

= South Jordan , Utah =

South Jordan is a city in the U.S. state of Utah . The city lies in the Salt Lake Valley between the 9 @, @ 000 @-@ foot ( 2 @, @ 700 m ) peaks of the Oquirrh Mountains and the 12 @, @ 000 @-@ foot ( 3 @, @ 700 m ) peaks of the Wasatch Mountains and is part of the Salt Lake City metropolitan area . The Jordan River flows through the middle of the valley and the city has a 3 @. @ 5 @-@ mile ( 5 @. @ 6 km ) section of the Jordan River Parkway that contains fishing ponds , trails , parks and natural habitat . Salt Lake County fair grounds and equestrian park , 67 @-@ acre ( 27 ha ) Oquirrh Lake and 27 other parks are located inside the city . As of the 2010 Census , its population was 50 @, @ 418 .

The city was founded 18 miles ( 29 km ) south of Salt Lake City along the banks of the Jordan River in 1859 by Mormon settlers . An agrarian town for most of its history , today it is a rapidly growing bedroom community of Salt Lake City . Kennecott Land , a land development company , has recently begun construction on the master @-@ planned Daybreak Community for the entire western half of South Jordan . Daybreak could potentially double South Jordan 's population . South Jordan is the first city in the world with two temples of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter @-@ day Saints ( Jordan River Utah Temple and Oquirrh Mountain Utah Temple ) . The city has two TRAX light rail stops , as well as one commuter rail stop on the FrontRunner .

= = History = =

= = = Pre @-@ European = = =

The first known inhabitants were members of the Desert Archaic Culture who were nomadic hunter @-@ gatherers . From 400 A.D. to around 1350 A.D. , the Fremont people settled into villages and farmed corn and squash . Changes in climatic conditions to a cooler , drier period and the movement into the area of ancestors of the Ute , Paiute , and Shoshone , led to the disappearance of the Fremont people . When European settlers arrived , there were no permanent Native American settlements in the Salt Lake Valley , but the area bordered several tribes ? the territory of the Northwestern Shoshone to the north , the Timpanogots band of the Utes to the south in Utah Valley , and the Goshutes to the west in Tooele Valley .

The only recorded trapper to lead a party through the area was Étienne Provost , a French Canadian . In October 1824 , Provost 's party was lured into an Indian camp somewhere along the Jordan River north of Utah Lake . The people responsible for the attack were planning revenge against Provost 's party for an earlier unexplained incident involving other trappers . Provost escaped , but his men were caught off @-@ guard and fifteen of them were killed .

= = = Early Mormon settlement = = =

On July 22 , 1847 , an advanced party of the first Mormon pioneers entered the valley and immediately began to irrigate land and explore the area with a view to establishing new settlements . Alexander Beckstead , a blacksmith from Ontario , Canada , moved his family to the West Jordan area in 1849 , and became the first of his trade in the south Salt Lake Valley . He helped dig the first ditch to divert water from the Jordan River , powering Archibald Gardner 's flour mill . In 1859 , Beckstead became the first settler of South Jordan by moving his family along the Jordan River where they lived in a dugout cut into the west bluffs above the river . The flood plain of the Jordan was level , and could be cleared for farming if a ditch was constructed to divert river water along the base of the west bluff . Beckstead and others created the 2 @. @ 5 @-@ mile ( 4 @. @ 0 km ) " Beckstead Ditch " , parts of which are still in use as of 2010 .

In 1863 , the South Jordan LDS Branch was organized as a branch of the West Jordan Ward , giving South Jordan its name . The Branch consisted of just nine families . A school was built in 1864 out of adobe and also served as the LDS Meetinghouse for the South Jordan Branch . As

South Jordan grew , a new and larger building was constructed in 1873 on the east side of the site of the present @-@ day cemetery . It had an upper and lower entrance with a granite foundation using left @-@ over materials brought from the granite quarry at the mouth of Little Cottonwood Canyon . The upper story was made of oversized adobe bricks . The main hall had curtains which could be pulled to section off the hall for classes . The meetinghouse also served as the " ward " school when it was held during the fall and winter months . It came to be known as the " Mud Temple " , and was in use until 1908 .

In 1876 , work was completed on the South Jordan Canal which took water out of the Jordan River in Bluffdale and brought it above the river bluffs for the first time . As a result of the new canal , most of the families moved up away from the river onto the " flats " above the river which they could now irrigate . In 1881 , the Utah and Salt Lake Canal was completed . It runs parallels to the west side of today 's Redwood Road . With the completion of the canal system , greater acreage could be farmed , which led to the area 's population increasing .

