

ANNUAL REPORT 2021



Governor's Office of
Economic Opportunity

FILM PRODUCTION

The Utah Film Commission plays a vital role in the success of the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity by marketing the state as a destination for film, television, and commercial production. Film production creates jobs in the creative sector while supporting local businesses and encouraging tourism across the state.

Utah is increasingly popular as a destination for television and feature film production, as evidenced by the growth in overall industry annual wages (\$122 million in 2020 according to DWS data) and the size and quality of the productions that choose our state as a filming location.

Film production remains a reliable economic driver that impacts both the Wasatch Front and rural Utah. Each dollar of film incentive yields \$14.20 of new GDP and \$8.09 of new earnings in Utah (source: FY 2018 study by the Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute).

The Utah Film Commission also serves as a liaison to the broader entertainment industry by supporting local film organizations and events,

most notably the annual Sundance Film Festival, facilitating workforce development programs, and supporting production needs across the state. With thousands of productions created in-state since the 1930s, including *Stagecoach*, *Butch Cassidy and The Sundance Kid*, *The Sandlot*, and *High School Musical*, you'll soon discover why we say "Utah. America's Film Set."[®]

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Since Utah's current motion picture incentive program began in FY 2012, \$447 million has been spent in-state by studios including Fox, AMC, Disney, HBO, ABC, NBC, Hallmark Channel, and Netflix.
- In FY 2021, 500+ film permits were approved across the state (58% were in rural Utah).
- \$10.3 million in state film incentives was awarded during the past 12 months to 31 productions shooting in Utah, including a mix of local and out-of-state feature films and TV series, yielding a total estimated spend of \$47 million.







Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity

**World Trade Center at City Creek
60 East South Temple, Suite 300
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111-1004
801 538 8680**

BUSINESS.UTAH.GOV

@BusinessUtah