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# San Juan County, Utah

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San Juan County (/sæn | woːn/ san-WAHN) is a county in the San Juan County southeastern portion of the U.S. state of Utah. As of the 2020 United **County** 

States Census, the population was 14,518.<sup>[2]</sup> Its county seat is Monticello, [3] while its most populous city is Blanding. The Utah State Legislature named the county for the San Juan River, itself named by Spanish explorers (in honor of Saint John).

San Juan County borders Arizona, Colorado, and New Mexico at the

Four Corners. History [edit] The Utah Territory authorized the creation of San Juan County on February 17, 1880, with territories annexed from Iron, Kane, and Piute counties. There has been no change in its boundaries since its

creation. Monticello was founded in 1887, and by 1895 it was large

enough to be designated the seat of San Juan County. [4] Geography [edit]

## Ruins in Montezuma Canyon with stones of unusual size

the county. level. [6] The county has a total area of 7,933 square miles (20,550 km<sup>2</sup>), of which 7,820 square miles (20,300 km<sup>2</sup>) is land and

these borders, Four Corners Monument, is located at the extreme southeastern corner of The county's terrain generally slopes to the west and the south, with its highest point, Mount Peale, at 12,726 feet (3,879 m) above sea

San Juan County lies in the

southeastern corner of the state of Utah. Its borders coincide with the

borders of the states of Colorado,

Utah. [5] The convergence point of

New Mexico, and Arizona with

### 113 square miles (290 km<sup>2</sup>) (1.4%) is water.<sup>[7]</sup> It is the largest county by area in Utah.

(3,000 m).

[citation needed]

• **163** US 163

• **491** US 491

• 46 SR-46

• 95 SR-95

• (62) SR-162 • 261 SR-261

• 276 SR-276

191 US 191

Major highways [edit]

cutting through rock layers of the surrounding deserts, have carved the land up with chasms, cliffs, and plateaus. In the center of the county is Cedar Mesa, Comb Wash, Natural Bridges, and Hovenweep National Monuments. Canyonlands National Park lies mainly within the county borders. The Eastern side of Glen Canyon National Recreation Area / Lake Powell is also in the county. The Blue (Abajo) Mountains and the La Sal Mountains exceed 12,000 feet (3,700 m) in elevation. Both ranges are covered with lush forests,

contrasting the scenery below. The elevation change within the county

is from nearly 13,000 feet (4,000 m) in the La Sal Mountains to 3,000

feet (910 m) at Lake Powell, a difference of about 10,000 feet

The county's towns lie primarily on a north-south axis along U.S.

routes 191 and 163 from La Sal in the north to Monument Valley in the

The county's western and southern boundaries lie deep within gorges

carved by the Colorado and San Juan Rivers. Tributary canyons,

south. Natural resources [edit] In 2018, the only operating uranium processing plant in the United States was located in the town of Blanding; however, the plant was moved to be on standby in 2019.<sup>[8]</sup> San Juan County is home to numerous oil and gas fields, including Squaw Canyon Oil Field, that produce primarily from the Desert Creek and Ismay Formations.

#### Grand County - north Mesa County, Colorado - northeast · Montrose County, Colorado - northeast

Adjacent counties [edit]

- San Miguel County, Colorado east Dolores County, Colorado - east
- Montezuma County, Colorado east San Juan County, New Mexico - southeast
- Wayne County west Emery County - northwest San Juan County is bordered by more counties than any other county in the United States, at 14. [9]

Bears Ears National Monument

Edge of the Cedars State Park

Canyonlands National Park (part)

Apache County, Arizona - south

Navajo County, Arizona - south

Kane County - west

Garfield County - west

Protected areas [edit]

Dark Canyon Wilderness

Goosenecks State Park

Navajo Mountain

Valley of the Gods

2020 census [edit]

**Native American** 

Latino.

years.

