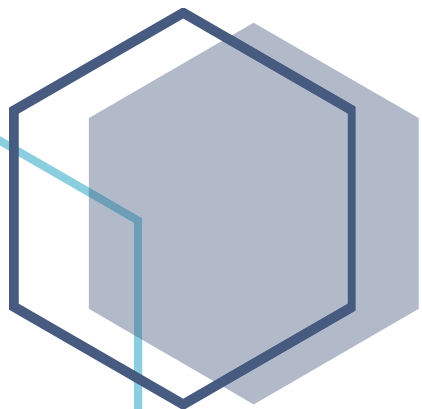




2021 – 2026 CEDS

Southern Colorado Economic
Development District

The five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy document produced by SCEDD
addressing economic opportunities and challenges found throughout the region.



Chapter 1: Welcome

From Eric Gubelman, Executive Director, Southern Colorado Economic Development District

Any regional planning document runs the risk of being either being a first-rate door stop or a third-rate planning tool. The former has the advantage of propping open an entrance, while the utility of the latter is merely as a safe home for the dust bunnies that live on our office shelves.

It is therefore with a sense of humility that we put forward this Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, which seeks to ask and begin to answer this question: How do we make southern Colorado prosper?

A written plan suggests a conceit that the answer has been found—it's right here on the page, after



Jones Theater, Westcliffe, Custer County, Upper Arkansas Region

all! As is always the case with planning, the process is more important than the plan. The process involves getting people together to think and talk in the same room—or at least the same Zoom meeting. This conversation was singularly the biggest accomplishment of this CEDS update, with over fifty-nine public meetings across thirteen counties; talking and collaborating with local leaders and local business champions about the much-needed COVID-19 economic recovery efforts in the next five years.

It is in conversation where the magic happens—the “I” becomes “we” and “city and county” become “sub-region and

region.” Dreams take flight because fellow dreamers become steely-eyed problem solvers who become part of something bigger than themselves.

That is not to say that the plan that results is without worth. But to make it worth the toner sacrificed to produce it, you not only have to plan your work—you have to work your plan. We intend this CEDS to be a living document—consulted often, revised continuously, and put to good use. The CEDS update is not the end of a process nor is it intended to be merely a check-off requirement we all do so that we are EDA eligible to submit a grant

The CEDS is the first draft of a roadmap. In a narrative and statistical fashion, it tells us where we are. By putting our ideas to paper, we announce to the world where we want to go. There are omissions. There are mistakes. There is too much



Apishipa Arch, Las Animas County, South Central Region

Southern Colorado Economic Development District * 2021 CEDS

description and not enough analysis. There is duplication—and the line between realistic plan and wooly-headed pipe dream remains yet undefined.

SCEDD is like most economic development districts—we help plan for a defined region. We differ from most EDDs in a few fundamental ways.

First, our region is huge. We are thirteen counties, spread out from Leadville in the northwest to Springfield in the southeast, a town in Baca County nestled near Kansas and Oklahoma.

Second, our region is the product of four sub-regions—the Upper Arkansas, South Central, Pueblo County, and the Southeastern Plains. One sub-region is known for mountain tourism, one as a central hub, another as the agricultural center, and one a mixture of outdoor recreation, agriculture, mining, and more.

Third, our EDD is emerging from an extended fallow period. Absent CARES Act funding, SCEDD would have remained largely irrelevant, a side paragraph in the stories of cities and counties working on behalf of themselves and with limited staffs trying to make lives better in their communities. This CEDS not only lays out a draft blueprint of how we get there, it is also a plan to make SCEDD sustainable and relevant the drive to make southern Colorado prosper.



Riverwalk, downtown Pueblo, Pueblo County



Windfarm, Lamar, Prowers County, Southeastern Plains

Amidst the negative aspects of unwieldiness, incredible diversity, and a recent history of a lack of planning capacity, there is a North Star that we focus on. As a region, we make sense. Pueblo is not just the poorer front range cousin. Pueblo is the southern Colorado metropole in a district defined largely by the meanderings of the Arkansas River. Our South Central sub-region is not northern New Mexico, and the Southeastern Plains are not western Kansas. Our Upper Arkansas sub-region is not the downscale Vail and Aspen.

We are Southern Colorado

We have rolled up our sleeves.

We are on the rise.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Eric Gubelman". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Eric Gubelman

Acknowledgements

Members of the SCEDD Board of Directors are appointed to two-year terms by the member counties. Each county has two appointments, with one additional seat for every 25,000 population (based on 2010 census), per guidelines set by the Economic Development Administration. Fremont County is, therefore, allocated a maximum of three seats, and Pueblo County a maximum of seven.

Government representatives

Government representatives are members of the elected county governing board from member counties. At least one member from each of the thirteen member counties constitute this category.

Spike	Ausmus	Commissioner	Baca County
Rick	Butler	Commissioner	Baca County
Kim	MacDonnell	Commissioner	Bent County
Rusty	Granzella	Commissioner	Chaffee County
Roy	Elliot	Commissioner	Crowley County
Blaine	Arbuthnot	Commissioner	Crowley County
Kevin	Day	Commissioner	Custer County
Debbie	Bell	Commissioner	Fremont County
Donald	Oswald	Commissioner	Kiowa County
Mike	Lening	Commissioner	Kiowa County
Kayla	Marcella	Commissioner	Lake County
Luis	Lopez	Commissioner	Las Animas County
Rob	Oquist	Commissioner	Otero County
Ron	Cook	Commissioner	Prowers County
Tom	Grasmick	Commissioner	Prowers County
Terry	Hart	Delegate for Commissioner Chris Wiseman	Pueblo County



Non-government representatives

Non-elected representatives compose one-third of the SCEDD Board. Primarily, they represent economic development corporations or county offices.

Charles	Bogle	President	Custer County Economic Development Corp
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Diana	Armstrong	Special Projects Coordinator	Fremont County Economic Development Corp
Mary Jo	Tesitor	Owner	My One Hour Office (Huerfano County)
Carlton	Croft	Director of Economic Development and Tourism	Huerfano County
Jodi	Amato	Assessor	Las Animas County
Marla	Akridge	Director	Lake County Economic Development Corp
Danelle	Berg	Economic Development Coordinator	Otero County
Dan	Centa	At-large	Pueblo County
Jane	Fraser	CSU Pueblo Prof Emeritus	Pueblo County
Kevin	Keilbach	Client Executive, HUB International	Pueblo County
Caroline	Trani	CR Manager	Colorado Housing Finance Authority
Marisa	Stoller	City Clerk	City of Pueblo

*** Southern Colorado Development District Board of Directors Membership as of July 31, 2021.*



Economic Development representatives, not appointed to SCEDD Board of Directors

Cheryl Sanchez, Director - Prowers Economic Prosperity

Stephanie Gonzales, Director - Southeast Colorado Enterprise Development

Cindy McCloud, Director - Kiowa County EDC

Cynthia Nieb, Director - La Junta Economic Development and Urban Renewal

CEDS Editorial Committee

Marla Akridge (Upper Arkansas, Lake County)
 Danelle Berg (Southeastern Plains, Bent County)
 Carlton Croft (South Central, Huerfano County)

Jane Fraser (Pueblo, Pueblo County)
 Mary Jo Tesitor (South Central, Huerfano)
 Michael Yerman (SCEDD Staff)

Chapter 3: CEDS public, business, and local government engagement

SCEDD is one of the largest geographic Economic Development Districts (EDD) in the nation. The EDD's 13 counties are in four distinct sub-regions with differing economic priorities. This required focused meetings to ensure each of the sub-region's projects, programs, and policies were included in the CEDS update. The SCEDD staff set out a four-phase public engagement plan to ensure that each region had ample time to participate in the CEDS process.

The COVID-19 pandemic impeded SCEDD's ability to conduct traditional public meetings, especially in the early stages of the engagement process. Therefore, a series of engagement steps were formulated over a 6-month timeline to reach the constituents and local elected officials throughout the district. In total, the SCEDD staff conducted 33 local elected officials listening sessions or public kick off presentations and 26 additional separate county-



Baca County CEDS meeting; Local Government Buy-In meeting with City of Springfield Council and Baca County BOCC

level meetings for the SWOT analysis and to formulate the Economic Implementation Strategies. SCEDD was creative with appropriate social distancing, in person meetings and using Zoom to conduct meetings across the district. This meeting tally only measures meetings extremely focused on the CEDS. There were more than 24 additional meetings considering the specific aspects of broadband (entire District) and for workforce housing on the Southeastern Plains. While those meetings are not detailed in the subsequent narrative, they are indicative of the granular level of public participation.

Phase 1: Introduction to CEDS process and local government buy-in

The first phase was introducing the CEDS process to SCEDD's elected bodies within the 13-county district. During this phase, the importance of the CEDS to each community was presented and how they will be used moving forward over the next five years. This step involved a short 10–15-minute presentation during work sessions or regular meetings and included details and timelines of the CEDS process, as well as future goals and plans of SCEDD as an organization. Each community participated in an Economic Development Strategy Survey to determine the top priorities for the CEDS update moving into future phases. This survey allowed SCEDD to begin to understand the

Southern Colorado Economic Development District * 2021 CEDS

impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic's effects on local communities, the regional economy, and to guide discussions on how SCEDD could assist with economic recovery efforts.

This phase was conducted with the local elected officials in the following municipalities and counties:

- Town of La Veta
- City of Walsenburg
- Huerfano County
- Las Animas County
- City of Trinidad
- Baca County
- Town of Walsh
- Town of Sugar City
- Prowers County
- Town of Holly
- Town of Wiley
- Town of Eads
- Town of Haswell
- City of Rocky Ford
- Town of Granada
- Town of Springfield
- Crowley County
- Town of Ordway
- City of Las Animas
- City of Lamar
- Otero County
- Town of Silver Cliff
- Town of Westcliffe
- Fremont County
- Canon City
- City of Florence
- Lake County
- City of Leadville
- Chaffee County
- Pueblo County
- City of Pueblo
- Town of Buena Vista
- City of Salida
- Town of Poncho Springs
- Custer County

Phase 2: Discovery

SCEDD staff had the opportunity to begin to understand current economic data, project priorities, community needs, and results from the Economic Development Strategy Survey. During this phase important meetings with organizations, elected bodies, board members, and businesses occurred to ensure that Phase 3 of the CEDS process was tailored to address the economic priorities of the region. Staff arranged meetings with economic development directors and other local government staff members to begin to understand the impacts of COVID and identifying projects to assist with recovery efforts. This was an important time to ensure that SCEDD did not duplicate existing planning efforts. Instead SCEDD staff was charged with reviewing and cataloging information from these plans and data to ensure it informed the CEDS update. This gave the staff the opportunity to understand the needs within each community, potential funding opportunities, and future projects to rebuild the regional economy. For over six months, SCEDD reviewed the following data sets and plans for each county to update the final CEDS.

- Population Data (Census and DOLA demographer)
- Employment Data (U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics)
- COVID-19 County Data (Public Health Departments)
- Regional Industry Data

- Incomes and AMI data
- Tax Revenue Collections (County and Municipal Finance Departments)
- Land use data (County Assessors)
- Identification of key regional amenities, institutions, transportation hubs, and recreation assets
- Infrastructure Districts - Water, wastewater, electric, internet, gas
- Housing Data
- Potential or existing grant opportunities to leverage funding

Finally, this phase allowed staff to make proper accommodations for each community’s COVID-19 protocols to conduct safe meetings for Phase 3 of the process.

Phase 3: County SWOT analysis and economic implementation strategy formation



SCEDD conducted two public meetings in each county to formulate the SWOT process as directed by the EDA. Then SCEDD created a set of county-wide, specific strategies for projects, programs, and policies. Public comment and input informed these strategies. These meetings allowed for governmental collaboration and discussions focused on how to begin regional recovery efforts.

Fremont County public CEDS meeting; The Abby Events Center

These 26 meetings created a SWOT analysis and five years’ worth of projects to increase the economic prosperity of the district. The schedule for each of the individual county SWOT and economic implementation strategy meetings is below:

- | | | | |
|------------|-----------------------|---------|-----------------------|
| • Lake | May 28 and June 3 | Bent | April 5 and April 19 |
| • Chaffee | May 17 and June 23 | Otero | April 29 and May 13 |
| • Custer | March 9 and March 23 | Pueblo* | July 27 and August 12 |
| • Huerfano | April 15 and April 28 | Fremont | May 4 and May 20 |

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- Las Animas May 12 and May 27 Crowley April 6 and April 20
- Baca June 8 and June 22 Kiowa May 11 and May 25
- Prowers June 9 and June 23

*CEDS meetings for Pueblo County and the City of Pueblo were conducted with senior staff

Phase 4: Presentation of recommendations, public review, and elected official check-ins

Prior to the completion of the final CEDS, the draft plan and recommendations were publicly noticed in each of the 13-member county's local newspapers. The plan was also made available for public comment on the SCEDD website for a 30-day public comment period. Input received during the public comment period was considered by the SCEDD Board and based on the Board's recommendations included in the final plan. On September 22, 2021, the SCEDD Board adopted the CEDS five-year update and submitted it for final review to the EDA.

Chapter 4: COVID-19 Economic Recovery and Resiliency Plans

COVID-19 Pandemic Economic Recovery

The COVID-19 pandemic created an economic shock across the SCEDD region. The initial wave of the pandemic beginning in March of 2020, COVID-19 infections began to occur in the region. For the first 6 months, business closures, quarantines, boarder closings, and critical care facilities hitting capacity limits created major economic stress on almost every industry in the SCEDD region.

Infections and Deaths

According to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, *Colorado Covid-19 Data*, the SCEDD region saw 39,525 infections since the onset of the pandemic. As of July 31, 2021, deaths numbered 696 and are based on the county of residence. Deaths due to COVID is the adjusted these death rates do not reflect individuals who were transported out of the region to larger care facilities in the larger metro areas.

A vast majority of these infections and deaths were seen in the first six months of the pandemic. The region’s Public Health and regional health centers became the epicenter for the efforts to combat the spread of virus. Essential workforce throughout the region continued to provide services to communities to ensure access to food, water, and other essentials.

COVID CASES / DEATHS / DUE TO COVID			
	Cases	Deaths	Deaths due to COVID
Colorado	592,372	7,041	7,292
Baca	341	4	
Bent	1554	22	13
Chaffee	1879	25	20
Crowley	2223	18	
Custer	243	5	
Fremont	6739	66	37
Huerfano	471	18	15
Kiowa	99	3	
Lake	874	1	
Las Animas	1348	14	
Otero	2117	68	30
Prowers	1324	24	17
Pueblo	20313	428	431
SCEDD Region Total	39525	696	563

Industry and Economic Effects

The largest economic effects cause by COVID-19 were disruptions to local businesses, prolonged unemployment, and supply line disruptions. Business closures hit Main Street across the region very hard. Restaurants, bars, theaters, event centers, and the tourism industry were hit the hardest having to close their doors at the peak of spring break 2020. Further, continued social distancing requirements and other public health orders lasted into the fall causing many of these businesses to have to close permanently. Local officials did what they could and made outdoor accommodations for many of these businesses to assist with their survival. Take out and changes to liquor laws allowed some businesses to survive.

Unemployment rates skyrocketed in April and May of 2020 to over 12% across the region. Federal and state unemployment saw record numbers of requests. While many businesses began to reopen

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in the fall of 2020, many found it hard to bring back employees. Further, unemployment for many counties in the SCEDD region still remains above six percent. The continued lack of workforce, increased wages, and reduced demand continue to plague businesses big and small.

The final major disruption caused by COVID-19 in the region was to regional supply chains and production. One of the hardest hit industries was the ranching industry which saw huge supply and demand swings for the first year of the pandemic. Further, distribution networks and processing facility closures cause additional issues with supply chains. Manufacturing and other sectors saw long delays for ordering of specialized parts or services. This was even more evident for parts needing to be shipped in or out of the United States. These disruptions have made many businesses rethink how parts and services can be supplied regionally to ensure production does not come to a standstill.

COVID-19 Economic Recovery Federal Appropriations

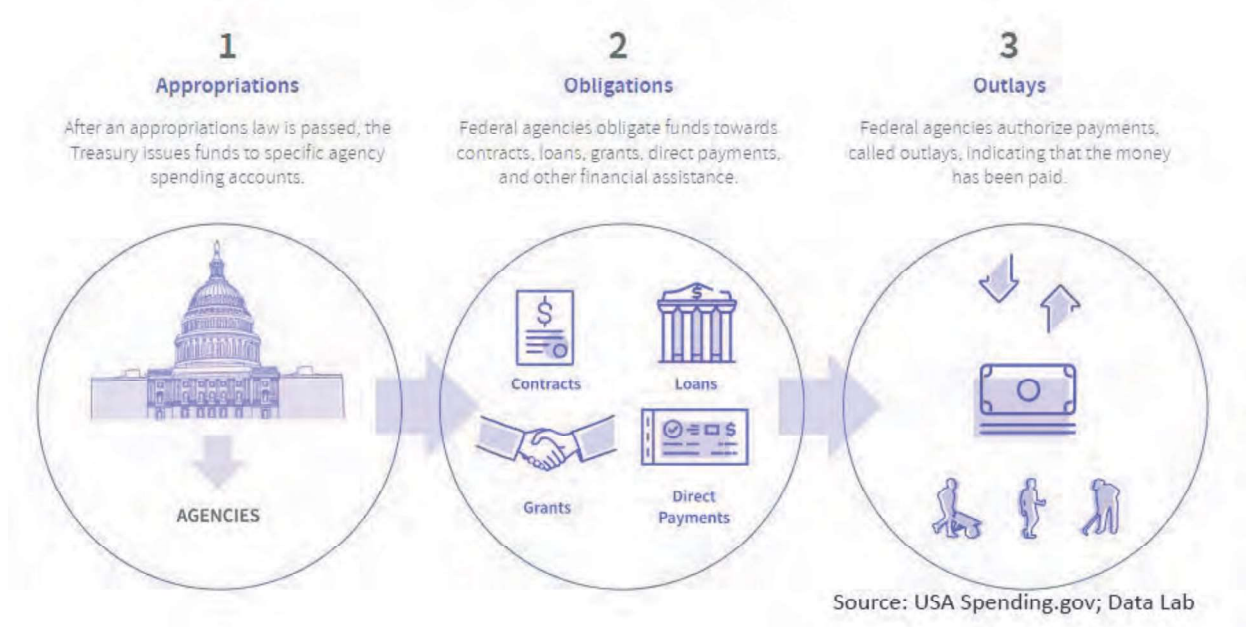
From the onset of the pandemic U.S Congress has passed five major appropriations laws that provided direct funding for economy or other recovery efforts to combat the effects of the COVID19 pandemic. These include the *Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act*, the *Families First Coronavirus Response Act*, *Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act*, *Paycheck Protection Program and Health Care Enhancement Act*, and the *American Rescue Plan Act* accounting for over **\$4.49 trillion** in new budgetary resources.

This CEDS update is timely in that over the past 8 months SCEDD has identified \$500 million in critical and eligible projects, programs, and policies for these funds across the region. These Economic Implementation Strategies as defined in Chapter 7 of this CEDS update as well as detailed individual County project, program and policy lists included in Appendix A identify numerous priorities for the next five years for these funds.

Due to the size and scope of the COVID-19 federal appropriations, SCEDD expanded its recovery efforts to ensure every economic aspect of our region was accounted for even if it was outside of the traditional projects funded by the U.S Economic Development Administration (EDA), including additional community development items such as workforce housing, education, health care, and even recreation. While these are out of the typical scope of the EDA, our region chose to develop a holistic approach to ensure all aspects of the rebuilding of our region were accounted for over the next five years.

The SCEDD region's economic recovery over the next five years will be directly linked to its ability to access these funds as they are redistributed across federal agencies and to the states. The following flow chart from the USA Spending.gov Data Lab Illustrates how these appropriations are redistributed to agencies, states, and finally spent by our local governments and nonprofits.

The Process of COVID-19 Supplemental Spending



SCEDD has been tasked with not just working on securing funding for the various economic projects, programs, and policies identified in this CEDS update but to also assist with technical assistance on reporting and project management for our local government partners.

Resiliency Plans

Over the course of the development of this CEDS update, the total need and economic output of the region has been documented for the next five years. As future potential economic shocks occur across the SCEDD region as identified under Chapter 6 SWOT Analysis, there are several major regional economic resiliency projects that will set a national standard on how to rebuild a resilient economic recovery and help to limit future disruptions caused by unforeseen disasters. While the projects listed below only represent a fraction of the overall need, these projects have significant regional impacts. These regional impacts are described in detail in Chapter 7 Economic Implementation Strategies. However, implementation of these projects can create regional resiliency by building capacity or providing critical backbone infrastructure to allow exponential growth in the region.

- Creation of entrepreneurial ecosystem
- The Arkansas Conduit
- The I-25 Passenger Rail System
- Regional Electric Transmission Lines Baca, Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, Las Animas, Otero, and Prowers County
- SCEDD Regional Broadband Implementation Office
- Implementation of Chaffee County Community Wildfire Protection Plan
- Water and Wastewater upgrades

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- Regional Airport Development
- Transportation Technology Innovation Center
- Expansion of New Elk Mine (Asian markets)
- Increased funding to build regional capacity for planning, and acquisition of federal funds

SCEDD overview of sub-sub-region #1

Upper Arkansas River

Lake, Chaffee, Custer and Fremont Counties

Geography

The Upper Arkansas sub-region includes Fremont, Custer, Chaffee, and Lake Counties. It is known for its spectacular mountain scenery, public lands, agriculture, mining, history, tourism, and a huge variety of recreational opportunities. In recent years, this sub-region has seen significant growth in many areas including population, property values, new businesses, downtown revitalization, tourism, health care, and recreation.

The Pike/San Isabel National Forest runs through all four counties of the Upper Arkansas sub-region. From Lake to Custer Counties the Upper Arkansas sub-region contains over half of Colorado's 54 "14ners" (peaks over 14,000 feet). The area also boasts seven wilderness areas: Buffalo Peaks, Holy Cross, Mt. Massive, Collegiate Peaks, Green Horn, Sangre de Cristo, and Brown's Canyon National Monument. The Arkansas River Headwaters Recreation Area (a Colorado State Park) is one of the most popular whitewater areas in the county including both Browns Canyon, Big Horn Sheep Canyon, and the Royal Gorge. The portions of the Arkansas River through the sub-region are classified as gold medal water for fishing.

National Forests, State Parks, National Monuments, and BLM land are all accessible for the above-mentioned sports as well as motorized activities such as four-wheel drives, dirt biking, and more. The following State Scenic Byways are in this sub-region: Top of the Rockies, Frontier Pathways, and the Collegiate Peaks. Large amounts of public land are available for outdoor enthusiasts. In fact, the combined public lands in the Upper Arkansas totals more than 1.3 million acres, which means almost 60% of all the land contained within these four counties is public.



Fishing and hunting provide jobs for guides, outfitters, and retail outlets. Big game in the area include bear, elk, deer, pronghorn antelope, and big horn sheep. A few endangered species are of concern in this sub-region: the Greenback Cutthroat Trout, the Black Footed Ferret, the Least Tern, the Mexican Spotted Owl, and the even the Grizzly Bear are listed by U.S. Fish and Wildlife in this area. Small game is also popular as is bird watching and wildlife photography. Hiking, mountaineering, rock climbing, skiing, and mountain biking are also all widely available.

Overall, mining is in decline from its heyday in the 1900s. Although there are still pockets of ongoing mineral extraction as well as oil and gas. Lake County is especially dependent on mining as a primary industry and employer.

Agriculture, mainly in the areas of ranching, hay production, and fruit orchards in the lower valley remain healthy and stable. With the Arkansas River flowing through three of the four counties, many consider the river the “life blood” of the area. It provides drinking and irrigation water needed by people, livestock, and crops. The Upper Arkansas sub-sub-region is a major flood plain along the Arkansas river and its tributaries. These counties have worked with FEMA to address flood mitigation and risks. Prime agricultural lands have been identified in the Upper Arkansas sub-region and are identified in Appendix C.

Like much of Colorado, tourism is an important part of this sub-region’s economy. However, mining, prisons, construction, real estate, and health care, comprise the major industries of the area. When visitors are not recreating, they are found in shops, businesses, motels, and restaurants. Fremont and Chaffee Counties are especially known for their extensive antique markets. Museums and cultural experiences are plentiful. Art galleries, arts festivals, music events, Salida’s Creative District, all provide additional cultural attractions.

In general, most basic services are in good supply. Medical facilities, schools, government services can be found in the county seats and other towns. Infrastructure is, overall, in good condition, however, additional investments in water, wastewater, and roads are necessary to continue growth and development. As with most of rural Colorado broadband is spotty and/or lacking in rural areas outside of municipal centers. The pandemic has severely impacted the tourism industry and the supporting businesses such as the service industry. Ongoing services are still needed to assist those businesses and workers especially in this industry.



However, this sub-region is ripe to comeback as the pandemic winds down. Lessons learned from this economic slowdown are incorporated in the 2021 CEDS.

Major industries

The GDP for the combined counties of the Upper Arkansas in 2020 was \$2.41 billion. (See Appendix E.) The primary industries in the area are public administration, construction, mining/quarrying, health care/social assistance, retail, accommodations/food, and educational services. Although the Climax Mine is in Summit County most of the workforce is found in Lake County (Leadville area), making the mine a major employer for Lake County. Retail continues to be an economic driver for all four counties serving both locals and tourists. Similarly, the food and

accommodations businesses (service industries) are top employers. Chaffee County's health care system tends to support surrounding counties, making it a strong employer. The dominance of the corrections facilities in both Chaffee and Fremont Counties have long made that industry a primary job generator. Opportunity zones exist in this sub-region. All of Lake County excluding the City of Leadville, the northern half of Chaffee County, and in Fremont County the Town of Florence, part of Canon City, and swath of land north of Canon City to the Teller County line, are all Opportunity zones.

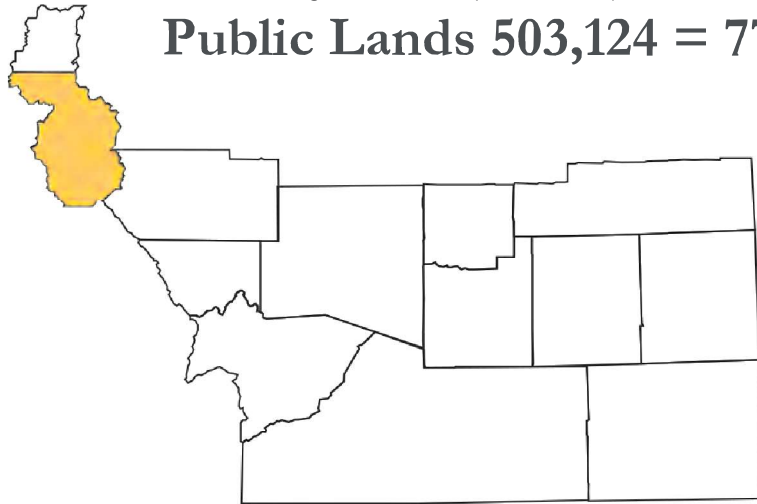
Sub-regional economic priorities

Workforce Housing is in high demand and low supply throughout the Upper Arkansas. Broadband development is making some headway especially in Custer and Chaffee Counties but needs much more support. Economic diversification, critical infrastructure especially for water and wastewater projects, improving raw land to be suitable for industrial and commercial development round out this sub-region's priorities.

Chaffee County- Community and Economic Profile



County Size (Acres) 648,576
Public Lands 503,124 = 77.57%

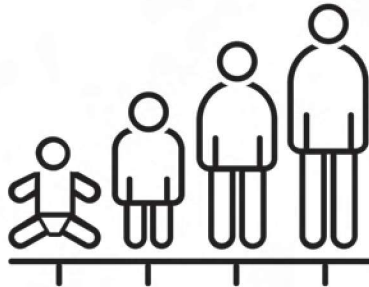


Total Population
2010- 17,797
2020- 20,361
% Change= 14.4%

Median Wage
\$42,657



Median Age
49.2 Years Old



Household Size
2.15



Unemployment
4.6%



High School
Graduation Rate
83.2%



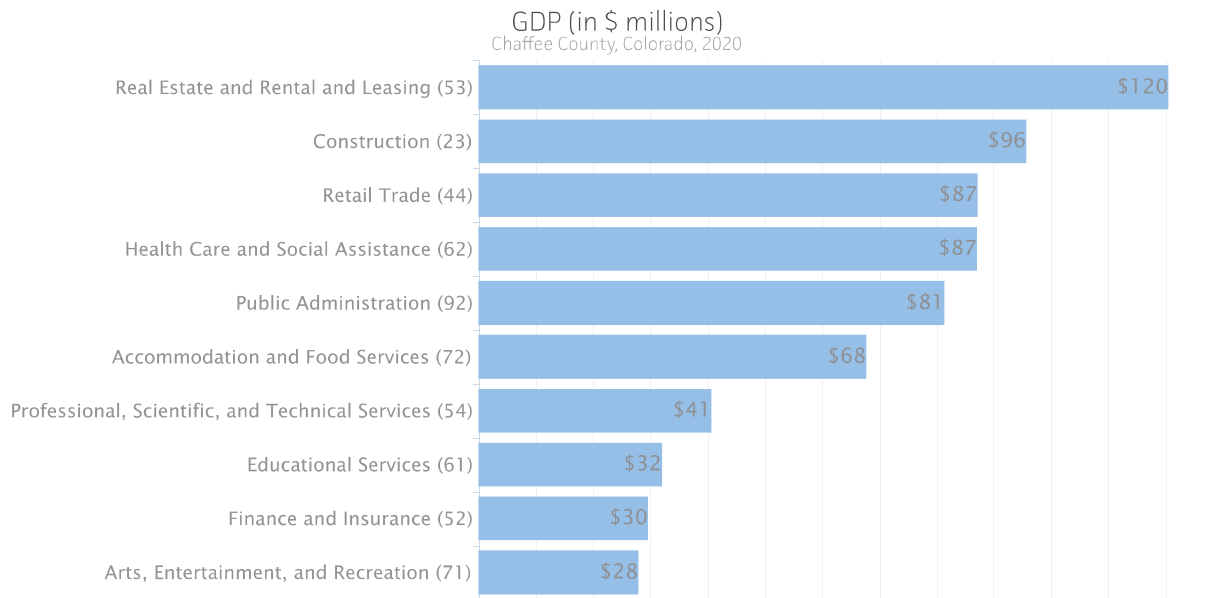
Median Home
Value
\$357,800



Chaffee County - Gross Domestic Product

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the total value of goods and services produced by a region. In 2020, nominal GDP in Chaffee County, Colorado expanded 1.0%. This follows growth of 4.9% in 2019. As of 2020, total GDP in Chaffee County, Colorado was \$812,666,000.

Of the sectors in Chaffee County, Colorado, Real Estate and Rental and Leasing contributed the largest portion of GDP in 2020, \$120,444,000. The next-largest contributions came from Construction (\$95,671,000); Retail Trade (\$87,175,000); and Health Care and Social Assistance (\$87,064,000).



Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2020.



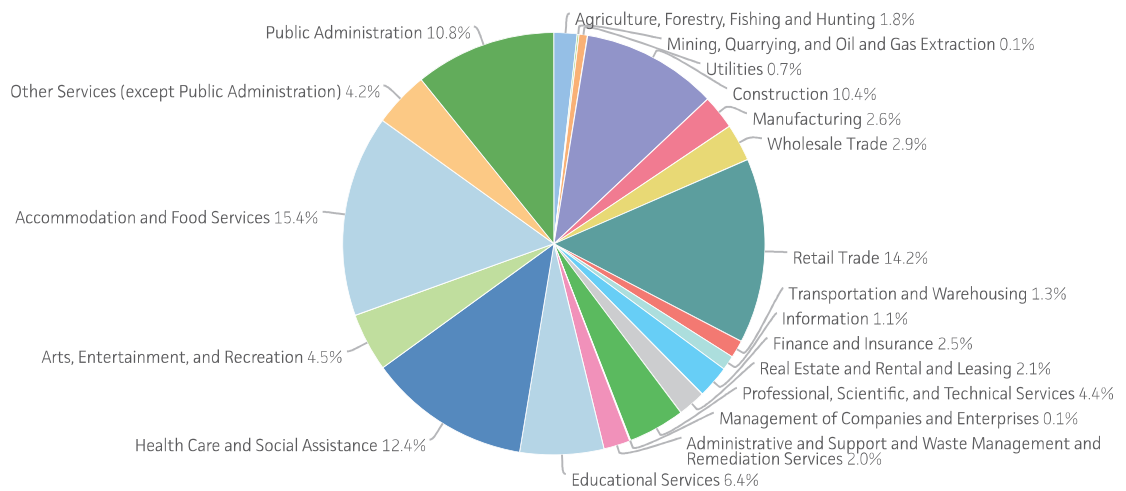
Salida Art Walk; Chaffee County

Chaffee County - Industry Snapshot

The total number of jobs in Chaffee County at the end of 2020 was 8,898. Job growth in the county is projected to be 1.10% per year for the next five years resulting in a total jobs gain of 510.

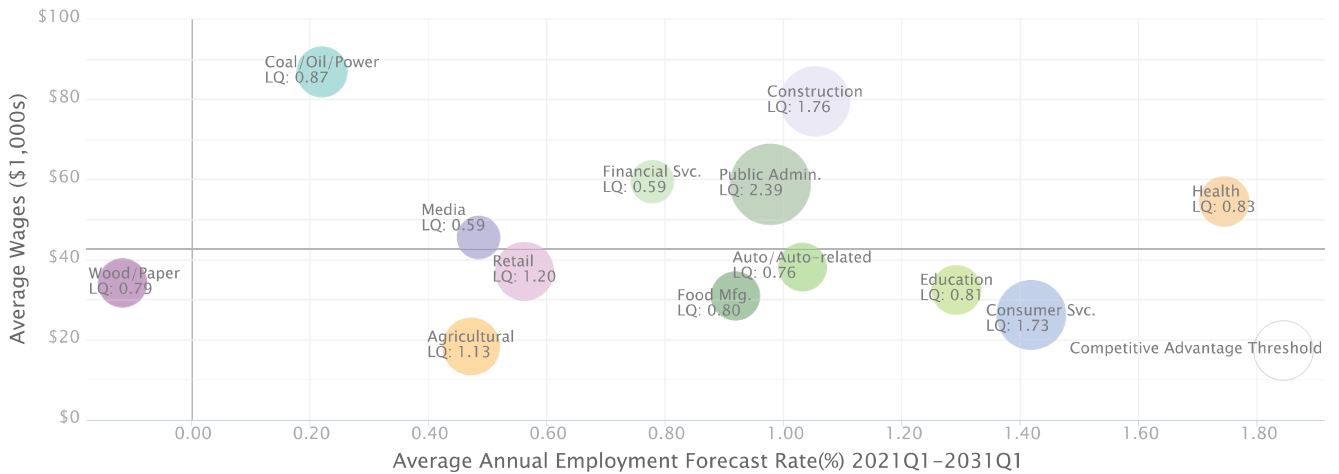
The largest sector in Chaffee County, Colorado is Accommodation and Food Services, employing 1,374 workers. The next-largest sectors in the region are Retail Trade (1,262 workers) and Health Care and Social Assistance (1,105). High location quotients (LQs) indicate sectors in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The sectors with the largest LQs in the region are Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation (LQ = 2.96), Public Administration (2.15), and Accommodation and Food Services (2.13).

Total Workers for Chaffee County, Colorado by Industry



Source: JobsEQ®, Data as of 2021Q1

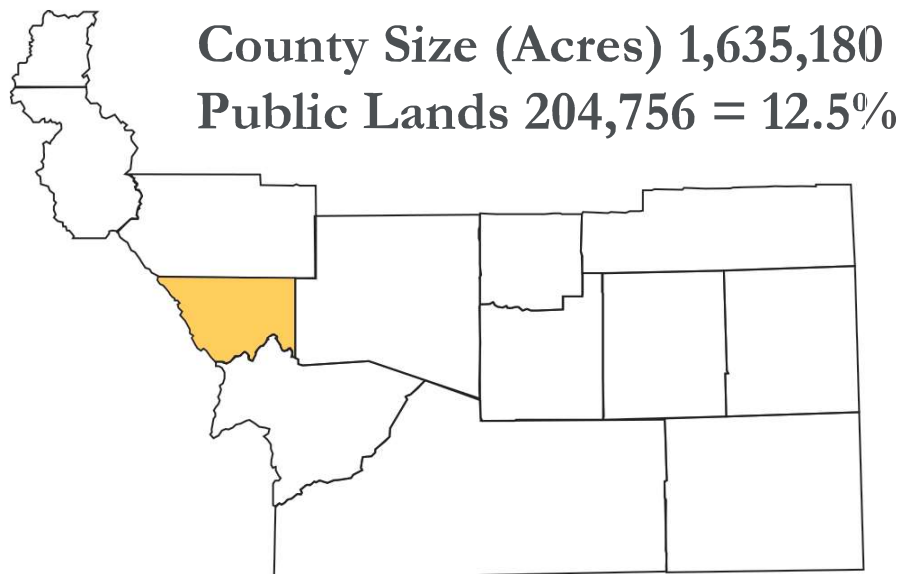
Industry Clusters for Chaffee County, Colorado as of 2021Q1



Source: JobsEQ®, Data as of 2021Q1

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1.

Custer County- Community and Economic Profile

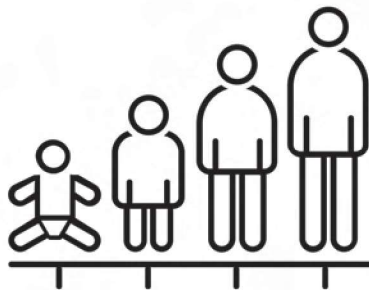


Total Population
2010- 4,272
2020- 5,059
% Change= 18.4%

Median Wage
\$33,664



Median Age
59.7 Years Old



Household Size
2.13



Unemployment
4.9%



High School
Graduation Rate
86.7%



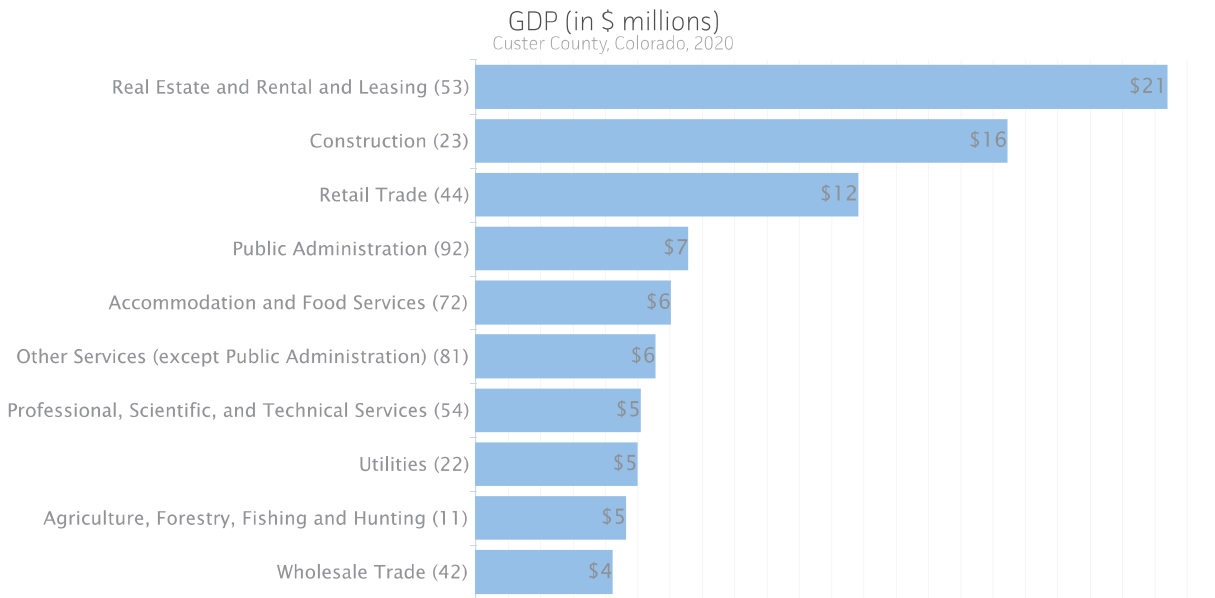
Median Home
Value
\$281,900



Custer County - Gross Domestic Product

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the total value of goods and services produced by a region. In 2020, nominal GDP in Custer County, Colorado expanded 5.5%. This follows growth of 0.5% in 2019. As of 2020, total GDP in Custer County, Colorado was \$110,647,000.

Of the sectors in Custer County, Colorado, Real Estate and Rental and Leasing contributed the largest portion of GDP in 2020, \$21,400,000. The next-largest contributions came from Construction (\$16,452,000); Retail Trade (\$11,841,000); and Public Administration (\$6,567,000).



Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2020.



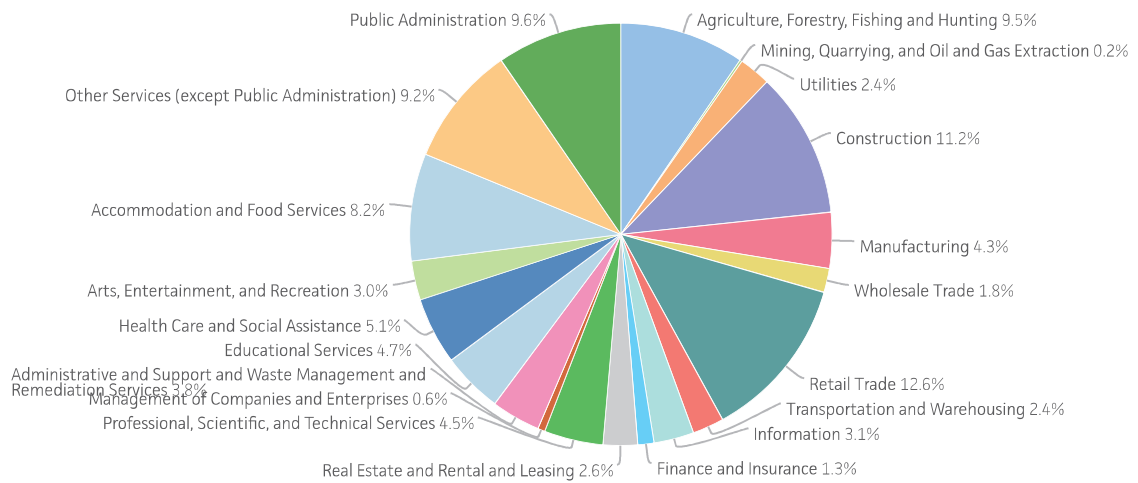
Jones Theater, Westcliffe; Custer County

Custer County - Industry Snapshot

The total number of jobs in Custer County at the end of 2020 was 1,232. Job growth in the county is projected to be 1.5 percent per annum resulting in 98 jobs over the next five years.

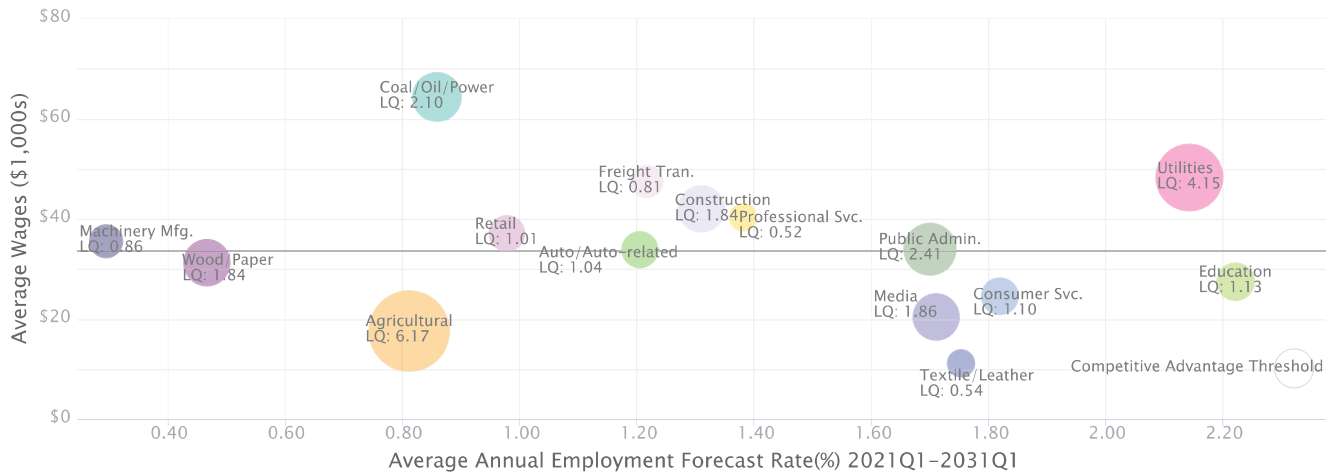
The largest sector in Custer County, Colorado is Retail Trade, employing 155 workers. The next-largest sectors in the region are Construction (138 workers) and Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (118). High location quotients (LQs) indicate sectors in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The sectors with the largest LQs in the region are Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (LQ = 6.68), Utilities (4.46), and Other Services (except Public Administration) (2.15).

Total Workers for Custer County, Colorado by Industry



Source: JobsEQ®, Data as of 2021Q1

Industry Clusters for Custer County, Colorado as of 2021Q1



Source: JobsEQ®, Data as of 2021Q1

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1.

Fremont County- Community and Economic Profile

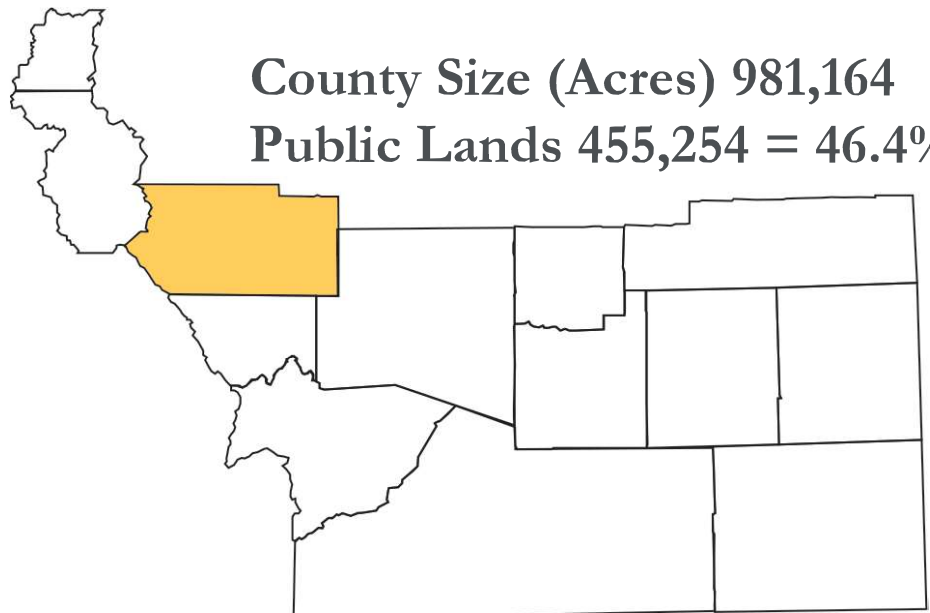


Total Population

2010- 46,854

2020- 47,645

% Change= 1.7%



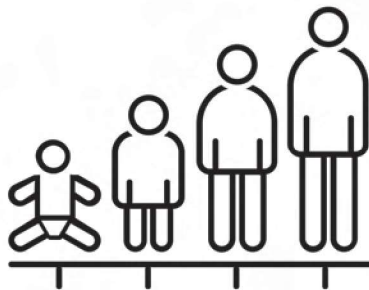
Median Wage

\$44,243



Median Age

45.1 Years Old



Household Size

2.3



Unemployment

8.8%



High School
Graduation Rate

71.4%



Median Home
Value

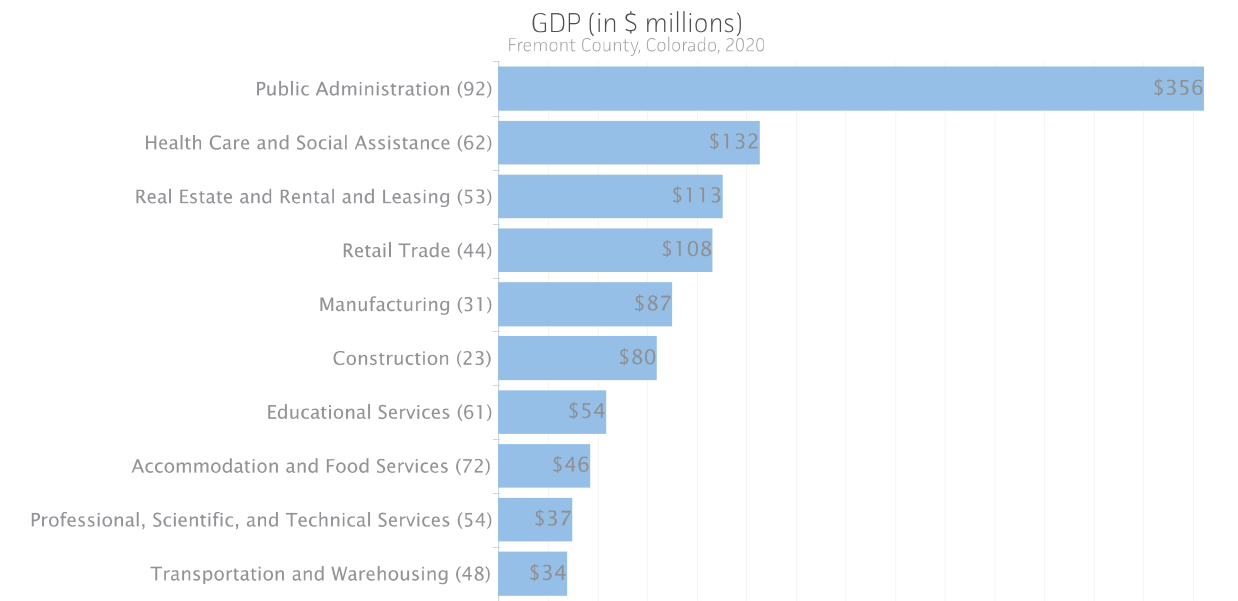
\$174,000



Fremont County-Gross Domestic Product

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the total value of goods and services produced by a region. In 2020, nominal GDP in Fremont County, Colorado expanded 1.6%. This follows growth of 2.5% in 2019. As of 2020, total GDP in Fremont County, Colorado was \$1,223,943,000.

Of the sectors in Fremont County, Colorado, Public Administration contributed the largest portion of GDP in 2020, \$355,642,000. The next-largest contributions came from Health Care and Social Assistance (\$131,634,000); Real Estate and Rental and Leasing (\$112,878,000); and Retail Trade (\$107,792,000).



Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2020.

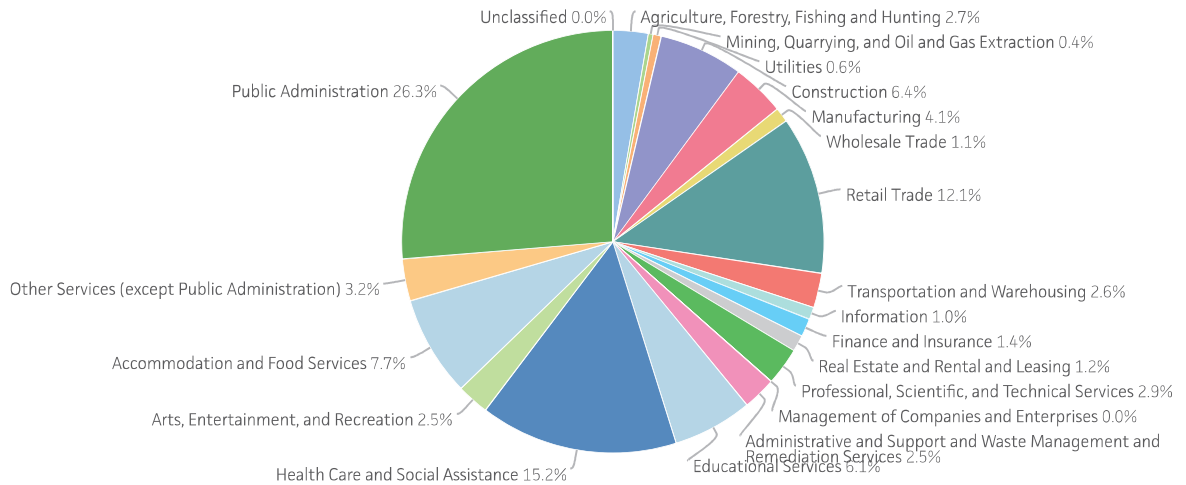
Fremont, County-Industry Snapshot

The total number of jobs in Fremont County at the end of 2020 was 15,072. Job growth in the county is projected to be .3 percent annually over the next five years resulting in an increase of 229 jobs.

The largest sector in Fremont County, Colorado is Public Administration, employing 3,962 workers. The next-largest sectors in the region are Health Care and Social Assistance (2,283 workers) and Retail Trade (1,823). High location quotients (LQs) indicate sectors in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The sectors with the largest LQs in the region are Public Administration (LQ = 5.23), Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (1.88), and Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation (1.64).

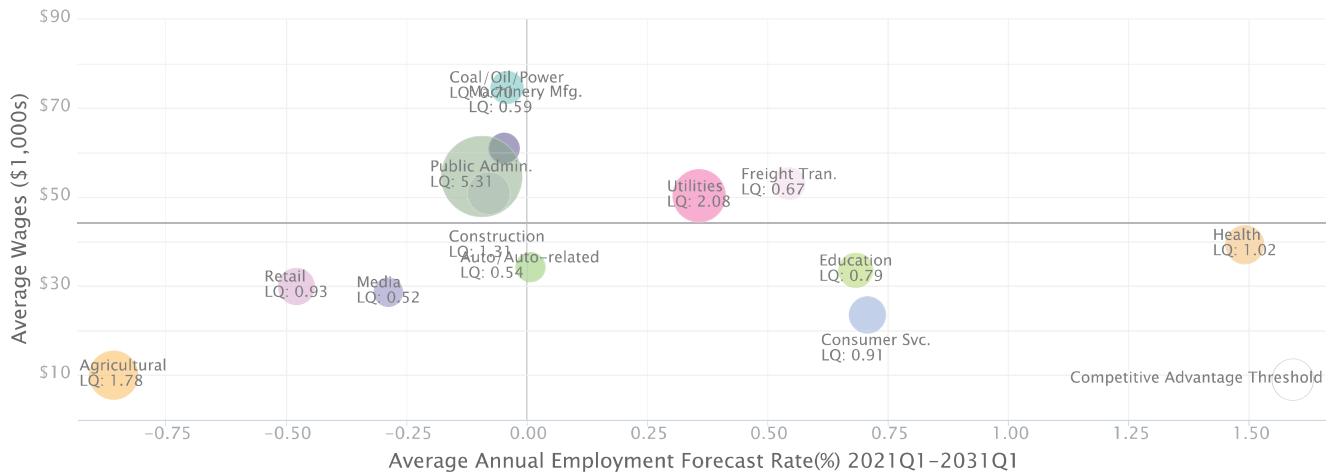
Southern Colorado Economic Development District * 2021 CEDS

Total Workers for Fremont County, Colorado by Industry



Source: JobsEQ*, Data as of 2021Q1

Industry Clusters for Fremont County, Colorado as of 2021Q1



Source: JobsEQ*, Data as of 2021Q1

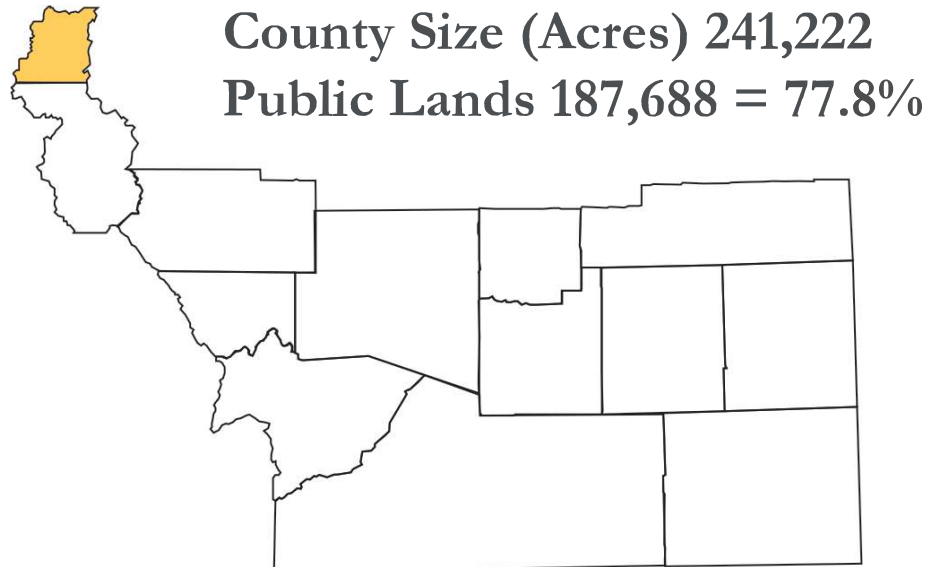
Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1.



The Abby Events Center, Canon City; Fremont County

Fremont County – Upper Arkansas

Lake County- Community and Economic Profile

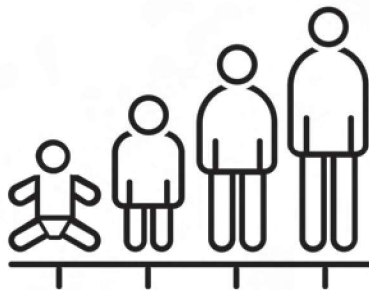


Total Population
2010- 7,282
2020- 8,081
% Change= **11%**

Median Wage
\$45,337



Median Age
36.7 Years Old



Household Size
2.43



Unemployment
5.9%



High School
Graduation Rate
67.9%



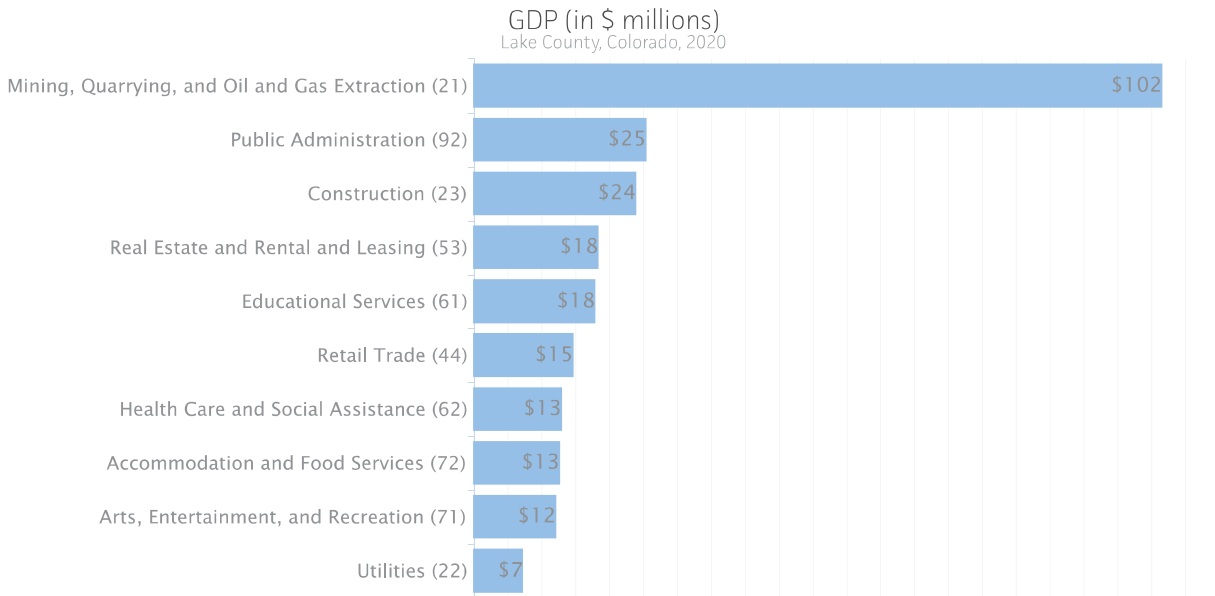
Median Home
Value
\$232,100



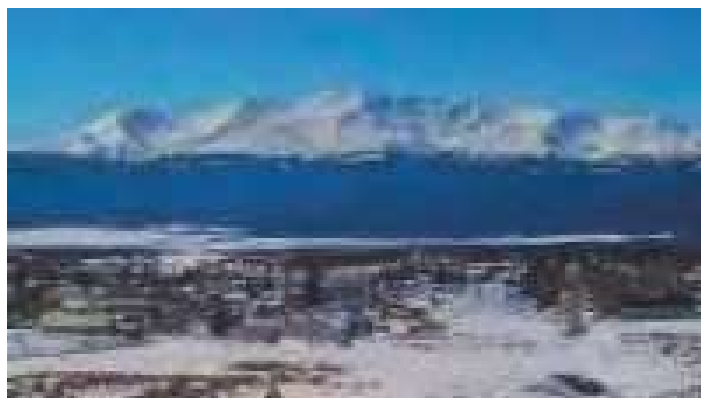
Lake County - Gross Domestic Product

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the total value of goods and services produced by a region. In 2020, nominal GDP in Lake County, Colorado contracted 8.8%. This follows growth of 13.7% in 2019. As of 2020, total GDP in Lake County, Colorado was \$277,598,000.

Of the sectors in Lake County, Colorado, Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction contributed the largest portion of GDP in 2020, \$101,584,000. The next-largest contributions came from Public Administration (\$25,454,000); Construction (\$24,029,000); and Real Estate and Rental and Leasing (\$18,411,000).



Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2020.



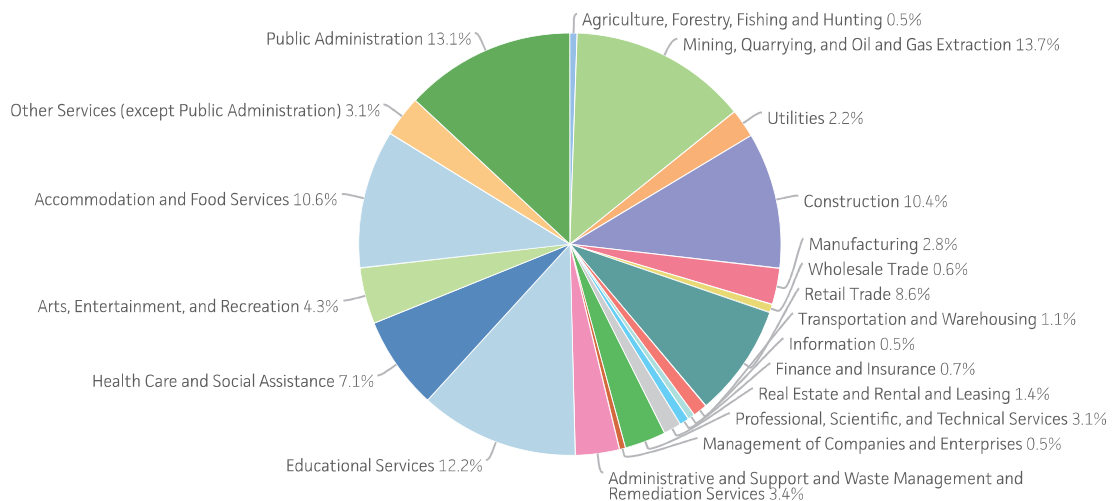
Leadville; Lake County

Lake County - Industry Snapshot

The total number of jobs in Lake County at the end of 2020 was 2,515. Job growth in the county is projected to be 1.40 percent annually over the next five years, resulting in a gain of 184 jobs.

The largest sector in Lake County, Colorado is Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction, employing 344 workers. The next-largest sectors in the region are Public Administration (329 workers) and Educational Services (306). High location quotients (LQs) indicate sectors in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The sectors with the largest LQs in the region are Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction (LQ = 38.21), Utilities (4.04), and Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation (2.85).

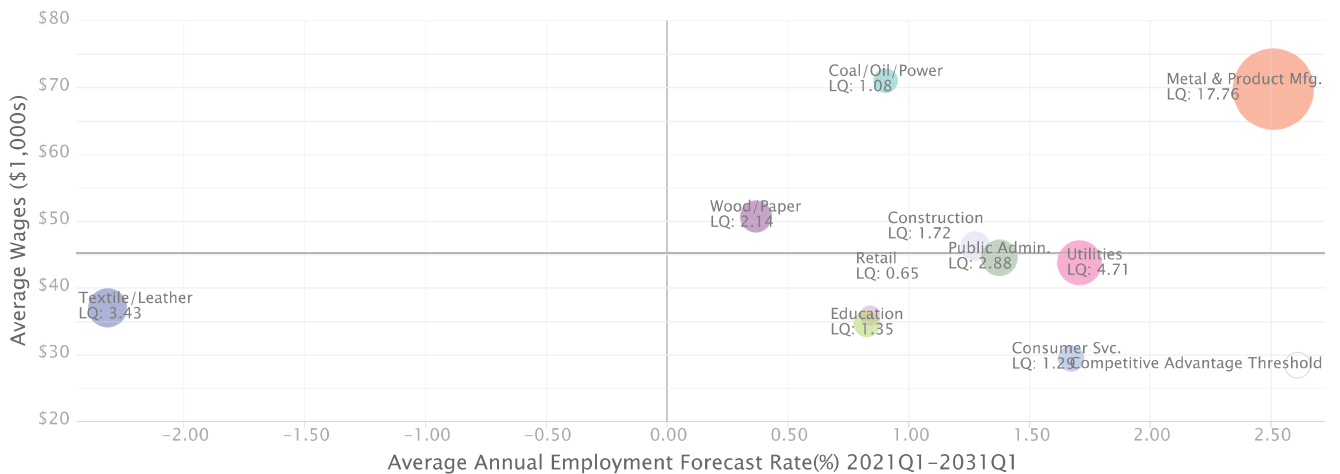
Total Workers for Lake County, Colorado by Industry



Source: JobsEQ®, Data as of 2021Q1

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1.

Industry Clusters for Lake County, Colorado as of 2021Q1



Source: JobsEQ®, Data as of 2021Q1

SCEDD overview of sub-region #2

South Central

Huerfano and Las Animas Counties

Geography

The South Central sub-region includes the counties of Huerfano and Las Animas. Las Animas County is located at the southernmost border of Colorado and the northernmost border of New Mexico with Huerfano County located north of Trinidad and south of Pueblo. The sub-region signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Colfax County, New Mexico, to develop and implement an economic development strategy for the multi-county region -- one that strategically builds on the current and emerging economic strengths of Raton Basin Regional Economic Development (RED). Opportunity Zones exist in the area. All of Las Animas County east of I-25 is an Opportunity Zone. The entire City of Walsenburg is located in an Opportunity Zone along with a several mile radius around the city.

South Central Sub-Region

Las Animas County is the largest county in the State of Colorado and the fifth largest in the nation with 4,772 square miles. The City of Trinidad, at 6,025 feet in elevation, 300 days of sunshine, and charming brick streets, the area is very welcoming to visitors and retirees. Travelers from the south along the I-25 corridor get their first glimpse of Colorful Colorado with the Sangre de Cristo Mountain range to the west and the Comanche National Grasslands to the east. The area boasts three lakes located in two state parks, that provide excellent fishing, water activities, camp sites, and RV accommodations. The Pike/San Isabel National Forest has a strong presence in Huerfano County with a smaller footprint in Las Animas County. However, Trinidad is home to two state parks, Trinidad Lake State Park and the most recent addition to the State Park System, Fisher's Peak State Park. Lathrop State Park is located just outside the Huerfano County seat of Walsenburg.

The nationally recognized Santa Fe Trail from Missouri to New Mexico brought thousands to the west who traveled directly through Trinidad. Huerfano County is a major corridor for the region, connecting the southeast Colorado to southwest Durango. Part of that route is now a federal and state Scenic Byway in southern Colorado and Las Animas County. Additionally, this federal and state scenic byway, the Scenic Highway of Legends, connects Huerfano and Las Animas Counties as it encircles the Spanish Peaks Wilderness Area. The Spanish Peaks are designated federal natural and historic landmarks. Two additional federal wilderness areas are in Huerfano - the Sangre De Cristo and the Greenhorn Wilderness areas. A small portion of the Comanche National Grasslands and the Pike San Isabel National Forest are found in Las Animas County. Public lands there make up 302,897 acres or 9.9% of the total land. In contrast, Huerfano's 208,780 public acres are 20.5% of public land. Most is USFS land. Numerous State Wildlife Areas, National Historic Sites, and sections of BLM are also present in the area. Along with several endangered plant species there are

endangered animals in the area. Here is a partial list: Mexican spotted owl, lynx, peregrine falcon, black footed ferret, and greenback cutthroat trout.

The sub-region values its natural assets in renewable solar and wind energy. Colorado's largest wind farm is in eastern Huerfano County, along with a smaller wind farm. A large solar farm is found on the Huerfano/Las Animas County line, soon to be expanded. While green energy is growing, so is coal, which once made this subregion one of the top two coal producing areas in Colorado.

Once widely known for its metallurgical coal the area saw this industry virtually die in the 1950s. However, in recent months, the New Elk Coal Mine reopened west of Trinidad and is already extracting metallurgic coal, which is being shipped via southern ports to markets in Asia and Austria. The mine currently employs 80 workers and expects to top out at more than 250 within two years. Additional coal mines could also open in the vicinity.



There is a new effort looking at geothermal energy opportunities in Las Animas County and the potential to develop direct use heat exchange. Helium extraction was once strong in Las Animas County, but that resource is thought to be nearly exhausted. Current exploration efforts are underway by private businesses to redevelop this industry by finding untapped helium. Through the Refuel Colorado & Charge Ahead Colorado programs the sub-region continues working to promote Electric Vehicle use and Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment throughout the South Central and Southeast sub-regions. The state also has plans in place to electrify all 26 scenic byways as part of this program for both e-bikes and electric automobiles.

Major Industries

In 2020, the combined GDP for this sub-region of Huerfano and Las Animas Counties was \$621.2 million. (See Appendix E.) The primary industries in this sub-region area are public administration, construction, mining/quarrying, health care/social assistance, retail, accommodations/food, and educational services. With health care being the number one employer for both counties, we see retail coming as number two for both. Then public administration follows in the number three slot. In Huerfano agricultural work is number four with about 10% of the jobs, while in Las Animas County accommodations and food service are in fourth place at 9.8%.

The collaborative efforts of the City of Trinidad, the South-Central Council of Governments, Colorado Department of Transportation, Spanish Peaks Regional Health Center, Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway, Greyhound Bus Lines, and Amtrak resulted in the concept of a centrally located transportation hub, the *Multi-modal Transit Center*. The project has moved back to the

planning and feasibility phase following increased interest in a potential private/public partnership in the construction of the center.

As noted above, clean energy continues to emerge within the sub-region. San Isabel Electric/Tri-State Generation Association has moved forward with their contract with Juwi Inc. SIEA/Tri-State is slated to purchase the entire output of the 30-megawatts (MWs) solar farm over 25 years. When completed, the project will have an additional capacity of up to 37.8 MWs, with roughly 120,000 solar modules. In addition, Peak Views Wind Energy, contracted to build 34 wind turbines, will provide 60 MWs of power and was recently approved by the PUC.

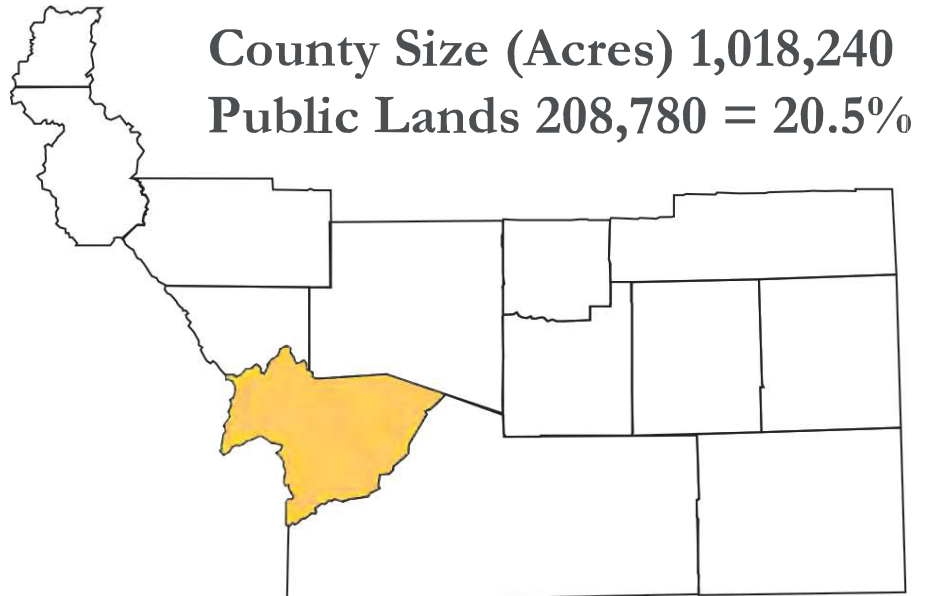
As found across Colorado, agriculture and tourism are both important industries to the south-central sub-region. Both hemp and marijuana production are found here, as are retail outlets for medical and recreational cannabis. However, most ag lands are utilized for cattle, hay, and other crop production. Prime agricultural lands have been identified in the South-Central region and are identified in Appendix C. Heritage tourism is important in the sub-region and draws visitors from Colorado and surrounding states to enjoy their cultural/heritage tourism efforts. Recreational tourism is considered the second major asset in the region's tourism goals.



Regional Economic Priorities

Workforce housing, economic diversification, critical infrastructure water and wastewater projects, broadband development, and improving raw land to be suitable for industrial and commercial development are the top five Economic Strategies for this region to focus on over the next five years.

Huerfano County- Community and Economic Profile

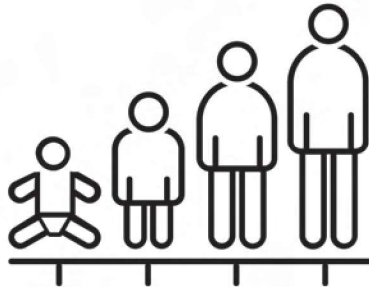


Total Population
2010- 6,655
2020- 6,854
% Change= 3%

Median Wage
\$36,4190



Median Age
55 Years Old



Household Size
2.09



Unemployment
8.8%



High School
Graduation Rate
71.4%



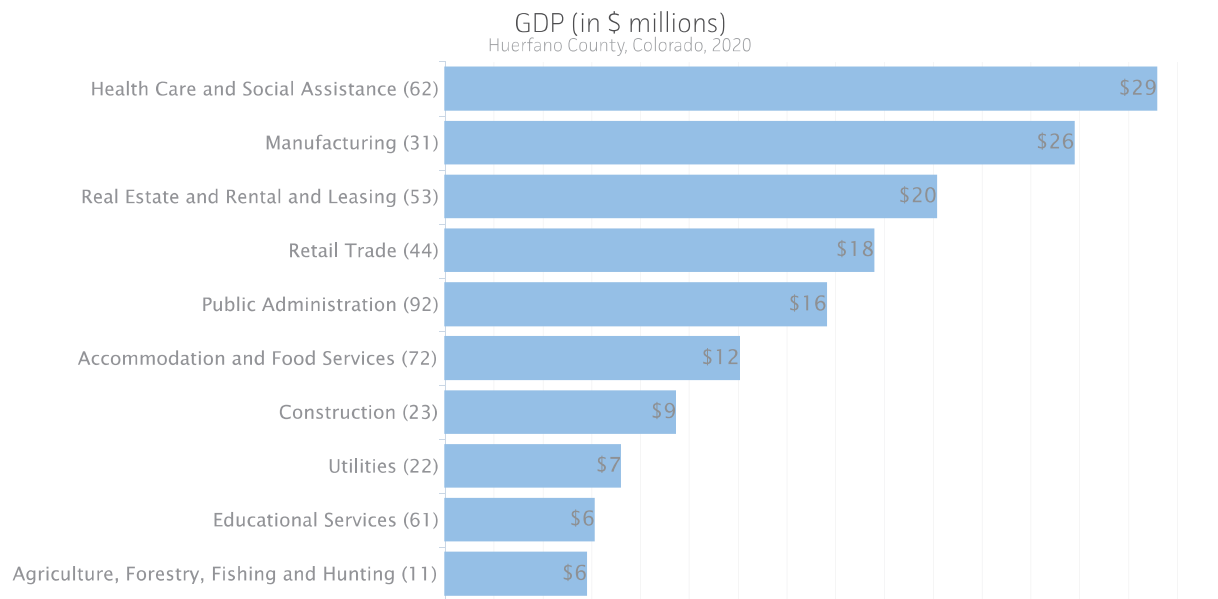
Median Home
Value
\$161,600



Huerfano, County-Gross Domestic Product

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the total value of goods and services produced by a region. In 2020, nominal GDP in Huerfano County, Colorado expanded 8.3%. This follows a contraction of 1.6% in 2019. As of 2020, total GDP in Huerfano County, Colorado was \$176,132,000.

