

# DAVIS COUNTY

FACTS & INFORMATION



**Davis**  
COUNTY



# DAVIS COUNTY

Davis County is located between Weber County on the north and Salt Lake County on the south, with the crest of the Wasatch Mountains on the east and the Great Salt Lake on the west.

Davis County was created in 1852 and was named after Captain Daniel C. Davis of the Mormon Battalion, a pioneer leader and an early settler. Farmington is the county seat.

As Utah's second smallest county, Davis County consists of about 630 square miles. Only 223 square miles are usable land, including the 42 square miles of Antelope Island State Park. The rest of the landmass in Davis County is the Great Salt Lake.

Although Davis County is the smallest in landmass of all Utah's 29 counties, it boasts the third largest population at 358,971 (2020). There are 15 incorporated cities in the county.

CITY	POPULATION	DATE INCORPORATED
Bountiful	45,762	December 5, 1892
Centerville	16,884	May 5, 1915
Clearfield	31,909	July 17, 1922
Clinton	23,386	August 29, 1936
Farmington	24,531	December 15, 1892
Fruit Heights	6,101	August 23, 1939
Kaysville	32,945	March 15, 1868
Layton	81,773	December 30, 1937
North Salt Lake	21,907	September 3, 1946
South Weber	7,867	December 2, 1920
Sunset	5,475	August 27, 1938
Syracuse	32,141	September 3, 1935
West Bountiful	5,917	December 31, 1948
West Point	10,963	October 14, 1935
Woods Cross	11,410	September 4, 1935



# HISTORY

One of the first white men to set foot in the area now known as Davis County was Jedidiah S. Smith, who, in August 1826, led a party of trappers through the Bountiful area. Interest in developing the West was stirring, and in 1845, Captain John C. Fremont visited Antelope Island. He made several exploration trips to map the area. His second and third expeditions took him into Bountiful. Later, mountain man Kit Carson joined Fremont's party as a guide.

Orson Pratt was the first Mormon pioneer to view what was to become Davis County. In

Scientists consider Davis County to be in a cold semi-arid climate, which means the environment can feature warm to hot summers and cold, sometimes frigid winters, and significant temperature swings between day and night by as much as 55 degrees Fahrenheit.

The coldest temperatures in Davis County occur in January with an average low of 20°F, whereas the hottest temperatures occur in July with an average high of 89°F.

Annual precipitation levels average between 18 and 25 inches, with May being the highest with an average of 2.7 inches and the month of July being the lowest with only 0.98 inches. Due to Davis County's bordering relationship with the Great Salt Lake, an occurrence called

1847, Perrigrine Sessions brought his family into the area and set up a campsite near 300 North and 200 West in Bountiful. Other families soon came to settle in Bountiful, Centerville, and Woods Cross.

There have been many notable people who have come from Davis County, including artists LeConte Stewart and George Dibble. Three of Utah's governors were born in Davis County: Charles R. Mabey, Utah's 5th governor; Henry H. Blood, the 7th governor; and Calvin Rampton, the 11th governor.

# CLIMATE

"Lake-Effect Snow" can produce above-average snowfalls. Cold winds from the west move across the long expanse of the Great Salt Lake's warmer water, providing energy and picking up water vapor that freezes. It is then deposited onto the relatively narrow section of Davis County that is sandwiched between the Great Salt Lake to the west and the Wasatch Mountain Range to the east. This can lead to snow during the winter on the valley floor of Davis County of roughly 60 inches and the high bench areas up to 90 inches average for the entire winter season.



# AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRY

The agricultural history of Davis County has been superseded, in the last twenty years, by residential developments and commercial/industrial development. There are still scattered agriculture operations throughout the area.

Davis County's largest employer is Hill Air Force Base. Hill AFB is a dominant feature of the economy of Davis County. Hill AFB accounts for 2.6% of the economy of Utah. Hill AFB employs nearly 23,000 military and civilian personnel (approximately 5,840 military, 14,310 federal civil servants, and 2,410 civilian contractors). Other large employers include Davis School District, Lagoon Amusement Park, and Lifetime Products.