= = = Twentieth century = = =

In the late 1890s , alfalfa hay was introduced and took the place of tougher native grasses which had been used up to that point for feed for livestock . In good years , alfalfa could produce three crops that were stored for winter . Sugar beets were introduced to South Jordan around 1910 . Farmers liked sugar beets because they could be sold for cash at the Utah @-@ Idaho Sugar Company factory in West Jordan . Sugar beet farming became so integral to the region , that the region 's high school ( Jordan High School ) mascot was named the " beetdigger " .

A big celebration was held on January 14 , 1914 , to commemorate the arrival of electrical power , the addition of a water tank and supply system for indoor pumping and a new park for South Jordan . By the 1930s , the area needed a water tank to store water for residents living further west . The only way to get a federal grant was to incorporate and become a city . Citizens voted to incorporate on November 8 , 1935 , and immediately issued bonds to obtain money for the water tank . The city was initially governed by a Town Board with responsibilities over parks , water and the cemetery . In 1978 , the city moved to a mayor @-@ council form of government and assumed local supervision of police , fire , road and building inspections from Salt Lake County .

One of the worst school bus accidents in United States history occurred on December 1 , 1938 . A bus loaded with 38 students from South Jordan , Riverton , and Bluffdale crossed in front of an oncoming train that was obscured by fog and snow . The bus was broadsided killing the bus driver and 23 students . The concern about bus safety from the South Jordan accident led to changes in state and eventually federal law mandating that buses stop and open the doors before proceeding into a railroad crossing . The same railroad crossing was the site of many other crashes in the following years with the last deadly crash occurring on December 31 , 1995 , when three teens died while crossing the tracks in their car . The crossing was finally closed , but not until crashes occurred in 1997 and 2002 .

In 1950 , Salt Lake County had 489 @,@ 000 acres ( 198 @,@ 000 ha ) devoted to farming . But by 1992 , due to increasing population , land devoted to farming had decreased to 108 @,@ 000 acres ( 44 @,@ 000 ha ) . As a result of this urbanization , South Jordan 's economy went from agrarian to being a bedroom community of Salt Lake City . Kennecott Land began a development in 2004 called Daybreak , which is a 4 @,@ 000 @-@ acre ( 1 @,@ 600 ha ) planned community that will contain more than 20 @,@ 000 homes and includes commercial and retail space . In 1981 , the LDS Jordan River Utah Temple was completed . In 2009 , the LDS Oquirrh Mountain Utah Temple was completed and became the second temple to be built in South Jordan . South Jordan is the first city in the world to have two LDS Temples , Oquirrh Mountain Utah Temple and the Jordan River Utah Temple , the second city being Provo , Utah .

= = Geography = =

According to the United States Census Bureau , the city has a total area of 22 @.@ 1 square miles

( 57 km<sup>2</sup> ) , of which , 0 @. @ 08 square miles ( 0 @. @ 21 km<sup>2</sup> ) , 0 @. @ 34 percent , is water . South Jordan is located in the southwestern portion of the Salt Lake Valley . The city lies between the Oquirrh Mountains to the west , West Jordan to the north , the Jordan River and Sandy to the east , Draper to the southeast , Riverton to the south , and Herriman to the southwest .

The relative flatness of South Jordan is due to lacustrine sediments of a pleistocene lake called Lake Bonneville . Lake Bonneville existed from 75 @, @ 000 to 8 @, @ 000 years ago and its peak some 30 @, @ 000 years ago , the lake reached an elevation of 5 @, @ 200 feet ( 1 @, @ 600 m ) above sea level and had a surface area of 19 @, @ 800 square miles ( 51 @, @ 000 km<sup>2</sup> ) . The elevation of South Jordan ranges from approximately 4 @, @ 300 feet ( 1 @, @ 300 m ) near the Jordan River in the east and rises gently to the foothills of the Oquirrh Mountains at 5 @, @ 200 feet ( 1 @, @ 600 m ) . A notable exception is a bluff at the western edge of the Daybreak Community which is an old sandbar of Lake Bonneville .