Of the sectors in Huerfano County, Colorado, Health Care and Social Assistance contributed the largest portion of GDP in 2020, \$29,185,000. The next-largest contributions came from Manufacturing (\$25,805,000); Real Estate and Rental and Leasing (\$20,177,000); and Retail Trade (\$17,606,000).



Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2020.

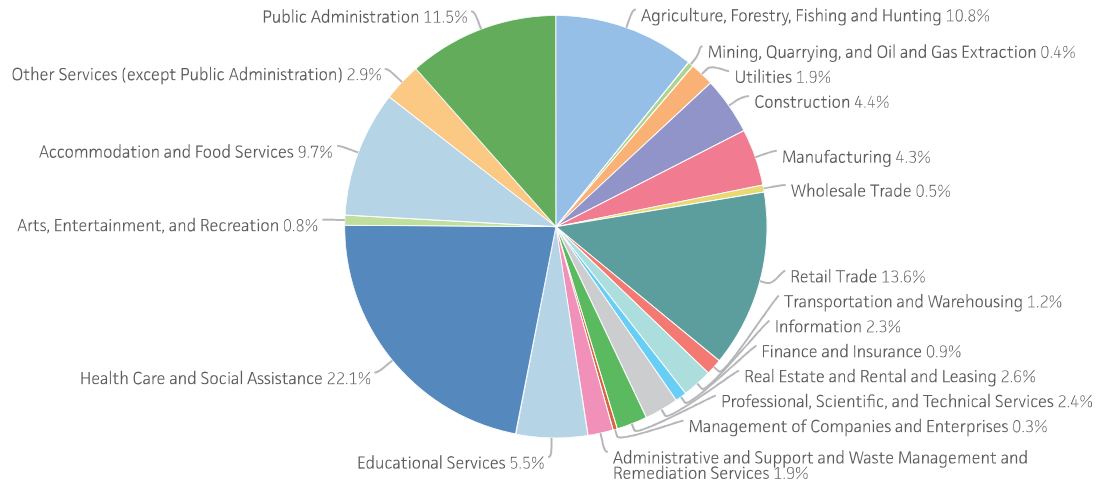
Huerfano County - Industry Snapshot

The total number of jobs in Huerfano County at the end of 2020 was 2,147. Job growth in the county is projected to be .4 percent annually over the next five years, resulting in a gain of 48 total new jobs.

The largest sector in Huerfano County, Colorado is Health Care and Social Assistance, employing 473 workers. The next-largest sectors in the region are Retail Trade (292 workers) and Public Administration (247). High location quotients (LQs) indicate sectors in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The sectors with the largest LQs in the region are Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (LQ = 7.57), Utilities (3.41), and Public Administration (2.29).

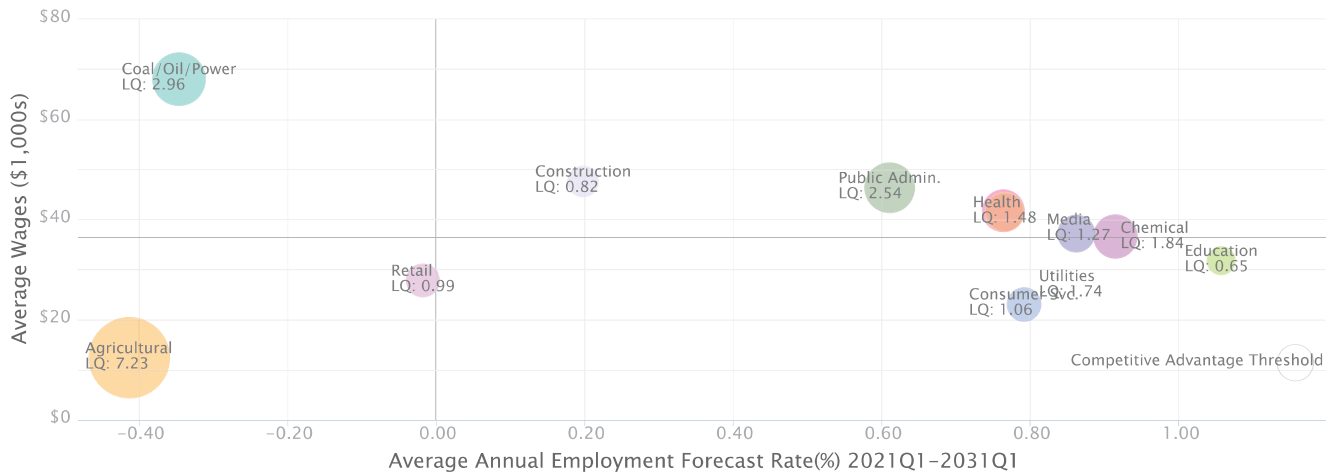
Southern Colorado Economic Development District * 2021 CEDS

Total Workers for Huerfano County, Colorado by Industry



Source: JobsEQ*, Data as of 2021Q1

Industry Clusters for Huerfano County, Colorado as of 2021Q1



Source: JobsEQ*, Data as of 2021Q1

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1.

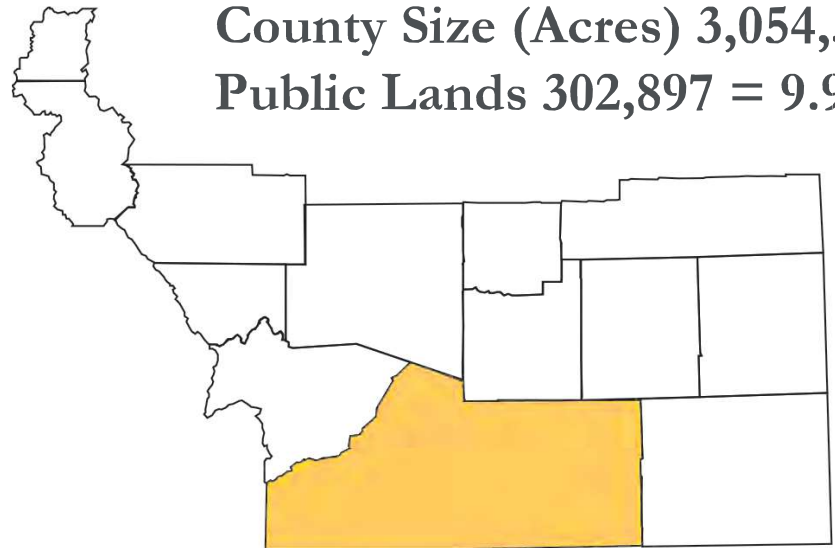


Street festival, Walsenburg; Huerfano County


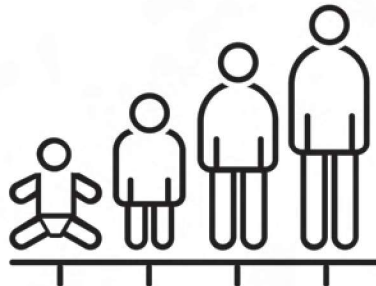




Las Animas County- Community and Economic Profile



Total Population
2010- 15,407
2020- 14,493
% Change= **-5.9%**



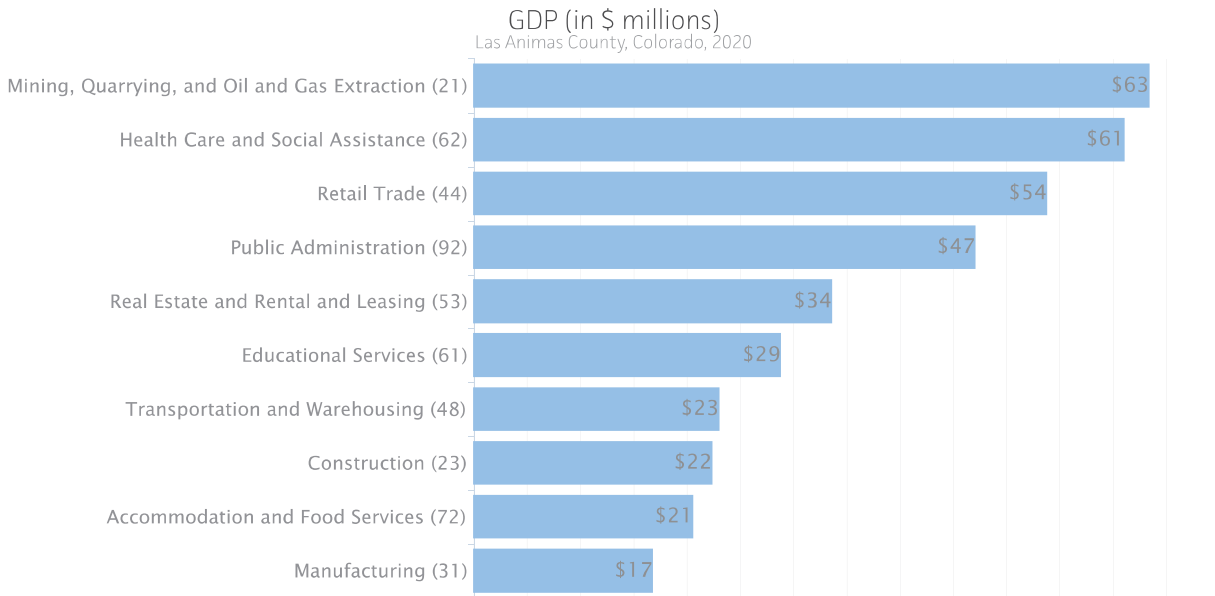
County Size (Acres) 3,054,508
Public Lands 302,897 = 9.9%

<p>Median Wage \$40,107</p> 	<p>Median Age 45.9 Years Old</p> 	<p>Household Size 2.29</p> 
<p>Unemployment 7%</p> 	<p>High School Graduation Rate 80%</p> 	<p>Median Home Value \$151,100</p> 

Las Animas County - Gross Domestic Product

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the total value of goods and services produced by a region. In 2020, nominal GDP in Las Animas County, Colorado contracted 1.3%. This follows a contraction of 11.3% in 2019. As of 2020, total GDP in Las Animas County, Colorado was \$452,051,000.

Of the sectors in Las Animas County, Colorado, Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction contributed the largest portion of GDP in 2020, \$63,478,000. The next-largest contributions came from Health Care and Social Assistance (\$61,109,000); Retail Trade (\$53,861,000); and Public Administration (\$47,095,000).



Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2020.



Defunct Coke Ovens; Las Animas County

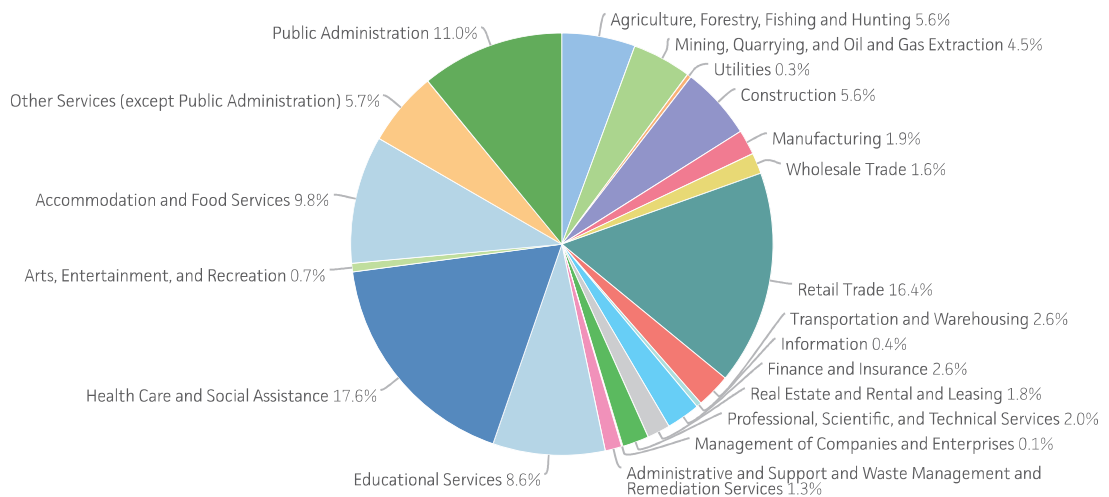
Las Animas County – South Central

Las Animas County - Industry Snapshot

The total number of jobs in Las Animas County at the end of 2020 was 5,370. Job growth in the county is projected to be .1 percent annually for the next five years resulting in 26 new jobs.

The largest sector in Las Animas County, Colorado is Health Care and Social Assistance, employing 946 workers. The next-largest sectors in the region are Retail Trade (880 workers) and Public Administration (588). High location quotients (LQs) indicate sectors in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The sectors with the largest LQs in the region are Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction (LQ = 12.67), Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (3.93), and Public Administration (2.18).

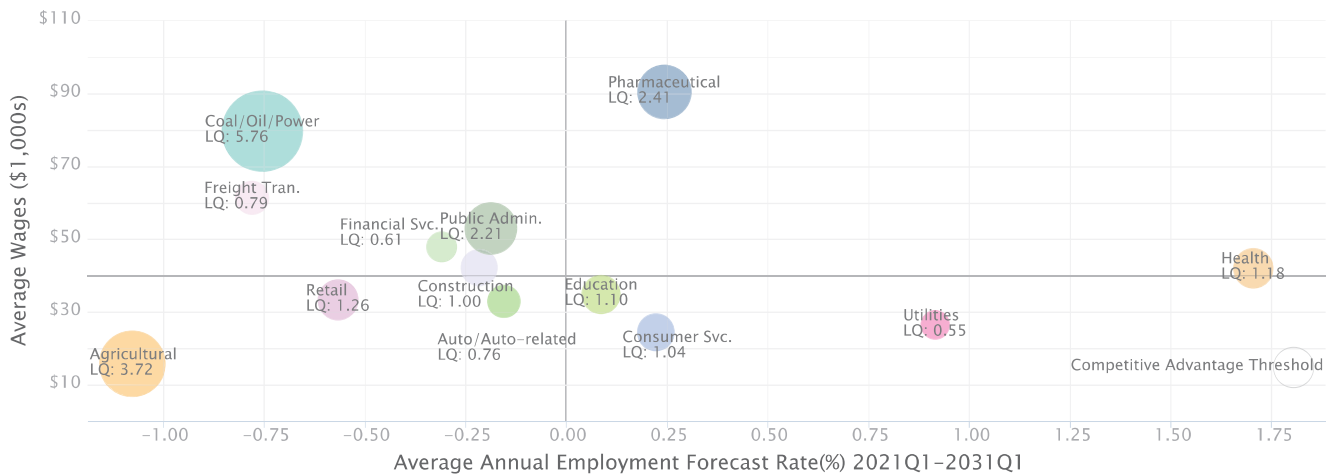
Total Workers for Las Animas County, Colorado by Industry



Source: JobsEQ®, Data as of 2021Q1

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1.

Industry Clusters for Las Animas County, Colorado as of 2021Q1



Source: JobsEQ®, Data as of 2021Q1

SCEDD OVERVIEW OF SUB-REGION #3 SOUTHEASTERN PLAINS

BACA, BENT, CROWLEY, KIOWA, OTERO, AND PROWERS COUNTIES

Geography

The Southeast sub-region counties of Baca, Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, Otero, and Prowers continue to experience out-migration and are developing the necessary tools to attract, retain, and expand private sector employment. In 2010 these six counties partnered to form a collaborative economic development group – Southeast Colorado Business Retention, Expansion and Attraction (SEBREA) – to support the region and the efforts of the existing economic development organizations. Federal public lands are not quite as plentiful in this area, except for the Comanche National Grasslands, which are located in Baca and Otero Counties. Martin Lake State Park is the sole state park in this sub-region. Recreational opportunities include boating, fishing, birding, and hunting. More than 20 State Wildlife areas are in these six counties along with several sections of BLM lands. The combined public lands of these six counties totals 415,073, or about 38% of the land. Several endangered plants have been identified in the area along with this partial list of animals: lesser prairie chicken, Texas blind snake, Couch’s spadefoot toad, yellow necked mud turtle, and the plains orange throat darter.

Southeast Sub-Region

The Southeast sub-region lies east of Interstate 25 and receives more than 300 days of sunshine every year. The region’s wealth of outdoor adventures includes trails, petroglyphs and dinosaur tracks of Comanche National Grasslands, Picture, Vogel and Picketwire Canyons. Heritage tourism locations include Bent’s Old Fort, Boggsville and Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Sites.

Major Industries

In 2020, the combined GDP for the six counties that make of the southeastern sub-region was \$1.72 billion (see Appendix E). Throughout this area health care is consistently the number one employer. Similarly, agriculture-related fields are in second place in all but Otero County, where education comes in second. After that the job markets vary. *Bent*--Rounding out the top five job markets in descending order are: Public administration, retail, and construction. *Baca*-- Administrative support/waste management and remediation, public administration, and retail. *Crowley*--Education and administrative support are tied for number three, followed by retail, then construction. *Otero*--Manufacturing is third followed by public administration, then accommodations/food industries. *Prowers*--Retail is in third place, then public administration, and manufacturing. Opportunity Zones exist in this region and are found in all of Bent and Crowley Counties, much of the City of La Junta,

Southern Colorado Economic Development District * 2021 CEDS

most of the city of Lamar, and more than half of the western portion of Prowers County. The inclusion of Kiowa County as an Opportunity Zone was identified as a high priority.

This sub-region, along with other partners, has been successful at retaining passenger train service by joining together with the states of Kansas and New Mexico and being awarded two Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grants. The Southwest Chief Route Advancement and Improvement project will allow rehabilitation work to continue on rails from Kansas to New Mexico.

CDOT has completed the resurfacing of the “Ports to Plains” corridor of US Highway 287 that runs through Baca, Kiowa, and Prowers Counties while continuing to examine the need and process to enhance US Highway 50 through the sub-region.

Broadband middle mile infrastructure is available throughout the sub-region, but the last mile continues to be a major problem. SCEDD is proposing a broadband initiative to exercise leadership region-wide. In this sub-region, fixed wireless and satellites are likely to be technological fixes in rural, sparsely populated areas.

Prime agricultural lands have been identified in this region and are identified in Appendix C. The Southeastern Plains sub-region has a major flood plain along the Arkansas river and its tributaries. Each County has worked with FEMA to address flood mitigation, dykes, and reduce flooding risks.

Revitalizing communities within the sub-region has had some success. The City of Lamar implemented a Main Street revitalization program while the City of Eads was recently awarded a historic preservation grant to begin restoring the historic Plains Theatre.

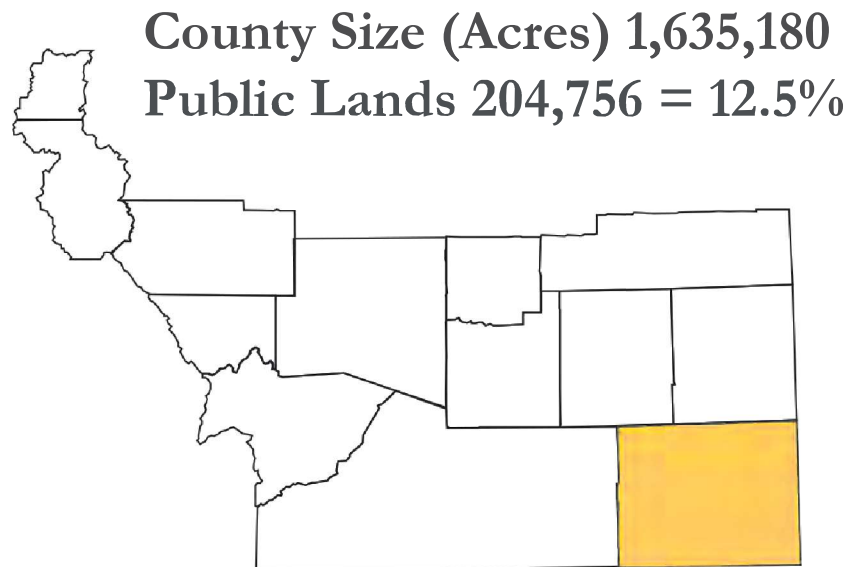
Regional Economic Priorities

Workforce Housing, Economic Diversification, Critical infrastructure water and wastewater projects, Broadband development, and improving raw land to be suitable for industrial and commercial development are the top 5 Economic Strategies for the region over the next 5 years.

Baca County- Community and Economic Profile



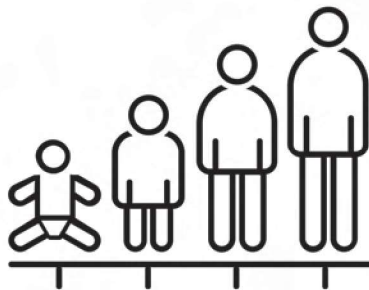
Total Population
2010- 3,795
2020- 3,556
% Change= **-6.3%**



Median Wage
\$36,970



Median Age
46 Years Old



Household Size
2.2



Unemployment
2.8%



High School
Graduation Rate
92.3%



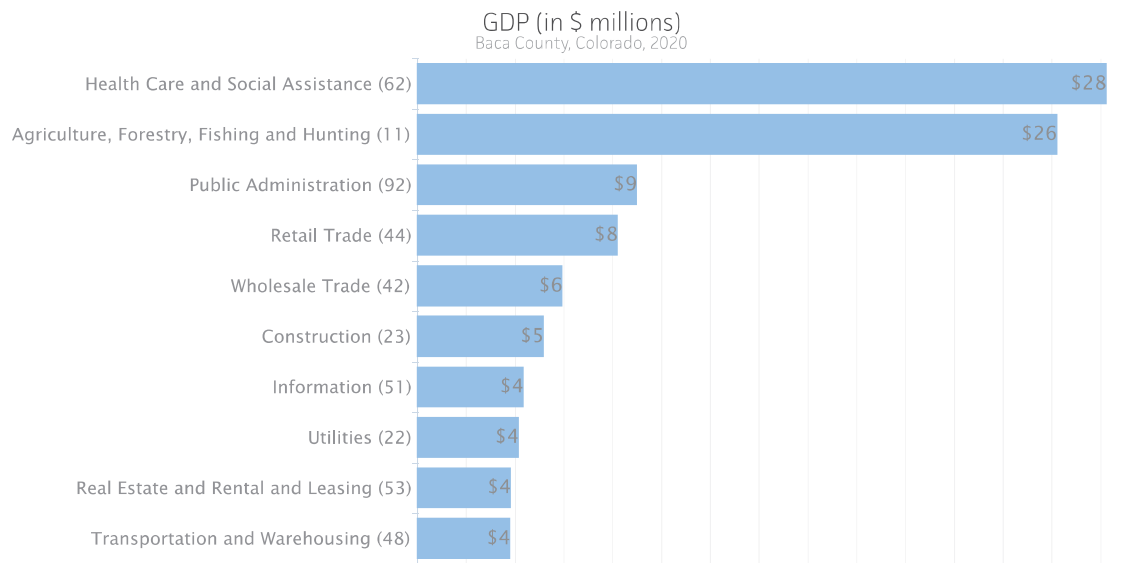
Median Home
Value
\$83,500



Baca County - Gross Domestic Product

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the total value of goods and services produced by a region. In 2020, nominal GDP in Baca County, Colorado expanded 0.8%. This follows growth of 9.4% in 2019. As of 2020, total GDP in Baca County, Colorado was \$112,954,000.

Of the sectors in Baca County, Colorado, Health Care and Social Assistance contributed the largest portion of GDP in 2020, \$28,244,000. The next-largest contributions came from Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (\$26,226,000); Public Administration (\$8,989,000); and Retail Trade (\$8,208,000).



Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2020.



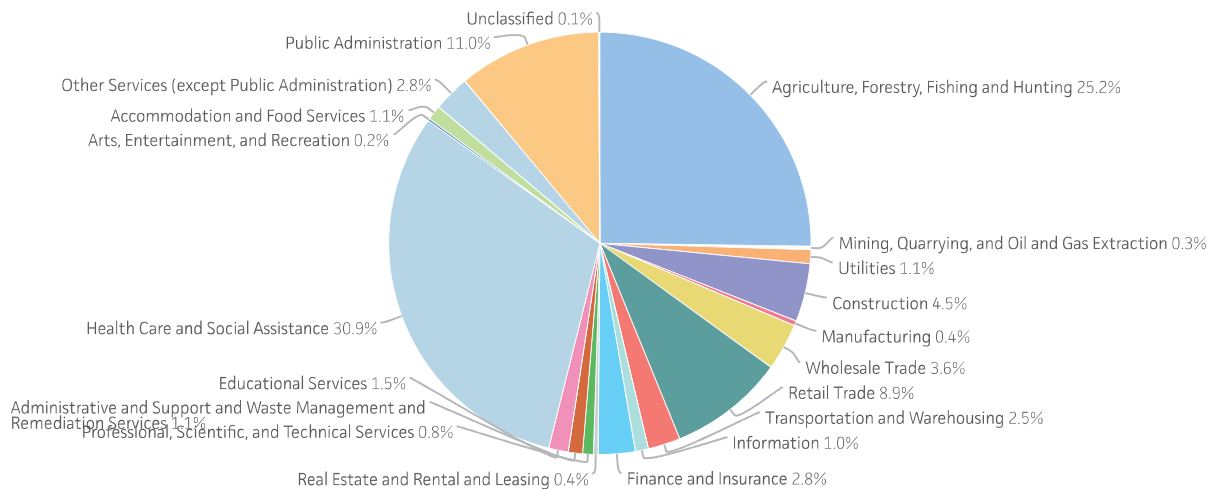
Carrizo Canyon; Baca County

Baca County - Industry Snapshot

The total number of jobs in Baca County at the end of 2020 was 1546. Job growth in the county is projected to be -1 percent, or -1 job per year for the next five years. However, additional growth in the hemp industry and downtown business district could add additional jobs in the next 5 years if successfully completed.

The largest sector in Baca County, Colorado is Health Care and Social Assistance, employing 479 workers. The next-largest sectors in the region are Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (390 workers) and Public Administration (169). High location quotients (LQs) indicate sectors in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The sectors with the largest LQs in the region are Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (LQ = 17.65), Public Administration (2.18), and Health Care and Social Assistance (2.07).

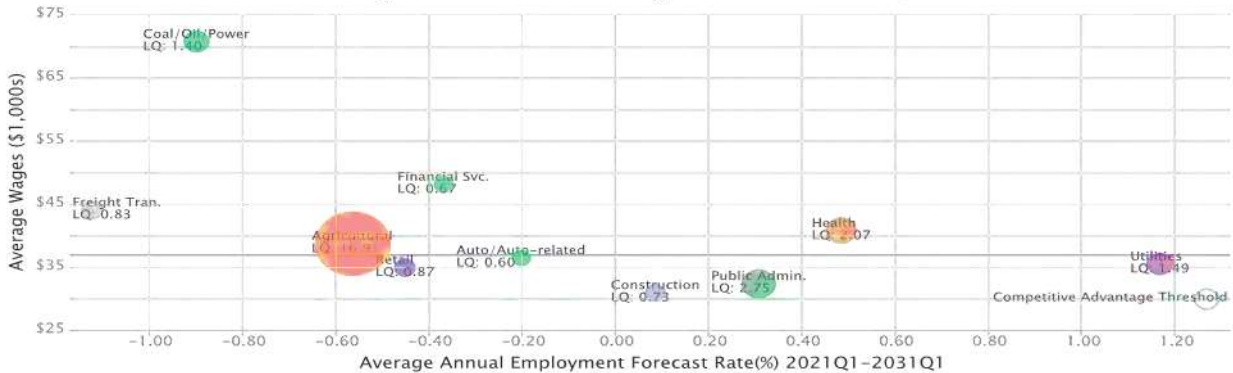
Total Workers for Baca County, Colorado by Industry



Source: JobsEQ®, Data as of 2021Q1

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1.

Industry Clusters for Baca County, Colorado as of 2021Q1

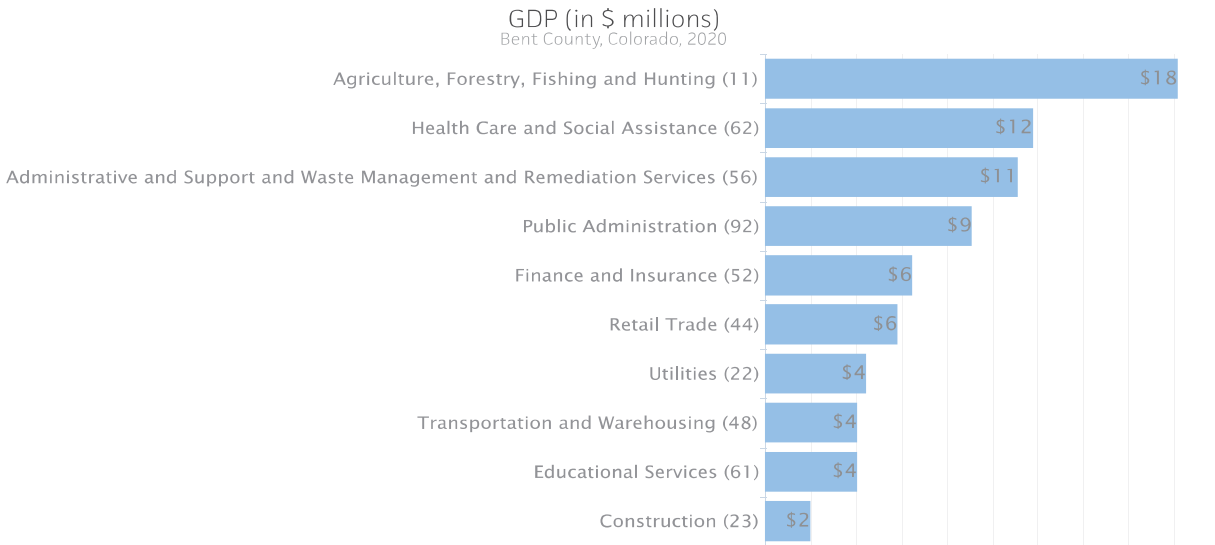


Source: JobsEQ®, Data as of 2021Q1

Bent, County-Gross Domestic Product

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the total value of goods and services produced by a region. In 2020, nominal GDP in Bent County, Colorado expanded 2.4%. This follows growth of 5.3% in 2019. As of 2020, total GDP in Bent County, Colorado was \$88,147,000.

Of the sectors in Bent County, Colorado, Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting contributed the largest portion of GDP in 2020, \$18,157,000. The next-largest contributions came from Health Care and Social Assistance (\$11,796,000); Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services (\$11,118,000); and Public Administration (\$9,090,000).



Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2020.



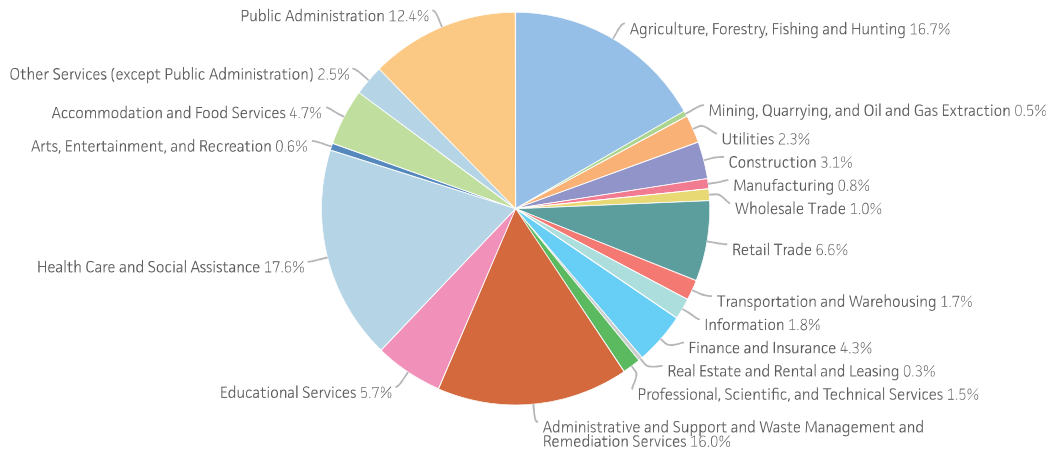
Bent County Courthouse

Bent County – Industry Snapshot

The total number of jobs in Bent County at the end of 2022 was 1,284. Job growth in the county is projected to be -0.4 percent annually over the next five years which will result in a loss of 26 jobs. The establishment of a business incubator in the county along with recent private prison development, a SCEDD/SECED workforce housing project, and other efforts continue to reverse that projection.

The largest sector in Bent County, Colorado is Health Care and Social Assistance, employing 226 workers. The next-largest sectors in the region are Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (215 workers) and Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services (205). High location quotients (LQs) indicate sectors in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The sectors with the largest LQs in the region are Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (LQ = 11.71), Utilities (4.22), and Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services (2.53).

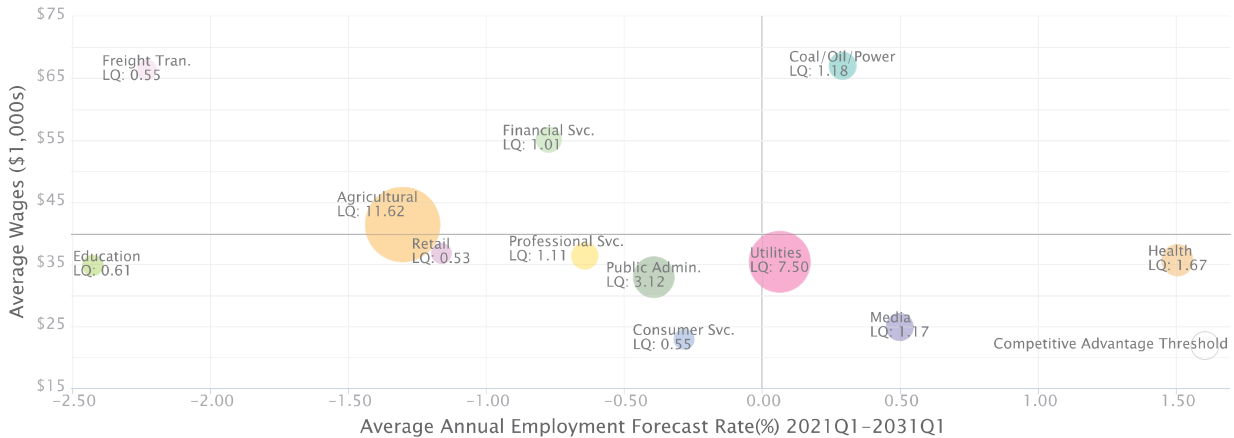
Total Workers for Bent County, Colorado by Industry



Source: JobsEQ®, Data as of 2021Q1

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1.

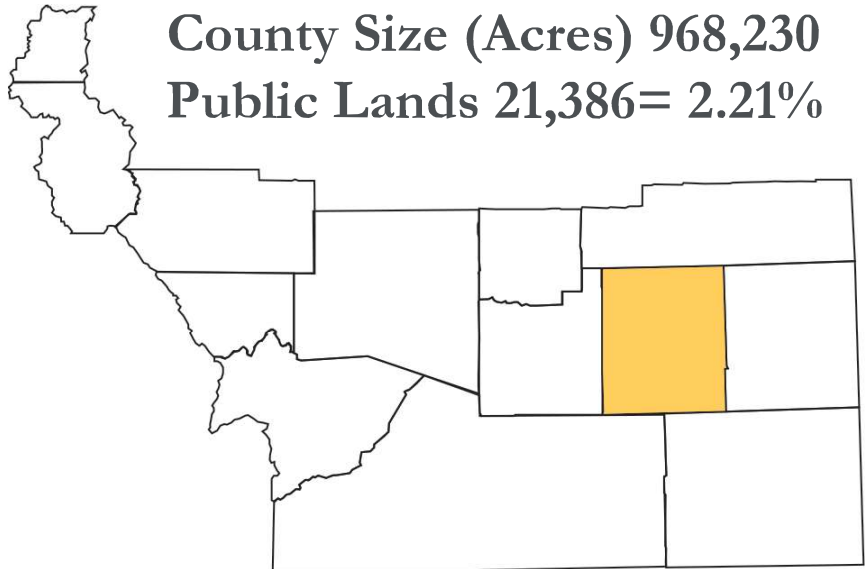
Industry Clusters for Bent County, Colorado as of 2021Q1



Source: JobsEQ®, Data as of 2021Q1

Bent County- Community and Economic Profile

BENT COUNTY Co



Total Population

2010- 6,506

2020- 5,798

% Change = **-10.9%**

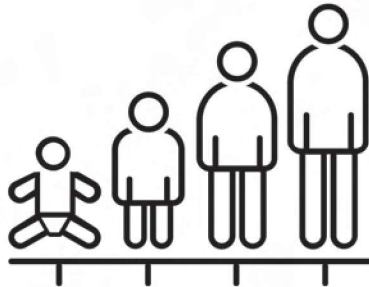
Median Wage

\$39,9830



Median Age

40.2 Years Old



Household Size

2.34



Unemployment

6.8%



High School
Graduation Rate

68.8%

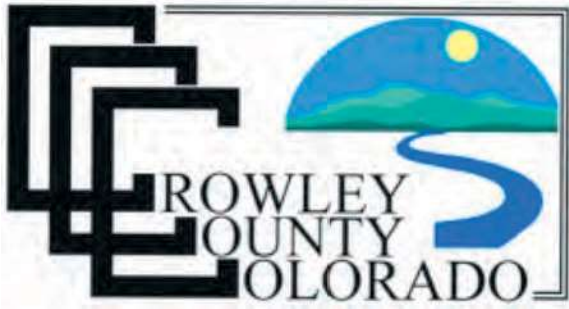


Median Home
Value

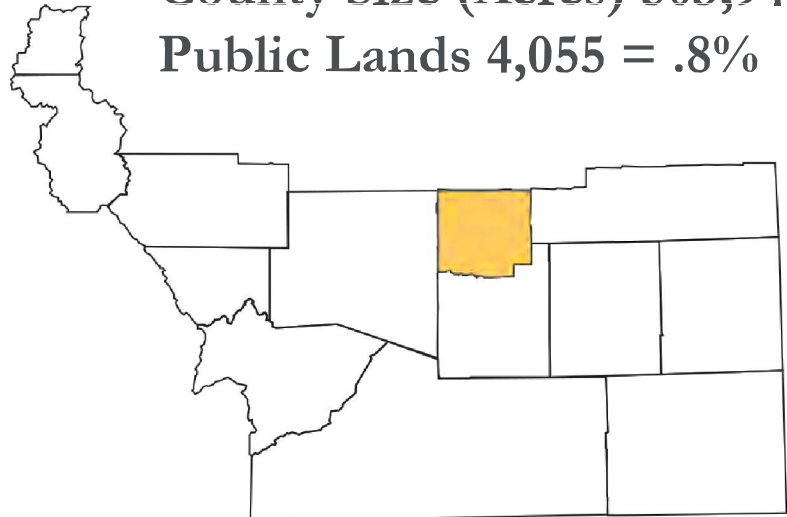
\$81,000



Crowley County- Community and Economic Profile



County Size (Acres) 503,948
Public Lands 4,055 = .8%



Total Population

2010- 5,838

2020- 6,032

% Change= 3.5%

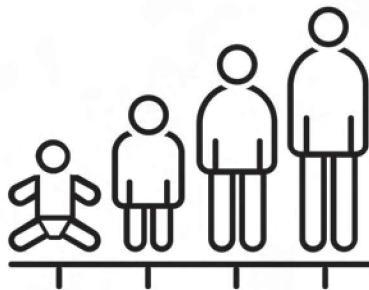
Median Wage

\$43,184



Median Age

35.4 Years Old



Household Size

2.41



Unemployment

4.9%



High School
Graduation Rate

86.7%



Median Home
Value

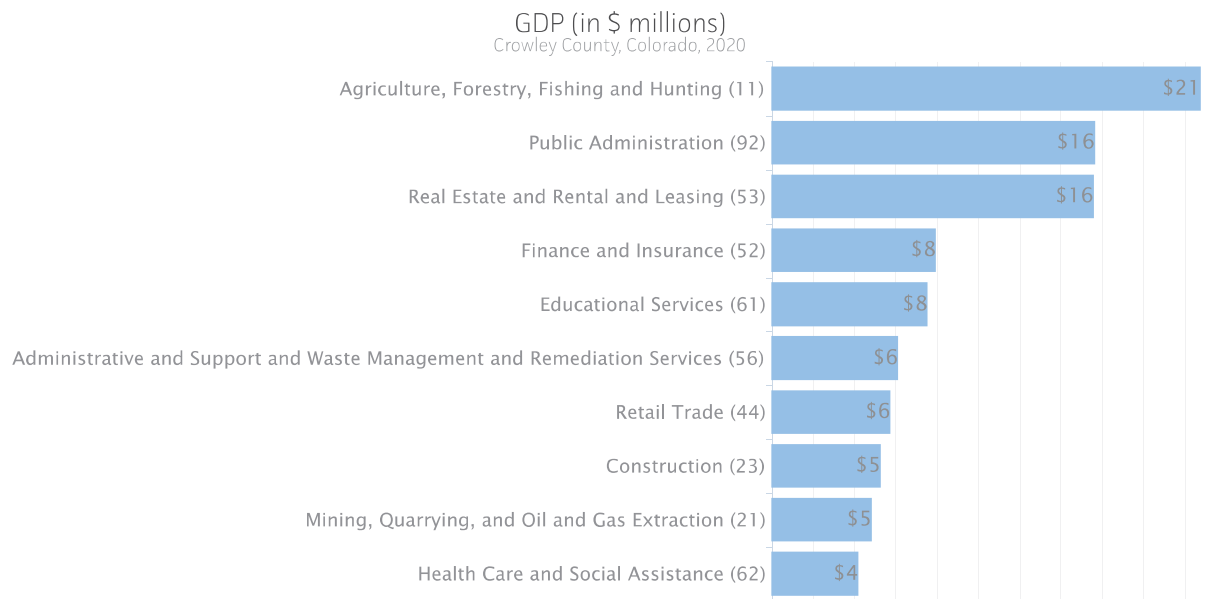
\$79,400



Crowley, County-Gross Domestic Product

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the total value of goods and services produced by a region. In 2020, nominal GDP in Crowley County, Colorado expanded 2.4%. This follows growth of 13.3% in 2019. As of 2020, total GDP in Crowley County, Colorado was \$105,544,000.

Of the sectors in Crowley County, Colorado, Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting contributed the largest portion of GDP in 2020, \$20,786,000. The next-largest contributions came from Public Administration (\$15,672,000); Real Estate and Rental and Leasing (\$15,595,000); and Finance and Insurance (\$7,932,000).



Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2020.

Crowley County - Industry Snapshot

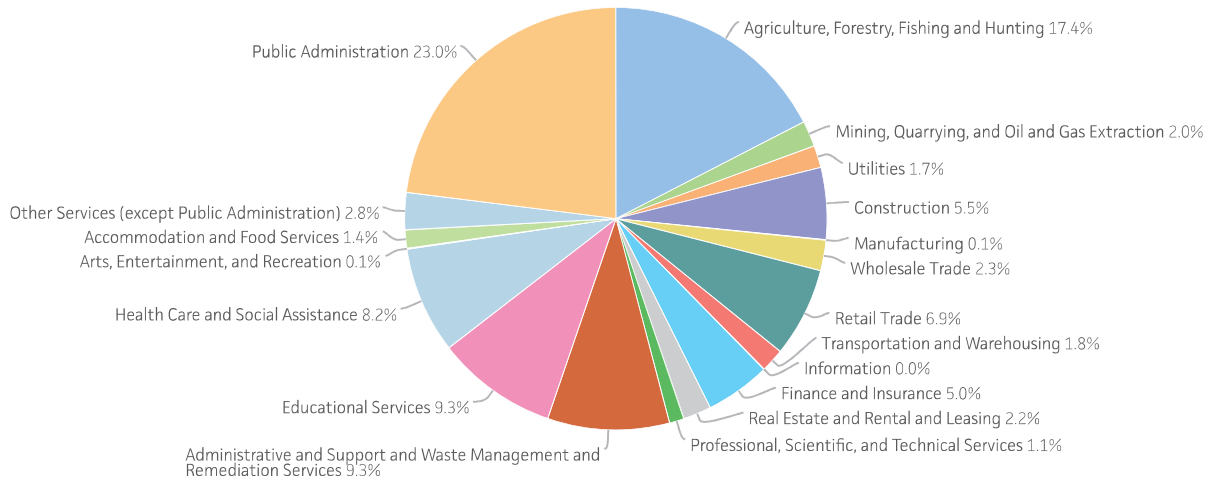
The total number of jobs in Crowley County at the end of 2020 was 1202. Job growth in the county is projected to be 1 percent per year for the next five years creating a total of 63 new jobs.

Continued exponential growth in the marijuana grow business and renewed optimism in the private prison business demand could enhance the near-term growth potential for the county.

The largest sector in Crowley County, Colorado is Public Administration, employing 277 workers. The next-largest sectors in the region are Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (210 workers) and Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services (112). High location quotients (LQs) indicate sectors in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The sectors with the largest LQs in the region are Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (LQ = 12.20), Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction (5.53), and Public Administration (4.58).

Southern Colorado Economic Development District * 2021 CEDS

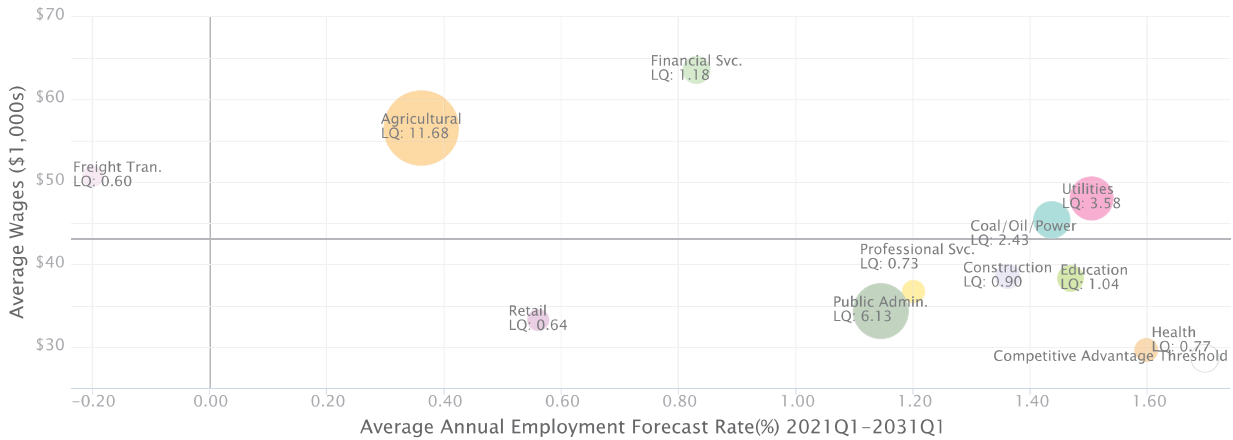
Total Workers for Crowley County, Colorado by Industry



Source: JobsEQ®, Data as of 2021Q1

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1.

Industry Clusters for Crowley County, Colorado as of 2021Q1



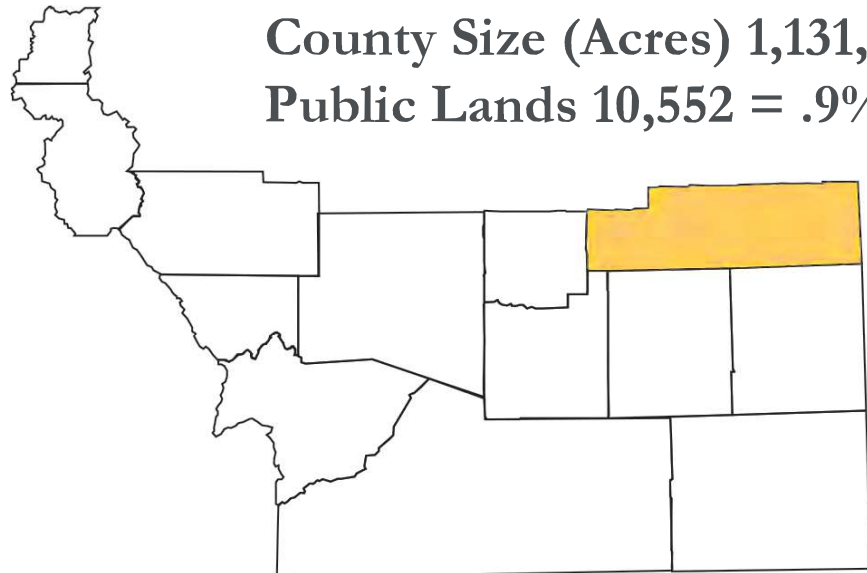
Source: JobsEQ®, Data as of 2021Q1



Sugar City; Crowley County

Crowley County – Southeastern Plains

Kiowa County- Community and Economic Profile

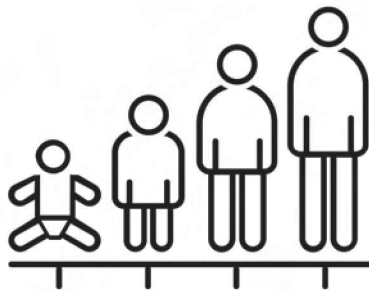


Total Population
2010- 1,399
2020- 1,395
% Change= -.3%

Median Wage
\$44,525



Median Age
42.5 Years Old



Household Size
2.24



Unemployment
3.8%



**High School
Graduation Rate**
92.3%



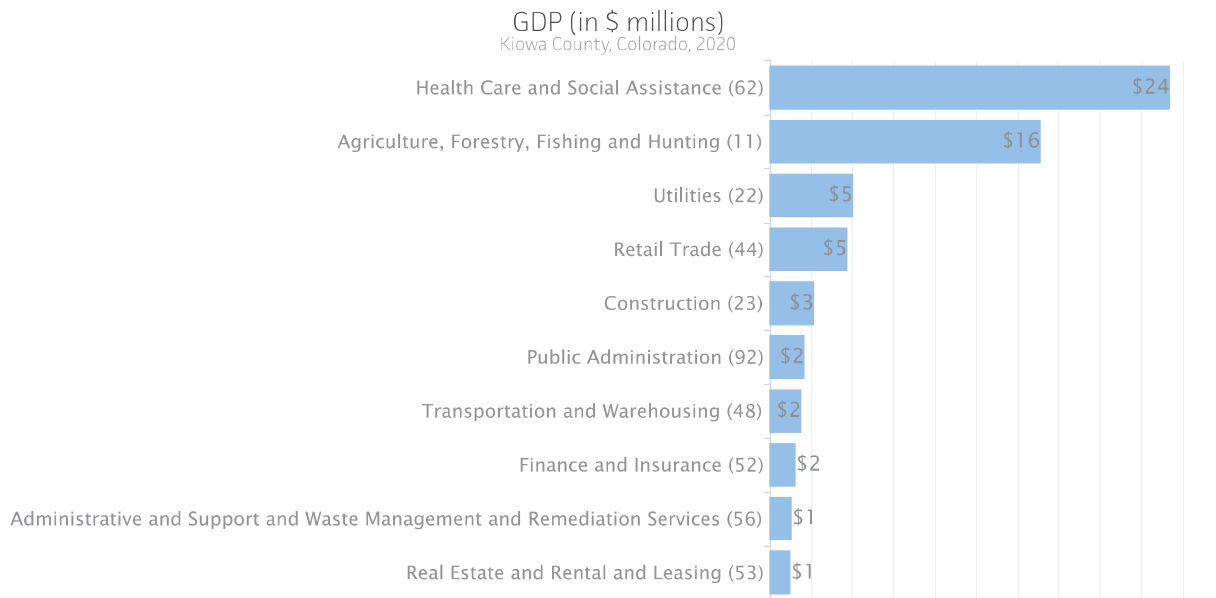
**Median Home
Value**
\$86,500



Kiowa County - Gross Domestic Product

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the total value of goods and services produced by a region. In 2020, nominal GDP in Kiowa County, Colorado contracted 0.1%. This follows growth of 9.9% in 2019. As of 2020, total GDP in Kiowa County, Colorado was \$66,015,000.

Of the sectors in Kiowa County, Colorado, Health Care and Social Assistance contributed the largest portion of GDP in 2020, \$24,233,000. The next-largest contributions came from Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (\$16,392,000); Utilities (\$5,030,000); and Retail Trade (\$4,684,000).



Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2020.

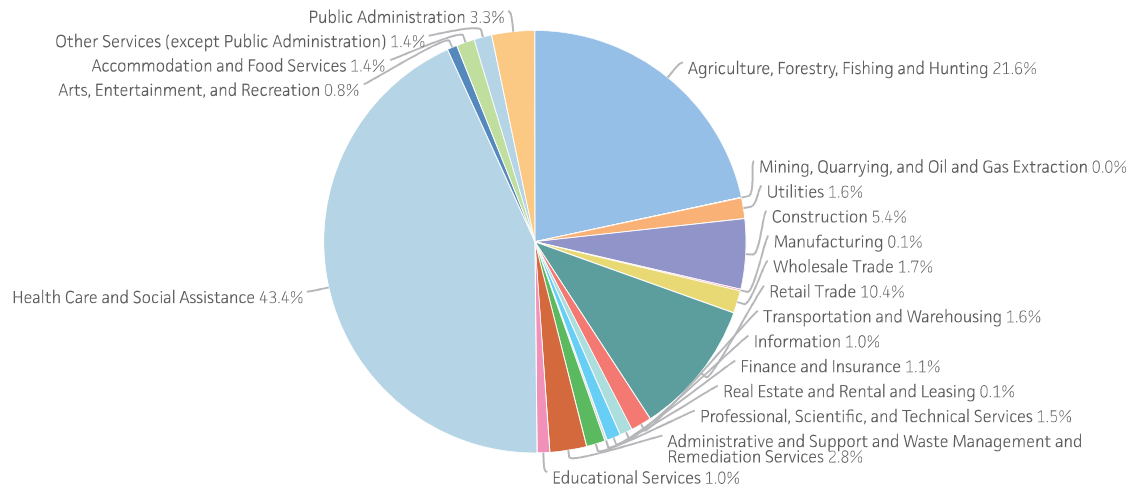
Kiowa County - Industry Snapshot

The total number of jobs in Kiowa County at the end of 2020 was 964. Job growth in the county is projected to be -.2 percent per year over the next five years resulting in a net loss of nine jobs however, potential generated by renewable energy activity in the area and the revival of rail service through the county are reason for optimism.

The largest sector in Kiowa County, Colorado is Health Care and Social Assistance, employing 418 workers. The next-largest sectors in the region are Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (209 workers) and Retail Trade (100). High location quotients (LQs) indicate sectors in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The sectors with the largest LQs in the region are Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (LQ = 15.15), Utilities (2.92), and Health Care and Social Assistance (2.91).

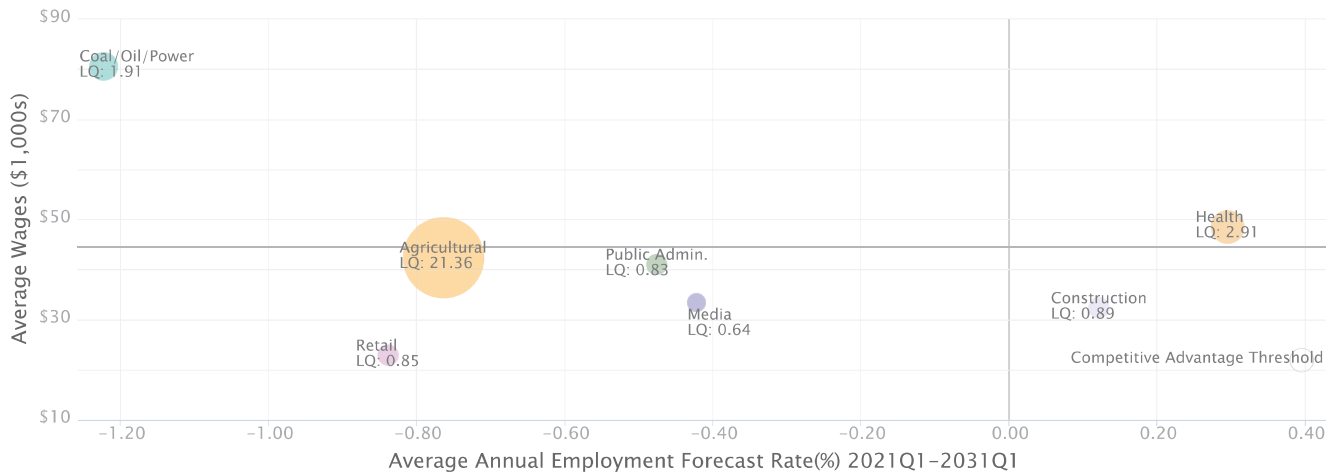
Southern Colorado Economic Development District * 2021 CEDS

Total Workers for Kiowa County, Colorado by Industry



Source: JobsEQ®, Data as of 2021Q1

Industry Clusters for Kiowa County, Colorado as of 2021Q1



Source: JobsEQ®, Data as of 2021Q1

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1.



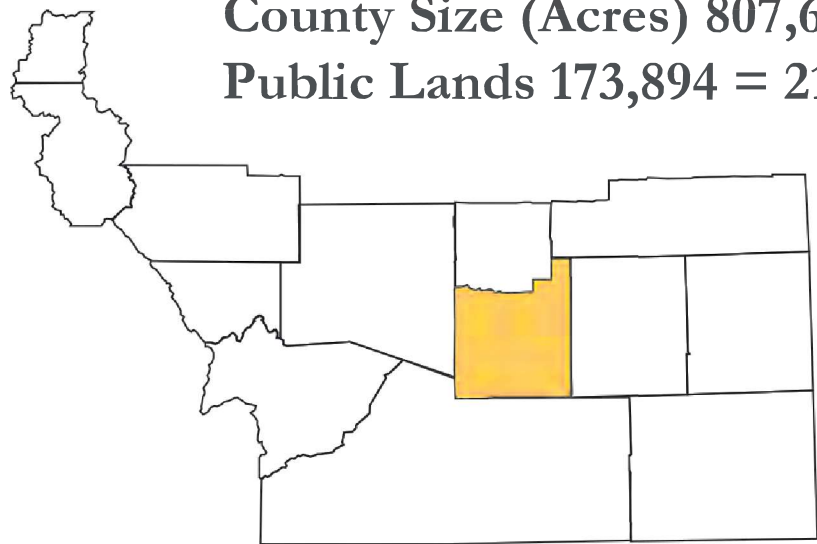
Eads Golf Course, Eads; Kiowa County


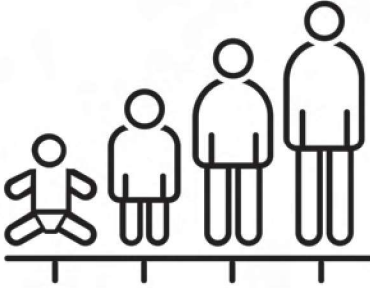




Kiowa County – Southeastern Plains

Otero County- Community and Economic Profile



Total Population
2010- 18,838
2020- 18,281
% Change= **-3%**

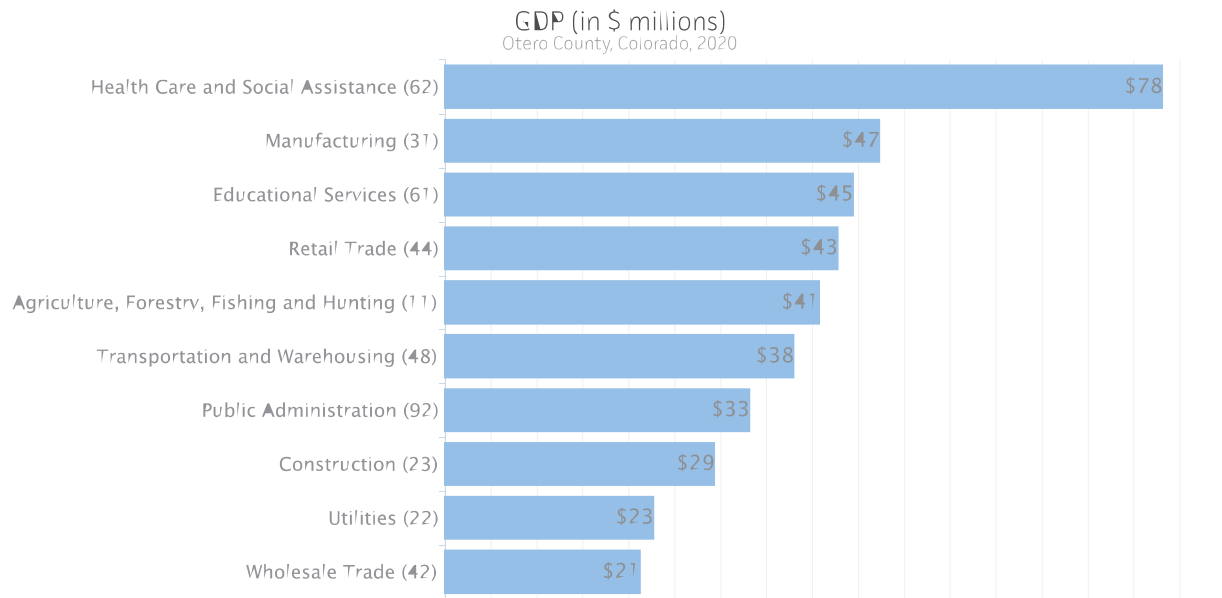


<p>Median Wage \$40,494</p> 	<p>Median Age 39.9 Years Old</p> 	<p>Household Size 2.38</p> 
<p>Unemployment 6.8%</p> 	<p>High School Graduation Rate 90.1%</p> 	<p>Median Home Value \$94,900</p> 

Otero County - Gross Domestic Product

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the total value of goods and services produced by a region. In 2020, nominal GDP in Otero County, Colorado contracted 1.8%. This follows growth of 5.6% in 2019. As of 2020, total GDP in Otero County, Colorado was \$508,341,000.

Of the sectors in Otero County, Colorado, Health Care and Social Assistance contributed the largest portion of GDP in 2020, \$78,189,000. The next-largest contributions came from Manufacturing (\$47,368,000); Educational Services (\$44,517,000); and Retail Trade (\$42,832,000).



Gross Domestic
Economic Analysis,
through 2020.

Product data are provided by the Bureau of
imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated



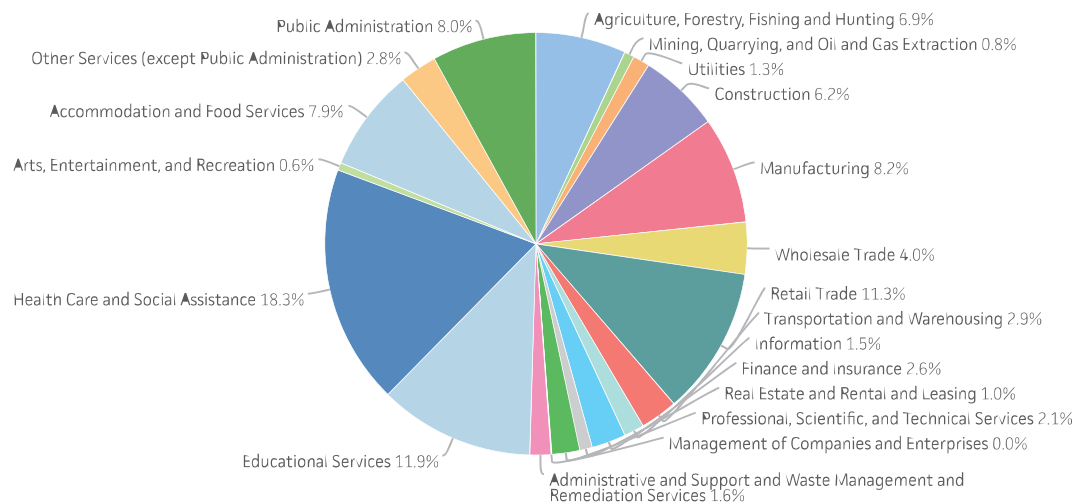
Rail yard, La Junta; Otero County

Otero County - Industry Snapshot

The total number of jobs in Otero County at the end of 2020 was 6,671. Job-growth in the county is projected to be -0.1 percent per year over the next five years with a loss of 44 jobs. It is hopeful that the attraction of new business and industry, and the recent extension of the Amtrak along with other ongoing economic development activities will help curtail such losses.

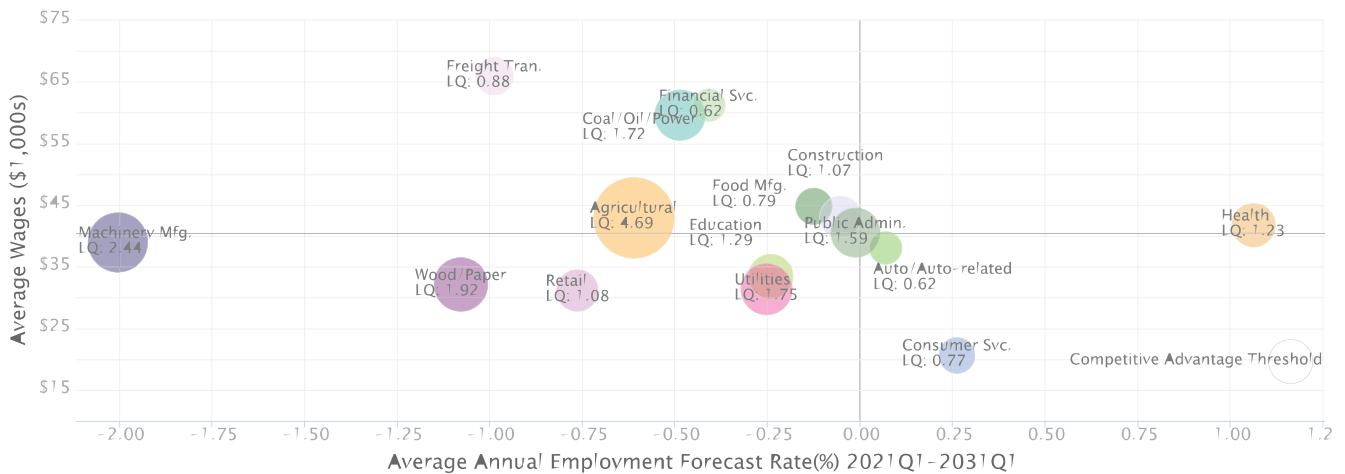
The largest sector in Otero County, Colorado is Health Care and Social Assistance, employing 1,223 workers. The next-largest sectors in the region are Educational Services (793 workers) and Retail Trade (757). High location quotients (LQs) indicate sectors in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The sectors with the largest LQs in the region are Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (LQ = 4.84), Utilities (2.35), and Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction (2.16).

Total Workers for Otero County, Colorado by Industry



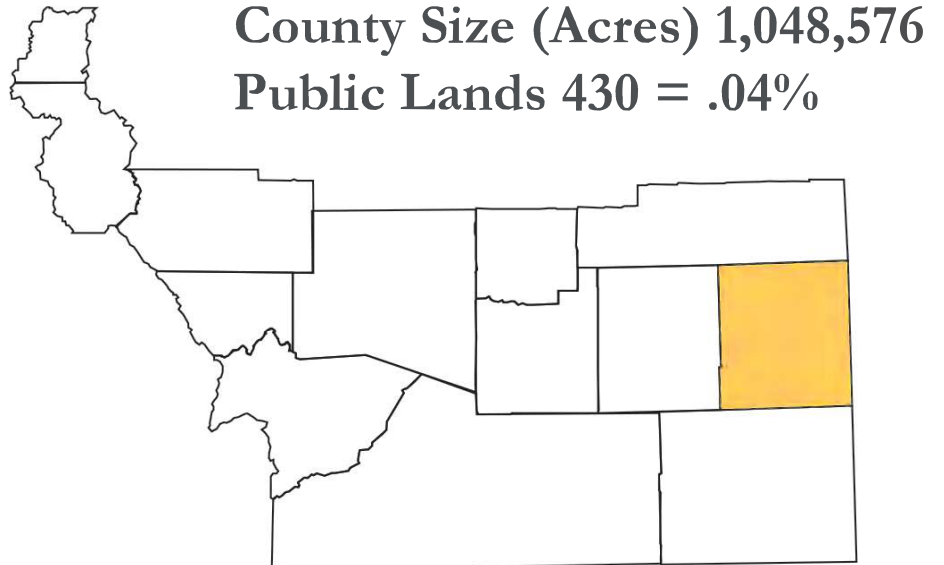
Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1.

Industry Clusters for Otero County, Colorado as of 2021Q1



Source: JobsFQ®, Data as of 2021Q1

Prowers County- Community and Economic Profile

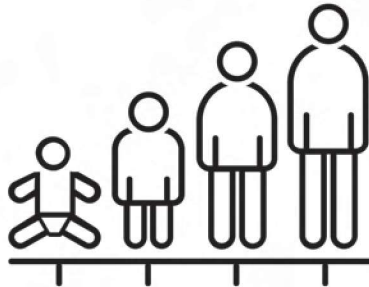


Total Population
2010- 12,531
2020- 12,122
% Change= **-3.3%**

Median Wage
\$40,904



Median Age
38.3 Years Old



Household Size
2.48



Unemployment
5.4%



High School
Graduation Rate
91.5%



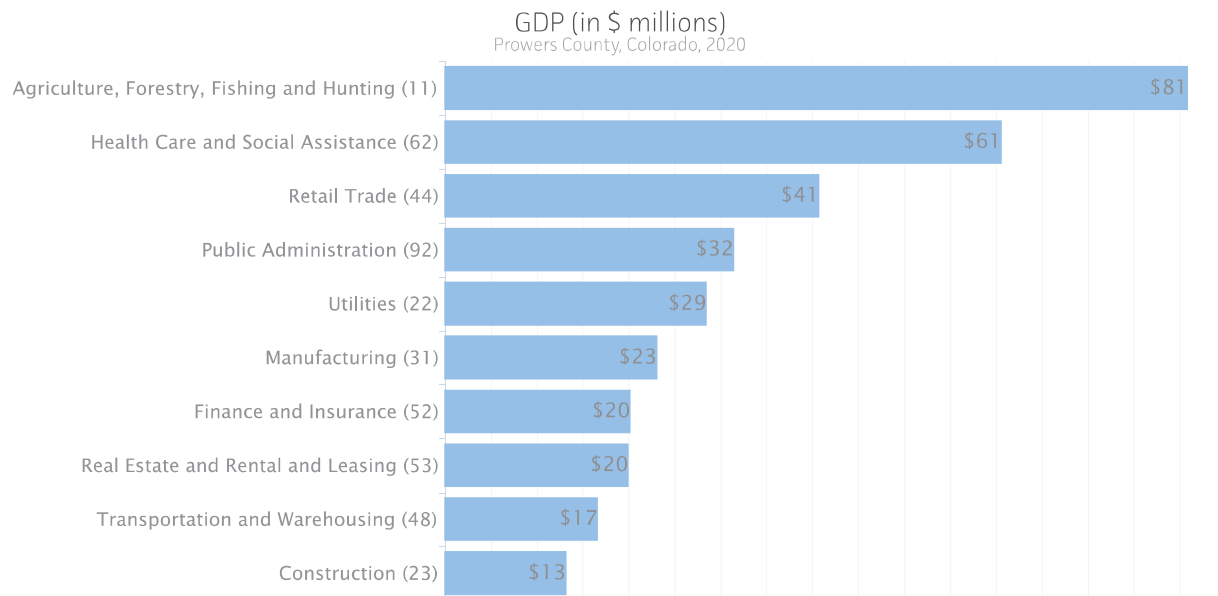
Median Home
Value
\$106,100



Prowers County - Gross Domestic Product

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the total value of goods and services produced by a region. In 2020, nominal GDP in Prowers County, Colorado expanded 0.0%. This follows growth of 6.1% in 2019. As of 2020, total GDP in Prowers County, Colorado was \$401,504,000.

Of the sectors in Prowers County, Colorado, Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting contributed the largest portion of GDP in 2020, \$80,866,000. The next-largest contributions came from Health Care and Social Assistance (\$60,631,000); Retail Trade (\$40,761,000); and Public Administration (\$31,523,000).



Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2020.



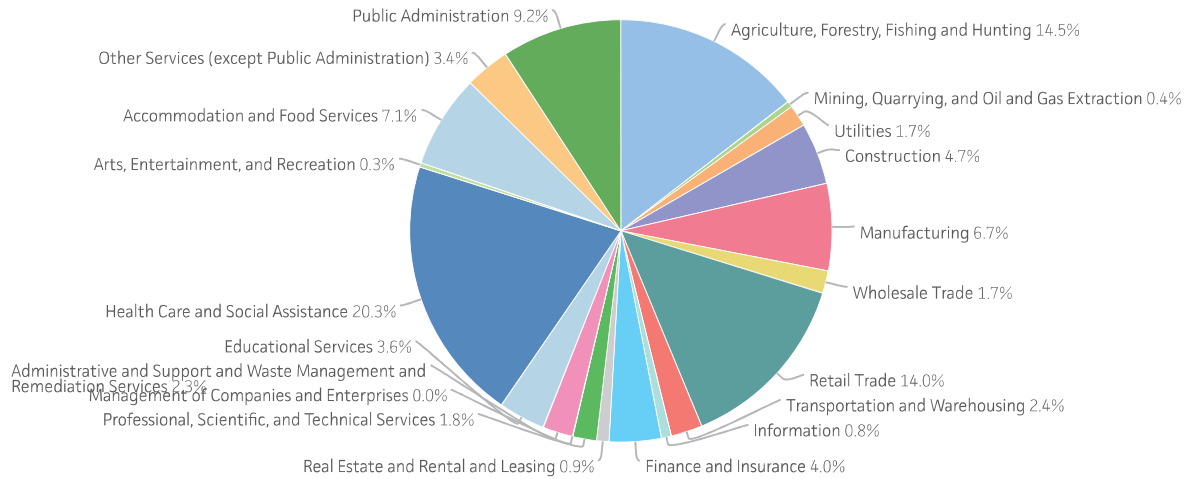
Windfarm outside Lamar; Prowers County

Prowers County - Industry Snapshot

The total number of jobs in Prowers County at the end of 2020 was 4,999. Projections indicate job growth in the county to be near zero percent annually over the next five years resulting in a gain of only 6 jobs. However, several new businesses across the region including the Town of Granada could change this outlook.

The largest sector in Prowers County, Colorado is Health Care and Social Assistance, employing 1,016 workers. The next-largest sectors in the region are Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (726 workers) and Retail Trade (700). High location quotients (LQs) indicate sectors in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The sectors with the largest LQs in the region are Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (LQ = 10.17), Utilities (3.08), and Public Administration (1.83).