The Freeport Center in Clearfield is home to more than 70 national and local companies with over 7,000 employees. The Freeport Center has more than seven million square feet of manufacturing and distribution space on 680 acres. Davis County is also known for its composite and advanced manufacturing cluster.



<b>Government</b>	<b>22%</b>
<b>Trade, Transportation and Utilities</b>	<b>17%</b>
<b>Education, Health and Social Services</b>	<b>13%</b>
<b>Professional and Business Services</b>	<b>12%</b>
<b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>Leisure and Hospitality</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>Construction</b>	<b>8%</b>
<b>Financial Activities</b>	<b>3%</b>
<b>Other</b>	<b>4%</b>

# RECREATION

The mountains and the Great Salt Lake are easily accessed in Davis County and offer popular recreational opportunities. There are over 500 miles of trails for hiking and biking that range from easy to difficult. The Denver Rio Grande trail connects Weber and Salt Lake counties for commuters and those who want to continue south to Utah Lake.

Antelope Island State Park, the largest island in the Great Salt Lake, is home to white-sand beaches, spectacular sunsets, 400-800 American bison, coyotes, Big-horned sheep, and millions of birds.

Visitors can also enjoy camping, hiking, biking, and floating in the world-famous Great Salt Lake.

Farmington Bay Waterfowl Management area in Farmington and Great Salt Lake Shorelands Preserve in Layton offers more experiences with birds and waterfowl.

There is no doubt that Davis County is a fantastic area for recreation. Not only does Antelope Island State Park draw in thousands of visitors annually, but the trails on the mountain and the parks in the cities are enjoyed by all. Davis County is a great place to enjoy beautiful Utah!



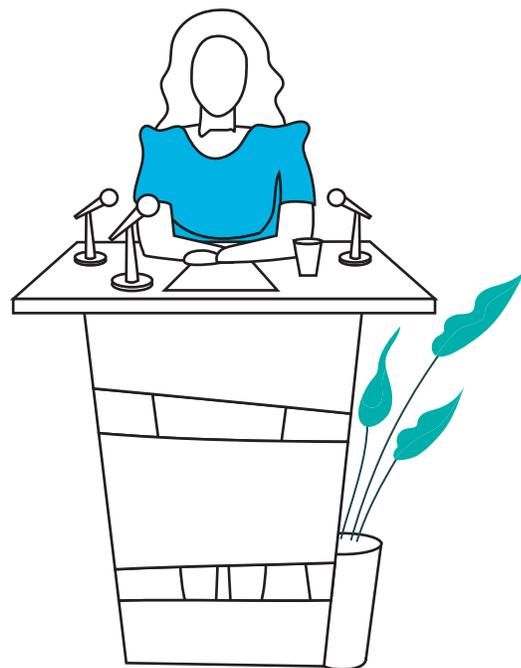
Jay Dash Photography

# GOVERNMENT

Davis County has three elected commissioners. Each commissioner has specific responsibilities such as supervising roads, flood control, social programs, etc. As county administrators, they determine how much the county taxes will be each year and approve department budgets and appropriations. Other county government elected positions are: Assessor, Attorney, Clerk/Auditor, Recorder, Sheriff, Surveyor, and the Treasurer.