## == Demographics ==

As of the 2010 census , there were 50 @, @ 418 people residing in 14 @, @ 333 households . The population density was 2 @, @ 278 people per square mile ( 880 / km<sup>2</sup> ) . There were 14 @, @ 943 housing units at an average density of 675 @. @ 3 per square mile ( 260 @. @ 8 / km<sup>2</sup> ) . The racial makeup of the city was 91 @. @ 5 % White , 0 @. @ 2 % African American , 0 @. @ 2 % Native American , 2 @. @ 6 % Asian , 0 @. @ 9 % Pacific Islander , and 2 @. @ 4 % from two or more races . Hispanic or Latino of any race were 6 @. @ 0 % of the population . The racial makeup of Salt Lake County was 81 @. @ 2 % White , 1 @. @ 6 % African American , 0 @. @ 9 % Native American , 3 @. @ 1 % Asian , 1 @. @ 4 % Pacific Islander , and 1 @. @ 9 % from two or more races . Hispanic of any race was 16 @. @ 4 % . The racial makeup of Utah was 92 @. @ 9 % White , 1 @. @ 3 % African American , 1 @. @ 4 % Native American , 3 @. @ 3 % Asian , 1 @. @ 5 % Pacific Islander , and 3 @. @ 1 % from two or more races . Hispanic of any race was 17 @. @ 1 % .

There were 14 @, @ 433 households out of which 46 @. @ 8 % had children under the age of 18 living with them , 76 @. @ 5 % were married couples living together , 6 @. @ 6 % had a female householder with no husband present , and 14 @. @ 1 % were non @- @ families . 11 @. @ 0 % of all households were made up of individuals and 4 @. @ 3 % had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older . The average household size was 3 @. @ 83 compared to 2 @. @ 94 for Salt Lake County and 3 @. @ 03 for Utah .

In the city , the population was spread out with 37 @. @ 8 % under the age of 20 , 6 @. @ 0 % from 20 to 24 , 25 @. @ 3 % from 25 to 44 , 21 @. @ 7 % from 45 to 64 , and 7 @. @ 1 % who were 65 years of age or older . The median age was 29 @. @ 9 years . For every 100 females there were 100 @. @ 4 males . For every 100 females age 18 and over , there were 97 @. @ 3 males .

The median income for a household in the city was \$ 91 @, @ 199 , Salt Lake County was \$ 58 @, @ 004 and Utah was \$ 56 @, @ 330 . Males had a median income of \$ 65 @, @ 722 versus \$ 41 @, @ 171 for females . The per capita income for the city was \$ 28 @, @ 387 . About 1 @. @ 6 % of families and 2 @. @ 7 % of the population were below the poverty line , including 2 @. @ 7 % of those under age 18 and 2 @. @ 4 % of those age 65 or over . In Salt Lake County , 10 @. @ 3 % of the population were below the poverty line and 10 @. @ 8 % of the population in Utah was below the poverty line . Of those people 25 years and older in the city , 96 @. @ 8 % were high school graduates compared to 86 @. @ 8 % in Salt Lake County and 87 @. @ 7 % in Utah . Those attaining a college degree were 36 @. @ 4 % of South Jordan 's population .

There were 22 @, @ 368 people employed over the age of 16 with 17 @, @ 258 people working in the private sector , 2 @, @ 744 in the government sector , 1 @, @ 186 self @- @ employed and 32 unpaid family workers . The mean travel time to work of 23 @. @ 8 minutes . There were 4 @, @ 153 people employed in educational services , health care and social assistance . There were 2 @, @ 862 people employed in professional , scientific , management , administrative and waste management services . There were 2 @, @ 420 people employed in finance , insurance , real estate and rental and leasing . There were 2 @, @ 316 people employed in retail trade , 1 @, @ 633 in construction and 2 @, @ 050 in manufacturing .

## == Crime ==

For the year 2010 , the city had 27 violent crimes reported to law enforcement , and 1 @, @ 050 reports of property crimes . The violent crime rate was 48 per 100 @, @ 000 people compared to a national average of 404 and 213 for Utah . The property crime rate was 1 @, @ 858 per 100 @, @ 000 compared to a national rate of 2 @, @ 942 and 3 @, @ 180 for the State . The Federal Bureau of Investigation ( FBI ) defines violent offenses to include forcible rape , robbery , murder , non @-@ negligent manslaughter , and aggravated assault . Property crimes are defined to include arson , motor vehicle theft , larceny , and burglary .

