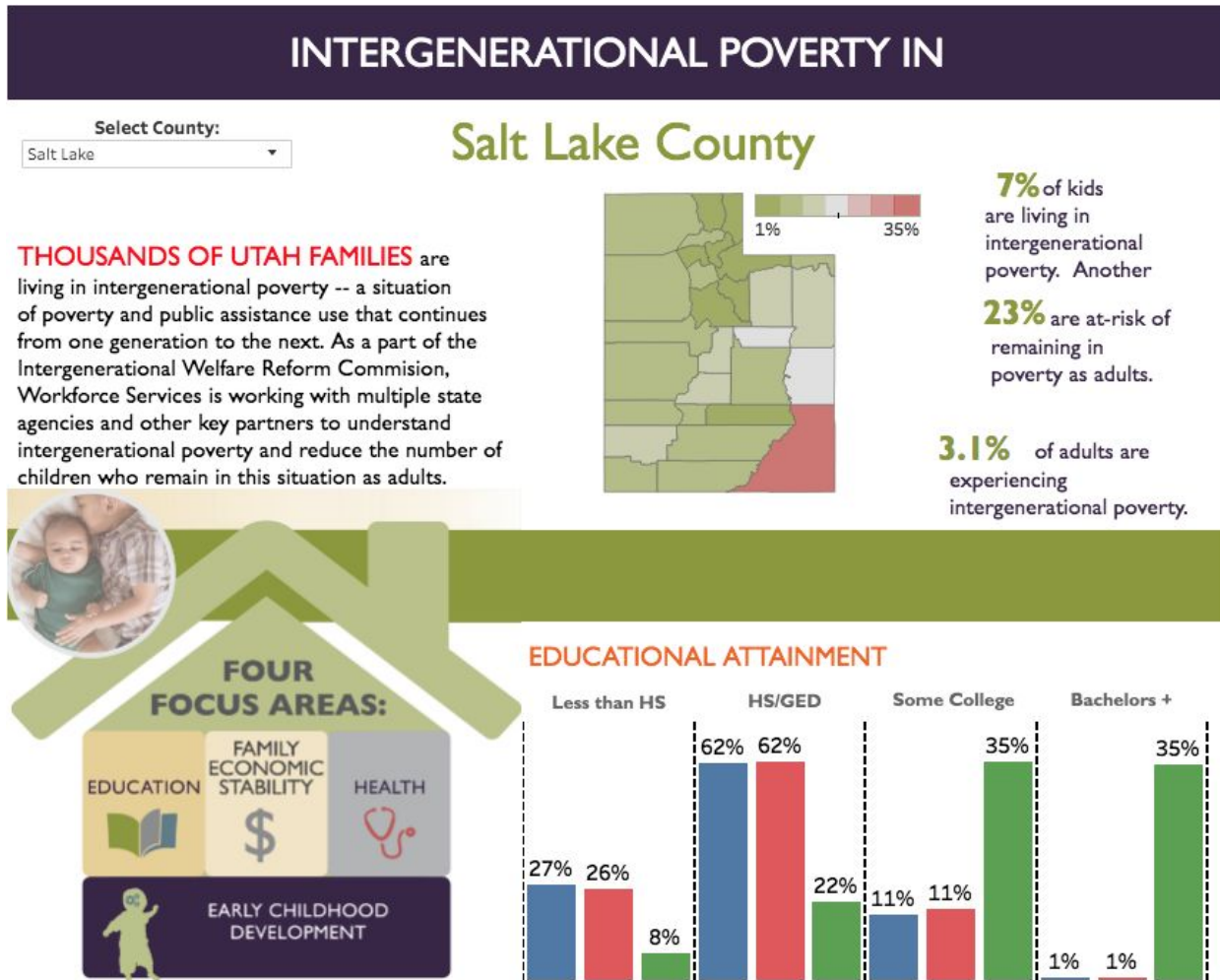


NASCIO 2019

1. Title: The Utah Intergenerational Poverty Initiative Data Driven Solutions
2. Category: Data Management, Analytics, and Visualization
3. Project Initiation and Completion Date: January 2017 - October 2018
4. Project Contact: Mark Schultz

Project Website: <https://jobs.utah.gov/edo/intergenerational/>



## **Executive Summary**

Since 2012, Utah has utilized research and data to embark on a strategic campaign to ensure that the state is a national leader in promoting the well-being of children experiencing intergenerational poverty.