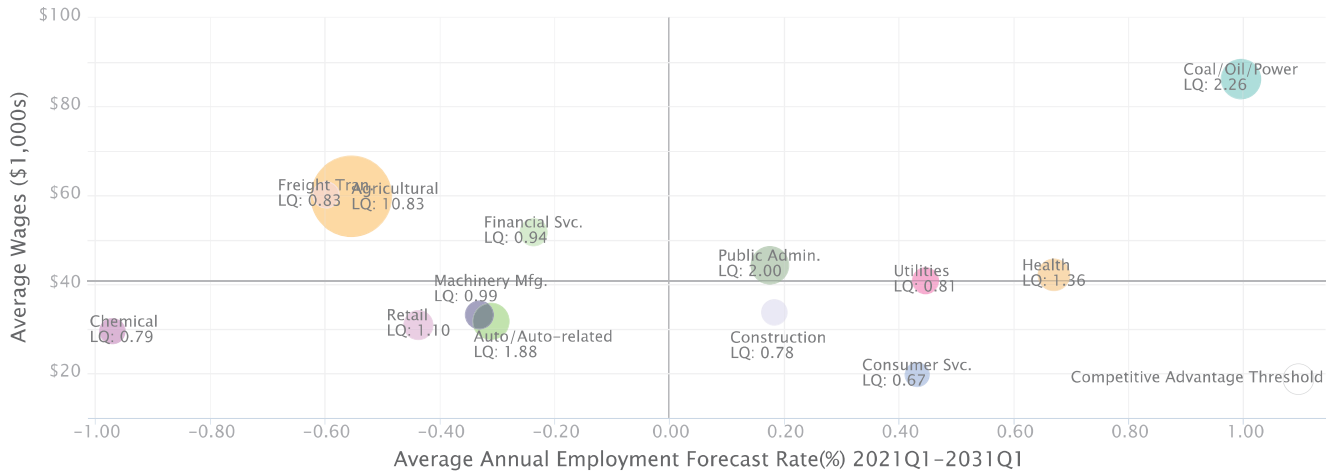
Total Workers for Prowers County, Colorado by Industry



Source: JobsEQ*, Data as of 2021Q1

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1.

Industry Clusters for Prowers County, Colorado as of 2021Q1



Source: JobsEQ*, Data as of 2021Q1

SCEDD overview of sub-region #4

Pueblo

Including Pueblo County

Geography

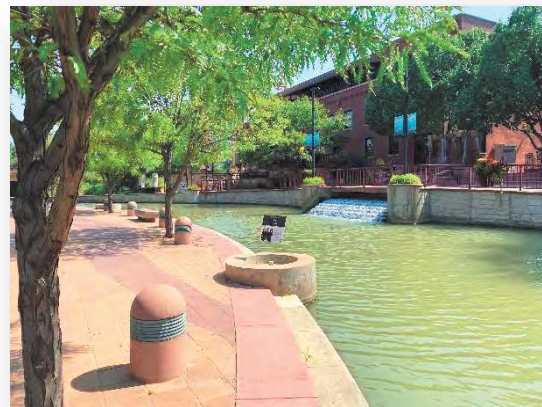
The Pueblo sub-region is comprised of Pueblo County. Given its strategic geographic location, its size, and its economic activity, it serves as the hub for the region and anchors the surrounding sub-regions.

Pueblo Sub-Region

Located at the confluence of the Arkansas River and Fountain Creek, Pueblo County is situated geographically along Interstate 25. Pueblo has served as a crossroads for transportation and trading for more than 150 years. Its mild climate with cool nights and hot days produces the widely known Pueblo Chiles. The main variety of pepper that Pueblo farmers grow is the Mirasol “Mosco” Chile. The variety is unique because it grows with its tip pointing upwards to the sun. Prime agricultural lands have been identified in the Pueblo region and are identified in Appendix D.

Lake Pueblo State Park is in Pueblo County and is one of the top two most visited state parks in Colorado. It includes a State Wildlife Area, along with several additional SWAs throughout the County. A small amount of BLM land exists in Pueblo County. The Wet Mountains of the Pike/San Isabel National Forest are in the southwest part of the county and include the Greenhorn Wilderness Area. Pueblo County has 63,588 acres of public land, which is 4.16% of the land. Several endangered plant species have been identified in Pueblo County along with this partial list of endangered animals: bald eagle, plains leopard frog, Arkansas darter, and the ferruginous hawk.

Pueblo is a multi-cultural community, predominantly comprised of Hispanic, Italian, and Slovenian populations who have been here for generations. Drawing from this unique cultural makeup, the community is well known for their diverse and delicious foods, signature events - - such as the annual Chile & Frijoles Festival and Flavor of Pueblo. One of the largest steel-producing cities in the U.S., Pueblo is sometimes referred to as the Steel City. As the hometown of four Medal of Honor recipients — more per capita than any other city in the United States — Pueblo is also known as the "Home of Heroes.



Pueblo is also home to the Colorado State Fair and additional attractions, including the Historic Arkansas River Project (HARP), Lake Pueblo, one of the first state-designated Creative Arts Districts in downtown Pueblo, and a variety of museums such as the El Pueblo History Museum, Rosemount Museum, Sangre de Cristo Arts Center, and Buell Children's Museum.

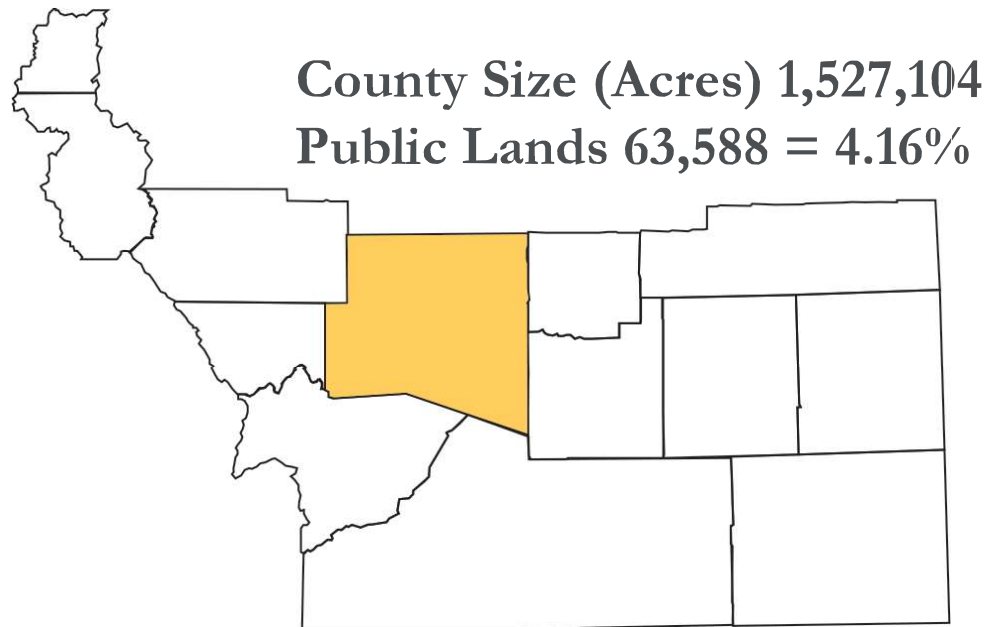
Major Industries-

In 2019 the GDP for Pueblo County was \$5.77 billion. (See Appendix E.) The top industries include Health Care/Social Assistance providing over 20% of local jobs, Retail is second, Education is next, followed by Accommodations/Food, with Construction as number five. Part of the core section of the City of Pueblo is an Opportunity Zone and this area extends primarily to the south, with sections to the northwest and southeast included.

Regional Economic Priorities- The One Pueblo Report was complete in the summer of 2021 and serves as a comprehensive and essential tool in Pueblo's economic planning and actions. It not only identifies economic priorities, but also provides specific steps that should be taken by key organizations and players in Pueblo's economy.

The report identifies these economic priorities: Workforce housing, economic diversification, critical infrastructure (including water and wastewater projects), broadband development, and improving raw land to be suitable for industrial and commercial development.

Pueblo County- Community and Economic Profile

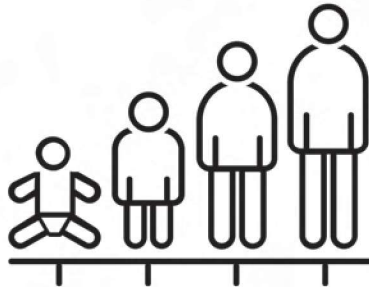


Total Population
2010- 159,496
2020- 169,110
% Change= 6%

Median Wage
\$48,199



Median Age
39.3 Years Old



Household Size
2.46



Unemployment
8.7%



High School
Graduation Rate
86%



Median Home
Value
\$164,600



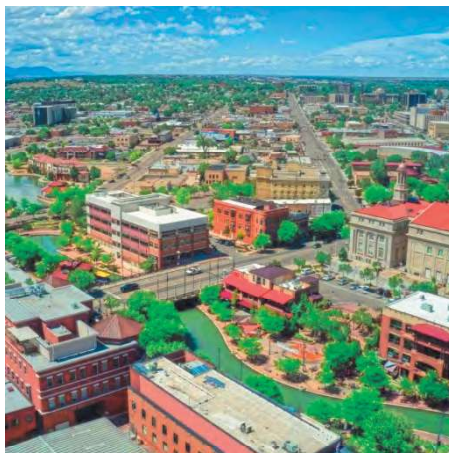
Pueblo County - Gross Domestic Product

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the total value of goods and services produced by a region. In 2020, nominal GDP in Pueblo County, Colorado contracted 0.5%. This follows growth of 5.3% in 2019. As of 2020, total GDP in Pueblo County, Colorado was \$5,737,158,000.

Of the sectors in Pueblo County, Colorado, Health Care and Social Assistance contributed the largest portion of GDP in 2020, \$1,025,246,000. The next-largest contributions came from Manufacturing (\$579,203,000); Retail Trade (\$549,540,000); and Construction (\$464,103,000).



Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2020.



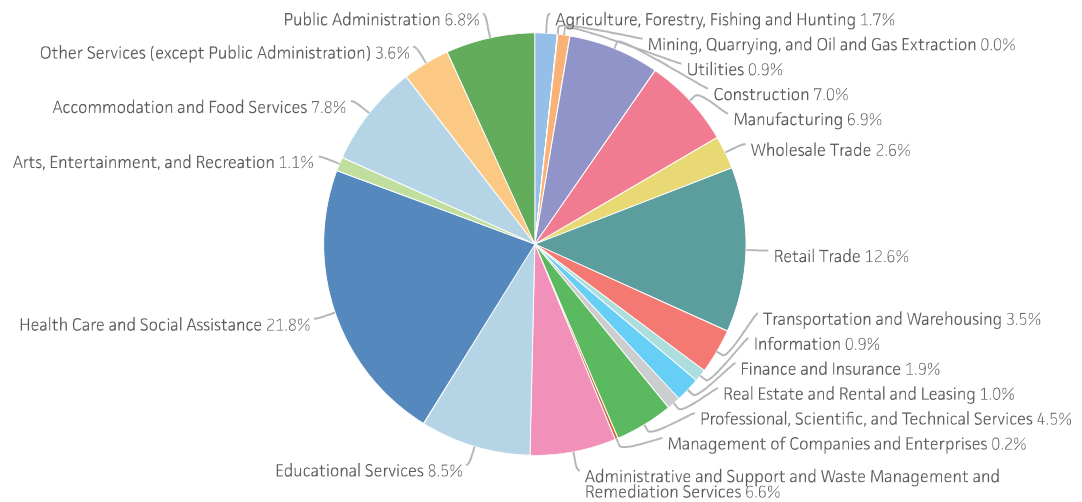
Downtown Pueblo; Pueblo County-Shutterstock Jacob Boomsma

Pueblo County - Industry Snapshot

The total number of jobs in Pueblo County at the end of 2020 was 64,259. Job growth in the county is projected to be .5 percent per annum over the next five years which will produce a total of 1,775 new jobs.

The largest sector in Pueblo County, Colorado is Health Care and Social Assistance, employing 14,012 workers. The next-largest sectors in the region are Retail Trade (8,120 workers) and Educational Services (5,435). High location quotients (LQs) indicate sectors in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The sectors with the largest LQs in the region are Utilities (LQ = 1.68), Health Care and Social Assistance (1.46), and Public Administration (1.36).

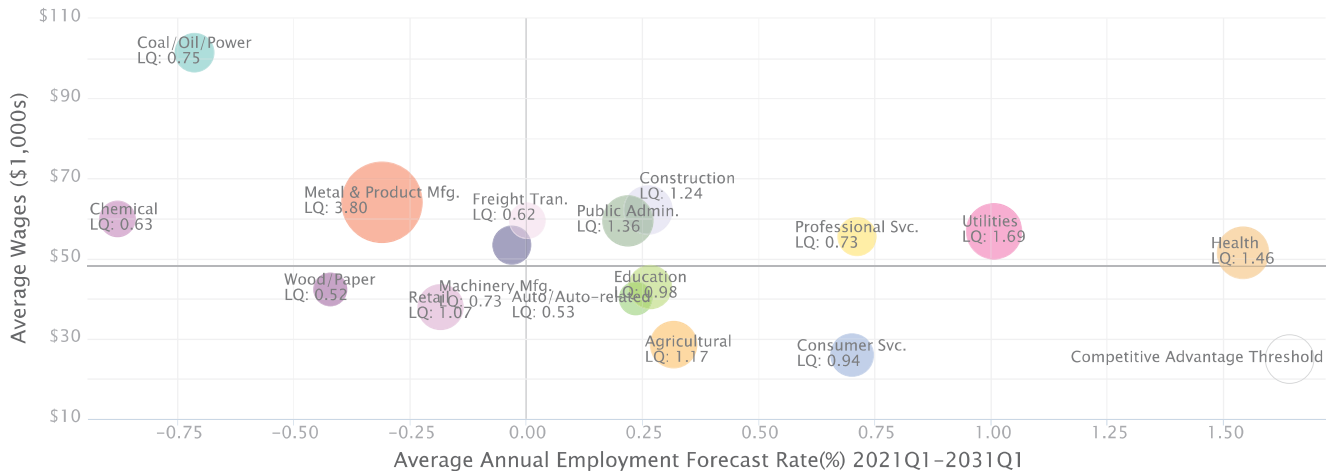
Total Workers for Pueblo County, Colorado by Industry



Source: JobsEQ®, Data as of 2021Q1

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1.

Industry Clusters for Pueblo County, Colorado as of 2021Q1



Source: JobsEQ®, Data as of 2021Q1

Chapter 6: SCEDD Regional SWOT Analysis

Introduction

The 13 counties that make up SCEDD, are as rich in economic strengths as they are diverse in character and geography. From dry grass prairies and canyons to 14,000-foot peaks, the area is huge in size -- larger than Vermont and New Hampshire combined. It is important throughout this SWOT analysis that, while many of the regions share similar Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, or Threats, many of the counties have different reasons for how each category identified within the SWOT affects their county.

The SWOT analysis was conducted at each county level over two public meetings. In total, 26 meetings were held with local government officials, business leaders, economic development professionals, and interested members of the public. Participants discussed how each category applied to their county and, if checked in the tables below, why the SWOT would apply to their county. If the “per each SWOT category” is not checked in the table, this means that the category does not apply to the county.

The SWOT analysis served as the guide for the development of Economic Implementation Strategies contained in Chapter 8. In each county, economic projects, policies, and programs that would address or improve the SWOT analysis were identified and prioritized for each sub-region.

Finally, threats were broken into “Natural or Environmental” and “Economic”. The analysis of Natural and Environmental threats was vetted through each county’s FEMA-sponsored Hazard Mitigation Plan. The Economic threats focused on potential shocks to the economy of each county.



Pumpkin Field, Otero County

2021 CEDS Strengths

Agriculture and Ranching

The agriculture and ranching industries are a strength across all 13 counties within SCEDD. Agriculture and ranching comprise approximately 50% of the economy in the sub-regions of South Central and Southeastern Plains. In 2020, agriculture and ranching contributed up to \$275 million of the region's Gross Domestic Product. This industry is integral to the rich heritage of the region. The Arkansas River headwaters feed most of the region with irrigation water that is the lifeline of this industry. Periodic drought conditions over the past few years threaten this industry. Investments in water storage, irrigation, and other water conservation strategies are needed.

The COVID-19 pandemic, coupled with drought conditions, created economic shocks to important food supply chains. Workers in this industry continued their essential work to ensure grocery shelves could remain stocked during the pandemic.

Key investments in collection and transportation should be considered a priority for the next five years. Investments in grain elevators and storage will allow farmers to ensure adequate quantities are available to food processors. Roads and rail infrastructure are vital infrastructure priorities. Ensuring access to funding for this infrastructure is a major priority to ensure supply chains do not experience future disruptions. Investment in small businesses that service equipment (the workforce has become more mechanized) will be important. Also, there is a need for expansion in aggregate and gravel pits to assist this industry.



Meat processing for the ranching industry is a major priority over the next five years. This was an identified need from the ranching community throughout the thirteen-county region. It is estimated that the region could absorb up to three additional medium scale processing facilities to serve ranchers and farmers.

Ranch and agricultural lands provide important habitat and water preservation throughout the region. These lands are continuing to see pressure from the growing urban interface throughout the region. Preservation of agricultural lands and water rights continue to be a priority to protect this industry into the future.

Public Lands

All 13 counties identified public lands as a strength. As discussed in Chapter 5 Regions, there are numerous National Forests/Grasslands, BLM land, State Parks/wildlife areas, National Monuments,

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and National Historic sites throughout the sub-region. The sub-region receives Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) for 2,309,384 acres of land. For many counties, these are significant federal funds and help local governments carry out such vital services as firefighting and police protection, construction of public schools and roads, and search-and-rescue operations.

These lands are important to agriculture and the ranching industries for access to water and grazing lands. Timber and mineral extraction, on public lands managed by the U.S. Forest Service and BLM, are also important industries throughout the sub-region. There are active extraction operations throughout the Upper Arkansas and South-Central sub-regions that rely on public lands. These lands also provide a broad spectrum of tourism and recreational activities, including water sports, fishing, hunting, hiking, mountaineering/climbing, skiing, mountain biking, photography, and more. Large reservoirs contribute to important public lands in the Southeastern Plains sub-region.

Tourism, Recreation, the Arts, and Culture

Tourism, recreation, the arts, and culture were identified as a strength throughout all 13 counties within SCEDD. The abundance of public land throughout the district invites and supports strong recreation and tourism economies.

The 13 counties of the district are divided into four tourism regions: Rockies Playground, Pikes Peak Wonders, Canyons and Plains, and the edge of the Mystic San Luis Valley. The district has three scenic byways, including Highway of Legends, Santa Fe Trail, and Collegiate Peaks. There is one welcome center in Trinidad. There are two ports of entry located at Trinidad and Lamar.

The importance of arts-related activities in economic development has been highlighted in studies of employment, delivery of nonprofit services and productivity of the artists themselves in many disciplines. Dance, film, theater, music, galleries, art schools and the visual arts are celebrated in

southern Colorado communities. Two Colorado Creative Districts are found within SCEDD and more are in progress. These districts are assisted by the State Office of Economic Development and International Trade (OEDIT). Museums are another draw to the region. Three state history museums are in the district and dozens of private- and government-owned entities exist. Tourism continues to be a driving force in downtown redevelopment.



Community theatre production, La Veta, Huerfano County

Renewable Energy and Extraction Industries

Large scale renewable energy development is growing in southern Colorado, where the largest wind farms in the state are located. Solar farms are under construction. Mining, oil, and gas are also a vital

part of the economy, especially in some counties. Long, closed coal mines are being reopened to extract metallurgical coal, which will be shipped to Asia and other areas to be used in the steel industry. Hundreds of new jobs are projected. A limited amount of timber extraction is ongoing, primarily on private land.

Southeastern Plains (Baca, Crowley, Kiowa, Prowers)

Large scale wind and solar projects have been developed in Baca and Prowers Counties. Crowley County has seen investments in solar. Kiowa County is seeing exploration on sites in the northeastern portions of the County. Strategic investments in transmission lines will continue to open additional opportunity for the expansion of these industries. Attention must be paid to ensure the cost burden for the development of these projects does not fall on the local communities as this power is transferred into the grid for larger cities along the front range.

There are several major natural gas pipelines, used for transport, across the eastern portions of this sub-region, but little extraction.

Upper Arkansas (Custer, Fremont, Lake)

Mineral extraction has historically been a major industry within this sub-region. Climax Mine continues to be the largest employer in Lake County. Mineral extraction in Fremont County continues to see growth. Exploration of silver has begun again in Custer County. Extraction industries provide significant property tax revenues for this sub-region.

Large scale renewable energy production is not yet deployed in the sub-region; however, many communities have achieved small-scale solar farms to reduce fossil-fuel energy. These continue to help the sub-region achieve state and federal renewable energy and efficiency goals.

South Central (Huerfano and Las Animas)

The Bush Wind Farm is the largest in this sub-region. The reopening of the New Elk Mine is slated to become the single, largest employer in Las Animas County, with additional spinoff industries to support this operation. Las Animas and Huerfano have seen growth in the wind industry. Additional exploration is occurring within the sub-region for gases, such as helium. There is ongoing oil and gas production and extraction in Las Animas County.

Pueblo County

EVRAZ North America will soon power their steel mill with a new 300 Mw solar project – Bighorn Solar. The project will install 750,000 solar panels across 1,600 acres of land mostly occupied by the steel mill, but also private landowners and the City of Pueblo. EVRAZ Pueblo will be the first steel mill in North America to rely on solar power. The renewable energy will be used to recycle scrap metal into new, clean steel including the most sustainable rail in the world.

Colorado State University Pueblo recently completed 23-acre solar array allowed the university to officially switch all academic buildings to solar power. The campus is the first in the state to reach net zero efficiency.

Pueblo County is planning a 200 MW solar project – Turkey Creek Solar. The project will be supported by Colorado Electric's (Black Hills) Renewable Advantage program

In addition, the City of Pueblo has committed to being 100% green in its energy use by 2035.

Favorable Cost of Living Relative to the Rest of Colorado

The SCEDD region has significant opportunities to attract and retain talent that are not currently being fully capitalized upon. Remote work has been a growing trend for some time and has skyrocketed during the COVID-19 era. With metro areas largely shut down under strict COVID-19 measures and the cost of housing continuing to rise, talent with the ability to work remotely is migrating from the big cities. Opportunities have opened-up for those communities that have the right assets and the ability to market themselves as an ideal place to live while working remotely. The SCEDD region is well positioned to take advantage of this, with its lower cost of living, abundance of sunshine, natural beauty, and outdoor recreation opportunities.

The cost of living in the region is lower than the state average. However, living in rural areas means longer travel distances for goods and services. Increased gas prices can have some impact on commuters, as well as the agricultural industry. High housing costs have made some regions, especially the Upper Arkansas, unattainable for local workforces. Recently, the COVID-19 pandemic resulted in significantly more workers being able to work remotely and usually from home. Pueblo's housing market is still more affordable than other front range cities.

Southeastern Plains (Baca, Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, Otero, and Prowers)

Lower costs of living have made this sub-region attractive to remote workers leaving the large, populated areas of Colorado Springs and Pueblo. Low taxes and lower prices for goods and services give this sub-region a competitive advantage in the potential attraction of new industries and large business developments. In recent years, housing shortages have made relocation difficult.

Upper Arkansas (Custer, Lake, Chaffee, and Fremont)

Lake and Chaffee Counties were experiencing higher housing prices before the pandemic and housing costs are continuing to rise. However, these two counties also boast a higher level of services, which are desired by the growing population. Larger stores and chain stores are here.

Better broadband in the cities is available. Fremont County's mild climate, abundance of recreation, outdoor activities, and access to nearby Pueblo creates a positive mix for those wanting to leave big cities but still have the comfort and services available. Custer County is one of the remaining attainable-housing markets in the sub-region. However, this is quickly changing and it remains to be seen whether this market will be able to maintain reasonable housing prices to promote the development of an active workforce. The Towns of Silver Cliff and Westcliffe have room to grow and will play an important role in the development of housing for the regional workforce over the next five years. Overall, the cost of living in Custer County is lower than surrounding areas.



South Central (Huerfano and Las Animas)

Although prices have recently risen considerably, this sub-region's housing market remains a viable and affordable alternative to its counterparts north along the I-25 corridor. Goods and services remain affordable and allow for a competitive job-creation market. The pandemic has seen increased interest in Front Range city residents moving to the area. The cost of living is generally lower than areas along the Front Range.

Presence of Higher Ed

Pueblo Community College and Colorado State University Pueblo, located in Pueblo County, are major assets to SCEDD. Their satellite campuses offer additional educational workforce resources to the district. Not all communities, the size of Pueblo, have access to both a two-year college and a four-year university. However, every county within SCEDD is served by this higher education asset, as well as: Otero College, Lamar Community College, Colorado Mountain College, and Trinidad State College.

There is a general sentiment that both the community colleges and universities could strengthen their relationships and provide more tailored programming to meet the needs of industry within the district. The health care industry continues to tap into resources offered through these institutions for training, as well as future employees. Additionally, employers and area high schools yearn for regional, higher education institutions to do a better job at exposing students to blue-collar jobs that have a strong presence within the district and the training required to meet the needs of these employers. In several SCEDD counties such programs are being developed jointly with high schools and community colleges, opening access to trade programs and specific local job training.



Chemical and Plastic Manufacturing

Chemical Manufacturing is another industry with mixed opportunity within SCEDD. Pueblo County has the access to water, rail, raw materials, and skilled workforce necessary for this industry. Many businesses in the chemical manufacturing industry have pivoted to supply the necessary sanitation and safety products needed to combat COVID-19. As a group, the plastics manufacturing sub-sectors in the region show somewhat lower growth potential than the other higher priority sub-sectors but should still be considered when promoting the access to an abundance of water within the Pueblo sub-region.

South Central (Huerfano)

Chae Manufacturing is the largest, private employer in Huerfano County. They produce a product line of ToxicFree® clinical strength skin and personal care products. They contract with national brands for production of products such as soaps, lotions, and body care items. This firm is expanding and will soon be able to double its capacity.

Pueblo County

Pueblo is already home to several such businesses. There are opportunities to tie the Chemical Manufacturing Industry into the Hemp-Related Industries cluster, especially as it relates to the Adhesive Manufacturing and the Medicinal and Botanical Manufacturing sub-sectors. Pueblo also has large warehouse space available for this kind of manufacturing both in the city and the county. The U.S. Army Pueblo Chemical Depot aka PuebloPlex is especially suited for this kind of expansion.

Rail Access

Railroads and rail access vary greatly throughout the District. Several counties have dormant or no access to rail service currently including Bent, Chaffee, Crowley, and Custer Counties. Some areas have both passenger (limited) and freight rail services, while most have one or the other. Several railways are closed, in financial trouble, and/or are in a state of flux. There are renewed plans to improve and expand statewide passenger rail, especially along the front range to Pueblo and south to Trinidad and La Junta.

In 2017, the Colorado Southwest Chief Commission was legislatively repurposed to become the Southwest Chief & Front Range Passenger Rail Commission. The Commission was tasked with facilitating implementation and operation of future passenger rail along the Front Range and Interstate 25. This proposed \$5 billion project would provide passenger rail service from Ft. Collins to Pueblo. This is slated to move forward with a ballot funding initiative in 2021. Further, the Transportation Technology Center Inc. in northeast Pueblo is primed to assist with this passenger rail expansion and be a regional industry for the state.

Amtrak has three stations *with limited service* in southern Colorado: Trinidad, Lamar, and La Junta. The Lamar station also serves as the area's Visitor Center. In the late 2000s, the South-Central Council of Governments -- serving Las Animas and Huerfano Counties -- which operates a local bus service, decided to pursue funding for a new multimodal transportation center to serve intercity passenger rail and local, regional, and intercity buses. Owned by the city but operated and maintained by the South-Central COG, it would contain a waiting area with seating, restrooms, and ticket booths at the Trinidad platform.

Since 1998, the Royal Gorge Route Railroad has been a vital part of tourism in Cañon City. The train runs year-round. Similarly, Leadville is home to a tourist train - the Leadville Colorado and Southern Railroad. A proposal is currently under review to bring back a rail service between Leadville and Salida in Lake and Chaffee Counties. Both passenger and freight services are being considered. The line would connect Eagle County over Tennessee Pass to Leadville and on to Cañon City and beyond to Pueblo. An associated passenger service train is proposed, which would run from Minturn to Pueblo. A tourist train that serviced La Veta, in Huerfano County, recently closed and is in foreclosure. That rail line continues to provide freight services.

Finally, rail serves as the regional transportation backbone of goods in and out of the district. Multiple spurs service areas in the Southeastern Plains and the South Central sub-regions for the transport of agricultural goods and raw minerals, such as coal from the New Elk Mine. Additional access is needed in Huerfano County around Walsenburg. There is strong potential to improve and

expand freight service in the district by shipping coal, livestock/meat, and other products to southern ports in Houston and other areas.

Lower Cost of Labor than Balance of State

In general, the cost of labor is lower throughout SCEDD compared to the rest of Colorado and many western states. This is a competitive advantage for larger companies looking for new places to locate. However, throughout the public meetings and the SWOT process this was met with healthy skepticism. This strength has been eroded as exponential increases in housing and land costs are causing issues with workforce attraction and retention.

Rising property costs and wage inflation are creating a more competitive hiring market. The COVID-19 federal unemployment benefits also have caused many delays to the workforce reentering the labor force because comparable wages in the region were perceived to be lower than the unemployment benefit.

Favorable Climate

Southern Colorado's 300 days of sunshine make the district attractive to many businesses and employees. With elevations ranging from above 14,000' to below 4,000', the district has the highest mountain peak and the second lowest river valley. The climate and temperatures can vary widely in the district. However, even when wetter weather occurs it leads to powder skiing, mountain wildflowers, white water rafting, and greener pastures. The district's temperate climate allows for a thriving agricultural community, tourism, and a robust outdoor recreation.

Corrections Economy

In 2020, the corrections economy accounted for more than 3,400 jobs in six counties. These counties include Bent, Chaffee, Crowley, Fremont, Las Animas, and Pueblo. Fremont County is the largest employer with more than 2,200 employees. The correction economy offers stable, high paying jobs with benefits. Huerfano County has an available private prison facility available for reuse.

Criminal justice reforms have threatened several private correctional facilities with closure. However, through regional collaboration, these facilities have remained open and continue to provide stable employment for the counties in which they are located. The closure of any of these facilities would have severe economic implications to the communities where they are located.

Lifestyle/Outdoors

At every public meeting for the SWOT analysis, each county boasted about lifestyle opportunities their workforce enjoys. The lifestyle and the ability to access amazing, world-class recreation opportunities are major perks of living in the district.

The Upper Arkansas, South Central, and Pueblo all have mountains and access to large areas of public lands. The sub-regions are home to several craft beverage producers. The Southeastern Plains has numerous reservoirs and grasslands, state wildlife areas, hunting, fishing, and trail systems. The local school districts have plenty of recreational sports and after school programming for the youth throughout the sub-regions.



Lower Tax Burden

Colorado is nationally ranked in the top ten for the lowest taxes in the country. Residential property taxes are low. However, the Gallagher Amendment creates higher commercial property taxes. Sales taxes and property taxes fund many local projects, school districts, and special districts. The Taxpayer Bill of Rights (TABOR) requires local governments to vote on debt service for major public projects or bonds. Enterprise funds, for most of the water and wastewater systems, require users to fund the systems and improvements. Low interest loans exist for many of these systems and assist with keeping fees at acceptable levels.

Regional Transportation

There are three important types of regional transportation systems across the district--airport, rail, and bus service.

Regional airports allow many counties access for shipping, private charter or regional flights. These facilities also assist with medical flights and other emergency responses as needed. Many of these airports have refueling stations. The military uses many of these facilities for training and research development. Pueblo has limited commercial airline flights.

Rail service, as discussed above, is essential for the movement of large quantities of goods in and out of the district. The current passenger rail service provides regional connections. The potential expansion of passenger rail along the I-25 corridor would open many of the smaller communities to regional connections to the front range communities.

Although bus services are available throughout the district, expansion of regional bus service continues to be a priority. Medical rides are an essential service that residents across the district use in order to access health care locally as well as at Pueblo, Colorado Springs or Denver.

Pueblo has had bus service since 1949, and the city-owned Pueblo Transit has operated since 1971. In addition to local service, Pueblo transit offers regional service through the state's Bustang program on the Colorado-Pueblo-Lamar route, and the Pueblo-Alamosa route, with stops in western Pueblo County, Fremont County, and Chafee County before heading south to Alamosa.

Government Collaboration

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Local government collaboration between county and municipal governments continues to be a major strength across the district. The COVID-19 pandemic required swift, coordinated, and immediate responses by local authorities to protect community members. Regional collaboration allowed rescue funds and assistance to be directed as needed through the local governments. Focused recovery efforts led by local leaderships have allowed the district to begin to rebuild stronger.

Each of the sub-regions of SCEDD has an active Council of Government, including COGS in the Upper Arkansas, South Central, and Southeastern Plains. (The Pueblo Area Council of Governments is primarily an urban transportation COG.) It is within the COGS and SCEDD where which much of the regional collaboration occurs. Action 22, a non-partisan lobbying group that works on behalf of southern Colorado, is also a source of collaboration.

SCEDD's CEDS process is another part of that collaboration. The CEDS process has created a powerful, regional tool to discuss large issues that affect the region. The creation of project, policy, and program implementation lists for inclusion in this CEDS update has allow partnerships for large-scale efforts, such as broadband expansion, workforce housing development, access to capital development, infrastructure planning, and lobbying for policy changes at the state level.

2021 CEDS Weaknesses

Though weaknesses in the SCEDD region are as varied as the topography, there are a few consistent themes. Early in the 2021 CEDS process it became clear that there were three primary areas of concern throughout the region: 1) Broadband availability was spotty at best. 2) Attainable housing was already tight and was made worse by the pandemic, as the region saw city dwellers, now able to work from home, escaping to rural areas. 3) A dependable and well-trained workforce is in short supply, making it hard to attract a variety of businesses and leaving shortages in key trades, such as construction. Of course, the pandemic had a significant impact on the service industry with many restaurants, bars, and performing-art industries closing, and in some cases, permanently.

Broadband

Much of SCEDD is pre-broadband or early broadband. The federal definition for broadband is a minimum download speed of 25 Mbps and an upload speed of at least 3 Mbps. Broadband coverage outside towns and cities is extremely spotty. Fiber service, the gold standard of broadband, is extremely limited. In rural, mountainous region, wireless internet is the de facto choice where available. On the southeastern plains, a lack of population density intensifies the difficulties in providing private sector solutions. Throughout the district, a lack of planning, financial, managerial, and technical expertise adds up to a critical lack of capacity. One study (Upper Arkansas) recommended creation of a single, regional broadband planning entity.

Southeastern Plains (Baca, Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, Otero, Prowers)

A 2017 study found that broadband availability and reliability was not only spotty in the rural areas, but that even in municipal areas there was not consistently high-quality broadband availability. Lack of population density means that exclusively private sector initiatives will continue to fall short because of the difficulty of making a business case. Although there have been numerous improvements in middle mile building over the last four years, this 2017 assessment still largely rings true: There is a lack of capacity for planning, promoting, and funding broadband improvements and there is a shortage of IT professionals in this region. (*Colorado Southeast Region Broadband Strategic Plan, 2017*)

- Bent County – SECOM’s service is better in incorporated areas than in outlying areas. Speeds reported from less than 20 Mbps to 500 Mbps.
- Baca County – Springfield has pretty good service, but the outlying areas of the county are sketchy at best. Less than 20% of hospital district clientele has adequate internet access for virtual health care.
- Crowley County – In-town service is a fiber line. Rural is microwave. There is middle mile fiber on Highways 96 and 71.
- Kiowa County – There is a huge need in Brandon, Chivington and Sheridan Lake. Eads and west are well covered.
- Prowers County- Need to ensure broadband expansion continues east of Lamar.

Upper Arkansas (Fremont, Chaffee, Custer, Lake)

As a sub-region, the Upper Arkansas is making more progress to provide rural broadband than most. One local ED describes broadband there as more of a challenge than a weakness. Custer County is on the last mile of securing \$2 million in funding for six wireless towers to provide 100Mbps download broadband to 80 percent of county addresses. In Chaffee and Lake Counties, Colorado Central Telecom has been making great strides in providing fixed wireless. Rural parts of Fremont County are particularly underserved, especially in the western portions. A 2015 study assessed a critical weakness as a lack of regional planning and suggested a regional broadband planning entity.



South Central (Huerfano, Las Animas)

Broadband services in the sub-region are inadequate – especially outside of population centers. Low population density, economic factors, and the geography of the region make achieving broadband development objectives difficult. There is a lack of capacity to plan, promote, and manage broadband projects. In 2017 consultants recommended that public sector investment and public sector led collaboration between various broadband development efforts is the best way to overcome barriers to development. (*South Central Council of Governments Regional Broadband Strategic Plan, 2017*).

- Huerfano County – Has a good service in urban areas. Service in the rural portions of the county are generally poor. Fiber optic lines in La Veta provide 100 to 400 MB but are generally untapped. They are exploring installing at least two towers. Fiber optic is heading south on Hwy 12 to Cuchara. SECOM, Jade, Charter, Spectrum, Century Link are providing services and working on expansions.
- Las Animas County finds service provided by SECOM wireless is overall strong in much of eastern Las Animas County. The same cannot be said for Trinidad and the more mountainous parts of the county. Fiber optic cable is being installed down I-25 from the north to Trinidad, but it is unclear what role it will play in the county-seat area.

Pueblo County

Pueblo West and most of the area outside of the city of Pueblo lack reliable access to broadband. A study funded by San Isabel Electric Cooperative also showed that in addition to a lack of technology, some residents are ambivalent about supporting broadband expenditures based upon concerns that the economic development that broadband enables may negatively impact a rural lifestyle. In terms of the geographic and population affected by a lack of availability of broadband, Pueblo County is in better shape than the South Central and Southeastern Plains sub-regions.

Housing

Attainable housing is a significant concern throughout SCEDD. In some cases, housing is unavailable at any price. Although there was a brief drop in real estate sales at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic in early 2020, that changed rapidly as the populace quickly learned they could work remotely. This is especially true with the four counties located closest to the mountains. Real estate sales are now at record highs in those areas. Lack of rental properties is another major housing concern. Many counties find that service industry workers and even professionals such as teachers, police, and firefighters cannot find attainable property to rent or buy. In the Southeastern Plains, housing stock has deteriorated due to a lack of economic activity.

Southeastern Plains (Baca, Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, Otero, Prowers)

While the population and number of households throughout the region has increased slightly and is expected to continue to increase, the number of housing units has declined over the past few decades. Employers cite a lack of decent and available housing units as a barrier to finding and keeping employees. The housing stock throughout the region is aging, and the condition of units in most communities is a growing concern. Many units are vacant, abandoned, or are in disrepair. Rentals are often affordable, but unsafe and undesirable. The latest “Workforce Feasibility Report” cites six major issues with the creation of new housing:

- Lack of housing supply leads to outmigration/stagnation
- Appraisals are not adequate due to lack of sales comps
- Construction costs have been prohibitive on smaller scale projects
- Scarce availability of contractors and labor for new development
- Exponential material cost increases make small project prices unattainable to local workforce
- Lack of construction loan capital to help create available, buildable lots

Finally, removing blighted units is a high priority throughout the sub-region, as is rehabilitation and preservation of the remaining housing stock. There is a lack of market-rate rental stock available and attractive to new residents.

Upper Arkansas (Fremont, Chaffee, Custer, Lake)

The pandemic has seen major increases in the median home prices across the region. “The Missing Middle” has been dubbed the biggest hurdle for retaining or attracting new employees. Housing for the wage-earning workforce between 80% to even 140% AMI is not available because of the inflation over the past two years in the market. Currently, state and federal programs do not provide meaningful assistance for this wage-earning group. Land costs and horizontal construction costs have made the creation of developable lots too high to reach attainable pricing on the construction of new homes throughout the region.



The Upper Arkansas Area Council of Governments offers several programs that address some of the financial side effects, including a home loan improvement program, Section 8 Rental and Home Ownership assistance, housing counseling and education, and direct loans through the USDA.

South Central (Huerfano, Las Animas)

Housing is a significant challenge, and this is true across the counties. The challenge seems to be most acute in the middle-tier, which is a barrier to both talent attraction and talent retention. It is especially challenging when trying to attract more professional-level labor, such as engineers, doctors, etc. With a significant amount of people relocating along the Colorado front range, all south central counties are experiencing housing shortages in almost every category. Attainable housing for the workforce is the hardest hit. The median housing price in Trinidad has hit a tipping point that is now passing affordability for even average wage earners. Much of the existing housing stock is older and in need of rehabilitation. Starter homes are needed. Rental properties are in scarce supply for all wage earners.

Pueblo County

The City of Pueblo has several census tracts of dilapidated, owner-occupied, and rental housing in neighborhoods wracked by poverty. In other parts of the community, Pueblo West, and rural Pueblo County, there is a shortage of available housing. Pueblo is also struggling with providing housing for the “Missing Middle” for the same reasons seen in the Upper Arkansas sub-region.

Access to Capital

SCEDD has material weaknesses in business and entrepreneur access to capital. It is particularly ill-prepared to meet the financing needs of tech and intellectual property startups, with additional holes in the ability to help mature companies pivot or grow or handling commercial loans of between \$1 to \$5 million.

A healthy ecosystem provides access to capital for business and industry at all stages of development (seed capital, venture funding, private equity) and in types of capital (equity and debt). The weaknesses within the district are a lack of access to equity capital and a limited range of options in debt capital. On the equity side: Early-stage entrepreneurs need access to seed funds, often organized as angel investor funds and networks. Follow-on funding often comes from venture capital funds. Businesses who need to pivot or position themselves for growth, need private equity firms. In the district, there are not any seed funds, venture funds, or private equity funds available. Entrepreneurs within SCEDD DO have access to funds centered on the front range, in a statewide venture capital fund, and investment groups located on the Western Slope.

On the debt side, the district has a nice mix of commercial banking and non-profit revolving loan funds, which are adequate for many, but not all projects that require some type of conventional commercial loans. SBA and USDA guarantees are available to create credit enhancements for commercial loans. That said, the SBA 504 program is not available from a provider within SCEDD. This is a material weakness because the bank/revolving loan program model does not work as well for commercial loans above \$1 million with real estate involved.

Southeastern Plains (Baca, Bent, Crowley, Otero, Prowers)

Throughout the Southeastern Plains there is a major gap of financing for both residential and commercial property and businesses. Grant programs are heavily relied on for startup funding. There are several loan programs offered through SECED and Otero Partners, Inc. Local lending is available and there is interest in these banks wanting to assist. However, a stagnant market comp makes underwriting difficult. SBA 504 loans and USDA loans continue to be under used due to the lack of underwriting.

Upper Arkansas (Chaffee, Custer, Lake)

The biggest need for Chaffee, Custer, and Lake is access to small business loans. The Upper Ark COG does have an active Revolving Loan Fund (RLF).

South Central (Huerfano, Las Animas)

Both South Central counties have RLFs available for local businesses, but the funds are limited when addressing significant business expansions or improvements. Access to capital is a problem for small businesses and commercial startups.

Pueblo County

Economic incentives are available for certain types of businesses located in Pueblo County through PEDCO. These incentives are funded through a city sales and use tax. In late 2020, an angel syndicate (Southern Colorado Angels) was launched, focusing initially on Pueblo, Fremont, and El Paso Counties. Southern Colorado Innovation Link (SCIL) is an accelerator program for tech and intellectual property startups. They prepare entrepreneurs to become “pitch ready,” but they must send most of their clients out of the area for equity investment. NeighborWorks, centered in Pueblo, but serving all of SCEDD, has a small business revolving loan fund.

Labor Participation

Most of SCEDD lacks skilled and reliable workforces. From service workers such as waitstaff and building contractors, to manufacturing and more, there are shortages and high turnover rates. The busy summer tourist season is especially challenged in finding reliable help, as well as work the entire season. Even recruiting professionals, such as police/sheriff deputies, middle managers, medical staff, and tech. workers, is a constant challenge. Once again, attainable housing plays an important role in solving this problem. As previously stated, the SCEDD service area is huge. The closest population centers are far enough away, it makes commuting to work in SE Colorado time consuming, costly, if not prohibitive. Finally, the regional economic recovery has been hampered by prolonged unemployment. Most large employers cite the overextended federal unemployment benefits as the biggest issue.

Southeastern Plains (Baca, Bent, Crowley, Custer, Otero, Prowers)

As of the first quarter of 2021, unemployment rates across the sub-region range from 2.8%-6.8%. These rates are a vast improvement when compared to the start of the pandemic when several counties hit above 12% unemployment rates. The expiring federal unemployment benefits have assisted in encouraging many workers to return to work. Several counties in the sub-region also have high disability populations who are unable to participate in the labor market. Finally, this sub-region struggles to recruitment in order to replace the aging workforce who are transitioning into retirement. Attracting younger families into the sub-region with quality housing and employment opportunities is a major priority.

Upper Arkansas (Fremont, Chaffee, Custer, Lake)

Throughout the pandemic, the services sector industry has been extremely hard hit in this sub-region. The essential service employers are also seeing jobs unfilled. School and hospital districts are having trouble attracting and keeping teachers and nurses. Municipal governments are also having trouble filling positions. Housing costs for the Missing Middle makes keeping these employees a major issue.

South Central (Huerfano, Las Animas)

In this sub-region unemployment rates are between 7-8.8% as of the first quarter of 2021. The federal unemployment rates and housing costs are cited by many businesses as the primary cause for these high numbers.

Pueblo County

Unemployment rates are between 8.7% as of the first quarter of 2021 in this region. The federal unemployment rate and housing costs are cited by many businesses as the primary cause for these high numbers.

Substance Abuse

As with much of the country, the negative impacts of the opioid crisis have been and are still present in parts of SCEDD. Additional problems with methamphetamines, alcohol, and other substances contribute to this problem. The lack of professional treatment facilities and trained workers compound the situation. Of course, substance abuse often leads to crime, homelessness, and high dropout rates. Illegal marijuana grows, drug manufacturing facilities, and cocaine houses impact the quality of life and stresses resources. In turn, these issues can stigmatize communities, making them less appealing to businesses looking to relocate.

Southeastern Plains (Baca, Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, Otero, Prowers)

Substance abuse is a major problem across the sub-region. Treatment facilities and access to mental health services are major concerns. The COVID-19 pandemic saw an alarming rate of teen and young adult suicides.

Upper Arkansas (Fremont, Chaffee)

Both Chaffee and Fremont Counties state substance abuse as problem. Homeless populations have high rates of substance abuse. The numbers showing narcotic and opioid use are alarming in this region.

South Central (Huerfano, Las Animas)

Both Huerfano and Las Animas Counties have significant substance abuse issues. Both counties are pursuing increased services. Mental health and youth mental health service are a priority. This sub-region also saw a major increase in teen suicide rates throughout the pandemic.

Pueblo County

Pueblo County has a history and an ongoing problem with substance abuse: “Drug issues are a significant challenge throughout the region (*sic*) and are perceived to be one of the root causes of homelessness and poverty in communities. It is also a challenge in the workforce as it relates to employers with mandatory drug testing, such as the schools, hospitals, manufacturers, and other

large employers. There is a perception that a certain segment of the population is dependent on social services and entitlements as a byproduct of this.” (*San Isabel Electric Association Economic Development Strategic Plan, 2020*)

Water Security

As with most of the arid West, Colorado is experiencing severe drought. All 13 counties within SCEDD are in moderate to exceptional drought. Lack of water negatively impacts agriculture the most, but it can also negatively affect overall economic growth and well-being. Additionally, out-of-basin water transfers and sales to growing front range cities removes water from farms and ranches. Recreation and tourism are also affected as reduced snowpack impacts everything from mountain skiing to hunting and fishing. Adequate and reliable water supplies are needed for housing developments and businesses alike. Area water districts and other agencies are reviewing the need for additional water storage projects. Domestic water restrictions are now a normal part of every summer in most of SCEDD’s communities. This topic addresses both water supply, as well as water rights to enable additional growth.

Southeastern Plains (Baca, Bent, Kiowa, Otero, Prowers)

The Arkansas Valley Conduit is the single, most significant project for the sub-region. This project will help deliver drinking water to 40 communities for a projected future population of 50,000 people across the sub-region. This project has recently begun to take major steps towards becoming a reality. Needless to say, this project was first conceived in 1963 and has yet to supply this sub-region with any water. Drinking water quality concerns continue to require major upgrades to water and even wastewater systems. Critical infrastructure projects for water and wastewater are listed as part of the economic strategies contained in this plan. Most communities have adequate water rights to support anticipated economic development over the next five years.

Upper Arkansas (Chaffee)

Water rights to facilitate additional economic growth are a major concern in Chaffee County. Resources for water-right acquisition are needed to ensure economic prosperity continues in the county.

South Central (Huerfano, Las Animas)

Overall, water rights are sufficient for the urban centers throughout the sub-region. Huerfano County lacks enough reservoirs for storing water. The northern portion of the county suffers from aging water infrastructure. Additional reservoir(s) are being studied. In general, water resources are low and will not meet expected long-term needs. Las Animas County needs additional water treatment facilities to process water for a growing population in Trinidad.



Grant Writing/Professional Service Capacity

Rural capacity for applying to Grants, Planning, and Implementing Projects is in short supply across the majority of the smaller communities within SCEDD. Very few local governments or nonprofits have dedicated resources for grant writing.

Pueblo, and a handful of other sub-regions within SCEDD, has adequate abilities to address the above items. However, there is clearly a shortage of skilled individuals who have a good grasp on how to find, write, and properly manage grant funding. The situation is the same with planning, project implementation and management. At least half of the SCEDD sub-regions have small populations and are financially poor. They can scarcely afford paid planners, economic development directors, etc. The current SCEDD team can address and/or assist with most of these current issues. However, a long-term, comprehensive solution is needed. SCEDD is positioned to assist at the district level to fill this niche and provide technical assistance in order for these smaller counties to access grants and other essential funding.

Brand Positioning and Self-image

The 13 counties that comprise the SCEDD region make up a huge land mass -- approximately one-fifth of the state of Colorado. This area is mostly rural and agricultural with small towns and cities scattered throughout. Diverse, natural, and scenic beauty are the norm -- from semi-arid prairies/grasslands, canyons/mesas, to national forests with snowcapped peaks. In many ways the sheer size of the area and terrain along with the diversity of the communities makes it difficult to categorize the district. SCEDD is best conceived of as the Upper and Lower Arkansas River Drainage. The two sections are different as night and day.

Adding to this identity crisis is the recent decision by the Colorado Tourism Office (CTO) to restructure/redefine/and rename the various tourism regions of the state. Pueblo, Fremont, and Chaffee Counties are now grouped with *Pike's Peak Wonders*. Huerfano County is now part of *The Mystic San Luis Valley*. The remaining counties are known as *Canyons and Plains*. As an economic district, SCEDD not only has to contend with the above concepts and perceptions, but it needs to take a serious look at branding and self-image. Perhaps the biggest challenge is for the district to best define its economic similarities, strengths, commonalities, and offerings.

The construct that is unchanged by state redefinitions is the reality that Pueblo County is an economic hub for SCEDD and the other twelve counties are spokes—with all the good and bad that this description implies.

Southeastern Plains (Baca, Bent, Crowley, Custer, Kiowa, Prowers)

Smaller communities across this part of the district lack marketing or business attraction services. These efforts are most often undertaken by their individual economic directors. However, there isn't any dedicated funding sources to assist. This is a very difficult task for individuals who are already tasked with tackling other major, important projects and tasks in the sub-region. Assistance from the Colorado Tourism Office on marketing events, national historic sites, grasslands, and other major recreation destinations would help to increase the tourism industry in the sub-region.

South Central (Huerfano, Las Animas)

Both South Central counties have managed to brand themselves well by using local tourism boards and/or chambers of commerce. Huerfano County has an abundance of outdoor recreation resources and additional efforts should be made towards marketing of these resources.

Four Year Higher Education Attainment

Many of the counties within SCEDD have high graduation rates that are above the state average. The district also has multiple higher-education opportunities. However, there are several counties that are seeing lower attendance at post-secondary educational institutions..

Southeastern Plains (Bent, Crowley)

Across this sub-region four of the counties have some of the highest graduation rates for high schools in the state. Baca, Kiowa, Otero, and Prowers Counties all have rates of 90 percent or above. The small-town school districts and small class sizes are often cited as reason students in these school districts have been successful. Also, three of these counties have post-secondary educational opportunities. However, Bent and Crowley Counties have lower than average graduation and attainment rates. These school districts are starting to work towards partnerships with their neighboring community colleges to offer additional opportunities for their students.

Upper Arkansas (Lake)

Lake County reports that their graduation rate is lower than the state average and needs improvement. The school district has been working on a graduate record examination (GRE) program with Colorado Mountain College.

South Central (Huerfano, Las Animas)

Both Huerfano and Las Animas Counties see room for improving high school graduation rates, with students going on to college. Career and Technical Educational exist in both communities.

Availability of Commercial/Industrial Space

The ability to attract new, high-paying jobs and businesses to the district is heavily dependent on the availability of developable land. Some counties have available space and are actively seeking businesses to locate in their areas. Other have land, but the necessary infrastructure is too costly for a single business to take on to start vertical construction.

Southeastern Plains (Baca, Bent, Crowley, Prowers)

In the southeastern plains there are four counties that have land designated for industrial and commercial uses and are next to major transportation routes. These spaces are prime and affordable real estate to attract new businesses. However, investments in water, wastewater, roads, electrical, and gas are needed to make these site-ready in Baca, Bent, Crowley, and Prowers Counties. These sites are all located in Opportunity Zones.

Upper Arkansas (Fremont, Chaffee, Lake)

Infrastructure in Fremont, Chaffee, and Lake Counties is needed for several large parcels of land to be ready for commercial development. Regional airports in all three counties also have available space for commercial expansion. Both Chaffee and Lake Counties have Opportunity Zones.

South Central (Huerfano)

Huerfano has limited industrial space with infrastructure available. Additional commercial space can be realized through downtown revitalization.

Availability of Labor

“Now Hiring” and “Help Wanted” signs can be seen throughout SCEDD. As discussed under the Labor Participation and Housing categories, these issues have increased the need for new employees in the sub-region. However, a qualified, trained workforce is also an essential part of the equation for many businesses across the sub-region. There are major labor deficiencies in the construction trades and the availability of service workers are a major deficiencies in their workforce.

Southeastern Plains (Baca, Bent, Crowley, Kiowa)

In the Southeastern Plains sub-region the agricultural workforce was particularly hit hard by the COVID-19 pandemic. Many H2A workers were not able to enter the United States, therefore, farmers did not have the work force to plant, tend and harvest crops. Business closures and prolonged unemployment benefits contributed to the disruption in the workforce. Workforce training and development are major priorities over the next five years.

Upper Arkansas (Chaffee, Lake)

Chaffee and Lake Counties are seeing major disruptions in the service and tourism workforces. Housing, business closures, and prolonged unemployment benefits have impacted the available workforce and created an acute issue.

South Central (Huerfano, Las Animas)

Both Huerfano and Las Animas Counties are seeing employment issues in their workforce. The reopened New Elk Coal Mine will need skilled positions. New trade programs have been developed and are being implemented in the sub-region to begin to address these issues.



High Utility Costs

Utility costs throughout the district are reasonable mainly due to the superb management of utilities that are operated by local governments and special districts. However, there is one major exception in the district, which are the customers whose electricity is provided by Black Hills Energy in Crowley, Fremont, Huerfano, Pueblo, and Otero Counties. These customers paying 34% more than the Colorado average. These customers are paying higher rates in order to cover the costs associated with the early decommissioning of a power plant. The same is true for the investments in green energy. Costs should be divided among all households using the energy.

New utility legislation by the PUC should be considered to ensure the decommissioning of large power plants and investments in green energy are shared by all users of the grid. Especially in areas such as resort communities, who are demanding green energy, to ensure that rural communities do not bear the entire cost.

Availability of Childcare

Access to childcare continues to impact the availability of the workforce. Across SCEDD, public preschool/childcare is at nearly 100% capacity according to the *2020 Kids Count Report*, by Annie E. Casey Foundation. This creates a competitive market for parents to try to get their children enrolled. Further, early childcare and private care facilities are also at capacity. The need for additional resources and facilities is a major priority of both school districts and the private market.

Succession Planning – Small Business

In many rural communities, the family-run pharmacy, grocery store, or hardware store is the cornerstone of the community. Without these small, family-run businesses, communities would not have access to the goods and foods necessary to keep remain viable. When these businesses close, a long commute often results. The national, large-chain businesses that exist in other larger communities are not viable in these smaller, rural communities because of the smaller populations and isolated locations.

There are two main issues that need to be addressed to allow future generations to step into and run these businesses when the reins are handed over. First, access to business capital is essential for the next family to step into and continue to run the business. Loans (for not only the business but the buildings, equipment, and other assets) are necessary for succession of these businesses. Second, workforce training for specialized portions of these businesses is required. Trades or professional training needs to be offered in the district to allow the next generation to continue these businesses in these smaller communities.

Critical Infrastructure

Infrastructure is the backbone of how businesses and communities operate and survive. Roads, bridges, broadband, transmission lines, water, and wastewater projects are in high demand throughout every county. Through the SWOT and economic implementation public process over \$300 million of need for high priority infrastructure projects were identified for the next five years. A complete list of these projects is included in this CEDS update by county in the attached Appendix A.

The federal government's economic recovery response to the COVID-19 pandemic has created numerous federal initiatives to fund economic recovery throughout the next five years of this CEDS. The redistribution of these funds through federal agencies, such as the EDA, to state and local governments, and non-profits in the form of contracts, loans, grants, and direct payments to the district will be the foundation of the recovery efforts.

While funding is key to moving these critical infrastructure projects forward there are several other major weaknesses in the region to ensure funding reaches our region's projects, policies, and programs as outline in the Economic Implementation Strategies found in Chapter 7.

First, planning, grant assistance, and technical assistance will be paramount to ensure equity in the redistribution of federal funds to our local communities, especially the smaller rural communities. Capacity to implement and project management of these large-scale infrastructure projects is lacking in many rural communities throughout the region. SCEDD is positioned to assist with absorbing some of this needed capacity to ensure high-priority projects are funded and implemented.

Second, access to the skilled labor force to complete these projects will be in high demand not just within SCEDD, but across Colorado and in many other parts of the nation. Regional collaboration and scheduling should be a top priority to ensure major projects and contractors are able to work systematically throughout the region. Further, this will allow supply chains and access to materials to be available when groundbreaking occurs.

Third, professional services that are required including engineering, surveying, financial, and even legal are in short supply within the region. Working on building capacity and relationships with these professional services is a goal of SCEDD to ensure access to our local governments, businesses, and non-profits.

Business Attraction

Business attraction is essential to growth and economic prosperity throughout the region. Some counties benefit from large population centers, paid professional staff, and regional attractions that businesses seek out. However, many of the smaller rural communities have small, dedicated staffs that have an everyday uphill struggle to fill all the needs of their business communities. This CEDS update has identified multiple projects and programs that will assist in helping these communities attract businesses that offer skilled, high-paying jobs.

Southeastern Plains (Baca, Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, Otero, Prowers)

The rural nature of this sub-region has several obstacles when it comes to business attraction/development due to the lack of resources available to tackle this large endeavor. Throughout this CEDS process, extra attention was given to these areas to ensure the size and scale of need was thoroughly identified. There are multiple opportunities for businesses to locate throughout the Southeastern Plains sub-region. Improved access to broadband, available space, lower costs of living, access to regional distribution, and other strengths identified in the SWOT can be leverage as tools to attract and retain new businesses. Continued investments in workforce development will ensure a labor force that is ready to work once these businesses locate in the sub-region.

Upper Arkansas (Custer, Lake)

Both Lake and Custer Counties have significant numbers of people who hold jobs in neighboring counties. There are ample, affordable spaces located in these counties for new businesses to locate, which could reduce the need for commutes. Investments in broadband and other infrastructure to make these sites developable and attractive to businesses should be a high priority.



South Central (Huerfano)

Although Las Animas and Huerfano Counties are experiencing a bit of a boom right now as new businesses are relocating or starting up, there is still a need for economic development in certain areas of the sub-region. These include professional and retail in the downtown cores. The COVID-19 pandemic has caused a few businesses to close, however, this has also created opportunities for downtown revitalization and for business retention.

CEDS 2021 Opportunities

Tourism, Recreation, Arts, and Culture

Tourism and recreation opportunities abound within the SCEDD public land-rich district. The groundwork for substantially increasing the amount of cultural heritage and outdoor recreational tourism must be laid by ensuring adequate short-term housing, promotional/marketing activities, and development of new opportunities. SCEDD is already home to world class hunting, fishing, water sports, skiing, and outdoor recreation activities. Almost half of Colorado's 14,000-ft. peaks are in SCEDD counties. Dark Skies astro tourism is an expanding area of tourism for this part of Colorado. The area has five scenic byways, six state parks, two national parks and one national monument, Browns Canyon. The San Isabel National Forest runs through six SCEDD counties, along with five national forest wilderness areas. Significant amounts of BLM lands are in several SCEDD counties and there are dozens of state wildlife areas.

Three state-certified creative districts/corridors are in SCEDD counties, and the SCEDD service area is home to dozens of high-quality museums and art galleries. Three state museums are in SCEDD's service area. Salida's and Trinidad's creative districts contain more historic buildings than any other city in Colorado. Pueblo boasts a creative corridor along Union Avenue with numerous galleries and performance venues. Efforts are underway to further develop creative districts. There are currently 38 museums in the 13 counties that make up SCEDD, and at least that many galleries. All these amenities serve as beacons to tourists, businesses, and people looking to relocate.

Southeastern Plains (Baca, Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, Otero, Prowers)

The Comanche National Grasslands are in Baca, Otero, and Las Animas Counties. The grasslands are a popular birding area, which is a huge part of outdoor tourism. Opportunities exist for guided birding excursions. Similarly, these counties are rich in cultural and archeological sites. Once again a possible source for guided tourist activities. John Martin Reservoir State Park is in Bent County. Park concession businesses are a potential source of economic development, especially in the areas of birding and watchable wildlife. Crowley County boasts Lake Henry and Lake Meredith -- both provide opportunities for recreation-based businesses.



Upper Arkansas (Custer, Fremont, Chaffee, Lake)

Guided trips along scenic byways are a national tourism growth area, and Colorado has more scenic highways than any other state. All of Colorado's scenic byways saw increased traffic during the pandemic as a means of safe travel. In-state and regional travel is expected to stay strong, especially along scenic routes. The Upper Arkansas sub-region is home to 3 state scenic byways. The Top of the Rockies Byway is found in Lake County and includes Colorado's highest peak, Mt. Elbert. The Collegiate Peaks Byway connects Lake County to Chaffee County. The Frontier Pathway Scenic Byway runs through Custer, Fremont, and Pueblo Counties, helping to boost tourism/visitation in those areas.

Chaffee County is one of Colorado's oldest and premier outdoor recreation areas. Several recreation-related businesses have been in the area for decades, making for stiff competition. However, the county still sees room for growth in this industry.

Similar to Chaffee County, Fremont County is an outdoor recreation destination. Gravel rides and mountain biking are increasing. The wide range of recreation choices provides fertile ground for entrepreneurs. Custer County sees opportunities for recreation businesses in the areas of cycling, road races, and scenic highway tours.

South-Central (Huerfano, Las Animas)

Huerfano County and Las Animas County are both ripe for heritage tourism development, especially around outdoor recreation, and museums. The area is lacking in both retail-related businesses and recreational services, such as rental gear, retail outlets, and guide services. The Scenic Highway of Legends runs through both counties and was recently named a federal scenic byway, which will increase visitation. Dark Sky tourism (aka Astro Tourism) is another growth area. Both Huerfano and Las Animas Counties have expressed a need for more outdoor recreation-based retail outlets and related guide services -- e.g., gravel/mountain bike rides, hiking, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, nature tours, and historical tour rides.

The Scenic Highway of Legends (SHOL), shared by Las Animas and Huerfano Counties, connects three state parks. This highway was recently awarded federal scenic byway designation. The SHOL already attracts thousands of visitors, and the new designation provides federal marketing dollars. However, this attraction is also in need of funding for planning to enhance the attraction before marketing plans are completed. The proposed southern mountain Loop Project includes the ideas of adding walking and bike trails to be paired with the SHOL. This project is over a \$100 million, which would bring even more visitation and recreational opportunities. Las Animas County is also home to the Santa Fe Trail Scenic Byway.

Astro tourism is strong in and there are plans for expansion with Colorado Star Gazing. Events, such as the Rocky Stars Stare Festival, continue to draw larger crowds every year. Similarly, Huerfano and Las Animas Counties are expanding into this type of tourism. Opportunities exist for events, plus observatories or "star parks."

Pueblo County

Tourism, arts, culture, and recreation are growing and emerging industries in Pueblo. The Pueblo Chili and Frijole Festival draws more than 100,000 attendees and is second only to the Colorado State Fair held in Pueblo. The mild climate provides a long season for water sports, fishing, cycling, hiking, and more. It could be said that the Frontier Pathway "begins" in Pueblo County as it heads west along Lake Pueblo State Park, which is Colorado's most visited state park. The road continues west into Custer County where it comes to the towns of Silver Cliff and Westcliffe, then back to Pueblo County via the Wet Mountains and ends in Colorado City. Guided auto or bike tours provide two opportunities along the Frontier Pathway. Many state parks are experiencing a need for concessionaires providing various services and activities. Lake Pueblo is ripe for this expansion. With its rich history, Pueblo boasts a strong arts and cultural community with numerous museums, galleries, and historic sites.

Renewable Energy

Colorado ranked seventh among the states in installed wind power capacity in 2020. In 2018, Colorado's southeastern plains comprised 95.5 percent of the renewable energy capacity in the state and represented all the state's wind energy and about 55 percent of the state's solar capacity. By 2024, the eastern plains' renewable capacity is expected to expand by more than 22 percent, by adding 1,109 MW and bringing the region's wind and solar capacity to 6,069 MW. The cluster of industries that support renewable and advanced energy in Colorado include companies that produce and conserve energy using wind, solar, biomass, fuel cells, hydroelectric resources, and green transportation technologies. The cluster also includes companies that manufacture renewable energy equipment, storage, and power transformers, and businesses that provide engineering and other support services. Lastly, the cluster includes energy research companies that provide laboratory testing, scientific and technical consulting services, and institutional research related to the environment, natural resources, and energy

Southeastern Plains (Baca, Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, Prowers)

Renewable energy has been a prominent and growing industry in Southeastern Colorado. Several wind and solar farms are already in place, with additional ones under construction. Investments in transmission lines will continue to open additional opportunities for wind and solar. Investments are anticipated to grow as part of the federal government's push to expand alternative and green energy resources. Most of the Southeastern Plains of Colorado fall into the top two categories for high solar gain, making the area attractive to more solar energy installations. Wind power is also a high development priority in the eastern portion of the sub-region. Planned transmission lines on the five-year horizon will open up additional areas of Baca, Kiowa, Crowley, and Prowers Counties.

Upper Arkansas (Custer, Fremont, Chaffee, Lake)

Lake County wants to develop a small-scale solar farm to assist with energy production and controlling electric costs. Custer County doesn't have any renewable energy facilities. However, there is a proposal to develop the Custer County Solar Garden Coop, a grid-connected solar energy production farm for local use. It would be a community solar garden farm to create energy credits from the local, connected utilities (Black Hills and Sangre de Cristo) to be used solely by community "owners" to offset/reduce/eliminate their energy costs. Small scale solar projects that assist local businesses and owners will be the prominent industry growth over the next five years.

South Central (Huerfano, Las Animas)

Wind and solar farms are both found in Huerfano and Las Animas Counties. Huerfano is home to Colorado's largest and highest producing wind farm, and it extends to other adjacent counties in the sub-region. An existing solar farm, primarily located in La Animas County and part in Huerfano County, is planning to expand in 2022. Further expansion is possible for both solar and wind energy in Huerfano and Las Animas Counties.

Pueblo County

With 320 days of sunshine, Pueblo County has huge potential for solar as well as wind energy development. Numerous projects have been planned and proposed but none have been realized. However, the City of Pueblo has committed to transition entirely to clean, renewable energy by 2035. There are plans for much of that goal to be realized by local development. Considering that Pueblo has the highest electrical costs in the Front Range, local development of alternative

energy could lower these costs. CS Wind has a large facility just south of Pueblo, which makes towers for wind turbines, which also adds to Pueblo's potential for being a leader in wind energy manufacturing and production.

Housing Construction

Much of SCEDD is experiencing an attainable housing shortage, and in some cases it is severe. The onslaught of COVID saw a migration from urban areas, as more people were able to work remotely, to less-populated rural areas. Additionally, Colorado is the 12th fastest growing state, which has resulted in skyrocketing home prices, especially in the metro-Denver area. This marked growth, along with increased prices, is also being felt in Pueblo and the more mountainous counties. High construction costs and labor shortages have made this a weakness in many areas. However, there are a few counties that have recently seen growth in manufactured and/or modular home construction.

Southeastern Plains (Crowley, Prowers)

Manufactured homes and tiny homes are part of the solution to housing needs in this region. Lamar Community College is exploring training in modular home building as an option for future home building needs in the area. Crowley County Correctional Facility's WeBuild program has partnered with Habitat for Humanity to provide high-quality wooden cabinets, vanities and more for Habitat homes.

Upper Arkansas (Chaffee)

Chaffee County has seen a new, manufactured home business that is slated to begin construction of new homes in 2021. Fading West is hoping to capitalize on economies-of-scale and labor in production.

South Central (Huerfano, Las Animas)

Attainable housing is needed in both South Central counties. There are serious shortages resulting in many workers not being able to reside in the communities they serve. From civil servants to general workforce, there is an immediate need and opportunity to construct workforce and other attainable housing. Currently, it appears that a public/private partnership is the best solution in which to approach this issue. As of this writing, the real estate market in this sub-region, as in most of Colorado, is red hot as houses sell at or above asking prices. High costs for building materials means the only new homes being built are by more wealthy individuals. Lack of qualified builders is an issue in both counties. Because travel distances can be prohibitive, especially with high demand being closer to home, most builders do not need to travel for work, but opportunities do exist.

For Huerfano, there is a proposed housing development being considered in Walsenburg via a developer from Denver. Huerfano County was successful in receiving a \$100k planning grant to study the feasibility of new housing in Gardner. There is a need for more subsidized housing for low-income families and for seniors in Huerfano County as well as, Walsenburg and La Veta. Opportunities for rehabilitation of existing housing stock remains economically viable to the



contracting community. Huerfano Economic Development is also developing the capital stack for the feasibility of building seven, attainable housing units in Walsenburg.

Pueblo County

Traditionally, Pueblo's housing costs were among the lowest in the state and housing was plentiful. The marijuana industry had some impact on this, but COVID-19 resulted in significant price increases and sales. However, Pueblo still has the lowest housing and rental costs of any major front range city. This can be a draw for teleworkers, especially within the city limits where high speed internet is available. Pueblo's low wages result in a shortage of attainable workforce housing. However, Pueblo's Housing Authority, NeighborWorks, and a mature construction industry make for a powerful mix for addressing housing needs in the area.

Agribusiness/Value Added Agriculture:

In two of the four SCEDD sub-regions, agribusiness is one of the top economic engines. In all sub-regions, it is significant. Farming and ranching make up the top tiers and are found in every county, along with food processing facilities ranging from wine making to meat packing. Small scale dairy production plants, from goat cheese to cow's milk, are also seen throughout the district. The Arkansas River Valley is one of Colorado's top traditional agricultural production areas. New and niche markets are emerging. Air B&Bs and "ranch stays" – with hands-on activities and tours -- are increasing. Camping and "glamping" on private land is growing. Most ag lands also attract hunters. With many landowners, hunting and fishing are a supplement to their incomes. Organic meat production is growing and that market is expanding. Biochar facilities, processing everything from yucca to beetle kill and fire-damaged forest lands, are planned from the prairies to the mountains.

Southeastern Plains (Baca, Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, Otero, Prowers)

Increased hemp production with a focus on processing and manufacturing hemp, could benefit large sections of the Lower Arkansas Valley Region through Pueblo. Dairy production and expansion into other agribusinesses that support one of the largest economic drivers is a natural expansion. Investments in infrastructure that allow these businesses access to developable land is a need.

Upper Arkansas (Custer, Fremont)

Like the rest of SCEDD, agriculture is strong in this sub-region, mainly in the areas of cattle ranching and hay production. Custer County lacks rail but has hemp grows in place, which could expand. Fremont County has a wide range of value-added ag and the agriculture industry has room to expand across the county.

South Central (Huerfano, Las Animas)

Both Huerfano and Las Animas Counties expressed a need for new USDA meat processing facilities in the counties. There is large demand for meat processing and backlogs are occurring. Current facilities are overwhelmed and require long distance travel to and from. Both Huerfano and Las Animas Counties expressed a need for load weigh facilities. As above, such facilities are few and far between. Opportunities for hemp growing and processing also exist in both South Central counties. Access to rail and major highways is already in place in Las Animas County and closed railroad sidings could be upgraded and reopened in Huerfano County.

Pueblo County

Pueblo is famous for its green chili and the area has a history steeped in agriculture along the Arkansas River. In fact, the lower Arkansas River Valley is the oldest food growing region in the state. A significant amount of food is grown in or just down river from Pueblo. Food and hemp processing facilities already exist here, and this is seen as a growth area for agribusiness in Pueblo. Access to transportation via highway and rail add to Pueblo's ability to serve this industry.

Remote Workforce Development

The likelihood of large tech businesses with more than 200 employees relocating to many of the counties within SCEDD is unlikely, with the exceptions of Pueblo and, perhaps, La Junta or Lamar. Organizations, such as Southern Colorado Innovation Link (SCIL), are developing tech and intellectual property entrepreneurial ecosystems, which lend themselves to remote and even virtual, company cultures. There are also opportunities for training, developing, and utilizing remote workforces. Small scale call centers, such as Pax 8 in Fremont County, serve as examples of this concept. The next wave of blue-collar and middle-class jobs are going to need basic tech skills. Regional and community colleges could provide educational/training services by partnering with state workforce offices and the private sector. In fact, efforts are already underway. Three community colleges and one university are located within SCEDD's service area. Trinidad State College is working to bring services to Huerfano County. Colorado Mountain College (CMC) has campuses in Leadville and Salida and offers degree programs oriented towards industries within their respective communities and similar rural communities. Continued and expanded interactions with higher education will enhance employment opportunities and business development.

The ability to expand medical degree programs at the regional educational institutions should be pursued. For instance, in Huerfano County the regional health center, is and has been for decades, the largest employer in the county. In addition, Pueblo serves as the medical-services hub for all of SCEDD. The idea of expanding medical degree programs at educational institutions and hospitals throughout the district should be pursued.

Efforts involving community-based and private enterprises are in progress. An area that is emerging and has potential for more growth is the effort to create temporary, rental office spaces with tech support and services. One such firm has offered to team with SCEDD and others to provide classroom space, WIFI, and tech equipment for trainings, workshops, webinars, etc. These efforts would be enhanced by including state workforce offices. Until broadband becomes more widely available in rural areas (and perhaps even after), temporary, short term office space is a viable alternative and a business opportunity.

Southeastern Plains (Baca, Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, Otero, Prowers)

Once again, improved broadband throughout this sub-region would provide the foundation for more people being able to work from home or in other remote situations. Parts of this sub-region already enjoy high speed internet, but there is room for expansion and improvement. Similarly, the community college system in this area could play an important role in job training for a more remote based workforce. Lamar has positioned itself with a technical-industrial area that could create regional support in remote workforces.

Upper Arkansas (Custer, Fremont, Chaffee, Lake)

Pax8 now has a presence in Fremont County and the county is looking to expand this program, as well as the overall model. Adjacent Custer County is closing in on providing high speed broadband to residents and businesses and is pursuing Pax8 as a means of introducing the idea of developing/creating a remote workforce. The desirable lifestyle and access to broadband in many of the urban communities has allow this workforce to grow. The COVID-19 pandemic has also increased the workforce in this sub-region.

South Central (Huerfano, Las Animas)

As noted above, high speed internet is needed for remote work force programs. A private business that provides low-cost office space rentals with broadband and other services has opened in Walsenburg. The Huerfano County Economic Development Inc. is pursuing a co-working and maker-space project. Huerfano County is aware of the model being developed in Fremont and Custer Counties and would like to pursue the same business model

Pueblo County

Pueblo has traditionally relied on Pueblo Community College (PCC) and CSU-Pueblo to help develop and train the local, skilled labor workforce. Nearby Colorado Springs is home to several more colleges/universities that provide even more programs. Yet, Pueblo has a shortage of trained tradesmen in its competitive market. Although Pueblo is known as a “Union Town”, research shows there is a need for additional, local training programs in the traditional trades. Plans are to have local trades and businesses work even more closely with high schools, PCC, and CSU-Pueblo in developing specific training programs to meet the demands of the local area and the district. From welding, to maintenance, to medical technicians, skilled, trade jobs now pay as well as many careers, which require a four-year college degree.

