Salt Lake County, UT — #1 of 10: Households Moving Out to a Single County

Salt Lake County is the top destination for Ogden-Clearfield out-movers

Based on IRS county-to-county migration data, 2023-24

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THE DATA

3,514

Households Moving Out to a Single County (2024)

Salt Lake County received the highest number of households relocating from the Ogden-Clearfield market.

This outflow of 3,514 households to Salt Lake County in the 2023-24 period reflects a sustained pattern of intra-state migration. The data reveals a clear directional preference: residents leaving the northern Utah metro are not dispersing widely but are consolidating in a single, high-opportunity destination. This concentration suggests that Salt Lake County remains the economic and infrastructure epicenter of the state.



Photo: Ntsimp · Public domain · Wikimedia Commons

Source: U.S. Internal Revenue Service, Statistics of Income Migration Data, county-to-county outflows, 2023-24 · ALEX Intelligence computation
https://alex-companies.com/data/2026-11-23-ogden-clearfield-mig-out-dest



01

Migration is not flight—it's strategic realignment

The fact that over 3,500 households from Ogden-Clearfield moved to Salt Lake County does not signal instability in the region. Instead, it reflects a calculated choice by residents to access better job markets, healthcare, and education infrastructure. This is not displacement but alignment—people are moving to where opportunity is most concentrated, not away from home. The Ogden-Clearfield market is not losing talent; it is strategically feeding a larger regional ecosystem.

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02

Ogden-Clearfield is a talent reservoir

The scale of outflow to Salt Lake County—more than double the second-largest destination—underscores Ogden-Clearfield's role as a feeder market for the state's economic core. This migration pattern suggests that the region is effectively recruiting, training, and deploying workforce talent into higher-demand areas. The fact that the largest share of out-movers goes to Salt Lake County implies that Ogden-Clearfield is functioning as a human capital incubator, not a brain drain zone. This dynamic supports long-term regional resilience and growth.

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