Over the past seven years, the state has made progress addressing intergenerational poverty by creating a collaborative environment to solve this complex issue. It continues to leverage its success in reducing income inequality and moving people out of poverty to ensure families experiencing intergenerational poverty participate in the state's economic gains.

Through a data-driven process, the Intergenerational Poverty Commission created a comprehensive list of research-based recommendations in each of the four areas of child well-being: early childhood development, education, health, and family economic stability. The recommendations are designed to allow state and local government, business, faith-based organizations and nonprofits to have the opportunity to implement and make progress in each focus area. Over the past two years, new data analytics tools, visualizations, and dashboards have been developed to support these recommendations and help the Commission as well as the agencies that support it to achieve success in moving Utah children and families out of intergenerational poverty. The Intergenerational Poverty Commission is a true partnership involving Utah Lt. Governor Spencer Cox as chairman and members from the Department of Workforce Services, Department of Human Services, Department of Health, the Utah State Board of Education, and the Juvenile Courts. Systems development and support is provided by the Utah Department of Technology Services.

An Annie E. Casey Foundation study suggests that Utah's IGP initiative has done more than any other state in the nation to reduce its child poverty rate since 2010. Sixteen percent of Utah kids were living below the federal poverty level compared to 11 percent now, according to the study. To get the number of families living below the federal poverty line even lower, the state is requiring that counties with the highest concentrations of intergenerational poverty use the data now available to come up with additional solutions and is helping to fund those solutions with an appropriation.

Utah is committed to further reducing intergenerational poverty and the data will help show the way as well as measure the successes.

## Concept

To address intergenerational poverty in Utah, the Intergenerational Welfare Reform Commission and Advisory Committee have a shared vision that focuses on utilizing Utah's strengths to build solutions across systems.

Through a data-driven process, the group created a comprehensive list of research-based recommendations in each of the four areas of child well-being: early childhood development, education, health, and family economic stability.

The recommendations are designed to allow state and local government, business, faith-based organizations and nonprofits to have the opportunity to implement and make progress in each focus area. Improvement in each of these areas will help meet the overall goal of reducing families in the cycle of poverty, thereby improving their quality of life and helping them become economically stable.

Beginning in 2012 data was collected by each of the participating entities and shared collectively in an Oracle-based enterprise data warehouse using common data standards. As the initiative evolved, agencies identified new data collection efforts that would be helpful to solving the challenges identified by the Commission. The data is then processed, aggregated and transformed using Cognos Business Intelligence and Tableau to provide insights to participants.

In 2018, a performance management and reporting tool was added to the toolset that helps decision-makers spot trends based on specific questions. The tool is designed to enhance accountability and help produce measurable results. A results scorecard has been created with goals for each of the four areas of child well-being: Early Childhood Development, Education, Family Economic Stability, and Health.

The Intergenerational Welfare Reform Commission has been utilizing data to both track progress in the domain of education and target resources to schools serving high rates of children experiencing intergenerational poverty. Although Utah is frequently recognized as one of the best states for business given its educated workforce, data indicates that not all Utah students are on a path to be among those participating in that workforce. In Utah's Education Roadmap, developed by Governor Herbert's Education Excellence Commission, the educational struggles among students from low-income backgrounds, including students experiencing intergenerational poverty, led to the establishment of a specific policy area, Ensure Access and Equity. The students experiencing intergenerational poverty and students receiving public assistance for at least 12 months, comprise 21 percent of Utah's student population, not an insignificant share. As a result, their successes and struggles impact the entire educational system. The data dashboard and related scorecards have identified areas where the state needs to improve and where decision-makers can focus their efforts.