Entrepreneurial Ecosystem

Southern Colorado Innovation Link (SCIL) is the EDA-funded technology accelerator formed in 2019. They are part of Pueblo Corporate College and have 20 partners in the counties within the PCC catchment area. They mentor entrepreneurs in the tech, scalable product, and intellectual property sectors. They are the go-to source for monetizing ideas, products, and tech businesses. In simple terms, they make entrepreneurs pitch-ready and then try to connect them with financial resources. (As otherwise noted, there is a shortage of debt capital available within SCEDD, but SCIL has done a great job in connecting entrepreneurs with other funders and has even co-founded a new angel investor network. This should be regarded as a precursor to an angel investor or venture capital fund.)

SCIL has taken note of other successful startup, support organizations -- namely the Innosphere in Fort Collins, Colorado. The Innosphere was started in 1999, and provides a mix of commercialization programs, a Venture Capital Fund, and specialized office and lab facilities. For example, in 2020, Innosphere supported 34 startups and emerging growth companies in high-tech industries and raised \$7.75 million in capital for 21 companies. They work in close collaboration with universities to turn technologies into startups and turn those startups into high growth businesses. The Innosphere focus is the bioscience innovation cluster.

SCIL was designed to complement the existing clusters that includes Advanced Manufacturing and Infrastructure Engineering. Efforts are underway for SCIL to apply for the Build Back Better grant to, among other things, create a regional innovation cluster for technology. The experience that SCIL brings to the table will be crucial to that effort. This could provide a region-specific skill set and provide a focal point to create a venture capital fund and an innovation revolving loan fund.

A second potential incubator or accelerator has been a topic of discussion for some time amongst SCIL partners and regional stakeholders and could build on one of the most developed economic sectors within Pueblo, as well as the larger region. It could be focused specifically on innovative transportation technologies in conjunction with the American Association of Railroads and the Transportation Technology Center Inc. (Note: There are a number of similar large businesses within the sub-region, however, these two businesses were included because of their long-standing importance in the community, and relevance within the national transportation industry.)

SCIL has provided SCEDD a preliminary five-step plan to help SCEDD evaluate the strength and interest of community stakeholders and private businesses to develop the accelerator program mentioned previously. This plan would include an assessment of potential commercialization and intellectual property considerations, job creation for complementary industries, and third-party operators of an accelerator program, wherein operational costs would be sponsored by the local governments and transportation industry partners.

City of Pueblo is working with CSU-Pueblo and Transportation Technology Center Incorporated (TTCI) on a project to develop a transportation innovation cluster for southern Colorado. This project will have workforce implications for the entire region. Projects under consideration include creating a Transportation Center of Excellence at CSU, an incubator for global companies pursuing railway innovations, a potential RLF for transportation technology startups, and either a Venture Capital or Private Equity Fund for this cluster. Workforce development could include a combination of on-site, mobile, and training exchange programs. Also under consideration is creating regional capacity for business retention and expansion in the transportation innovation cluster.

Food and Beverage Processing

Potential for the Food and Beverage Industry is viable, but severely restricted by distribution challenges throughout the district, with the exception of Pueblo. The food and beverage industry has grown 17% over the last decade. Higher expectations from consumers for healthy food options along and the proliferation in online grocery sales during the COVID-19 pandemic, created increased demand for online groceries. The food and beverage sector has been undergoing a shift, with consumers increasingly choosing healthy, fresh, organic, local, and ready-to-eat alternatives over traditional products that are mass-produced. Food processing does require ample water and, of course, beverage processing will need even more water since it often becomes part of the finished product. Connection to distribution routes via highways and rails, along with a readily available workforce, are needed for this industry to thrive.

Southeastern Plains (Bent, Otero, Prowers)

Several small to mid-sized food processing and manufacturing businesses are found in this sub-region. Facilities making everything from honey to salsa to beer are already established in places like La Junta. The food production business has had its ups and downs in the area. However, with the

rise in organic, specialty, and gourmet foods, southeastern Colorado is primed and ready for expansion. Areas such as Granada are seeing growth in local meat processing and several local brands are processed in Lamar.

South Central (Huerfano, Las Animas)

Small scale production businesses and facilities are emerging in Huerfano County. There is interest in developing a meat packing facility in the sub-region. Local grass-fed and organic beef producers are nearby.

Upper Arkansas (Custer, Fremont, Chaffee, Lake)

Chaffee County is already home to some small, specialty beverage producers. Microbreweries, wineries, specialty soft drinks, and small-scale distilleries are found in Canon City, Poncha Springs, Leadville, Buena Vista and Salida. Canon City is home to a distillery equipment distribution firm.

Pueblo County

Food and beverage processing has a long history in Pueblo and several such firms are found at the Pueblo Airport Industrial Park and along Highway 50 in Blende. Because Pueblo is already home to several small to mid-sized food processing and manufacturing businesses, this is seen as a competitive growth area for the county. Pueblo's access to ample water supplies is an advantage to this industry, which relies heavily on water for both production and cleaning. Similarly, direct access to crops and transportation provides this industry with a stable foundation for growth.

Aerospace and Defense

Pueblo is the only county within SCEDD that currently has any significant aerospace and defense industries activities. The Pueblo Memorial Airport and the U.S. Army Pueblo Chemical Depot have been the primary locations for such work. Chemical demilitarization activities are the final mission at the depot and will wrap up within a few years. The chemical demilitarization plant will then be decommissioned. It is possible that some parts of the plant may be reused. The Piñon Canyon Maneuver Site, located in La Animas County, has also brought some business activity to that area.

Southeastern Plains (Otero, Prowers)

The La Junta Regional Airport has seen through partnerships with Doss Aviation, U.S. Air Force, crop dusters and businesses located within the industrial park. The Southeast Colorado Regional Airport has available, developable space in order to expand in the aerospace industry.

Upper Arkansas (Fremont, Chaffee, Lake)

The regional airports in this sub-region have attracted high-altitude testing. Several small businesses, offering high paying jobs, have been established because of access to these regional airports in Chaffee, Lake and Fremont Counties. Continued investment and promotion of these airports are critical for industry growth in this sub-region.

South Central (Huerfano, Las Animas)

The Piñon Canyon Maneuver Site, in Las Animas County, has brought some welcomed economic activity to the area. However, the creation of the site was done by the Army taking over large sections of private land (mainly ranches), which has proved controversial.

The Walsenburg Regional airport has recent investments for upgraded facilities and plans are being made for an air festival.

Pueblo County

As noted above, Pueblo has had and still has a small aerospace and defense industry. Most of it found at the Pueblo Airport Industrial Park and/or the U.S. Army Pueblo Chemical Depot/PuebloPlex. Both locations have buildings, facilities, and infrastructures, which can readily accommodate aerospace and defense work. Local steel manufacturing is also an asset. There are some opportunities for expansion for developing aerospace and defense projects in Pueblo County. Nearby Colorado Springs has a large defense-related business presence. This could benefit Pueblo if those businesses grow and begin to seek the benefits of Pueblo's workforce, facilities, and lower costs.

Chemical Manufacturing

Chemical plant facilities (manufacturing and storage) are specialized industries with specific needs that are expensive to develop and maintain. Therefore, such businesses would likely be confined to Pueblo, where facilities and infrastructure are already in place.

Southeastern Plains (Otero, Prowers)

Currently, there isn't any chemical or fertilizer manufacturing in the sub-region. In Prowers County there is an individual who has leased a defunct power plant and is converting it into a grain and fertilizer storage facility. Also, there are large coal "domes" in the area that have been or will be repurposed for grain and fertilizer storage..

South Central (Huerfano and Las Animas)

One of Huerfano's largest private employers is an organic chemical manufacturer. Growth in supply chain partners could be realized with additional labor for the existing facility and new businesses that support this industry.

Pueblo County

This industry does exist in Pueblo. Currently, chemical plant facilities (manufacturing and storage) exist at the Pueblo Memorial Airport. Additionally, there is potential to utilize land and facilities at the U.S. Army Pueblo Chemical Depot/PuebloPlex, for manufacturing or processing certain chemicals. Pueblo has the workforce, water, and other resources needed to expand or develop new related chemical businesses. Chemicals and products extracted from hemp could boost this business in Pueblo. However, the major markets for this industry are not located close to this region.

Hemp

The hemp industry is beginning to gain traction in the district. With passage of the 2018 Farm Bill and the legalization of commercial hemp, farmers are now integrating husbandry of the crop into their production operations and commercial production facilities are open for business. Hemp requires less water than most other crops in the sub-regions and has a large, expanding variety of uses. Hemp production and processing could be a significant set of industries in the district.

Recently, hemp producers saw a bill passed that allows them to expand their production without having to notify regulators.

Southeastern Plains (Baca, Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, Prowers)

Hemp producers and processors need additional investments to reduce costs to grow the industry. Since hemp requires less water, there is potential for growth. However, as the supply of hemp grows nationally, prices are driven down, making the agricultural product less profitable.

Upper Arkansas (Custer)

There are some hemp producers in Custer County, but they are not significant at this time.

South Central (Huerfano, Las Animas)

Some hemp is grown in Huerfano and Las Animas Counties. Again, hemp grows are better suited for dryer areas found in western portions of Huerfano and Las Animas Counties. Strategically placed processing plants would encourage and add to the expansion of hemp operations.

Pueblo County

The largest hemp processing facility in Pueblo County was under development in Colorado City. However, the developers/owners failed to finalize the project. The large warehouse space still has the potential for a similar operation as a distribution center and/or manufacturing plant. Other smaller hemp facilities, as well as growers, are also found in Pueblo County. There is strong potential for this industry to expand in Pueblo. The sub-region is well-positioned to capitalize on opportunities within the hemp cluster. This includes opportunities in hemp products, such as paper products, composites for automobiles, food, building materials, nanomaterials, 3-D printing filament and bioplastics, nutraceutical, and nutritional products, etc. It will be important for efforts to be directed at R&D applications for cannabis/hemp to avoid further market saturation and to increase the value of the products produced. Hemp-related industries present significant opportunities and potential, but also some degree of risk as European businesses look towards expansion in Colorado and the U.S.

Professional and Scientific Services

Southeastern Plains (Baca, Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, Otero, Prowers)

Most of the professional services work force in the sub-region is getting near retirement age. Planning is critical to ensure these services continue to provide benefits to these communities.

Upper Arkansas (Custer)

This sub-region is well served by this sector. Custer County is seeing additional professionals moving into the county.

South Central (Huerfano, Las Animas)

There is a growing need for surveyors, attorneys, engineers, and other professional services as the region continues to grow and develop. Trinidad and Walsenburg have strong potential to be regional destinations to attract these highly-paid, skilled professionals.

Pueblo County

The City of Pueblo has the human, infrastructure, and institutional resources needed for expanding this industry, making it the primary candidate for expanding this business in the SCEDD service area. The ability to work remotely plays an important role to this industry, which means broadband is needed. The City of Pueblo has broadband. However, it is less consistent in the county and needs improvement to attract employees in this sector. With CSU-P and PCC being in Pueblo, along with Parkview and St. Mary Corwin hospitals, the city has the foundation to grow and expand the professional and scientific services industries.

Regional Distribution

The SCEDD area has an abundance of rail lines and freight rail operators, along with several U.S. Highways (285, 50, 10, 71, 350, 160, 287) plus I-25. Pueblo, La Junta, and Trinidad all have direct access to rail freight lines and existing support facilities. Overall, this existing infrastructure access within SCEDD provides opportunities for commercial and small-scale business development.

Southeastern Plains (Baca, Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, Otero, Prowers)

La Junta has a historic, operational airport adjacent to an active industrial park, is on a major truck route (Hwy 50) and has a grain elevator located next to the Burlington Northern rail yard. Access to rail in key cities, like Lamar and La Junta, add strength to those cities and counties. Crowley and Kiowa Counties currently lack rail service. Many of the highways and rails noted above run through this sub-region, which makes freight a major industry.

Upper Arkansas (Fremont, Chaffee, Lake)

Only Custer County lacks rail access. However, for meaningful regional distribution, the dormant rail lines through both Lake and Chaffee would need major reinvestment. Fremont's existing rail line services the mining industry. However, the existing infrastructure could be expanded to allow additional rail service to other sectors.

South Central (Huerfano, Las Animas)

Although this sub-region is well served by rail, as well as state and federal highways, these counties have expressed a desire to reopen and expand rail facilities, including sidings. With the reopening of the New Elk Mine near Trinidad, expanded rail service is planned to get the coal to Asian markets via ports in Houston and other southern locations. This is a viable means of expanding rail transport of goods to and from the region. New rail access on the periphery of Walsenburg would provided additional freight opportunities.

Pueblo County

Large distribution centers, such as the one owned by Target at the Pueblo Memorial Airport, already exist in the sub-region. The U.S. Army Pueblo Chemical Depot/PuebloPlex has igloos, warehouses, and other space available for rent/lease. I-25 runs through Pueblo, Huerfano, and Las Animas Counties and is readily accessible to Fremont County. Pueblo is a railroad hub of sorts with two major freight railroad firms operating there -- Union Pacific (UP) and Burlington Northern Santa Fe Rail (BNSF). Pueblo is well served by rail. U.S. Highway 50 provides an east-west route and I-25 provides a major north-south route.

Wood Processing

Recent forest fires in part of SCEDD could provide base materials for wood processing, such as biochar and other wood products. Large areas of beetle-killed forests exist in the mountainous areas of the district. With some government assistance and the right companies, wood processing could flourish. Additionally, a similar concept is proposed for processing yucca plants (an abundant, replenishable resource in the district) for biochar in eastern Huerfano County.

Upper Arkansas (Custer, Fremont, Chaffee, Lake)

Timber and other resources are plentiful throughout this sub-region. As lumber prices continue to rise, this is a vital industry for the sub-region to ensure success, growth and development.

South Central (Huerfano, Las Animas)

Wood processing is limited in Las Animas County. Public lands in Huerfano County offer over 100,000 acres of timber production. Some wood processing, such as sawmills and wood furniture, is already underway.

Pueblo County

Pueblo has limited forested lands, but processing facilities could be located in Pueblo to serve the district.

Craft Industries

Craft industries, creative districts, maker spaces, historic districts, etc., all go hand-in-hand. They help to facilitate retail shops and small-scale “backbone” industries. They are also a good fit for most rural communities.

Southeastern Plains (Baca, Bent, Crowley, Otero, Prowers)

There are multiple craft industries throughout the sub-region. The sub-region is well equipped to continue working on providing goods and services for its residents. Several well-known craft industries exist in some of the downtown areas. Passing on these trades is essential to ensuring vibrant downtowns and cultural centers throughout the sub-region.

Upper Arkansas (Custer, Fremont, Chaffee, Lake)

This region already has a stable craft industry business sector, but there is room for growth. Salida’s creative district, like others around the state, is successful and continues to provide the foundation for continued interest and prosperity in the craft industry realm. Antique shops are plentiful in this sub-region and complimented by craft industries, they promote retail shopping.

South Central (Huerfano, Las Animas)

Trinidad has a Colorado Creative District, which is booming. La Veta is an emerging Creative Arts District. Opportunities in Walsenburg for redevelopment of its downtown include additional craft-industry businesses for adaptive reuse. Similar revitalization is happening in Aguilar, located in Las Animas County.

Pueblo County

Pueblo has its creative corridor located along the Union Avenue Historic District and into parts of its downtown. Considering both areas were once blighted with numerous empty and dilapidated

buildings, they can now boast being the heart of Pueblo's arts/crafts shopping district. Even housing has improved with many lofts and apartments found above retail shops being renovated.

Manufacturing

Manufacturers in Colorado account for 6.82% of the total output in the state and employ 5.38% of the workforce. Total output from manufacturing was \$25.15 billion in 2018. In addition, there were an average of 149,000 manufacturing employees in Colorado in 2018, with an average annual compensation of \$79,051.09. Small scale manufacturing already exists in many parts of SCEDD, with some currently planning on expanding. In many ways small-to-medium scale manufacturing is a very good match for SCEDD sub-regions and their workforces. Area community colleges and high schools could serve as institutions for training such workers. Easy access to rail and roadways is in place.

Southeastern Plains (Bent, Crowley, Custer, Kiowa, Otero) and Upper Arkansas (Fremont, Chaffee, Lake)

Although manufacturing is present in these two sub-regions, area colleges and training centers could play an important role in providing needed skills and job training to accommodate manufacturing businesses.

South Central (Huerfano and Las Animas)

Chaè Organics in Huerfano County is one of the largest private employers in the county. It produces organic body care and household products like lotions, balms, and laundry soaps for several large national brands, as well as its own product line. This successful business is in the process of expanding and sees room for more growth. It can serve as a model for small-scale manufacturing in rural communities. Additional manufacturing industries include numerous small-scale welding shops and Sangre de Cristo Tiny Homes.

Pueblo County

Being a regional hub and the largest city in southeastern Colorado, Pueblo has a long history of successful manufacturing businesses. The bulk of this industry is located at the Airport Industrial Park but there are numerous other locations in and around the city of Pueblo and in the county. Considering the training resources and Pueblo's workforce, manufacturing should be seen as an area ripe for expansion and even attracting new firms.

Metal Recycling

Commercial/industrial level scrap metal recycling is already in place on a large scale in Pueblo (see below*). Several counties within SCEDD have household metal recycling programs in place and new services are coming online as this document is being produced. It is expected that, at least household and metal recycling will reach other communities. With Pueblo being close to the other SCEDD sub-regions, it serves as a regional hub for scrap metal recycling. This should be seen as a growth industry for Pueblo.

Southeastern Plains (Bent, Otero, Prowers)

Prowers County is home to Southeast & East Central Recycling and Clean Valley Recycling serves Otero County. Both of these entities provide regional, community-based recycling services for

household items such as steel/aluminum, cardboard, glass, and paper. Otero County is also home to a large, industrial metal manufacturer that has a portion of its operation adjacent to rail service.

Upper Arkansas (Fremont, Lake)

Fremont and Lake Counties have metal manufacturing. This industry is serviced by freight, but access to rail service could significantly expand operations.

South Central (Las Animas)

Las Animas County has industrial-level metal recycling, as well as household programs.

Pueblo County

With Evraz North America located in Pueblo, along with related businesses, several metal recycling facilities are found near the steel mill. These facilities supply the mill with scrap metal to be made into products, such as rail. Once again, needed infrastructure is already in place as is access to rail and roadways for transportation to and from the area. Thus, the possibility to grow this industry would be easily attainable in counties along I-25 or those with freight rail service.

Small Business Retail/Main Street

Every county within SCEDD is supported by numerous Main Street Business Districts. Many of these are historic downtowns with storefronts. COVID-19 has been particularly tough to retail and service businesses. SCEDD has applied for a \$1 million SBA Community Navigator grant to provide technical assistance to businesses affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. SBA loans and recovery efforts over the next five years should promote growth within these existing districts. Further, mixed-use financing continues to be “missing” when it comes to supporting the redevelopment of many of these properties. The infrastructure and other services are existing to these spaces. So, business capital and other resources are essential to the growth and development of these areas, as well as for continued COVID-19 recovery efforts to the service sectors these areas provide their communities.

Many downtown areas still have blighted buildings or high vacancy rates. There are several resources to address and abate these structures to ensure that they are safe and viable spaces for future businesses. Property maintenance codes, enforcement, and incentives are important tools to spur downtown redevelopment across the district. Making use of existing space inside the downtowns and Main Streets, adds vitality to communities across the district.

Outdoor Recreation Industries

Opportunities for the industries surrounding outdoor recreation abound in Southern Colorado. The district boasts vast acreages of open space, public lands, an abundance of nature, and a very favorable climate. Much of this part of Colorado, especially the public lands, is widely considered the most unknown and untouched part of Colorado’s recreational lands. Uncrowded national forests/grasslands, wilderness areas, state wildlife areas, and the more remote state parks are resources. Guide services, outdoor gear rental shops, and specialty retail stores should consider this area as fertile ground for capitalizing on the booming outdoor recreation industry. The numerous scenic highways in the district serve as calling cards to the outdoor enthusiast.

Southeastern Plains (Baca, Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, Otero, Prowers)

This area is known for plentiful and high-quality hunting ranging from small game to waterfowl, to upland game birds, and big game – all are available in this sub-region. Additionally, fishing, boating, and camping opportunities are in good supply and often not crowded. The warmer off-season weather allows for an extended recreational tourist season here.



Upper Arkansas (Custer, Fremont, Chaffee, Lake)

Cycling, mountain biking, and graveler rides are all popular and growing in this sub-region. In some cases, recreational resources are already at or near maximum capacity. The Arkansas River is the most heavily used river in the country. Yet, demands and needs are still present for more commercial camping, glamping, instruction, and guide services. Abundant public lands and mild climates in the lower sections of this sub-region mean cycling, fishing, and rock climbing are available year-round.

South Central (Huerfano, Las Animas)

Both Huerfano and Las Animas Counties have identified the promotion and further development of outdoor recreation as a top priority. Cuchara Mountain Park and Fisher Peak State Park are regional destinations for additional outdoor recreation opportunities.

Pueblo County

Like the Lower Arkansas River area, Pueblo’s mild climate means a longer season for many outdoor activities, especially fishing, rock climbing, water sports, cycling, and hiking. The nearby Wet Mountains provide an accessible playground for many of these activities.

Natural Threats

Drought

Hazard/Problem Description

Drought is a complex issue involving many factors—it occurs when a normal amount of moisture is not available to satisfy an areas’ usual water-consuming activities. Although droughts are sometimes characterized as emergencies, they differ from typical emergency events. Most natural disasters, such as floods or forest fires, occur relatively rapidly and afford little time for preparing for disaster response. Droughts occur slowly, over a multi-year period, and it is often not obvious or easy to quantify when a drought begins and ends. Drought can often be defined regionally based on its effects:

Meteorological drought is usually defined by a period of below average water supply.

Agricultural drought occurs when there is an inadequate water supply to meet the needs of the states’ crops and other agricultural operations such as livestock.

Hydrological drought is defined as deficiencies in surface and subsurface water supplies. It is generally measured as streamflow, snowpack, and as lake, reservoir, and groundwater levels.

Socioeconomic drought occurs when a drought impacts health, well-being, and quality of life, or when a drought starts to have an adverse economic impact on a region.

Southeastern Plains (Baca, Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, Otero, Prowers)

Historical data on droughts indicate an occurrence, on average every ten years in this area. Based on the sub-regions and the State’s multi-year drought history, it is evident that the entire region is vulnerable to drought. With the majority of land area used for agricultural purposes, the region has significant exposure to drought. In addition to economic and public water supply impacts, soil erosion, dust, and wildfire hazard are also exacerbated by drought conditions.

Upper Arkansas (Custer, Fremont, Chaffee, Lake)

The risk of a drought is homogeneous across the sub-region. Annual precipitation is fairly, consistent across the sub-region with variations occurring as the topography changes from mountains to valley floors. Overall, the population centers in Chaffee, Fremont, and Custer Counties receive an average of 11 to 15 inches of moisture a year. With such a small amount of annual precipitation, any decrease in moisture over a single year or for a multiyear period can greatly affect the livelihood in the sub-region. The tourism and recreation economy, as well as individuals, can be disrupted by a drought at a parcel level.



South Central (Huerfano and Las Animas)

Average annual precipitation for much of Las Animas County is 13 to 19 inches. Colorado has a history of periods of low precipitation and drought. The county experienced drought in the years of 2000, 2002, 2003, 2005-2006, 2008-2009 and 2011-2015. The entire county is at risk for drought conditions.

The geographic extent of this hazard in Huerfano County is extensive—more than 50% of the sub-region is affected. Drought could have a devastating impact on Huerfano County's economy. As water resources become impacted, effects may be felt by any industry that uses large amounts of water. Prolonged drought would intensify these issues.

Pueblo

Drought can severely impact the county both physically and economically. Adequate water is one of the most critical issues, which the citizens of this county are constantly forced to address. Agriculture, manufacturing, tourism, commercial, and domestic use all require a constant, reliable supply of water. As the population continues to grow, so too will the demand for water, which is why mitigating the future impacts of drought are so important. Pueblo County has been affected and received drought declarations several times in recent history. Pueblo will continue to have agricultural, farming, and economic loss at least yearly to some extent. Wildland fire and dust storms are also a greater risk due to drought.

Flooding

Hazard/Problem Description

Floods, usually caused by weather events, are among the most frequent and costly natural disasters in terms of human hardship and economic loss. Floods can cause substantial damage to structures, landscapes, and utilities as well as life safety issues. Certain health hazards are also common to flood events. Standing water and wet materials in structures can become breeding grounds for microorganisms such as bacteria, mold, and viruses. This can cause disease, trigger allergic reactions, and damage materials long after the flood. When floodwaters contain sewage or decaying animal carcasses, infectious disease becomes a concern.

Southeastern Plains (Baca, Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, Otero, Prowers)

Each county in the sub-region contains areas of unique, nuisance, localized flooding. This type of flooding can be found in both incorporated and unincorporated areas. The sub-region contains 15 separate and distinct watersheds. Each watershed, or drainage basin, contains a river or creek. Flooding has occurred frequently across the sub-region. Historical records reference many floods in the Arkansas River Valley. The Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) maintains a record of historical documents for the sub-region. The sub-region experiences an average of 2.7 floods per year. Most of these floods were less than the ten0-year flood. The probability for future occurrence of a ten0-year flood event in the sub-region is *occasional* while the probability for flash flooding is *likely*.

Upper Arkansas (Custer, Fremont, Chaffee, Lake)

The extreme geography in the sub-region has the potential for severe flash flooding. There is also potential for floods that may not be weather related, but rather related to the failure of impoundment structures. By analyzing the HAZUS data there are 15 dams in the sub-region that require "Emergency Action Procedures" and are classified as having a "High" or "Severe" Hazard rating. There are two concentrated areas in the sub-region where dams are located. There are nine dams in and around Lake County; five dams are located around

Canon City; and one is near Westcliffe. Flash flooding has occurred many times throughout history in Canon City.

As the municipalities within the sub-region grow, so, too, do the quantities of impervious surfaces that accelerate the run-off from summer storm events. The vulnerability of community assets to flash floods is tending to decrease through time as mitigation measures, such as implementation of the NFIP program, show their effects.

South Central (Huerfano, Las Animas)

All of Las Animas County is at risk to flood conditions. Flooding is predominantly the result of snowmelt and cloudbursts that result in flash flooding. Severe flash flooding poses the greatest risk. The geographic extent of this hazard in Huerfano County is *significant* -- 25-50% of the sub-region is affected. Based on historical data, flooding events less severe than a 100-year flood and those outside of the 100-year floodplain occur frequently during periods of heavy rains.

Pueblo

In Pueblo County, floods usually occur during the spring and summer, during heavy rainfalls after prolonged dry periods, or in the spring following runoff from heavy mountain snowpack. In the early 1970's, Pueblo Dam was built to supply irrigation water into the lower Arkansas Valley as part of the Arkansas Water Shortage Project. It also provides flood control and water for industrial and municipal use. The Pueblo community is aware they must be as prepared as possible for the potential problem of flooding along the many streams in the area. The Arkansas River underwent channel improvement and levee construction following the 1921 flood. Then, in 1975, the Pueblo Dam was completed, which helped flood control on the Arkansas River downstream as well as upstream of the dam.

Wildfire

Hazard/Problem Description

The Colorado State Forest Service defines wildfires as “an open fire which spreads unconstrained through the environment. If not quickly controlled, the result can be a firestorm, often termed a conflagration which destroys large amounts of property and threatens lives”. Wildfires occur everywhere in Colorado. The most common kinds of wildfires are grassland fires, which occur along railroad tracks, in fields, and in the prairie land. Wildfires occur naturally (often through lightning strikes) and from human causes, both intentional and accidental.

Southeastern Plains (Baca, Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, Otero, Prowers)

Wildfires are most likely to occur during the fire season, which extends from mid-spring to late fall, and are most prominent during the driest summer months of July and August. Drought conditions contribute to concerns about wildfire vulnerability. During periods of drought, the threat of wildfire increases.

Upper Arkansas Area (Chaffee, Custer, Fremont, Lake)

The potential for wildland fire is high and uniform across the four counties comprising the sub-region. The flanks of each valley are covered with dense coniferous forest and are increasingly popular locations for mountain homes. The continued migration of inhabitants to remote areas increases the probability of man-caused ignitions from vehicles, grills, campfires, and electrical devices. The penetration by SUV and all-terrain

vehicles to ever more remote areas, extends the risk of man-caused ignitions to pristine forests. For over a century, communities in the sub-region have cooperated to complete a wide range of actions to mitigate the flash flood hazard. Corresponding efforts to reduce wildland fire risks have not been the norm.

South Central (Las Animas, Huerfano)

According to the *Colorado State Wildfire Risk Assessment Report for Las Animas County*, there is a strong probability that at least one wildfire will occur each year in Las Animas County. In the event of wildfire, there would likely be little damage to most of the infrastructure. Most roads and railroads would be without damage except in the worst scenarios. Several critical facilities and infrastructure are in the non-burnable threat areas. This is primarily in areas of urban centers, such as downtown Trinidad and includes several schools, protective functions, and bridges. Fire is a natural and critical ecosystem process in most terrestrial ecosystems, dictating in part the types, structure, and spatial extent of native vegetation. However, wildfires can cause severe environmental impacts. Wildfires are of significant concern throughout Colorado and Huerfano County in particular. According to the Colorado State Forest Service, vegetation fires occur on an annual basis; most are controlled and contained early with limited damage.

Pueblo

It is not unusual for Pueblo County to experience 200 or more man-caused and naturally occurring wildland fires each year. Most of those fires are easily suppressed and result in minimal impact to property or the environment.

Pandemic and Zoonotic Diseases

Hazard/Problem Description

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), a disease epidemic occurs when there are more cases of that disease than normal. A pandemic is a worldwide epidemic of a disease. A pandemic may occur when a new virus appears against which the human population has no immunity. Colorado state law requires the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) to monitor, investigate and control the causes of epidemic and communicable diseases affecting the public health in Colorado.

In the predominately agricultural region that makes up the district, zoonotic diseases are also a significant hazard to the population and livestock of the area. Zoonotic diseases are those which can be transmitted from animals and humans. The CDHPE indicates that the most common of these diseases in Colorado are hantavirus, plague, rabies, tularemia, West Nile Virus (WNV) (and other mosquito-borne diseases) and various tick-borne diseases.

Southeastern Plains (Baca, Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, Otero, Prowers)

In the predominately agricultural region that makes up the sub-region, zoonotic diseases are also a significant hazard to the population and livestock of the area. Some zoonotic diseases may impact livestock, which may have a significant impact on the economics of the sub-region. The diseases are naturally occurring in the populations of animals which always reside in the region. Given these assumptions, the likelihood of future occurrence is likely.

Pueblo

Insect and mammal vectors in Colorado carry numerous diseases. Rabies, plague, tularemia, avian flu, and various forms of encephalitis viruses are a few diseases that are carried by insects, birds, or mammals. These

vectors occur naturally and can be more prolific or pronounced after a natural disaster such as flooding, drought, or even wildland fire. Mosquitoes are of great concern because they are known to carry various diseases that cause meningitis, St. Louis Equine Encephalitis (SLE), Western Equine Encephalitis (WEE), and West Nile Virus (WNV). West Nile Virus has been the greatest concern in Pueblo County.

Earthquake

Hazard/Problem Description

An earthquake is caused by a sudden slip on a fault. Stresses in the earth's outer layer push the sides of the fault together. Stress builds up and the rocks slip suddenly, releasing energy in waves that travel through the earth's crust and cause the shaking that is felt during an earthquake. The amount of energy released during an earthquake is usually expressed as a Richter magnitude and is measured directly from the earthquake as recorded on seismographs. Another measure of earthquake severity is intensity. Intensity is an expression of the amount of shaking at any given location on the ground surface as felt by humans and defined in the Modified Mercalli scale.

Southeastern Plains (Baca, Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, Otero, Prowers)

Data indicates that the expected severity of earthquakes in the region is limited, as damage from earthquakes typically occurs at peak accelerations of 30% or greater. However, as demonstrated by the HAZUS modeling documented earlier, the potential, though remote, does exist for damaging earthquakes. This relatively higher risk applies primarily to Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, and Otero Counties, due to their proximity to the Cheraw fault. Based on the history of previous occurrences there is also indication that counties without known, active faults are at risk for earthquakes. No geographically extensive earthquakes have occurred in the sub-region, but the potential remains. Because the occurrence of earthquakes is relatively infrequent in Colorado and the historical earthquake record is short (only about 130 years), it is not possible to accurately estimate the timing or location of future dangerous earthquakes in Colorado. Seismologists predict that Colorado will again experience a magnitude 6.5 earthquake at some unknown point in the future. The major factor preventing the precise identification of the time or location of the next damaging earthquake is the limited knowledge of potentially active faults.

Upper Arkansas (Custer, Fremont, Chaffee, Lake)

The entire region is considered low risk for significant earthquake occurrence. Each county has some faults and Chaffee County does contain several major faults, including the Sawatch Fault that runs north/south through the center of the county on the eastern side of the Sawatch Mountain Range. There are potentially active faults in or near Chaffee County and in all of Colorado, respectively. More than 700 earthquake tremors of magnitude 2.5 or higher have been recorded in Colorado since 1867. This is considered relatively infrequent for a western state. According to the U.S. Geological Survey, the probability that a magnitude 5 or greater earthquake will occur in the next 50 years in Fremont County is ten percent or less.

South Central (Las Animas, Huerfano)

Available data lists 17 recorded earthquake events in Las Animas County. The county experienced the largest earthquake in Colorado in the past fifty years in 2011, a 5.2 magnitude earthquake. Las Animas County does not contain major faults, but the Sangre de Cristo Fault runs north/south (at the base of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains along the eastern edge of the San Luis Valley just west of Las Animas County and the smaller, Cheraw Fault, lies north in Las Animas County and runs thru Kiowa, Otero, and Crowley Counties.

Huerfano County is located directly to the east of the Sangre De Cristo Fault. The Sangre De Cristo Fault is the youngest and one of the most prominent potentially active faults in Colorado. CGS recorded two instrumentally located epicenters with 3-3.9 magnitude in Huerfano County between 1962 and 2007. Reports indicate a probability of future occurrence as “Occasional”, which is a 1-10 percent chance of occurrence in the next year or has a recurrence interval of 11 to 100 years.

Pueblo – Hazmat Mitigation Planning has determined, through review of FEMA and Colorado Geology Survey websites and the input of local agencies that the potential risk associated with seismic events of substantial frequency or intensity for the county is negligible.

Erosion and Deposition, Expansive Soil, and Subsidence

Hazard/Problem Description

Erosion and Deposition – The Colorado Geological Survey defines erosion as ‘the removal and simultaneous transportation of earth materials from one location to another by water, wind, waves, or moving ice.’ Deposition is defined as ‘the placing of eroded material in a new location.’ According to the Colorado Geological Survey, all material that is eroded is later deposited in another location.

Expansive Soil – Expansive and collapsible soils are some of the most widely distributed and costly geologic hazards. Collapsible soils are a group of soils that can rapidly settle or collapse the ground. They are also known as metastable soils and are unsaturated soils that undergo changes in volume and settlement in response to wetting and drying, often resulting in severe damage to structures. The sudden and usually large volume change could cause considerable structural damage. Expansive soil and rock are characterized by clayey material that shrinks as it dries or swells as it becomes wet.

Subsidence – The Colorado Geological Survey defines land subsidence as the sinking of the land over manmade or natural underground voids. Subsidence can result in serious structural damage to buildings, roads, irrigation ditches, underground utilities, and pipelines. It can disrupt and alter the flow of surface or underground water. Weight, including surface developments such as roads, reservoirs, and buildings and manmade vibrations from such activities as blasting or heavy truck or train traffic can accelerate the natural processes of subsidence. Fluctuations in the level of underground water caused by pumping or by injecting fluids into the earth can initiate sinking to fill the empty space previously occupied by water or soluble minerals. The consequences of improper use of land subject to ground subsidence can be excessive economic losses, including the high costs of repair and maintenance for buildings, irrigation works, highways, utilities, and other structures. This results in direct economic losses to citizens as well as indirect economic losses through increased taxes and decreased property values.



Stream Bank Erosion/Stability

Hazard/Problem Description

Any flowing body of water (brook, creek, stream, river) is a stream. Stream flow is expressed as volume per unit time, usually cubic meters per second, cubic feet per second, sometimes cubic kilometers per second, or acre-feet per second or day. Stream flow varies tremendously with time. Short term controls include rainfall, snowmelt, and evaporation conditions. Long term controls include land use, soil, groundwater state, and rock type.

Streams erode by a combination of direct stream processes, like down cutting and lateral erosion, and indirect processes, like mass-wasting accompanied by transportation. Water tends to move downstream in slugs that extend all the way across a channel. When the channel bends, water on the outside of the bend (the cut-bank) flows faster and water on the inside of the bend (the point) flows slower. This distribution of velocity results in erosion occurring on the outside of the bend (cut) and deposition occurring on the inside of the bend.

Extreme Temperatures: Extreme Cold

Hazard/Problem Description

Temperature extremes - both cold and hot - cause more deaths every year than any other disaster, including hurricanes. Both extreme cold and extreme heat are hazards present in the sub-regions.

Extreme cold often accompanies a winter storm or is left in its wake. It is most likely to occur in the winter months of December, January, and February. Prolonged exposure to the cold can cause frostbite or hypothermia and can become life-threatening. Infants and the elderly are most susceptible. Pipes may freeze and burst in homes or buildings that are poorly insulated or without heat. Extreme cold can disrupt or impair communications facilities.

Southeastern Colorado (Baca, Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, Otero, Prowers)

Both extreme cold and extreme heat are hazards present in the sub-region.

In 2001, the National Weather Service implemented an updated Wind Chill Temperature index. Wind chill is based on the rate of heat loss from exposed skin caused by wind and cold. In a region known for extremely cold weather, exacerbated by high winds, temperature extremes and particularly severe cold present a danger to the inhabitants of the sub-region. Surprisingly, the National Climate Data Center database reflects no extreme cold and extreme wind-chill events in the sub-region between 1996 and 2010. Temperature variations are expected in the sub-region. While extremes are usually statistical outliers, they still present a useful picture of potential ranges. These events are expected to occur yearly, in general, and are considered highly likely.

Baca County has the highest average summer temperatures in the State of Colorado. Portions of Baca County may have 80 or more days of 90°F or greater temperatures a year. Most of the county may experience fifteen to eighteen days of 100°F or greater. All the counties in the sub-region have higher average temperatures than most counties in the State.

Some extrapolations for the severity of extreme heat in the sub-region can be drawn based on the national weather service heat index. The Colorado Climate Center notes that the humidity of the eastern plains is very low, but that the highest temperatures in the state occur in this region. This indicates that while many hot days in the sub-region fall in the “danger” or “extreme danger” area of the heat index, the low humidity may make the heat feel less uncomfortable on the population. It is possible; therefore, that the population may not notice the effects of extreme heat on themselves until serious injury occurs.

Severe Weather: Thunderstorms/Lightning/Hail

Hazard/Problem Description

Thunderstorms - Thunderstorms result from the rapid upward movement of warm, moist air. They can occur inside warm, moist air masses and at fronts. As the warm, moist air moves upward, it cools, condenses, and forms cumulonimbus clouds that can reach heights of greater than 35,000 ft. As the rising air reaches its dew point, water droplets and ice form and begin falling the long distance through the clouds towards Earth's surface. As the droplets fall, they collide with other droplets and become larger. The falling droplets create a downdraft of air that spreads out at Earth's surface and causes strong winds associated with thunderstorms.

Lightning - Lightning is an electrical discharge between positive and negative regions of a thunderstorm. A lightning flash is composed of a series of strokes with an average of about four. The length and duration of each lightning stroke vary, but typically average about 30 microseconds.

Lightning is one of the more dangerous weather hazards in the United States and in Colorado. Each year, lightning is responsible for deaths, injuries, and millions of dollars in property damage, including damage to buildings, communications systems, power lines, and electrical systems. Lightning also causes forest and brush fires, and deaths and injuries to livestock and other animals. According to the National Lightning Safety Institute, lightning causes more than 26,000 fires in the United States each year. The institute estimates property damage, increased operating costs, production delays, and lost revenue from lightning and secondary effects to be more than \$6 billion per year. Impacts can be direct or indirect. People or objects can be directly struck, or damage can occur indirectly when the current passes through or near it.

Hail - Hail is associated with thunderstorms that can also bring high winds and tornados. It forms when updrafts carry raindrops into extremely cold areas of the atmosphere where they freeze into ice. Hail falls when it becomes heavy enough to overcome the strength of the updraft and is pulled by gravity towards the earth. Hailstorms occur throughout the spring, summer, and fall in the region, but are more frequent in late spring and early summer. Hailstones are usually less than two inches in diameter and can fall at speeds of 120 mph. Hail causes nearly \$1 billion in damage to crops and property each year in the United States. Hail is also one of the requirements which the National Weather Service uses to classify thunderstorms as severe. If hail more than 3/4 of an inch is produced in a thunderstorm, it qualifies as severe.



Southeastern Plains (Baca, Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, Otero, Prowers)

Storms in the area are generally characterized by heavy rain often accompanied by strong winds and sometimes lightning and hail. Approximately ten percent of the thunderstorms that occur each year in the United States are classified as severe. A thunderstorm is classified as severe when it contains one or more of the following phenomena: hail that is 1 inch or greater, winds more than 50 knots (57.5 mph), or a tornado. The area sees 9 -14 severe thunderstorm watches per year. Damage, injury, and death due to lightning have been recorded in the area and specific incidents of hail have caused significant damage throughout.

South/Central (Las Animas, Huerfano)

According to the National Lightning Detection Network, Las Animas County has approximately 1 – 4 flashes of lightning per square kilometer per year. The overall significance of hail events in the county have been rated medium to high.

The geographic extent of this hazard in Huerfano County is *extensive*. Hail, heavy rain, and lightning can occur anywhere in the County. It is highly likely that lightning and hail will occur every year in Huerfano County, but not all will be damaging.

Pueblo

Pueblo County averages between 40 and 80 thunderstorm days per year, with the average number of cloud-to-ground lightning strikes per year around 15,000, amounting to nearly 7 cloud-to-ground flashes per square mile per year. Colorado's Front Range receives the highest frequency of large hail (3/4 inch and greater) in the United States. The high frequency of larger stone sizes contributes directly to the excessive property damage that occurs. Large stones can fall at speeds approaching 90 mph and livestock fatalities from hail are fairly common. Hailstorms cause a major amount of damage to property and crops across the United States and in Colorado every year. Hail has occurred in every part of Pueblo County, with no one area favored over other areas. Future predictions of hail incidents for the whole of Pueblo County is yearly with large damaging hail. Hail occurrences are high in probability and a high risk of damage to agriculture, farming, structure and vehicle damage and the economy.

Landslide, Mud/Debris Flow, Rockfall

Description

A landslide is a general term for a variety of mass movement processes that generate a downslope movement of soil, rock, and vegetation under gravitational influence.

Upper Arkansas (Custer, Fremont, Chaffee, Lake)

There are many locations in the Upper Ark where the potential for a landslide is high. The Soil Conservation Service acknowledged the existence of debris fans in Chaffee County in the early to mid-1970's in their Flood Plain Studies. The south slope of Mt. Princeton and north of Chalk Creek and along County Road 162 from Mt. Princeton Hot Springs to the town site of Alpine is well-defined and slides almost annually. A rainstorm in the area precipitates the slide. In 2002 it was discovered that a similar situation to Chalk Creek exists on the north slope of Mt. Princeton. Issues related to landslides are uniform across the Upper Arkansas.

South/Central (Las Animas, Huerfano)

The geographic extent of this hazard in Huerfano County is **limited**—10-25% of the sub-region affected. Huerfano County has occasional landslide-related problems, especially in the western part of the County. Areas of concern include areas southwest of Gardner near Sheep Mountain and north of Gardner near Highway 620.

Dam/Levee Failure

Description

A sudden and uncontrolled release of large amounts of water impounded in a man-made barrier constructed above the natural level of the ground for the purpose of impounding water and caused by structural deficiencies in the barrier.

Southeastern Plains (Baca, Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, Otero, Prowers)

According to HAZUS, and data from the National Inventory of Dams (NID) and National Performance Dam Program (NPDP), there are dams in each county that pose a risk to people or property should the dam fail. There are no reports of significant dam failures in the sub-region. However, the NPDP tracks dam incidents (events that affect the structural and functional integrity of dams, though not necessarily causing failure and not including ordinary maintenance and repair, vandalism, acts of war, recreational accidents, and sabotage), some of which have affected the sub-region. There are ten levees in the sub-region based on levees that are mapped on Flood Insurance Rate Maps and four that are not. The sub-region remains at risk to dam failures from the high and significant hazard dams that protect the sub-region. Given the varying density of population, the area that would be affected by flooding, and the varying ages and conditions of these dams, the potential exists for future dam failures which could result in property damage and possible loss of life. Nonetheless, it should be noted that there have not been any major failures of dams or levees in the sub-region.

South Central (Las Animas, Huerfano)

Databases list twelve high hazard and three low hazard dams in this sub-region. According to the Association of State Dam Safety Officials, there haven't been any reported dam failures in Las Animas County. The Hazards, United States-Multi Hazard (HAZUS-MH) database and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) National Levee Database lists no known levees in Las Animas County. It is possible that there are levees located within the county that are not listed in these databases. In Huerfano County, risk to dam failure is greatest to Walsenburg downstream of the Martin Lake Dam. Fowler, in Otero County is at risk if the Cucharas #5 dam were to fail in Huerfano County.

Upper Arkansas (Custer, Fremont, Chaffee, Lake)

There have not been any reported dam failures in the sub-region since 1921 (Fremont County) and dam failure risk is rated at low to medium in all counties. There are 11 high hazard and six significant hazard rated dams in the sub-region according to the respective Hazard Mitigation Plans (HMP) of each of the counties. There are an uncounted number of 'non-jurisdictional' dams on public and private lands in the sub-region. These are small dams that normally do not store water but may impound water during heavy precipitation events. Because they are not monitored or maintained, there is potential for them to overtop or fail and cause flooding and property damage during a significant rainfall event. The extent and risk associated with these dams is not known. If failure were to occur on dams north of Chaffee County that lie along the Arkansas

River or associated tributaries, there would be significant impacts for the people and property within the county. The Hazards, United States-Multi Hazard (HAZUS-MH) database and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) National Levee Database lists no known levees in Custer, Fremont, or Chaffee County and none were reported in the HMP of Lake County. It is possible that there are levees located within the region that are not listed in these databases.

Tornadoes

Hazard/Problem Description

According to the 2008 Colorado Hazard Mitigation plan, a tornado is a localized, violently destructive windstorm occurring over land, especially in the Midwestern U.S., characterized by a long, funnel-shaped cloud composed of condensation and containing debris that extends to the ground and marks a path of great destruction. The National Weather Service Glossary provides further technical definition, stating that a tornado is —A violently rotating column of air, usually pendant to a cumulonimbus, with circulation reaching the ground. It nearly always starts as a funnel cloud and may be accompanied by a loud roaring noise. On a local scale, it is the most destructive of all atmospheric phenomenon.

Southeastern Plains (Baca, Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, Otero, Prowers)

Tornadoes have occurred across the sub-region frequently and are possible in all areas. The vast majority of tornadoes affecting the sub-region are rated between F0 and F2, according to the data collected by the National Climatic Data Center. According to available data, only one event greater than F3 has been documented in the sub-region. The Holly tornado, an F3, resulted in a State Disaster Declaration, two fatalities, nine injuries, and over \$4 million in property damage. Tornadoes have been costly in the sub-region. The sub-region has experienced an average of 4.8 tornadoes per year, or an occurrence rating of 100%. This leads to a probability of future occurrence rating of *highly likely*.

South Central (Huerfano, Las Animas)

Tornadoes are an annual threat in the sub-region. Historically, tornadoes have not typically been severe in the sub-region. Based on available information, overall significance of tornadoes in the area is low to moderate. Thirty-six tornadoes have been recorded in the sub-region over the last 60 plus years.

Upper Arkansas (Custer, Fremont, Chaffee, Lake)

The geography of the Upper Arkansas Area limits the occurrence of tornadoes in the region, but they have been known to occur. In a 45-year period from 1950 – 1995 there were ten reported tornadoes in the Upper Arkansas Area. None of the events resulted in death or injury. Significant occurrence of tornadoes is restricted to the Eastern portions of Fremont County. Five tornadoes that have or may have caused property damage have been recorded in the County since 1950, although none have been rated as higher than EF 1.

Pueblo

In Pueblo County, tornadoes that do occur are usually weak (EF0 category), last for less than 15 minutes, and cause little damage. However, one cannot rule out the possibility of a strong, damaging tornado in the county. A few tornadoes of EF3 intensity (150-200 mph winds) have occurred on and near the slopes of the eastern mountains of Colorado. Since 1950, only 19 tornadoes have been reported in Pueblo County, although, it is likely that more have gone undetected. As the population in the rural areas grow, the number of reported tornadoes may increase. In the Colorado Front Range, tornadoes have been reported nine months of the year, and the peak season for tornadoes extends from mid-May through mid-August. June is by far the month with

the most recorded tornados. Tornados have occurred at every time of the day, with over half of them developing between 3 p.m. and 6 p.m., and 88% occurring between 1 p.m. and 9 p.m. MDT. On average, less than one tornado is reported per year in Pueblo County.

Avalanche

Hazard/Problem Description

Avalanches can occur whenever a sufficient depth of snow is deposited on slopes steeper than approximately 20 degrees, with the most dangerous coming from slopes in the 35 to 40-degree range. Avalanche-prone areas can be identified with some accuracy, since they typically follow the same paths year after year, leaving scarring on the paths. However, unusual weather conditions can produce new paths that cause avalanches to extend beyond their normal paths.

South/Central (Las Animas, Huerfano)

Although infrequent, avalanches do occur periodically in Las Animas County in non-populated areas. Generally, avalanches in Las Animas County are relatively minor. There have not been any recorded property damages or fatalities attributable to avalanches in Las Animas County.

Upper Arkansas (Custer, Fremont, Chaffee, Lake)

The Sawatch Range is a steep and rugged mountain range that flanks the western boundary of Lake and Chaffee Counties. It receives a considerable amount of snow in the winter months which draws many people to the area for backcountry skiing and snowmobiling. As larger numbers of recreationists travel to avalanche-prone areas, the potential for death and injury is increased.

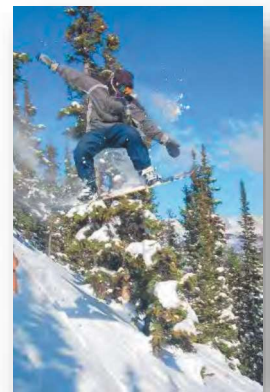
Fremont County lacks the high elevations and heavy snowpack that contribute to avalanche danger.

Windstorm

Hazard/Problem Description

High winds, as defined by the NWS glossary, are sustained wind speeds of 40 mph or greater lasting for 1 hour or longer, or winds of 58 mph or greater for any duration. These winds may occur as part of a seasonal climate pattern or in relation to other severe weather events such as thunderstorms. Straight-line winds may also exacerbate existing weather conditions, as in blizzards, by increasing the effect on temperature and decreasing visibility due to the movement of particulate matters through the air, as in dust and snowstorms. The winds may also exacerbate fire conditions by drying out the ground cover, propelling fuel, such as tumbleweeds, around the region, and increasing the ferocity of exiting fires. These winds may damage crops, push automobiles off roads, damage roofs and structures, and cause secondary damage due to flying debris.

Southeastern Plains (Baca, Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, Otero, Prowers)



The sub-region is subject to significant, non-tornadic (straight-line), winds. There have been 320 reported straight-line events in the last 60 years in the sub-region, which equates to a 100% chance of occurrence in the next year. The probability of a future occurrence is *highly likely*.

South/Central (Las Animas, Huerfano)

High winds can occur year-round in Las Animas County. In the spring and summer, high winds often accompany severe thunderstorms. The varying topography in the area has the potential for continuous and sudden gusting of high winds. High winds occur year-round in Huerfano County. In the spring and summer, high winds often accompany severe thunderstorms. These winds are typically straight-line winds, which are generally any thunderstorm wind that is not associated with rotation (i.e., is not a tornado). In the mountains of Colorado, strong winds are also common throughout the winter months and can exceed 50 to ten0 mph in exposed locations.

Upper Arkansas (Custer, Fremont, Chaffee, Lake)

The varying topography in the Upper Arkansas Area has the potential for continuous and sudden gusting of high winds. Although these high winds may not be life-threatening, they can disrupt daily activities, cause damage to buildings and structures and increase the potential of other hazards. Many locations in the region have minimal vegetative ground cover and the high winds can create a large dust storm which becomes a hazard for travelers and a disruption for local services. High winds in the winter can turn small amounts of snow into a complete whiteout and create drifts in roadways. A wildland fire can be accelerated and rendered unpredictable by high winds, which makes a dangerous environment for firefighters.

Pueblo

High winds in Pueblo County cause more damage in insurance claims than hailstorms. Severe winds will continue to occur at least yearly to some extreme which causes dust storms along the transportation corridors and extremely dangerous for wildfire spread.

Winter Storms

Hazard/Problem Description

Heavy snow, ice, severe winter storms, and blizzards are common occurrences in Colorado. The size of such events varies and may range in size from isolated (impacting only a portion of a county) to statewide. Generally, severe winter storm events are considered a regional occurrence, impacting multiple counties simultaneously and for extended time periods.

Southeastern Plains (Baca, Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, Otero, Prowers)

Within the sub-region there have been 42 snow and ice storms reported between 1993 and 2010. This equates to an average of 2.47 severe winter storm events each year and a probability of future occurrence rating of highly likely.

South Central (Las Animas, Huerfano)

While the entire sub-region is susceptible to severe winter storm conditions, they are especially prevalent in the higher elevation portion of these counties

Upper Arkansas (Custer, Fremont, Chaffee, Lake)

This sub-region receives varying amounts of snow. Multiple winter weather events occur throughout the sub-region every year. The entire sub-region is susceptible to severe and dangerous winter storms. Higher snowfall amounts are typically found at the higher elevations within the counties.

Pueblo

Average annual snowfall in Pueblo County ranges from around 30 inches in eastern and central sections to over 120 inches on the slopes of the Wet Mountains. Blizzards are infrequent in Pueblo County. In Pueblo County, in the aftermath of snow accumulations (which usually are much less than a foot), a quick return to sunny days is normal, which helps melt snow and clear roads and other pathways in a matter of hours.

Economic Threats

Water Sales/Transfers

As predicted, water supplies and security remain one of the biggest threats to growth and economic resiliency. The entirety of SCEDD is reliant on mountain snowpacks and springs runoffs to fill reservoirs and streams to fuel the district's economy from agriculture to tourism. Further, the district's reliance on annual precipitation shows the growing need to ensure critical water and wastewater projects are prioritized over the next five years to ensure water quality and safe, clean supplies.

Across the region, many counties and urban municipal centers are in relatively good shape with decent water rights. However, the continued building boom on the Front Range fuels the need for the district's water to be taken from the Arkansas Basin to supply this growth outside of the district. Continued support from regional leadership to ensure the water security of the Arkansas River Basin will ensure the district remains economically viable for growth and attracting new businesses.

Southeastern Plains (Baca, Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, Otero, Prowers)

Historical data on drought indicates an occurrence, every ten years in this area. Based on the sub-regions and the states' multi-year drought history, it is evident that the entire sub-region is vulnerable to drought. Recent years have seen dramatic drops in water storage and have seen water calls that have impacted the agricultural communities. With most of the land used for agricultural purposes, the sub-region has significant exposure to drought. In addition to economic and public water supply impacts, soil erosion, dust, and wildfire hazard are also exacerbated by drought conditions.

Water sales continue to fuel Front Range growth and limit agricultural users' water rights causing the dry-up of large parcels of land. Ensuring water supplies, for agriculture, other new businesses and additional housing, is essential for business growth. Municipal water rights remain strong and able to absorb growth. Infrastructure investments, in both water and wastewater, will ensure water quality for years to come.



Upper Arkansas (Chaffee, Lake)

Water rights are essential for growth throughout this sub-region. Individual wells and septic systems continue to be a looming issue for water quality and "sprawl" growth outside of municipal boundaries. As this area continues to grow, annexation policies are taking shape to ensure development brings water with the entitlement process. Northern Chaffee County is seeing issues with growth and water rights. Intergovernmental cooperation, water use, and priority of water purchases are essential to allow the construction industry, one of the largest in the county, to continue to see growth.

Agricultural communities continue to be the major owners of water rights. Protection of these lands, ditches, and storage are also high priorities. As water sales occur, dry ups cause downstream or down ditch issues for ag users. Providing working capital for these agricultural users allows the water to remain on the land.

South Central (Huerfano and Las Animas)

Overall, the sub-region has strong water rights within the municipalities. The major issues are delivery and storage in rural areas. North Huerfano County has issues with water rights for both agriculture and rural municipalities, such as Gardner. The prioritization of securing water rights and the necessary infrastructure to supply communities is a high priority.

Loss of Major Industry

Due to the rural nature and small size of many of the district's communities, the loss of a major employer creates major economic shocks and could create small-scale recessions inside individual communities. The loss of a major industry has ripple effects not only on the employees in the sub-region, but many of the secondary or tertiary businesses who rely on these larger businesses for both customers and additional tax-base that these industries provide.

Over the next five years, the biggest threats to major industries within SCEDD are criminal justice reforms, shifting energy production from coal-power to renewable sources, legalization of marijuana in surrounding states, changes to the health care system caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, reliable access to broadband, and changing demographics from urban centers to rural areas.

There isn't a single county in the district that would not be spared from significant economic shocks if a major industry closed or moved out of the district. It is essential that investments are made in each individual county to continue to attract new businesses that ensure the diversification and allow for resiliency across the district.

Broadband Inadequacies

Broadband is defined by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) as an always-on, high-speed internet connection with minimum speeds of 25 Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload (25/3). Now, more than ever before, Broadband access is a necessity to support remote work and access to online education and healthcare. The COVID-19 pandemic has further underscored the depth of the digital divide.

Across SCEDD, broadband investments are needed to expand to areas in rural parts of each county and to ensure that areas with reliable broadband continue to see investments in the necessary infrastructure that allows them to thrive as technology evolves. The COVID-19 pandemic created a need to ensure access to broadband for the remote workforce, for schools, and industries that were forced to close or shift to remote work.

Workforce Housing Shortages

Workforce housing is a threat across all of SCEDD. Rentals and properties up for sale are in short supply. The COVID-19 pandemic shifted employees to rural areas creating acute supply issues and driving real estate prices to record highs. This, coupled with low interest rates allowed more affluent buyers to access the middle- and higher-end housing stock, as they look to relocate to smaller, rural communities within SCEDD.

According to the Urban Land Institute (ULI), Workforce Housing is defined as “housing affordable to households earning between 60 and 120 percent of area median income (AMI)”. Workforce housing targets middle-income workers, which include professions such as police officers, firefighters, teachers, health care workers, retail clerks, and the like (Parlow, 2015). Households who need workforce housing may not qualify for housing subsidized by the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) program or the Housing Choice Vouchers program (formerly known as Section 8), which are two major programs in place for addressing affordable housing needs. Access to attainable housing is the greatest limitation when recruiting new teachers, medical professionals, and government employees.

New construction costs in rural areas are comparatively high due to inflated labor costs, lower rents, and the inability to compete for statewide tax credits to finance affordable housing. There is a need to retain and attract residents to rural Colorado towns, who are in the middle-income market. The properties address an immediate need for accessible workforce housing as workers in hospitality, healthcare and the trades are getting priced out as more affluent populations move to the sub-regions.



Capital and Funding

Capital access in the SCEDD region for debt and equity are deficient in different ways. The debt side is a paradox, with suppressed demand from COVID-19 suggesting there might be adequate funds available to lend, but perhaps a lack of marketing and outreach. On the equity side, the SCEDD region is nearly a desert, with few funds available from WITHIN the district. Additional planning and assessment is required.

On the debt side, there are a number of business loan funds providing gap financing, and BLFs on the Southeastern Plains have an excellent reputation for meeting the needs of the business community. NeighborWorks has a gap financing BLF program, the Upper Arkansas COG has a program, and there is access to some statewide funds, including a newly-stood up program funded by the EDA. There is not SBA 504 packager within the district. This is not meant to be a complete inventory of BLF assets in the SCEDD region.

SCEDD is seeking to do a study to assess the capital ecosystem and see if and where SCEDD can play a role. That role may very well include a specialized BLF, such as one for a transportation innovation cluster. The Transportation Technology Center, Inc. (TTCI) is at the center of a Build

Back Better grant request that contemplates a BLF, seed capital fund, incubator, and accelerator startup firms engaged in technology innovation.

On the equity side, there are no seed capital, venture, or private equity funds within the SCEDD region. That is not to say that equity fund is non-existent. There are a few informal angel networks and one formal one. In addition, Southern Colorado Innovation Link (SCIL) has had some success as an accelerator in preparing entrepreneurs for pitching to equity funds outside the region.

Broadly speaking, the Access to Capital landscape is a threat to the region's ability to create an entrepreneurial ecosphere. PEDCO and local EDs have done a very credible job of on the Business Retention and Expansion side of economic development.

Government Regulation

Government regulation of the U.S. economy has expanded enormously over the past century, prompting business complaints that interventions impede growth and efficiency. Proponents of intervention say it's necessary to mitigate the adverse impacts of unregulated commerce, which range from environmental damage to labor abuses. Some interventions aim to help the private sector by providing clear guidelines, loans, and advice to businesses. Unfortunately, governments also have a long history of trapping nations into patterns of long-term decline through over-regulation. On the other hand, there have been times in the history of the United States, where the government has enacted regulations (and laws) that help small business.

Recent laws, that create enormous burdens on regulating the agricultural community, have become major threats to the district. These threaten not only producers, but also industries that process foods that feed the nation. Additional regulations that continue to push water quality standards are also major threats to rural communities within SCEDD, as they require major financial investments in large-scale infrastructure projects.

Finally, the federal push for renewable energies has begun to inflate energy costs within SCEDD. The early decommissioning of fossil fuel power plants has lasting impacts on the regional financing of power projects. This is further exasperated by large investments in renewable energy production in rural areas that then fall directly on the small-region users. As the PUC continues to update regulations, infrastructure investments need to be spread across the grid and not result in major financial increases for the rural communities where these projects locate.

Substance and Opioid Abuse, Drug and Human Trafficking

In the late 1990s, pharmaceutical companies reassured the medical community that patients would not become addicted to opioid pain relievers. Healthcare providers began to prescribe them at greater rates. Before it became clear that these medication could indeed be highly addictive, increased prescriptions of opioid medications led to wide-spread misuse -- prescription and non-prescription. In 2017 Colorado Health and Human Services declared a public health emergency and announced a *5-Point Strategy to Combat the Opioid Crisis*. In the context of illicit drugs, the term "trafficking" refers to the act of moving large quantities of drugs for distribution, often involving multiple states and/or international transactions. While most states have no specific charge for the

drug trafficking, per se, charges and penalties for distributing illicit drugs are based primarily on the amount and type of drug. These regulations have seen major sentencing for user groups that have addiction problems.

Across SCEDD, with the exception of Custer County, substance abuse has impacted the available workforce and labor participation. Marijuana's status, as a federally-banned substance but legal in Colorado, has created labor law issues and cut back on eligible workers in certain industries. This is especially true for industries like trucking, construction, regional distribution, rail, and corrections.

The region has also seen an alarming uptick in human trafficking in recent years. The major interstate and U.S. highways served as mule routes to smuggle humans across the district. Resources need to be made available to ensure small, rural communities can address this growing threat.

Hazardous Materials Spill

Hazardous material releases are defined as spills, disposals, or other forms of discharge into the environment. Because every county within SCEDD has a major highway and/or rail service, a hazardous material (HAZMAT) spill could create a major economic impact on a community. HAZMAT is "any element or compound that, because of handling, storing, processing, or packaging, may have detrimental effects upon the public (especially emergency personnel) and/or the environment" (State Emergency Operations Plan, 2015, p. Tab A-6 to Tab A-7). Hazardous materials are found in forms and quantities that can potentially cause death, serious injury, long-lasting health effects, and property damage in varying degrees. They may be flammable, corrosive, detonable, toxic, radioactive, oxidizers, disease-causing agents, or highly reactive. They are routinely used and stored in homes and businesses and are also shipped daily on Colorado's highways, railroads, waterways, and pipelines.

The largest threat of spills is the lack of resources to "clean up" when the event occurs. There are only a few regional resources that can be deployed to deal with these events. Investments are needed to ensure these regional resources have the tools to mitigate any accidental spills and that communities have the resources to protect themselves against any disaster that may occur.



Cyber Hazards

Today's world is more interconnected than ever before. Yet, for all of its advantages, increased connectivity brings increased risk of theft, fraud, and abuse. "Cyber" means of, relating to, or involving computers or computer networks (such as the Internet). "Hazard" means a danger or risk. Summarily Cyber Hazard is any danger or risk involving computers or computer networks. Since nearly everyone uses a computer in some form, cyber-hazard pertains to the majority.

The COVID-19 pandemic created a new need for cyber security across SCEDD. Many local government servers and communication systems were not equipped to allow their workforces to

securely begin to work remotely. As investments are made in broadband, safe steps must be made in programming and technology to protect the end users, local governments, and businesses within the district.

Critical Infrastructure

SCEDD is seeing an overall need of \$300 million for critical water, wastewater, broadband, and electric transmission lines to create resiliency within our communities. This figure does not even begin to account for needs to transportation infrastructure -- investments in roads, bridges, rails, and public transportation.

As part of this CEDS update, every county has provided detailed lists of critical infrastructure projects in Appendix A. The biggest threat over the next five years is ensuring access to recovery funds to address these infrastructure needs. A vast majority of SCEDD lacks the technical expertise to ensure equal access and even distribution of these federal and state funds.

Energy Sustainability

Natural disaster disruptions to energy transmission are threats to many of the communities across the district. While growth in renewable energy production is becoming a major economic engine in the Southeastern Plains, the necessary transmission line capacity to the grid is hampering the growth of this industry. To ensure resiliency, regional transmission line investments are needed to allow growth in the renewable energy sector, as well as protect transmission line distributions from natural events. In several counties, high electric costs are creating cost burdens to households. Regulations need to be addressed to ensure rural communities are not stuck with paying the bill for the urban centers' desires to shift to renewable energy that is generated in these counties.

Healthcare

The COVID-19 pandemic created an economic stress test on the healthcare systems within SCEDD. Many of these healthcare systems are major economic drivers, as well as employers. Investments in regional care facilities and public health are needed district wide to ensure they are equipped to continue to handle the looming health efforts that future COVID variants and other health pandemics may require.

Although rural hospitals endeavor to meet the health care needs of their communities, many struggle to address the persistent challenges of low patient volumes and geographic isolation. At the same time, they are working to manage more recent and emergent challenges, including economic fluctuations, increased regulatory burden, and the opioid epidemic. In response to these difficulties, some hospitals have elected to merge with larger health systems, engage in other types of affiliations or partnerships, or modify their service offerings, to stay viable and protect health care access for their communities. Rural hospitals also serve as economic anchors in their communities. They provide both direct employment opportunities and indirect reinforcement of the local economy through the purchase of goods and services from private sector entities. The availability of local access to health care is an important factor for businesses considering whether to invest or locate in

a particular area. Moreover, private sector employment generated by rural hospitals supports a healthy tax base, which funds services such as public education, fire, police and road maintenance.

Finally, the lack of access to adequate mental health services has become a major threat. The COVID-19 pandemic saw an alarming increase in suicide rates especially in youth populations across the region.

Chapter 7: Regional Implementation Strategies

Introduction

In an Economic Development District (EDD) that is geographically two to three times the size of most national EDDs, and which is typified by three sub-regions or spokes (Southeastern Plains, Upper Ark, South Central) that radiate from a hub (Pueblo and Pueblo County), the description of Economic Implementation Strategies requires some detailed exploration.

As an EDD, SCEDD has chosen to concentrate on three economic development strategies that are regional and critical local economic prosperity drivers. These include Access to Capital, Broadband, and Workforce Housing. With the exception of dealing with aging infrastructure, such as roads, water, and wastewater infrastructure that operates as a weakness or a threat to economic development, these three drivers are the critical issues to ensure economic resiliency over the next five years as identified throughout the public process. Whatever economic development strategy is under discussion, there exists a lack of capacity to deal with it in all but our largest communities. For that reason, SCEDD is seeking to increase its ability to deliver technical assistance not only in the three areas identified above, but more generally across the spectrum. Specifically, we are working to provide access to planning, engineering, and grant assistance for ALL economic development strategies.

The definition of “regional planning” is also flexible. In different communities across the SCEDD region, it can mean different things:

1. In responding to a Build Back Better initiative or implementing an SBA Community Navigator model, it can mean a regional hub and spoke approach with a regional goal having a specific geographic center based in Pueblo.
2. In the case of planning workforce housing, SCEDD can operate as a regional consultant in service to a sub-region solution. That is the case with our current workforce housing initiative on the Southeastern Plains, where we have designed a project tailored to the circumstances of a new construction market that has collapsed. In this case, we partner with a sub-region EDD (Southeast Colorado Enterprise Development/SECED) to attract a regional or national developer to build homes WITHIN that sub-region. SCEDD designs the program, secures the developer, negotiates with lenders, and sells the homes. SECED works with the counties and municipalities, as well as the developer.
3. In the case of Broadband, SCEDD seeks to function as the regional expert and coordinator to orchestrate the planning, funding, and execution of projects. Those projects may be at the municipal level, county, sub-region, or region—or even some combination.

As an EDD, SCEDD has been largely dormant until recently, and the habits and rhythms of regional cooperation have fallen into disuse. With the adoption of this CEDS, SCEDD seeks to re-engage its stakeholders in regional efforts.

The Economic Implementation Strategies (EIS) contained in this chapter were vetted through various and rigorous public comment and by conducting 59 public meetings across the entire 13-county region. The strategies below are discussed in overview -- first from a region-wide perspective, then within the sub-region, and finally in this section at the county level. A more granular look at specific projects, programs, and policies as they relate to each county within SCEDD can be found in the Appendix A in order to determine potential funding sources, lead organizations, project cost estimates, or where the project stands in implementation.

Access to Capital

The Access to Capital sector is decidedly mixed throughout the district. SCEDD is fortunate to have a number of revolving loan funds, but there isn't an SBA 504 packager in the district, and startup equity is available only through informal networks, although small angel groups are starting to emerge.

It is beyond the scope of the CEDs to fully assess specific opportunities within this sector. Public meetings, consultations with the EDA-funded tech accelerator, and the ED community have led to the conclusion that this sector needs some attention. SCEDD is putting together a consulting project to assess the revolving loan fund space, and to see how a SCEDD-sponsored fund(s) can assist. Part of that study will involve a review of equity options. The need is to increase access to equity capital in the region and develop an entrepreneurial ecosystem that supports startups in the tech sector and the intellectual property sector. (The transportation sector for both freight and passenger transportation are expressing interest in a seed capital project as part of a potential Build Back Better EDA application.)

In the wake of the pandemic, the traditional focus of assisting with startups and expansions has given way to focus on survival and recovery. Our region's downtowns are suffering and SCEDD has stepped up as an applicant for the SBA Community Navigator Program. The immediate access to capital, extending through 2022, is capital to survive, whether through the limited number of grant programs of government loans, such as the Economic Impact Disaster Loans. SCEDD stands ready to assist both the local EDs and the sub-region to access COVID-19 relief funding as it becomes available.

Broadband

By board action, SCEDD has assumed a leadership role in broadband. The discussion here is not divided into sub-regions. While terrain, population density, and technology all argue for localized solutions, broadband planning is best conceived at a regional level. The overarching goal is ubiquitous, reliable broadband, with speeds ranging from 100 Mbps up and down in some areas and fiber gig to the home in others. More broadly, the goal is broadband that is available, abundant, affordable, reliable, and sustainable. We call this regional implementation strategy the SoCo Broadband Project.

SCEDD has five major goals for the region for the next five years: 1. All areas of region have access to minimum federal internet broadband standards. 2. Eighty percent of addresses in region have access to 100 up/100 down service 3. 80 percent of population in towns and cities with more than 2000 population has fiber connection providing a gig to the home 3. Broadband infrastructure is robust and redundant, providing high reliability.

SCEDD's primary role is to assist with the implementation of broadband projects. We envision a staff of 2-3 FTE employees who will live and breathe broadband. "Assist" is a blanket term that describes a project-centered planning role that includes being a regional cheerleader that identifies projects, assembles coalitions across county borders, manages the planning and engineering process, assists in procuring city, county, state, federal, and philanthropic resources, develops and shares in the ownership of publicly owned broadband assets, administers the grants related to broadband, and assists in the management of planning and construction projects. This project is to build capacity to effectively execute projects.

This expenditure will not finish the job; it will get us to the starting line to effectively compete for money and attention from policymakers.

The implementation strategy will likely involve SCEDD owning, or having a financial interest in, some middle mile assets and some lesser revenue participation in final mile assets.

There is an unprecedented amount of federal and state money being deployed for broadband infrastructure, and the experience over the last five years has shown that communities who cooperate regionally with a clear focus and vision are the communities that are the most successful. The SCEDD project is modeled after a successful initiative in Region 10, where nearly 500 miles of fiber have been deployed in the last five years. SCEDD's SoCo Broadband project has been designed in collaboration with DOLA, Colorado Broadband Office, two electric cooperatives, internet service providers such as Colorado Central Telecom and SECOM, broadband consultants, city and county officials, and economic development organizations in the region.

SCEDD has pushed this collaboration with the purpose of assuming regional responsibility for meeting goals within the context of a role best described as "coordination leadership."

Middle mile and final mile strategies

The SoCo Broadband Project can be described succinctly as "planning the work and then working the plan." SCEDD will aggressively promote middle mile projects and choose final mile projects as targets of opportunity, depending upon the nature of the funding being sought for a specific project.

Specific projects will be identified through the broadband implementation blueprint, which we imagine to be jointly funded by ARPA and DOLA. That said, any delineation of projects will need to reckon with the reality that the details of specific projects can be affected by funder priorities. This will especially be the case on last mile projects, where some funders may prioritize serving the most homes while others may prioritize reaching the most underserved areas or providing the most equity in the cost of broadband. For that reason, we don't think that a catalog of last mile needs will shed much light at this preliminary stage. That said, one of the major projects in Pueblo County will be getting reliable broadband to Pueblo West. A second project of high importance will be ensuring

that Pueblo has the consulting help it needs to negotiate a public/private partnership from those providers who believe that building fiber to the home is a near term project.

With these caveats in mind, then, let us try to illustrate the range of projects that might be undertaken. In contrast to the extremely large number of last mile projects that can be sliced and diced in many ways, the need for middle mile projects is relatively finite. Middle mile describes the network infrastructure that connects last mile (i.e. local) networks to other network service providers, major telecom centers, and the greater internet.

Here is a list of likely middle mile projects that will need to be addressed. Counties addressed are bracketed. (The list is courtesy of SECOM and includes areas outside of their service region.)

Hwy 69-- Walsenburg to Westcliffe to Hwy 50 along Hwy 69, then East on Hwy 50 back to Canon City. [Huerfano/Custer/Fremont]

Chaffee to Leadville – needs two fiber routes to Leadville, Buena Vista, Salida [Lake, Chaffee]

Hwy 12-- Trinidad to La Veta via Hwy 12, then back to Walsenburg on Hwy 160 [Huerfano, Las Animas]

Branson--Build from Kim to Branson to Hoehne to Trinidad along 160, 389 and some county roads. [Las Animas]

Holly-Bristol-Hartman Granada-- [Prowers]

Las Animas to Wile
[Otero, Bent, Prowers]

Towner-- (New construction from Sheridan Lake to Towner, upgrade line from Eads to Sheridan Lake) [Kiowa]

Two Buttes--[Baca]

Salt Creek to Boone-- [Pueblo]

Florence – dual routes in and out [Fremont]

Ordway-Sugar City-Cheraw [Crowley, Otero]

Some of the above add significant indirect benefit to other counties not listed. For example, “Branson” benefits Pueblo, Crowley, Otero, Bent, Prowers, Baca and Huerfano by adding a redundant path for traffic in/out of those counties.