2010 census [edit]

Politics and government [edit]

White (non-Hispanic)

Demographics [edit]

Coconino County, Arizona - southwest

 Four Corners Monument Navajo Tribal Park (part) Glen Canyon National Recreation Area (part) Grand Gulch Primitive Area<sup>[5]</sup>

Hovenweep National Monument (part)

Monument Valley Navajo Tribal Park (part)

Manti-La Sal National Forest (part)

Natural Bridges National Monument

Rainbow Bridge National Monument

### As of 2017, San Juan County was the poorest county (per capita) in Utah $^{[16]}$ and one of the poorest in the United States.

481 3.31% 747 5.14%

1.9 people per square mile (0.7/km<sup>2</sup>). Among non-Hispanic or Latino people, the

racial makeup was 6,038 (41.6%) White, 32 (0.2%) African American, 7,186 (49.5%)

Native American, 34 (0.2%) Asian, 51 (0.4%) Pacific Islander, 26 (0.2%) from other

races, and 404 (2.8%) from two or more races. 747 (5.1%) people were Hispanic or

64, and 2,238 (15.4%) who were at least 65 years old. The median age was 34.6

There were 4,649 households in San Juan County with an average size of 3.12 of

San Juan County racial composition<sup>[17]</sup>

Num.

7,186

6,038

32

34

Perc.

49.49%

41.58%

0.16%

0.23%

Asian Other/Mixed Hispanic or Latino According to the 2020 United States census<sup>[18]</sup> and 2020 American Community Survey,<sup>[19]</sup> there were 14,518 people in San Juan County with a population density of

Black or African American (non-Hispanic)

Race

a per-capita income of \$20,088. The median income for males that were full-time employees was \$48,259 and for females \$34,092. 22.8% of the population and 18.1% of families were below the poverty line. In terms of education attainment, out of the 9,192 people in San Juan County 25 years or older, 1,313 (14.3%) had not completed high school, 2,801 (30.5%) had a high school diploma or equivalency, 3,316 (36.1%) had some college or associate degree, 1,156 (12.6%) had a bachelor's degree, and 606 (6.6%) had a graduate or professional degree.

households were owner-occupied while 941 (20.2%) were renter-occupied.

Commissioners has been majority white for many years. In 2016, a Federal District Court decision found voting districts violated the 1965 Voting Rights Act and the U.S. Constitution. Before the 2016 court decision, the county used an at-large voting system to elect commissioners. [21] In 2018, the first-ever majority-Navajo commission was seated. Two of the three county commissioners, Willie Grayeyes and Kenneth Maryboy, are board members of Utah Diné Bikeyah, which supported the creation of Bears Ears National Monument. [22] In a 2019 special election, Proposition 10, which would have changed the structure of the

have because it felt like a judicial appointment," and that "the vote is very evenly split." [25]

State elected offices

Name

**David Hinkins** 

Phil Lyman

Mark Huntsman

**District** 

27

73

14

**Position** 

House of Representatives

Census-designated places [edit]

Board of Education

Communities [edit]

Senate

Aneth

Halchita

La Sal

Halls Crossing

Mexican Hat

See also [edit]

List of counties in Utah

Juan County, Utah

References [edit]

National Register of Historic Places listings in San

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Counties: April 1, 2020 to July 1, 2023" ☑. United States

Montezuma Creek

 Navajo Mountain 2,774 **76.00%** 763 20.90% 3.10% 1980 113 Oljato-Monument Valley **57.60%** 1,182 5.71% 1976 1,856 36.69% Spanish Valley 1,893 203 7.32% Tselakai Dezza 1972 **68.27**% 677 24.41% White Mesa 1,393 59.66% 29.12% 11.22% **1968** 680 262 1964 1,371 **57.99**% 993 42.01% 0 0.00% **Unincorporated communities** [edit] 1,408 **62.72%** 837 37.28% 0.00% 1960 Eastland 1956 1,119 **72.47%** 425 27.53% 0.00% Ucolo 876 **67.54%** 421 32.46% 0.00% **1952** 

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 • W Geographic data related to San Juan County, Utah 
 data related to San Juan County, U

Places adjacent to San Juan County, Utah

Municipalities and communities of San Juan County, Utah, United States

**State of Utah** 

Authority control databases <

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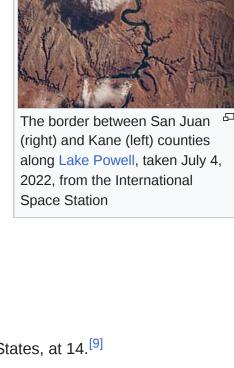
Populated places established in 1880

For counties with a similar name, see San Juan County (disambiguation).