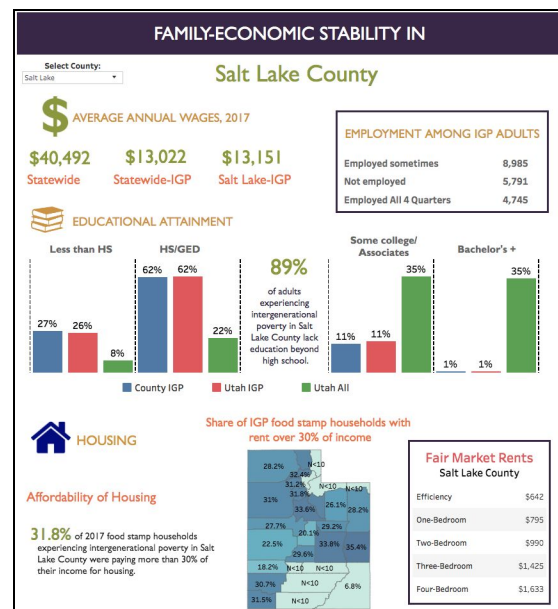
## Sample Results Scorecard

	Time Period	Current Actual Value	Current Trend	Baseline % Change
<b>G</b> <b>Utah</b> Reduce families experiencing IGP; improving quality of life and helping them become economically stable				
+ <b>IGP</b> Children Experiencing IGP	2017	59,059	↓ 1	16% ↗
+ <b>IGP</b> % Utah Children Experiencing IGP	2017	7%	↓ 1	7% ↗
+ <b>IGP</b> % of children at risk of remaining in poverty as adults	2017	28%	↓ 1	-3% ↓
+ <b>Utah</b> Adults experiencing IGP	2017	40,122	↗ 3	12% ↗
+ <b>IGP</b> % of adults receiving public assistance who are experiencing intergenerational poverty	2017	28.7%	↗ 3	21% ↗
+ <b>IGP</b> % of all Utah adults experiencing intergenerational poverty.	2017	4%	↗ 1	-8% ↓
+ <b>IGP</b> Young Adults, 18-21 yo, experiencing IGP	2017	5,835	↗ 3	7% ↗
+ <b>IGP</b> % of IGP Children living in single-parent households	2017	61%	→ 1	0% →

## County Data

This dashboard summarizes data related to the well-being of individuals experiencing IGP in Utah's 29 counties. For the purpose of this data, individuals experiencing IGP are those using public assistance for at least 12 months as an adult and as a child. Public assistance includes the receipt of one or more services including food stamps, child care subsidies, cash assistance or Medicaid/CHIP. A child at risk of remaining in poverty is a child that has received 12 months or more of public assistance. Using these definitions, individuals are matched across several state and local databases to provide county level profiles.

The dashboard was created using Tableau Analytics that can be viewed by each individual county, helping the committee compare data between any individual county or the state as a whole. The dashboard includes tabs for summary data as well as education, family economic stability, and health. This way, the utility of the tool extends to local governments as well as non-profits and others who have an interest in participating in the initiative.



URL: <https://jobs.utah.gov/edo/intergenerational/data/county.html>

### **Map of Programs for Improving Child Outcomes**

In this interactive online tool, the viewer can select a county to evaluate the programs available or select a program and view the counties where the program is available. In addition, the map provides the rates of children experiencing intergenerational poverty.

URL: <https://jobs.utah.gov/edo/intergenerational/data/map.html>

### **Annual Report Baseline Data**

Each year, data is provided that establishes the number of adults and children experiencing intergenerational poverty. The data contained in this scorecard provides an update on those groups.

URL: <https://jobs.utah.gov/edo/intergenerational/data/reportdata.html>

### **Significance**

The launch of the updated data tools, scorecards, and dashboard has provided the many members of the Intergenerational Poverty Commission, as well as non-profit and local government parties with a common decision support platform that helps identify where problems exist, what potential solutions might be. Participants are able to observe outcomes that are effective and view trends as well as the decisions that are impacting them.

Groups such as the Utah Black Roundtable are working with Utah's Intergenerational Poverty Initiative to address income inequality and other economic issues that face Utah's minorities.

Through its work in "Next Generation Kids," Utah has been creating new public-private partnerships that provide community college and technical training for parents. After demonstrating success with mothers in its "Invest in You, Too" efforts, Utah created "Invest in Dads, Too." The program helps fathers who were formerly incarcerated become certified in diesel technology. Similar to "Invest in You, Too" which supports mothers in medical manufacturing, "Invest in Dads, Too" also provides education in executive functioning, life skills, and parenting. A full evaluation is underway, but preliminary results show increased parental engagement and work activities.

### **Impact**

New tools developed in 2017 enable Commission members to better understand the impacts of their decisions. These tools allow members to visualize trends at a more granular level for each of the four areas of childhood well-being.

As a result of having better data, Utah passed further legislation that created a system of care that has opened the door for integrated funding for intergenerational poverty solutions, and in

2018, Utah updated the Juvenile Justice bill to clarify the role of prosecutors, schools, and school discipline to better support the coordination of care and the role of families.

Utah has successfully braided together funding for families who are eligible for TANF with WIOA funding.

