



# San Juan County, Utah


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## AT - A - GLANCE

### Most in demand occupations

- Maintenance and repair trades
- Customer service 
- Truck driving
- Health care

### Sectors with highest projected annual growth:

- Oil and gas industries 
- Health Care

### Residents:

15,449

### Number of parks, monuments, recreational sites, and wilderness areas accessible through the county:

9+



## County Overview

San Juan County's natural assets stand as a strong economic foundation. The County is home to four National Monuments, two State Parks, Canyonlands National Park, Monument Valley Tribal Park, Glen Canyon National Recreation Area, and many year-round recreation opportunities, which lends itself to numerous tourism, recreational, and life opportunities. Investors will find additional possibilities in the area's extractable natural resources, such as uranium mining. In the next ten years, the County's strategic focus includes five key areas:

- Broadband
- Transportation
- Business Expansion and Retention
- Diversification
- Celebration of Culture and History

The area strives to focus on quality development that meets the needs of the diverse communities within the region.

## Targeted Sectors

The opportunity zone in San Juan County is located at the southern end of the county, including a large part of Navajo Nation. While the OZ boundaries do not include the large population hubs of the county (Bluff, Blanding, and Monticello), it is well positioned to take investments in several key sectors the County has identified as a priority.

In partnership with the Seven County Infrastructure Coalition, the County has identified broadband as one of its primary infrastructure goals. Currently, the County is developing a county wide Broadband plan that includes connectivity across its major communities, building from the Utah Education Network (UEN)'s statewide project to bring broadband to every public school across Utah.

Healthcare is also a major industry in San Juan, with San Juan Health and the Utah Navajo Health System (UNHS) operating three non-profit healthcare facilities across the county. Combined with the need for increased broadband infrastructure, telemedicine is a major growth sector for the County and presents several investment opportunities.

The county highlighted new business expansion and retention as a high priority for the OZ, including broadening growth in existing sectors. These include the following:

- The White Mesa Uranium Mill, which currently provides 50 of the highest paying jobs in the county. The Mill has the potential to add 50—100 additional jobs as the operating company increases focus on recycling (uranium to provide energy) and cleanup of Alternate Feeds (AF) and Abandoned Uranium Mines (AUM).
- A total of \$2 Billion was allocated to the Navajo Nation and EPA to assist in cleaning up AUM's on the Navajo Nation thus far, the projects are simply awaiting final permitting and approval.

The County also seeks to diversify the economy beyond tourism, healthcare, and mining, incorporating the workforce, key industries, and year-round opportunities into the OZ.

A major part of this strategy includes further developing collaboration with the Navajo and Ute Nation and Reservations. The County is working to connect and collaborate with Navajo Utility Tribal Authority for Internet/fiber optic.

The County identified the below additional industry areas of focus:

- Agriculture, Construction, and Mining Manufacturing
- Electrical Equipment Manufacturing
- Medical Equipment and Supplies Manufacturing
- Outdoor Recreation
- Manufacturing and Fabrication

At Utah State University College of Eastern Utah's campus, located in Blanding, there is further potential for development of a more diverse workforce. Currently, the University's medical programs, specifically Nursing and Medical Assistants, greatly add to the county's workforce. Additionally, the University assists in filling the trade school gap in the area by offering heavy equipment operation and other trade-specific courses.

San Juan County School District is working diligently to grow their Career Technical Education (CTE) Pathways. CTE provides students with opportunities to experience, and develop, real-world skills within the County's education system that prepares them for success in post-secondary options. Areas of focus include Building & Construction Trades; Transportation; Arts, Media, & Entertainment; Hospitality, Tourism, & Recreation; Marketing, Sales, & Services; Information & Communication Technology; Agriculture & Natural Resources; Engineering & Architecture; Public Service; Manufacturing & Product Development; and Health, Science, & Medical Technology.

The county is in the process of adopting a Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) and identifying CRA areas. Areas are currently being identified in Bluff, Monticello, and Spanish Valley.

## Available Incentives

San Juan County is committed to deploying an array of local, state and federal incentives to attract potential investors. At present, San Juan County is committed to leveraging the following incentives to support project development and delivery:

- Rural Fast Track (RFT)
- Revolving Loan Fund (RLF)
- Custom Fit Trainings
- Enterprise Zone Tax Credit (EZTC)
- Community Reinvestment Agency (CRA)
- Utah Rural Jobs Act
- Business Expansion and Retention program (BEAR)
- Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI)
- For more information on these incentives, visit the County's website: <https://www.utahscanyoncountry.com/programs-incentives>

## Tract 49037942100 (Navajo Nation)