Search

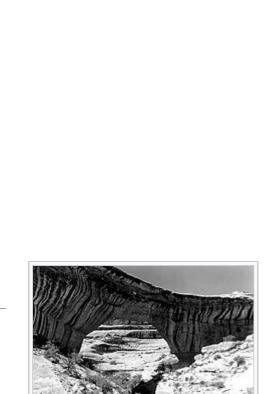
San Juan County Courthouse, Monticello Location within the U.S. state of Utah Utah's location within the U.S. Coordinates: Country United States **State tah Founded** February 17, 1880 **Named for** San Juan River Seat Monticello Largest city Blanding Area Total 7,933 sq mi  $(20,550 \text{ km}^2)$ 7,820 sq mi Land (20,300 km<sup>2</sup>) Water 113 sq mi (290 km<sup>2</sup>) 1.4% Population (2020) Total 14,518 • Estimate (2023)<sup>[1]</sup> 14,358 Density 1.8/sq mi (0.71/km<sup>2</sup>) Time zone UTC-7 (Mountain) • Summer (DST) UTC-6 (MDT) 3rd Congressional district Website sanjuancounty.org <

display="block"> House on Fire ruin, one of



many Ancestral Pueblo ruins in

the county



Sipapu Bridge, in Natural **Bridges National Monument** 

Census

1880

1890

1900

1910

1920

1930

1940

**1950** 

1960

1970

1980

1990

2000

2010

**Historical population** 

Pop.

