

ECONOMIC UPDATE



EMPLOYMENT RETURN

In December, **Utah's employment returned to pre-pandemics levels**, becoming one of two states to do so, while also adding jobs year-over-year. The state's unemployment also declined significantly to 3.6%, among the lowest in the U.S.

Source: BLS and Zion's Bank



BEST PERFORMING CITIES

In Milken Institute's 2021 ranking of best-performing cities based on economic resilience, **five Utah cities ranked in the top 10 in two tiers**. In the large U.S. city tier, Provo-Orem ranked #1, Salt Lake City #4 and Ogden-Clearfield #9. In the small U.S. tier, Logan ranked #2 and St. George #4.

Source: Milken Institute



TECH COMPANIES EXPAND

In the past month, several tech companies announced expansions to their Utah locations, including *Facebook, Domo, Route App, Inc., Carvana* and *Novacoast*, resulting in nearly 6,000 new jobs for the quickly growing region.

Source: EDCUtah



THE GREATEST SNOW ON EARTH

After a slow start to the winter, Utah's mountain recently received a substantial amount of fresh powder. **Most ski resorts reported 48-hour totals ranging anywhere from 12" to 49" of new snow** the week of Feb 15, with more to come!

Source: Ski Utah



REBOUNDED NAT'L PARK VISITS

Visitation to all five of Utah's national parks rebounded during the final months of 2020 and into 2021. Preliminary numbers for Zion National Park, the state's most popular, suggests a 26% increase in visitors during January alone.

Source: KSL News and National Park Service data



SPRING TRAVEL BOOST

Airlines are preparing for an increase in spring travel at SLC by **collectively adding nearly 250K more seats, or 26%, in March compared to February**. This trend is expected to continue throughout the spring and summer months.

Source: Cirium

For more information, visit our air service development website [here](#) or contact Nate Lavin at nate.lavin@slcgov.com