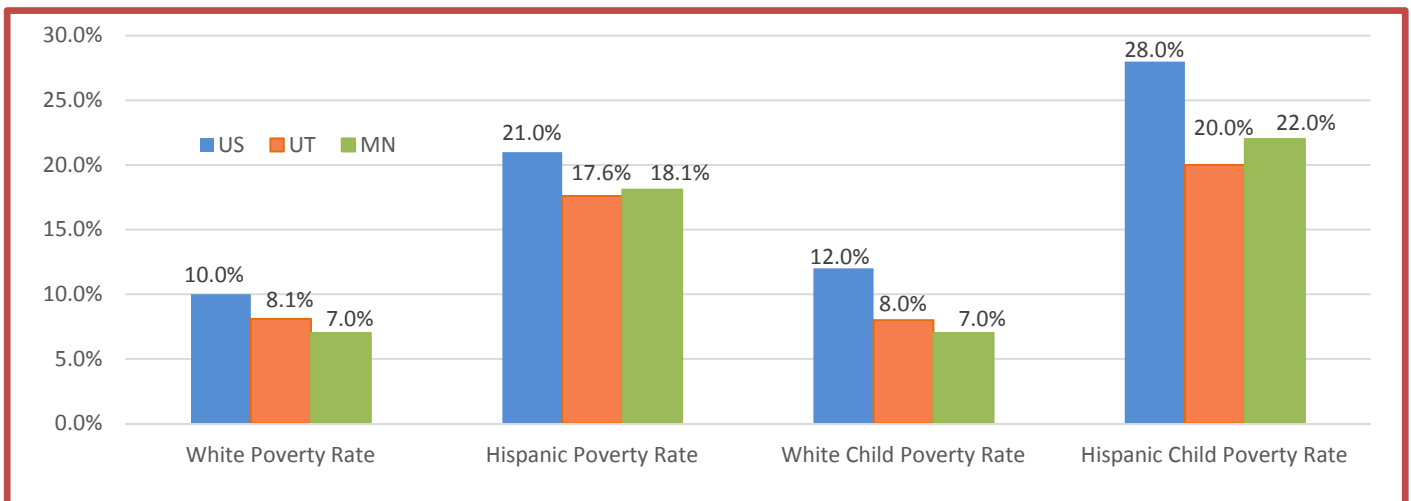
Both Utah and Minnesota enjoy low poverty rates, with Minnesota 5<sup>th</sup> lowest in the nation in 2016 and Utah 7<sup>th</sup> lowest.

Figure 43 – Poverty Rates 2007-2016



Source: Census Bureau American Community Survey (ACS) Poverty Rates, 2007-2016 - UT, MN, & U.S. (Source: American Community Survey, <http://factfinder.census.gov>)

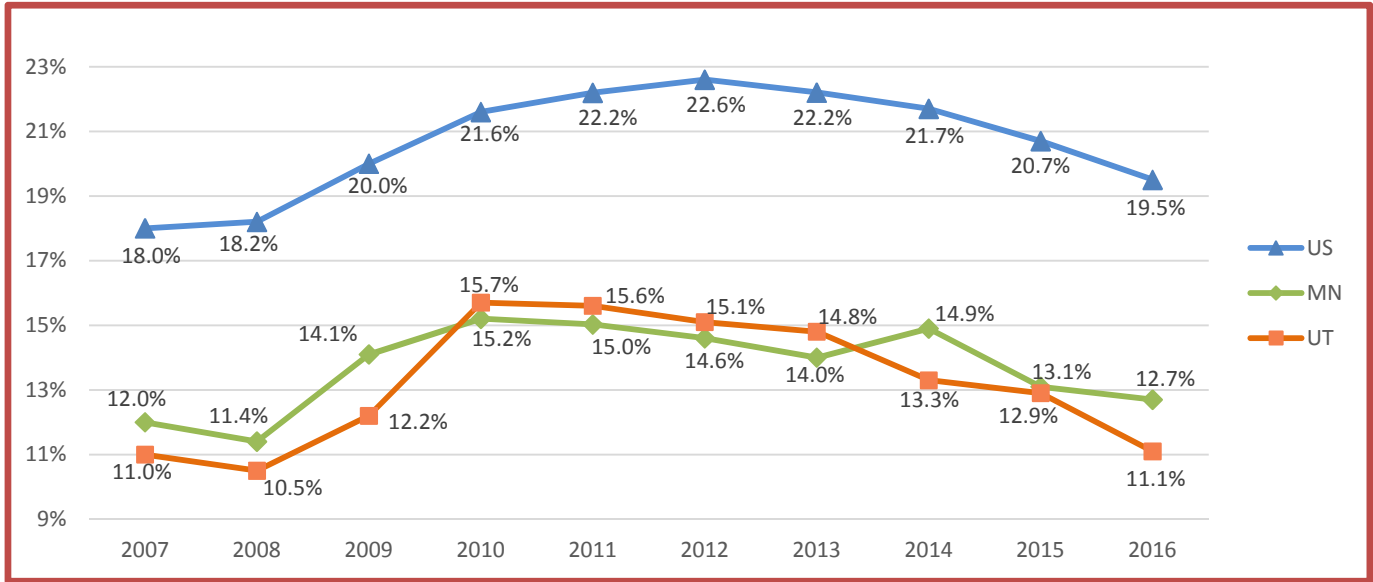
Figure 44 – White & Hispanic Poverty Rates 2016



Source: Census Bureau American Community Survey (ACS) Poverty Rates 2016 - UT, MN, & U.S. (Source: American Community Survey, <http://factfinder.census.gov>; Kids Count Data Center [datacenter.kidscount.org](http://datacenter.kidscount.org))

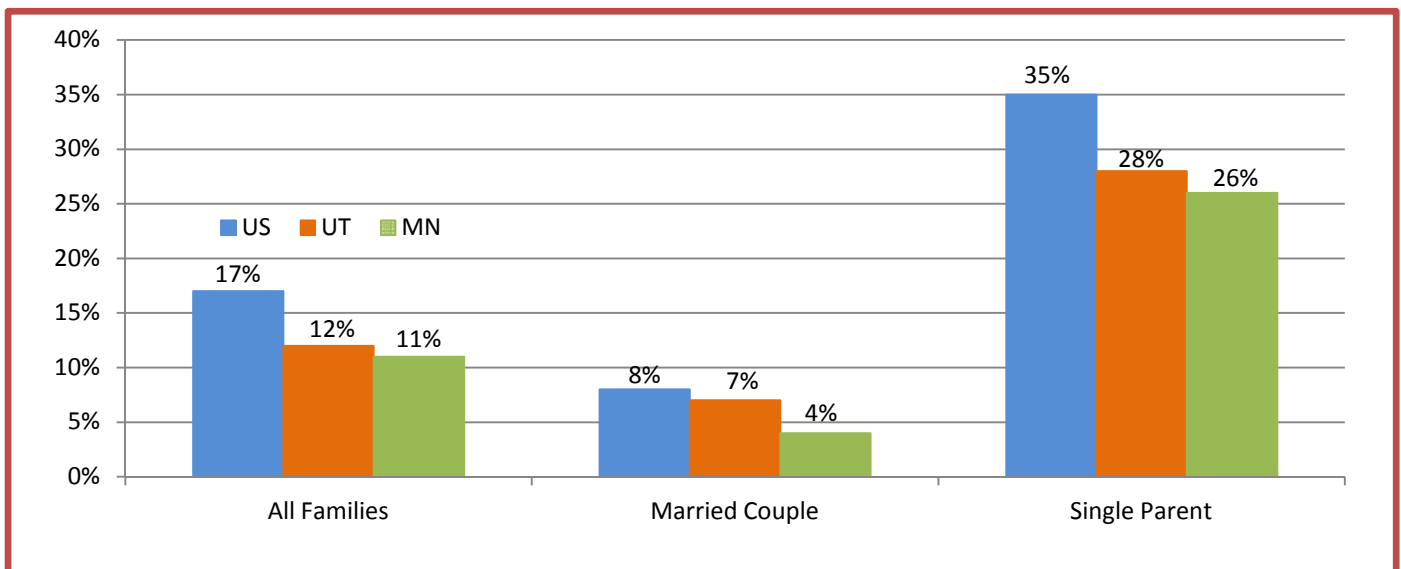
Minnesota had a lower overall poverty rate than Utah in 2016, but was higher among Hispanics and children.

