

TRENDS TO WATCH: CHANGES FROM 1990 TO 2007

- The divorce rate went down
- ▼ Vehicle crash rate went down
- **▼** Prime farmland was lost
- **◆**Underemployment went up

- **◆**Commute time and distance went up
- Crime rates went down
- Time available for leisure and family went down



OUR GAINS AND LOSSES IN MONETARY TERMS....

IN 2007 UTAHNS BENEFITED FROM:

\$1.6 BILLION in value of volunteer labor in Utah

\$12.5 BILLION in value of unpaid household labor in Utah

\$24.8 BILLION in value of services provided by Utah's wetlands, forests, and deserts

BUT IN 2007 UTAHNS ALSO LOST:

\$408 MILLION in costs due to poor air quality, including costs associated with health, property damage, and agricultural degradation

\$7.9 BILLION in costs of driving in Utah, in terms of commuting, vehicle accidents, and reduced air quality

\$7.7 BILLION in costs of overwork and underemployment



TO DOWNLOAD THE FULL GPI STUDY

or read the Executive Summary, visit www.utahpop.org/gpi.html

MORE INFORMATION

contact@utahpop.org

QUALITY OF LIFE...

IN DOLLARS AND CENTS.

UNVEILING THE

GENUINE PROGRESS INDICATOR (GPI) REPORT FOR UTAH

Since the late 1980s, economists have developed GPI methodologies to study trends in well-being of countries around the globe. The methodologies have also been applied on local levels, with studies in Vermont, Ohio, Minnesota, the San Francisco Bay Area, and Maryland. The Utah GPI



report is the first of its kind in the intermountain west. This assessment reveals trends between 1990 and 2007, the latest year with available data. The Utah GPI report was funded by the Utah Population and Environment Coalition as a part of its ongoing Utah Vital Signs project.

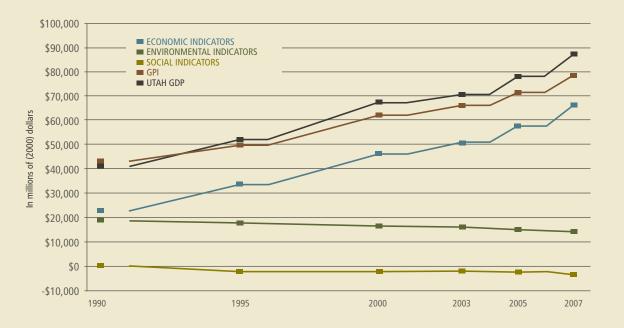
Traditional metrics for economic progress, like the Gross Domestic Product (GDP), measure monetary transactions. But not all monetary transactions are good for our societal well-being. And many factors that improve our quality of life, such as volunteer work and the benefits of a clean environment, aren't measured because they aren't bought or sold.

GENUINE PROGRESS INDICATOR (GPI) provides us with an alternative measure that offers a more holistic view of our quality of life. By placing a dollar value on many factors that contribute to our well-being (economic, societal, and environmental), the GPI provides a useful tool to look at the trade-offs policy makers face when making decisions about using resources and planning for the future.



IS UTAH MAKING REAL PROGRESS? In short, we are making genuine improvements in quality of life. But there are indications that several critical contributors to our well-being are eroding.

The aggregate Utah GPI has increased since 1990. However, the growth rate is slower than the state's GDP. While economic components of GPI are on the rise, we are seeing increasing costs and decreasing values associated with social and environmental components that contribute to our well-being.



Graph shows Utah's GPI tracks closely with Utah's GDP, driven upward by the economic components, while GPI's societal and environmental components trended downward.