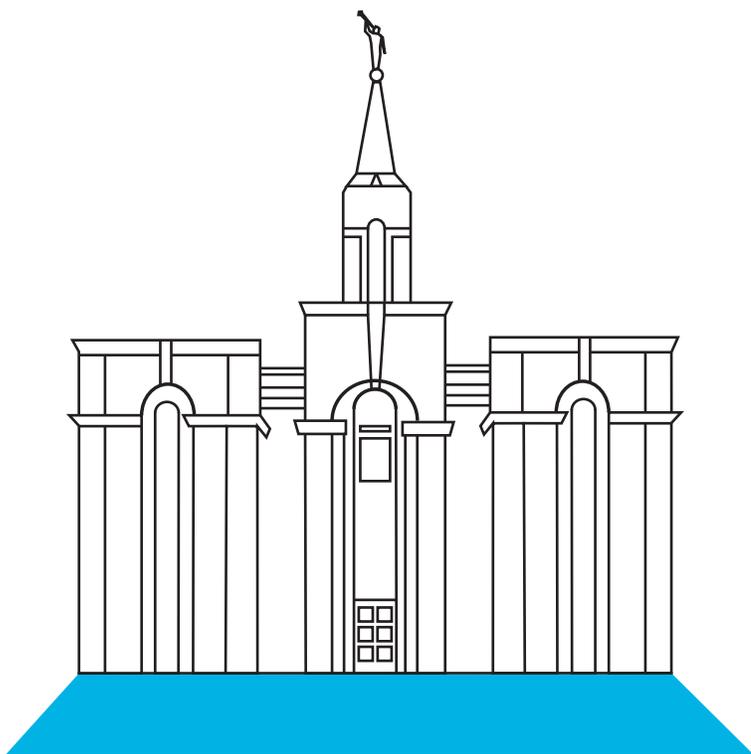
Government Departments overseen by non-elected persons are Animal Control, Aging Services, Community and Economic Development, Tourism, the Legacy Events Center, Facilities, Health Department, Information Systems, Library, Personnel, Planning, and Public Works.

Each of the 15 cities in Davis County has a mayor and/or city council system of government. City-provided services include police, fire, water, sewer, parks and recreation, and garbage pickup.



# RELIGION

According to Worldatlas.com, the majority of religious adults in Utah are Christians (73%) of which 7% are evangelical Protestants, 6% are mainline Protestants, 5% are Catholics and 55% practice Mormonism. 4% practice other religions other than Christianity while 22% of them do not have religious affiliation. A large number of Utahns are members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS), popularly referred to as Mormons. About 55% of the state's population are said to be members of the religion, the highest percentage in the country. Even though Mormonism is the predominant religion, all faiths are welcomed in Utah.



# TOURISM

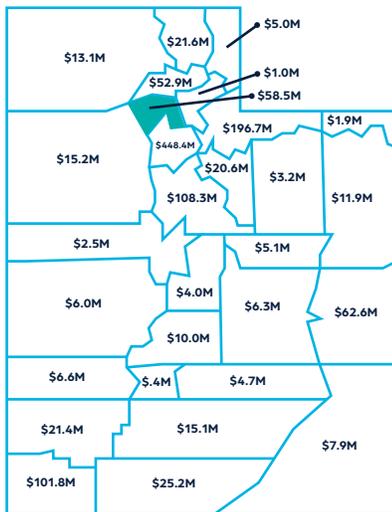
Davis County is Utah's Amusement Capital with 6 amusement centers (including Lagoon, Boondocks, The Rush, SeaQuest Interactive Aquarium, Urban Air Trampoline and Adventure Park, and Cherry Hill), 10 golf courses, an adventuresome State Park, the Great Salt Lake, and the Wasatch Mountains. There are also many fine hotels, restaurants, and shopping areas to make any visitor feel welcome.