Figure 45 – Child Poverty Rates 2007-2016



Source: Census Bureau American Community Survey (ACS) Poverty Rates, 2007-2016 - UT, MN, & U.S. (Source: Kids Count Data Center datacenter.kidscount.org)

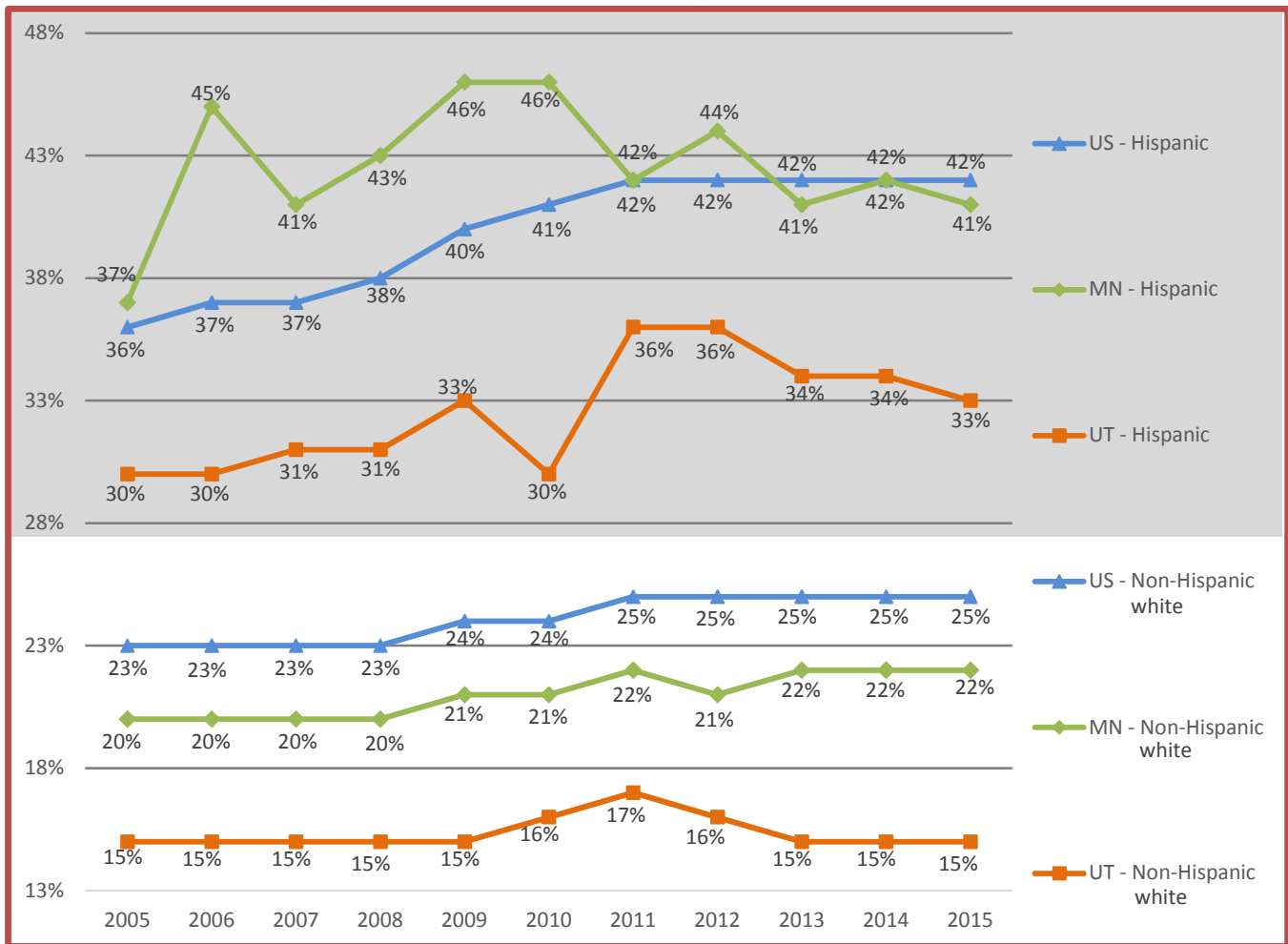
Figure 46 – Family Poverty Rates 2015



Source: Census Bureau American Community Survey (ACS) Poverty Rates, 2007-2015 - UT, MN, & U.S. (Source: Kids Count Data Center datacenter.kidscount.org)

While Utah has a relatively low rate of Hispanic children living in single-parent households, our rate is still more than double that of non-Hispanic White children.

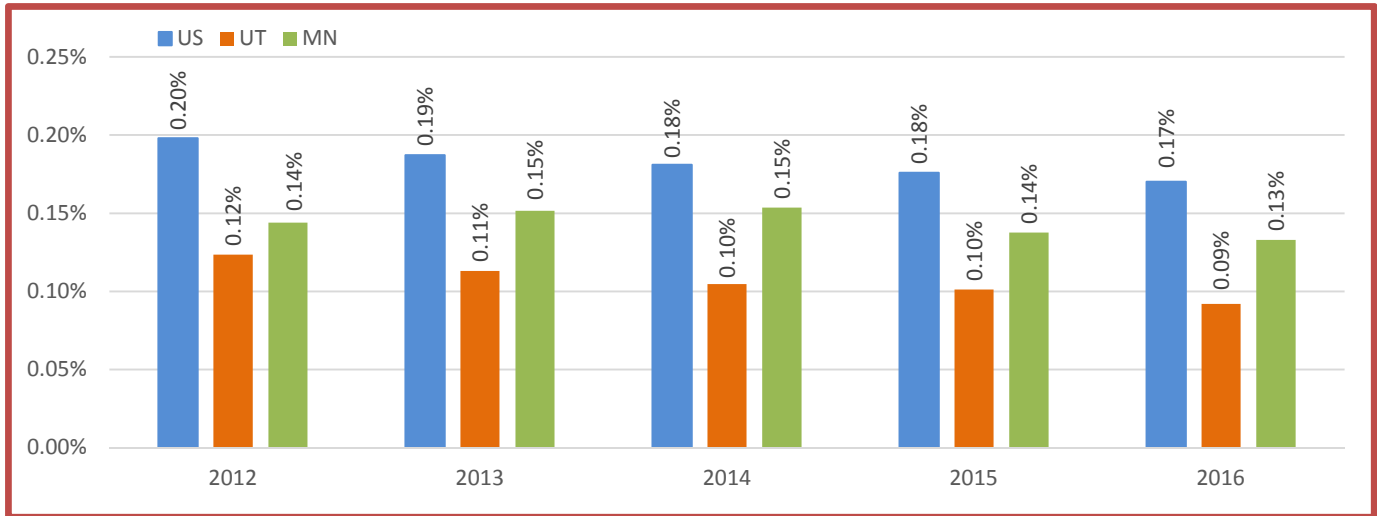
Figure 47 – Percent of Children Living in a Single-Parent Household, Hispanic and non-Hispanic White



Source: National Kids Count, available online at <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/rawdata.axd?ind=107&loc=1>, accessed 02/09/2017

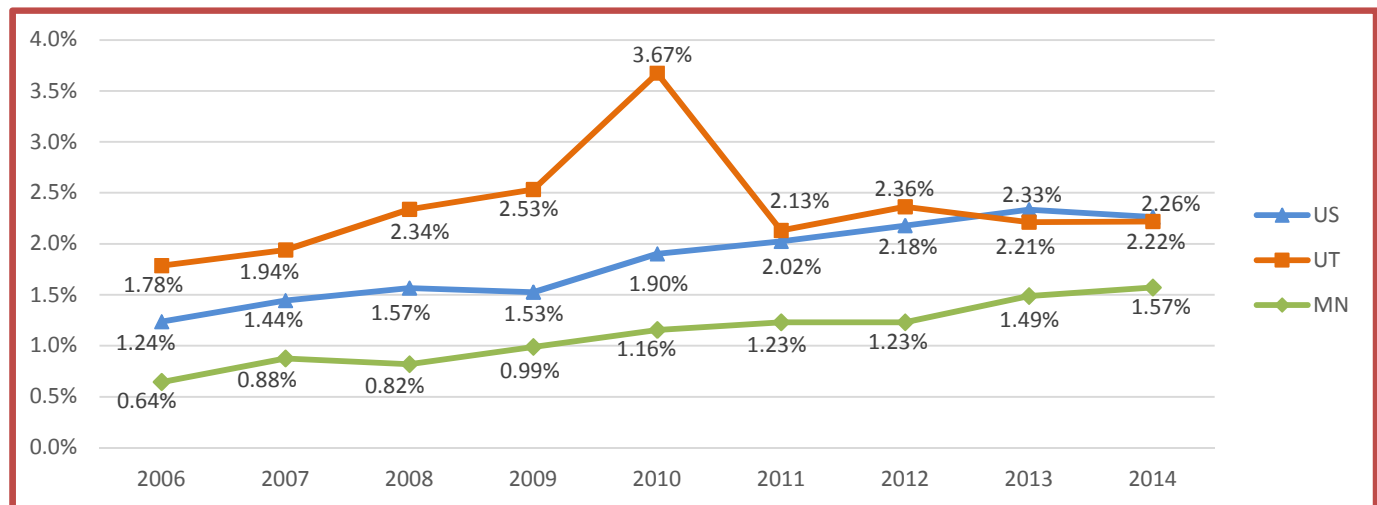
Utah has a lower homelessness rate than Minnesota or the nation, but Utah is higher than Minnesota for child homelessness.

