

# Three Utah cities make Forbes' list of best places for business and careers

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A trio of Utah cities are on [Forbes magazine's 2013 List of the Top 25 places for business and careers](#).

- Provo, at No. 2, saw the number of jobs swell by 5 percent last year. The metropolitan population of Provo is 552,800. Its Gross Metro Product — a measure of the size of its economy — was \$18 billion last year. GMP is expected to grow 2.9 percent in the next 12 months.

- **No. 12 was Salt Lake City. Its metro population totaled 1.16 million. GMP was \$71 billion, and is expected to grow 4.1 percent in the coming year. Utah's capital was singled out for its business-friendly environment, low energy costs and proximity to seven ski resorts.**

- Ogden was ranked No. 16. Its metro population was pegged at 563,900. GMP was \$21 billion last year. Ogden's economy will grow another 3.2 percent this year, Forbes said.

While the Forbes article noted that *Business Depot Ogden*, a former U.S. Army defense depot, has been converted into a 1,128-acre state-of-the-art industrial park, it did not mention the tremendous long-term technological advantages it brings. The converted area now houses a one million square foot campus for the NSA department of the U.S. Government.

An additional benefit of the Forbes article was that it shows how well located Maier Siebel Baber's most recent acquisition, South Temple Tower, is within the heart of Salt Lake City's central business district and its excellent location relative to the remainder of the City's best buildings.



While having such a prominent position on the skyline is beneficial, and almost all the larger buildings shown in the picture share a “South Temple Street” address, they aren't all competitive office towers. The newer, buff-colored limestone tower (*at the far right*) is a residential tower having the Symphony Hall and Convention Center at its base. At the center of the image one can see the spires of the Mormon Church's Temple; that anchors an 11-acre complex, attracting between 3-5 million visitors per year. The complex includes the Tabernacle and the world headquarters of the Church of Latter Day Saints (*the tallest building at the left*). One last important feature, that can't be seen from this perspective, is the recently opened \$2billion City Creek retail mall. The City Creek Mall spans a two-block-wide area from the base of the silver-topped building (*at the right*), all the way to South Temple Tower. Maier Siebel Baber's investors have already benefitted from these proximities when the company pulled South Temple Tower's first new full-floor tenant, [the *Manning* law firm], out of the copper-topped property earlier this year (*building at left/center of image*).