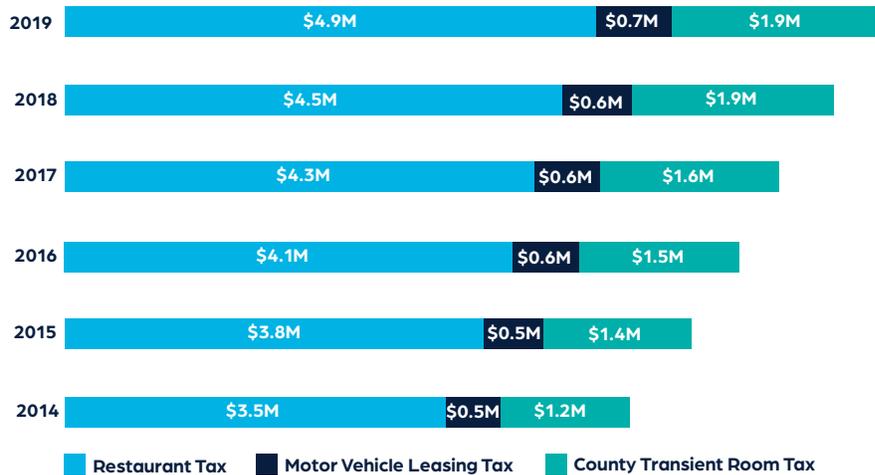
Total Visitor Spending in 2019: \$528.5 Million  
 Total Tourism & Hospitality jobs in Davis County in 2019: 5,627  
 \*Total Tax Revenue generated by visitor spending 2019: \$58.8 Million  
 (See charts below)

These figures refer to tax revenue generated by visitor spending.  
 Tax revenue amounts are reported in millions of nominal dollars.

**TOTAL TAX REVENUE BY COUNTY, 2019**



**TOURISM-RELATED SALES TAX REVENUES IN DAVIS**



**TAX REVENUE BY TYPE IN DAVIS, 2019**



**ALL COUNTIES (MILLIONS OF DOLLARS)**

COUNTY	TOTAL VISITOR SPENDING
Salt Lake	3,002 35.21%
Summit	1,078 12.64%
Utah	774 9.07%
Washington	689 8.08%
Davis	529 6.20%
Weber	379 4.44%
Grand	336 3.95%
Iron	190 2.23%
Cache	187 2.20%
Tooele	151 1.77%

**TOTAL TAX REVENUE IN DAVIS: \$58.5M**



**DAVIS COUNTY HAS THE 5TH HIGHEST VISITOR SPENDING IN THE STATE.**

Davis County is known as Utah's Amusement Capital and is an excellent spot for an all-inclusive day of fun for travelers and Utah locals. Due to its convenient location in Utah, Davis County has many exciting attractions, including Station Park - a large outdoor shopping and lifestyle area, over 400 delicious restaurants, and 500+ miles of trails for hiking and biking.

Davis County is also home to the state's largest amusement park, Lagoon! This park has been exciting Utah families for generations with over 50 rides, a water park, a historic Pioneer Village, great food, and games. Another fun amusement

park in Davis County is Cherry Hill. Cherry Hill is an amusement park named after the trees located on the previously worked fruit farm. Over 700 trees (mostly cherry) surround this activity-filled park. Everyone can enjoy mini-golf, trampolines, water slides, and a lazy river.

On top of all the fun that can be had at our amusement centers, Davis County has one of the most scenic areas in Utah, Antelope Island State Park. This 28,022-acre island is home to bison, deer, coyotes, and hundreds of bird species, making it the best destination for wildlife viewing. In addition, Antelope Island State Park has over 36 miles of hiking and biking trails, beautiful beaches for access to the Great Salt Lake, and excellent historic sites.



## INTERESTING FACTS



- Powerful east winds sometimes blow down through the canyons of Davis County. At times, these winds are strong enough to damage roofs, uproot trees, and overturn trucks.
- Utah's first courthouse was completed in 1855 in Farmington and is currently being restored to its original state. There was a time capsule that was unburied during the renovation. Although many things were destroyed by water, the Davis County Records Department was able to salvage, clean, and preserve several items from the capsule.
- Devastating floods struck Farmington and Centerville in the 1920s.