Statistics published by the Utah Department of Public Safety 's Bureau of Criminal Identification showed a steady trend in the South Jordan crime rate between 2000 and 2008 . The rate for index crimes , a group comprising the combined violent offenses and property crimes stated above , was 2 @, @ 269 per 100 @, @ 000 in 2000 and 2 @, @ 277 per 100 @, @ 000 in 2008 . The 2008 rate for index crimes in Salt Lake County was 5 @, @ 290 per 100 @, @ 000 and 3 @, @ 529 per 100 @, @ 000 for the entire State of Utah .

In 2010 , South Jordan had a total of 57 total law enforcement employees for a rate of 1 @. @ 13 employees per 1 @, @ 000 residents . City police officers made a total of 910 arrests . Total crimes reported were 3 @, @ 810 . Total crimes contain 22 categories that include everything from murder , rape and assault to drug offenses , larceny and prostitution .

## == Parks and recreation ==

The city has 27 municipal parks and playgrounds ranging in size from 0 @. @ 39 @-@ acre ( 0 @. @ 16 ha ) Bolton Park in the north @-@ west part of the city to the 59 @-@ acre ( 24 ha ) Riverfront Park along the Jordan River and the 80 @-@ acre ( 32 ha ) City Park along Redwood Road . City Park includes baseball and softball fields , football , soccer , and lacrosse fields , volleyball courts , tennis courts and a skate park . Riverfront Park includes two fishing ponds stocked with rainbow trout and catfish by the Division of Wildlife Resources and 22 acres ( 8 @. @ 9 ha ) of natural habitat . Other recreational facilities owned by South Jordan City include the Aquatic and Fitness center , Community Center providing the senior programs , Mulligan 's two miniature golf and two nine @-@ hole executive golf courses and an outdoor ice skating rink next to City Hall .

Two trails meander through South Jordan . The Bingham Creek Trail starts in the northwest part of the city and travels 0 @. @ 5 miles ( 0 @. @ 80 km ) North @-@ East until it reaches the West Jordan border . A 3 @. @ 5 @-@ mile ( 5 @. @ 6 km ) section of the Jordan River Parkway trail runs through the city from northern edge of the city all the way to the southern edge . The trail has a combined bike and jogging path , plus an equestrian path .

Salt Lake County operates the 120 @-@ acre ( 49 ha ) Equestrian Park that sits adjacent to South Jordan City Park . The park grounds contain a horse racing track , a polo and dressage field , indoor arenas and stables . The Salt Lake County Fair is held every August at the park .

The 67 @-@ acre ( 27 ha ) Oquirrh Lake sits inside 137 acres ( 55 ha ) of park and wetlands located at the Daybreak Community . Recreational opportunities include fishing , sail boating , kayaking and canoeing . The lake has been stocked with trout , bigmouth bass , channel catfish , bluegill , and fathead minnows . Of the fish they catch , anglers can only keep trout . The lake and the surrounding park land are privately owned , but open to the public , with future plans to turn it over to South Jordan City . In addition to the lake , the Daybreak community includes 22 miles ( 35 km ) of trails , community gardens , tennis courts , basketball courts , pocket parks and community @-@ only swimming pools .

Privately owned , but open to the public , Glenmoor Golf course is inside city limits . Salt Lake County @-@ owned Mountain View Golf Course is 0 @. @ 3 miles ( 0 @. @ 48 km ) north in West Jordan and Sandy @-@ owned River Oaks Golf Course borders the Jordan River in Sandy .

## == Government ==

South Jordan has a council @-@ manager form of government . The council , the city 's legislative body , consists of five members and a mayor , each serving a four @-@ year term . The council sets policy , and the city manager oversees day @-@ to @-@ day operations . The current mayor is David L. Alvord . The city council meets the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 6 : 00 PM .

Mia Love , a Republican , represents South Jordan as part of Utah 's 4th congressional district of the United States House of Representatives . Aaron Osmond , a Republican , represents South Jordan as part of the 10th Utah Senate District in the Utah Senate and has announced he will step down in December , 2015 . Rich Cunningham , a Republican , represents South Jordan as part of 50th Utah House District of the Utah House of Representatives and is hoping to replace Osmond in the Senate .

## == Education ==

South Jordan lies within Jordan School District . The district has six elementary schools , two middle schools ( South Jordan Middle and Elk Ridge Middle ) and four high schools ( Bingham High School , Herriman High School , Itineris Early College High School and Valley High ( an alternative school ) ) serving the students of South Jordan . In addition , there is Paradigm public charter high school , Early Light Academy public charter elementary and three private schools ( American Heritage , Mountain Heritage Academy and Stillwater Academy ) .