Figure 48 – Homelessness Rate (as % of total population)



Source: **Population data:** U.S. Census Bureau table PEANNRES (2016 population estimates); **Total homeless persons data:** U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Programs, Homeless Populations and Subpopulations, available online from: <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/coc/coc-homeless-populations-and-subpopulations-reports/>

Figure 49 – Child Homelessness Rate (ages 3-17, enrolled students)



Source: **Population data:** U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 1-year estimates, Children ages 3-17 in households and enrolled in school (table S0901); **Child homelessness data:** National Center for Homeless Education, Federal Data Summary for McKinney-Vento Education for Homeless Children and Youth (EHCY) Program, available online at: [http://nche.ed.gov/ibt/sc\\_data.php](http://nche.ed.gov/ibt/sc_data.php)

**Figure 50 – Percent of Children Facing Food Insecurity 2015**

UT	MN	US
16.4%	13.8%	17.9%

Source: Feeding America, available online at: <http://www.feedingamerica.org/hunger-in-america/our-research/map-the-meal-gap/2015/2015-mapthemealgap-exec-summary.pdf>

The Census Bureau’s Supplemental Poverty Measure (SPM) counts poverty more accurately by taking into account local cost of living, household expenses such as taxes, childcare, and medical bills, and government safety net programs such as Social Security/SSI, SNAP/food stamps, TANF, unemployment insurance benefits, federal tax credits like the EITC, and government subsidies for housing and school lunches.

**Figure 51 – Supplemental Poverty Measure (2013-2015)**

	UT	MN	US
All persons	9.4%	9.4%	15.0%
Children (under 18)	9.0%	7.5%	16.4%

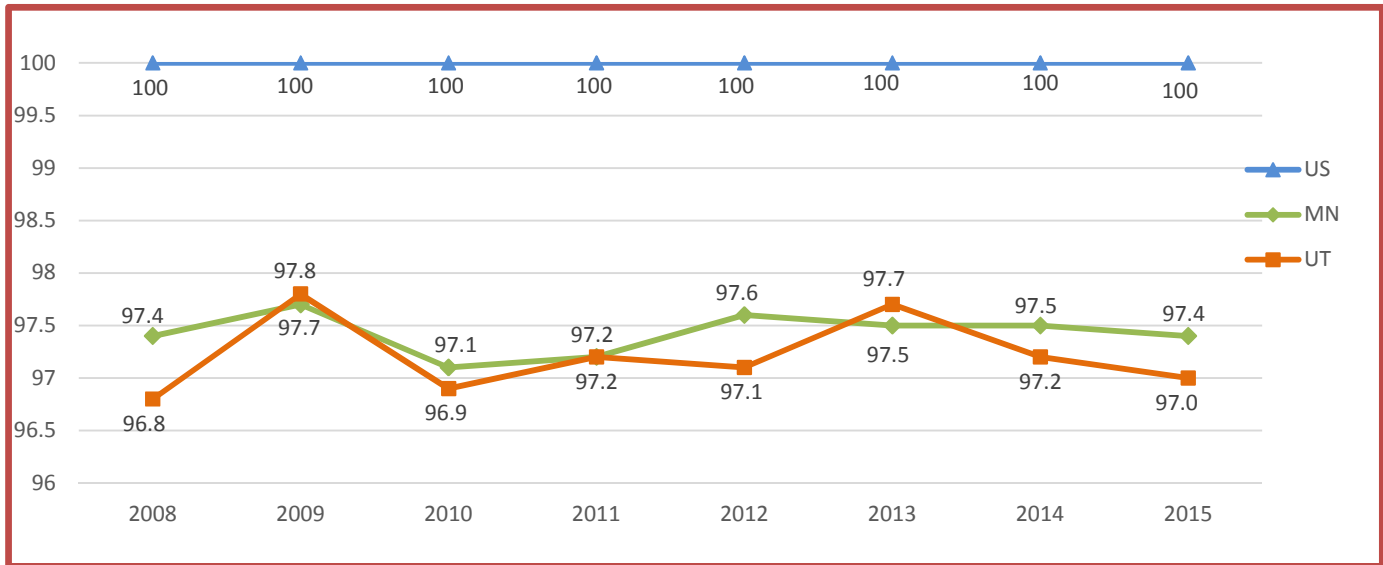
Source: Voices for Utah Children Analysis of CPS data by Anastasia Baranowska. For more information on the SPM see: <https://www.census.gov/topics/income-poverty/supplemental-poverty-measure.html>



# Cost of Living

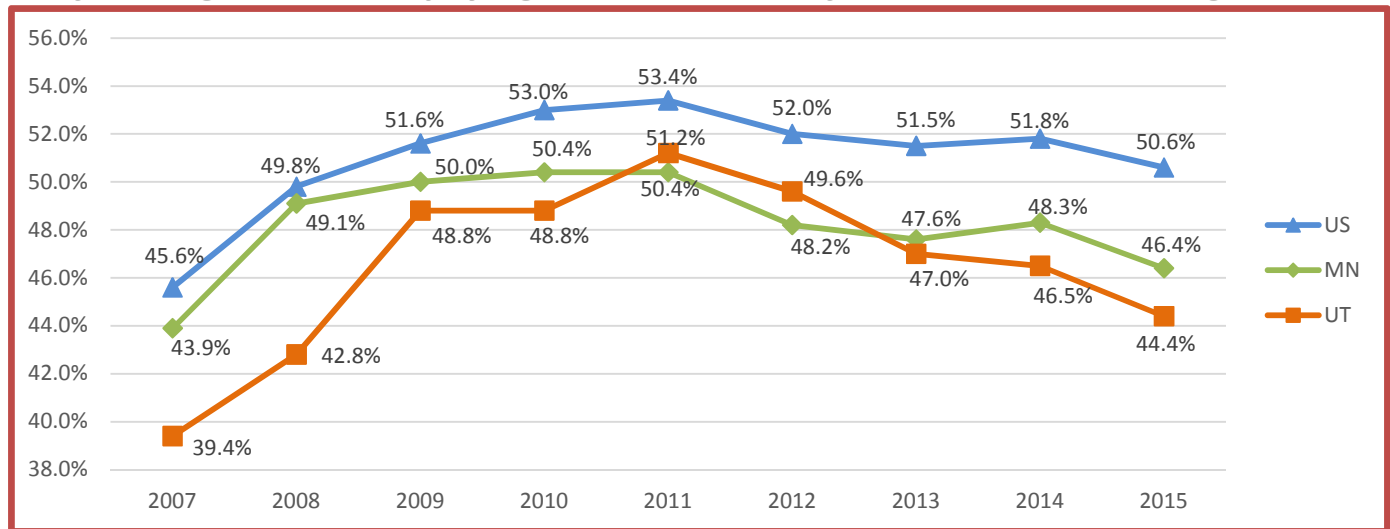
Cost of living in Utah and Minnesota are similar, both below the national average.

**Figure 52 – Cost of Living: Regional Price Parities**  
*(all items, where 100 = price index equal to national level)*



Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Price Parities by state, all items, available online at: <https://www.bea.gov/iTable/iTable.cfm?reqid=70&step=1&isuri=1&acrdn=8#reqid=70&step=1&isuri=1>

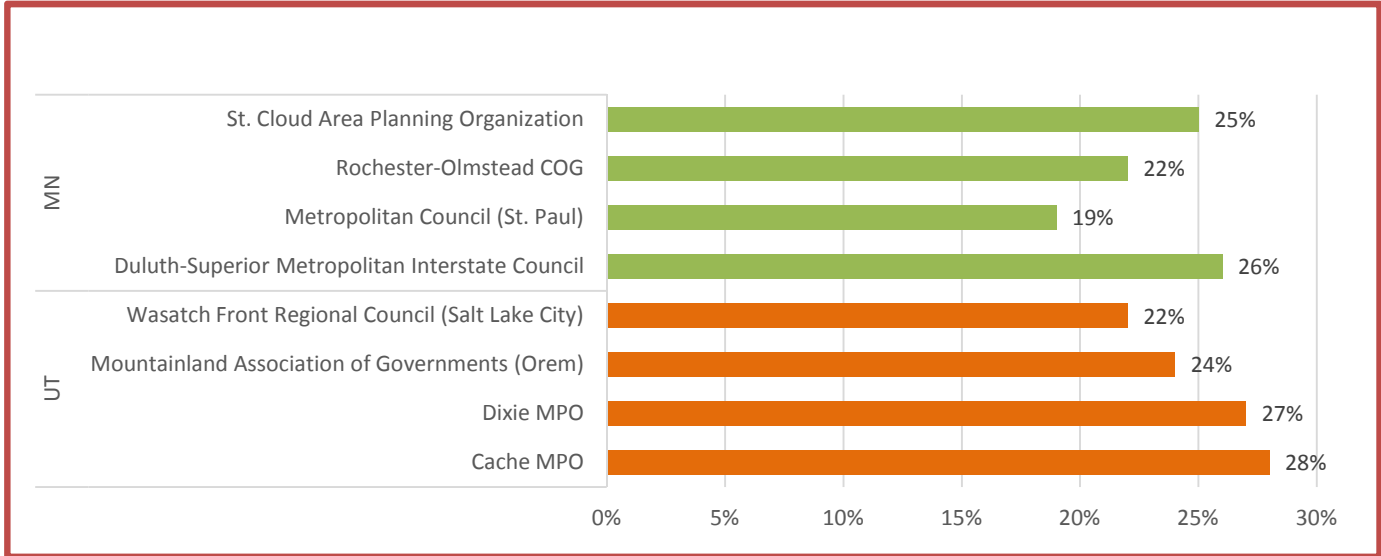
**Figure 53 – Unaffordable Rent Burden Rate**  
*(% of renting households paying more than 30% of household income to gross rent)*