- Hill Field (now Hill Air Force Base) and the Naval Supply Depot in Clearfield were built up during World War II.
- Lagoon Resort, which opened in 1896, became one of Utah's first desegregated recreational spots, allowing full access to African Americans in the late 1940s.
- Davis County is projected to expand into a population near 390,000 by the year 2030.
- Lagoon is the first amusement park built west of the Mississippi and the second oldest in the United States. Lagoon continues to be Utah's largest teenage employer.
- Antelope Island State Park is home to the third largest free ranging bison herd in the country.
- Millions of birds migrate through the area each year due to the Great Salt Lake.



## TOP ATTRACTIONS

- Lagoon Amusement Park
- Cherry Hill Resort
- Antelope Island State Park
- Great Salt Lake
- Hill Aerospace Museum
- Station Park
- The Eccles Wildlife Education Center at Farmington Bay
- Great Salt Lake Shorelands Preserve
- Legacy Events Center
- Davis Conference Center
- Farmington Canyon
- Bountiful Main Street
- 500+ Miles of Trails
- 9 Ski Resorts within a 1-hour drive



## BEST PLACES TO LIVE

**#8** FARMINGTON, UT

**#25** NORTH SALT LAKE

CNNMoney.com 2011

## BEST PLACE TO BE A KID

Martin Prosperity Institute, 2010

## HAPPIEST PLACE TO LIVE

Gallup Healthways Well-Being Index

## MOST PEACEFUL STATE

**#6** UTAH

Institute for Economics and Peace 2011

## MOST PEACEFUL STATE IN THE MOUNTAIN WEST

**#1** UTAH

Institute for Economics and Peace 2011

## USEFUL LINKS



[DavisCountyUtah.gov](http://DavisCountyUtah.gov)  
[DiscoverDavis.com](http://DiscoverDavis.com)  
[DavisCountyUtah.gov/trails](http://DavisCountyUtah.gov/trails)

# WORD SEARCH

E L A G O O N K U O B K P Y Y  
F K J E G B P Q P T R Y E M S  
W R A N P D I O V A G G E M M  
D D A L P O K S P F Y K H H Y  
T F H N T Z L N O S G C S N B  
O N H K C L O E A N V O N L R  
S C A E C I A N T H X R R I I  
U S Y O T H S S Y N O G O Z N  
H N N A O R G P T M A A H C E  
T C T E T A W H E A J L G R S  
Q S Z L A B P F F A E F I E H  
J X J G S J T C N X K R B G R  
M U E L L E R P A R K M G Y I  
S R E T S A O C R E L L O R M  
N O Y N A C S M A D A I I T P