Agriculture/Ranching

Agriculture is the largest geographical industry in the region. Generally, most of the economic development strategies discussed during the process were aimed at filling specific needs rather than

re-imagining the role of agriculture as a transformative catalyst of economic development. The pandemic saw disruptions to supply chains and loss of traditional migrant workforce. Since the CEDS is both an iterative and living document, future revisions might be well-advised to look at agriculture from a higher and more strategic altitude. The various communities recognize that agriculture conservation, adapting to drought, and filling holes in needed services (e.g. meat processing) are key elements to the maintenance and development of this sector. The more specific strategies discussed below illustrate the different emphasis experienced by different sub-regions within SCEDD.

Southeastern Plains (Otero, Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, Prowers, Baca)

There are two major issues on the Southeastern Plains—one chronic and systemic and the other acute and solvable. One is a critical need for drought assistance support. More broadly, this is not just an agricultural need, but is important to maintain adequate water supplies for all uses, and a variation of this need shows up on critical infrastructure assessments as well. The State of Colorado Drought Task Force is taking the lead on this issue. The second issue is an urgent need for one or more USDA Certified meat processing facility. Farmers and ranchers are experiencing extended wait times for meat processing. The pandemic has shown how this can cause disruptions to supply chains and food prices across the nation.

There is a general sense of need for value-added agriculture, as well as development of crops such as hemp that require less water. Prowers County is seeking to recruit additional dairy processing, and Crowley County identified a need for a certified industrial scale.

Upper Arkansas (Fremont, Chaffee, Custer, Lake)

The agricultural community is the #1 reason visitors enjoy the scenic vistas in this region. However, continued development pressures make conservation easements and water conservation are among the top ag priorities for the sub-region. Chaffee County identified a need to acquire conservation easements to provide working capital to ranchers and farmers funded through a county .25% sales tax. Lake County has identified a conceptual need for boosting agri-tourism and providing conservation assistance to protect land and water resources. Fremont County has identified a need for a USDA certified meat processing facility, a need echoed on the Southeastern Plains. There is also some interest in a regional livestock sale barn facility for the county to service the sub-region due to closures of regional facilities around an urban center in the region.

South Central (Huerfano, Las Animas)

Huerfano County has identified several key agricultural economic priorities, ranging from the conceptual to the preconstruction phase. At the conceptual stage, the county seeks to expand access to produce through farmers markets. There is a strategy to analyze the effect of invasive species and plants on water levels.

A mixed-use commercial space is a county concept that would include a gas station, housing, commercial space, and school greenhouses in unincorporated Gardner. Finally, Las Animas County sees itself as a regional distribution hub for rail access to allow agricultural users to bring goods to market.

Pueblo County

Pueblo county has an abundance of market farms and a thriving farm stand/farmer's market culture. Pueblo Economic Development Corporation (PEDCO) and the Pueblo Food Project are working to develop local food systems that make it easier for purchasing agents in the community to buy from local food producers. Bay's Meat Market is pursuing the development of a regional meat processing plant that would be capable of handling domestic livestock as well as game animals. PEDCO is in talks with an unnamed developer interested in building a processing plant able to handle 10,000 + animals a year, with a focus on domestic livestock. Springside Cheese in Pueblo currently brings in all cheeses from outside Colorado. They are laying the groundwork to build a local production facility to make cheese in Pueblo. The effort would make use of regional dairy animal herds and would train and employ a small workforce in artisanal skills. The Pueblo Food Project's goals over the next five years are to develop infrastructure to support medium scale food process production, and to develop a entrepreneurial pipeline of food production startups. In addition to identifying and recruiting food and beverage productions to relocate to Pueblo, PEDCO is working in the area of industrial hemp production and companies production clothing and other fiber products.

Business Development

Southeastern Plains (Otero, Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, Prowers, Baca)

The Southeastern Plains has an abundance of structures and properties that can be redeveloped including a former military post near Las Animas (Ft. Lyons), numerous blighted properties in La Junta, and the regional airport in Lamar. This availability has resulted in a strategic focus on several large projects; four are estimated to cost more than \$3 million. In Bent County, officials seek to transform the Ft. Lyons property into a business incubator. In Lamar, there is a \$3 million project in the planning stages for a warehouse for distribution operations at the Southeast Colorado Regional Airport. Officials in La Junta have placed a \$5 million price tag on efforts to redevelop more than 15 properties in the historic downtown termed as "blighted properties inventory." Another project in that community is to turn an iconic former church building into a commercial space, at an estimated cost of \$3 million. La Junta also has a concept for a program to build out an economic development and educational ecosystem. This has a cost estimate of \$5 million. These are the foundations to allow the region to rebuild the existing assets with access to utilities to bring new businesses to the region.

Other strategies detailed in the Appendix A include: *Prowers*—Downtown redevelopment (Holly) and Data Center (Lamar); *Bent*—Industrial park (Las Animas) and incubator at historic high school; *Crowley*—Main Street sidewalk improvements; *Kiowa*—\$1.7 million cultural center renovation; and *Otero*—Downtown beautification and revitalization (La Junta), convert CORE building to mixed use space (La Junta), downtown roof replacement (La Junta), mixed use office/industrial building (La Junta), downtown façade project (Rocky Ford), co-working space (Rocky Ford), and a public safety downtown camera system (La Junta).

Upper Arkansas (Fremont, Chaffee, Custer, Lake)

All the local municipal areas throughout the region have seen reinvestment in their historic downtowns. Local business redevelopment remains a high priority. Across the region, available developable land is scarce. Both Lake and Chaffee have areas in enterprise zones with infrastructure needs. Local airports are positioned to take advantage of high-altitude testing in the aerospace arena.

The business development priorities in Fremont County largely reflect the ambitions of Cañon City, a community that held steady in population from 2010 to 2020 (16,403 to 16,581) but is poised for brisk growth in the next decade as nearby Colorado Springs experiences an unprecedented real estate boom that is pushing the limits of affordability. For a list of specific projects contemplated, see Appendix A. In summary, however, Cañon City and the City of Florence are seeking to redevelop vacant and underused spaces, re-energize the downtown, and develop an industrial/business park to assist with the diversification of their local economies.

The 4 Mile Metro District is seeking to complete a buildout of commercial and residential space, and the City of Florence is seeking to extend infrastructure for an industrial park on U.S. Hwy 50 and S.H. 67, including access to rail for the movement of goods from industrial production.

South Central (Huerfano, Las Animas)

In both counties, railway access is cited as keys to business development. In Las Animas County, Allegiance Coal has reopened the New Elk Mine and a spur will increase production, and perhaps open the way for other closed mines to reopen. Huerfano County seeks to develop an industrial park, innovation spaces and downtown revitalization.

Pueblo County

Pueblo city and county governments have joined to develop the Pueblo Means Business program. The local governments jointly purchased a building and are locating all licensing and permitting offices on one floor. In addition, they are looking at ways to streamline licensing and permitting processes to make establishing business in Pueblo simpler. Pueblo's Creative Corridor and historic district should continue to be a focal point for specialty retail development. Pueblo's Main Street lags in its redevelopment and has room for additional business development. PEDCO, in conjunction with city and county government brought a new long rail line to the Everaz steel mill in Pueblo. PEDCO has identified six sub clusters of industries they are working to attract to Pueblo. Food and beverage, in the areas of fruit and vegetable canning as well as meat processing; chemical, specifically focusing on needs related to the toilet industry, as well as soil preparation; aero-space, looking at mill production of parts needed in aero-space construction; construction, looking at ceramics/pottery and plumbing needs; hemp, primarily focused on industrial hemp and manufacturing related to hemp fiber production. PEDCO has also identified professional and scientific services associated with the drawdown of the Pueblo Chemical Depot. As this military facility comes to the end of its life decommissioning chemical munitions, PEDCO and PuebloPlex anticipate a trained and experienced workforce being available to potential employers within a range of science and engineering specialties. Related to food and beverage production, Rocky Mountain Whole Foods is on record wanting to source products produced in Pueblo county and build the Pueblo food story in Rocky Mountain region stores.

Critical Infrastructure

Upper Arkansas (Fremont, Chaffee, Custer, Lake)

Infrastructure needs in the Upper Ark are largely focused on water and wastewater projects. While many are envisioned to deal with threats ("upgrade or development stops"), some are also

opportunities, such as expansion of capacity that would result in a proposed trunk line project from Poncha Springs to Salida to allow for much need industrial and commercial production space.

Additional Strategies to foster skilled and high paying job development are detailed in Appendix A.

Custer—Numerous projects for Westcliffe and Silver Cliff, including lead service line and well replacement, a water reservoir, water storage, new treatment plant, and a move to net-zero waste processing. The landfill seeks to expand its recycling program to meet waste reduction goals.

Fremont—Cañon City has identified a need for a water line to support future development of numerous public uses; commercial and industrial lands need infrastructure upgrades to facilitate development to diversify the county's economy. The City of Florence and Town of Penrose have each identified sanitation, water, and water/wastewater projects to ensure economic development can continue over the next five years.

Chaffee—The municipalities and districts that serve Poncha Springs, Buena Vista, Salida, and unincorporated Garfield have each identified critical infrastructure projects. Poncha Springs needs two new wells, water tank repairs and upgrades, and the need for trunk line expansion from the City of Salida wastewater treatment plant to ensure continued economic growth. Buena Vista has identified a need for a new well, improvements to collection system, acquisition of water rights, looping upper and lower zones to facilitate economic growth, update stormwater system, and upgrades and revised master plan for water system. The Buena Vista Sanitation District has a potential need for a secondary trunk line under the Arkansas River and upgrades to the plant. Salida needs to replace its trunk water main to the main plant, to expand capacity of the Pasquale Springs site, to improve the efficiency of the Harrington Ditch, and to upgrade and expand the city's wastewater plant. The Town of Garfield needs to upgrade its water system for additional commercial capacity.

Lake—Both the water and wastewater district have significant upgrades to their facilities planned in Lake County. Additional water storage is being discussed throughout the county. There are multiple bridge and culvert replacement project on high impact county roads that need attention in the next five years. Lake County would also like to work towards expansion of the Airborne Snow Observatory (ASO). The ASO program uses remote sensing lasers on airplanes to precisely measure snow depth and density used to predict seasonal runoff, which is the headwaters for the entire district. Also on the drawing board is a plan to expand and acquire the landfill and make provisions for containing industrial waste.

South Central (Huerfano, Las Animas)

In Las Animas County, Trinidad is considering a water treatment plan for Trinidad Lake.

Neighboring Huerfano County has an ambitious slate of strategies to address critical infrastructure.

The City of Walsenburg seeks to repave U.S. highways, replace aging water and sewer lines, move some government assets out of a flood plain (county project), replace a natural gas transmission line from Trinidad to Walsenburg, consider a new water line to serve the Northlands Area, and widen part of HWY 85/87 to accommodate pedestrians and bicycles. Huerfano County seeks to replace two aging raw water lines from La Veta to Walsenburg and upgrade and repair the Gardner Water and Wastewater System.

Southeastern Plains (Otero, Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, Prowers, Baca)

The Arkansas Valley Conduit (AVC) is the most critical infrastructure project on the Southeastern Plains, and perhaps all of SCEDD. The AVC is a 130-mile pipeline with spurs that would serve as many as 40 communities and 50,000 people east of Pueblo. It will deliver filtered water ready for treatment from Pueblo Reservoir. The AVC will supplement existing water supplies, which face state compliance issues because of salinity or radionuclide contamination. Most of the participants rely on groundwater and need a reliable supply of fresh water.

The cities of the Lower Arkansas Valley have awaited the construction of the AVC for decades. The AVC was authorized by Congress as part of the Fryngpan-Arkansas Project in 1962. It never was built largely because of the inability of participants to repay construction costs. In 2009, Congress amended the original Fry-Ark legislation. The amendment featured a cost-sharing plan with 65 percent federal and 35 percent local funding. The locally funded portion will be repaid by the Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District (District) to the federal government over a period of 50 years.

<https://www.secwcd.org/content/arkansas-valley-conduit>

Fort Lyon Canal Company Infrastructure (Bent)—This company and its antecedents have been providing irrigation on the Southeastern Plains since 1860. The largest project that would have multiple benefits for additional users includes a \$10.9 million project to enlarge the Adobe Creek Reservoir, and \$7.4 million project to replace the Upper-Dam, and a \$4.4 million project for phase two earth removal for left bank expansion at Blue Lake.



Other major projects above \$5 million: There are an additional eight projects with a total cost estimate of \$71.5 million to complete. They include water and sewer, power, and bridge programs in this region. *Baca*—Springfield has water treatment/distribution needs, including work at the plant, replacement of cast iron pipe, and distribution system looping (\$5.5 million).

Bent—Las Animas Light & Power seeks a 6.23 MW standby generation system (\$5.8 million) and seeks to rebuild the 50-year-old main feed (\$5 million).

Otero—The City of La Junta needs to replace its water main and pump, which have exceeded useful service life expectancy (\$15 million). La Junta seeks to install 4MW worth of natural gas generators at its Industrial Park substation (\$5 million). Otero County is eyeing a \$15 million bridge replacement program. Rocky Ford needs to repair and upgrade its Wastewater Treatment Facility (\$10 million).

Prowers—Lamar is considering a new wastewater treatment facility to allow for expansion of residential and commercial development (\$10 million). Town of Holly is looking at a water treatment facility (\$6 million).

Other projects (includes less than \$5 million and/or cost estimate to date)—These are detailed in Appendix A.

Baca—Radium remediation (Pritchett), new cell for landfill (Springfield), and wastewater improvements (brick manhole and lamp pole replacement in Springfield),

Bent—flood mitigation (Las Animas), wastewater treatment improvements (Las Animas), Best Management Practice improvements in irrigated fields in Bent and Otero Counties upstream to Las Animas wastewater treatment facility, and water main and line replacements in City of Las Animas water system,

Crowley—200,000-gallon water storage north of Crowley and 300,000-gallon tank north of Ordway, installation of 8” county water line to bypass Ordway, wastewater lift station repair (Town of Crowley), and Ordway Reservoir and non-potable pipeline improvements (Ordway).

Kiowa—Municipal water line upgrades (Haswell) and Wastewater lines and manhole replacements (Eads).

Otero—Replace .25-million-gallon water tank with 1.1-million-gallon elevated tank (La Junta), replacement of north tank transmission line which crosses a canal and the Arkansas River (La Junta), new or rehabbed south booster pump station (La Junta), replacement of sanitary sewer main in historic downtown (Rocky Ford), and water main replacement in downtown (Rocky Ford).

Prowers—Removal of sewer lagoon and replacement with three lagoons (Wiley), wastewater rehabilitation (Holly), and water upgrades (Granada).

**** Pueblo

Pueblo County is working on capacity building projects to improve sanitation and wastewater in Pueblo West. The city of Pueblo has also identified sanitation, wastewater, and storm water capacity projects across the city.

Workforce Housing Strategies

Housing is one of those issues for which it is not possible to design a single strategy that will serve every sub-region. The Upper Ark has areas with a run-away real estate market so hot that available supply is on the market for days, not months. Yet high land costs and restrictive building costs drive up costs, making affordability the largest hurdle to workforce housing development. With that problem comes how to keep housing affordable. In the absence of deed restrictions and/or land banking, homes built with subsidy achieve instant equity upon changing hands. In contrast, the problem on the Southeastern Plains is a collapse in the new home market. Appraisals are weak with a lack of appraisal comps and economic challenges, and the lack of population makes building a project at scale nearly impossible.

The South Central sub-region has many of the same problems as the Southeastern Plains, though Las Animas County adds a certain extra problem with high demand for workforce housing combined with available land being tied up in tax liens and ownership disputes. Huerfano County has a high demand for starter-home workforce housing and a need for rehabilitation of existing housing stock.

The public process of the CEDS has suggested that SCEDD and its stakeholders be nimble and creative. The nimbleness implies a need for custom-tailored solutions and an emphasis on the 80% and above AMI niche. Creativity is called for due to current state and federal programs geared for a lower target market. In order for SCEDD to implement other strategies that would bring additional high paying, skilled workforces to the district, housing must be addressed.

Upper Arkansas (Fremont, Chaffee, Custer, Lake)

Every county in the public process expressed a need for more affordable housing. Most comments and projects were largely aspirational or in the early stages of conception and planning. In Chaffee County, the Salida Housing Development and Town of Poncha Springs are working on a project for 50 units on the north side of Poncha Springs targeted at 60% of AMI or less. The county housing authority and the community foundation are looking at a \$4.1 million project for 17 units of workforce housing. They are also working on a Collegiate Commons project. The Chaffee County Economic Development Corporation and Chaffee County Community Foundation are collaborating on a concept in Buena Vista to develop two lots. Lot one would have 30-40 apartments and the second lot would have some townhome units.

In Lake County discussions are underway between the Regional Housing Authority, a local housing coalition, the county, and the City of Leadville on a path forward. The county and the city are considering cost incentives to build workforce housing and rentals. Both the county and City of Leadville are seeking to implement the county housing action plan.

In Fremont County, Cañon City describes housing as an “immediate, pressing need.” There are plans to create a city-wide grant program to fund neighborhood and city-wide beautification housing projects.

Custer County is actively working on the development of a 12-lot attainable housing project. They have recently formalized a County Housing Board and are working with CHFA’s Small Scale Affordable Housing Technical assistance program to assist with helping this project move forward.

South Central (Huerfano, Las Animas)

Both Huerfano and Las Animas Counties recognized the urgent need for workforce housing. Huerfano Economic Development is working to develop seven lots for workforce housing. Las Animas County has assembled a planning group, and the City of Trinidad recently hired a full-time planner, who will work with SCEDD.

Southeastern Plains (Otero, Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, Prowers, Baca)

Under the leadership of SCEDD and SECED, the six counties and nine municipalities in the sub-region have adopted a workforce housing strategy that is based on a mix of incentives and building to scale. The gist of the incentive strategy is (1) subsidizing horizontal development costs, including tap fees, land, engineering, architecture, entitlement processes, surveying, and title costs, (2) commit to cover these costs for 40 to 70 units. With a project of this scale, and assurances that only presold homes can be built, we can attract a regional developer willing to bear construction loan risks. Between incentives and economies of scale, the developer can drive costs down. The goal is for a retail price point between \$150k and \$200k- per unit that is attainable to the workforce. As the CEDS is being finalized, counties and municipalities are committing to the project using their ARPA funds, a request for qualifications (RFQ) is out to identify several developer finalists. The goal of the program aims to “*Build Stronger Communities through Investments in Housing and Neighborhoods*” by building new workforce housing in qualified census tracts. If 70 units are built, there will be an injection of nearly \$12 million in new workforce housing across the region. While the program is not replicable it

represents SCEDD's commitment to tackling and rebuilding a foundation of economic recovery using federal dollars to make a local difference.

Other housing initiatives uncovered during the CEDs process include:

Otero—A mixed-use commercial and apartment space in the Plaza Block building (La Junta), conversion of a 30-unit motel to 15 two-bedroom apartments (Rocky Ford);

Crowley—create a revolving loan fund to cover appraisal gaps;

Prowers—convert an old motel into college housing by the college foundation to accommodate future growth.

Pueblo County

One of the biggest projects addressing workforce housing in Pueblo is the North Vista Development, projected to add up to 5,000 single family homes to the Pueblo area. The Commission on Housing and Homelessness is working with the city of Pueblo to update zoning to allow for smaller footprint homes, as well as accessory dwelling units built on properties with existing single family homes. Additionally, this group is working to identify buildings that can be rehabilitated to offer new housing.

NeighborWorks, a non-profit organization, and a for-profit developer are collaborating on a nearly 1,000-unit development on the west side that would include a mix of market rate and, affordable housing. They have requested ARPA assistance from the City of Pueblo.

Education/Work Force Development

Upper Arkansas (Fremont, Chaffee, Custer, Lake)

A variety of strategies are under consideration in this sub-region:

Chaffee—Salida School District expects there will be a need for a new elementary school within the city limits of Poncha Springs. *Custer*—Pueblo Community College and local schools are discussing college offerings at the high school and vocational opportunities for the non-college bound.

Fremont—Fremont Economic Development Corporation (FEDC) is seeking to redevelop a downtown building to accommodate its expanding tech startup incubator and the city of Cañon City is looking to develop a manufacturing incubator and a makerspace. The city's Main Street Project is working on a community kitchen/restaurant incubator.

Lake—School district is considering building a new intermediate school at a cost between \$10M and \$14M.

South Central (Huerfano, Las Animas)

In Huerfano County, the school districts and the county plan to launch workforce training strategies. La Veta's RE2 School District is planning a greenhouse/gardening project. Huerfano RE1 School District is planning an early childhood development and childcare facility. The Districts are looking to cooperate with a regional trade school. The county is seeking to develop apprenticeship, internship, and mentoring programs, as well as seeking the ACT Work-Ready Community designation.

In Las Animas County, the state college is interested in a building trades program and the county would like to re-establish a Colorado Law Enforcement Training Academy. Trinidad State College is working with the New Elk Mine to train high school graduates for job openings as this newly reopened coal mine steps up production.

Southeastern Plains (Otero, Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, Prowers, Baca)

SEBREA is the fiscal agent for a sub-region wide strategy—the Southeast Colorado Regional Entrepreneurship program for grades five through twelve. The program has been implemented, but there is a need for continued programming potentially funded by a variety of regional philanthropic organizations.

Other strategies include:

Baca—Southeast Colorado Hospital intends to continue its annual CNA training with the community college to create a nursing pipeline. The hospital also operates training programs for staff.

Bent—The County along with the Bent County Economic Development Foundation are seeking to cooperate in order to develop a regional hazardous materials testing lab at Fort Lyon and will partner with the Small Business Incubator (SBI) for workforce development. They are also looking to develop a community co-working space, children’s learning museum, and perhaps an office location for remote work. Elsie Goines and Leana Gardner are leads for an early childhood center expansion, and CDL Training at Fort Lyon is under consideration.

Crowley—The county school district has an aging high school to replace and a desire to put K-6 students under one roof.

Otero—The City of Rocky Ford, SBDC, local businesses, and other non-profits are pursuing a job certification program for those re-entering the workforce, who do not want to pursue a college track. The Rocky Ford School District has a need for \$47.5 million for a project to replace two aging elementary schools and add a Pre-K through 8th grade addition to the junior-senior high school.

Prowers—Lamar Community College has four projects under consideration: An adult transition program that assists ELL/Adult Basic Ed/GED graduates with vocational or college studies; an employer demand program to provide low-cost training through Lamar Community College; expand the mission of the Makerspace program into a small business incubator; and develop apprenticeships in partnership with local business and industry.

Pueblo County

PEDCO is working with PCC on talent readiness programs targeting industrial arts and manufacturing. PEDCO would like to expand talent readiness on the CSU-Pueblo campus as well. Additionally, PEDCO works with the Pueblo County high school’s academy of manufacturing, agriculture, and construction on workforce knowledge, skills, and readiness. PEDCO would like to expand similar programs into District 60, covering the city of Pueblo. In 2020, the Pueblo Food Project worked with Roncalli Middle School in Pueblo to develop a 7th grade STEM curriculum around hydroponic farming techniques. They had a successful pilot program at Roncalli in early 2021. In the 2021-2022 school year, the Pueblo Food Project is running the program at Roncalli, as well as at Pueblo Academy of Arts. The Food Project hopes to expand to reach all public school 7th grade students in Pueblo, at four middle schools.

The Pueblo Food Project is a partner with the Boys and Girls Club and I Will in a NASA grant the Boys and Girls Club and I Will received to bring technology and agriculture skills and knowledge to underserved youth in the community.

Renewable Energy

In 2010, Colorado passed the Community Solar Gardens Act (HB 1342), which enabled the statewide, shared renewable pilot program. The Community Solar Gardens Act encourages creation of community solar gardens by investor-owned utilities (IOUs), with a 5%, low-income carve-out. A number of these projects are described below.

Upper Arkansas (Fremont, Chaffee, Custer, Lake)

A handful of smaller projects are under consideration. In Chaffee County, Greenshine New Energy is considering expansion for the Poncha Springs North Solar Farm. In Custer County, Lead Solutions is in the conception stage for a solar garden coop to create energy credits for locally connected utilities. Lake County is also pursuing a solar garden, where Xcel is in the lead. In Fremont County, the 4 Mile Special District is planning a community solar array.

South Central (Huerfano, Las Animas)

Las Animas County is the site for two potential projects. San Isabel Electric Association and Las Animas County are cooperating to complete a second solar farm project—Spanish Peaks. Trinidad Community College is expanding on-site solar. Huerfano County is seeking to complete an energy performance contracting program and a possible community solar garden.

Southeastern Plains (Otero, Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, Prowers, Baca)

Transmission lines across the sub-region are needed for growth in the renewable energy industry sector. Projects are being considered in three of the six counties, with the largest project a City of La Junta 10 MW solar generation and 5 MW natural gas generation project (estimated cost: \$10 million). In Bent County, there are plans for a two solar fields onsite at the Ft. Lyon Campus. City of Las Animas Electric is seeking to add solar as part of a project to replace generators. In Prowers County government is leading a project to secure electric transmission lines. Kiowa, Prowers, and Baca are all seeing development of wind and solar projects in the next five years. A regional transmission line is the first phase of the expansion of these projects.

Pueblo County

The EVRAZ steel mill in Pueblo built a solar farm to power their new long rail line. This project gave PEDCO insight into ways to support and develop renewable energy projects in Pueblo while continuing to prioritize their high skill, high pay manufacturing jobs mandate, by encouraging incoming manufacture companies to include wind or solar power in their site development.

The eastern and southeastern plains of Colorado are one of the nation's best areas for wind and solar generation.

Xcel Energy is in the process of building new transmission lines to encourage construction of wind and solar power plants, in order to bring more low-cost electricity to the region, to help meet the needs of the state. They are in the beginning phases of a six-phase construction and expansion effort. The Tundra substation is an existing substation in eastern Pueblo County that has been earmarked to connect renewable energy resources to communities to the east in Crowley and Kiowa counties, and north into unincorporated El Paso County.

Recreation and Tourism

Upper Arkansas (Fremont, Chaffee, Custer, Lake)

Chaffee—Specific projects under consideration include:

Poncha Springs -- Poncha Meadows pocket park, CR 127/Hwy 50 pedestrian trail crossing, Monarch Crest Trail Connector or mountain bikes; Buena Vista -- Parks and Rec Intergenerational River Park Complex, including pickleball and a trail, Arizona Street Trail and Bridge, Whipple Trail Reconstruction, freshening of rodeo grounds, and Forest Square Park rehabilitation;

Salida—Centennial Park Skatepark construction, Hot Springs outdoor soaking pool, and Salida Mountain/SPOT Trail Highway Crossings;

Chaffee County—a fairground renovation.

Custer—Trails For All will be working their master plan to improve area trails, including priorities such as Around-The-Town Trails and the Silver Cliff Ranch Trail. All Aboard Westcliffe has a \$3.5 million conceptual plan for their non-profit railroad museum. *Other*—Westcliffe is considering tennis courts, and there are plans in Wetmore for a playground.

Fremont—Cañon City—The city is continuing to develop its trails and recreation amenities, seeks to provide camping and boat ramp amenities in the Black Hills Open Space, build a pedestrian overpass at Third Street across Highway 50 and a related connection, improve signage for downtown directory and historic walking tour, and relocate the parks facility to consolidate services, and open a property for commercial development. Cañon City Recreation District—They have a concept to construct a public amenity to attract and retain families. Fremont County CSU Extension—They are seeking to make upgrades to Pathfinder Park. *Other*—Florence Mountain Park is in the planning stage for the expansion of its trail system on public lands.

Lake—A consortium of outdoor recreation organizations and Lake County Recreation are seeking to enhance trailheads and connections for ATV, cross-country skiing, and snowmobile use on neighboring public lands. The county and city are working collaboratively to fix or rebuild the existing pool complex. The county would like to replace its recreational center/swimming pool.

South Central (Huerfano, Las Animas)

The largest regional project is building out a set of pedestrian and bike lanes that will unlock the outdoor recreational potential of the Highway of Legends. This \$110 million project is a joint effort with South Central Council of Government and the two counties.

Huerfano County—Repair/upgrade community center and improve Fiesta Park; expand conservation of land as open space; increase the quality and quantity of festivals and community events; upgrade train depot for visitors center; purchase San Luis/Rio Grande Railroad; assessment of Wild Waters Aquatic Park; develop an integrated systems of parks, trails and open spaces; create a Riverwalk along the Cuchara River from Fiesta Park to Bear Creek Road; redevelop Cuchara Mountain Park into a regional attraction; expand the Gardner Community Center; expand child care; develop a destination shooting range; and implement Southern Mountain Loop Trail System. One of the major projects for Huerfano County is to restore and reimagine the Fox Theatre in Walsenburg.

Las Animas – Provide access to Bureau of Land Management and state lands, which are landlocked near Fisher’s Peak State Park; City of Trinidad—improvements at Simpson’s Rest; building a water park in the city; establishing a Riverwalk in Trinidad; and remodel the Trinidad Water Works Building into an Outdoor Recreation Center; Las Animas County—Las Animas Fairground improvements - including grandstand, playing fields, camping, events center, commercial kitchen, and more.

Southeastern Plains (Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, Otero, Prowers, Baca)

Baca—Baca County considering \$700,000 in fairground improvements in Springfield; Town of Springfield - \$300k project for a new pool liner,; design and construct a miniature golf course.

Bent—Bent County and DOLA—The Southeastern Plains Arkansas River Trail from Fort Lyon to John Martin and municipalities is at the concept and planning stage. Colorado Parks and Wildlife—They are seeking to install and maintain a fish screen on Adobe Creek Reservoir—Blue Lake. Bent County and BCDF—Seeking to install a paved bike path from Bent County Courthouse in Las Animas to Boggsville. Other—Las Animas Recreation Area, multi-use county fairground, and John Martin Boat Ramp.

Crowley—Crowley County and Ordway—Considering formation of a recreation district. Crowley County Schools—Considering an all-weather track and upgrades to football field, as well as recreation facility and bathroom upgrades. Crowley County—Considering upgrades to Crowley County Fairgrounds and a Lake Meredith boat ramp upgrade. Ordway is considering a dog park, renovation/rehabilitation of North Park, and a new playground at South Park.

Kiowa—Multiple projects for the fairgrounds and their lead project is an effort to create a Great Plains Reservoir Recreation Area.

Otero—La Junta has several projects under consideration, including the conversion of two city blocks into a soccer field; providing needed equipment upgrades for restaurant at golf course; upgrades and repairs to the Koshare Indian Museum/Kiva—a 75-year-old facility; and upgrade equipment at the Armory. Arkansas Valley Fair Board—They seek an estimated \$2.3 million in repairs and renovations for the fairgrounds in Rocky Ford. The county is eying public access to Bent’s Fort via Highway 50 with a walking bridge across the Arkansas River, with walking paths, picnicking, and birding opportunities

Prowers—Lamar is working on several projects, including adding a soccer field to Escondido Park, making improvements at North Gateway Park, including an additional campground, rehabilitate WPA structures at historic Willow Creek Park, and rehabilitate historic locomotive at visitor center. Granada would like to convert an abandon ditch alignment into a walking trail.

Pueblo

Pueblo County is uniquely situated at a transportation crossroads, within a two-hour drive of outdoor recreation highlights. The county is known for its year-around mild climate, frequently showcased in billboards highlighting their 300 days of sunshine a year. The Greater Chamber of Commerce would like to conduct a marketing campaign highlighting Pueblo's position as a home base from which to enjoy all the outdoor activities for which Colorado is known.

Similarly, PEDCO is working to attract manufacturers of outdoor recreation products, such as recreational vehicles, paddleboards, and similar, highlighting the ease of transporting materials into Pueblo and finished products out, as well as having access to ideal environments in which to test and demonstrate outdoor recreational equipment. PEDCO is also exploring the possibility of developing or attracting outdoors clothing manufacturers interested in exploring the possibilities of manufacturing such clothing from hemp.

Health Care/Public Health/ Mental Health

Upper Arkansas (Fremont, Chaffee, Custer, Lake)

Sol Vista Mental Health is looking to expand services in the Upper Arkansas, including expanding their office in Leadville and campus improvements/additions in other counties. Projects specific to other counties include:

There are projects in Appendix A that need more details.

Chaffee—expansion of Heart of the Rockies Regional Medical Center; and

Lake—26,000 square foot expansion of office space in Leadville for St. Vincent
Custer-

South Central (Huerfano, Las Animas)

Both counties would like to see a mental health/substance abuse and treatment facility. One of the likely locations is the Lathrop Park Youth Camp. The Bi-County Health Department is pursuing discussions.

Southeastern Plains (Otero, Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, Prowers, Baca)

Three projects have been identified on the Southeastern Plains. In the public meetings, a commenter suggested that Bent County needed an urgent care center. Crowley County schools are looking to find a partner to provide better mental health for their students. Springfield Hospital in Baca is looking at a \$12 million to \$15 million remodel/rehab of a building addition.

Pueblo

No specific projects were identified in Pueblo County.

Transportation

Federal and state road and bridge projects fall under the purview of the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT). Each of the counties in SCEDD participate in CDOT Transportation Planning Regions (TPR). The TPRs have detailed plans on major infrastructure and road improvement projects. This process is heavily vetted both by the elected officials in the region as well as the public. This CEDS excludes these projects because CDOT, working with its federal and local TPRs, have detailed plans for the entire district. Therefore, this CEDS update focuses on local road and bridge projects, airports, regional transportation, and infrastructure, such as EV charging stations.

If any conflicts exist between the TPR regional plans and this CEDS update, the TPR recommendations shall prevail and should be relied on for planning and future implementation.

Upper Arkansas (Fremont, Chaffee, Custer, Lake)

Airport, highway, and rail projects predominate in the Upper Ark sub-region.

Chaffee—Central Colorado Regional Airport—They are several proposed improvements, including fence line and security gate relocation, rehab of apron tie-down areas, and a \$3 million taxiway rehabilitation project. The Salida Airport has several runway and taxiway projects on the horizon, as well as an update to their Master Plan. Chaffee County—The county seeks to improve the road access to Browns Canyon National Monument, replace the Granite Bridge, and move forward with the Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP) project. Highway 50—In both Poncha Springs and Salida, there is a need for streetscaping improvements, including trail crossing to federal public lands, which are championed by the respective communities.

Custer—CCEDC—They are taking the lead on a regional van/bus service study to lead to meeting limited medical transport needs. Strategies identified include airport improvements, including a helipad at a location to be determined. The county is also interested in securing EV charging stations along the Frontier Scenic byway. Trails for All—Their master plan has a component to improve bike lanes on Hwy 96 and 69.

Fremont—Fremont County -- Two airport projects were cited, including security and storage, water upgrades and hangar redevelopment. Two additional projects including the need for county, medical transportation and rail access for freight in Florence.

Lake—The Airport Advisory Board seeks some expansion of the Lake Airport, EV charging stations, and Lake County transit needs medical transportation and regional bus connections, as well as a Bustang connection from Chaffee County.

South Central (Huerfano, Las Animas)

The statewide effort to develop passenger rail from Wyoming to Pueblo and Trinidad is on the list of top priorities. The Southwest Chief already runs through the area, but may be rerouted.

Las Animas County—They are seeking funds to do a re-paving project at the airport.

Huerfano—South Central COG—Seeks to expand intercity bus services to Walsenburg and La Veta, expand paratransit and on-demand service to Cuchara and Gardner, and complete a regional transportation assessment for rail and bus; *Huerfano County*—Seeks bike lanes on HWY 69, locate a passenger rail station in Walsenburg, restore scenic railroad service via the San Luis and Rio Grande Railroad, and make improvements at Spanish Peaks Airport; *State Highway of Legends*—Seeks to install EV charging stations; and *Walsenburg*—Seeks additional turn lanes off of HWY 85/87 to accommodate traffic turning into businesses.

Southeastern Plains (Otero, Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, Prowers, Baca)

One of the common elements of several of the counties is a need to increase access to rail for agricultural uses. It is not reflected in a specific project but suggests this is an avenue that will take some planning to examine.

Kiowa—The county seeks to improve transit services for medical transportation and food delivery.

Otero—City of La Junta is looking to do three projects at the airport and a fourth to create a transit center to serve Amtrak and bus service into La Junta. The airport projects include additional airport hangars, the rehabilitation of a WWII hangar for a museum, and \$4.1 million to mill and rebuild two runways.

Prowers—Lamar/Prowers County has a continuing priority to create an alternative truck route around the city for US 287. Lamar is considering a \$2 million project for converting hangar space to living quarters for medics and seeks to add required security and infrastructure to the airport.

Pueblo

The Front Range Passenger Rail Project (FRPR) aims to develop passenger rail service for Front Range communities from Fort Collins to Pueblo. FRPR will provide a safe, efficient, and reliable transportation option for travel between major population centers and destinations along the Colorado Front Range. Additionally, the project envisions this rail system will become the backbone for connecting and expanding rail and transit options across the state.

PEDCO is aggressively marketing Pueblo as a rail industry community and would like to attract manufacturers associated with this industry to Pueblo. Pueblo has the benefit of a up to date rail yard with capacity, as well as sitting on a major highway crossroads (I-25 running north-south, and state Hwy 50 running east-west).

PuebloPlex, located on the Pueblo Chemical Depot, is working with Transportation Technology Center, Inc to bring new concepts in rail transportation to the table.

Institutional/ Local Government Facility Infrastructure

Upper Arkansas (Fremont, Chaffee, Custer, Lake)

Chaffee—There is a need for a satellite library in Poncha Springs and local developers are trying to interest the post office there in relocating. Buena Vista seeks a new town hall and police station, while the county would like to add an administration addition to the courthouse and a new EMS public safety building.

Custer—Fremont County Department of Health and Human Services seeks improvements on its building to improve safety and provide transitional housing for homeless people. The county is considering a new facility for the coroner and needs update to the Cotopaxi shop.

Lake County—The county needs either a new or retrofitted justice center complex at a cost upwards of \$20 million.

Southeastern Plains (Otero, Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, Prowers, Baca)

Baca—The nearly 50-year-old Baca County jail needs replacement and Southeast Colorado Hospital needs to remodel or replace on the current building site.

Otero—The largest project here is a District Court building that a feasibility study has revealed to cost \$38 million. The current space currently at the Sheriff's Department is in bad repair. Also, the La Junta Police Department needs a cover for an overhead cover for a training facility.

Pueblo

Pueblo Transit would like to put in place a free transportation program for school age children (K-12). The Pueblo Zoo, owned by the city of Pueblo, needs to upgrade and update their security system, which will necessitate improved broadband coverage on the campus.

Appendix- A County Economic Projects, Policies, and Programs



Baca County – Projects Summary

Access To Capital

The region has moderate to strong capacity in the availability of debt capital, though the lack of a regional SBA 504 packager is a need to be addressed. There is a need to strengthen existing Revolving loan funds to increase capacity and perhaps to offer niche products. Within Pueblo County, there are strong incentive programs for specific types of industries and job creations. The region, however, is an equity desert, with little access to capital for startups, follow on funding, or private equity funds to help existing businesses to pivot or grow. The strategy is to increase access to equity capital in the region and develop an entrepreneurial ecosystem that supports startups in the tech sector and the intellectual property sector.

SCEDD Regional Programs

Program- **SoCo Angels Support**. Provide three years of operational support to develop an early Angel startup network of Accredited Investors to fund the seed stage for tech and intellectual property startups

Status of Program- Development

Lead- SCEDD, SCIL, SoCo Angels,

Program Cost Estimate--\$300k per annum

Funding Options- EDA technical assistance grant, Foundation grants

Program: **Angel fund**. Adjunctive to SoCo Angels, the development of a separate fund can support individual angel investments with an institutional investment or a “sidecar” fund created by accredited investors who want to supplement individual investments with group efforts.

Status of Program—Conceptual

Lead: SCEDD, SCIL, SoCo Angels

Program Cost Estimate: Institutional fund--\$500k; Sidecar fund \$500k

Funding options: Institutional: Foundations; Sidecar: Accredited investors of SoCo Angels

Program: **SBA 504 Packaging**. Re-enter this SBA program with either a stand-alone entity or in partnership with adjoining packagers. This product is a critical credit enhancer for collateral-oriented commercial banks considering startups of between \$1 million and \$5 million that have commercial real estate for collateral.

Status of Program—Early Development

Lead: SCEDD

Program cost estimate: Approximately \$100k per annum at start, with additional costs dependent on deal flow and generation of fees.

Southern Colorado Economic Development District * 2021 CEDS

Funding Options—Startup loans, Foundation grants, Commercial bank support

Program: **Rural Downtown Mixed-Use Revitalization Program.** A revolving low interest loan fund for mixed-use properties in the 8 counties in the southeastern plains that offer low interest loans for both the downstairs commercial and upstairs residential units.

Status of Program—Early Development

Lead: SCEDD and SECED

Program cost estimate: \$1million

Funding Options- Grant \$800 DOLA/OEDIT and \$200K County match

Agriculture/ Ranching

Program- **Drought Assistance Support.** Work with state and other partners for drought assistance and planning technical assistance for agriculture, municipal, and water company storage.

Status of Project –Planning

Lead – State of Colorado Drought Task Force, SEBRA, and Kiowa County

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – USDA, Colorado Department of Agriculture, CWCB DNR,

Broadband Development

SCEDD Regional Programs

Program—**Broadband Support Office.** SCEDD will create a two-to-three-person office to take the lead in implementing broadband with a regional approach. Local projects need to be rolled up into regional and sub-region initiatives to secure adequate funding and to manage fewer, but larger projects. Part of that effort will be to create a region-wide grant match gap funds to assist with securing funds.

Status of Program—In development

Lead—SCEDD

Project Cost Estimate--\$250k per annum in operational support; \$1M per annum in grant match gap fund

Funding options—EDA technical assistance grant, DOLA, Electricity providers, County government, Foundation grants

Critical Infrastructure

Program - **Pritchett Water Radium Solution.** Engineering to find solution to radium exceeding allowable limits in water supply

Status of Program - Planning

Lead – Town of Pritchett

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – USDA, DOLA

Project - **Springfield Landfill New Lined Cell.** Add new lined cell.

Status of Program – Planning/Engineering

Southern Colorado Economic Development District * 2021 CEDS

Lead – Town of Springfield
Project Cost Estimate - \$750,000
Funding Options – USDA Loan

Project - **Springfield Water Treatment/Distribution.** Water treatment plant, cast iron pipe replacement and distribution system looping.
Status of Project – Planning/Engineering
Lead – Town of Springfield
Project Cost Estimate - \$5,541,931
Funding Options – USDA Grant/Loan

Project - **Springfield Wastewater Improvement.** Brick manhole & lamp hole replacement
Status of Project – Planning/Engineering
Lead – Town of Springfield
Project Cost Estimate - \$1,713,760
Funding Options – USDA Grant/Loan

Workforce Housing Strategies

Project- **Housing Rehabilitation and Energy Efficiency Office**
Status of Project – Concept and Planning
Lead – SECED

Program- **Mobile Home Replacement**
Status of Project – Concept and Planning
Lead – SECED, SEBREA
Project Cost Estimate -
Funding Options – DOLA

Program- **Downtown Mixed-Use Living**
Status of Project – Concept and Planning
Lead – SCEDD,
Project Cost Estimate -
Funding Options – DOLA

Education/Work Force Development

Project – **Southeast Colorado Region Entrepreneurship programming for 5th – 12th grade** public school, private school, and home school students in the seven-county area of SE Colorado
Status of Program – Implemented w/continuing programming
Lead – SEBREA Fiscal Agent
Project Cost Estimate – Not Given
Funding Options – Possible grant funding from the Rawlings Foundation, El Pomar, Daniels Fund, and other regional foundations.

Southern Colorado Economic Development District * 2021 CEDS

Program – **Southeast Colorado Hospital CNA Training.** Annual training in cooperation with local college(s) to develop nursing staff.

Status of Program – In place and ongoing

Lead – Southeast Colorado Hospital

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options –

Program – **Southeast Colorado Hospital Clinical Lab Rotation.** Training and Development of hospital staff.

Status of Program – In place and ongoing

Lead – Southeast Colorado Hospital

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options -

Recreation and Tourism

Program - **Springfield Fairgrounds Improvement.** Improve arena and grandstand, buildings, drive-thru vaccine location for local residents.

Status of Program – Planning

Lead - Baca County

Project Cost Estimate - \$675,000 (fairgrounds) \$25,000 (vaccine)

Funding Options – DOLA; GOCO

Program – **Springfield Swimming Pool.** New pool liner for existing pool

Status of Program – Concept

Lead – Town of Springfield

Project Cost Estimate - \$290,412

Funding Options – DOLA; GOCO

Program – **Springfield Miniature Golf Course.** Design and erection of outdoor miniature golf course and facility.

Status of Program – Concept

Lead – Town of Springfield

Project Cost Estimate – \$150,000

Funding Options – DOLA; GOCO

Health Care/Public Health/ Mental Health

Program - **Springfield Hospital Remodel/Addition.** Remodel, redesign, and rehabilitation of building addition.

Status of Program – Concept/Planning

Lead – SE Colo Hosp District

Project Cost Estimate - \$12 - \$15 million

Southern Colorado Economic Development District * 2021 CEDS

Funding Options – DOLA / Individuals

Transportation

Project – **Rail Access.** Access for the Agricultural users to rail.

Status of Program – Concept

Lead – Baca County

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options –

Institutional/ Local Government Facility Infrastructure

Project – **Baca County Jail Replacement.** The Baca County Jail is a 26-bed facility that was built in 1972. The jail is need of major repairs or new construction. Cracks in outer (Brick/Concrete) walls of facility, major sewer problems, outdated toilets/showers that can no longer be repaired cost effectively. The building has water damage from years of water leaks from the roof that the County has spent Hundreds of thousands of dollars to repair and is currently not leaking.

Status of Program – Planning

Lead – Baca County Sheriff

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options –

Project – **Baca County Southeast Colorado Hospital Ambulance Station.** Our current ambulance station is a remodeled mechanic shop with fairly significant building issues including critical fire prevention and infection control limitations. We would like to at minimum remodel the current site and at best, rebuild on a new site in order to have a building that is safer, more economical, more efficient, with the ability to continue providing a vital service to our community.

Status of Program – Concept/Planning

Lead – Southeast Colorado Hospital District

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options -

BENT COUNTY Co

Bent County Projects Summary

Access To Capital

The region has moderate to strong capacity in the availability of debt capital, though the lack of a regional SBA 504 packager is a need to be addressed. There is a need to strengthen existing Revolving loan funds to increase capacity and perhaps to offer niche products. Within Pueblo County, there are strong incentive programs for specific types of industries and job creations. The region, however, is an equity desert, with little access to capital for startups, follow on funding, or private equity funds to help existing businesses to pivot or grow. The strategy is to increase access to equity capital in the region and develop an entrepreneurial ecosystem that supports startups in the tech sector and the intellectual property sector.

SCEDD Regional Programs

Program- **SoCo Angels Support**. Provide three years of operational support to develop an early Angel startup network of Accredited Investors to fund the seed stage for tech and intellectual property startups

Status of Program- Development

Lead- SCEDD, SCIL, SoCo Angels,

Program Cost Estimate--\$300k per annum

Funding Options- EDA technical assistance grant, Foundation grants

Program: **Angel fund**. Adjunctive to SoCo Angels, the development of a separate fund can support individual angel investments with an institutional investment or a “sidecar” fund created by accredited investors who want to supplement individual investments with group efforts.

Status of Program—Conceptual

Lead: SCEDD, SCIL, SoCo Angels

Program Cost Estimate: Institutional fund--\$500k; Sidecar fund \$500k

Funding options: Institutional: Foundations; Sidecar: Accredited investors of SoCo Angels

Program: **SBA 504 Packaging**. Re-enter this SBA program with either a stand-alone entity or in partnership with adjoining packagers. This product is a critical credit enhancer for collateral-oriented commercial banks considering startups of between \$1 million and \$5 million that have commercial real estate for collateral.

Status of Program—Early Development

Lead: SCEDD

Program cost estimate: Approximately \$100k per annum at start, with additional costs dependent on deal flow and generation of fees.

Funding Options—Startup loans, Foundation grants, Commercial bank support

Program: **Rural Downtown Mixed-Use Revitalization Program**. A revolving low interest loan fund for mixed-use properties in the 8 counties in the southeastern plains that offer low interest loans for both the downstairs commercial and upstairs residential units.

Southern Colorado Economic Development District * 2021 CEDS

Status of Program—Early Development

Lead: SCEDD and SECED

Program cost estimate: \$1million

Funding Options- Grant \$800 DOLA/OEDIT and \$200K County match

Agriculture/ Ranching

Project- **Bent County. Grain Elevator.** Grain storage for regional agriculture production. Location need existing rail.

Status of Project – Concept and Planning

Lead –

Project Cost Estimate –

Funding Options – USDA

Broadband Development

SCEDD Regional Programs

Program—**Broadband Support Office.** SCEDD will create a two to three person office to take the lead in implementing broadband with a regional approach. Local projects need to be rolled up into regional and sub-region initiatives to secure adequate funding and to manage fewer, but larger projects. Part of that effort will be to create a region-wide grant match gap funds to assist with securing funds.

Status of Program—In development

Lead—SCEDD

Project Cost Estimate--\$250k per annum in operational support; \$1M per annum in grant match gap fund

Funding options—EDA technical assistance grant, DOLA, Electricity providers, County government, Foundation grants

Business Development

Project- **Fort Lyon SE Colorado Small Business Incubator.** Business incubator space in existing building at Fort Lyon campus.

Status of Project – Concept and Planning

Lead – Department of Local Affairs (DOLA)

Project Cost Estimate - \$5,000,000

Funding Options – none listed

Project- **City of Las Animas Industrial Park.** Develop city 40-acre tract for industrial, manufacturing, housing or other uses. Infrastructure needed.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – City of Las Animas, Public Works

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Southern Colorado Economic Development District * 2021 CEDS

Funding Options – I & I Reserves and grants through EDA, DOLA and others

Project- **Bent County Historic High School Incubator.** Adaptive reuse of County owned historic high school. Potential for redevelopment with Library District and tech business.

Status of Project – Concept and Planning

Lead – Bent County

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options –

Critical Infrastructure

Project- **City of Las Animas Flood Mitigation.** Improvements to city's storm water facilities including piping, inlets and construction of new surface conveyance facilities, piping and channels.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – City of Las Animas, Public Works

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – I & I reserves, Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund, and grants through DOLA, CDPHE, CWCB and USDA-RD

Project - **City of Las Animas Electric Main Feed.** Rebuild main feed, built in 1960 into City of Las Animas

Status of Project – Preliminary engineering

Lead – Las Animas Municipal Light & Power

Project Cost Estimate – \$5 Million

Funding Options – EDA Match and Capital, County Road and Bridge could blade roads into the work area off of Hwy 50 and Light and Power could provide labor with the demolition of the old structure.

Project – **City of Las Animas Electric Generation Replacement.** A 6.23 MW system that consists of three(3) Caterpillar 2100 Kw, 13.8 Kv G520s

Natural Gas Standby Generator Sets, installed in a pre-fab steel building.

Status of Project – Preliminary engineering

Lead – Las Animas Municipal Light Power

Project Cost Estimate - \$5,846,300

Funding Options – EDA Match and Capital

Project- **City of Las Animas Wastewater Plant.** Undertaking necessary improvements to city wastewater treatment facility to meet current and upcoming water quality parameter restrictions within city's discharge permit.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – City of Las Animas, Public Works

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Sewer Fund reserves, Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund, and grants through DOLA, CDPHE, CWCB and USDA-RD

Southern Colorado Economic Development District * 2021 CEDS

Project- **Lower Arkansas River Water Authority.** Undertaking best management practice (BMP) improvements to irrigated fields in Bent and Otero Counties upstream of city wastewater treatment facility to reduce nitrogen, phosphorus, sulfate, selenium and manganese to meet city's current and upcoming discharge requirements. BMP may consist of changing a field from flood irrigation to center pivot, lining irrigation ponds, enhancing soil matrix, installation of riparian buffer zones, etc.
Status of Project – Planning

Lead – City of Las Animas, Public Works

Project Cost Estimate N/A

Funding Options – Sewer Fund reserves, Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund, and grants through DOLA, CDPHE, CWCB and USDA-RD.

Project- **City of Las Animas Water.** Replacement of water mains, water service lines and appurtenances throughout city distribution system. (lead service lines)

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – City of Las Animas, Public Works

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Water Fund reserves, Drinking Water Revolving Fund, Grants through DOLA, CDPHE, CWCB, RD

Project- **Arkansas Valley Conduit.** Connection to existing water system, water treatment plant improvements to accommodate new water source, and additional treatment requirements.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – Southeast Water Conservancy District (Bill Long, Board of Directors)

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Water Fund reserves, Drinking Water Revolving Fund, Grants through DOLA, CDPHE, CWCB, RD

Project - **Fort Lyon Canal Co. Infrastructure.** Enlargement of Adobe Creek Reservoir to maximum operation water surface 4138

Status of Project – Planned – Site Studies, Hydraulic Modeling and Alternatives. Evaluation Complete.

Lead – Fort Lyon Canal Company

Project Cost Estimate – \$10,871,000

Funding Options – USGS and Arkansas Valley Water Conservancy Grants

Project - **Fort Lyon Canal Co. Infrastructure.** Earth removal (phase 2) for left bank expansion.

Status of Project – Planned – Site Studies, Hydraulic Modeling and Alternatives. Evaluation Complete.

Lead – Fort Lyon Canal Company

Project Cost Estimate – \$4,397,000

Funding Options – USGS and Arkansas Valley Water Conservancy Grants

Southern Colorado Economic Development District * 2021 CEDS

Workforce Housing Strategies

Project – **Regional (Bent, Crowley, Otero) Single Family rehabilitation for LMI.** 20 units per year of single-family, owner-occupied rehabilitation for LMI, expected to be modified to 120% AMI.

Project Status – Active; re-contracting for 2022

Lead – Total Concept

Project Cost Estimate - \$1,033,008

Funding Options – CDBG, NPO RLF, Section 4, Intermediary Funders

Education/Work Force Development

Project- **Early Childhood Center Expansion.** Additional childcare facility expansion across the County.

Status of Project – Concept and Planning

Lead – School District

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options –

Program- **Fort Lyon CDL Training.** Classes taught for CDL at campus.

Status of Project – Concept and Planning

Lead – DOLA

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options –

Project – **Southeast Colorado Region Entrepreneurship programming for 5th – 12th grade** public school, private school and home school students in the seven-county area of SE Colorado

Status of Program – Implemented w/continuing programming

Lead – SEBREA Fiscal Agent

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Possible grant funding from the Rawlings Foundation, El Pomar, Daniels Fund, and other regional foundations.

Project/Program – **Fort Lyon Hazardous Materials Testing Lab.** Capital improvement and program funding to develop a regional hazardous material testing lab located at Fort Lyon that will partner with the SECO SBI in workforce development.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – Bent County/BCDF

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Local matching funds, STEM grant funds, other grant funding, EDA funds

Southern Colorado Economic Development District * 2021 CEDS

Project – **Las Animas - Redevelop Current Building Into Community Co-working space.**

Redevelop the current building located at 1214 Ambassador Thompson Blvd. into a community co-working space, children’s learning museum, and potentially an office location for remote work (example: Pax8).

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – Bent County/BCDF

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Private investment, local matching funds, grant funds, historical tax credits, History Colorado, Brownfield Tax Credits.

Renewable Energy

Project- **Fort Lyon Energy Solar.** Installation of smaller solar field onsite at Fort Lyon Campus

Status of Project – Concept and Planning

Lead – Department of Local Affairs (DOLA)

Project Cost Estimate - \$150,000

Funding Options – DOLA funds

Project- **Fort Lyon Energy Solar mega Watt-** Installation of large solar field onsite at the Fort Lyon Campus that would connect to the larger power grid in the Lower Arkansas Valley.

Status of Project – Concept and Planning

Lead – Department of Local Affairs (DOLA)

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options - These projects can be financed through private entities if they are owned by those entities.

Project- **City of Las Animas Electric.** Replace generators at LA Power Plant and solar.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – Not Given (LA Light and Power?)

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – CO Department

Recreation and Tourism

Project-**Southeastern Plains Arkansas River Trail.** Fort Lyon to John Martin and Municipalities. Lower Arkansas River Valley.

Status of Project- Concept/Planning

Lead- Bent County and DOLA

Potential Match- GOCO

Project Cost – N/A

Funding Options-

Southern Colorado Economic Development District * 2021 CEDS

Project – **Colorado Parks and Wildlife Infrastructure.** – Installation and maintenance of fish screen on Adobe Creek Reservoir -Blue Lake.

Status of Project – Engineering Designs ready for submittal to State Dam Safety Division.

Lead – Colorado Parks and Wildlife

Project Cost Estimate – \$847,600

Funding Options – CPW

Project- **LA Rec Area.** Upgrades to club house, baseball facilities, and possible RV park.

Status of Project- Concept/Planning

Lead- City of LA

Project Cost – N/A

Funding Options- GOCO

Project- **John Martin Boat Ramp.** Upgrades to boat ramp for lower water levels.

Status of Project – Concept and Planning

Lead –

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – CPW

Project- **Las Animas Fairgrounds.** Upgrades to facility, drainage.

Status of Project – Concept and Planning

Lead – County

Project Cost Estimate -

Funding Options –

Project – **Las Animas to Boggsville Bike Path.** Install a paved bike path from the Bent County Courthouse in Las Animas along Hwy 101to Boggsville.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – Bent County/BCDF

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Local matching funds, SECED Mini grant funds, GOCO grant funds, Colorado Health Foundation grant funds.

Health Care/Public Health/ Mental Health

Project- **Bent County Urgent Care.** Need for urgent care facility in County.

Status of Project – Concept and Planning

Lead – Public Health

Project Cost Estimate -

Funding Options –



Chaffee County CEDS Project Summary

Access To Capital

The region has moderate to strong capacity in the availability of debt capital, though the lack of a regional SBA 504 packager is a need to be addressed. There is a need to strengthen existing Revolving loan funds to increase capacity and perhaps to offer niche products. Within Pueblo County, there are strong incentive programs for specific types of industries and job creations. The region, however, is an equity desert, with little access to capital for startups, follow on funding, or private equity funds to help existing businesses to pivot or grow. The strategy is to increase access to equity capital in the region and develop an entrepreneurial ecosystem that supports startups in the tech sector and the intellectual property sector.

SCEDD Regional Programs

Program- **SoCo Angels Support**. Provide three years of operational support to develop an early Angel startup network of Accredited Investors to fund the seed stage for tech and intellectual property startups

Status of Program- Development

Lead- SCEDD, SCIL, SoCo Angels,

Program Cost Estimate--\$300k per annum

Funding Options- EDA technical assistance grant, Foundation grants

Program: **Angel fund**. Adjunctive to SoCo Angels, the development of a separate fund can support individual angel investments with an institutional investment or a “sidecar” fund created by accredited investors who want to supplement individual investments with group efforts.

Status of Program—Conceptual

Lead: SCEDD, SCIL, SoCo Angels

Program Cost Estimate: Institutional fund--\$500k; Sidecar fund \$500k

Funding options: Institutional: Foundations; Sidecar: Accredited investors of SoCo Angels

Program: **SBA 504 Packaging**. Re-enter this SBA program with either a stand-alone entity or in partnership with adjoining packagers. This product is a critical credit enhancer for collateral-oriented commercial banks considering startups of between \$1 million and \$5 million that have commercial real estate for collateral.

Status of Program—Early Development

Lead: SCEDD

Program cost estimate: Approximately \$100k per annum at start, with additional costs dependent on deal flow and generation of fees.

Funding Options—Startup loans, Foundation grants, Commercial bank support

Program- **Chaffee County Revolving Loan Fund**. Provide seed investment to a community revolving loan fund to serve early stage entrepreneurs tackling community identified challenges around housing, childcare, transportation, public health, public safety, resource sustainability.

Status of Program- Development

Southern Colorado Economic Development District * 2021 CEDS

Lead- Chaffee County Economic Development Corporation
Program Cost Estimate--\$2,000,000 one time funding
Funding Options- EDA, local institutional lenders, foundations

Program- **Central Mountain Angels Support.** Provide three years of operational support to develop an early stage angel investing network of Accredited Investors to fund the seed stage for tech and intellectual property startups
Status of Program- Development
Lead- Chaffee County Economic Development Corporation
Program Cost Estimate--\$300k per annum
Funding Options- EDA technical assistance grant, Foundation grants

Program- **Central Mountain Angels Fund.** Development of a County-wide fund to co-invest alongside individual angel investors, particularly but not limited to startups aimed at tackling community identified challenges around housing, childcare, transportation, public health, public safety, resource sustainability.
Status of Program- Development
Lead- Chaffee County EDC
Program Cost Estimate--\$1,000,000
Funding Options- EDA technical assistance grant, Foundation grants

Agriculture/ Ranching

Program – **Chaffee Common Ground.** Providing working capital to ranchers and agricultural users in Chaffee County funded through a County .25% sales tax. Future acquisition of Conservation Easements possible to protect agricultural and ranching lands.
Status of Project – Ongoing
Lead – Chaffee County Cindy Williams Envision
Project Cost Estimate –N/A
Funding Options – GOCO, Conservation Trust Funds, County Sales Tax

Broadband Development

SCEDD Regional Programs
Program—**Broadband Support Office.** SCEDD will create a two-to-three-person office to take the lead in implementing broadband with a regional approach. Local projects need to be rolled up into regional and sub-region initiatives to secure adequate funding and to manage fewer, but larger projects. Part of that effort will be to create a region-wide grant match gap funds to assist with securing funds.
Status of Program—In development
Lead—SCEDD
Project Cost Estimate--\$250k per annum in operational support; \$1M per annum in grant match gap fund
Funding options—EDA technical assistance grant, DOLA, Electricity providers, County government, Foundation grants

Southern Colorado Economic Development District * 2021 CEDS

Project – **Town of Buena Vista Broadband and IT.** Migrate town-hosted critical applications from local servers to a cloud-based solution with improved broadband speeds.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – Town of Buena Vista

Project Cost Estimate - \$120,000

Funding Options

Business Development

Project – **Poncha Springs Industrial Park.** The Poncha Springs Industrial Park located north of CR 120 is one of the largest in Chaffee County with adequate room for development and potential future expansion.

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – Town of Poncha Springs

Project Cost Estimate

Funding Options –

Project – **Poncha Springs Town Center.** Phase I of Poncha Town Center project was initiated and approved in 2018 with the construction of the first substantial grocery store and hardware store. The location has the potential to become the traditional downtown that Poncha Springs does not currently have. The COVID-19 pandemic delayed the momentum of the project, but it is anticipated commercial development will come back around as the recovery phase of the pandemic approaches.

Status of Project – Planned, ongoing engineering, and construction

Lead – Town of Poncha Springs, Private Developer

Project Cost Estimate

Funding Options –

Project – **Poncha Springs North Crossroads Commercial Zone.** There is ~20-acres of vacant land zoned commercial in the Poncha Springs North Crossroads Commercial Zone, a portion of which has undeveloped access. The integration of a highway access point across from the Crossroads Welcome Center would open up the potential of this commercial area.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – Town of Poncha Springs, Private Developer, CDOT

Project Cost Estimate -

Funding Options –

Project – **Buena Vista Industrial Park.** Infrastructure including sewer lift station needed south of Colorado Drive to allow additional growth at industrial park.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – Town of Buena Vista

Project Cost Estimate- N/A

Funding Options – EDA

Southern Colorado Economic Development District * 2021 CEDS

Program- **Chaffee County Micro Accelerator Program.** Provide three years program funding to conduct an annual 8-week accelerator program. Cohorts of +/- 10 companies per year receive intensive training around business growth strategies. Particular focus on business opportunities related to social impact entrepreneurship. (ie. Businesses deploying a for profit model in solving a community issue like housing, childcare, transportation, etc.) Incorporates associated community events and trainings.

Status of Program- Development

Lead- Chaffee County Economic Development Corporation

Program Cost Estimate--\$100,000 per annum

Funding Options- EDA, local institutional lenders, foundations, private sector venture investors, angel investors

Program- **Chaffee County Business Mentorship Network.** Provide three years program funding to establish and activate a local network of subject matter experts willing and able to support growing firms and the entrepreneurs who launch them. Includes a technology platform to matchmake experts to startup founders in need of advisory services.

Status of Program- Development

Lead- Chaffee County Economic Development Corporation

Program Cost Estimate--\$50,000 per annum

Funding Options- EDA, local institutional lenders, foundations, private sector venture investors, angel investors

Critical Infrastructure

Project – **Poncha Springs Water System and Well Expansion.** The Town of Poncha Springs recently increased the capacity of the water distribution and storage capacity with the integration of two new high production wells and a 400,000-gallon water storage tank. The next step in ensuring a safe, reliable water distribution system will be to evaluate Wells 1 & 2 that were initially drilled in the 1980's and produce a relatively low volume of water.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – Town of Poncha Springs

Project Cost Estimate - \$400,000

Funding Options – Town of Poncha Springs Enterprise Fund, DOLA, CWRPDA DWRP

Project – **Poncha Springs Water Storage Tank Repair, Maintenance, and Expansion** – With the integration of the new storage tank on the opposite side of the distribution grid, the old tanks constructed in 1983 & 1998 have the ability to be taken offline for repairs, maintenance, and potential upsizing or replacement.

Status of Project – Concept and Planning

Lead – Town of Poncha Springs

Project Cost Estimate - \$150,000 - \$500,000

Funding Options – Poncha Springs Enterprise Fund, DOLA, CDPHE, CWRPDA DWRP

Project – **Poncha Springs Sewer Extension or Expansion.** As the Town looks to expand industrial, commercial, and residential opportunities in Poncha Springs a potential restricting factor is the sewer trunk line capacity that runs to the City of Salida Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Southern Colorado Economic Development District * 2021 CEDS

Status of Project – Planning
Lead –City of Salida and Poncha Springs
Project Cost Estimate-
Funding Options –

Project – **Town of Buena Vista Well #4 New Well.** Drill new well, add on-site water treatment and tie-in to existing distribution system.
Status of Project – Design/Engineering
Lead – Town of Buena Vista
Project Cost Estimate - \$280,000
Funding Options –

Project – **Town of Buena Vista Infiltration Gallery and Surface Plant Expansion.** Expand and improve existing Gallery Collection System and modify and recommission Surface Plant.
Status of Project – Design/Engineering
Lead – Town of Buena Vista
Project Cost Estimate - \$3,500,000
Funding Options –

Project – Town of **Buena Vista Water Main Connection – Gregg Drive to Rodeo Road.**
Critical to loop the upper and lower zones to enable more development and growth in the Colorado Center Commercial, industrial and residential areas.
Status of Project –
Lead – Town of Buena Vista
Project Cost Estimate - \$1,200,000
Funding Options – EDA

Project – **Town of Buena Vista Stormwater System.** Address recommendations in Town Drainage Master Plan, and flood plain management including South Railroad Street Crossing, channel rehab and culvert at S Sangre and Hwy 24, channel rehab and culvert at West Main & James, storm inlet at East Main and Belden, Det Facility at Old Landfill & Outfall to Ark and Cottonwood Avenue stormwater project.
Status of Project – Construction
Lead – Town of Buena Vista
Project Cost Estimate - \$833,209
Funding Options

Project – **Buena Vista Water System.** Sandblast and recoat surface plant contact basin, upsize undersized water mains and add distribution system components as needed, recoat lower and upper zones, and update Town Water Resource Master Plan.
Status of Project – Construction/Planning
Lead – Town of Buena Vista
Project Cost Estimate - \$1,000,884
Funding Options - EDA

Southern Colorado Economic Development District * 2021 CEDS

Project- **City of Salida Galley Water Main Replacement.** the aging piping critical for distributing potable water from Salida's primary groundwater source to the City will be replaced, further ensuring a dependable water source for all residents.

Status of Project – Engineering

Lead – City of Salida

Project Cost Estimate - \$1,900,000

Funding Options –

Project- **City of Salida Pasquale Springs Improvements.** Expanding the capacity of the Pasquale Springs site and providing greater resilience in the event that the treatment plant becomes inaccessible.

Status of Project – Engineering

Lead – City of Salida

Project Cost Estimate - \$2,400,000

Funding Options –

Project- **City of Salida Harrington Ditch Piping.** The City is working on piping of the Harrington Ditch to improve efficiency and reduce irrigation costs.

Status of Project – Engineering

Lead – City of Salida

Project Cost Estimate - \$80,000

Funding Options –

Project- **City of Salida Wastewater Plant upgrades and expansion.** Continued economic growth and additional loads to the system will require upgrades or expansion to accommodate growth in the next 5 years.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – City of Salida

Project Cost Estimate - TBD

Funding Options –

Project- **Buena Vista Sanitation District.** Secondary trunk line under river? Or plant upgrades.

Status of Project – Engineering

Lead – Buena Vista Sanitation Roger Sams

Project Cost Estimate - TBD

Funding Options –

Project- **Town of Garfield Water System.** Water system for users within the Town of Garfield to allow for additional commercial capacity.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – Chaffee County

Project Cost Estimate - TBD

Funding Options – CDPHE,

Workforce Housing Strategies

Southern Colorado Economic Development District * 2021 CEDS

Project- **Collegiate Commons.**

Status of Project – Concept and Planning

Lead – Chaffee County Housing Authority and Chaffee County Community Foundation

Project Cost Estimate -

Funding Options –

Project- **Jane's Place.** Seasonal or new workforce housing for up to 17 units.

Status of Project – Concept and Planning

Lead – Chaffee County Housing Authority and Chaffee County Community Foundation

Project Cost Estimate - \$4,100,000

Funding Options – Local Donors, SB-252, City of Salida

Program- **Mesa Workforce Housing LIHTC** – The low-income housing project proposes 50- units on the north side of Poncha Springs focusing on 60% AMI and below.

Status of Project – Concept and Planning

Lead – Salida Housing Development Corporation and Town of Poncha Springs

Project Cost Estimate -

Funding Options –

Education/Work Force Development

Project – **Poncha Elementary School.** As the southern end of Chaffee County located in the Salida School District R32J boundaries continues to grow the capacity of the district's elementary schools is quickly approaching. The location for an additional elementary school will be located within Poncha Springs municipal limits to increase capacity.

Status of Project –

Lead – Salida School District R32J & Town of Poncha Springs

Project Cost Estimate

Funding Options –

Program – **Chaffee County Talent Pipeline.** Creation of and three years of support for a talent pipeline program to increase job readiness for recent and future graduates in Chaffee County, improving labor availability for County businesses.

Status of Project – Development

Lead – Chaffee County Economic Development Corporation

Project Cost Estimate - \$100,000 per annum

Funding Options – EDA, School districts, apprenticeship and upskilling providers, private sector companies

Program – **Chaffee County Upskilling Initiative.** Creation of and three years of support for a upskilling program for mid-career workers in transition and other County residents in pursuit of careers in trades (including building trades, drivers, childcare workers, etc.) and remote employment opportunities.

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Status of Project – Development

Lead – Chaffee County Economic Development Corporation

Project Cost Estimate - \$200,000 per annum

Funding Options – EDA, School districts, apprenticeship and upskilling providers, private sector companies

Program – **Chaffee County Workforce Collaborative.** Creation of and three years of support for a program aimed at aligning school districts, post-secondary education providers, training programs, and private sector companies engaged in workforce training and upskilling.

Status of Project – Development

Lead – Chaffee County Economic Development Corporation

Project Cost Estimate - \$50,000 per annum

Funding Options – EDA, School districts, upskilling providers, private sector companies

Program – **Colorado Mountain College Salida Campus.** Development of a regional Salida CMC Campus.

Status of Project – Planning and Development

Lead – Chaffee County Economic Development Corporation, CMC, City of Salida

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – EDA, School districts, CMC and local tax funds

Renewable Energy

Project – **Poncha North Solar Farm Extension.** The Solar Farm located north of Poncha Springs in unincorporated Chaffee County currently provides some renewable energy in the area with local municipalities and other organizations signed up for an allocation of the energy produced. There is potential for expansion by the owner through the Chaffee County planning process.

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – Greenshine New Energy

Project Cost Estimate

Funding Options –

Recreation and Tourism

Project – **Poncha Meadows Park.** As part of the Poncha Meadows subdivision process a 1.4-acre park on the north side of Town was dedicated to the Town of Poncha Springs. This Park will be the primary park that serves residents on that side of Town as all current parks require the crossing of interstate highways to access.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – Town of Poncha Springs

Project Cost Estimate - \$100,000-\$200,000

Funding Options – CTF Fund, Great Outdoors Colorado

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Project – **CR 127 Hwy 50 Trail Crossing.** To facilitate multi-modal and active transportation options in the Town of Poncha Springs and in the region, providing safe pedestrian highway crossings is essential. The location of CR 127 and Highway 50 provides connectivity to a regional trail system and accessibility to commercial businesses.

Status of Project – Conceptual & Planning

Lead – Town of Poncha Springs

Project Cost Estimate - \$150,000 - \$200,000

Funding Options – CDOT funding opportunities

Project – **Monarch Crest Trail Connector or Rail Trail.** The Monarch Crest Trail that runs parallel to Monarch Pass is a popular mountain biking destination with over 5,000 patrons annually. The trail currently drops off onto US Hwy 285 and requires individuals to traverse the last portion of the trail on highway shoulders including a bridge across the South Arkansas River that was not designed with multi-modal options in mind producing a significant safety concern.

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – Town of Poncha Springs

Project Cost Estimate

Funding Options – CDOT Funding Options, DOLA, GOCO

Project – **Town of Buena Vista Parks and Rec Inter-generational River Park Complex.**

Provide 6 new dedicated pickleball courts, add ADA compliant trails connecting the west and east sides of the River Park Complex and add a single-track trail through the park, helping to accommodate increased traffic and park use.

Status of Project – Construction

Lead – Town of Buena Vista Parks and Rec

Project Cost Estimate – \$459,000

Funding Options –

Project – **Buena Vista Arizona Street Trail and Bridge.** Construction of bicycle and pedestrian facilities from Main Street along Court, Arizona and Marquette and Mayer Streets and a shared-use bridge over Cottonwood Creek to allow users to avoid narrow bridge.

Status of Project – Construction

Lead – Town of Buena Vista

Project Cost Estimate – \$611,560

Funding Options –

Project – **Buena Vista Whipple Trail Reconstruction.** Replace Whipple Bridge decking to address safety concerns and re-rout trails to mitigate effects of erosion and meet width recommendations.

Status of Project – Construction

Lead – Town of Buena Vista

Project Cost Estimate - \$51,005

Funding Options –

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Project – **Buena Vista Rodeo Grounds.** New shade and weather structure, purchase portable public address system and two shed structures to be used for ticket booth and check-in station.

Status of Project – Construction

Lead – Town of Buena Vista

Project Cost Estimate -

Funding Options

Project – **Buena Vista Forest Square Park Rehabilitation.** Rebuild pavilion and resurface concrete basketball court.

Status of Project – Construction

Lead – Town of Buena Vista

Project Cost Estimate - \$25,000

Funding Options

Project- **Centennial Park Skatepark Construction.** With the help of major funding from a Great Outdoors Colorado grant, a new skatepark will be completed at Centennial Park. This project was chosen by the community during the Open Space and Trails Master Plan engagement process and highlighted as a priority to residents. Additional improvements to parking, “curb appeal” and access all around the perimeter of the Aquatic Center are also part of the same plan and already underway.

Status of Project – Construction

Lead – City of Salida

Project Cost Estimate - \$401,000

Funding Options – GOCO

Project- **City of Salida Hot Springs outdoor soaking pools.** The City is continuing to pursue the development of five new outdoor soaking pools adjacent to the Salida Hot Springs Aquatics Center.