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 1-year estimates (table DP04)

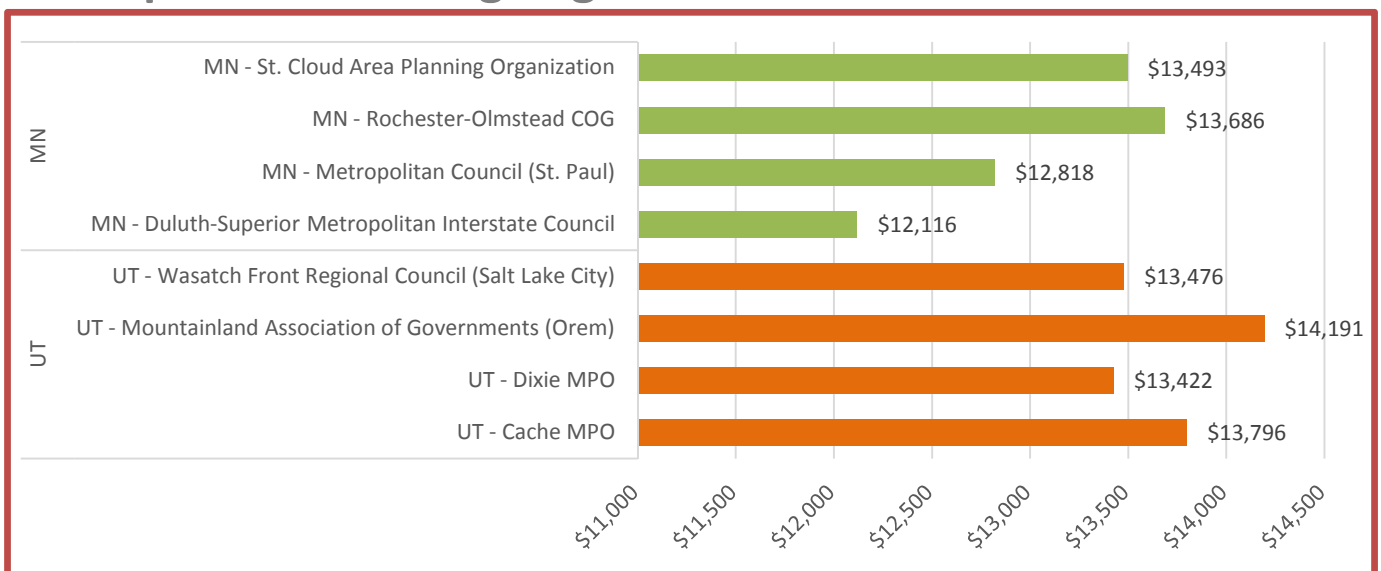
Minnesota has lower household transportation costs than Utah but slightly longer commutes (see p. 41).

Figure 54 – Transportation Expense as Percent of Income by Metropolitan Planning Organization (typical household)



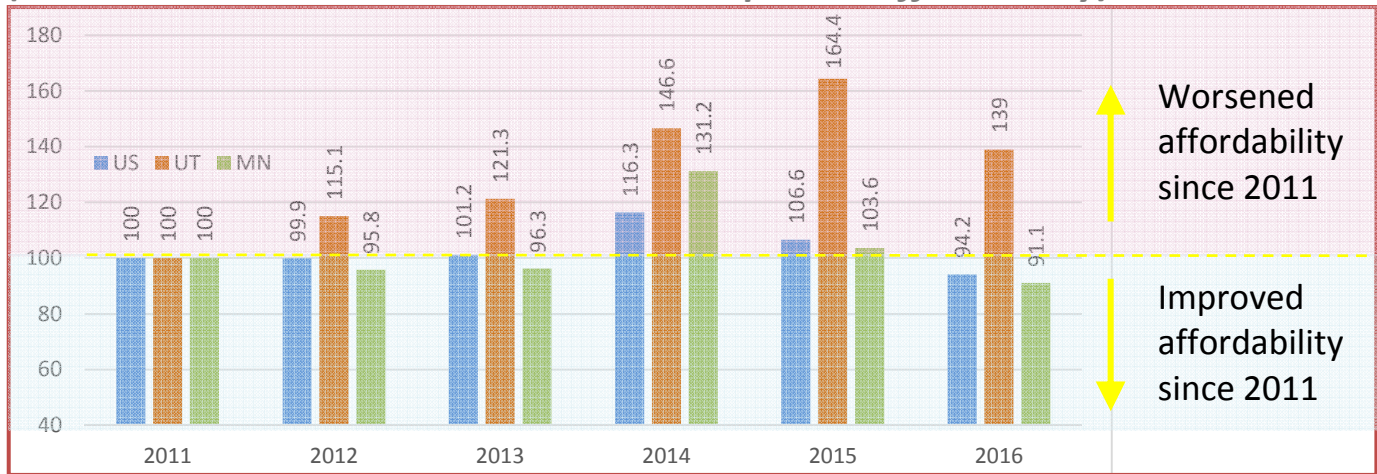
Source: Center for Neighborhood Technology, Housing and Transportation Affordability Index, htaindex.cnt.org

Figure 55 – Annual Household Transportation Costs by Metropolitan Planning Organization



Center for Neighborhood Technology, Housing and Transportation Affordability Index, htaindex.cnt.org

**Figure 56 – Home Energy Affordability Gap Index**  
*(2011 = 100, values below 100 indicate improved affordability)*



Source: Fisher, Sheehan & Colton, *Home Energy Affordability Gap 2nd series* data, available online at: [http://www.homeenergyaffordabilitygap.com/03a\\_affordabilityData.html](http://www.homeenergyaffordabilitygap.com/03a_affordabilityData.html)

# Taxes

Minnesota are very close to each other for state and local public revenues as a share of personal income, and both states are above the national average.

**Figure 57 – State and Local Own-Source Revenue, 2015**  
*(“winner” bolded and highlighted)*

<i>Rankings: 1 is best, 50 worst</i>	UT	MN	US (average)
Total own source revenue (\$ million)	<b>\$17,760</b>	\$44,715	\$44,362
Own source revenue as percent of personal income	<b>16.0%</b>	16.7%	15.3%
Rank of own source revenue as percent of personal income (1 is lowest)	<b>35<sup>th</sup></b>	38 <sup>th</sup>	

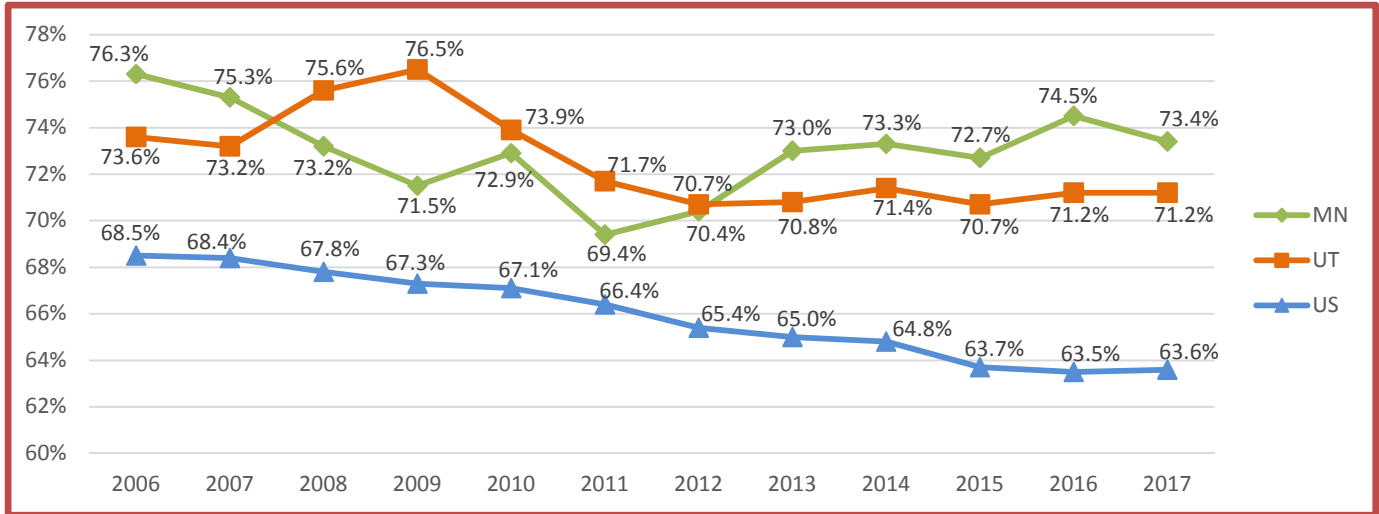
Source: U.S. Census Bureau and Bureau of Economic Analysis, from Federation of Tax Administrators, available online at <https://www.taxadmin.org/2014-state-and-local-revenue-as-a-percentage-of-personal-income>. Own Source Revenue is all revenue collected by state and local government from its own sources (excluding federal transfers).