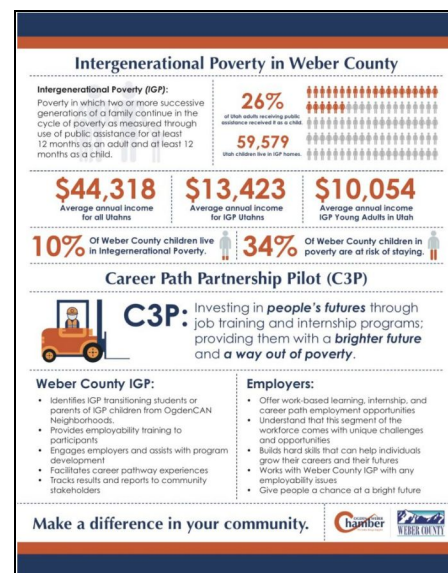
In Utah's demonstration project, two cohorts of families were served in 2017 with varying levels of coordinated supports. The evaluation started with approximately 50 potentially eligible families; half of the families completed the program and 30 families were involved in the evaluations, which were conducted by the Social Research Institute at the University of Utah. The goal of the program is employment at graduation, increased wages at day 90 and 180, and, eventually, the family's case being closed due to employment. By the end of the second evaluation period, the project achieved the following results:

### RESULTS: UTAH DEMONSTRATION PROJECT

- All children had a primary care doctor and dentist
- All the child care issues identified as reasons for missing work school at the start of the program had been resolved with support from a family success coach.
- Parents reported progress on their children's behavioral issues, improved school responses on Individual Education Plans (IEP), and improved reports on grades and behavior.
- Positive case closures for families who were not enrolled in the braided support ranged from 76-81%; for similar hard-to-employ families in Utah, the rate has been 44%. For families who were involved in the braided supports, positive closures were to 89-100%.

### Counties are Achieving Data-Driven Results

In Weber County, one of the IGP program partners - armed with data, is making a real difference. Employers and government are working to positively impact the 10% of children who are found in intergenerational poverty. The county is able to identify IGP students and families who work together with employers and non-profit agencies to better align education programs through a Career Path Partnership Pilot program.



### Commission Implementation of Data-Driven Programs, Policies and Procedures

Although counties play a role in addressing the impacts of intergenerational poverty, the State continued to meet its obligations established through the Intergenerational Poverty Mitigation Act (IGPA). As Commission-agency leaders understand the issue of intergenerational poverty and data sharing continues to improve, more ways have emerged to support

customers served across multiple agencies. Throughout the past 12 months, Commission agencies continued implementing several data-driven recommendations outlined in its five- and 10-year plan that will influence the indicators measured to track progress.

Data-driven decisions implemented in 2018 that show progress include:

- Office of Child Care (OCC) continues to provide technical assistance to private preschool programs to improve the quality of the preschool serving low-income children. Priority is given to programs serving children covered by child care subsidies and experiencing intergenerational poverty.
- OCC designed a Child Care Quality System that will evaluate the quality of child care programs serving children covered by child care subsidies.
- Work-based learning programs implemented in the following school districts: Nebo, Provo, Washington, as part of local plans to addressing intergenerational poverty.
- [Talent Ready Utah](#) grants to promote programs providing unemployed and underemployed adults opportunities to receive training and certification in high demand occupations.

A complete list of areas where progress and decisions have been made in 2018 are included in pages 58-60 of the [2018 Seventh Annual Report on Intergenerational Poverty](#).

Based on the data, Utah counties received funding for the following programs and efforts.

- Carbon: Carbon County's \$75,000 grant will go towards expanding the Strengthen Families Program to teach parenting, children's life and family skills through Carbon County's Circles program.
- Sanpete: Sanpete County's \$75,000 grant will go toward hiring a social worker to focus on preschool enrollment for kids experiencing intergenerational poverty, as well as connecting these families with services and programs.
- Utah: Utah County officials plan to use their \$150,000 grant to support several initiatives through community partners, including mentoring, health, education and food services. They will partner with the Utah State University Extension Office, Boys and Girls Club, Community Action Services, Utah Food Bank, Provo School District and the Utah County Health Department.
- Weber: Weber County also received a \$150,000 grant, which will go toward supporting the Integrated Community Action Now pilot program. The program focuses on family resiliency, community accountability and child self-determination. The grant money will also support trauma informed care training.

Although, Utah has already reduced intergenerational poverty among children from 17% down to 11%, data driven decisions like these will continue to accelerate better education and quality of life for all of Utah's families.