Salt Lake Community College 's Jordan Campus is located on the boundary between of South Jordan and West Jordan . The Jordan Campus offers general education classes as well as all of the college 's health science courses . Jordan School District 's Applied Technology Center and Itineris Early College High School are also located on campus . Salt Lake Community College 's Miller Campus is located in Sandy next to the border with South Jordan and is home to the college 's Culinary Institute , Miller Business Resource Center for corporate training programs , and training facilities for the Utah Department of Public Safety . The private university in South Jordan is the Roseman University of Health Sciences , which houses schools of pharmacy , dentistry , and an online accelerated nursing program .

## == Transportation ==

Interstate 15 , a twelve @-@ lane freeway , is located on the eastern edge of the city and provides two interchanges inside city limits at 10600 South and 11400 South . Bangerter Highway ( State Route 154 ) , a six @-@ lane expressway , traverses the center of the city with interchanges at 9800 South , 10400 South and 11400 South . The Mountain View Corridor , an eventual ten @-@ lane freeway , is located on the western edge of the Daybreak Community .

South Jordan is served by the Utah Transit Authority ( UTA ) bus system and UTA 's TRAX light rail Red Line . The Red Line connects the TRAX line running to downtown Salt Lake City and the University of Utah . Two TRAX stations , with park and ride lots , are located inside the Daybreak Community . The Daybreak North Station is located at approximately 10600 South and has 400 shared park and ride spaces . The Daybreak South Station is located at 11400 South and has 600 park and ride spaces . Two other stations are located inside West Jordan at the city boundary with South Jordan , the 5600 West Station and the 4800 West Station . The travel time between the Daybreak South Station to downtown Salt Lake City is approximately 60 minutes .

UTA 's FrontRunner commuter rail system has a station at South Jordan 's eastern edge at 10200 South . The FrontRunner extends north to Pleasant View and south to Provo .

## == Infrastructure ==

Electric service to South Jordan residents is provided by Rocky Mountain Power . Natural gas service is provided by Questar Corporation . Qwest Communications handles local telephone

service ; long @-@ distance service is available from several providers . Comcast and Qwest both offer high @-@ speed Internet connections .

South Jordan city owns the water distribution system . Drinking water is provided by Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District . Secondary water , a non @-@ potable water used for landscaping , is provided from the canals running through the city . South Valley Sewer District owns and bills for the sewer system . South Jordan City contracts out to Allied Waste Industries for curbside pickup of household garbage ; recyclables are picked up once a week .

The Intermountain Riverton Hospital , owned by Intermountain Healthcare , is a 58 @-@ bed , full @-@ service hospital in Riverton that also includes a satellite facility for Primary Children 's Medical Center . Jordan Valley Medical Center , owned by lasis Healthcare , is a 183 @-@ bed , full @-@ service hospital located in West Jordan .

= = Economy = =

= = = Principal employers = = =

According to South Jordan 's 2015 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report , the principal employers in the city are :

= = Notable people = =

Current resident Apolo Anton Ohno was a short track speed skating athlete . Ohno is the most decorated American Winter Olympic athlete of all time with eight medals . Current resident Edward J. Fraughton is a sculptor of western themes and inventor . Fraughton invented technology used in Automatic dependent surveillance @-@ broadcast ( ADS @-@ B ) . ADS @-@ B is used for tracking and finding aircraft positions using satellites . Nfl player Star Lotulelei also lives in south Jordan . Keven Curtis is a former resident who , as of 2010 , is a wide receiver for the NFL Kansas City Chiefs . Curtis graduated from Bingham High School where he played football and basketball . Denise Parker is a former resident who is a three time Summer Olympic competitor in Archery . Parker was the youngest member of the 1988 U.S Summer Olympic team at age 14 where she won a bronze medal . As of 2010 , Parker is Chief Executive Officer for USA Archery , the national governing body for the sport of archery .

Current resident Samantha Gordon is a girl football player whose highlight video of her football season was viewed 5 million times in just three days . She is the first female football player to make the cover of the Wheaties box . She had been interviewed on Good Morning America , ESPN 's Sports Center , Katie Couric , Conan O 'Brien , Steve Harvey , Fox and friends , and more . Sam was also in a NFL commercial and a Super Bowl commercial and was invited to the Super Bowl by NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell . In South Jordan December 18 is Sam Gordon Day .