# Quality of Life

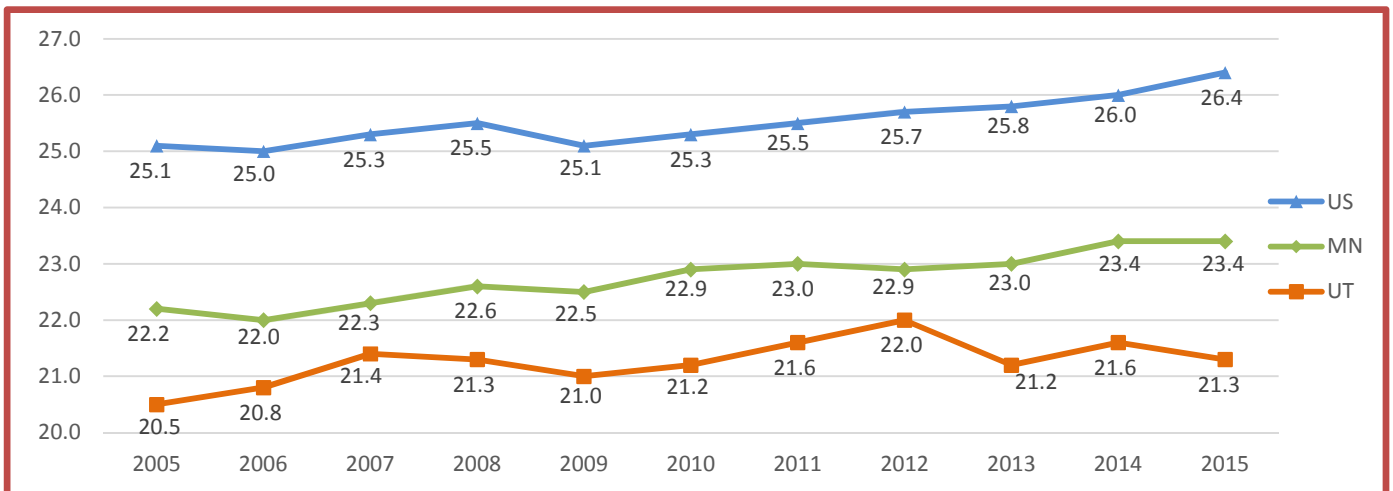
Compared to the nation, Utah and Minnesota have higher homeownership rates and shorter commutes. Utah and

Figure 58 – Homeownership Rates (% of households that own)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, CPS/HVS Housing Vacancies and Homeownership dataset, state data available at: [https://www.census.gov/housing/hvs/data/rates/tab3\\_state05\\_2017\\_hmr.xlsx](https://www.census.gov/housing/hvs/data/rates/tab3_state05_2017_hmr.xlsx) (rates by state table 3); national data available at: <https://www.census.gov/housing/hvs/data/histtab14.xlsx> (historical table 14); all data are for first quarter

Figure 59 – Mean Travel Time to Work (in minutes)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, ACS 1-year estimates (table S0802)

Utah could further improve its already-strong child well-being rankings by focusing on education and health policy.

## Figure 60 – Overall Child Well-being Rankings 2017

*(“winner” bolded and highlighted)*

<i>Ranking: 1 is best, 50 worst</i>	<b>UT</b>	<b>MN</b>
Overall	7 <sup>th</sup>	<b>4<sup>th</sup></b>
Economic	5 <sup>th</sup>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>
Education	15 <sup>th</sup>	<b>8<sup>th</sup></b>
Health	19 <sup>th</sup>	<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>
Family and community	<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>	4 <sup>th</sup>

Source: Annie E. Casey Foundation, *Kids Count Databook 2017*, available online at: <http://www.aecf.org/resources/2017-kids-count-data-book/>



# Health

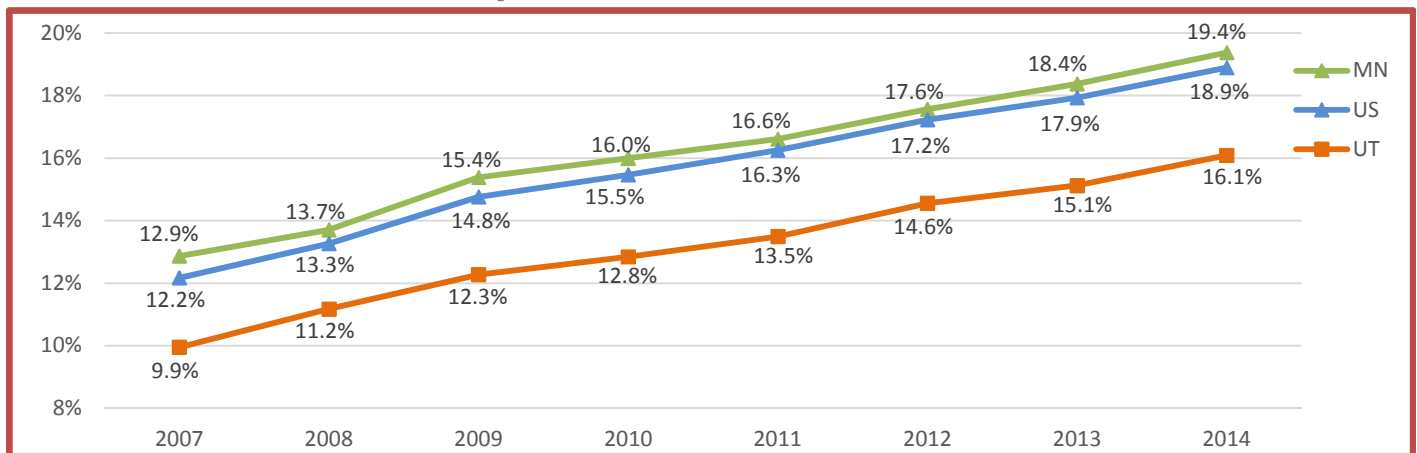
Utah has lower per capita healthcare spending than Minnesota but also ranks lower for overall health care performance.

**Figure 61 – Selected Health Care Performance Rankings, 2016**  
 (“winner” **bolded and highlighted**)

Ranking: 1 is best, 50 worst	UT Rank	MN Rank
Overall Ranking	15 <sup>th</sup>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>
Infant Mortality Rate	<b>13<sup>th</sup></b>	15 <sup>th</sup>
Hospital Readmissions	<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	15 <sup>th</sup>
Nursing Home Citations	38 <sup>th</sup>	<b>33<sup>rd</sup></b>
Age-adjusted Mortality Rate	14 <sup>th</sup>	<b>4<sup>th</sup></b>
Obesity Rate	<b>6<sup>th</sup></b>	12 <sup>th</sup>
Suicide Rate	40 <sup>th</sup>	<b>10<sup>th</sup></b>
Self-reported Mental Health	49 <sup>th</sup>	<b>8<sup>th</sup></b>
Child Wellness Visits	29 <sup>th</sup>	<b>13<sup>th</sup></b>

Source: McKinsey & Company’s Leading States Index, via U.S. News & World Report Best States, available online at: <https://www.usnews.com/news/best-states>