204

365

1,023

2,377

3,379

3,496

4,712

5,315

9,040

9,606

12,253

12,621

14,413

14,746

%±

78.9%

180.3%

132.4%

42.2%

3.5%

34.8%

12.8%

70.1%

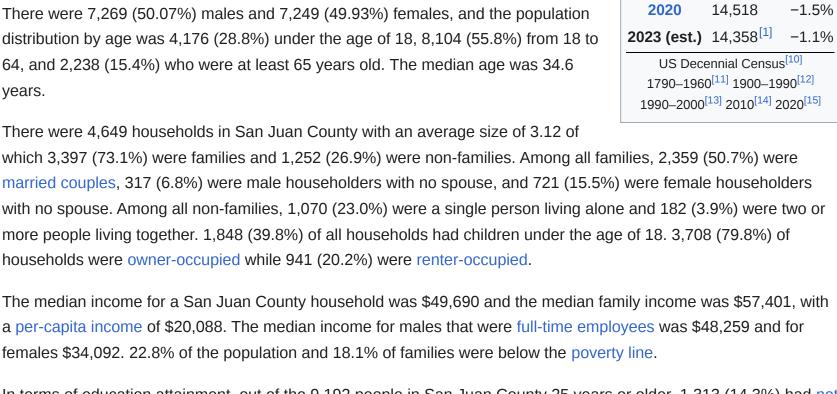
6.3%

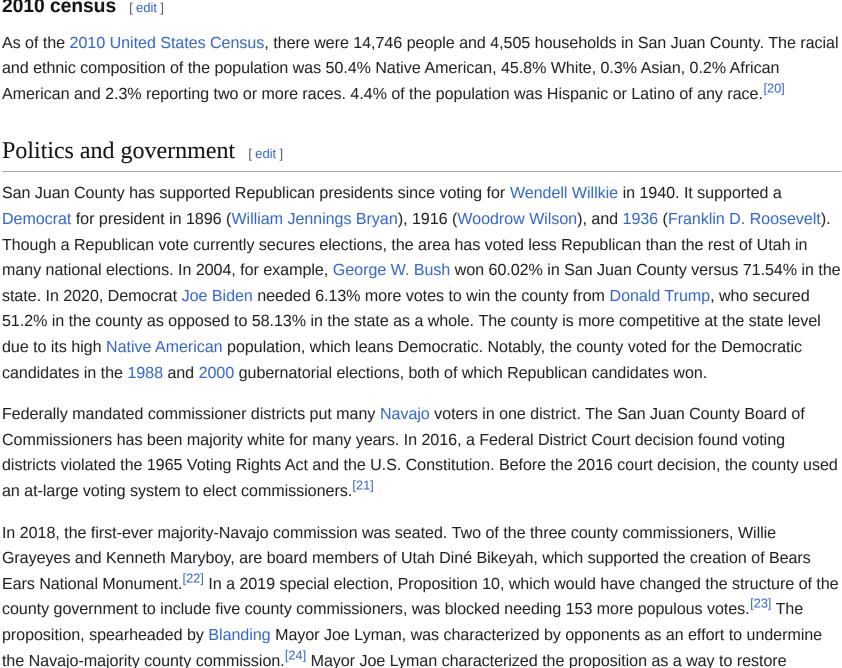
27.6%

3.0%

14.2%

2.3%





Republican **Democratic** Third party(ies) Cities [edit] Year **♦** No. ♦ % **♦** No. **♦** % ♦ No. ♦ % ♦ Blanding 3,613 **56.54%** 2,581 40.39% 3.07% 2024 196 Monticello (county seat) **51.20%** 3,113 45.09% 2020 3,535 256 3.71% Town [edit] 47.80% 2,042 36.90% 847 15.31% 2016 2,645 Bluff 2012 **57.92%** 2,139 40.31% 1.77% 3,074 94

2008

2004

2000

1996

1992

1988

1984

**1948** 

1944

1940

1936

1932

**1928** 

1924

1920

1916

558

513

528

432

460

449

380

523

213

2,638

2,971

2,721

2,139

2,004

2,377

2,598

representation to Blanding, the county's largest city. He states, "I don't like how we arrived at the commissioners we

As of March 2020, efforts were underway to bring municipal water and electrical service to the 29-home Diné (Navajo)

Affiliation

Republican

Republican

Nonpartisan

First elected

2008<sup>[27]</sup>

2018<sup>[28]</sup>

2014<sup>[29]</sup>

United States presidential election results for San Juan

County, Utah<sup>[30]</sup> [hide]

**51.42%** 2,406

**60.02%** 1,906

**57.36%** 1,838

**51.36**% 1,675

**46.23%** 1,639

**61.95%** 1,407

**69.13**% 1,145

**56.77%** 418

**58.23**% 367

**48.94**% 459

**65.55**% 231

31.51% 448

515

520

232

260

50.43%

44.95%

56.89%

64.81%

46.90%

38.51%

38.74%

40.22%

37.81%

36.67%

30.47%

42.52%

41.66%

49.19%

54.11%

48.83%

33.72%

34.73%

32.22%

66.27%

86

185

351

692

53

15

7

1

21

24

15

1.68%

1.47%

3.90%

8.43%

15.96%

1.38%

0.40%

0.71%

0.11%

0.38%

0.94%

2.23%

0.73%

8.38%

2.97%

2.22%

community of Westwater, which has existed for decades with neither just outside the city limits of Blanding. [26]

Bureau. Retrieved July 1, 2023.	1916	213	31.51%	448	66.27%	15	2.22%
3. ^ "Find a County" ☑. National Association of Counties.	1912	146	37.24%	146	37.24%	100	25.51%
Retrieved June 7, 2011.	1908	130	53.06%	109	44.49%	6	2.45%
4. ^ McPherson, Robert S. (1994), "Monticello" ∠, in	1904	135	78.49%	36	20.93%	1	0.58%
Powell, Allan Kent (ed.), Utah History Encyclopedia, Salt		81	51.92%			3	
Lake City UT: University of Utah Press,	1900			72	46.15%		1.92%
ISBN 0874804256, OCLC 30473917 ☑, archived from	1896	8	4.57%	167	95.43%	0	0.00%
the original ☑ on January 13, 2017, retrieved April 1,							
2019						U	tah portal
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