Status of Project – Engineering

Lead – City of Salida

Project Cost Estimate - \$960,000

Funding Options – GOCO

Project- **Salida Mountain and SPOT Trail Hwy Crossings.** The expansion of the trail systems on public lands are facilitating multiple trail crossings across Hwy 50 including CR 105, CR 107, CR 140r.

Status of Project – Engineering

Lead – City of Salida

Project Cost Estimate - \$960,000

Funding Options – GOCO

Project – **Chaffee County Fairground Renovations.** Additional capacity and restroom facilities at the north building, fire suppression upgrades, lighting efficiency upgrades. Facility important for COVID-19 vaccinations and other emergency operations beyond the recreational facilities.

Status of Project – Engineering

Lead – Chaffee County

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Project Cost Estimate – \$640,000

Funding Options –

Health Care/Public Health/ Mental Health

Project- **Sol Vista Mental Health New Facility Chaffee County Campus.** Under construction and slated to be completed in 2022.

Status of Project – Construction

Lead – Sol Vista and HRRMC

Project Cost Estimate -

Funding Options –

Project- **Heart of the Rockies Regional Medical Center Expansion Buena Vista.?**

Status of Project – Concept and Planning

Lead –

Project Cost Estimate -

Funding Options –

Transportation

Project – **Hwy 50 Improvements** – Construct multi-modal, street scaping, and wayfinding improvements in Poncha Springs to promote active transportation, safety, and economic development.

Status of Project – Concept and Planning

Lead – Town of Poncha Springs

Project Cost Estimate - \$3,000,000

Funding Options – CDOT Funding Opportunities

Project – **Central Colorado Regional Airport Wildlife-Airfield Security Fence and Gate Relocation.** Move fence line and add a security gate to include the Grindle property, South Hangar, and property at south end of airfield. Will enhance airfield security and eliminate through-the-fence access.

Status of Project – Construction

Lead – Town of Buena Vista

Project Cost Estimate - \$140,000

Funding Options – FAA, Local Funds

Project – **Central Colorado Regional Airport Apron Tie-Down Rehabilitation Phase I.**

Rehabilitation project needed to maintain and repair aprons and high- traffic parking area for and ensuring the safe operation and handling of aircraft.

Status of Project – Construction

Lead – Town of Buena Vista

Project Cost Estimate – \$666,667

Funding Options – FAA/CDOT/Local Funds

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Project – **Central Colorado Regional Airport Taxiway A Rehabilitation.** Taxiway resurfacing needed due to many years of use and increased aircraft size and traffic.

Status of Project – Construction

Lead – Town of Buena Vista

Project Cost Estimate – \$3,000,000

Funding Options – CDOT

Project- **Hwy 50 Phase IV Streetscape Project.** the streetscape improvements along Highway 50 are now in their final phase, and will include a completed sidewalk, lighting and parkway upgrades from Palmer to Oak Street, similar to the improvements directly to the west of it. This is consistent with the prior planning recommendation for the highway and will improve pedestrian accessibility while providing an aesthetic improvement to Salida's eastern gateway.

Status of Project – Construction

Lead – City of Salida

Project Cost Estimate - \$1,480,000

Funding Options – CDOT, SRTS, MMOF, HSIP

Project – **Brown Canyon National Monument Road Improvements.** Road improvements and highway access for Browns Canyon National Monument. Increased use and National Monument designation increased visitation and needs for upgrades.

Status of Project – Engineering

Lead – Chaffee County

Project Cost Estimate – \$2,800,000

Funding Options –FLAP, CDOT, CPW

Project – **Granite Bridge Replacement.** Bridge replacement across Arkansas River to connect to Hwy US 24.

Status of Project – Engineering

Lead – Chaffee County

Project Cost Estimate – \$1,520,000

Funding Options –

Project – **Chaffee County FLAP Road Project.**

Status of Project – Engineering

Lead – Chaffee County

Project Cost Estimate – \$1,520,000

Funding Options –

Project-**Harriet Alexander Airport Runway 6-24 Pavement Maintenance** (Crack Seal & Seal Coat)

Clean and fill all pavement cracks and apply seal coat to preserve and protect airport pavements. Repaint all airport markings on pavement.

Status of Project-Construction

Lead-Chaffee County/City of Salida

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Project Cost Estimates-\$300,000.00

Funding Options-CDOT

Project-**Harriet Alexander Airport Taxiway A Extension Design**

Design and engineer Taxiway extension for future construction to allow safe aircraft taxi and future hangar development.

Status of Project-Design/Engineering

Lead- Chaffee County/City of Salida

Project Cost Estimates-\$314,045.00

Funding Options-CDOT/FAA/Local

Project-**Harriet Alexander Airport Taxiway A Extension-Phase 1 (Design and Construction)**

Construct taxiway extension phase 1 partial parallel taxiway

Status of Project-Construction

Lead- Chaffee County/City of Salida

Project Cost Estimates-\$700,000.00

Funding Options-CDOT/FAA/Local

Project-**Harriet Alexander Airport Taxiway A Extension Phase 2**

Construct taxiway extension phase 2 partial parallel taxiway

Status of Project-Construction

Lead- Chaffee County/City of Salida

Project Cost Estimates-\$700,000.00

Funding Options-CDOT/FAA/Local

Project-**Harriet Alexander Airport Masterplan**

Update the airport Master Plan and Airport Masterplan. Showing current growth and future needs.

Status of Project-Design/Engineering

Lead- Chaffee County/City of Salida

Project Cost Estimates-\$333,333.00

Funding Options-CDOT/FAA/Local

Institutional/ Local Government Facility Infrastructure

Project – **Poncha Library Extension** – Preliminary conversations with the South Library District have taken place for a satellite library in Poncha Springs to evaluate potential locations.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – South Library District & Town of Poncha Springs

Project Cost Estimate

Funding Options – DOLA

Project – **Poncha Post Office Relocation** – The Poncha Springs Post Office has reached capacity in its current location. Local Developers have expressed interest in a build to suite and leasing the facility to USPS; however, the Post Office has negated to entertain further conversations.

Status of Project – Planning

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Lead – USPS, Private Developers, Town of Poncha Springs
Project Cost Estimate
Funding Options – USPS

Project – Town of **Buena Vista New Town Hall**. Old Town Hall is very old and in constant need of repairs and maintenance.
Status of Project – Planning
Lead – Town of Buena Vista
Project Cost Estimate – \$3,600,000
Funding Options – DOLA

Project – Town of **Buena Vista New Police Station**. Replacement of undersized, current police station.
Status of Project – Planning
Lead – Town of Buena Vista
Project Cost Estimate – \$4,000,000
Funding Options –

Project – **Chaffee County Administration Annex**. Additional to County Court house for expanded services and County Sheriff.
Status of Project – Engineering
Lead – Chaffee County
Project Cost Estimate – \$6,300,000
Funding Options – Certificate of Participation

Project – **Chaffee County EMS Public Safety Building**. New public safety facility for northern portion of Chaffee County EMS and emergency response.
Status of Project – Engineering
Lead – Chaffee County
Project Cost Estimate – \$3,500,000
Funding Options – Certificate of Participation



Crowley County Projects Summary

Access To Capital

The region has moderate to strong capacity in the availability of debt capital, though the lack of a regional SBA 504 packager is a need to be addressed. There is a need to strengthen existing Revolving loan funds to increase capacity and perhaps to offer niche products. Within Pueblo County, there are strong incentive programs for specific types of industries and job creations. The region, however, is an equity desert, with little access to capital for startups, follow on funding, or private equity funds to help existing businesses to pivot or grow. The strategy is to increase access to equity capital in the region and develop an entrepreneurial ecosystem that supports startups in the tech sector and the intellectual property sector.

SCEDD Regional Programs

Program- **SoCo Angels Support.** Provide three years of operational support to develop an early Angel startup network of Accredited Investors to fund the seed stage for tech and intellectual property startups.

Status of Program- Development

Lead- SCEDD, SCIL, SoCo Angels,

Program Cost Estimate--\$300k per annum

Funding Options- EDA technical assistance grant, Foundation grants

Program: **Angel fund.** Adjunctive to SoCo Angels, the development of a separate fund can support individual angel investments with an institutional investment or a “sidecar” fund created by accredited investors who want to supplement individual investments with group efforts.

Status of Program—Conceptual

Lead: SCEDD, SCIL, SoCo Angels

Program Cost Estimate: Institutional fund--\$500k; Sidecar fund \$500k

Funding options: Institutional: Foundations; Sidecar: Accredited investors of SoCo Angels

Program: **SBA 504 Packaging.** Re-enter this SBA program with either a stand-alone entity or in partnership with adjoining packagers. This product is a critical credit enhancer for collateral-oriented commercial banks considering startups of between \$1 million and \$5 million that have commercial real estate for collateral.

Status of Program—Early Development

Lead: SCEDD

Program cost estimate: Approximately \$100k per annum at start, with additional costs dependent on deal flow and generation of fees.

Funding Options—Startup loans, Foundation grants, Commercial bank support

Program: **Rural Downtown Mixed-Use Revitalization Program.** A revolving low interest loan fund for mixed-use properties in the 8 counties in the southeastern plains that offer low interest loans for both the downstairs commercial and upstairs residential units.

Status of Program—Early Development

Lead: SCEDD and SECED

Program cost estimate: \$1million

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Funding Options- Grant \$800 DOLA/OEDIT and \$200K County match

Agriculture/ Ranching

Project – **Large animal vet clinic / vet supply.**

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – Crowley County

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Grants – matching; Loan

Project – **USDA Certified Processing Facility.**

Status of Project –

Lead – Econ Dev.

Project Cost Estimate -

Funding Options – USDA, EDA

Project – **Certified Industrial Scale.** Installation of new industrial scale located in County.

Status of Project –

Lead – County

Project Cost Estimate -

Funding Options – USDA

Broadband Development

Program—**Broadband Support Office.** SCEDD will create a two to three person office to take the lead in implementing broadband with a regional approach. Local projects need to be rolled up into regional and sub-region initiatives to secure adequate funding and to manage fewer, but larger projects. Part of that effort will be to create a region-wide grant match gap funds to assist with securing funds.

Status of Program—In development

Lead—SCEDD

Project Cost Estimate--\$250k per annum in operational support; \$1M per annum in grant match gap fund

Funding options—EDA technical assistance grant, DOLA, Electricity providers, County government, Foundation grants

Business Development

Project – **Town of Ordway Main Street Sidewalk Replacement.** Tear out and replace broken sidewalk in 200-300 block of Main Street.

Status of Project – Bids Received/Part of CDOT Grant

Lead – Town of Ordway

Project Cost Estimate – \$28,000

Funding Options – CDOT

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Critical Infrastructure

Project – **Crowley County Water Storage.** 200,000 gallon water storage north of Crowley.
300,000 gallon water storage tank north of Ordway.

Status of Project – Engineered

Lead – Crowley County

Project Cost Estimate - \$900,000

Funding Options – Grants - match

Project – **Crowley County Water Line Installation.** Installation of 8” line to bypass Ordway to move needed potable water to northeast area of county system.

Status of Project – Ready to bid project.

Lead – Crowley County

Project Cost Estimate - \$700,000.00

Funding Options – Water reserve funds, Relief Funds

Project – **Crowley Wastewater Lift Station Repair.** Repair lift station at lagoons at wastewater plant.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – Town of Crowley

Project Cost Estimate – Awaiting Estimate

Funding Options –

Project – **Town of Ordway Reservoir and Non potable Pipeline Improvements.** Make improvements as recommended at city’s water storage reservoir and to the non-potable pipeline.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead Town of Ordway

Project Cost Estimate - \$650,195

Funding Options

Workforce Housing Strategies

Project – **Educational Staff Housing.** Build a duplex or 4-Plex to provide housing to recruit and retain teachers.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead - Crowley County Schools

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options –

Program – **Revolving Loan Fund.** Revolving Loan Fund to cover appraisal gaps.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – Crowley County

Project Cost Estimate - \$200,000.00

Funding Options – American Rescue Plan Funds

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Project – **Regional (Bent, Crowley, Otero) Single Family rehabilitation for LMI.** 20 units per year of single-family, owner-occupied rehabilitation for LMI, expected to be modified to 120% AMI.

Project Status – Active; re-contracting for 2022

Lead – Total Concept

Project Cost Estimate - \$1,033,008

Funding Options – CDBG, NPO RLF, Section 4, Intermediary Funders

Education/Work Force Development

Project – **Education Facility Renovation.** Renovate an existing one hundred two year-old high school along with placing K-6 under one roof instead of two campuses that splits Principals, Counselor, Music Teacher, choir Teacher and interventionists.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – Custer County Schools

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Grants – Matching and In-kind

Project – **Southeast Colorado Region Entrepreneurship programming for 5th – 12th grade** public school, private school and home school students in the seven-county area of SE Colorado

Status of Program – Implemented w/continuing programming

Lead – SEBREA Fiscal Agent

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Possible grant funding from the Rawlings Foundation, El Pomar, Daniels Fund, and other regional foundations.

Recreation and Tourism

Program – **Recreation District.** Developing a Recreation District with Crowley County and Town of Ordway to better maximize the use of recreation space the District owns.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – County

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Grants – Matching and In-kind.

Project- **All Weather Track and Field.** weather track to be shared by our athletes and community. We do not have a track, although do we have students who excel in track and adults who want a safe place to walk and/or run. We need to upgrade our football field and bleachers which are very unsafe. Could the two projects be tied together?

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – School District

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Grants – Matching and In-kind.

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Project- **Town of Ordway Dog park.** A public necessity to help create and maintain sanitary outdoor recreation areas for local citizens.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – Town of Ordway

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Grants – Matching and In-kind.

Project-**Crowley County Recreation Facility Upgrades.** Somehow utilize the existing features (Path, Frisbee golf and baseball fields) and provide a much-needed upgrade to bring the facilities up to code.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – Crowley County Schools

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Grants – Matching and In-kind.

Project- **Crowley County Recreation Bathroom upgrades.** Recreation Install a sewer system to bathroom instead of using pumps.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – Crowley County Schools

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Grants – Matching and In-kind.

Project – **Crowley County Fairgrounds Facilities.** Build concession, meeting area, and bathrooms at Fairgrounds.

Status of Project – Not Given

Lead – Crowley County

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Conservation Trust – General Fund

Project – **Lake Meredith Install new boat ramp.** Upgrades to existing boat ramp due to low water.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – Crowley County

Project Cost Estimate - \$65,000.00

Funding Options – Conservation Trust Funds, GOCO, CPW Grants

Project – **Town of Ordway North Park Renovation/Rehabilitation.** Tear out and replace concrete basketball court slab. Add multi-sport court, benches and tables with a goal of covering at some point in the future.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – Town of Ordway

Project Cost Estimate - \$144,930

Funding Options – Kaboom Grant

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Project – **Town of Ordway Railroad (South) Park New Playground.** Addition of new playground at the Railroad (South) Park location.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – Town of Ordway

Project Cost Estimate - \$87,000

Funding Options – Kaboom Grant

Health Care/Public Health/ Mental Health

Project – **Mental Health Enhancement.** Find a partner (CU Health, Southeast Wellness Group, etc.) to provide better mental health for our students.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – Custer County Schools

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options- Grants – Matching and In-kind

Other

Project – **Town of Crowley Heritage Center Ramp.** Ramp to the Heritage Center (which is on the National Register) Museum and Town Hall.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – Town of Crowley

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options –

Project – **Town of Crowley Heritage Center Electrical Upgrade.** Upgrade electrical in the Heritage Center. Date last restored was 1995.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – Town of Crowley

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options –

Project – **Town of Crowley Heritage Center Roof Replacement.** Replace roof which is original (with repairs) since 1995.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – Town of Crowley

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options –

Project – **Town of Crowley Heritage Center Track Upgrade.** Upgrade track behind Heritage Center – fine grade, seal, widen and add lights and bleachers.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – Town of Crowley

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

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Funding Options –

Project – **Town of Ordway Cemetery Fence Replacement/Repair.** Replace and repair wrought iron fencing at cemetery located on Highway 71.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – Town of Ordway

Project Cost Estimate - \$20,000

Funding Options



Custer County Projects Summary

Access to Capital

The region has moderate to strong capacity in the availability of debt capital, though the lack of a regional SBA 504 packager is a need to be addressed.

There is a need to strengthen existing Revolving loan funds to increase capacity and perhaps to offer niche products. Within Pueblo County, there are strong incentive programs for specific types of industries and job creations. The region, however, is an equity desert, with little access to capital for startups, follow on funding, or private equity funds to help existing businesses to pivot or grow. The strategy is to increase access to equity capital in the region and develop an entrepreneurial ecosystem that supports startups in the tech sector and the intellectual property sector.

SCEDD Regional Programs

Program- **SoCo Angels Support**. Provide three years of operational support to develop an early Angel startup network of Accredited Investors to fund the seed stage for tech and intellectual property startups

Status of Program- Development

Lead- SCEDD, SCIL, SoCo Angels,

Program Cost Estimate--\$300k per annum

Funding Options- EDA technical assistance grant, Foundation grants

Program: **Angel fund**. Adjunctive to SoCo Angels, the development of a separate fund can support individual angel investments with an institutional investment, or a “sidecar” fund created by accredited investors who want to supplement individual investments with group efforts.

Status of Program—Conceptual

Lead: SCEDD, SCIL, SoCo Angels

Program Cost Estimate: Institutional fund--\$500k; Sidecar fund \$500k

Funding options: Institutional: Foundations; Sidecar: Accredited investors of SoCo Angels

Broadband/Communications

SCEDD Regional Programs

Program—**Broadband Support Office**. SCEDD will create a two-to-three-person office to take the lead in implementing broadband with a regional approach. Local projects need to be rolled up into regional and sub-region initiatives to secure adequate funding and to manage fewer, but larger projects. Part of that effort will be to create a region-wide grant match gap funds to assist with securing funds.

Status of Program—In development

Lead—SCEDD

Project Cost Estimate--\$250k per annum in operational support; \$1M per annum in grant match gap fund

Funding options—EDA technical assistance grant, DOLA, Electricity providers, County government, Foundation grants.

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The four broadband projects defined and flowed from the original UAACOG Five-County Five Year Broadband Strategic Plan are:

Project – Six Towers Project - The objective of this project was to construct six strategically located professional communication (internet; not cellular) towers with public funds benefiting Custer County (towers will be CC assets) that each will accommodate a max of two Wireless Internet Service Providers (WISP). These six towers, professionally designed, built and equipped will allow the two occupying WISPs to provide service to an additional 40% of Custer County addresses. This with existing incumbent coverage would assure nearly 80% of residents to have access to broadband service.

Status of Project – In progress

Lead – CCEDC/Custer County

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – EDA,

Project- Tri-County Middle Mile Fiber Optic System - Custer County lacks adequate and reliable Middle Mile Fiber Optic service. Existing services are not supported with redundant and diverse middle mile transport. As a result, existing middle mile internet service is unreliable. This project would provide Custer, Fremont and Huerfano counties with a middle mile transport infrastructure that is fully redundant and diverse, in addition to being able to provide unlimited amount of bandwidth depending on capability of fiber optic electronics installed. This project or one similar needs to be initiated in the very near future. This project is envisioned as a Tri- (i.e., three) County endeavor (IGA) with its own governing body and management + O&M staff. It would provide dark-fiber for long-term lease. 288 strands installed end-to-end with 96 strands “owned” by each of the three counties.

Status of Project –

Lead – CCEDC/Custer County

Project Cost Estimate –

Funding Options –

Project- Westcliffe/Silver Cliff Fiber Optic Transport Infrastructure to each premise within the city boundaries of the two towns.

Status of Project –

Lead – CCEDC

Funding Options -

Westcliffe & Silver Cliff envisions an internet (i.e., broadband) infrastructure which provides gigabit (1000 Mbps) internet to each and every resident, business and governmental facility via fiber optic transport. This fiber optic infrastructure would be publicly-funded, This project is envisioned as a Tri- (i.e., three) Government endeavor (IGA) with its own governing body and management + O&M staff. It would provide dark-fiber for long-term lease. None of the governmental agencies involved desire to be in the broadband providing business (i.e., an ISP). The publicly owned fiber-optic infrastructure would be public owned and made available via lease to private ISP providers via

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long-term lease. The fiber optic infrastructure would allow for competitive ISPs if the market size determined it practical.

Project- **Westcliffe/Silver Cliff Main Street Wi-Fi System (complimentary Public Access Internet provided at local public areas).**

Status of Project - CCEDC currently provides and operates a 12-Access Point Main Street Wi-Fi System through the center of Westcliffe on Main Street. It was installed in May 2015 and has provided excellent service since. It has slowly grown from the original six APs to today's twelve.

Lead – CCEDC

Project Cost Estimate - The original system design called for a total of 32 APs to provide service to all public areas of Westcliffe, Silver Cliff and the County Fairgrounds. At some point funding needs to be found to complete this system. The system hardware is capitalized and owned (including insured) by CCEDC. CCEDC has a O&M contract with Colorado Central Telecom (originally with SECOM) to cover operations, maintenance & support at a monthly rate of \$750.00 per month. This provides internet bandwidth of 100 Mbps May through October and internet bandwidth of 50 Mbps September through April. This accounts for \$500 of the \$750 monthly rate.

Critical Infrastructure

Project- **Custer County, Round Mtn Water & Sanitation District.** Replacement of aged water meters and primary municipal well. Aged water meters are inaccurate and are a major source of revenue loss for the District. the District's primary drinking water well has completely failed, and the District is hard pressed to meet current and future water demands for the communities of Westcliffe and Silver Cliff.

Status of Project – Pre/construction/Engineering

Lead – Round Mountain Water & Sanitation District

Project Cost Estimate – \$2,105,000.00

Funding Options – SRF grant \$10,000.00, SRF engineering grant \$129,500.00, DOLA grant \$850,000.00.

Project- **Custer, Round Mtn Water & Sanitation District.** Colorado Division of Water Resources has compelled the District to construct a water reservoir to address depletions from our municipal wells. The District does not have the funds to finance this needed project.

Status of Project – Pre/construction/Engineering

Lead – Round Mountain Water & Sanitation District

Project Cost Estimate - \$2,000,000.00

Funding Options – Pre engineering grant \$10,000.00, Engineering/design grant \$172,000.00

Partnership with UAWCD.

Project- **Custer, Round Mtn Water & Sanitation District.** Water main replacement/up-sizing and installation of 500,000 gal finished water storage

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – Round Mountain Water & Sanitation district

Project Cost Estimate – \$10 to \$15 million

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Funding Options – DOLA grant for water model study

Project- **Custer, Round Mtn Water & Sanitation District.** New Colorado Health Dept. standards and regulations necessitate the new treatment plant design and cost to be far above the ability of the District to finance without significant outside financial intervention. The District serves a population of 1340 with a MHI of \$31,500. The customers of the District simply cannot pay for the new plant without significant help.

Status of Project – Engineering completed

Lead – Round Mountain Water & Sanitation District

Project Cost Estimate – \$13, 222,000.00

Funding Options – USDA loan/grant package \$5 million DOLA Grant \$1 million

Project - **Purchase and install sustainable, net-zero, waste processing plant manufactured by Sedron to supplement or replace existing services with a scalable solution for growing communities in Custer County.**

Status of Project – Conceptual. Planned – Site Studies, Hydraulic Modeling and Alternatives, Evaluation Complete.

Lead – Easel Solutions, LLC

Project Cost Estimate – Round Mountain Water & Sanitation District (RMSWD) for matching and federal/state agencies for funding

Funding Options – Round Mountain Water & Sanitation District (RMSWD) for matching and federal/state agencies for funding

Project - **Custer County. Landfill and Recycling Center.** Custer’s current recycling program is not fulfilling local goals. An expanded program is desired and to locate it at the county landfill.

Status of Project – Grant Proposal preparation and submittal

Lead – Custer County, with the non-profit High-Country Recycling/Sustainable Ways

Project Cost Estimate – \$381,000.00

Funding Options – CDPH, donations made to High Country/Sustainable Ways

Education/Work Force Development

Project – **Workforce Development/Trades School** – Local schools already have a relationship with PCC, allowing high school students the ability to take college courses while in high school. A similar effort with PCC is desire to assist non-college bound students with vocational training and to develop and train the local workforce.

Status – Conceptual

Lead – PCC/Local Schools

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options –

Renewable Energy

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Project – **Custer County Solar Garden Coop.** Grid Connected solar energy production farm for local use. A community solar garden farm to create energy credits from the local connected utilities (Black Hills and Sangre de Cristo) to be used solely by Community “owners” to offset/reduce/eliminate their energy costs.

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – Easel Solutions, LLC

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Black Hills Energy matching federal funds

Recreation and Tourism

Project – **Westcliffe Tennis Courts.** Reconstruction of Tennis courts.

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead –

Project Cost Estimate –

Funding Options – GOCO

Project – **Wetmore Playground.** New playground equipment for the Town of Wetmore

Status of Project – Planned

Lead – Custer County

Project Cost Estimate – \$9,604.54

Funding Options – GOCO

Project – **Local Trails Improved/Maintained/Developed.** Trails for All (a local nonprofit) has already developed a master plan, which reviews all the trails in Custer County. The plan will be used to further improve trails in the area using grant funds and volunteers. Priority trails are: Around-the-Town Trails and the Silver Cliff Ranch Trail.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – Trails for All

Project Cost Estimate –

Funding Options – GOCO

Project – **Silver Cliff Museum Playground Rehab/Replacement.** The museum’s playground equipment needs significant repairs or replacement. It does not meet ADA requirements and is considered dangerous.

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – Town of Silver Cliff

Project Cost Estimate – \$200,000

Funding Options –

Project – **All Aboard Westcliffe**

Status of Project – Conceptual

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Lead – Cathy McCarthy, All Aboard Westcliffe, Inc., 501(3) C non-profit.

Project Cost Estimate – \$3,500.00

Funding Options – History Colorado

Health Care/Public Health/ Mental Health

Project – **Custer County Public Health.** Additional funding for clinic for COVID-19 response

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – Custer County

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – CDPHE

Project – **Sol Vista Mental Health.** Expansion of existing mental health clinic in Westcliffe

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – Sol Vista

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – CDPHE

Transportation

Project – **EV Charging Stations Along Frontier Scenic Byway?** As there is increased use of electric cars and bikes, charging stations are needed. Hwy 96, which runs from Pueblo to Westcliffe and back east to Colorado City is a prime highway for placement of said EV stations to include one in Westcliffe.

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – Custer County

Project Cost Estimate –

Funding Options – Colorado Energy Office

Project – **Regional Van/Bus Service Study.** Limited medical transport is available for Vets and others. A study is needed to determine if vans and funds are available to address this need.

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – Charles Bogle

Project Cost Estimate –

Funding Options – N/A

Project – **Bike Lanes on Highways.** Both Hwy 96 and 69 are popular with area cyclists and tourists, but the Hwy shoulders are narrow making it dangerous for drivers and riders both. A bike lane is desired. Trails for All (a local nonprofit) has already developed a master plan, which reviews all the trails in Custer County. The plan will be used to further improve trails and bike lanes in the area using grant funds and volunteers.

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – Steve Laswell/Trails for All

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Project Cost Estimate –
Funding Options – CDOT, GOCO, OEDIT

Project – **Airport Improvements?**

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead –

Project Cost Estimate –

Funding Options –

Project – **Airport Helipad**. A helipad is needed primarily for safe Medical Airlifts but could also be used by others. Possible location are: the airport, or upgrading the existing Silver Cliff pad, or perhaps at the new judicial building.

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – Custer County OEM

Project Cost Estimate –

Funding Options –

Other

Project – **Judicial Building aka Justice Center Project**

Status of Project – Planned

Lead – Custer County

Project Cost Estimate – \$18.7 Million

Funding Options – Underfunded Courts Grant, DOLA, 2% sales tax



Fremont County Project Summary

Access To Capital

The region has moderate to strong capacity in the availability of debt capital, though the lack of a regional SBA 504 packager is a need to be addressed. There is a need to strengthen existing Revolving loan funds to increase capacity and perhaps to offer niche products. Within Pueblo County, there are strong incentive programs for specific types of industries and job creations. The region, however, is an equity desert, with little access to capital for startups, follow on funding, or private equity funds to help existing businesses to pivot or grow. The strategy is to increase access to equity capital in the region and develop an entrepreneurial ecosystem that supports startups in the tech sector and the intellectual property sector.

SCEDD Regional Programs

Program- **SoCo Angels Support**. Provide three years of operational support to develop an early Angel startup network of Accredited Investors to fund the seed stage for tech and intellectual property startups

Status of Program- Development

Lead- SCEDD, SCIL, SoCo Angels,

Program Cost Estimate--\$300k per annum

Funding Options- EDA technical assistance grant, Foundation grants

Program: **Angel fund**. Adjunctive to SoCo Angels, the development of a separate fund can support individual angel investments with an institutional investment or a “sidecar” fund created by accredited investors who want to supplement individual investments with group efforts.

Status of Program—Conceptual

Lead: SCEDD, SCIL, SoCo Angels

Program Cost Estimate: Institutional fund--\$500k; Sidecar fund \$500k

Funding options: Institutional: Foundations; Sidecar: Accredited investors of SoCo Angels

Program: **SBA 504 Packaging**. Re-enter this SBA program with either a stand-alone entity or in partnership with adjoining packagers. This product is a critical credit enhancer for collateral-oriented commercial banks considering startups of between \$1 million and \$5 million that have commercial real estate for collateral.

Status of Program—Early Development

Lead: SCEDD

Program cost estimate: Approximately \$100k per annum at start, with additional costs dependent on deal flow and generation of fees.

Funding Options—Startup loans, Foundation grants, Commercial bank support

Program: **Rural Downtown Mixed-Use Revitalization Program**. A revolving low interest loan fund for mixed-use properties in the 8 counties in the southeastern plains that offer low interest loans for both the downstairs commercial and upstairs residential units.

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Status of Program—Early Development

Lead: SCEDD and SECED

Program cost estimate: \$1million

Funding Options- Grant \$800 DOLA/OEDIT and \$200K County match

Project – **Fremont County Revolving Loan Fund** – Creation of a financing gap instrument to aid the redevelopment of downtown buildings, startup of new businesses, expansion of existing businesses and creation of new events and amenities in Cañon City.

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – City of Cañon City

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Private Fundraising, Urban Renewal Authority, Local Matching

Agriculture/ Ranching

Project – **USDA Certified Meat Processing Facility**. Additional meat processing in industrial space needed. Location next to possible rail or US Hwy access.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – City of Florence

Project Cost Estimate –N/A

Funding Options –USDA and private

Project – **Sale Barn Facility**. Facility for agricultural livestock sales needed for region. Previous sales barn closed and not relocated.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – Fremont County

Project Cost Estimate –N/A

Funding Options –USDA

Broadband Development

SCEDD Regional Programs

Program—**Broadband Support Office**. SCEDD will create a two to three person office to take the lead in implementing broadband with a regional approach. Local projects need to be rolled up into regional and sub-region initiatives to secure adequate funding and to manage fewer, but larger projects. Part of that effort will be to create a region-wide grant match gap funds to assist with securing funds.

Status of Program—In development

Lead—SCEDD

Project Cost Estimate--\$250k per annum in operational support; \$1M per annum in grant match gap fund

Funding options—EDA technical assistance grant, DOLA, Electricity providers, County government, Foundation grants

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Project – **Broadband Cañon City Fiber Development** – engineering a physical and electronic network for redundancy, security and high-need users capable of smart city solutions and futureproofing our community. The network will bring Fiber To The Premise via public-private partnership.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – City of Cañon City – Economic Development

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – USDA Rural Broadband, Telecommunications Infrastructure, Rural Business Development and ReConnect programs, FCC Telecommunications, Healthcare Connect Fund and E-Rate programs, Colorado Broadband Office, EDA, CARES, ARPA, Local Matching, Franchise Agreement,

Project – **Fremont County Broadband Facility Upgrades** – Upgrades to Fremont County facilities including administration building, and Department of Health and Human Services. .

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – Fremont County

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – USDA Rural Broadband, Telecommunications Infrastructure, Rural Business Development and ReConnect programs, FCC Telecommunications, Healthcare Connect Fund and E-Rate programs, Colorado Broadband Office, EDA, CARES, ARPA, Local Matching, Franchise Agreement,

Business Development

Project - **Clocktower Plaza**. Transform an underused public lot from a parking lot into a public plaza with event programming, family activities and retail incubator spaces complemented by training resources for business owners seeking an incremental step between a garage/hobby business and a brick-and-mortar storefront.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead - City of Cañon City – Main Street

Project Cost Estimate - N/A

Funding Options - DOLA Community Services Block Grant, DOLA Rural Economic Development Initiative, EDA, CDOT Revitalizing Main Street, Local 2A Funding

Project – **Downtown Streetscaping** – Completion of remaining core downtown blocks to include curb extension bulbouts, widened sidewalks, street lighting, electric outlets, watering system for beautification efforts, benches and signage on 2nd, 3rd, 7th, and 8th streets.

Status of Project - Preconstruction

Lead – City of Cañon City - Streets

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – - DOLA Community Services Block Grant, DOLA Rural Economic Development Initiative, EDA, CDOT Revitalizing Main Street, Local 2A Funding, RAISE Discretionary Grants, CDBG, Transportation Infrastructure Financing and Innovation Act, CDOT

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Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement, Surface Transporting Block Grant, Transportation Alternatives Program, INFRA Grants, Urban Renewal Authority

Project – **New Method Laundry Demolition** – Demolition and cleanup of decrepit, hazardous building to clear the way for future development of revenue-generating property or public square to attract new and recurring foot traffic for local restaurant, retail and service businesses downtown.

Status of Project - Planning

Lead – City of Cañon City – Economic Development

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options - EPA Brownfields, HUD CDBG, HUD Neighborhood Stabilization Program, Local Matching, FEMA Hazard and Mitigation grant, HUD HOME funds, Local matching

Project – **Parking Garage and Ramp** – Consolidation of off-street parking to enable better utilization of undeveloped property in downtown central business district and further development of pedestrian-oriented downtown.

Status of Project - Conceptual

Lead – City of Cañon City – Economic Development

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – HUD CDBG, Local matching

Project – **New Method Laundry property redevelopment** – Cleanup and redevelopment of blighted former New Method Laundry property into revenue-generating property or public square to attract new and recurring foot traffic for local restaurant, retail and service businesses downtown.

Status of Project - Conceptual

Lead – City of Cañon City - Economic

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options - EPA Brownfields, HUD CDBG, HUD Neighborhood Stabilization Program, Local Matching, FEMA Hazard and Mitigation grant, HUD HOME funds, Local matching, Urban Renewal Authority

Project – **Vacant Property Sheets and Pro Formas** – Development of initial planning documents to aid in the attraction of developers and business owners seeking to expand into vacant or underused properties.

Status of Project - Planning

Lead – City of Cañon City – Main Street

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Local matching, private fundraising, private foundation grants, HUD CDBG grants, DOLA REDI grants

Project – **Downtown Façade Improvement Program** – Restoring and renovating historic downtown commercial district buildings.

Status of Project – Revitalization

Lead – City of Cañon City – Main Street

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Local Match, Urban Renewal Authority, State Historic Tax Credits, Federal Historic Tax Credits

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Project – **Industrial/Business Park Development** – Preparing new, shovel-ready industrial and business parks with design, engineering and infrastructure as determined by site analysis study now underway.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – City of Cañon City – Economic Development

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – EDA, USDA, DOLA REDI, Local Matching

Project – **Acorn Cleanup and Rehabilitation** – Relocation of Acorn Petroleum to clean up critical river property and market for redevelopment along with neighboring city-owned parcel

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – City of Cañon – Economic Development

Project Cost Estimate -

Funding Options – EDA, USDA, DOLA REDI, Local Matching, EPA Brownfields, Opportunity Zones

Project – **Skyline Steel Redevelopment** – Redevelopment of city-owned riverfront property into mixed-use hospitality and recreation amenity.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – City of Cañon City – Economic Development

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options - EDA, USDA, DOLA REDI, Local Matching, EPA Brownfields, Opportunity Zones

Project – **Constantinos Redevelopment** – Redevelopment of city-owned lot that serves as a critical gateway to the community and historic downtown. Anticipated mixed use development for retail and hospitality services.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – City of Cañon City

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options - EDA, USDA, DOLA REDI, Local Matching, Urban Renewal Authority, EPA Brownfields, Opportunity Zones

Project – **Downtown Life and Safety Grant Program** – Addressing fire hazard and ADA requirements to bring historic downtown commercial district buildings up to code to allow a wider array of new uses for buildings and diversify the downtown economic base

Status of Project - Revitalization

Lead – City of Cañon City – Main Street

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options - Local Match, Urban Renewal Authority, State Historic Tax Credits, Federal Historic Tax Credits

Project – **Abbey Development** – Mixed use workforce housing, multifamily residential, health services, commercial property, correction training, child care, parks, and community recreation center infill project adjacent to historic property and events center anchor for the City

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – FEDC

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Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – EPA, USDA, Urban Renewal Authority, HUD, Opportunity Zones

Project – **4-Mile Special District Buildout** – Completion of commercial and residential buildout in East Cañon between Royal Gorge Boulevard and Highway 123.

Status of Project – Construction

Lead – 4 Mile Metro Special District

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options - EDA, USDA, DOLA REDI, Local Matching, Opportunity Zones

Project – **City of Florence Industrial Park-** Extension of infrastructure for commercial and light industrial Office/Warehouse Park for industrial growth at US Hwy 50 and SH 67. (Needs water and annexation into Florence. Also need a project sheet)

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – Fremont County Economic Development Corporation

Project Cost Estimate \$1,470,000

Funding Options – EDA, OEDIT

Critical Infrastructure

Project – **East Cañon Water Line** – A water line under Reynolds from Royal Gorge Boulevard to Cherry Street to address immediate needs and expand capacity for future development of the Abbey Property

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – City of Cañon City - Public Works

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Local matching

Project – **City of Florence Water.** Water system upgrades and distribution improvements to Town's water system.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – City of Florence

Project Cost Estimate N/A

Funding Options – Possible local match

Project – **Penrose Water District Upgrades.** New WTP and distribution system upgrades. P Street Storage tank upgrades.

Status of Project – Engineering

Lead – Penrose Water District

Project Cost Estimate- \$6,320,000

Funding Options – CDPHE, USDA, DOLA

Project – **Road upgrades in the Communities of Coal Creek, Rock Vale, Brookside, and Williamsburg.** Road upgrades needed on County and local roads in these communities. A potential

larger project that combines these road projects could be done to assist with mobilization and to reduce costs with County assistance.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – Fremont County

Project Cost Estimate- N/A

Funding Options – CDOT or other road Infrastructure stimulus funds

Workforce Housing Strategies

Project – **Affordable Housing** – Cañon City’s immediate, pressing need is housing. While many of our projects in the coming half-decade incorporate this need, it is worth stating specifically our desire to create more affordable housing in the city.

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – City of Cañon City

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – LIHTC, Federal Home Loan Bank, HUD CDBG, National Housing Trust Fund, USDA Rural Housing Service programs, Opportunity Zones, HUD Choice Neighborhoods, HOME Investment Partnerships Program, Capital Magnet Fund

Project – **Neighborhood Beautification Grant Program** – Creation of a citywide grant program to fund neighborhood-initiated beautification projects.

Status of Project - Conceptual

Lead – City of Cañon City – Historic Preservation Commission

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Local matching, State Historic Tax Credits, Federal Historic Tax Credits

Project – **Yukon Multi-Family Project** – Creation of a citywide grant program to fund neighborhood-initiated beautification projects.

Status of Project - Conceptual

Lead – City of Cañon City and Fremont County Economic Development Corporation

Project Cost Estimate – \$280,000

Funding Options – Local matching, CHFA, DOLA

Education/Work Force Development

Project- **Florence Emergent Campus**. Repairs, exterior enhancement, renovations. Tech hub in the City of Florence. Business incubator. Continued growth and reuse of facility.

Lead –Emergent Campus/ City of Florence/ FEDC

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options - EDA, USDA, DOLA REDI, Local Matching

Project – **FEDC TechStart Relocation** – Redevelopment of downtown building to ensure rapidly expanding tech startup incubator and its burgeoning businesses can continue to thrive in Cañon City

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – City of Cañon City – Economic Development

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Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options - EDA, USDA, DOLA REDI, Local Matching

Project – **Manufacturing Incubator** – Creation of a shared workspace and shared industrial grade equipment for incubating manufacturing businesses and aiding workforce development and training programming and fulfilling entrepreneurial products.

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – City of Cañon City – Economic Development

Project Cost Estimate - N/A

Funding Options – Urban Renewal Authority, Local Matching, DOLA REDI, USDA RD, USDA RLF

Project – **Community Kitchen/Restaurant Incubator** – Development of a commercial kitchen space that can be used to help launch food manufacturing, value-added food businesses, catering, food truck and nascent restaurants, as well as leverage local culinary education opportunities.

Status of Project - Conceptual

Lead – City of Cañon City – Main Street

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – USDA Community Food Project, USDA AMS Local Food Promotion Program, USDA Healthy Food Financing Initiative Technical Assistance, USDA Community Facilities, Value-Added Agricultural Production Grants, Rural Business Opportunity Grants, Small Socially-Disadvantaged Producer Grant, Private Foundation Grants, Local Matching

Project – **Makerspace** – Create a collaborative, open workspace with shared, commercial-grade equipment to aid students, hobbyists and nascent business owners in prototyping, developing and scaling their business in concurrence with business and process training.

Status of Project - Conceptual

Lead – City of Cañon City – Economic Development

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Private Foundation Grants, Local Matching, Private Fundraising

Renewable Energy

Program – **4 Mile Solar Array**. Community solar array for the special district located at 4 Mile to offset community energy needs.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – \$ Mile Special District

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – DOLA, Colorado Energy Office

Recreation and Tourism

Project – **Trail Development** – Continued development of trails and recreation amenities at city-owned parks including Red Canyon, Oil Well Flats, South Cañon, Hogbacks, Royal Gorge.

Status of Project – Construction

Lead – City of Cañon City

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Transportation Alternatives, Recreational Trails Program, Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program, Federal Lands and Tribal Transportation Program, Land and Water Conservation Fund, Local Matching, Private Fundraising

Project – **Black Hills Open Space** – Park, camping and boat ramp amenities

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – City of Cañon City

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options - Transportation Alternatives, Recreational Trails Program, Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program, Federal Lands and Tribal Transportation Program, Land and Water Conservation Fund, Local Matching, Private Fundraising

Project - **3rd Street Pedestrian Overpass.** A 3rd Street Pedestrian Overpass spanning Highway 50 will connect the Royal Gorge Railroad – a critical tourist attraction, along with the revitalized Arkansas River and Centennial Park amenities to downtown retail, restaurants and services, as well as the Hogbacks Trail System.

Status of Project – Policy Recommendation

Lead - City of Cañon City – Streets

Project Cost Estimate - N/A

Funding Options - CDOT Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement, Surface Transporting Block Grant, Transportation Alternatives Program, RAISE Discretionary Grants, INFRA Grants, CDBG, Transportation Infrastructure Financing and Innovation Act, Local Matching

Project – **Hogbacks Third Street Connection.** Pedestrian and nonmotorized transportation facilities connecting the planned 3rd Street Pedestrian Overpass with the Hogbacks Trail System. Parking and trailhead amenities at the 3rd Street entrance to the Hogback trail system,

Status of Project - Conceptual

Lead – City of Cañon City - Streets

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options - CDOT Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement, Surface Transporting Block Grant, Transportation Alternatives Program, RAISE Discretionary Grants, CDBG, Transportation Infrastructure Financing and Innovation Act, Local Matching, Local 2A Street Funding, U.S. DOT Safe Routes to School, INFRA Grants

Project – **Downtown Directory Signage** – Improving wayfinding to improve foot traffic to commercial and recreational locations adjacent to Main Street

Status of Project - Preconstruction

Lead – City of Cañon City – Main Street

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – ARPA, CDOT Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement, Surface Transporting Block Grant, Transportation Alternatives Program, RAISE Discretionary Grants, INFRA Grants, CDBG, Transportation Infrastructure Financing and Innovation Act, Local Matching

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Project – **Historic Walking Tour Signage and Displays** – Generating tourism and foot traffic for downtown businesses

Status of Project - Planning

Lead – City of Cañon City – Main Street

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options - ARPA, RAISE Discretionary Grants, INFRA Grants, CDBG, State Historic Tax Credits, Federal Historic Tax Credits, Urban Renewal Authority, Local Matching

Project – **Recreation Center** – Construction of a public amenity to attract and retain families and workforce in Cañon City

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – Cañon City Recreation District

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Local bond issue, EDA, USDA, DOLA REDI

Project – **Parks Facility Relocation** – Relocate Parks facility on 9th Street to centralize and consolidate city operations on 9th Street and create new development possibilities for the existing Parks building.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – City of Cañon City

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Local matching

Project – **Pathfinder Park Upgrades**- Upgrades to the current facility including livestock Pavilion, shooting range, equipment for CSU extension program, and facility improvements in community building.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – Fremont County CSU Extension

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – GOCO, USDA,

Project – **Florence Mountain Park**. Amphitheater construction, continued expansion of trails on public lands. Upgrades to trailheads and signage.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – City of Florence

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – GOCO, State Trails

Health Care/Public Health/ Mental Health

Project- **Sol Vista Canon West Campus Phase II&III- Health & Wellness campus..**

Expanding Solvista services and building out space for co-working and tenant space for complimentary health & wellness services.

Status of Project – Concept and Planning

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Lead – Sol Vista

Project Cost Estimate - \$3,000,000-\$4,000,000

Funding Options – CDPHE

Program – **Fremont County Substance Abuse Program Assistance.** Additional program assistance for County substance abuse.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – Fremont Health and Human Services

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – CDPHE, CO Public Health

Program – **CSU Extension Substance Abuse Program Assistance.** Funding assistance for programing at the CSU extension campus for substance abuse programing.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – CSU

Project Cost Estimate -N/A

Funding Options – N/A

Transportation

Project – **Fremont County Airport Hangar Development.** Growth of additional T-Hangars and taxi ways on the east side of airport to facilitate additional growth.

Status of Project – County

Lead – Fremont County

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – EDA, FDA

Project – **Fremont County Airport Facility Upgrades-** Replace security gates with access control system and upgrades to storm water and retention systems.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – County

Project Cost Estimate- N/A

Funding Options – FDA

Project- **Fremont County Medical Appointment Transportation Assistance.** Non-emergent medical transport is important and provides transportation to medical appointments for residents without transportation. This is a service related to appropriate utilization of ambulance service. As of now the Medride is providing transportation for Medicaid (not Medicare) patients under the Colorado Medicaid program located in all of Fremont County. In addition, there is a program run by Canon City Golden Age Center which depends on volunteers and donations to keep operating. Golden Age Center can transport Medicare patients within a limited area.

Status of Project – Needs assessment should be completed for Medicare patients

Lead – Fremont County Department of Human Services

Project Cost Estimate - N/A

Funding Options – State and local

Project – **Rail Access for City of Florence.** Industrial rail access to the existing rail line. Provides additional capacity growth of industrial park.

Status of Project – Early Planning Concept

Lead – Others City of Florence

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – DOLA/USDA/CDOT EDA

Institutional/ Local Government Facility Infrastructure

Program – **Fremont County Department Human Services, Facility upgrades, Safe Outdoor Space and transitional housing.** Safety improvement to existing facility, transitional housing space, and programs to assist citizens experiencing homelessness.

Status of Project –

Lead – Fremont County Department of Health and Human Services

Project Cost Estimate -

Funding Options –

Project – **Fremont County Coroner’s Office New Facility.** Construction of new facility for Coroners Office.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – Fremont County

Project Cost Estimate-N/A

Funding Options – DOLA,

Project – **Fremont County Transportation Upgrade Cotopaxi Facility.** Upgrades to the Cotopaxi shop to better accommodate operation in western Fremont County.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – Fremont County

Project Cost Estimate-N/A

Funding Options – DOLA, CDOT,

Project - **Florence Fire Protection District.** Station 3 of FFPD is antiquated and too small for current fire apparatus: Building and facility replacement is needed.

Status of Project – Planning. Land has been acquired.

Lead – FFPD Board

Project Cost Estimate – To be determined

Funding Options – District Funds and Private Donation, DOLA, FEMA



Huerfano County Projects Summary

Access to Capital

The region has moderate to strong capacity in the availability of debt capital, though the lack of a regional SBA 504 packager is a need to be addressed. There is a need to strengthen existing Revolving loan funds to increase capacity and perhaps to offer niche products. Within Pueblo County, there are strong incentive programs for specific types of industries and job creations. The region, however, is an equity desert, with little access to capital for startups, follow on funding, or private equity funds to help existing businesses to pivot or grow. The strategy is to increase access to equity capital in the region and develop an entrepreneurial ecosystem that supports startups in the tech sector and the intellectual property sector.

SCEDD Regional Programs

Program- **SoCo Angels Support**. Provide three years of operational support to develop an early Angel startup network of Accredited Investors to fund the seed stage for tech and intellectual property startups

Status of Program- Development

Lead- SCEDD, SCIL, SoCo Angels,

Program Cost Estimate--\$300k per annum

Funding Options- EDA technical assistance grant, Foundation grants

Program: **Angel fund**. Adjunctive to SoCo Angels, the development of a separate fund can support individual angel investments with an institutional investment, or a “sidecar” fund created by accredited investors who want to supplement individual investments with group efforts.

Status of Program—Conceptual

Lead: SCEDD, SCIL, SoCo Angels

Program Cost Estimate: Institutional fund--\$500k; Sidecar fund \$500k

Funding options: Institutional: Foundations; Sidecar: Accredited investors of SoCo Angels

Broadband/Communications

SCEDD Regional Programs

Program—**Broadband Support Office**. SCEDD will create a two-to-three-person office to take the lead in implementing broadband with a regional approach. Local projects need to be rolled up into regional and sub-region initiatives to secure adequate funding and to manage fewer, but larger projects. Part of that effort will be to create a region-wide grant match gap funds to assist with securing funds.

Status of Program—In development

Lead—SCEDD

Project Cost Estimate--\$250k per annum in operational support; \$1M per annum in grant match gap fund. Funding options—EDA technical assistance grant, DOLA, Electricity providers, County government, Foundation grants.

Southern Colorado Economic Development District * 2021 CEDS

Project – **Create a Broadband Loop from Canon City through Westcliffe/Silver Cliff to Walsenburg.**

Status of Project - Conceptual

Lead – Huerfano, Custer, and Fremont Counties/POC: Carl Young

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – DOLA, USDA, National Telecommunications and Information Administration, EDA

Project – **Identify Potential Sites for Additional Towers.** (To improve Broadband and Radio Service Throughout the County.)

Status of Project - Conceptual

Lead – Huerfano County

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – DOLA, USDA, National Telecommunications and Information Administration, EDA

Project – **La Veta Regional Library District, Broadband as a Local Utility.**

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – LVRLD

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – User Fees, ARPA

Project- **Broadband Development - Place Towers, Build Middle Mile Link Between Walsenburg, Cuchara, and Sheep Mountain.**

Status of Project – Preconstruction/Engineering

Lead - Huerfano County/

Project Cost Estimate – \$100,000

Funding Options – DOLA, USDA, National Telecommunications and Information Administration, EDA

Agriculture

Project – **Biochar plant and Yucca Extraction Production.**

Status of Project – Funding, preconstruction

Lead – Spanish Peaks Enterprises, LLC

Project Cost Estimate – \$1.6 million

Funding Options – EDA, OEDIT, DOLA, USDA

Project – **Expand Access to Fresh Fruits and Vegetables.** (By strengthening and promoting local farmers markets as well as promoting healthy eating.)

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – Huerfano County/

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – USDA, Colorado Department of Agriculture

Southern Colorado Economic Development District * 2021 CEDS

Project – **Examine the Effect of Invasive Species/Plant Life on Water Levels. Access Management Measures.**

Status of Project – Policy Recommendation or Strategy

Lead – Huerfano County/

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Huerfano County, Colorado Department of Agriculture

Project – **Huerfano County Mixed-use Development in the unincorporated community of Gardner.** (This development would center around the establishment of a gas station, likely in the form of a cooperative, as well as workforce housing, commercial space, and greenhouses for use by the Gardner Valley School and the community.)

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – Huerfano County

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Huerfano County, USDA, HUD, DOLA Housing, CHFA

Business Development

Project – **Railway Spurs/Sidings Development.**

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – Huerfano County

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – DOT, EDA, DOLA

Project – **Development of Innovation Spaces, e.g., Business Incubator or a Makerspace.** (The study is being conducted as part of a Retail and Entrepreneurship Action Plan that will help guide economic development activity.)

Status of Project – Policy Recommendation or Strategy

Lead – Huerfano County/Huerfano County Economic Development Inc.

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – USDA, EDA, DOLA, Huerfano County, Private Funding

Status of Project – **Develop Industrial Park.** (Within or near to Walsenburg.)

Lead – Huerfano County/ Huerfano County Economic Development Inc. POC: Carl Young

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – EDA, DOLA, Huerfano County, USDA

Project – **Replace Trees and Sidewalks Downtown.**

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – City of Walsenburg

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – DOLA, URA, DNR, HCPRD

Southern Colorado Economic Development District * 2021 CEDS

Critical Infrastructure

Project- **Resurfacing of CDOT Streets through Walsenburg.**

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – City of Walsenburg

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – CDOT, DOLA

Project- **Replace Aging Water and Sewer Lines Prior to Resurfacing of CDOT Streets Through Walsenburg.**

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – City of Walsenburg

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – DOLA, CDOT

Project – **Move Walsenburg Road and Bridge Shop Out of Flood Plain.**

Status of Project - Concept

Lead – Huerfano County

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – DOLA, Huerfano County

Project- **Replace the Natural Gas Transmission Line from Trinidad to Walsenburg.**

Status of Project – Conceptual/Planning

Lead – City of Walsenburg

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options –

Project- **Assess Cost/Placement of New Water Line to Serve Northlands Area.**

Status of Project – Conceptual/Planning

Lead – City of Walsenburg

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Local Matching Funds: Per the annexation agreement this must be funded using GID revenues and not City Water Enterprise revenues

Project – **Replace Two Aging Raw Water Lines from La Veta to City Lake.**

Status of Project – Conceptual/Planning

Lead – City of Walsenburg

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Local Matching Funds: DOLA, CDPHE

Project – **Widen Hwy 85/87 from Hwy 160(?) to the hogback to Safely Accommodate Ped/Bike Traffic.**

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – City of Walsenburg

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Southern Colorado Economic Development District * 2021 CEDS

Funding Options – CDOT, RPP

Project – **Upgrade/Repair Gardner Water and Wastewater Systems.**

Status of Project - Planning

Lead – Huerfano County/POC: Carl Young

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Colorado Water Resources and Power Development Authority, CDPHE, DOLA, Huerfano County

Housing

Project – **Huerfano County will seek to encourage and participate in Affordable and Accessible Housing Development across the County.** (Housing development will include options for Veterans, Seniors, ADA Accessibility, and an Assisted Living Facility.)

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – Huerfano County

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Huerfano County, HUD, CHFA, USDA, DOLA Housing

Education/Work Force Development

Project – **Greenhouse/Gardening Project (for Workforce Development) via Career Technical Education (CTE).**

Status – Planning

Lead – La Veta Schools RE-2

Project Cost Estimate – \$50,000.00

Funding Options – Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act ESSRA 2.

Project – **Develop youth Apprenticeship, Internship, and Mentoring Programs.**

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – Huerfano County

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Private Foundations, CWDC, CDOL, USDOL, EDA, USDA

Project – **Become an ACT Work-Ready Community.**

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – Huerfano County

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Private Foundations, CWDC, CDOL, USDOL, EDA, USDA

Project- **Early Childhood Development/Childcare Facility in Walsenburg.**

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – RE1

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options -

Southern Colorado Economic Development District * 2021 CEDS

Project- **Area/Regional Trade School (Career and Technology Education).**

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – RE-1, RE-2, TSJC?

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options -

Renewable Energy

Project – **Complete an Energy Performance Contracting Program for County Facilities. (Including a Possible Community Solar Garden.)**

Status of Project - Planning

Lead – Huerfano County

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Colorado Energy Office, DOLA, Huerfano County

Recreation and Tourism

Project – **Pedestrian Bike Lanes on Scenic Highway of Legends.**

Status of Project – Planned (see PEL study)

Lead – SCCOG, with LAC and Huerfano BOCCs

Project Cost Estimate – \$110 million

Funding Options – CDOT, EDA, GOCO, DOLA

Project – **Repair/Upgrade Huerfano County Community Center; Expand offerings at the facility; Upgrade/Improve facilities in/around Fiesta Park.** (If the Walsenburg Road and Bridge Shop moves, repurpose those facilities into additional recreation space)

Status of Project - Conceptual

Lead – Huerfano County

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – GOCO, DOLA, Huerfano County, Private Foundations

Project – **Expand Conservation of Land as Open Space or for Public Use.**

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – Huerfano County

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – GOCO, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Huerfano County, Private Foundations

Project – **Increase the Quality and Quantity of Festivals and Community Events.**

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – Huerfano County

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Huerfano County, Private Foundations

Project – **Train Depot Upgrade for Use as a Visitors Center.**

Status of Project – Pre-construction/engineering

Southern Colorado Economic Development District * 2021 CEDS

Lead – City of Walsenburg
Project Cost Estimate – N/A
Funding Options – CTO, OEDIT

Project – **Purchase of San Luis/Rio Grande Railroad.**

Status of Project – Conceptual
Lead – Five County Coalition (Huerfano, Costilla, Alamosa, Rio Grande, Conejos)
Project Cost Estimate – N/A
Funding Options –

Project - **Walsenburg Wild Waters Aquatic Park Assessment followed by Refurbishing or Repurposing.**

Status of Project – Conceptual
Lead – City of Walsenburg
Project Cost Estimate – \$250,000.00
Funding Options – DOLA, GOCO, HCPRD

Project – **Develop an Integrated System of Parks, Trails, and Open Space.**

Status of Project – Conceptual/Planning
Lead – City of Walsenburg
Project Cost Estimate – N/A
Funding Options – DOLA, DNR, HCPRD

Project – **Riverwalk Along the Cuchara River from Fiesta Park to Bear Creek Road.** (With a Phase 2 from Bear Creek to Lathrop Youth Camp.)

Status of Project – Conceptual/planning
Lead – City of Walsenburg
Project Cost Estimate – N/A
Funding Options – DOLA, GOCO, DNR

Project - **Redevelop Cuchara Mountain Park into a County Park.** (With year-round activities.)

Status of Project – Rehab
Lead – Huerfano County
Project Cost Estimate – N/A
Funding Options – Huerfano County, GOCO, USDA, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, DOLA

Project – **Expand the Gardner Community Center.** (To better serve the community and provide additional recreational opportunities.)

Status of Project – Planning
Lead – Huerfano County
Project Cost Estimate – N/A
Funding Options - GOCO, DOLA, Huerfano County, Private Foundations, Colorado Parks and Wildlife

Southern Colorado Economic Development District * 2021 CEDS

Project – **Expand Day Care, Afterschool Activities, Early Childhood Support, and Other Youth Activities.** (Working with non-profit partners.)

Status of Project - Concept

Lead – Huerfano County

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Huerfano County, Private Foundations, Colorado Department of Education

Project – **Develop a Destination Shooting Range, as part of a County-owned Park.**

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – Huerfano County

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options - GOCO, NRA, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, USDA, DOLA

Project – Implementation of the Southern Mountain Loop Trail System. (Building on the PEL Study.)

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – Huerfano County

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – USDOT, CDOT, Huerfano County, Las Animas County

Health Care/Public Health/ Mental Health

Project – **Restore/Repurpose the Lathrop Youth Camp Campus.**

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – City of Walsenburg

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – EDA, DOLA

Project – **Develop a Substance Abuse Treatment Facility And/or Treatment Program(s);** (Establish a program to mitigate the economic and workforce impacts associated with substance abuse. Establish a program to train and re-train frontline employees on substance abuse response and treatment)

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – Huerfano County

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Private Foundations, USDA, HHS, DOLA, Huerfano County

Project – **Construct a New Health Department Facility in Huerfano County.**

Status of Project - Planning

Lead – Las Animas Huerfano Counties District Health Department.

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Las Animas Huerfano Counties District Health Department, DOLA, DHSEM, CDPHE, Huerfano County

Southern Colorado Economic Development District * 2021 CEDS

Transportation

Project – **EV Charging Stations Along Scenic Highway of Legends (SHOL)**

Status of Project – Planning (See PEL study)

Lead – SHOL

Project Cost Estimate –

Funding Options – Colorado Energy Office/SIEA

Project- **Regional Transportation Assessment (Bus and Rail).**

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – SCCOG

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – AMTRAK, DOT, CDOT

Project – **Expand Intercity Bus Service.** (To Walsenburg and La Veta; Expand Paratransit and On-Demand Transit Service to Cuchara and Gardner.)

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – SCCOG

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – CDOT, US DOT, South Central Transportation Planning Region

Project – **Bike Lanes on Highway 69.**

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – Huerfano County

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – CDOT, GOCO

Project – **Locate a Passenger Rail Station in Walsenburg. (With service to Pueblo and Beyond.)**

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – Huerfano County

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – USDOT, CDOT

Project – **Restore Scenic Railroad Service via the San Luis and Rio Grande Railroad.**

Status of Project – Policy Recommendation or Strategy

Lead – Huerfano County/POC: Carl Young

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – CDOT, USDOT, Federal Transit Administration

Project – **Spanish Peaks Airport Improvements.** (Improve and Expand Spanish Peaks Regional Airfield: Build T-Hangars, Repair Runway, Add Teacup Taxiway, Renovate Terminal Building, Lengthen Runway.)

Status of Project – Planning

Southern Colorado Economic Development District * 2021 CEDS

Lead – Huerfano County/POC: Carl Young
Project Cost Estimate – N/A
Funding Options – CDOT, FAA, Huerfano County

Project – **Additional Turn Lanes Off of 85/87 to Accommodate Traffic Turning into Businesses.**

Status of Project – Conceptual
Lead – City of Walsenburg
Project Cost Estimate – N/A
Funding Options – CDOT, Private Business Owners

Institutional/ Local Government Facility Infrastructure

Please place under field that you think is appropriate

Project – **Street Light Repair and Replacement.**

Status of Project – Conceptual/Planning
Lead – City of Walsenburg
Project Cost Estimate – N/A
Funding Options – SIEA

Project – **Plan/Develop, On and Off River Flood Control.** (Upstream from Walsenburg, La Veta, and Gardner; study, plan, and develop additional reservoirs as needed.)

Status of Project – Conceptual
Lead – Huerfano County
Project Cost Estimate – N/A
Funding Options – Colorado Water Resources and Power Development Authority, Colorado Water Conservation Board, US FEMA, Huerfano County, Huerfano County Water Conservancy Board

Project – **Examine Effect of Invasive Species and Plant Life on Water Levels.** (Take measures to responsibly correct any issues.)

Status of Project – Policy Recommendation or Strategy
Lead – Huerfano County
Project Cost Estimate – N/A
Funding Options – Huerfano County, Colorado Department of Agriculture

Project – **Continue and Expand Fire Hazard Mitigation Practices and Partnerships.** (Develop Potential Operational Delineations; Expand Firewise Program; Develop Ways to Handle Green Waste from Fire Mitigation.)

Status of Project - Policy Recommendation or Strategy
Lead – Huerfano County
Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Southern Colorado Economic Development District * 2021 CEDS

Funding Options - USDA, DHSEM

Project – **Build an Emergency Operations Center and 911 Dispatch Facility.**

Status of Project - Conceptual

Lead – Huerfano County

Project Cost Estimate – \$8,000,000

Funding Options – DOLA, DHSEM, Huerfano County, San Isabel Electric Association

Project – **Improve Countywide Waste Collection and Recycling Opportunities.**

Status of Project - Conceptual

Lead – Huerfano County

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Huerfano County, DOLA, CDPHE

Project – **Fox Theatre Walsenburg Restoration and Reimagining.**

Status of Project - Revitalization

Lead – Huerfano County Economic Development Inc. Huerfano County

Project Cost Estimate – \$11,000,000

Funding Options – Huerfano County, OEDIT, DOLA, Private Foundations

Project – **Repurpose or Reopen Shuttered Walsenburg Prison.**

Status of Project - Conceptual

Lead – Huerfano County

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – DOLA, USDA, US DOJ, Private Foundations

Project – **Facilitate the Development of the County Youth Conservation Corps and the Mile High Youth Conservation Corps, Wildfire Suppression Module.**

Status of Project – Policy Recommendation or Strategy

Lead – Huerfano County

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – CDPHE, Huerfano County, GOCO, DHSEM, Private Foundations



Kiowa County Projects Summary

Access To Capital

The region has moderate to strong capacity in the availability of debt capital, though the lack of a regional SBA 504 packager is a need to be addressed. There is a need to strengthen existing Revolving loan funds to increase capacity and perhaps to offer niche products. Within Pueblo County, there are strong incentive programs for specific types of industries and job creations. The region, however, is an equity desert, with little access to capital for startups, follow on funding, or private equity funds to help existing businesses to pivot or grow. The strategy is to increase access to equity capital in the region and develop an entrepreneurial ecosystem that supports startups in the tech sector and the intellectual property sector.

SCEDD Regional Programs

Program- **SoCo Angels Support.** Provide three years of operational support to develop an early Angel startup network of Accredited Investors to fund the seed stage for tech and intellectual property startups

Status of Program- Development

Lead- SCEDD, SCIL, SoCo Angels,

Program Cost Estimate--\$300k per annum

Funding Options- EDA technical assistance grant, Foundation grants

Program: **Angel fund.** Adjunctive to SoCo Angels, the development of a separate fund can support individual angel investments with an institutional investment or a “sidecar” fund created by accredited investors who want to supplement individual investments with group efforts.

Status of Program—Conceptual

Lead: SCEDD, SCIL, SoCo Angels

Program Cost Estimate: Institutional fund--\$500k; Sidecar fund \$500k

Funding options: Institutional: Foundations; Sidecar: Accredited investors of SoCo Angels

Program: **SBA 504 Packaging.** Re-enter this SBA program with either a stand-alone entity or in partnership with adjoining packagers. This product is a critical credit enhancer for collateral-oriented commercial banks considering startups of between \$1 million and \$5 million that have commercial real estate for collateral.

Status of Program—Early Development

Lead: SCEDD

Program cost estimate: Approximately \$100k per annum at start, with additional costs dependent on deal flow and generation of fees.

Funding Options—Startup loans, Foundation grants, Commercial bank support

Program: **Rural Downtown Mixed-Use Revitalization Program.** A revolving low interest loan fund for mixed-use properties in the 8 counties in the southeastern plains that offer low interest loans for both the downstairs commercial and upstairs residential units.

Status of Program—Early Development

Southern Colorado Economic Development District * 2021 CEDS

Lead: SCEDD and SECED

Program cost estimate: \$1million

Funding Options- Grant \$800 DOLA/OEDIT and \$200K County match

Agriculture/ Ranching

Program- **Drought Assistance Support.** Work with state and other partners for drought assistance and planning technical assistance for agriculture, municipal, and water company storage.

Status of Project –Planning

Lead – State of Colorado Drought Task Force, SEBRA, and Kiowa County

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – USDA, Colorado Department of Agriculture, CWCB DNR,

Broadband Development

SCEDD Regional Programs

Program—**Broadband Support Office.** SCEDD will create a two to three person office to take the lead in implementing broadband with a regional approach. Local projects need to be rolled up into regional and sub-region initiatives to secure adequate funding and to manage fewer, but larger projects. Part of that effort will be to create a region-wide grant match gap funds to assist with securing funds.

Status of Program—In development

Lead—SCEDD

Project Cost Estimate--\$250k per annum in operational support; \$1M per annum in grant match gap fund

Funding options—EDA technical assistance grant, DOLA, Electricity providers, County government, Foundation grants

Business Development

Project- **Kiowa County/Town of Eads Cultural Center Renovation/Landscaping.** Renovate three interior spaces on Maine Street and landscape a fourth space that together will complete the cultural center.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – Crow-Luther Cultural Events Center

Project Cost Estimate - \$1.7 Million

Funding Options – CLCEC, Soloviev Project Support, Historical Tax Credits, Grants, Construction Loans

Critical Infrastructure

Project- **Arkansas Valley Conduit.** Connection to existing water system, water treatment plant improvements to accommodate new water source, and additional treatment requirements.

Status of Project – Concept/ Engineering

Southern Colorado Economic Development District * 2021 CEDS

Lead – Southeast Water Conservancy District (Bill Long, Board of Directors)

Project Cost Estimate – Not Given Working on getting numbers for entire region.

Funding Options – Water Fund reserves, Drinking Water Revolving Fund, Grants through DOLA, CDPHE, CWCB, RD

Project- **Town of Haswell Municipal Water Line Upgrades.**

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – Town of Haswell

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – DOLA, EDA, USDA

Project – **Town of Eads Wastewater Lines/Manholes Replacement.**

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – Town of Eads

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – DOLA, EDA, USDA

Workforce Housing Strategies

Project- **Housing Rehabilitation and Energy Efficiency Office**

Status of Project – Concept and Planning

Lead – SECED

Program- **Mobile Home Replacement**

Status of Project – Concept and Planning

Lead – SECED, SEBREA

Project Cost Estimate -

Funding Options – DOLA

Program- **Downtown Mixed-Use Living**

Status of Project – Concept and Planning

Lead – SCEDD,

Project Cost Estimate -

Funding Options – DOLA

Education/Work Force Development

Project – **Southeast Colorado Region Entrepreneurship programming for 5th – 12th grade** public school, private school and home school students in the seven-county area of SE Colorado

Status of Program – Implemented w/continuing programming

Lead – SEBREA Fiscal Agent

Project Cost Estimate – Not Given

Southern Colorado Economic Development District * 2021 CEDS

Funding Options – Possible grant funding from the Rawlings Foundation, El Pomar, Daniels Fund, and other regional foundations.

Recreation and Tourism

Project – **Great Plains Reservoir Recreation Area.** Multiple reservoirs providing regional recreational opportunities and numerous State Wildlife areas and easements. Water prioritization to fill lakes for agricultural users, wildlife, and recreation. Additional recreation facility needs.

Status of Program – Planning

Lead – Kiowa County

Project Cost Estimate – \$1,200,000-\$3,000,000

Funding Options – GOCO, BLM, Water Conservation, State Trust Fund, State Trails, CPW

Project – **Kiowa County Fairgrounds.** Multiple projects including grandstands repair and replacement, lighting, Camping and RV hookups, and ADA restroom upgrades.

Status of Program – Planning

Lead – Kiowa County

Project Cost Estimate – \$400,000

Funding Options – GOCO

Project – **EADS RECREATION AREA** - 1. Build a recreation building that includes an office, workout rooms, indoor basketball court, racketball court, and swimming pool building; Build a swimming pool (in large lot east of Christian Church). 2. Build a park with playground equipment and swings, big slides, skate-board area, picnic areas and walking trail around the entire park (space behind the Christian Church); 3. Build a T-Ball field directly west of the Homeplate Field; 4. Build bathrooms at Homeplate Field/Park/T-Ball Field

Status of Program – Concept

Lead – Town of Eads, Central Recreation District; (possibly) KCEDF

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Local match in donated land; local match in dirt work by local contractors & county/town; Soloviev Interest Project; GOCO Grant; Use of the American Rescue Plan Funds.

Transportation

Project – **Kiowa County Transit.** Transit service for elderly and others needing assistance to doctors visits or other care facility needs. Mobile healthy food service.

Status of Program – Implemented w/continuing programming

Lead – Kiowa County

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – CDOT, LIVE WELL, or other charitable granting organizations

Project – **Rail Access.** Access for the Agricultural users to rail.

Status of Program – Concept

Lead – Kiowa County

Southern Colorado Economic Development District * 2021 CEDS

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – EDA

Other

Project – **Eads Water Tower Mural**. Paint a large, unique mural on the Water Tower pointing out the Downtown District / Main Street District of Eads so travelers on Hwy 287 realize there is a downtown district. It's actually a Historical Downtown District with plaques. Make sure to include in mural the types of services provided downtown.

Status of Program – Concept

Lead – KCEDF or Chamber of Commerce

Project Cost Estimate – \$7,000

Funding Options – Arts grants; COVID money to local governments; Grant for Main St Improvements.



Lake County Projects Summary

Access To Capital

The region has moderate to strong capacity in the availability of debt capital, though the lack of a regional SBA 504 packager is a need to be addressed. There is a need to strengthen existing Revolving loan funds to increase capacity and perhaps to offer niche products. The region, however, is an equity desert, with little access to capital for startups, follow on funding, or private equity funds to help existing businesses to pivot or grow. The strategy is to increase access to equity capital in the region and develop an entrepreneurial ecosystem that supports startups in the tech sector and the intellectual property sector.

SCEDD Regional Programs

Program- **SoCo Angels Support**. Provide three years of operational support to develop an early Angel startup network of Accredited Investors to fund the seed stage for tech and intellectual property startups

Status of Program- Development

Lead- SCEDD, SCIL, SoCo Angels,

Program Cost Estimate--\$300k per annum

Funding Options- EDA technical assistance grant, Foundation grants

Program: **Angel fund**. Adjunctive to SoCo Angels, the development of a separate fund can support individual angel investments with an institutional investment or a “sidecar” fund created by accredited investors who want to supplement individual investments with group efforts.

Status of Program—Conceptual

Lead: SCEDD, SCIL, SoCo Angels

Program Cost Estimate: Institutional fund--\$500k; Sidecar fund \$500k

Funding options: Institutional: Foundations; Sidecar: Accredited investors of SoCo Angels

Program: **SBA 504 Packaging**. Re-enter this SBA program with either a stand-alone entity or in partnership with adjoining packagers. This product is a critical credit enhancer for collateral-oriented commercial banks considering startups of between \$1 million and \$5 million that have commercial real estate for collateral.

Status of Program—Early Development

Lead: SCEDD

Program cost estimate: Approximately \$100k per annum at start, with additional costs dependent on deal flow and generation of fees.

Funding Options—Startup loans, Foundation grants, Commercial bank support

Program: **Rural Downtown Mixed-Use Revitalization Program**. A revolving low interest loan fund for mixed-use properties in the 8 counties in the southeastern plains that offer low interest loans for both the downstairs commercial and upstairs residential units.

Status of Program—Early Development

Lead: SCEDD and SECED

Southern Colorado Economic Development District * 2021 CEDS

Program cost estimate: \$1million

Funding Options- Grant \$800 DOLA/OEDIT and \$200K County match

Agriculture/ Ranching

Project – **Conservation Assistance.** Working with local ranchers and agricultural users to protect land and water resources for future generations. Connecting these users to resources to ensure ongoing operations and assistance.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead –

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – GOCO, Conservation Trust Fund

Broadband Development

SCEDD Regional Programs

Program—**Broadband Support Office.** SCEDD will create a two to three person office to take the lead in implementing broadband with a regional approach. Local projects need to be rolled up into regional and sub-region initiatives to secure adequate funding and to manage fewer, but larger projects. Part of that effort will be to create a region-wide grant match gap funds to assist with securing funds.

Status of Program—In development

Lead—SCEDD

Project Cost Estimate--\$250k per annum in operational support; \$1M per annum in grant match gap fund

Funding options—EDA technical assistance grant, DOLA, Electricity providers, County government, Foundation grants

Business Development

Project – **Master Plan for Lake County Industrial/Business Park.** Identifying potential business expansion and public lands that can facilitate industrial and commercial growth.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – LLCEDC

Project Cost Estimate \$20,000-\$40,000

Funding Options – EDA, DOLA, OEDIT, USDA grants, County, Businesses

Program – **Resiliency Plan for Businesses & Nonprofits.** Marla Resiliency succession plan...

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – LLCEDC

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – SBDC, DOLA, USDA, Community Foundations

Program – **Minority Business Support.** Marla ...