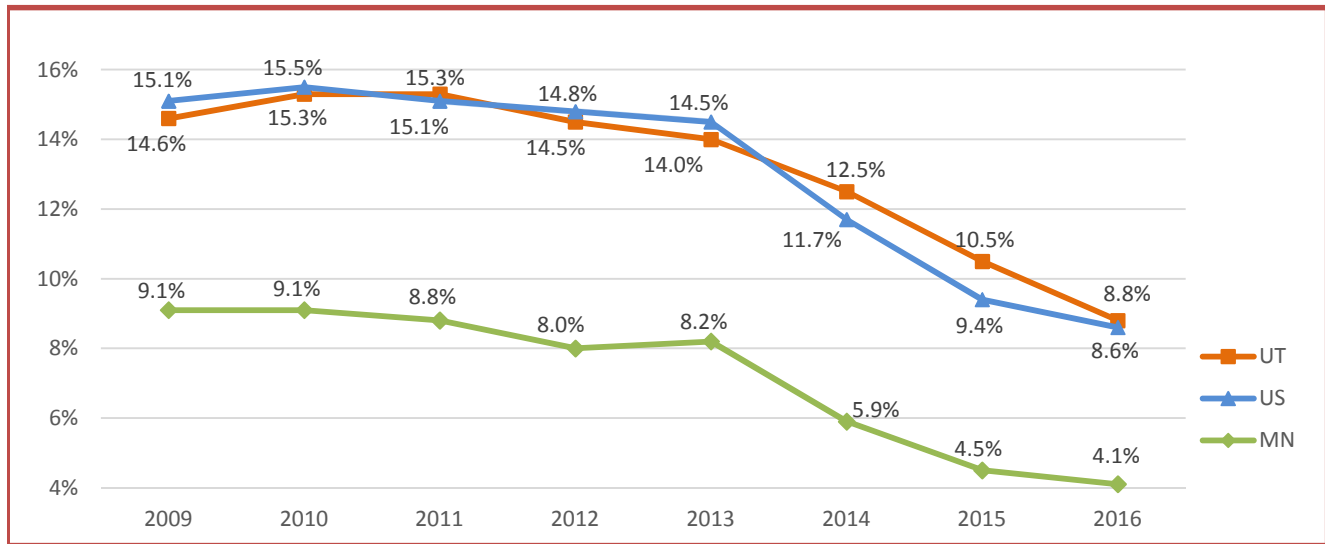
**Figure 62 – Real Per Capita Personal Healthcare Spending as Percent of Real Per Capita GDP (by state of residence)**



Source: Healthcare spending data from U.S. Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services, table 11, available online at: <https://www.cms.gov/Research-Statistics-Data-and-Systems/Statistics-Trends-and-Reports/NationalHealthExpendData/NationalHealthAccountsStateHealthAccountsResidence.html>, converted to chained 2009 dollars using annual averages of series SUUR0000SAM c-cpi-u for medical care (US city average); per capita state GDP from Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce

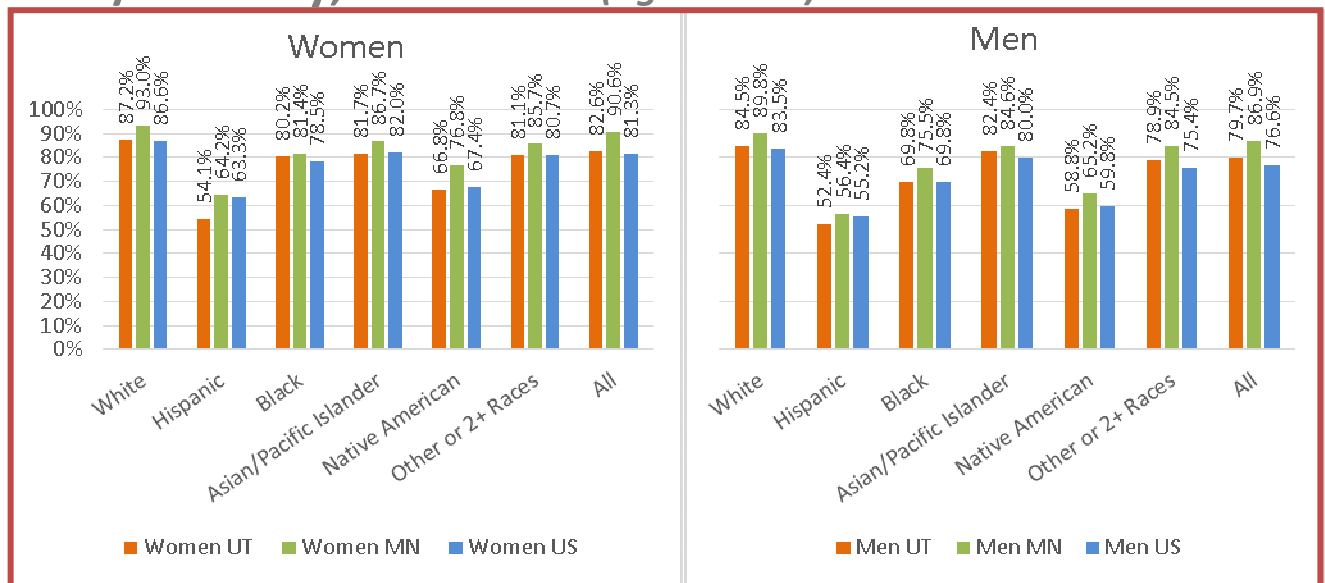
A Medicaid Expansion state, Minnesota ranks #4 in the nation for its low uninsured rate, while Utah has fallen to #33 overall and #41 for children

Figure 63 – Population without Health Insurance



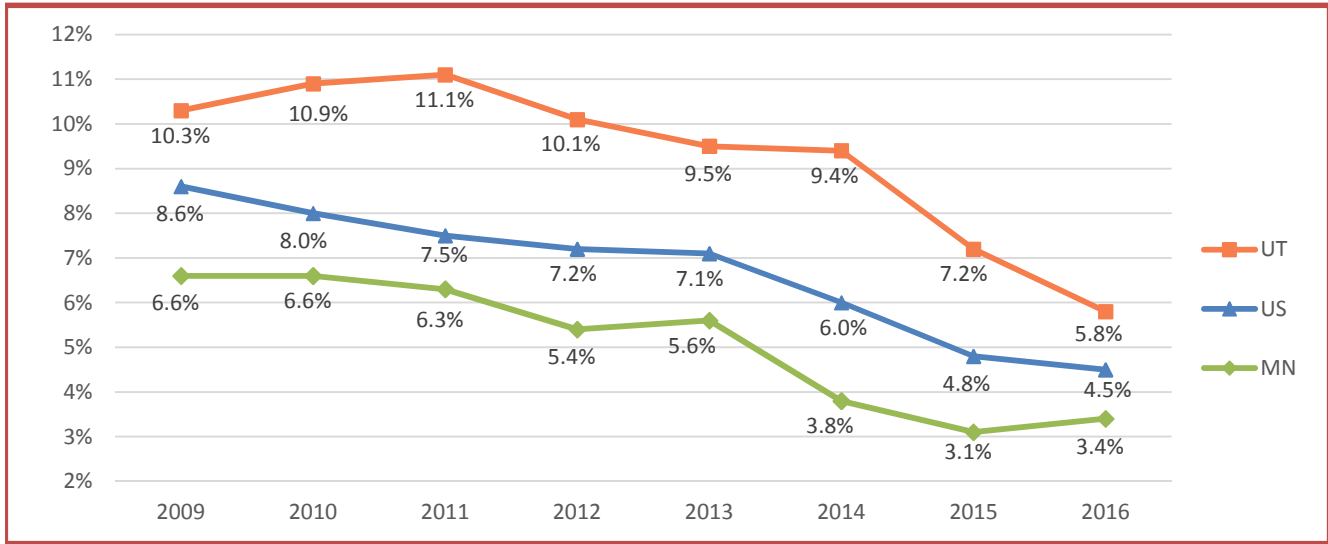
Source: U.S. Census Bureau ACS 1-year estimates, Health Insurance Coverage Status for Total Civilian Noninstitutionalized Population (table S2701)

Figure 64 – Population with Health Insurance by Gender and Race/Ethnicity, 2011-2013 (ages 18-64)



Source: Institute for Women's Policy Research (IWPR), *Status of Women in the States* dataset, available online at: <https://statusofwomendata.org/explore-the-data/>

