Settled by Mormon pioneers in 1849, Provo City, Utah, is currently home of the largest Missionary Training Center for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. America's Freedom Festival at Provo is one of the country's biggest patriotic celebrations; although focused around July 4th, festival activities continue throughout the year.

Many of the cultural activities of Provo City are located on the campus of Brigham Young University. The Museum of Art's permanent collection focuses on American and religious art. The Monte L. Bean Life Science Museum features life-like exhibits and houses an extensive collection of mammals, birds, fish, reptiles, insects, plants, shells, and eggs. The Brigham Young University Museum of Paleontology exhibits many fossils from the Jurassic period. The Brigham Young University Museum of Peoples and Cultures presents anthropological artifacts from cultures around the world. The University recently dedicated a new athletic museum and Hall of Fame.

Other museums in Provo City include the Crandall Printing Museum, which features replicas of famous historical shops and printing presses, including a Gutenberg press; Terra Nova, which provides exhibit space for original works from artists; and Covey Center for the Arts, which has two art galleries, the Eccles Gallery and the Secured Gallery, that feature different exhibits each month. Pioneer Museum & Village is comprised of Daughters of Utah Pioneers Museum, which displays furniture, clothing, decorations, tools, guns, and other items used by Utah pioneers prior to 1900, and Sons of Utah Pioneers Village, which features pioneer buildings and furnishings, wagons, farm implements, and a blacksmith shop.

Performing arts venues include the Covey Center for the Arts, which offers various music, theater, dance, and opera performances; Comedy Sportz, which features improvisation comedy; and Velour Live Music Gallery and Muse Music, which primarily present concerts of popular and rock music. The de Jong Concert Hall-Harris Fine Arts Center and the Pardoe Theatre-Harris Fine Arts Center at Brigham Young University are venues for comedy, musical theater, drama, dance, and classics for university performances and traveling shows.

**Neighborhoods**

The downtown area is experiencing the development of new buildings that have commercial businesses on the lower floors and residential condominium units on the upper floors. Many of the neighborhoods that surround the downtown are called Pioneer neighborhoods and have housing that dates between the late 1800s and 1930, with some housing featuring mostly rental units. Neighborhoods such as the Franklin neighborhood, which encompasses the first permanently settled area in what is now Utah County and contains the original city block from which the rest of Provo was laid out, are the focus of redevelopment activities.

In the northeast portion of the city, neighborhoods such as Sherwood Hills, Rock Canyon, and Edgemont feature large, single-family houses. Most of the houses in these neighborhoods were built in the mid-to-late 20th century.

On the western side of the city, Lakeview North is a growth area with new construction underway. Over 50% of the houses date between 1995 and 1998, and over 88% are single-family homes. New construction will consist of both high-density multi-family units, as well as single-family houses on various-sized lots.

**Parks and Recreation**

Provo City has over 40 parks and more than 33 miles of trails. Park amenities include basketball, tennis, and volleyball courts; playgrounds; and soccer and softball fields. The Provo Recreation Center has an indoor swimming pool, as well as racquetball and wallyball courts. The Provo River is known for its trout fishing opportunities. Peaks Ice Arena, which has two Olympic-size ice rinks, served as a venue for the Salt Lake City Winter Olympics in 2002.

Although Provo City does not have professional sports teams, Brigham Young University offers football, basketball, volleyball, baseball, softball, track and field, and swimming among its varsity sports teams.

**Education**

Provo City School District educates approximately 14,600 students in 13 elementary schools, 2 middle schools, and 3 high schools. The District also offers eSchool, which is a home-based learning public school for kindergarten through 12th grade students. Students in grades one through six can participate in a dual language immersion program in Mandarin Chinese, French, or Spanish. Educational services are available for students 18 to 21 years of age and adults 18 years of age and older who have disabilities.

Higher education is available at Brigham Young University, which is an affiliate of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and offers undergraduate and graduate degree programs. Other opportunities for higher education include Provo College–Provo Campus, which offers associate's degrees in health, business, justice, design, and technology fields, and AmeriTech College, which provides training in dental and medical care fields.

**Health Care**

Provo City is served by 1 hospital with 395 licensed beds. In addition, the city has a facility that specializes in long-term acute care and critical care services for patients recovering from serious illnesses or injuries. Utah State Hospital provides psychiatric services for children, adolescents, and adults.

<table>
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<th><strong>City Stats</strong></th>
<th>2009</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>City Population</td>
<td>119,775</td>
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<tr>
<td>Metropolitan Statistical Area Population</td>
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<td>Per Capita Personal Income, Provo-Orem, UT, MSA</td>
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