ADAMS CANYON

BRINE SHRIMP

LAGOON

ANTELOPE

FLAG ROCK

MUELLER PARK

BIGHORN SHEEP

FRANCIS PEAK

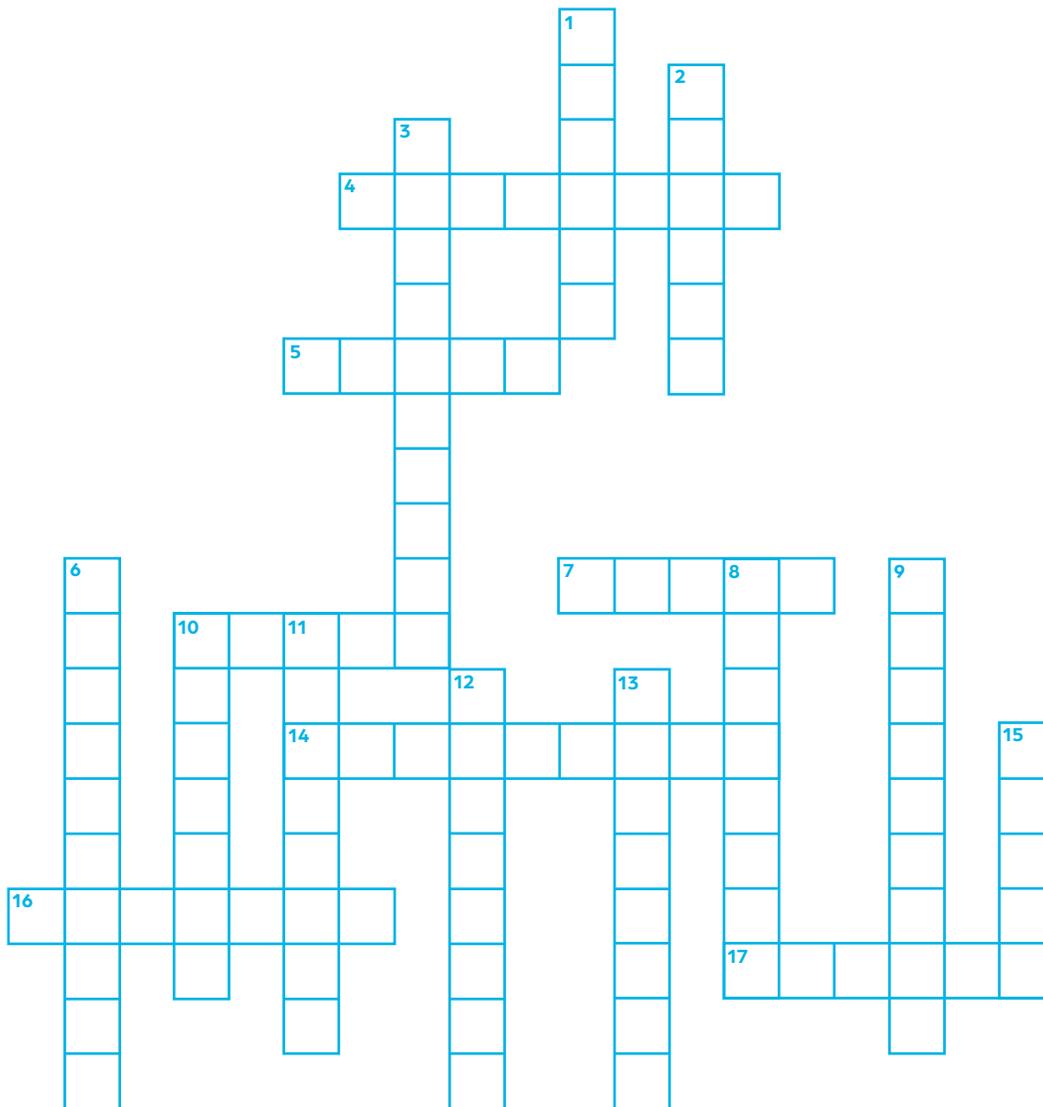
ROLLER COASTERS

BISON

GREAT SALT LAKE

STATION PARK

# CROSSWORD PUZZLE



## Across

- 4. At 208 feet, this is Lagoon's tallest ride
- 5. This type of shrimp lives in the Great Salt Lake
- 7. The \_\_\_\_ Salt Lake
- 10. The proper name for buffalo
- 14. Hill \_\_\_\_ Museum
- 16. Davis County has nine public golf \_\_\_\_
- 17. The Wildlife Education Center was built in part by a donation from the George S. and Dolores Dore \_\_\_\_ Foundation

## Down

- 1. Davis County takes its name from \_\_\_\_ C. Davis
- 2. Davis County has more than 500 miles of hiking and biking \_\_\_\_
- 3. The Davis County seat
- 6. This local nickname for Fruit Heights Bike Park is also a popular breakfast cereal
- 8. \_\_\_\_ Island is the largest in the Great Salt Lake
- 9. At the end of Adams Canyon trail is a 40-foot \_\_\_\_
- 10. These types of sheep live on Antelope Island
- 11. The Interactive Aquarium
- 12. Lagoon's "Fire Dragon"
- 13. The Merry-Go-Round at Lagoon is also called a \_\_\_\_
- 15. This canyon was named for Elias



Jay Dash Photography



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