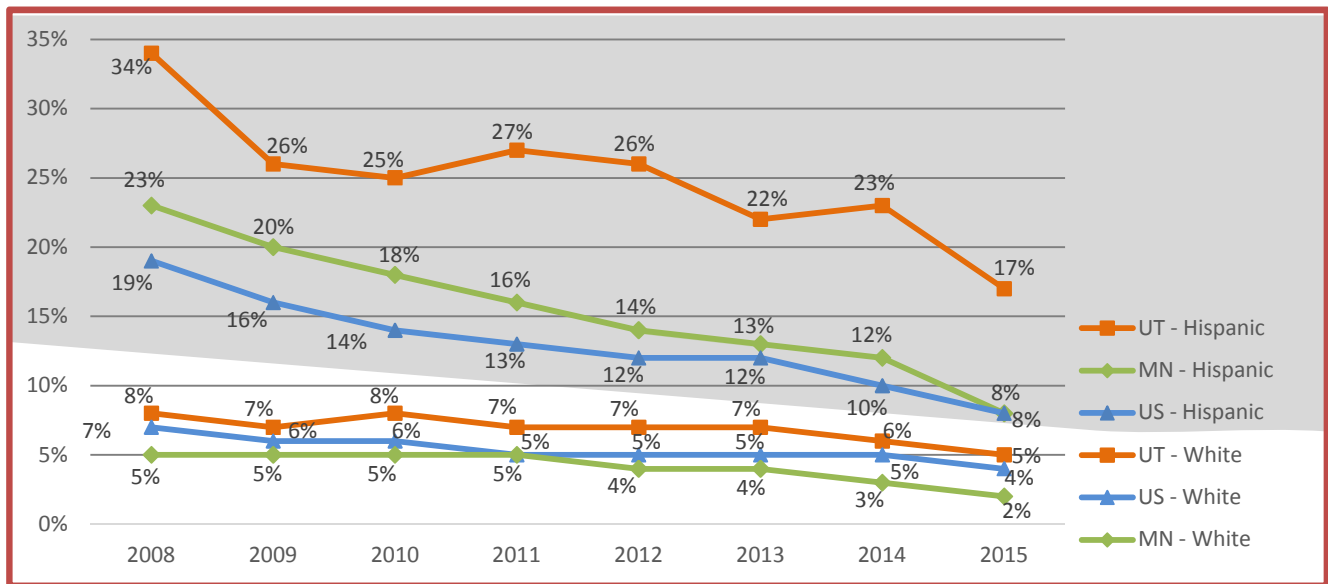
Figure 65 – Percent of Children without Health Insurance



Source: U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey 1-year estimates (table S2701). Children include noninstitutionalized persons under the age of 18.

In 2015 Utah held the dubious distinction of having the highest uninsured rate for Latino children of any state.

Figure 66 – Percent of White and Hispanic Children without Health Insurance



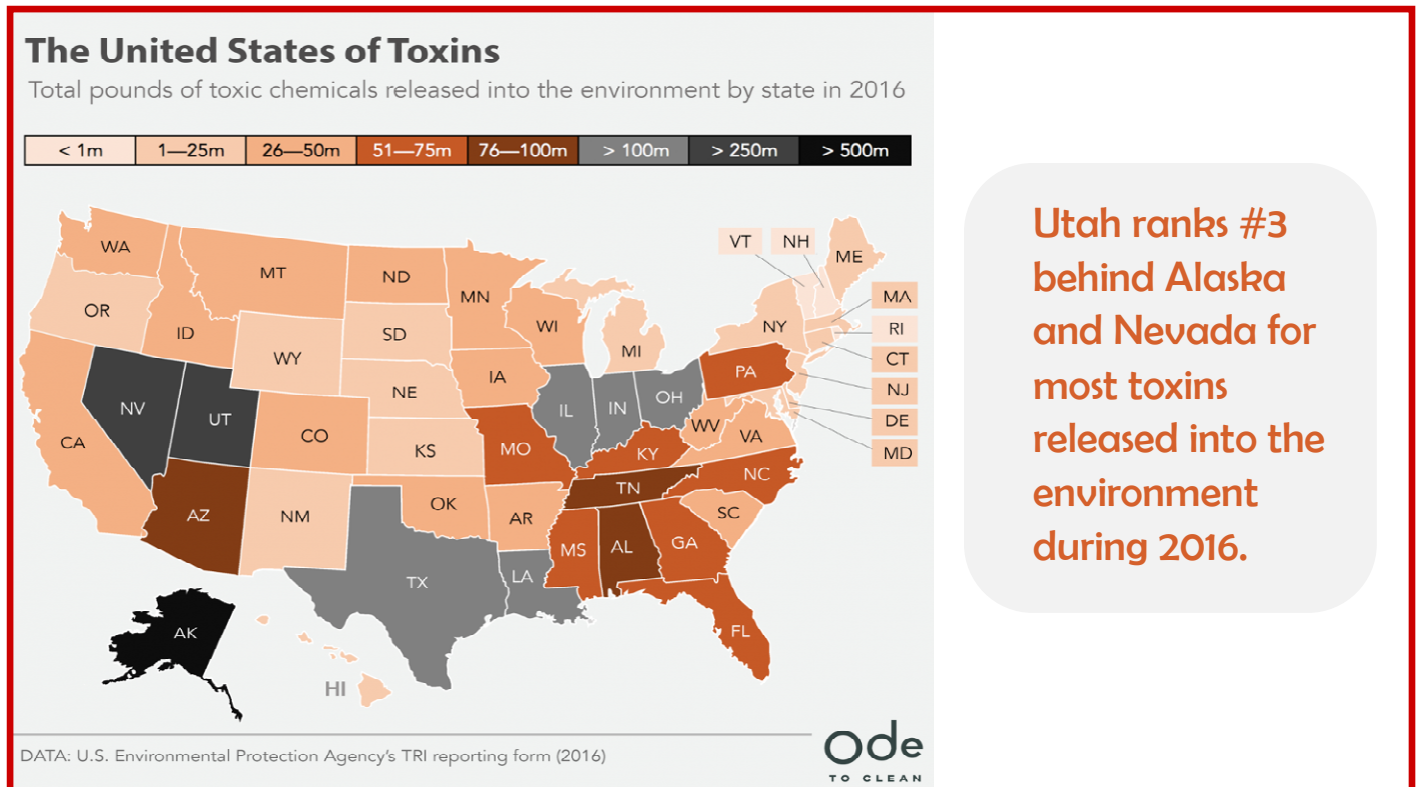
Source: National Kids Count, available online at <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/rawdata.axd?ind=107&loc=1>, accessed 02/09/2017

Figure 67 – Selected County Air Quality Report Card (Scale A–F)

UT	Ozone	Particle Pollution	MN	Ozone	Particle Pollution
Box Elder	D	D	Anoka	C	B
Cache	C	F	Becker	A	B
Carbon	C		Carlton	B	
Davis	F	F	Crow Wing	A	B
Duchesne	F		Goodhue	A	
Garfield	C		Hennepin	A	B
Salt Lake	F	F	Lake	A	B
San Juan	B		Lyon	C	B
Tooele	D		Olmstead	A	B
Uintah	F		Scott	B	A
Utah	F	F	St. Louis	A	B
Washington	C	A	Stearns	A	B
Weber	F	F	Washington	A	B
			Wright	B	A

Source: American Lung Association, *State of the Air 2017* report, available online at: <http://www.lung.org/our-initiatives/healthy-air/sota/city-rankings/states>

Figure 68 – Environmental Toxin Volume by State

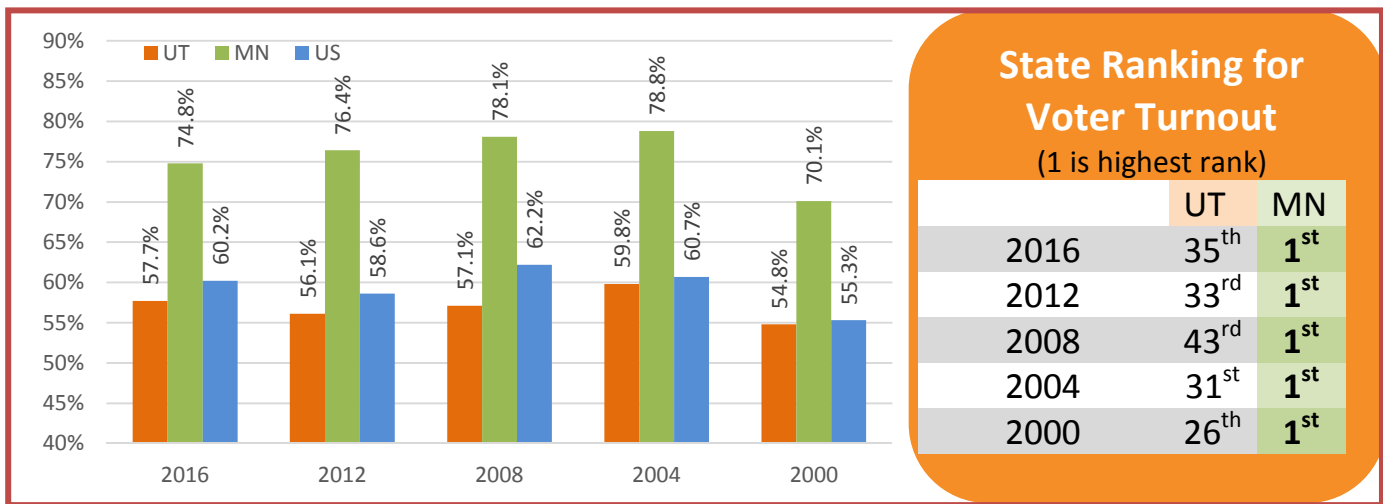


Graph source: Forbes Most (and Least) Toxic Places in America <https://www.forbes.com/sites/priceconomics/2017/11/07/the-most-and-least-toxic-places-in-america/#45ce76cb4ac1>