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Status of Project – Concept

Lead – LLCEDC

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – SBDC, DOLA, USDA, Community Foundations

Project – **Lake County Entrepreneurial Ecosystem.** Start assistance with business planning and budget preparation. Create small scale revolving loan fund. Marker space

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – LLCEDC

Project Cost Estimate

Funding Options – OEDIT, SBDC, EDA, USDA

Critical Infrastructure

Project – **Parkville Water District.** Plant expansion and upgrades. Expansion of infrastructure for potential work force housing.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – District

Project Cost Estimate -

Funding Options – EDA, DOLA, Electricity providers

Project – **Lake County Water Enterprise and Augmentation Plan Water Storage.**

Status of Project – Ongoing planning

Lead – County

Project Cost Estimate -

Funding Options –

Project – **Leadville Sanitation District.** Upgrades to plant and treatment facility. Expansion of infrastructure for potential work force housing.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – District

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – USDA, DOLA

Project – **Lake County Bridge Replacement.** Need Information on from Road and Bridge on where this is needed in the next 5 years.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – Lake County, Public Works

Project Cost Estimate -

Funding Options –

Project – **Lake County Culvert Replacement.** Need Information on from Road and Bridge on where this is needed in the next 5 years.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – Lake County, Public Works

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Project Cost Estimate -
Funding Options –

Project – **Long range water plan Airborne Snow Observatory Water Shed.** Flyover and snow water management during winter and spring runoff.

Status of Project – On-going

Lead –

Project Cost Estimate

Funding Options – FDA, Water Conservation, NSIDC

Project – **Expansion and future Acquisition of Lake County Repository Landfill.** Storage site for containment soil from industrial users located in Lake County.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – EPA

Project Cost Estimate N/A

Funding Options – EPA, CDPHE

Workforce Housing Strategies

Project- **Lake/Leadville Regional Housing Authority.** Discussions ongoing about the possibility of expanded Regional Housing Authority creation to tackle workforce housing administration and development to assist in providing housing.

Status of Project – Concept and Planning

Lead – Housing Coalition, Lake County, City of Leadville

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – DOLA, CHFA

Program- **Regional Housing Development Incentives.** Private/Public partnerships to build workforce housing and rentals.

Status of Project – Concept and Planning

Lead – Lake County and City of Leadville

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – DOLA, CHFA

Program- **Implementation of Lake County Housing Action Plan.**

Status of Project – Concept and Planning

Lead – Lake County and City of Leadville; Housing Coalition

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – DOLA, CHFA

Education/Work Force Development

Program – **Colorado Mountain College Entrepreneurial training.** Need Description Marla

Status of Program – Implemented

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Lead – LLCEDC, CMC, Lake County School District
Project Cost Estimate -
Funding Options – Need to identify

Program – **Leadville Lake County Workforce Plan.** Description needed
Status of Project –
Lead – Northwest Colorado Workforce Area, LLCEDC
Project Cost Estimate
Funding Options –

Project – **Lake County Talent Equity.** Marla description
Status of Project – Planning
Lead – LCBAG & LLCEDC
Project Cost Estimate
Funding Options –

Renewable Energy

Program – **Community Solar Gardens.** Small scale solar to assist with energy production and assist with controlling electric costs.
Status of Project – ongoing
Lead – XCEL
Project Cost Estimate -
Funding Options –

Recreation and Tourism

Program – **Lake County Trail expansion and Connections.** Enhanced trailheads and connections throughout County to address increases in use and expand recreation opportunities. XC Skiing. Motorized and non-motorized
Status of Project – Ongoing
Lead – Lake County Recreation, Cloud City Wheelers, LCOSI, Snowmobile High riders
Project Cost Estimate -
Funding Options –

Project – **Lake County Pool.** Replace liner needed to reopen public pool.
Status of Project – Planning
Lead – Lake County
Project Cost Estimate- \$1,500,000
Funding Options – GOCO

Health Care/Public Health/ Mental Health

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Project- **Sol Vista Mental Health Lake County Expansion.** Expansion of existing office located in Leadville.

Status of Project – Concept and Planning

Lead – Sol Vista

Project Cost Estimate -

Funding Options –

Project – **St. Vincent Hospital Expansion.** A 26,000 square foot expansion of existing health care facility to bring multiple specialists, primary care, and Lake County Public Health into one facility.

Status of Project – Construction

Lead – St. Vincent and Lake County Public Health

Project Cost Estimate -?

Funding Options – Tax initiative

Transportation

Program – **Lake County Airport Expansion.** Project Description needed.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – Airport Advisory Board, County

Project Cost Estimate -

Funding Options – FDA

Project – **EV Charging Stations.** Additional charging stations located throughout the county.

Status of Project – Engineering

Lead – Lake County

Project Cost Estimate- N/A

Funding Options – Charge Ahead Colorado

Project – **Lake County Transit.** Development of Local public transportation routes, regional bus service connections, and medical transportation. Establish bustang connection from Chaffee County to Lake County.

Status of Project –

Lead –

Project Cost Estimate

Funding Options –

Institutional/ Local Government Facility Infrastructure

Program – **Lake County Justice Center Complex.** Site acquisition, planning, and architecture for new or retrofitting of courthouse and jail facilities.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – Lake County

Project Cost Estimate – \$20,000,000-\$40,000,000

Funding Options – DOLA, EPA, CDPHE, USDA, Underfunded Courthouse Program, CDS

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Project – **Recreational Center/Swimming Pool.** Replacement of existing Swimming pool and liner replacement for pool closure this year.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – Lake County

Project Cost Estimate \$10,000,000-\$12,000,000

Funding Options – GOCO

Project – **Lake County Intermediate School.** Move classroom space from current aging building to new location adjacent to elementary school.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – Lake County School District

Project Cost Estimate \$10,000,000-\$14,000,000

Funding Options – BEST



Las Animas County Projects Summary

Access to Capital

The region has moderate to strong capacity in the availability of debt capital, though the lack of a regional SBA 504 packager is a need to be addressed. There is a need to strengthen existing Revolving loan funds to increase capacity and perhaps to offer niche products. Within Pueblo County, there are strong incentive programs for specific types of industries and job creations. The region, however, is an equity desert, with little access to capital for startups, follow on funding, or private equity funds to help existing businesses to pivot or grow. The strategy is to increase access to equity capital in the region and develop an entrepreneurial ecosystem that supports startups in the tech sector and the intellectual property sector.

SCEDD Regional Programs

Program- **SoCo Angels Support.** Provide three years of operational support to develop an early Angel startup network of Accredited Investors to fund the seed stage for tech and intellectual property startups

Status of Program- Development

Lead- SCEDD, SCIL, SoCo Angels,

Program Cost Estimate--\$300k per annum

Funding Options- EDA technical assistance grant, Foundation grants

Program: **Angel fund.** Adjunctive to SoCo Angels, the development of a separate fund can support individual angel investments with an institutional investment, or a “sidecar” fund created by accredited investors who want to supplement individual investments with group efforts.

Status of Program—Conceptual

Lead: SCEDD, SCIL, SoCo Angels

Program Cost Estimate: Institutional fund--\$500k; Sidecar fund \$500k

Funding options: Institutional: Foundations; Sidecar: Accredited investors of SoCo Angels

Agriculture

Project – **LAC Meat Packing Processing Facility.** The region lacks enough meat processing plants and there is a back log. Long distance travel for processing is also an issue.

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – Possible Ag Co-op and/or a regional approach

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – EDA, DOLA, USDA

Project- **LAC Rail to Houston.** Plans are to ship coal from the New Elk Mine to ports in Houston. In turn, other commodities could also be shipped to and from Houston back the Las Animas County. Could be an opportunity for additional development of rail commerce.

Status of Project – Conceptual/Planning

Lead – LAC BOCC

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

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Funding Options – EDA, DOT, DOLA

Broadband/Communications

Program—**SECDD Regional Broadband Support Office.** SCEDD will create a two-to-three-person office to take the lead in implementing broadband with a regional approach. Local projects need to be rolled up into regional and sub-region initiatives to secure adequate funding and to manage fewer, but larger projects. Part of that effort will be to create a region-wide grant match gap funds to assist with securing funds.

Status of Program—In development

Lead—SCEDD

Project Cost Estimate--\$250k per annum in operational support; \$1M per annum in grant match gap fund

Funding options—EDA technical assistance grant, DOLA, Electricity providers, County government, Foundation grants.

Critical Infrastructure

Project- **Fiber Optics to Trinidad.** Fiber optics are already being installed by CDOT along I-25 north of Trinidad toward the city. Need to pursue this as part of delivering broad band to LAC and Trinidad.

Status of Project – Planned/In progress

Lead – City of Trinidad

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – CDOT, DOLA

Project- **Interconnect City Buildings with High-Speed Fiber Optics.** There is a need to tie all City buildings together with a fiber network which would help with main servers for the City IT infrastructure.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – City of Trinidad

Project Cost Estimate – \$300,000.00

Funding Options –

Project – **Internet**

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – City of Trinidad

Project Cost Estimate – \$20,000.00 per mile. (Total cost to be determined.)

Funding Options – Federal grants, tax revenue

Project – **New Fire Station for East Side of Trinidad.** The east side of Trinidad is growing, and this growth is projected to continue. A fire station will soon be needed to serve this area.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – City of Trinidad

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

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Funding Options –

Project – **Emergency Generator for Fire Station 1.** A backup generator is needed to support this station during power outages.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – Trinidad Fire Department

Project Cost Estimate – \$45,000.00

Funding Options – FEM, USDA, DOLA

Project – **Trinidad Lake Water Treatment Plant**

Status – Planning

Lead – City of Trinidad

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – DOLA, EDA,

Workforce Housing (Strategies)

Project – **Workforce housing is needed for several sectors: Needed by higher Ed, Allegiance Coal, and more.**

Status – Planning

Lead – LAC BOCC, TSCC (for Higher Ed.)

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – EDA

Education/Work Force Development

Project – **Colorado Law Enforcement Training Academy (CLETA)** LAC once had one of these training academies. Want to see it return.

Status – Conceptual

Lead – LAC

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options - EDA, DOLA

Project – **Building Trades Program** – There is a need for vocational job training for non-college bound students and to fulfill needs of local industry

Status of Project – Planning (*Note: there is a local Vo/Tech training program in schools*)

Lead – TSCC/Local High Schools/Donna Haddow w/ TSCC

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – CDE, EDA, DOLA

Renewable Energy

Project – **Solar Farm Expansion.** Two solar farms - North of Hoehne near Huerfano Las Animas County's border, east of I-25

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Status of Project – The San Isabel farm is complete. A second project is the Spanish Peaks solar farm. Construction set for 2022. *Another expansion of the Spanish Peaks farm is planned for 2024.*

Lead – LAC/SIEA

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – SIEA

Project- **Burro Canyon Geothermal Development West of Trinidad.**

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – Public/Private: TSCC and Evergreen Natural Resources

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – DOE, EDA, DOLA

Recreation and Tourism

Project – **Access to BLM/State Land** – BLM land is (landlocked) surrounded by private and state park land adjacent to Fisher’s Peak State Park. Access is needed for expanded recreation/camping/ATV/OHV trails.

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – LAC and City of Trinidad (Jared Chatterley)

Project Cost Estimate – N/A (*Could involve a land trade or purchase*)

Funding Options – OEDIT, EDA, DOLA

Project – **Simpson’s Rest – Road Improvements, Signage/Parking/Picnicking/Safety and Security Measures (fencing/cameras).** Note: it is possible this area will become a County rock climbing Park.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – City of Trinidad (Jared Chatterley)

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options –

Project – **Las Animas Fairgrounds Improvements:** Grandstand/ADA Walkways. Develop: Playing Fields/Camping Area/Commercial Kitchen/Events Center (small), Pavilions/Bike Lane/Trail to Simpson’s Rest.

Status of Project – CU Boulder study near completion using DOLA grant.

Lead – LAC

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – DOLA, EDA, USDA

Project – **Water Park** – The city wants to build a water park as a tourist attraction and to benefit the local population.

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – City of Trinidad

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – DOLA, GOCO

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Project – **River Walk** – The city wants to build a river walk as a tourist attraction and to benefit the local population.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – City of Trinidad/ Knudson with Purgatory Partners (Water Shed Conservancy)

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – GOCO, DOLA

Project – **Remodel/Rehab Former Trinidad Water Works Building, Turning it into an Outdoor Recreation Center.** This vacant structure is the second oldest in Trinidad. Exterior has been restored but not the interior. The building is situated directly adjacent to a city park and the proposed River walk.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – City of Trinidad

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – GOCO, History Colorado, City Funds

Project – **FOX Theater.** Renovations to historic theater.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – City of Trinidad

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – GOCO, History Colorado, City Funds

Health Care/Public Health/ Mental Health

Project – **Mental Health/Substance Abuse and Treatment Facility.** Significant substance abuse issues plague the area. A medical detox facility is needed along with short and long-term treatment. (Could be Bi-County and Located in Huerfano i.e., Lathrop Park Youth Camp Facility.)

Status of Project – Conceptual

Lead – Huerfano/Las Animas Bi-County Health Dept. and private sector.

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – CDPHE, DOLA, EDA, DHS, Private

Transportation

Project – **Perry-Stokes Airport Paving**

Status of Project – all preliminary work will be completed with County workforce; project needs funds for the placement of asphalt in front of the hangars

Lead – Las Animas County

Project Cost Estimate – \$277,000

Funding Options – FAA, EDA - County will prep hangar sites for paving (\$300,000 in kind contribution).

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Project – **LAC Passenger Rail Service – Front Range Rail/ SW Chief.** This is part of a state effort along the front range to develop a passenger rail from Wyoming to Pueblo and Trinidad. The SW Chief already runs through the area but may be rerouted as part of this project.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – LAC

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – DOT, DOLA, EDA

Other

Project- **Replace Carpet in Trinidad Carnegie Library.** The current carpet is old, stained, and torn.

Status of Project - Planning

Lead – Library Director

Project Cost Estimate – \$36,000.00

Funding Options -

Project- **Update/Overhaul Trinidad Carnegie Library Public Use Computer Infrastructure and Reservation System.** The current public computer system is outdated and incapable of meeting present and future demands/needs. More computers, computer stations, ports, electrical outlets, are needed along with a PC Reservation System.

Status of Project - Planning

Lead – Library Director

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options –



Otero County Projects Summary

Access To Capital

The region has moderate to strong capacity in the availability of debt capital, though the lack of a regional SBA 504 packager is a need to be addressed. There is a need to strengthen existing Revolving loan funds to increase capacity and perhaps to offer niche products. Within Pueblo County, there are strong incentive programs for specific types of industries and job creations. The region, however, is an equity desert, with little access to capital for startups, follow on funding, or private equity funds to help existing businesses to pivot or grow. The strategy is to increase access to equity capital in the region and develop an entrepreneurial ecosystem that supports startups in the tech sector and the intellectual property sector.

SCEDD Regional Programs

Program- **SoCo Angels Support**. Provide three years of operational support to develop an early Angel startup network of Accredited Investors to fund the seed stage for tech and intellectual property startups

Status of Program- Development

Lead- SCEDD, SCIL, SoCo Angels,

Program Cost Estimate--\$300k per annum

Funding Options- EDA technical assistance grant, Foundation grants

Program: **Angel fund**. Adjunctive to SoCo Angels, the development of a separate fund can support individual angel investments with an institutional investment or a “sidecar” fund created by accredited investors who want to supplement individual investments with group efforts.

Status of Program—Conceptual

Lead: SCEDD, SCIL, SoCo Angels

Program Cost Estimate: Institutional fund--\$500k; Sidecar fund \$500k

Funding options: Institutional: Foundations; Sidecar: Accredited investors of SoCo Angels

Program: **SBA 504 Packaging**. Re-enter this SBA program with either a stand-alone entity or in partnership with adjoining packagers. This product is a critical credit enhancer for collateral-oriented commercial banks considering startups of between \$1 million and \$5 million that have commercial real estate for collateral.

Status of Program—Early Development

Lead: SCEDD

Program cost estimate: Approximately \$100k per annum at start, with additional costs dependent on deal flow and generation of fees.

Funding Options—Startup loans, Foundation grants, Commercial bank support

Program: **Rural Downtown Mixed-Use Revitalization Program**. A revolving low interest loan fund for mixed-use properties in the 8 counties in the southeastern plains that offer low interest loans for both the downstairs commercial and upstairs residential units.

Status of Program—Early Development

Lead: SCEDD and SECED

Program cost estimate: \$1million

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Funding Options- Grant \$800 DOLA/OEDIT and \$200K County match

Agriculture/ Ranching

Project – **USDA Certified Meat Processing Facility.** Increase the capacity to have cattle, sheep, goats, pigs, and game animals processed.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – Otero County Economic Development, Ag producers

Project Cost Estimate – \$4M

Funding Options – USDA, OZ

Broadband Development

SCEDD Regional Programs

Program—**Broadband Support Office.** SCEDD will create a two-to-three-person office to take the lead in implementing broadband with a regional approach. Local projects need to be rolled up into regional and sub-region initiatives to secure adequate funding and to manage fewer, but larger projects. Part of that effort will be to create a region-wide grant match gap funds to assist with securing funds.

Status of Program—In development

Lead—SCEDD

Project Cost Estimate--\$250k per annum in operational support; \$1M per annum in grant match gap fund

Funding options—EDA technical assistance grant, DOLA, Electricity providers, County government, Foundation grants

Business Development

Program - **City of La Junta Downtown Revitalization-** Turn iconic, historic former downtown church building into a fully utilized commercial building.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – City of La Junta

Project Cost Estimate - \$3,000,000

Funding Options – EPA, DOLA, USDA, CPACE, OZ, SHF, Rawlings Foundation, El Pomar, Boettcher, CHFA

Project - **City of La Junta Downtown Revitalization** Activate, beautify, and rehabilitate downtown civic spaces possibly to include utilities/roads.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – City of La Junta, La Junta Main Street

Project Cost Estimate -\$2,500,000

Funding Options – COMS, DOLA, Rawlings Foundation, CCI

Project - **City of La Junta CORE Building-** Mixed use space. Upstairs offices, apartments, etc.

Status of Project – Concept

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Lead – City of La Junta

Project Cost Estimate - \$2,500,000

Funding Options – EPA, DOLA, USDA, CPACE, OZ

Project - **City of La Junta Downtown Revitalization-** Downtown roof replacement program – provide incentives/matching funds for businesses to replace the roofs on their buildings.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – City of La Junta

Project Cost Estimate - \$1,900,000

Funding Options – EPA, DOLA, USDA

Project - **City of La Junta Downtown Revitalization-** Replace roof and install AC at the St. Pat's Office Complex. (City Owned Facility)

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – City of La Junta

Project Cost Estimate - \$500,000

Funding Options – EPA, DOLA, USDA, CPACE

Project - **City of La Junta Economic Development.** Build office/industry building. This project is to build an industrial building on a large, municipal-owned lot that has infrastructure on site already. The idea is to create an industry within city limits that is easy to walk/bike to and creates a mixed-use. Suggested ideas are a PPE factory or a robotics training and creation factory.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – City of La Junta

Project Cost Estimate - \$2,000,000

Funding Options – EPA, DOLA, USDA, CPACE

Program - **City of Rocky Ford Downtown Façade Painting Program.** To upgrade façade and curb appeal of Main Street Business District.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead - Economic and Community Development

Project Cost Estimate - \$50,000

Funding Options – CDOT, City of Rocky Ford

Program – **La Junta Economic Development- Creation of educational/economic development ecosystem.** This program offers works off of an assessment of local and regional sector needs and provides an ecosystem of training through local education, community college training, independent professional training, and local makers spaces to fill the gap of local needs and create a vibrant for training capacity. We will offer training/certification to assist in producing No Collar workers (those without degrees who are well equipped for 21st century jobs that require

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creative thinking, skills such as 3-D printing, coding, robotics, and reverse engineering), trades, gig workers and entrepreneurial trades.

Status of Program – Concept

Lead – City of La Junta, Economic Development

Program Cost Estimate – \$5,000,000 (necessary to train all needed sectors)

Funding Options- EDA, DOLA, SHF, Advisory Council on Historic/Preservation, OZ, CHF, Boettcher

Project – **La Junta Urban Renewal Blighted Properties Redevelopment (Vacancy Remediation)**. The anticipated blighted properties inventory, (estimated to exceed 15 properties, some of them in excess of 20,000 sq. ft.) needs to be addressed with the “carrot” of financial incentives to correct the current situation. Vacancy study – June. Ben Levinger, Planner.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – City of La Junta, LJ URA

Project Cost Estimate - \$5,000,000

Funding Options – EPA, DOLA, USDA, CSPACE, OZ

Project - **City of Rocky Ford Coworking Space**. Build out of shared workspace including large format printing, 3d design, laser cutting, and commercial sewing.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – City of Rocky Ford

Project Cost Estimate - \$145,000

Funding Options – Small Town Project, private foundations, EDA

Project – **City of La Junta Public Safety Camera System**. Motorola Avigilon Public Camera System. This will help LJ deter crime in the downtown area and other high-crime areas. This will also help business development in the downtown area.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – La Junta Police Department

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Local Match

Critical Infrastructure

Project- **Complete Phase III of the Rocky Ford Public Safety Building**. Building is currently being partially utilized by Fire Department. Half of the facility is not being used. Police Department needs it.

Status of Project – Construction

Lead – Rocky Ford Department of Public Safety

Project Cost Estimate - \$1,000,000

Funding Options – City of Rocky Ford

Project- **Arkansas Valley Conduit**. Connection to existing water system, water treatment plant improvements to accommodate new water source, and additional treatment requirements.

Status of Project – Concept/ Engineering Lead engineer contact from Tara

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Lead – Southeast Water Conservancy District (Bill Long, Board of Directors)

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Water Fund reserves, Drinking Water Revolving Fund, Grants through DOLA, CDPHE, CWCB, RD, small water companies (40)

Project - City of La Junta Water- Water main replacement and pumps on main water tank to prevent potential disaster.

The current water mains, valves, and associated infrastructure have met or exceeded its useful service life expectancy. Exceptional system maintenance has ensured functionality so far.

Replacement of this infrastructure ensures proper fire flows, enhances business opportunities, and better serves the public health.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – City of La Junta

Project Cost Estimate - \$15,000,000

Funding Options – DOLA, USDA, CDPHE

Project – City of La Junta Industrial Park. Install 5MW natural gas generators at Industrial Park Substation. The project is needed to combat the high cost of electricity and growth within the Industrial Park.

Status of Project - Engineering and design

Lead – City of La Junta, Assistant City Manager.

Project Cost Estimate - \$5,000,000

Funding Options – Grant request with local and ARPA match.

Project - Otero County Bridge Replacement. Bridge Replacement across the county to facilitate truck traffic for agricultural entities and tourism.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – Otero County

Project Cost Estimate - \$15,000,000

Funding Options – CDOT, DOLA, FTA, Severance Tax

Project – City of La Junta New 1.1 MG Elevated Water Tank- This is needed for additional capacity for development to replace current .25MG South Tank. This tank replacement will encourage and accommodate managed growth within the City of La Junta. It will also support the redevelopment of properties undergoing current or proposed change of use, physical expansion, and proposed commercial and industrial construction. This project works in conjunction with the south booster station rehabilitation/replacement and the replacement of the transmission line to the south tank.

Status of Project – Pre-construction/Engineering

Lead – City of La Junta

Project Cost Estimate - \$3,000,000

Funding Options - Department funds, grants, in-kind.

Project – City of La Junta Water North Transmission Line. Replacement of north Tank transmission line.

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Replacement of north tank transmission line will ensure and stabilize current infrastructure and promote future growth at the City of La Junta Industrial Park. It will improve the safety of the system where the line crosses an agriculture irrigation canal and the Arkansas River.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – City of La Junta

Project Cost Estimate - \$4,300,000

Funding Options – Department funds, grants, in-kind.

Project – **City of La Junta Water New/rehabilitate south booster pump station.** The south booster station is responsible for delivery of water to approximately 45% of the city, including the hospital, dialysis center, high school, and college. Establishing a new, modern, energy efficient booster station would ensure adequate fire protection to these areas, and slow promote development in the southern area of the city, including the new nursing home facility and projected residential neighborhoods.

Status of Project – Pre-construction/Engineering

Lead – City of La Junta

Project Cost Estimate - \$800,000

Funding Options – Department funds, grants, in-kind.

Project – **City of La Junta Water New/replacement transmission line to south tank.** This project works in concert with the rehabilitation/replacement of the south booster station. This is the primary line that is responsible for delivery of water to the south storage tank that serves approximately 45% of the city, including the hospital, dialysis center, high school, and college.

Status of Project – Pre-construction/Engineering

Lead – City of La Junta

Project Cost Estimate - \$1,500,000

Funding Options – Department funds, grants, in-kind

Project – **City of Rocky Ford Wastewater Treatment Facility repair and upgrade**

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – Rocky Ford Office of Economic Development

Project Cost Estimate - \$10,000,000

Funding Options – CDPHE, DOLA, City of Rocky Ford, U.S. Army COE

Project – **City of Rocky Ford Sewer Replacement.** Replacement of sanitary sewer main in historic downtown to allow for redevelopment and expansion of commercial district.

Status of Project – Preconstruction/Engineering Replacement of Sewer Main in historic downtown to allow for redevelopment and expansion of comm dist.

Lead – Rocky Ford Department of Public Works

Project Cost Estimate - \$3,000,000

Funding Options – DOLA, City of Rocky Ford

Project – **City of Rocky Ford Water Distribution System Replacement.** Replacement of water main in existing city water distribution system in historic downtown to allow for redevelopment and expansion of commercial district.

Status of Project – Preconstruction/Engineering/Master Plan Pending

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Lead – Rocky Ford Department of Public Works
Project Cost Estimate - \$2,000,000 - \$3,000,000
Funding Options – DOLA, City of Rocky Ford

Workforce Housing Strategies

Project –**Single Family Rehab and Energy Efficiency** program to assist homeowners in rehabilitating their current home to stay in their home.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – Total Concept

Project Cost Estimate -- \$500,000

Funding Options – DOH

Project - **City of La Junta New housing units** that are attainable for income levels above 80% AMI. The plan would be to build 10-12 homes within the city limits. This project is a collaboration between the City of La Junta, Urban Renewal, DOLA, SCEDD, and SECED.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – City of La Junta

Project Cost Estimate - \$2,500,000

Funding Options – EPA, DOLA, USDA, CSPACE, DOH, OZ, DOH

Project -**City of La Junta Urban Renewal – The Plaza Block Building.** Final finishes of the interior for use as a community and youth center in collaboration with Communities That Care and SECCP, a regional arts organization, as well as two apartments.

Status of Project – Rehab/Revitalization

Lead – City of La Junta, La Junta Urban Renewal Authority

Project Cost Estimate - \$2,300,000

Funding Options – SHF, DOLA, USDA, CHF, CHFA, Boettcher, Regional Arts, Communities That Care

Project- **Housing Rehabilitation and Energy Efficiency Office?**

Status of Project – Concept and Planning

Lead –

Project Cost Estimate -

Funding Options –

Program- **Regional Development Incentives?**

Status of Project – Concept and Planning

Lead –

Project Cost Estimate -

Funding Options –

Program- **Otero County Downton Mixed-Use Living Rehab.**

Status of Project – Concept and Planning

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Lead –
Project Cost Estimate -
Funding Options –

Project- **City of Rocky Ford** -Purchase and convert 30-unit motel into 15 2-bd apartments for affordable housing.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – Small Town Project

Project Cost Estimate - \$900,000

Funding Options – Small Town Project, CBDG, DOLA, CDOH, Private Foundations, PRI Loan

Education/Work Force Development

Project - **City of Rocky Ford. Rural Employee Workforce and Resiliency Development (REWARD) program** is a job certification and re-entry program for persons who want to re-enter the workforce and do not want to pursue a college track or are simply unable to for whatever reason. This project is a collaboration between the City of Rocky Ford, the SBDC, local businesses and other non-profits.

Status of Program – Revitalization, reinvestment

Lead – Office of Economic Community Development

Project Cost Estimate - \$100,000

Funding Options – City of Rocky Ford, SBDC, DOLA, Private Funders

Project - **City of Rocky Ford School District - Replace two aging elementary school buildings** with a PK-8 addition to the Junior Senior High School Building.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – Rocky Ford School District

Project Cost Estimate - \$47,500,000

Funding Options - BEST Grant: \$39,871,196 Local Match \$7,628,804

Project – **Southeast Colorado Region Entrepreneurship programming for 5th – 12th grade** public school, private school and home school students in the seven-county area of SE Colorado

Status of Program – Implemented w/continuing programming.

Lead – SEBREA Fiscal Agent

Project Cost Estimate – Not Given

Funding Options – Possible grant funding from the Rawlings Foundation, El Pomar, Daniels Fund, and other regional foundations.

Renewable Energy

Project – City of La Junta Industrial Park Solar Generation. Install 10MW solar generation at Industrial Park Substation.

Status of Project – Engineering and design being completed.

Lead - City of La Junta, Assistant City Manager

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Project Cost Estimate - \$10,000,000 needed for 5MW natural gas generation and 5-10 MW solar generation at the La Junta Industrial Park. This includes upgrades to existing sub-station Tiebreaker and transformers. This will allow La Junta to stabilize the power supply from the grid to avoid brown outs from high usage during peak times. This will stabilize the power supply.
Funding Options – Grant request with local match

Recreation and Tourism

Project - **City of La Junta Recreation. Convert two city blocks into college soccer field,** enhancing athlete recruitment (OJC) and providing additional recreation spaces for La Junta youth.
Status of Project – Concept
Lead – City of La Junta
Project Cost Estimate – \$1,500,000
Funding Options – DOLA, USDA, GOCO

Project - **City of La Junta Recreation.** Install HVAC at The Fairway Restaurant at The City Golf Course.
Status of Project – Concept
Lead – City of La Junta
Project Cost Estimate – \$500,000
Funding Options – EPA, DOLA, USDA, CPACE

Project - **City of Rocky Ford - Fairground improvement and renovation** (multiple projects).
Status of Project – Concept and Planning
Lead – Ark Valley Fair Board
Project Cost Estimate - \$2,270,000
Funding Options –EDA, DOLA, USDA, private bank funding, GOCO (married with other projects), Otero County, donations/fundraisers, Tourism, History Colorado

Project - **City of La Junta Historic Kiva Preservation.** The Kiva is inching in on 75 years in existence and requires significant upgrades for displays, HVAC, building grading, electrical, lighting, interior damage from roof leakage (roof is being replaced now), water pipe replacement, janitorial services, and ADA bathrooms.
Status of Project – Plans Prepared
Lead – City of La Junta
Project Cost Estimate - \$600,000
Funding Options – History Colorado, Enterprise Zone, Contribution Project, DOLA, Tourism

Project - **City of La Junta Historic Preservation. Upgrade HVAC and plumbing at the Armory Building.** The HVAC at the building is not functioning well and is outdated. The system needs replacing now as the city has started using the building for youth recreational programs.

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Status of Project – Concept

Lead – City of La Junta

Project Cost Estimate - \$500,000

Funding Options – EPA, DOLA, USDA, CPACE

Project – **Otero County Hwy 50 Access to Bent's Fort.** Access to Bent's Fort via HWY 50.

More needed on project.

Public access to Bent's Fort via Hwy 50 – walking bridge across the Arkansas River, walking paths for birding, picnicking – for tourism and economic development.

Project Status – Concept

Lead – Otero County

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – DOLA, GOCO, Conservative Trust Funds, Water Conservancy grants, collaboration with Bent's Fort.

Health Care/Public Health/ Mental Health

Project-

Status of Project – Concept and Planning

Lead –

Project Cost Estimate -

Funding Options –

Transportation

Project - **City of La Junta Airport Addition.** Install additional airplane hangars at the airport. The use at the La Junta Airport has increased with Doss Aviation needing to house aircraft at the airport. Additionally, we could house additional aircraft that is currently on the waiting list.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – City of La Junta

Project Cost Estimate - \$500,000

Funding Options – EPA, DOLA, USDA, CPACE

Project - **City of La Junta Airport Rehabilitation.** Rehabilitate a WWII airplane hangar for a museum. The WWII hangar located at the La Junta Airport is the last standing hangar from the WWII era. The condition of the structure is in immediate need of repair and rebuild.

Status of Project – Phase 1

Lead - City of La Junta

Project Cost Estimate -\$330,000

Funding Options – DOLA, City of La Junta

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Project - **City of La Junta Transit Center.** Create transit center to serve Amtrak, bus services and as a destination center for learning about La Junta, local business and tourism.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead - City of La Junta

Project Cost Estimate - \$5,000,000

Funding Options – Federal Transit Administration, REDI, CDOT, STP Funds, New Starts, Small Starts, TIGER

Project – **City of La Junta LHX Municipal Airport Runway Rebuild. Mill and rebuild runway 12/30, 5280' X 60.'** Runway 12/30 is the cross wind runway at LHX. It has not had any surface treatment or rehab in the last 20 years and is nearing total breakdown of the surface.

A delay in resurfacing will render the runway unusable.

Status of Project – Engineering and design

Lead – City of La Junta, Assistant City Manager, Airport Manager

Project Cost Estimate - \$4,065,600

Funding Options – Grant request

Institutional/ Local Government Facility Infrastructure

Project – **Otero County 16th Judicial District Court.** District and county courts have outgrown the current space currently at Sheriff Department and in bad repair. Feasibility study/\$38 million dollar project stopped with the onset of COVID.

Project Status – Concept

Lead – Otero County

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – DOLA, sales tax increase, loan

Project – **Otero County Detention Center.** Otero County is in need of a detention center.

Project Status – Concept

Lead – Otero County

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – DOLA, sales tax increase, loan

Project – **City of La Junta PD Training Facility Overhead Cover.** Sun and weather overhead cover at the training facility. This will assist with mandated training during inclement weather.

Status of Project – In Progress

Lead – La Junta Police Department

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Local Match



Prowers County Projects Summary

Access To Capital

The region has moderate to strong capacity in the availability of debt capital, though the lack of a regional SBA 504 packager is a need to be addressed. There is a need to strengthen existing Revolving loan funds to increase capacity and perhaps to offer niche products. Within Pueblo County, there are strong incentive programs for specific types of industries and job creations. The region, however, is an equity desert, with little access to capital for startups, follow on funding, or private equity funds to help existing businesses to pivot or grow. The strategy is to increase access to equity capital in the region and develop an entrepreneurial ecosystem that supports startups in the tech sector and the intellectual property sector.

SCEDD Regional Programs

Program- **SoCo Angels Support.** Provide three years of operational support to develop an early Angel startup network of Accredited Investors to fund the seed stage for tech and intellectual property startups

Status of Program- Development

Lead- SCEDD, SCIL, SoCo Angels,

Program Cost Estimate--\$300k per annum

Funding Options- EDA technical assistance grant, Foundation grants

Program: **Angel fund.** Adjunctive to SoCo Angels, the development of a separate fund can support individual angel investments with an institutional investment or a “sidecar” fund created by accredited investors who want to supplement individual investments with group efforts.

Status of Program—Conceptual

Lead: SCEDD, SCIL, SoCo Angels

Program Cost Estimate: Institutional fund--\$500k; Sidecar fund \$500k

Funding options: Institutional: Foundations; Sidecar: Accredited investors of SoCo Angels

Program: **SBA 504 Packaging.** Re-enter this SBA program with either a stand-alone entity or in partnership with adjoining packagers. This product is a critical credit enhancer for collateral-oriented commercial banks considering startups of between \$1 million and \$5 million that have commercial real estate for collateral.

Status of Program—Early Development

Lead: SCEDD

Program cost estimate: Approximately \$100k per annum at start, with additional costs dependent on deal flow and generation of fees.

Funding Options—Startup loans, Foundation grants, Commercial bank support

Program: **Rural Downtown Mixed-Use Revitalization Program.** A revolving low interest loan fund for mixed-use properties in the 8 counties in the southeastern plains that offer low interest loans for both the downstairs commercial and upstairs residential units.

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Status of Program—Early Development

Lead: SCEDD and SECED

Program cost estimate: \$1million

Funding Options- Grant \$800 DOLA/OEDIT and \$200K County match

Agriculture/ Ranching

Project – City of Lamar Grain and Fertilizer Storage. Conversion of existing coal domes to grain and fertilizer storage units.

Status of Project – Under construction

Lead – City of Lamar

Project Cost Estimate - \$350,000 - \$400,000

Funding Options –

Project – **City of Lamar Irrigation Industrial Manufacturing**

Status of Project – Concept and Planning

Lead – City of Lamar

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – EDA

Project – Meat Packaging, Wiley and Granada

Status of Project – Engineering

Lead – Prowers County

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – EDA, USDA

Project – **Prowers County Dairy Farms/Packaging.** Recruitment of potential dairy operations.

Package of agricultural products produced locally. (Colorado Mills)

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – City of Lamar

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – EDA, USDA

Broadband Development

SCEDD Regional Programs

Program—**Broadband Support Office.** SCEDD will create a two to three person office to take the lead in implementing broadband with a regional approach. Local projects need to be rolled up into regional and sub-region initiatives to secure adequate funding and to manage fewer, but larger projects. Part of that effort will be to create a region-wide grant match gap funds to assist with securing funds.

Status of Program—In development

Lead—SCEDD

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Project Cost Estimate--\$250k per annum in operational support; \$1M per annum in grant match gap fund

Funding options—EDA technical assistance grant, DOLA, Electricity providers, County government, Foundation grants

Business Development

Project- **Town of Holly Downtown Redevelopment.** Downtown Redevelopment – Asbestos and mold removal from several buildings to entice entrepreneurs to move to downtown. Demolition of old house structures which also have asbestos to make way for new housing developments. Also, rehabilitate current Fire Dept. Station and Holly Community Complex. Installation of new radio read water and electric meters to replace outdated metering system.

Status of Project – Planning/Engineering

Lead – Town of Holly

Project Cost Estimate - \$459,822

Funding Options – Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

Project – **The Ridges at Lamar Data Center.** The project will provide data processing site for blockchain and other similar energy intensive technology applications. This project will create up to 80 permanent jobs. Site infrastructure improvements required to accommodate data center to include electric power, transmission capacity, substations, access to fiber and high-speed internet.

Status of Project -Planning

Lead – City of Lamar

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options –

Project – **City of Lamar Distribution Warehousing at Airport.** Design and development site ready warehouses for various distribution operations at Southeast Colorado Regional Airport.

Status of Project - Planning

Lead – City of Lamar

Project Cost Estimate -\$3,000,000

Funding Options -DOLA

Critical Infrastructure

Project – **City of Lamar Main Street Sidewalks.** Fix and repair tripping hazards and make sidewalks ADA compliant.

Status of Project – Planning/Concept

Lead – City of Lamar, Building Department

Project Cost Estimate - \$50,000

Funding Options – CDOT grants / city in-kind match of 30%

Project – **City of Lamar Wastewater Treatment Facility.** Facility to treat wastewater for the City of Lamar to allow for expansion of residential and commercial development.

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Status of Project – Planning

Lead – City of Lamar

Project Cost Estimate - \$10,000,000

Funding Options – EDA Grant

Project – **Town of Wiley, Sewer Lagoon Removal and Replacement.** Remove one sewer lagoon, install 3 new sewer lagoons.

Status of Project – Pre-construction, Engineering

Lead – Town of Wiley (Element Engineering)

Project Cost Estimate – \$3.1 million

Funding Options – USDA, CDPHE, DOLA

Project – **Town of Holly Wastewater Rehabilitation.** The proposed construction project consists of rehabilitating The Town of Holly’s existing sanitary lift station, correcting problem areas within the collection system and the installation of a small, new lift station with service line connection to serve a vacant lot the town wishes to zone as retail development.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – Town of Holly

Project Cost Estimate - \$400,545

Funding Options – EDA Grant

Project – **Town of Holly Water Treatment Plant**

Status – Engineering

Lead – Town of Holly

Project Cost Estimate - \$6 Million

Funding Options- USDA, DOLA

Project – Town of Granada Water. Replace of Mains ad Treatment.

Status- Construction

Lead – Town of Granada

Project Cost Estimate

Funding Options

Workforce Housing Strategies

Project- **Lamar Community College Housing.** Convert old motel into college housing in order to accommodate enrollment growth.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – Lamar Community College

Project Cost Estimate - \$2,000,000

Funding Options – College Foundation

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Education/Work Force Development

Project – **Southeast Colorado Region Entrepreneurship programming for 5th – 12th grade** public school, private school and home school students in the seven-county area of SE Colorado

Status of Program – Implemented w/continuing programming

Lead – SEBREA Fiscal Agent

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Possible grant funding from the Rawlings Foundation, El Pomar, Daniels Fund, and other regional foundations.

Project – **Lamar Community College Adult Transition Services.** Establish an ELL/Adult Basic Ed/GED Preparation program that assists graduates with transition to work and/or higher education through case management.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – Lamar Community College

Project Cost Estimate - \$500,000 over four-year period

Funding Options – Foundations, TANF, course revenue

Project – **Lamar Community College Employer-Driven Workforce Training.** Create employer demand-based credit/non-credit education program that works with large and small employers in the region to determine needs and accomplish low-cost training options incorporating Lamar Community College customized training and available consortium resources including partnering higher ed institutions.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead - Lamar Community College

Project Cost Estimate –

Funding Options – Tuition revenue, employer sponsorships

Project – **Lamar Community College Entrepreneur/Makers.** Incorporate Lamar Community College's Innovate & Make Space (makerspace) into a greater regional entrepreneurial effort dovetailing with incubator services, where residents can create products and receive business support.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead - Lamar Community College

Project Cost Estimate –

Funding Options – Foundations, usage revenue

Project – **Lamar Community College Trades Apprenticeships.** Develop skilled trades apprenticeships in partnership with local business and industry where there is demand and capacity.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead - Lamar Community College

Project Cost Estimate –

Funding Options – US DOL grant, employer sponsorships

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Renewable Energy

Project – **Prowers County Electric Transmission Line** – Secure Electric Transmission Line in County to additional renewable energy projects.

Status- Planning

Lead – Prowers County, Southeastern Colorado Region

Project Cost Estimate

Funding Options- EDA

Recreation and Tourism

Project – **City of Lamar Escondido Park Soccer Field**. Add a soccer field, seating, etc. to become home to the LCC soccer program

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – City of Lamar

Project Cost Estimate - \$600,000

Funding Options – GOCO

Project – **City of Lamar North Gateway Park Improvements**. Expand beach area and improve infrastructure. Add additional campground and RV sites.

Status of Project –Planning

Lead – City of Lamar

Project Cost Estimate –\$750,000

Funding Options –DOLA, GOCO

Project – **City of Lamar Rehabilitate Willow Creek Park WPA Amenities**. Rehabilitate WPA stone walls and other structures at historic Willow Creek Park.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – City of Lamar

Project Cost Estimate – \$500,000

Funding Options –DOLA, GOCO, Historical Grant Funds, Donations

Project – **City of Lamar Rehabilitation of Historic Locomotive at Visitor Center**. Refurbish and rehabilitate historic, steam engine at city visitor site.

Status of Project – Looking for Funding

Lead – City of Lamar

Project Cost Estimate - \$10,000 - \$15,000

Funding Options –

Project – **Town perimeter trail**. Town of Granada conversion of ditch into walking trail

Status of Project –

Lead – Town of Granada

Project Cost Estimate – \$100,000

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Funding Options - GOCO

Health Care/Public Health/ Mental Health

Transportation

Project – City of Lamar Airport. Convert hangar space to living quarters for medics. Build new Flight for Life emergency service hangars to include apartments for medical attendants.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – City of Lamar

Project Cost Estimate - \$2,000,000

Funding Options – EDA, FAA, DOLA, CDOT

Project – Southeast Colorado Regional Airport. As new FBO, add required security and other infrastructure to support future essential air service for Southeast Colorado.

Status of Project - Planning

Lead – City of Lamar

Project Cost Estimate –

Funding Options – EDA, FAA, DOLA, CDOT

Project – City of Lamar/Prowers County US 287 Alternate Truck Route. Continue decades long efforts to implement alternative truck route around city.

Status of Project – Engineering complete and ready

Lead – City of Lamar/Prowers County

Project Cost Estimate

Funding Options

Institutional/ Local Government Facility Infrastructure

Program- **Prowers County 4-Bay Fire Station.** Pre-engineered metal building 4-bay fire station with tornado-proof training room, bunk area, showers, offices and kitchen. Building will also provide an alternate Emergency Operations Center.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – Prowers County, Staffon Warn

Project Cost Estimate - \$850,000

Funding Options – DOLA, Local Match

Project – **City of Lamar Public Safety Building Expansion.** Add much needed space for Police, Fire and Ambulance services.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – City of Lamar

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Project Cost Estimate - \$2.5 million

Funding Options – Public Safety (city general fund), Escondido Park (GOCO funds), WWTP (EPA grant).

Project – Town of Holly Building to replace leased space now requiring asbestos abatement.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – Holly Fire and Ambulance District

Project Cost Estimate –

Funding Options –

Town of Granada Fire Station Expansion

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – Town of Granada

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – DOLA

Appendix B

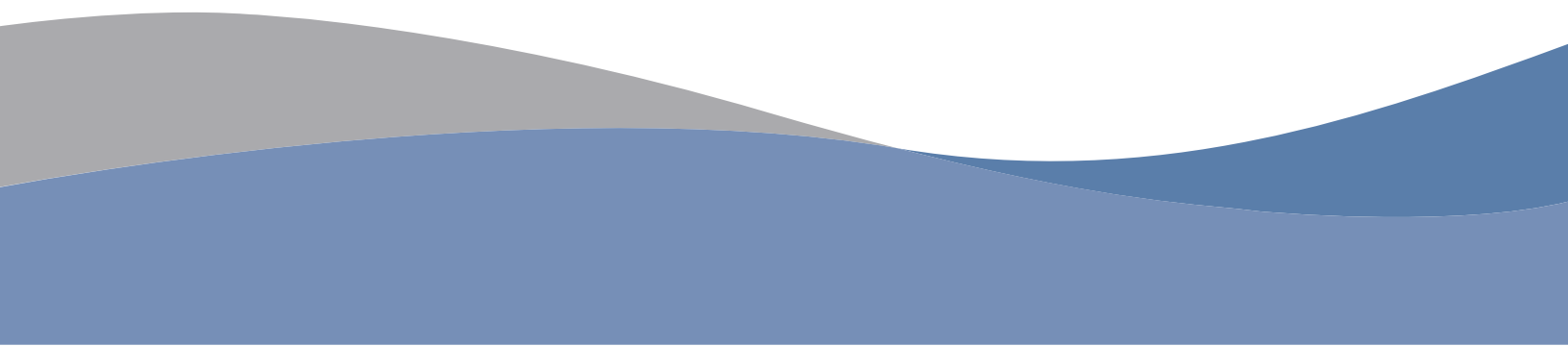
County Economic Data



Economic Overview



Baca County, Colorado



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Demographic Profile

The population in Baca County, Colorado was 3,561 per American Community Survey data for 2015-2019.

The region has a civilian labor force of 1,656 with a participation rate of 57.1%. Of individuals 25 to 64 in Baca County, Colorado, 22.9% have a bachelor's degree or higher which compares with 33.5% in the nation.

The median household income in Baca County, Colorado is \$35,878 and the median house value is \$83,500.

Summary¹

Demographics	Percent			Value		
	Baca County, Colorado	Colorado	USA	Baca County, Colorado	Colorado	USA
Population (ACS)	—	—	—	3,561	5,610,349	324,697,795
Male	49.0%	50.3%	49.2%	1,744	2,823,201	159,886,919
Female	51.0%	49.7%	50.8%	1,817	2,787,148	164,810,876
Median Age ²	—	—	—	46.0	36.7	38.1
Under 18 Years	21.0%	22.5%	22.6%	748	1,261,005	73,429,392
18 to 24 Years	5.8%	9.3%	9.4%	205	523,765	30,646,327
25 to 34 Years	10.9%	15.5%	13.9%	388	871,500	45,030,415
35 to 44 Years	11.3%	13.6%	12.6%	402	764,183	40,978,831
45 to 54 Years	10.0%	12.7%	13.0%	355	713,520	42,072,620
55 to 64 Years	15.1%	12.5%	12.9%	537	702,670	41,756,414
65 to 74 Years	12.9%	8.5%	9.1%	458	478,345	29,542,266
75 Years, and Over	13.1%	5.3%	6.5%	468	295,361	21,241,530
Race: White	94.3%	84.0%	72.5%	3,357	4,712,574	235,377,662
Race: Black or African American	1.0%	4.2%	12.7%	34	233,647	41,234,642
Race: American Indian and Alaska Native	1.6%	1.0%	0.8%	57	54,847	2,750,143
Race: Asian	0.0%	3.2%	5.5%	0	178,147	17,924,209
Race: Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0.1%	0.2%	0.2%	3	8,643	599,868
Race: Some Other Race	0.8%	3.9%	4.9%	29	216,767	16,047,369
Race: Two or More Races	2.3%	3.7%	3.3%	81	205,724	10,763,902
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	11.0%	21.5%	18.0%	390	1,208,172	58,479,370
Population Growth						
Population (Pop Estimates) ⁴	—	—	—	3,555	5,807,719	329,484,123
Population Annual Average Growth ⁴	-0.7%	1.4%	0.6%	-25	76,018	2,015,698
People per Square Mile	—	—	—	1.4	55.6	92.9
Economic						
Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 16 years and over)	57.1%	68.1%	63.2%	1,656	3,035,960	163,555,585
Prime-Age Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 25-54)	82.1%	84.7%	82.1%	933	1,972,225	104,634,905
Armed Forces Labor Force	0.3%	0.8%	0.4%	8	33,671	1,073,907
Veterans, Age 18-64	1.9%	6.0%	4.6%	36	211,937	9,143,042
Veterans Labor Force Participation Rate and Size, Age 18-64	38.9%	79.5%	76.6%	14	168,558	7,003,778
Median Household Income ²	—	—	—	\$35,878	\$72,331	\$62,843
Per Capita Income	—	—	—	\$24,061	\$38,226	\$34,103
Mean Commute Time (minutes)	—	—	—	13.0	25.8	26.9
Commute via Public Transportation	0.0%	3.0%	5.0%	0	87,734	7,641,160
Educational Attainment, Age 25-64						
No High School Diploma	11.4%	8.0%	10.9%	192	245,575	18,550,150
High School Graduate	25.4%	20.7%	25.7%	428	632,736	43,627,868
Some College, No Degree	25.9%	20.7%	20.7%	435	631,698	35,174,790
Associate's Degree	14.3%	8.9%	9.1%	241	270,468	15,526,064

Summary¹

	Percent			Value		
	Baca County, Colorado	Colorado	USA	Baca County, Colorado	Colorado	USA
Bachelor's Degree	17.4%	26.9%	21.2%	293	822,135	35,997,848
Postgraduate Degree	5.5%	14.7%	12.3%	93	449,261	20,961,560
Housing						
Total Housing Units	—	—	—	2,258	2,386,475	137,428,986
Median House Value (of owner-occupied units) ²	—	—	—	\$83,500	\$343,300	\$217,500
Homeowner Vacancy	1.8%	1.1%	1.6%	22	14,983	1,257,737
Rental Vacancy	11.2%	4.8%	6.0%	62	38,254	2,793,023
Renter-Occupied Housing Units (% of Occupied Units)	29.0%	34.8%	36.0%	482	747,259	43,481,667
Occupied Housing Units with No Vehicle Available (% of Occupied Units)	6.6%	5.1%	8.6%	109	109,324	10,395,713
Social						
Poverty Level (of all people)	19.0%	10.3%	13.4%	654	565,873	42,510,843
Households Receiving Food Stamps/SNAP	12.8%	7.5%	11.7%	213	161,543	14,171,567
Enrolled in Grade 12 (% of total population)	1.2%	1.3%	1.4%	42	73,560	4,422,344
Disconnected Youth ³	3.3%	2.4%	2.5%	5	6,997	423,273
Children in Single Parent Families (% of all children)	24.7%	27.2%	34.1%	170	328,712	23,790,005
Uninsured	6.8%	7.6%	8.8%	236	420,782	28,248,613
With a Disability, Age 18-64	12.3%	8.6%	10.3%	225	300,250	20,187,604
With a Disability, Age 18-64, Labor Force Participation Rate and Size	44.0%	50.4%	42.2%	99	151,253	8,509,463
Foreign Born	3.2%	9.7%	13.6%	115	546,513	44,011,870
Speak English Less Than Very Well (population 5 yrs and over)	3.6%	5.8%	8.4%	122	304,772	25,615,365

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

1. American Community Survey 2015-2019, unless noted otherwise

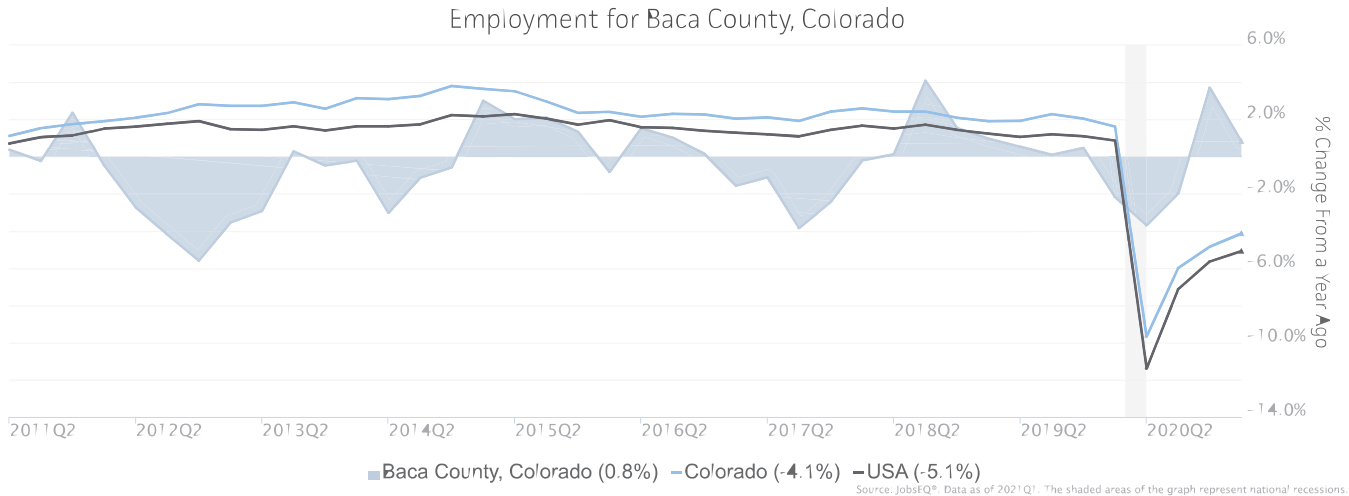
2. Median values for certain aggregate regions (such as MSAs) may be estimated as the weighted averages of the median values from the composing counties.

3. Disconnected Youth are 16-19 year olds who are (1) not in school, (2) not high school graduates, and (3) either unemployed or not in the labor force.

4. Census 2020, annual average growth rate since 2010

Employment Trends

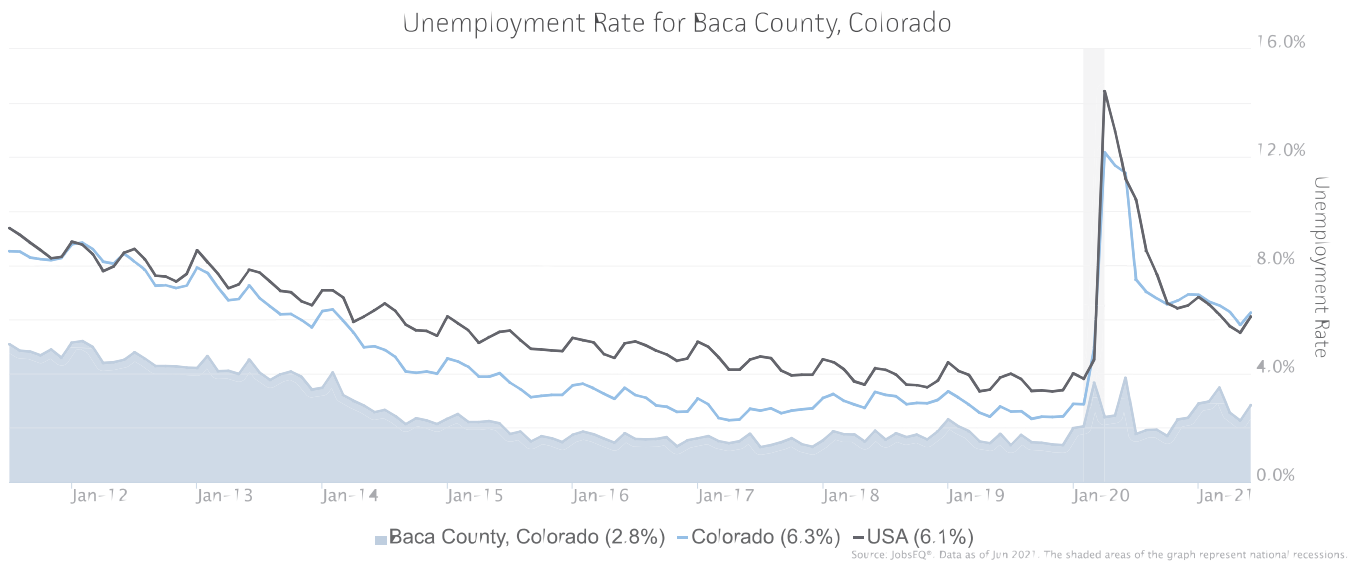
As of 2021Q1, total employment for Baca County, Colorado was 1,546 (based on a four-quarter moving average). Over the year ending 2021Q1, employment increased 0.8% in the region.



Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1.

Unemployment Rate

The unemployment rate for Baca County, Colorado was 2.8% as of June 2021. The regional unemployment rate was lower than the national rate of 6.1%. One year earlier, in June 2020, the unemployment rate in Baca County, Colorado was 3.8%.

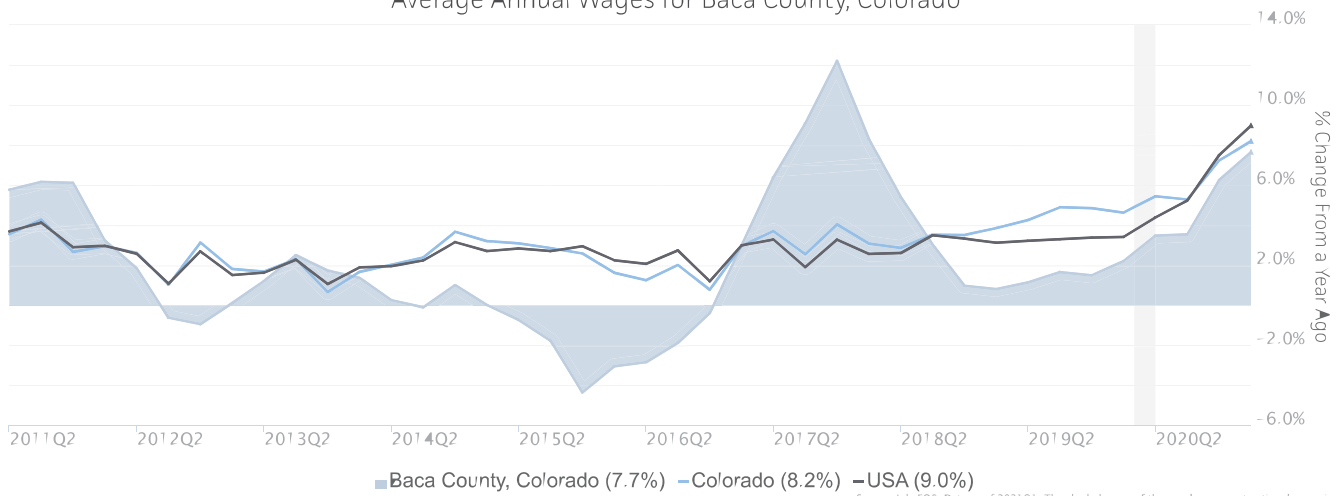


Unemployment rate data are from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and updated through June 2021.

Wage Trends

The average worker in Baca County, Colorado earned annual wages of \$36,970 as of 2021Q1. Average annual wages per worker increased 7.7% in the region over the preceding four quarters. For comparison purposes, annual average wages were \$63,393 in the nation as of 2021Q1.

Average Annual Wages for Baca County, Colorado



Annual average wages per worker data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1.

Cost of Living Index

The Cost of Living Index estimates the relative price levels for consumer goods and services. When applied to wages and salaries, the result is a measure of relative purchasing power. The cost of living is 15.3% lower in Baca County, Colorado than the U.S. average.

Cost of Living Information

	Annual Average Salary	Cost of Living Index (Base US)	US Purchasing Power
Baca County, Colorado	\$36,970	84.7	\$43,652
Colorado	\$65,645	109.9	\$59,755
USA	\$63,393	100.0	\$63,393

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

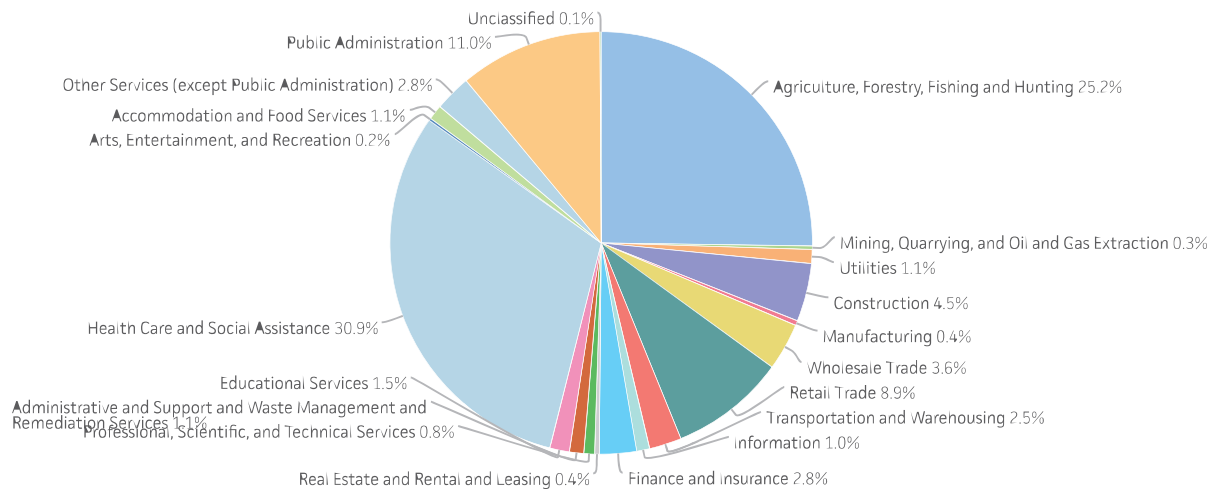
Data as of 2021Q1

Cost of Living per C2ER, data as of 2021Q1, imputed by Chmura where necessary.

Industry Snapshot

The largest sector in Baca County, Colorado is Health Care and Social Assistance, employing 479 workers. The next-largest sectors in the region are Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (390 workers) and Public Administration (169). High location quotients (LQs) indicate sectors in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The sectors with the largest LQs in the region are Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (LQ = 17.65), Public Administration (2.18), and Health Care and Social Assistance (2.07).

Total Workers for Baca County, Colorado by Industry



Source: JobsEQ®, Data as of 2021Q1

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1.

Sectors in Baca County, Colorado with the highest average wages per worker are Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (\$111,043), Utilities (\$61,593), and Wholesale Trade (\$45,960). Regional sectors with the best job growth (or most moderate job losses) over the last 5 years are Health Care and Social Assistance (+29 jobs), Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (+19), and Retail Trade (+10).

Over the next 5 years, employment in Baca County, Colorado is projected to contract by 4 jobs. The fastest growing sector in the region is expected to be Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services with a +1.0% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Health Care and Social Assistance (+12 jobs), Public Administration (+3), and Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services (+1).

NAICS	Industry	Empl	Current		5-Year History		5-Year Forecast				
			Avg Ann Wages	LQ	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
62	Health Care and Social Assistance	479	\$40,830	2.07	29	1.3%	239	112	116	12	0.5%
11	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	390	\$37,957	17.65	19	1.0%	197	89	120	-11	-0.6%
92	Public Administration	169	\$32,439	2.18	-35	-3.7%	81	33	45	3	0.3%
44	Retail Trade	137	\$27,702	0.85	10	1.5%	88	40	51	-2	-0.3%
23	Construction	69	\$33,248	0.75	-2	-0.7%	34	12	22	0	0.1%
42	Wholesale Trade	56	\$45,960	0.94	6	2.4%	27	11	18	-2	-0.7%
52	Finance and Insurance	44	\$44,836	0.66	3	1.6%	19	8	13	-1	-0.4%
81	Other Services (except Public Administration)	43	\$24,385	0.65	-4	-1.6%	25	11	13	0	0.1%
48	Transportation and Warehousing	38	\$43,833	0.50	-10	-4.5%	18	8	11	-2	-1.1%
61	Educational Services	23	\$33,569	0.19	-12	-7.8%	10	5	6	-1	-0.5%
56	Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	17	\$19,780	0.17	5	8.1%	11	4	6	1	1.0%
72	Accommodation and Food Services	17	\$22,537	0.15	-24	-16.0%	14	6	8	0	0.3%
22	Utilities	16	\$61,593	1.95	0	0.5%	7	3	5	-1	-0.7%
51	Information	15	\$42,658	0.50	8	14.5%	6	3	5	-1	-1.2%
54	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	13	\$111,043	0.12	0	-0.6%	5	2	3	0	-0.6%
31	Manufacturing	6	\$11,304	0.05	-1	-2.9%	3	1	2	0	-0.9%
53	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	5	\$29,995	0.20	0	0.0%	3	1	1	0	-0.2%
21	Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	4	\$43,147	0.77	-2	-8.8%	2	1	1	0	-0.8%
71	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	3	\$23,293	0.12	-1	-6.2%	2	1	1	0	0.7%
99	Unclassified	1	\$20,662	0.76	1	n/a	1	0	0	0	-0.1%
Total - All Industries		1,546	\$36,970	1.00	-9	-0.1%	836	359	481	-4	-0.1%

Source: [JobsEQ®](http://www.chmuraecon.com/jobseq)

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1. Forecast employment growth uses national projections adapted for regional growth patterns.

Occupation Snapshot

The largest major occupation group in Baca County, Colorado is Management Occupations, employing 333 workers. The next-largest occupation groups in the region are Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations (248 workers) and Office and Administrative Support Occupations (162). High location quotients (LQs) indicate occupation groups in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The major groups with the largest LQs in the region are Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations (LQ = 5.65), Management Occupations (3.19), and Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations (2.69).

Occupation groups in Baca County, Colorado with the highest average wages per worker are Legal Occupations (\$98,100), Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations (\$73,100), and Architecture and Engineering Occupations (\$71,100). The unemployment rate in the region varied among the major groups from 0.6% among Management Occupations to 7.8% among Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations.

Over the next 5 years, the fastest growing occupation group in Baca County, Colorado is expected to be Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations with a +1.3% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations (+6 jobs) and Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations (+5). Over the same period, the highest separation demand (occupation demand due to retirements and workers moving from one occupation to another) is expected in Management Occupations (149 jobs) and Office and Administrative Support Occupations (89).

Baca County, Colorado, 2021Q1¹

SOC	Occupation	Empl	Mean Ann Wages ²	Current			5-Year History			5-Year Forecast				
				LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads ³	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
11-0000	Management	333	\$65,900	3.19	2	0.6%	24	-40	-2.3%	135	83	66	-14	-0.9%
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	248	\$66,200	2.69	2	1.0%	13	9	0.7%	76	33	37	6	0.5%
43-0000	Office and Administrative Support	162	\$33,700	0.82	4	2.6%	1	-3	-0.3%	84	38	51	-5	-0.6%
41-0000	Sales and Related	105	\$35,700	0.71	5	4.1%	8	4	0.7%	71	30	44	-3	-0.6%
53-0000	Transportation and Material Moving	82	\$33,600	0.62	3	4.2%	7	1	0.3%	50	19	32	0	-0.1%
37-0000	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	74	\$31,400	1.48	3	3.9%	n/a	22	7.3%	55	19	32	5	1.3%
31-0000	Healthcare Support	71	\$28,800	1.01	2	2.3%	1	10	3.2%	45	19	23	3	0.8%
47-0000	Construction and Extraction	61	\$37,400	0.84	3	4.4%	1	-4	-1.2%	35	10	24	1	0.2%
13-0000	Business and Financial Operations	60	\$56,800	0.66	1	1.5%	10	4	1.3%	28	8	20	0	-0.1%
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	59	\$32,900	5.65	2	3.9%	n/a	25	11.4%	48	12	36	0	0.0%
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	48	\$40,700	0.81	1	2.8%	1	-2	-0.6%	23	7	16	0	0.0%
33-0000	Protective Service	41	\$41,500	1.23	1	2.4%	0	-9	-3.8%	20	8	11	1	0.4%
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related	38	\$26,800	0.34	4	7.8%	0	-16	-6.7%	33	13	19	1	0.5%
21-0000	Community and Social Service	30	\$39,600	1.07	0	n/a	1	-1	-0.3%	17	5	11	1	0.6%
25-0000	Educational Instruction and Library	26	\$33,900	0.30	1	4.4%	0	-9	-5.5%	12	6	7	0	-0.2%
39-0000	Personal Care and Service	23	\$29,300	0.62	2	6.4%	n/a	-1	-1.0%	19	8	10	1	0.6%
15-0000	Computer and Mathematical	21	\$68,000	0.43	0	n/a	17	2	2.2%	8	2	6	0	0.0%
51-0000	Production	21	\$35,000	0.23	1	3.4%	1	-2	-1.8%	11	4	8	0	-0.2%

Baca County, Colorado, 2021Q1¹

SOC	Occupation	Empl	Mean Ann Wages ²	Current			5-Year History			5-Year Forecast				
				LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads ³	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
19-0000	Life, Physical, and Social Science	13	\$73,100	0.92	0	n/a	9	1	1.2%	6	1	5	0	-0.4%
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media	12	\$36,800	0.44	0	n/a	1	0	-0.1%	7	2	4	0	-0.1%
17-0000	Architecture and Engineering	9	\$71,100	0.33	0	n/a	n/a	0	0.3%	3	1	2	0	-0.4%
23-0000	Legal	8	\$98,100	0.57	0	n/a	n/a	-1	-3.4%	2	1	1	0	0.3%
Total - All Occupations		1,546	\$48,400	1.00	37	2.5%	96	-9	-0.1%	790	330	465	-4	-0.1%

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

Data as of 2021Q1 unless noted otherwise

Note: Figures may not sum due to rounding.

1. Data based on a four-quarter moving average unless noted otherwise.

2. Wage data are as of 2020 and represent the average for all Covered Employment

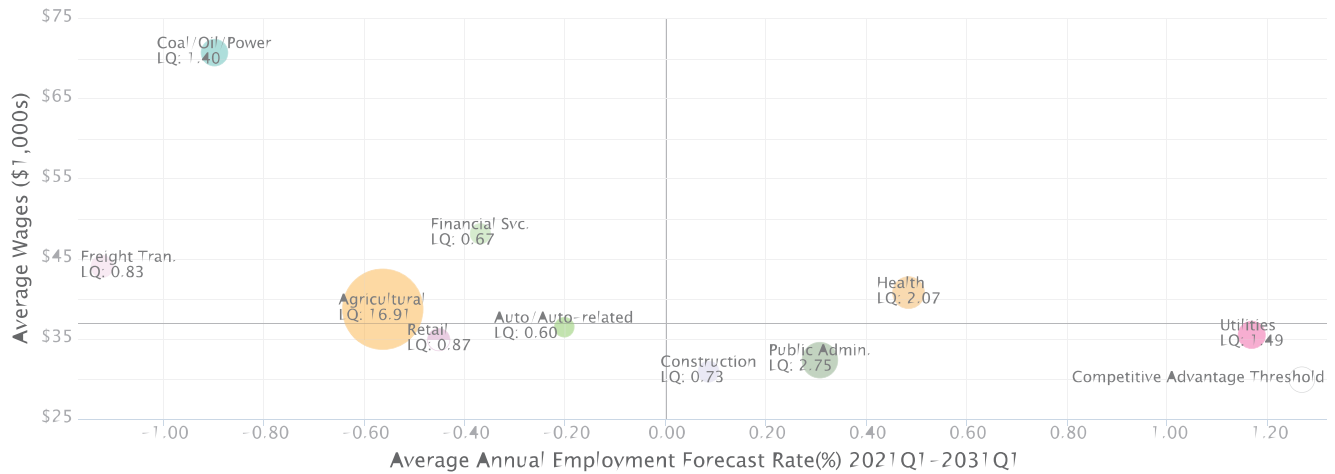
3. Data represent found online ads active within the last thirty days in the selected region; data represents a sampling rather than the complete universe of postings. Ads lacking zip code information but designating a place (city, town, etc.) may be assigned to the zip code with greatest employment in that place for queries in this analytic. Due to alternative county-assignment algorithms, ad counts in this analytic may not match that shown in RTI (nor in the popup window ad list).

Occupation employment data are estimated via industry employment data and the estimated industry/occupation mix. Industry employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and currently updated through 2020Q4, imputed where necessary with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1. Wages by occupation are as of 2020 provided by the BLS and imputed where necessary. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

Industry Clusters

A cluster is a geographic concentration of interrelated industries or occupations. The industry cluster in Baca County, Colorado with the highest relative concentration is Agricultural with a location quotient of 16.91. This cluster employs 390 workers in the region with an average wage of \$38,732. Employment in the Agricultural cluster is projected to contract in the region about 0.6% per year over the next ten years.

Industry Clusters for Baca County, Colorado as of 2021Q1



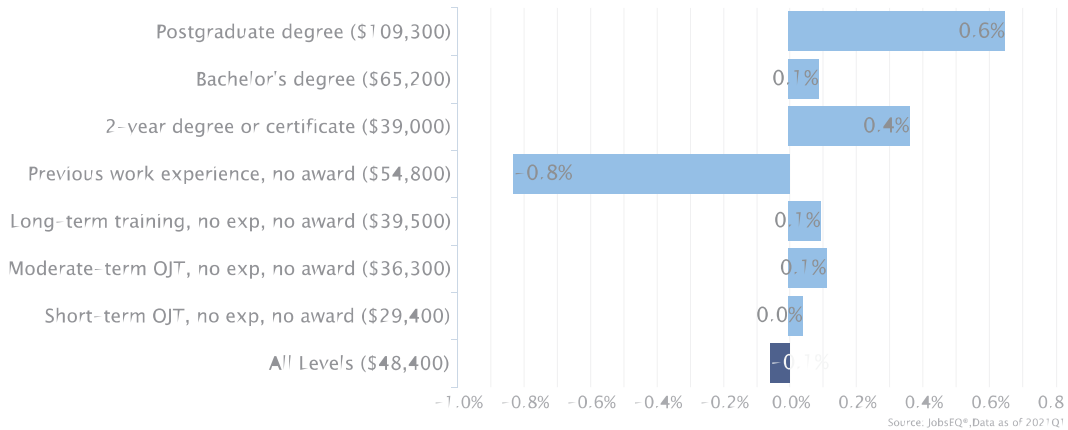
Source: JobsEQ®, Data as of 2021Q1

Location quotient and average wage data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, imputed where necessary, and updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

Education Levels

Expected growth rates for occupations vary by the education and training required. While all employment in Baca County, Colorado is projected to contract 0.1% over the next ten years, occupations typically requiring a postgraduate degree are expected to grow 0.6% per year, those requiring a bachelor’s degree are forecast to grow 0.1% per year, and occupations typically needing a 2-year degree or certificate are expected to grow 0.4% per year.