# Civic Engagement

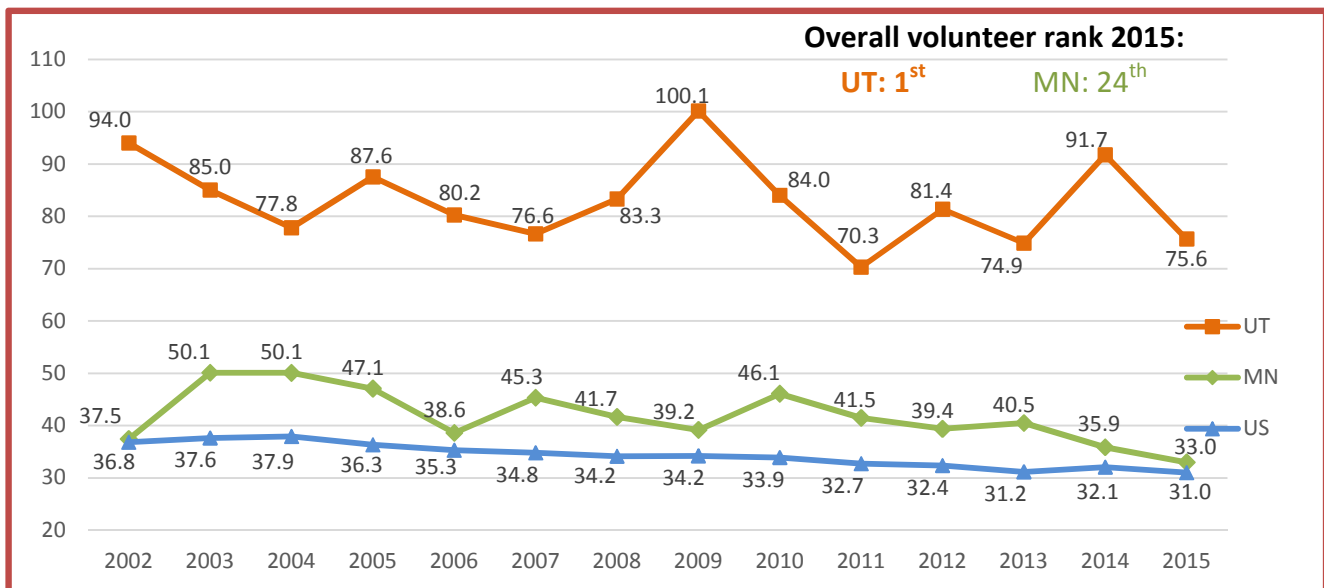
Utah and Minnesota both have strong cultures of civic engagement, with Minnesota #1 for voter participation and Utah leading the nation in volunteerism.

Figure 69 – General Election Voter Turnout (as % of eligible adult population)



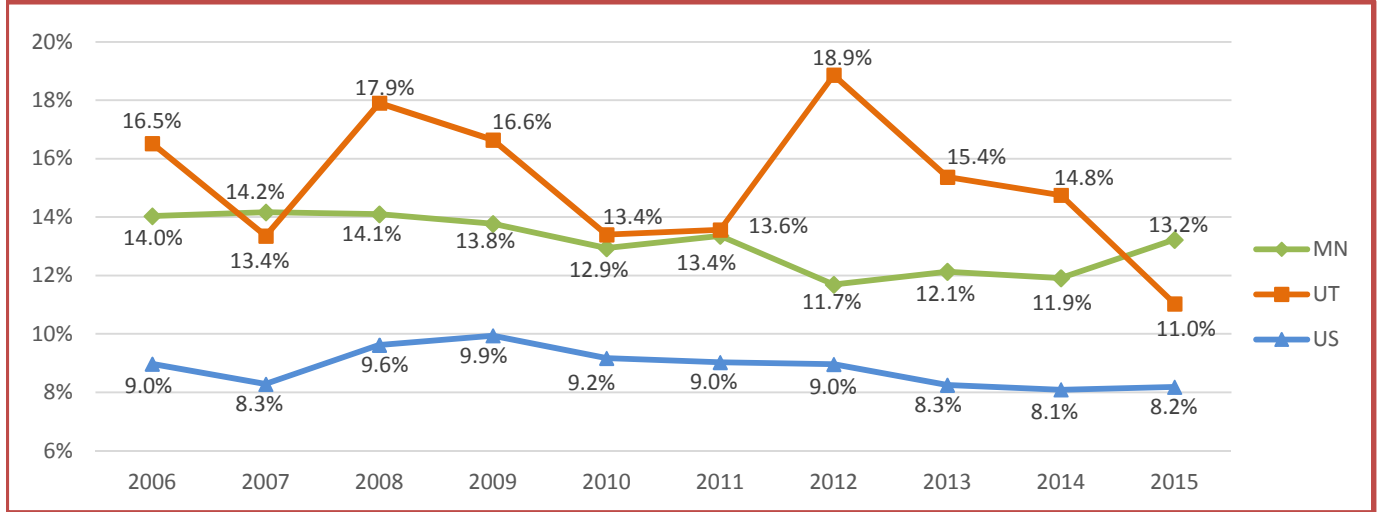
Source: Electproject.org, Voter Turnout Data: <http://www.electproject.org/home/voter-turnout/voter-turnout-data>

Figure 70 – Volunteer Hours per Capita



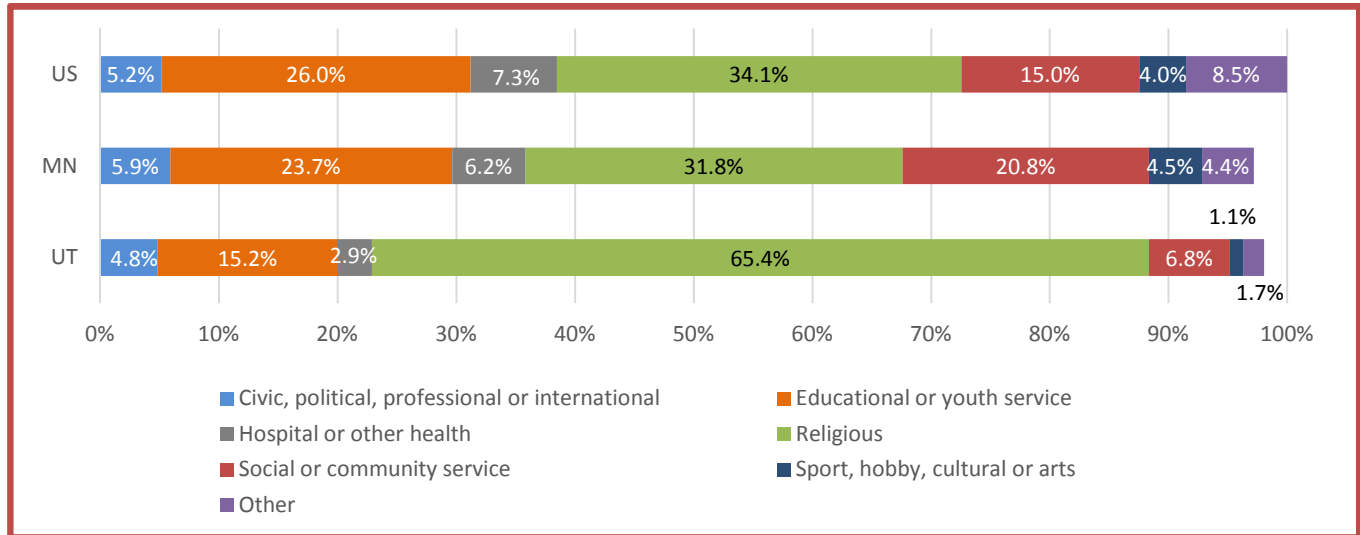
Source: Corporation for National & Community Service, Volunteering and Civic Life in America Dataset (2015), available online at: <https://data.nationalservice.gov/Volunteering-and-Civic-Engagement/Volunteering-and-Civic-Life-in-America/spx3-tt2b>

**Figure 71 – Percent of Population Attending a Public Meeting**



Source: Corporation for National & Community Service, Volunteering and Civic Life in America Dataset (2015), available online at: <https://data.nationalservice.gov/Volunteering-and-Civic-Engagement/Volunteering-and-Civic-Life-in-America/spx3-tt2b>

**Figure 72 – Distribution of Community Service Provided (by receiving organization type)**



Source: Corporation for National & Community Service, Volunteering and Civic Life in America Dataset (2015), available online at: <https://data.nationalservice.gov/Volunteering-and-Civic-Engagement/Volunteering-and-Civic-Life-in-America/spx3-tt2b>





# Reality Check



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