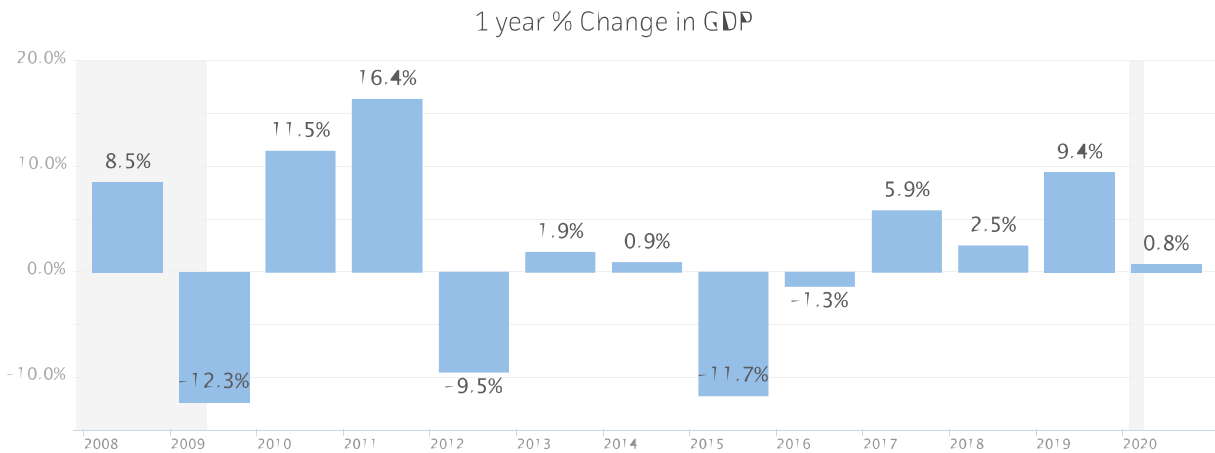
Annual Average Projected Job Growth by Training Required for Baca County, Colorado



Employment by occupation data are estimates as of 2021Q1. Education levels of occupations are based on BLS assignments. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

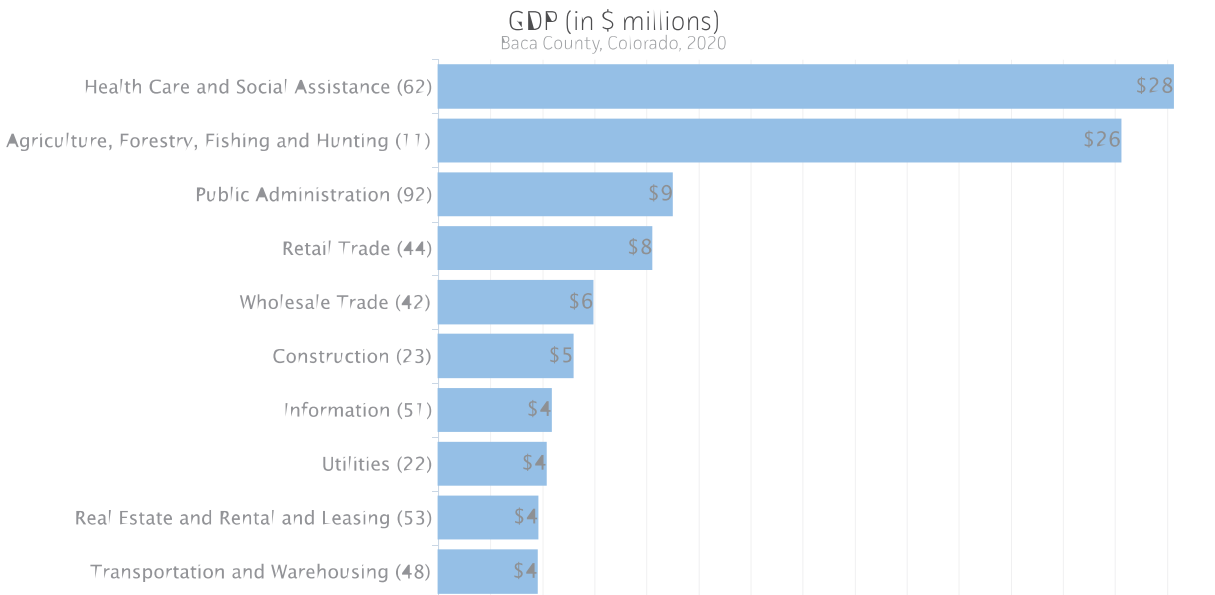
Gross Domestic Product

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the total value of goods and services produced by a region. In 2020, nominal GDP in Baca County, Colorado expanded 0.8%. This follows growth of 9.4% in 2019. As of 2020, total GDP in Baca County, Colorado was \$112,954,000.



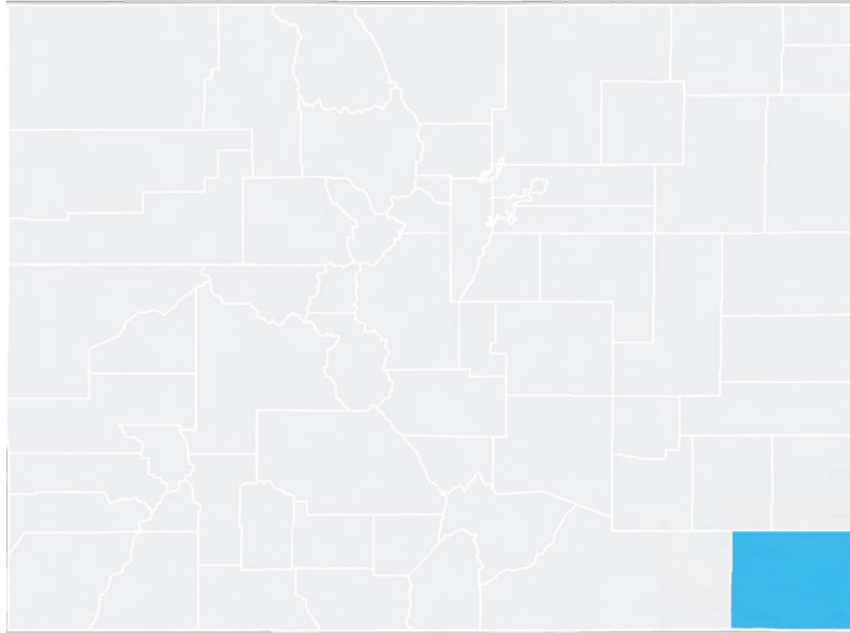
Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2020.

Of the sectors in Baca County, Colorado, Health Care and Social Assistance contributed the largest portion of GDP in 2020, \$28,244,000. The next-largest contributions came from Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (\$26,226,000); Public Administration (\$8,989,000); and Retail Trade (\$8,208,000).



Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2020.

Baca County, Colorado Regional Map



FAQ

What is a location quotient?

A location quotient (LQ) is a measurement of concentration in comparison to the nation. An LQ of 1.00 indicates a region has the same concentration of an industry (or occupation) as the nation. An LQ of 2.00 would mean the region has twice the expected employment compared to the nation and an LQ of 0.50 would mean the region has half the expected employment in comparison to the nation.

What is separation demand?

Separation demand is the number of jobs required due to separations—labor force exits (including retirements) and turnover resulting from workers moving from one occupation into another. Note that separation demand does not include all turnover—it does not include when workers stay in the same occupation but switch employers. The total projected demand for an occupation is the sum of the separation demand and the growth demand (which is the increase or decrease of jobs in an occupation expected due to expansion or contraction of the overall number of jobs in that occupation).

What is a cluster?

A cluster is a geographic concentration of interrelated industries or occupations. If a regional cluster has a location quotient of 1.25 or greater, the region is considered to possess a competitive advantage in that cluster.

What is the difference between industry wages and occupation wages?

Industry wages and occupation wages are estimated via separate data sets, often the time periods being reported do not align, and wages are defined slightly differently in the two systems (for example, certain bonuses are included in the industry wages but not the occupation wages). It is therefore common that estimates of the average industry wages and average occupation wages in a region do not match exactly.

What is NAICS?

The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) is used to classify business establishments according to the type of economic activity. The NAICS Code comprises six levels, from the “all industry” level to the 6-digit level. The first two digits define the top level category, known as the “sector,” which is the level examined in this report.

What is SOC?

The Standard Occupational Classification system (SOC) is used to classify workers into occupational categories. All workers are classified into one of over 804 occupations according to their occupational definition. To facilitate classification, occupations are combined to form 22 major groups, 95 minor groups, and 452 occupation groups. Each occupation group includes detailed occupations requiring similar job duties, skills, education, or experience.

About This Report

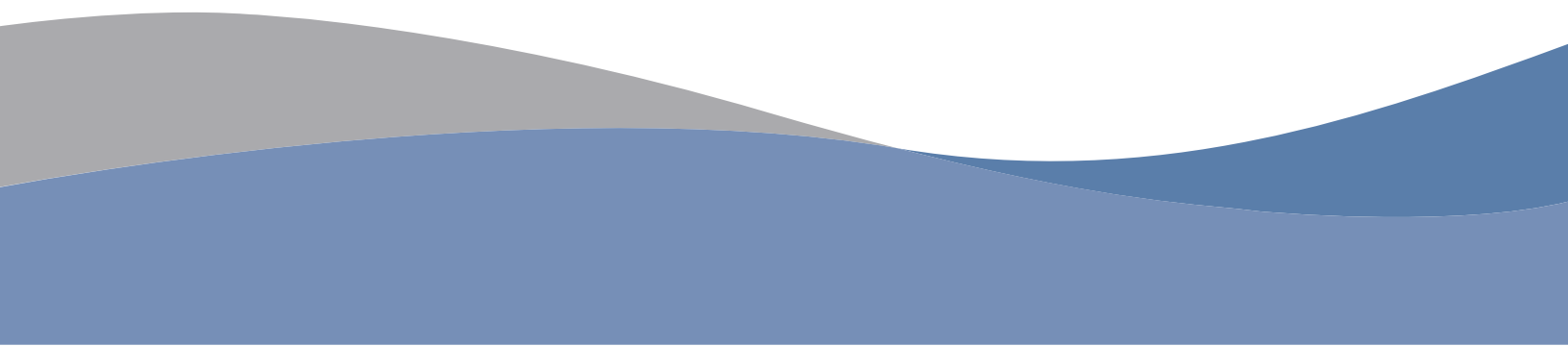
This report and all data herein were produced by JobsEQ®, a product of Chmura Economics & Analytics. The information contained herein was obtained from sources we believe to be reliable. However, we cannot guarantee its accuracy and completeness.



Economic Overview



Bent County, Colorado



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FAQ 16

Demographic Profile

The population in Bent County, Colorado was 5,787 per American Community Survey data for 2015-2019.

The region has a civilian labor force of 1,543 with a participation rate of 30.9%. Of individuals 25 to 64 in Bent County, Colorado, 9.2% have a bachelor's degree or higher which compares with 33.5% in the nation.

The median household income in Bent County, Colorado is \$30,900 and the median house value is \$81,000.

Summary¹

Demographics	Percent			Value		
	Bent County, Colorado	Colorado	USA	Bent County, Colorado	Colorado	USA
Population (ACS)	—	—	—	5,787	5,610,349	324,697,795
Male	64.5%	50.3%	49.2%	3,735	2,823,201	159,886,919
Female	35.5%	49.7%	50.8%	2,052	2,787,148	164,810,876
Median Age ²	—	—	—	40.2	36.7	38.1
Under 18 Years	15.2%	22.5%	22.6%	878	1,261,005	73,429,392
18 to 24 Years	6.5%	9.3%	9.4%	375	523,765	30,646,327
25 to 34 Years	19.4%	15.5%	13.9%	1,120	871,500	45,030,415
35 to 44 Years	17.9%	13.6%	12.6%	1,034	764,183	40,978,831
45 to 54 Years	10.7%	12.7%	13.0%	620	713,520	42,072,620
55 to 64 Years	12.6%	12.5%	12.9%	727	702,670	41,756,414
65 to 74 Years	10.7%	8.5%	9.1%	618	478,345	29,542,266
75 Years, and Over	7.2%	5.3%	6.5%	415	295,361	21,241,530
Race: White	91.4%	84.0%	72.5%	5,287	4,712,574	235,377,662
Race: Black or African American	4.1%	4.2%	12.7%	238	233,647	41,234,642
Race: American Indian and Alaska Native	1.0%	1.0%	0.8%	60	54,847	2,750,143
Race: Asian	0.2%	3.2%	5.5%	12	178,147	17,924,209
Race: Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.2%	0.2%	0	8,643	599,868
Race: Some Other Race	1.9%	3.9%	4.9%	108	216,767	16,047,369
Race: Two or More Races	1.4%	3.7%	3.3%	82	205,724	10,763,902
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	32.1%	21.5%	18.0%	1,855	1,208,172	58,479,370
Population Growth						
Population (Pop Estimates) ⁴	—	—	—	5,356	5,807,719	329,484,123
Population Annual Average Growth ⁴	-1.9%	1.4%	0.6%	-114	76,018	2,015,698
People per Square Mile	—	—	—	3.7	55.6	92.9
Economic						
Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 16 years and over)	30.9%	68.1%	63.2%	1,543	3,035,960	163,555,585
Prime-Age Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 25-54)	35.1%	84.7%	82.1%	975	1,972,225	104,634,905
Armed Forces Labor Force	0.0%	0.8%	0.4%	0	33,671	1,073,907
Veterans, Age 18-64	5.3%	6.0%	4.6%	204	211,937	9,143,042
Veterans Labor Force Participation Rate and Size, Age 18-64	35.8%	79.5%	76.6%	73	168,558	7,003,778
Median Household Income ²	—	—	—	\$30,900	\$72,331	\$62,843
Per Capita Income	—	—	—	\$13,930	\$38,226	\$34,103
Mean Commute Time (minutes)	—	—	—	17.9	25.8	26.9
Commute via Public Transportation	2.7%	3.0%	5.0%	39	87,734	7,641,160
Educational Attainment, Age 25-64						
No High School Diploma	16.1%	8.0%	10.9%	564	245,575	18,550,150
High School Graduate	52.0%	20.7%	25.7%	1,822	632,736	43,627,868
Some College, No Degree	15.8%	20.7%	20.7%	553	631,698	35,174,790
Associate's Degree	6.9%	8.9%	9.1%	240	270,468	15,526,064

Summary¹

	Percent			Value		
	Bent County, Colorado	Colorado	USA	Bent County, Colorado	Colorado	USA
Bachelor's Degree	6.9%	26.9%	21.2%	241	822,135	35,997,848
Postgraduate Degree	2.3%	14.7%	12.3%	81	449,261	20,961,560
Housing						
Total Housing Units	—	—	—	2,270	2,386,475	137,428,986
Median House Value (of owner-occupied units) ²	—	—	—	\$81,000	\$343,300	\$217,500
Homeowner Vacancy	7.4%	1.1%	1.6%	84	14,983	1,257,737
Rental Vacancy	2.6%	4.8%	6.0%	19	38,254	2,793,023
Renter-Occupied Housing Units (% of Occupied Units)	40.4%	34.8%	36.0%	714	747,259	43,481,667
Occupied Housing Units with No Vehicle Available (% of Occupied Units)	11.4%	5.1%	8.6%	202	109,324	10,395,713
Social						
Poverty Level (of all people)	29.5%	10.3%	13.4%	1,177	565,873	42,510,843
Households Receiving Food Stamps/SNAP	29.9%	7.5%	11.7%	528	161,543	14,171,567
Enrolled in Grade 12 (% of total population)	0.5%	1.3%	1.4%	27	73,560	4,422,344
Disconnected Youth ³	0.0%	2.4%	2.5%	0	6,997	423,273
Children in Single Parent Families (% of all children)	30.4%	27.2%	34.1%	248	328,712	23,790,005
Uninsured	8.8%	7.6%	8.8%	352	420,782	28,248,613
With a Disability, Age 18-64	25.0%	8.6%	10.3%	544	300,250	20,187,604
With a Disability, Age 18-64, Labor Force Participation Rate and Size	37.9%	50.4%	42.2%	206	151,253	8,509,463
Foreign Born	4.6%	9.7%	13.6%	268	546,513	44,011,870
Speak English Less Than Very Well (population 5 yrs and over)	6.7%	5.8%	8.4%	377	304,772	25,615,365

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

1. American Community Survey 2015-2019, unless noted otherwise

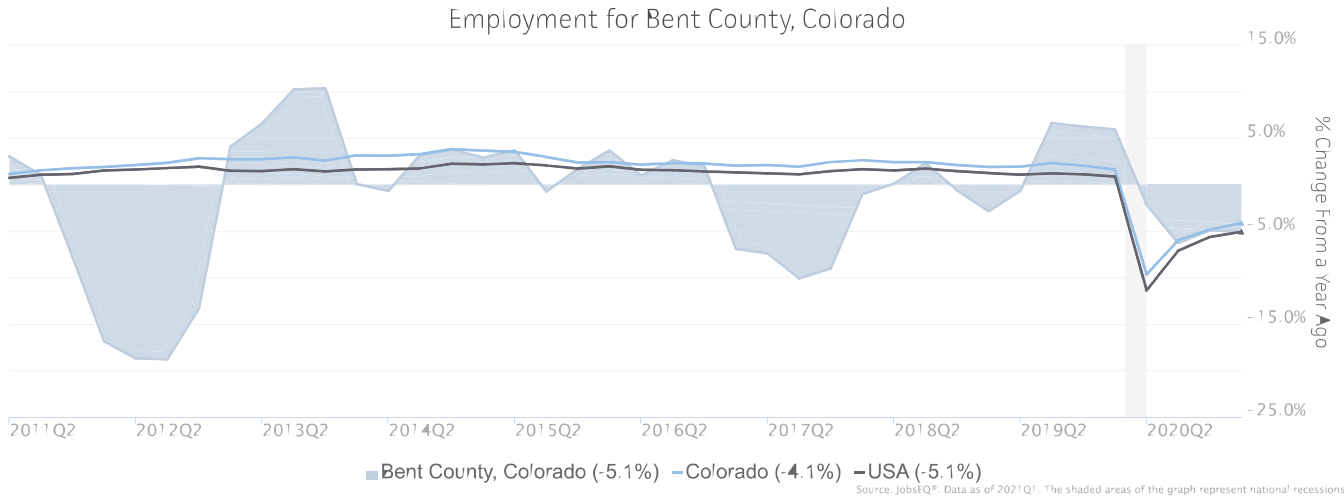
2. Median values for certain aggregate regions (such as MSAs) may be estimated as the weighted averages of the median values from the composing counties.

3. Disconnected Youth are 16-19 year olds who are (1) not in school, (2) not high school graduates, and (3) either unemployed or not in the labor force.

4. Census 2020, annual average growth rate since 2010

Employment Trends

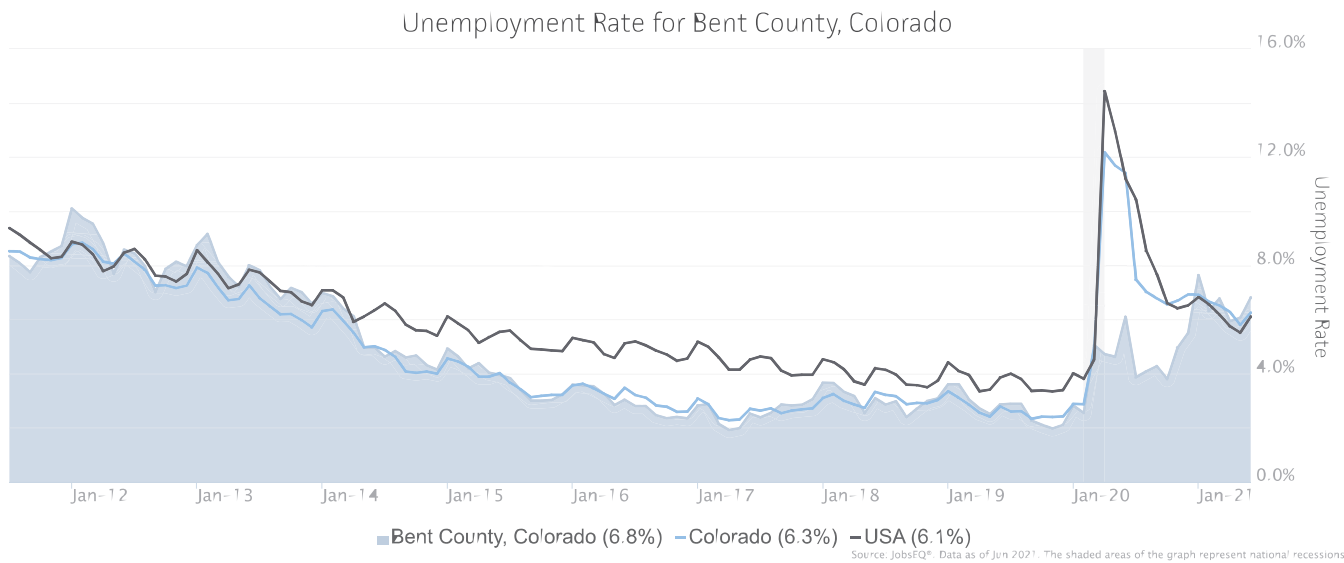
As of 2021Q1, total employment for Bent County, Colorado was 1,284 (based on a four-quarter moving average). Over the year ending 2021Q1, employment declined 5.1% in the region.



Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1.

Unemployment Rate

The unemployment rate for Bent County, Colorado was 6.8% as of June 2021. The regional unemployment rate was higher than the national rate of 6.1%. One year earlier, in June 2020, the unemployment rate in Bent County, Colorado was 6.1%.

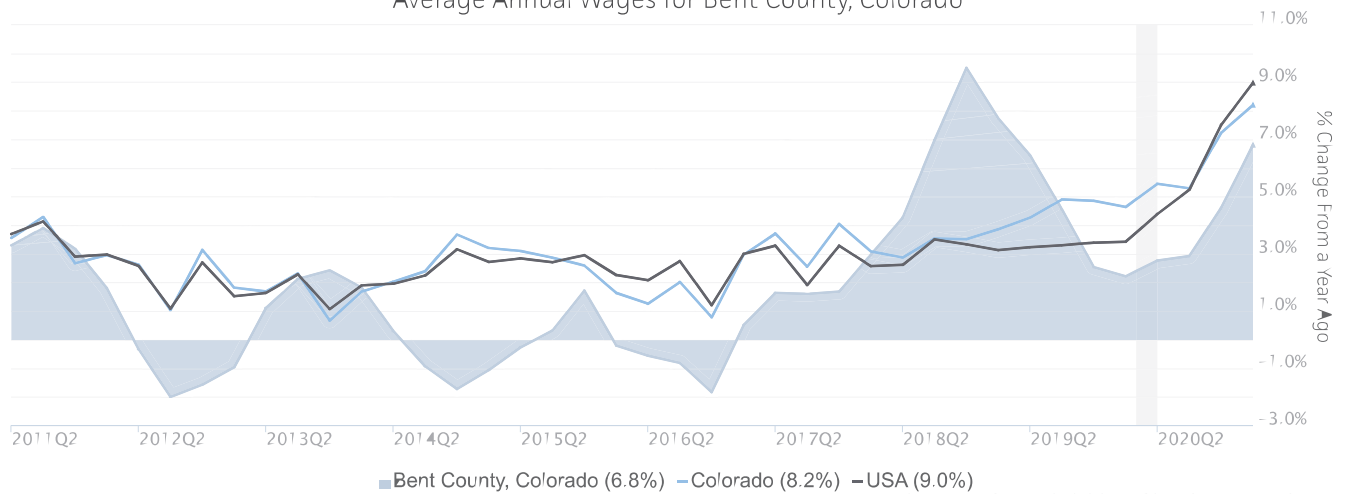


Unemployment rate data are from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and updated through June 2021.

Wage Trends

The average worker in Bent County, Colorado earned annual wages of \$39,830 as of 2021Q1. Average annual wages per worker increased 6.8% in the region over the preceding four quarters. For comparison purposes, annual average wages were \$63,393 in the nation as of 2021Q1.

Average Annual Wages for Bent County, Colorado



Annual average wages per worker data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1.

Cost of Living Index

The Cost of Living Index estimates the relative price levels for consumer goods and services. When applied to wages and salaries, the result is a measure of relative purchasing power. The cost of living is 15.6% lower in Bent County, Colorado than the U.S. average.

Cost of Living Information

	Annual Average Salary	Cost of Living Index (Base US)	US Purchasing Power
Bent County, Colorado	\$39,830	84.4	\$47,187
Colorado	\$65,645	109.9	\$59,755
USA	\$63,393	100.0	\$63,393

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

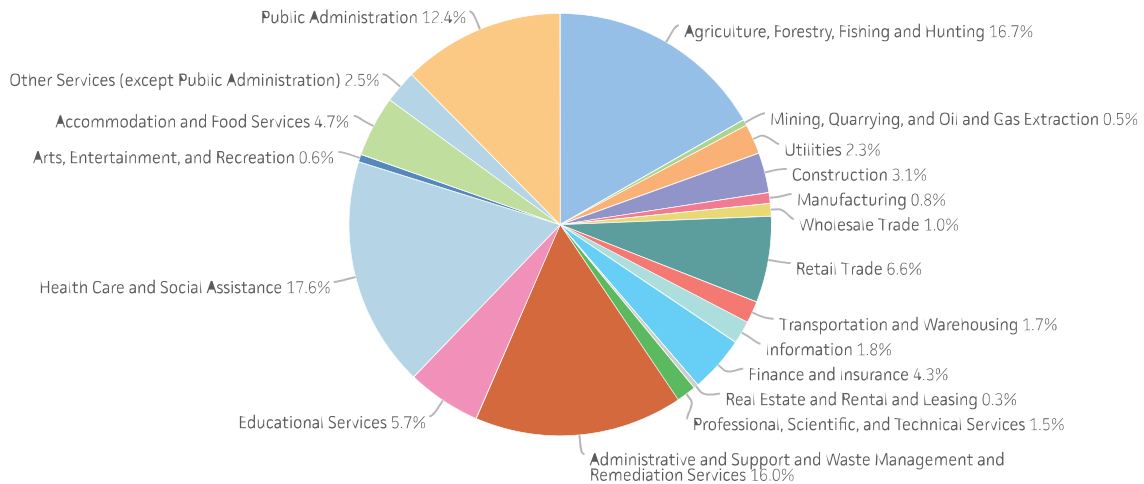
Data as of 2021Q1

Cost of Living per C2ER, data as of 2021Q1, imputed by Chmura where necessary.

Industry Snapshot

The largest sector in Bent County, Colorado is Health Care and Social Assistance, employing 226 workers. The next-largest sectors in the region are Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (215 workers) and Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services (205). High location quotients (LQs) indicate sectors in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The sectors with the largest LQs in the region are Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (LQ = 11.71), Utilities (4.22), and Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services (2.53).

Total Workers for Bent County, Colorado by Industry



Source: JobsEQ®, Data as of 2021Q1

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1.

Sectors in Bent County, Colorado with the highest average wages per worker are Finance and Insurance (\$76,257), Transportation and Warehousing (\$64,206), and Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation (\$55,682). Regional sectors with the best job growth (or most moderate job losses) over the last 5 years are Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services (+16 jobs), Health Care and Social Assistance (+6), and Manufacturing (+6).

Over the next 5 years, employment in Bent County, Colorado is projected to contract by 26 jobs. The fastest growing sector in the region is expected to be Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction with a +2.3% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Health Care and Social Assistance (+18 jobs), Information (+1), and Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction (+1).

NAICS	Industry	Empl	Current	5-Year History			5-Year Forecast				
			Avg Ann Wages	LQ	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
62	Health Care and Social Assistance	226	\$36,460	1.18	6	0.5%	128	54	56	18	1.5%
11	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	215	\$44,604	11.71	-78	-6.0%	98	48	65	-15	-1.4%
56	Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	205	\$35,121	2.53	16	1.6%	111	49	67	-5	-0.5%
92	Public Administration	159	\$33,215	2.47	-8	-1.0%	69	31	42	-3	-0.4%
44	Retail Trade	85	\$29,967	0.64	2	0.6%	50	24	31	-5	-1.2%
61	Educational Services	73	\$35,628	0.70	-13	-3.1%	22	15	16	-9	-2.7%
72	Accommodation and Food Services	60	\$17,869	0.64	-11	-3.4%	48	21	27	0	-0.1%
52	Finance and Insurance	55	\$76,257	1.01	1	0.2%	23	10	16	-2	-0.8%
23	Construction	39	\$22,314	0.52	-36	-12.3%	18	7	12	-1	-0.6%
81	Other Services (except Public Administration)	33	\$21,116	0.59	4	3.0%	17	8	10	-1	-0.9%
22	Utilities	29	\$28,791	4.22	3	2.3%	12	5	8	-1	-0.6%
51	Information	23	\$25,032	0.89	-5	-4.1%	12	4	7	1	0.5%
48	Transportation and Warehousing	22	\$64,206	0.34	-8	-5.9%	9	5	6	-2	-2.1%
54	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	19	\$47,452	0.21	-3	-2.6%	7	3	5	-1	-0.8%
42	Wholesale Trade	12	\$42,191	0.25	2	4.5%	6	2	4	-1	-0.9%
31	Manufacturing	11	\$26,560	0.10	6	20.6%	6	2	3	0	0.3%
71	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	7	\$55,682	0.38	3	10.5%	5	2	3	0	0.5%
21	Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	6	\$55,618	1.31	6	n/a	4	1	2	1	2.3%
53	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	4	\$22,714	0.20	0	1.0%	2	1	1	0	-0.9%
Total - All Industries		1,284	\$39,830	1.00	-111	-1.6%	666	296	396	-26	-0.4%

Source: [JobsEQ®](http://www.chmuraecon.com/jobseq)

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1. Forecast employment growth uses national projections adapted for regional growth patterns.

Occupation Snapshot

The largest major occupation group in Bent County, Colorado is Management Occupations, employing 181 workers. The next-largest occupation groups in the region are Office and Administrative Support Occupations (128 workers) and Healthcare Support Occupations (102). High location quotients (LQs) indicate occupation groups in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The major groups with the largest LQs in the region are Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations (LQ = 6.77), Protective Service Occupations (2.87), and Management Occupations (2.09).

Occupation groups in Bent County, Colorado with the highest average wages per worker are Legal Occupations (\$112,300), Computer and Mathematical Occupations (\$77,000), and Architecture and Engineering Occupations (\$74,400). The unemployment rate in the region varied among the major groups from 1.0% among Management Occupations to 12.4% among Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations.

Over the next 5 years, the fastest growing occupation group in Bent County, Colorado is expected to be Healthcare Support Occupations with a +1.7% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Healthcare Support Occupations (+9 jobs) and Community and Social Service Occupations (+3). Over the same period, the highest separation demand (occupation demand due to retirements and workers moving from one occupation to another) is expected in Management Occupations (80 jobs) and Healthcare Support Occupations (69).

Bent County, Colorado, 2021Q1¹

SOC	Occupation	Empl	Mean Ann Wages ²	Current			5-Year History			5-Year Forecast				
				LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads ³	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
11-0000	Management	181	\$71,600	2.09	2	1.0%	6	-36	-3.5%	68	43	37	-12	-1.3%
43-0000	Office and Administrative Support	128	\$37,000	0.78	5	3.6%	6	-14	-2.1%	61	29	39	-7	-1.2%
31-0000	Healthcare Support	102	\$28,800	1.75	5	4.6%	3	6	1.3%	79	35	34	9	1.7%
33-0000	Protective Service	80	\$41,900	2.87	3	3.2%	11	-3	-0.6%	31	15	20	-5	-1.2%
41-0000	Sales and Related	74	\$39,900	0.60	6	6.6%	11	-1	-0.1%	47	20	30	-4	-1.0%
37-0000	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	73	\$30,200	1.76	7	8.2%	0	4	1.0%	47	21	27	0	-0.1%
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related	69	\$27,600	0.75	13	12.4%	5	-4	-1.2%	57	24	34	-1	-0.2%
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	62	\$60,100	0.81	1	1.5%	15	-3	-1.1%	20	8	11	1	0.4%
53-0000	Transportation and Material Moving	61	\$37,300	0.56	8	7.7%	7	-3	-0.8%	36	14	23	-2	-0.5%
25-0000	Educational Instruction and Library	59	\$37,000	0.83	2	3.5%	6	-9	-2.9%	19	12	13	-6	-2.0%
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	59	\$33,400	6.77	5	7.2%	0	-38	-9.5%	43	11	35	-3	-1.0%
13-0000	Business and Financial Operations	58	\$63,200	0.77	1	1.4%	3	2	0.8%	27	8	20	0	0.0%
47-0000	Construction and Extraction	57	\$41,200	0.95	7	7.9%	1	-1	-0.3%	32	10	22	0	-0.1%
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	48	\$44,100	0.97	3	5.0%	4	-13	-4.5%	22	7	15	-1	-0.4%
21-0000	Community and Social Service	41	\$43,800	1.77	0	n/a	7	0	0.1%	26	7	15	3	1.5%
39-0000	Personal Care and Service	31	\$31,600	0.98	3	9.0%	0	0	0.2%	24	10	13	0	0.1%
51-0000	Production	30	\$37,900	0.40	4	5.9%	3	2	1.8%	15	6	10	-1	-0.6%
15-0000	Computer and Mathematical	21	\$77,000	0.52	0	n/a	1	-2	-1.4%	8	2	6	0	0.0%

Bent County, Colorado, 2021Q1¹

SOC	Occupation	Empl	Mean Ann Wages ²	Current			5-Year History			5-Year Forecast				
				LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads ³	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
17-0000	Architecture and Engineering	17	\$74,400	0.77	0	n/a	0	0	-0.2%	7	2	5	0	-0.4%
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media	13	\$40,600	0.59	1	5.5%	1	1	1.7%	7	3	5	0	-0.2%
19-0000	Life, Physical, and Social Science	10	\$73,300	0.85	0	n/a	1	1	1.3%	5	1	4	0	-0.2%
23-0000	Legal	6	\$112,300	0.56	0	n/a	0	-2	-5.4%	2	1	1	0	-0.2%
Total - All Occupations		1,284	\$45,400	1.00	75	5.2%	92	-111	-1.6%	683	288	420	-26	-0.4%

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

Data as of 2021Q1 unless noted otherwise

Note: Figures may not sum due to rounding.

1. Data based on a four-quarter moving average unless noted otherwise.

2. Wage data are as of 2020 and represent the average for all Covered Employment

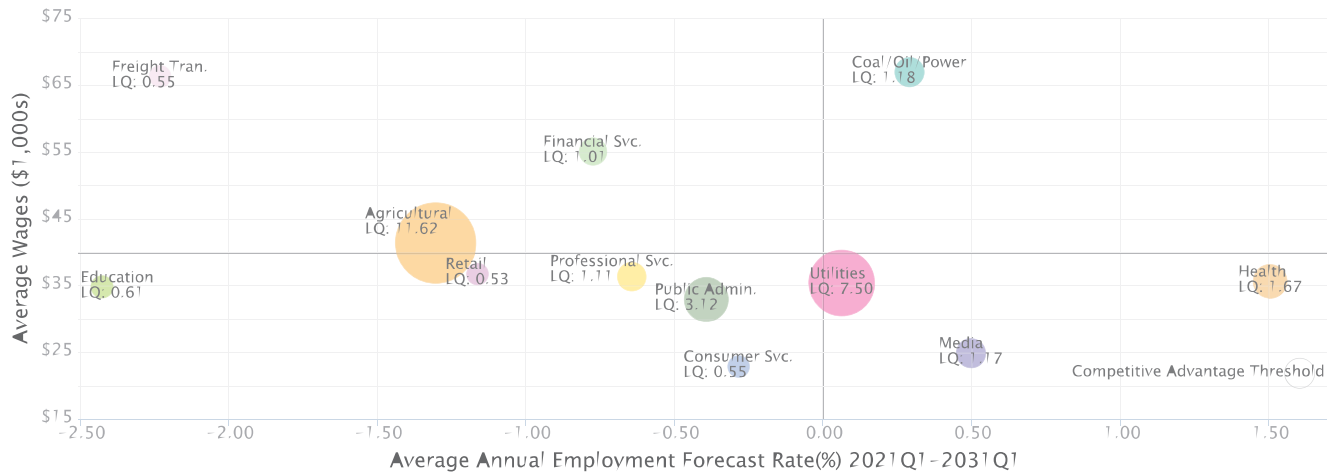
3. Data represent found online ads active within the last thirty days in the selected region; data represents a sampling rather than the complete universe of postings. Ads lacking zip code information but designating a place (city, town, etc.) may be assigned to the zip code with greatest employment in that place for queries in this analytic. Due to alternative county-assignment algorithms, ad counts in this analytic may not match that shown in RTI (nor in the popup window ad list).

Occupation employment data are estimated via industry employment data and the estimated industry/occupation mix. Industry employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and currently updated through 2020Q4, imputed where necessary with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1. Wages by occupation are as of 2020 provided by the BLS and imputed where necessary. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

Industry Clusters

A cluster is a geographic concentration of interrelated industries or occupations. The industry cluster in Bent County, Colorado with the highest relative concentration is Agricultural with a location quotient of 11.62. This cluster employs 222 workers in the region with an average wage of \$41,410. Employment in the Agricultural cluster is projected to contract in the region about 1.3% per year over the next ten years.

Industry Clusters for Bent County, Colorado as of 2021Q1



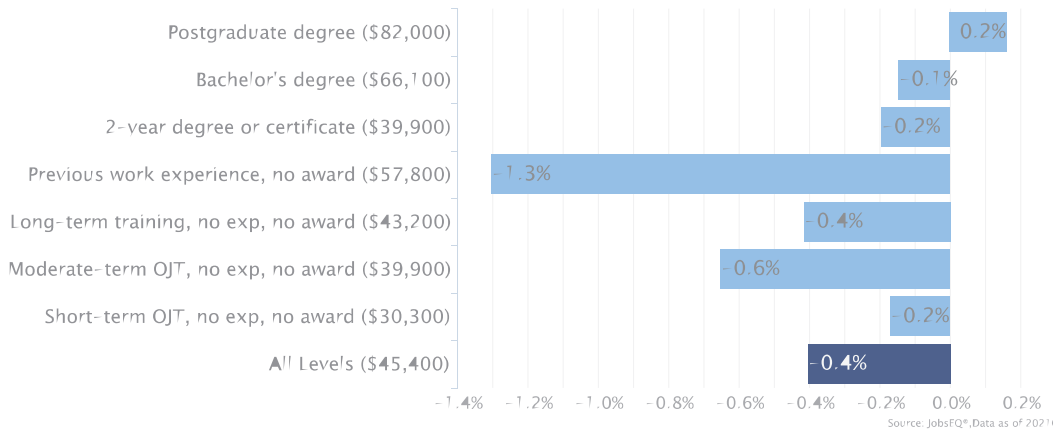
Source: JobsEQ®, Data as of 2021Q1

Location quotient and average wage data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, imputed where necessary, and updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

Education Levels

Expected growth rates for occupations vary by the education and training required. While all employment in Bent County, Colorado is projected to contract 0.4% over the next ten years, occupations typically requiring a postgraduate degree are expected to grow 0.2% per year, those requiring a bachelor’s degree are expected to contract 0.1% per year, and occupations typically needing a 2-year degree or certificate are expected to contract 0.2% per year.

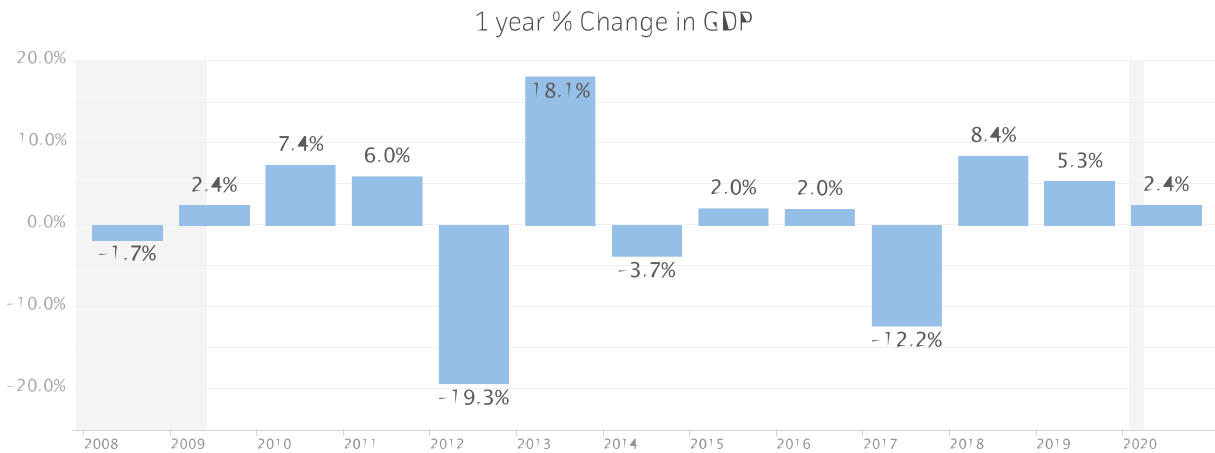
Annual Average Projected Job Growth by Training Required for Bent County, Colorado



Employment by occupation data are estimates as of 2021Q1. Education levels of occupations are based on BLS assignments. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

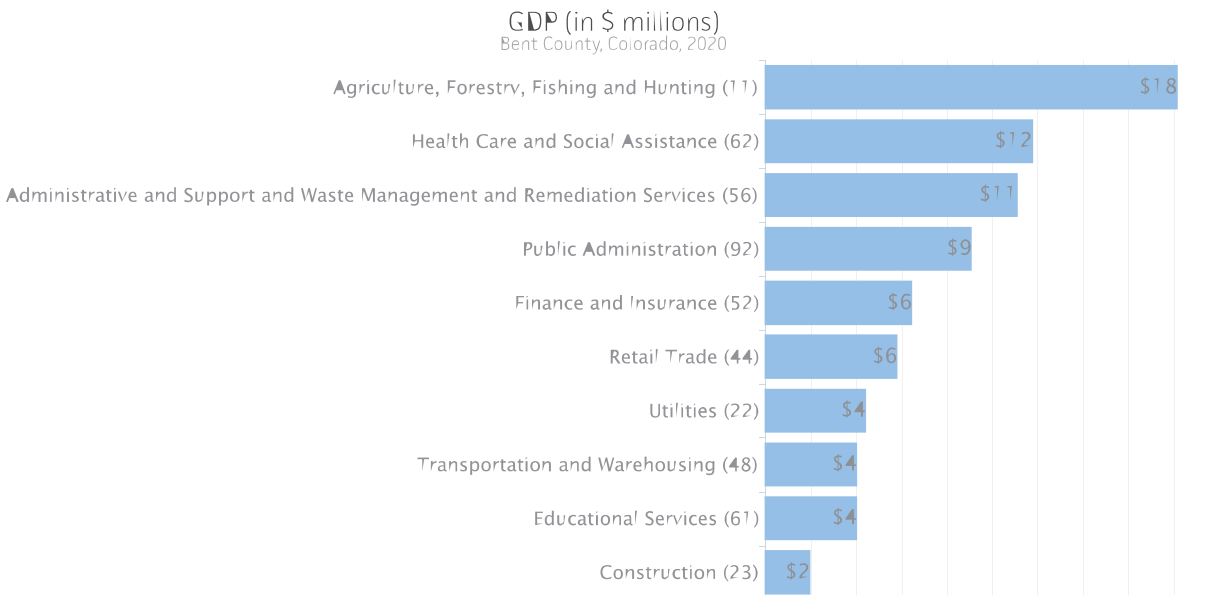
Gross Domestic Product

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the total value of goods and services produced by a region. In 2020, nominal GDP in Bent County, Colorado expanded 2.4%. This follows growth of 5.3% in 2019. As of 2020, total GDP in Bent County, Colorado was \$88,147,000.



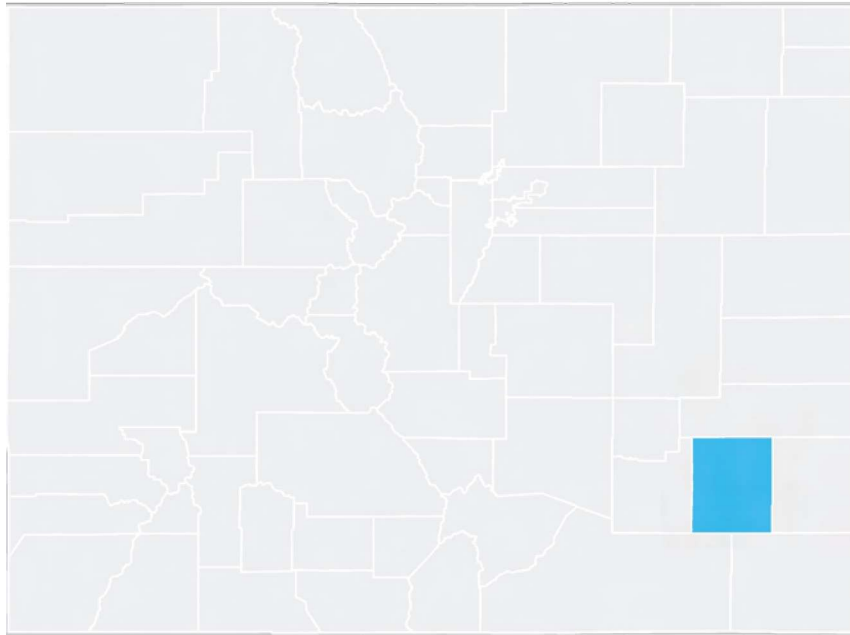
Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2020.

Of the sectors in Bent County, Colorado, Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting contributed the largest portion of GDP in 2020, \$18,157,000. The next-largest contributions came from Health Care and Social Assistance (\$11,796,000); Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services (\$11,118,000); and Public Administration (\$9,090,000).



Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2020.

Bent County, Colorado Regional Map



FAQ

What is a location quotient?

A location quotient (LQ) is a measurement of concentration in comparison to the nation. An LQ of 1.00 indicates a region has the same concentration of an industry (or occupation) as the nation. An LQ of 2.00 would mean the region has twice the expected employment compared to the nation and an LQ of 0.50 would mean the region has half the expected employment in comparison to the nation.

What is separation demand?

Separation demand is the number of jobs required due to separations—labor force exits (including retirements) and turnover resulting from workers moving from one occupation into another. Note that separation demand does not include all turnover—it does not include when workers stay in the same occupation but switch employers. The total projected demand for an occupation is the sum of the separation demand and the growth demand (which is the increase or decrease of jobs in an occupation expected due to expansion or contraction of the overall number of jobs in that occupation).

What is a cluster?

A cluster is a geographic concentration of interrelated industries or occupations. If a regional cluster has a location quotient of 1.25 or greater, the region is considered to possess a competitive advantage in that cluster.

What is the difference between industry wages and occupation wages?

Industry wages and occupation wages are estimated via separate data sets, often the time periods being reported do not align, and wages are defined slightly differently in the two systems (for example, certain bonuses are included in the industry wages but not the occupation wages). It is therefore common that estimates of the average industry wages and average occupation wages in a region do not match exactly.

What is NAICS?

The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) is used to classify business establishments according to the type of economic activity. The NAICS Code comprises six levels, from the “all industry” level to the 6-digit level. The first two digits define the top level category, known as the “sector,” which is the level examined in this report.

What is SOC?

The Standard Occupational Classification system (SOC) is used to classify workers into occupational categories. All workers are classified into one of over 804 occupations according to their occupational definition. To facilitate classification, occupations are combined to form 22 major groups, 95 minor groups, and 452 occupation groups. Each occupation group includes detailed occupations requiring similar job duties, skills, education, or experience.

About This Report

This report and all data herein were produced by JobsEQ®, a product of Chmura Economics & Analytics. The information contained herein was obtained from sources we believe to be reliable. However, we cannot guarantee its accuracy and completeness.



Economic Overview

Chaffee County, Colorado



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Demographic Profile

The population in Chaffee County, Colorado was 19,557 per American Community Survey data for 2015-2019.

The region has a civilian labor force of 8,655 with a participation rate of 51.0%. Of individuals 25 to 64 in Chaffee County, Colorado, 31.8% have a bachelor's degree or higher which compares with 33.5% in the nation.

The median household income in Chaffee County, Colorado is \$55,771 and the median house value is \$357,800.

Summary¹

Demographics	Percent			Value		
	Chaffee County, Colorado	Colorado	USA	Chaffee County, Colorado	Colorado	USA
Population (ACS)	—	—	—	19,557	5,610,349	324,697,795
Male	53.6%	50.3%	49.2%	10,488	2,823,201	159,886,919
Female	46.4%	49.7%	50.8%	9,069	2,787,148	164,810,876
Median Age ²	—	—	—	49.2	36.7	38.1
Under 18 Years	15.1%	22.5%	22.6%	2,944	1,261,005	73,429,392
18 to 24 Years	5.6%	9.3%	9.4%	1,090	523,765	30,646,327
25 to 34 Years	12.5%	15.5%	13.9%	2,454	871,500	45,030,415
35 to 44 Years	11.5%	13.6%	12.6%	2,243	764,183	40,978,831
45 to 54 Years	13.5%	12.7%	13.0%	2,635	713,520	42,072,620
55 to 64 Years	16.8%	12.5%	12.9%	3,292	702,670	41,756,414
65 to 74 Years	15.3%	8.5%	9.1%	2,988	478,345	29,542,266
75 Years, and Over	9.8%	5.3%	6.5%	1,911	295,361	21,241,530
Race: White	93.7%	84.0%	72.5%	18,324	4,712,574	235,377,662
Race: Black or African American	1.7%	4.2%	12.7%	330	233,647	41,234,642
Race: American Indian and Alaska Native	0.5%	1.0%	0.8%	97	54,847	2,750,143
Race: Asian	1.5%	3.2%	5.5%	290	178,147	17,924,209
Race: Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.2%	0.2%	0	8,643	599,868
Race: Some Other Race	0.8%	3.9%	4.9%	150	216,767	16,047,369
Race: Two or More Races	1.9%	3.7%	3.3%	366	205,724	10,763,902
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	10.0%	21.5%	18.0%	1,963	1,208,172	58,479,370
Population Growth						
Population (Pop Estimates) ⁴	—	—	—	20,661	5,807,719	329,484,123
Population Annual Average Growth ⁴	1.5%	1.4%	0.6%	285	76,018	2,015,698
People per Square Mile	—	—	—	20.1	55.6	92.9
Economic						
Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 16 years and over)	51.0%	68.1%	63.2%	8,655	3,035,960	163,555,585
Prime-Age Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 25-54)	71.6%	84.7%	82.1%	5,251	1,972,225	104,634,905
Armed Forces Labor Force	0.0%	0.8%	0.4%	0	33,671	1,073,907
Veterans, Age 18-64	6.0%	6.0%	4.6%	697	211,937	9,143,042
Veterans Labor Force Participation Rate and Size, Age 18-64	56.4%	79.5%	76.6%	393	168,558	7,003,778
Median Household Income ²	—	—	—	\$55,771	\$72,331	\$62,843
Per Capita Income	—	—	—	\$29,827	\$38,226	\$34,103
Mean Commute Time (minutes)	—	—	—	19.2	25.8	26.9
Commute via Public Transportation	0.3%	3.0%	5.0%	22	87,734	7,641,160
Educational Attainment, Age 25-64						
No High School Diploma	5.2%	8.0%	10.9%	551	245,575	18,550,150
High School Graduate	27.9%	20.7%	25.7%	2,966	632,736	43,627,868
Some College, No Degree	25.9%	20.7%	20.7%	2,751	631,698	35,174,790
Associate's Degree	9.2%	8.9%	9.1%	980	270,468	15,526,064

Summary¹

	Percent			Value		
	Chaffee County, Colorado	Colorado	USA	Chaffee County, Colorado	Colorado	USA
Bachelor's Degree	18.9%	26.9%	21.2%	2,004	822,135	35,997,848
Postgraduate Degree	12.9%	14.7%	12.3%	1,372	449,261	20,961,560
Housing						
Total Housing Units	—	—	—	11,064	2,386,475	137,428,986
Median House Value (of owner-occupied units) ²	—	—	—	\$357,800	\$343,300	\$217,500
Homeowner Vacancy	3.5%	1.1%	1.6%	235	14,983	1,257,737
Rental Vacancy	5.7%	4.8%	6.0%	114	38,254	2,793,023
Renter-Occupied Housing Units (% of Occupied Units)	22.2%	34.8%	36.0%	1,826	747,259	43,481,667
Occupied Housing Units with No Vehicle Available (% of Occupied Units)	5.9%	5.1%	8.6%	483	109,324	10,395,713
Social						
Poverty Level (of all people)	9.8%	10.3%	13.4%	1,776	565,873	42,510,843
Households Receiving Food Stamps/SNAP	5.8%	7.5%	11.7%	479	161,543	14,171,567
Enrolled in Grade 12 (% of total population)	1.3%	1.3%	1.4%	263	73,560	4,422,344
Disconnected Youth ³	6.5%	2.4%	2.5%	49	6,997	423,273
Children in Single Parent Families (% of all children)	26.1%	27.2%	34.1%	746	328,712	23,790,005
Uninsured	10.0%	7.6%	8.8%	1,816	420,782	28,248,613
With a Disability, Age 18-64	13.1%	8.6%	10.3%	1,377	300,250	20,187,604
With a Disability, Age 18-64, Labor Force Participation Rate and Size	46.3%	50.4%	42.2%	638	151,253	8,509,463
Foreign Born	3.8%	9.7%	13.6%	739	546,513	44,011,870
Speak English Less Than Very Well (population 5 yrs and over)	2.6%	5.8%	8.4%	484	304,772	25,615,365

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

1. American Community Survey 2015-2019, unless noted otherwise

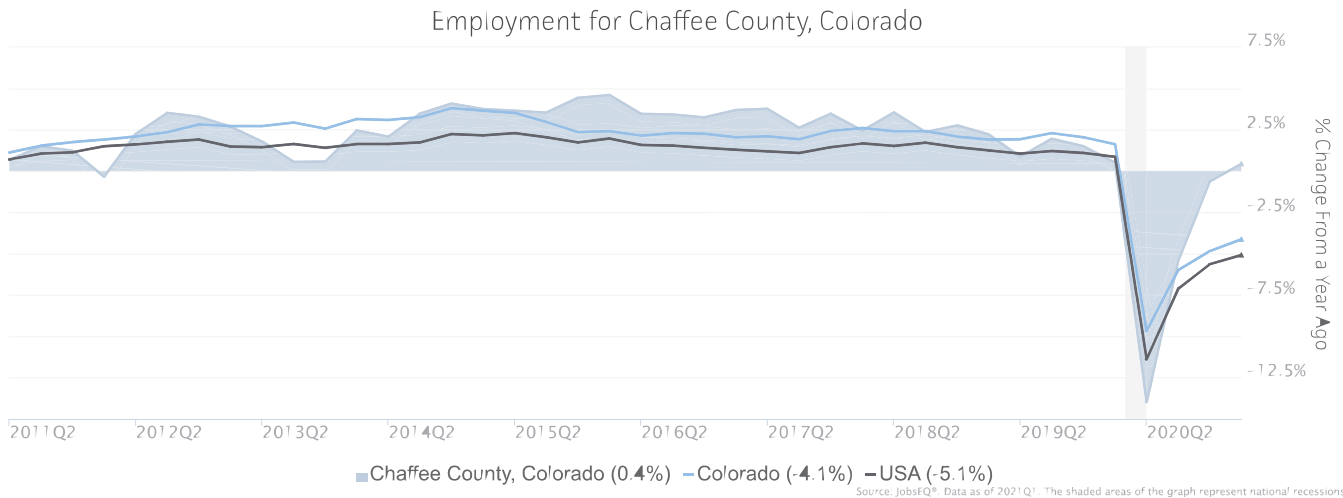
2. Median values for certain aggregate regions (such as MSAs) may be estimated as the weighted averages of the median values from the composing counties.

3. Disconnected Youth are 16-19 year olds who are (1) not in school, (2) not high school graduates, and (3) either unemployed or not in the labor force.

4. Census 2020, annual average growth rate since 2010

Employment Trends

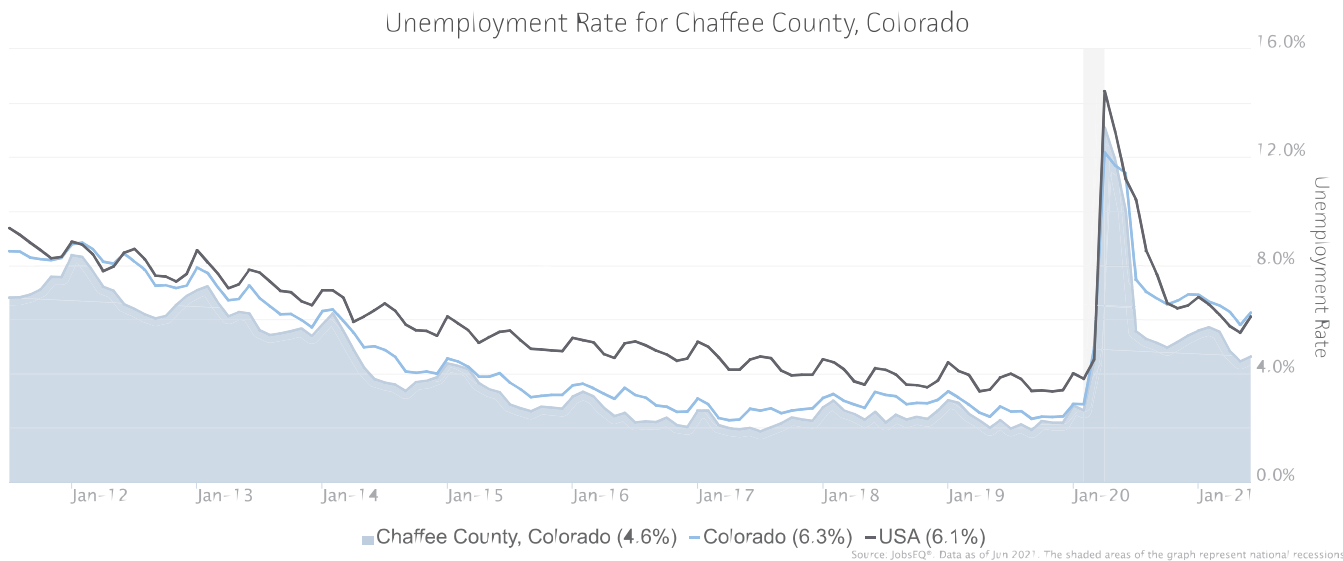
As of 2021Q1, total employment for Chaffee County, Colorado was 8,898 (based on a four-quarter moving average). Over the year ending 2021Q1, employment increased 0.4% in the region.



Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1.

Unemployment Rate

The unemployment rate for Chaffee County, Colorado was 4.6% as of June 2021. The regional unemployment rate was lower than the national rate of 6.1%. One year earlier, in June 2020, the unemployment rate in Chaffee County, Colorado was 10.1%.

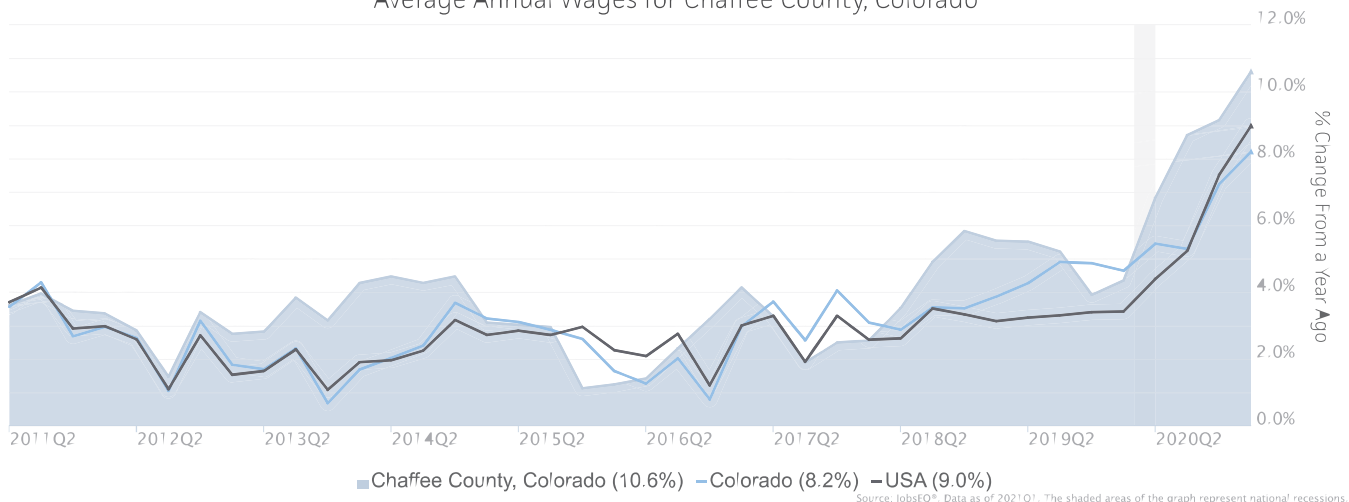


Unemployment rate data are from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and updated through June 2021.

Wage Trends

The average worker in Chaffee County, Colorado earned annual wages of \$42,657 as of 2021Q1. Average annual wages per worker increased 10.6% in the region over the preceding four quarters. For comparison purposes, annual average wages were \$63,393 in the nation as of 2021Q1.

Average Annual Wages for Chaffee County, Colorado



Annual average wages per worker data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1.

Cost of Living Index

The Cost of Living Index estimates the relative price levels for consumer goods and services. When applied to wages and salaries, the result is a measure of relative purchasing power. The cost of living is 10.6% higher in Chaffee County, Colorado than the U.S. average.

Cost of Living Information

	Cost of Living Index		
	Annual Average Salary	(Base US)	US Purchasing Power
Chaffee County, Colorado	\$42,657	110.6	\$38,573
Colorado	\$65,645	109.9	\$59,755
USA	\$63,393	100.0	\$63,393

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

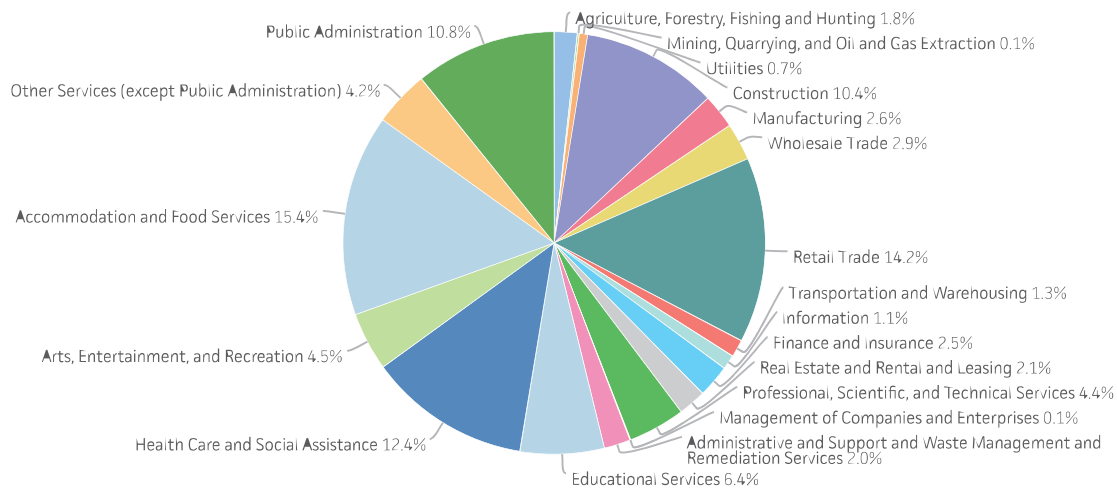
Data as of 2021Q1

Cost of Living per C2ER, data as of 2021Q1, imputed by Chmura where necessary.

Industry Snapshot

The largest sector in Chaffee County, Colorado is Accommodation and Food Services, employing 1,374 workers. The next-largest sectors in the region are Retail Trade (1,262 workers) and Health Care and Social Assistance (1,105). High location quotients (LQs) indicate sectors in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The sectors with the largest LQs in the region are Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation (LQ = 2.96), Public Administration (2.15), and Accommodation and Food Services (2.13).

Total Workers for Chaffee County, Colorado by Industry



Source: JobsEQ®, Data as of 2021Q1

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1.

Sectors in Chaffee County, Colorado with the highest average wages per worker are Utilities (\$96,714), Management of Companies and Enterprises (\$77,840), and Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (\$64,290). Regional sectors with the best job growth (or most moderate job losses) over the last 5 years are Retail Trade (+156 jobs), Construction (+125), and Health Care and Social Assistance (+104).

Over the next 5 years, employment in Chaffee County, Colorado is projected to expand by 510 jobs. The fastest growing sector in the region is expected to be Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation with a +1.9% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Health Care and Social Assistance (+100 jobs), Accommodation and Food Services (+94), and Construction (+52).

NAICS	Industry	Empl	Current	5-Year History			5-Year Forecast				
			Avg Ann Wages	LQ	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
72	Accommodation and Food Services	1,374	\$25,120	2.13	61	0.9%	1,239	507	638	94	1.3%
44	Retail Trade	1,262	\$35,140	1.36	156	2.7%	891	377	476	37	0.6%
62	Health Care and Social Assistance	1,105	\$54,308	0.83	104	2.0%	641	266	275	100	1.7%
92	Public Administration	963	\$57,512	2.15	91	2.0%	499	191	260	48	1.0%
23	Construction	928	\$51,061	1.76	125	2.9%	518	167	299	52	1.1%
61	Educational Services	572	\$34,540	0.79	37	1.3%	308	131	141	36	1.2%
71	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	397	\$26,004	2.96	-170	-6.9%	330	130	161	38	1.9%
54	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	388	\$64,290	0.61	16	0.8%	194	63	107	24	1.2%
81	Other Services (except Public Administration)	378	\$29,126	0.99	41	2.3%	249	101	121	27	1.4%
42	Wholesale Trade	255	\$45,907	0.75	-6	-0.5%	142	51	85	6	0.5%
31	Manufacturing	234	\$37,061	0.32	-38	-2.9%	127	45	77	4	0.4%
52	Finance and Insurance	222	\$59,294	0.59	3	0.2%	114	40	65	9	0.8%
53	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	190	\$44,537	1.22	10	1.1%	105	44	53	7	0.7%
56	Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	180	\$32,333	0.32	50	6.7%	120	45	62	13	1.4%
11	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	157	\$19,815	1.23	-6	-0.7%	89	36	49	3	0.4%
48	Transportation and Warehousing	118	\$45,182	0.27	-14	-2.2%	70	27	37	6	1.0%
51	Information	99	\$51,052	0.56	-18	-3.2%	50	17	31	2	0.4%
22	Utilities	58	\$96,714	1.20	4	1.4%	27	9	17	0	0.2%
21	Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	12	\$35,152	0.39	-2	-3.3%	7	2	4	1	0.9%
55	Management of Companies and Enterprises	6	\$77,840	0.05	2	8.7%	3	1	2	0	1.4%
Total - All Industries		8,898	\$42,657	1.00	446	1.0%	5,483	2,125	2,847	510	1.1%

Source: [JobsEQ®](http://www.chmuraecon.com/jobseq)

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1. Forecast employment growth uses national projections adapted for regional growth patterns.

Occupation Snapshot

The largest major occupation group in Chaffee County, Colorado is Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations, employing 1,102 workers. The next-largest occupation groups in the region are Sales and Related Occupations (1,056 workers) and Office and Administrative Support Occupations (958). High location quotients (LQs) indicate occupation groups in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The major groups with the largest LQs in the region are Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations (LQ = 1.72), Construction and Extraction Occupations (1.62), and Protective Service Occupations (1.53).

Occupation groups in Chaffee County, Colorado with the highest average wages per worker are Management Occupations (\$98,200), Legal Occupations (\$82,600), and Architecture and Engineering Occupations (\$80,900). The unemployment rate in the region varied among the major groups from 1.9% among Legal Occupations to 14.4% among Personal Care and Service Occupations.

Over the next 5 years, the fastest growing occupation group in Chaffee County, Colorado is expected to be Healthcare Support Occupations with a +2.4% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations (+91 jobs) and Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations (+42). Over the same period, the highest separation demand (occupation demand due to retirements and workers moving from one occupation to another) is expected in Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations (1,016 jobs) and Sales and Related Occupations (776).

Chaffee County, Colorado, 2021Q1¹

SOC	Occupation	Empl	Mean Ann Wages ²	Current			5-Year History			5-Year Forecast				
				LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads ³	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related	1,102	\$28,300	1.72	150	13.8%	35	-27	-0.5%	1,107	406	610	91	1.6%
41-0000	Sales and Related	1,056	\$40,400	1.24	78	7.9%	66	89	1.8%	809	312	464	33	0.6%
43-0000	Office and Administrative Support	958	\$39,200	0.84	52	5.6%	30	22	0.5%	587	240	334	14	0.3%
47-0000	Construction and Extraction	673	\$47,700	1.62	45	7.4%	12	81	2.6%	428	115	274	39	1.1%
11-0000	Management	571	\$98,200	0.95	16	3.0%	13	36	1.3%	277	87	163	27	0.9%
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	552	\$79,800	1.04	13	2.6%	33	119	5.0%	207	77	88	42	1.5%
53-0000	Transportation and Material Moving	503	\$36,100	0.66	36	7.2%	40	20	0.8%	363	126	209	28	1.1%
13-0000	Business and Financial Operations	443	\$67,800	0.84	13	3.2%	6	38	1.8%	252	65	158	28	1.3%
25-0000	Educational Instruction and Library	417	\$43,700	0.84	24	5.4%	5	13	0.6%	227	92	107	27	1.3%
37-0000	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	402	\$33,300	1.39	30	8.0%	21	9	0.4%	309	120	161	29	1.4%
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	338	\$48,600	0.99	16	4.7%	19	20	1.3%	193	56	118	19	1.1%
33-0000	Protective Service	294	\$54,900	1.53	14	5.1%	3	20	1.5%	172	70	89	14	0.9%
39-0000	Personal Care and Service	293	\$34,600	1.34	44	14.4%	8	-10	-0.7%	289	115	147	26	1.7%
31-0000	Healthcare Support	279	\$35,900	0.69	17	6.1%	18	7	0.5%	222	87	99	35	2.4%
51-0000	Production	221	\$39,800	0.43	11	5.7%	6	-23	-2.0%	138	47	85	5	0.5%
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media	181	\$49,200	1.16	18	10.5%	7	-11	-1.1%	114	39	67	8	0.8%
21-0000	Community and Social Service	163	\$52,400	1.01	3	2.0%	13	1	0.1%	105	30	61	14	1.7%

Chaffee County, Colorado, 2021Q1¹

SOC	Occupation	Empl	Mean Ann Wages ²	Current			5-Year History			5-Year Forecast				
				LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads ³	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
15-0000	Computer and Mathematical	155	\$78,400	0.55	4	2.6%	8	17	2.3%	76	14	48	14	1.8%
17-0000	Architecture and Engineering	89	\$80,900	0.57	2	2.7%	1	5	1.2%	41	11	26	4	0.8%
19-0000	Life, Physical, and Social Science	79	\$75,500	0.96	3	3.5%	1	14	4.0%	42	8	30	4	1.0%
23-0000	Legal	78	\$82,600	1.00	1	1.9%	n/a	5	1.5%	29	10	15	4	1.1%
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	52	\$37,000	0.86	2	6.2%	15	0	0.1%	45	11	33	1	0.5%
Total - All Occupations		8,898	\$49,000	1.00	592	7.0%	358	446	1.0%	6,032	2,137	3,385	510	1.1%

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

Data as of 2021Q1 unless noted otherwise

Note: Figures may not sum due to rounding.

1. Data based on a four-quarter moving average unless noted otherwise.

2. Wage data are as of 2020 and represent the average for all Covered Employment

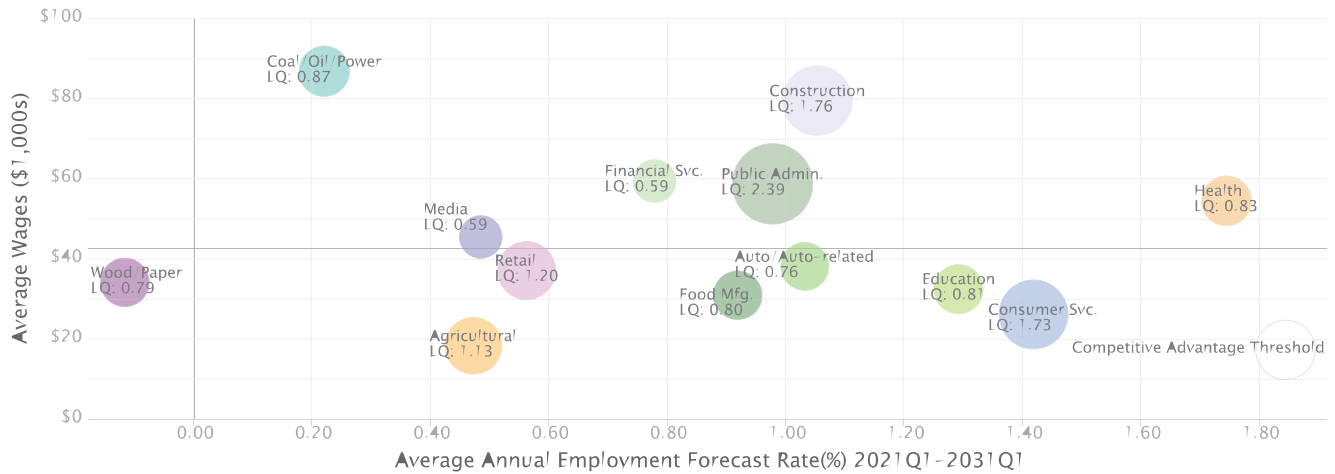
3. Data represent found online ads active within the last thirty days in the selected region; data represents a sampling rather than the complete universe of postings. Ads lacking zip code information but designating a place (city, town, etc.) may be assigned to the zip code with greatest employment in that place for queries in this analytic. Due to alternative county-assignment algorithms, ad counts in this analytic may not match that shown in RTI (nor in the popup window ad list).

Occupation employment data are estimated via industry employment data and the estimated industry/occupation mix. Industry employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and currently updated through 2020Q4, imputed where necessary with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1. Wages by occupation are as of 2020 provided by the BLS and imputed where necessary. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

Industry Clusters

A cluster is a geographic concentration of interrelated industries or occupations. The industry cluster in Chaffee County, Colorado with the highest relative concentration is Public Admin. with a location quotient of 2.39. This cluster employs 963 workers in the region with an average wage of \$58,772. Employment in the Public Admin. cluster is projected to expand in the region about 1.0% per year over the next ten years.

Industry Clusters for Chaffee County, Colorado as of 2021Q1



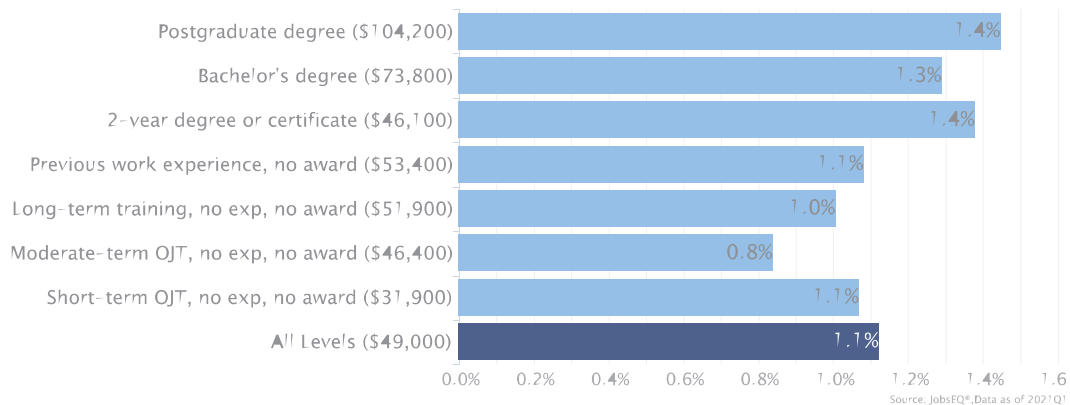
Source: JobsEQ®, Data as of 2021Q1

Location quotient and average wage data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, imputed where necessary, and updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

Education Levels

Expected growth rates for occupations vary by the education and training required. While all employment in Chaffee County, Colorado is projected to grow 1.1% over the next ten years, occupations typically requiring a postgraduate degree are expected to grow 1.4% per year, those requiring a bachelor’s degree are forecast to grow 1.3% per year, and occupations typically needing a 2-year degree or certificate are expected to grow 1.4% per year.

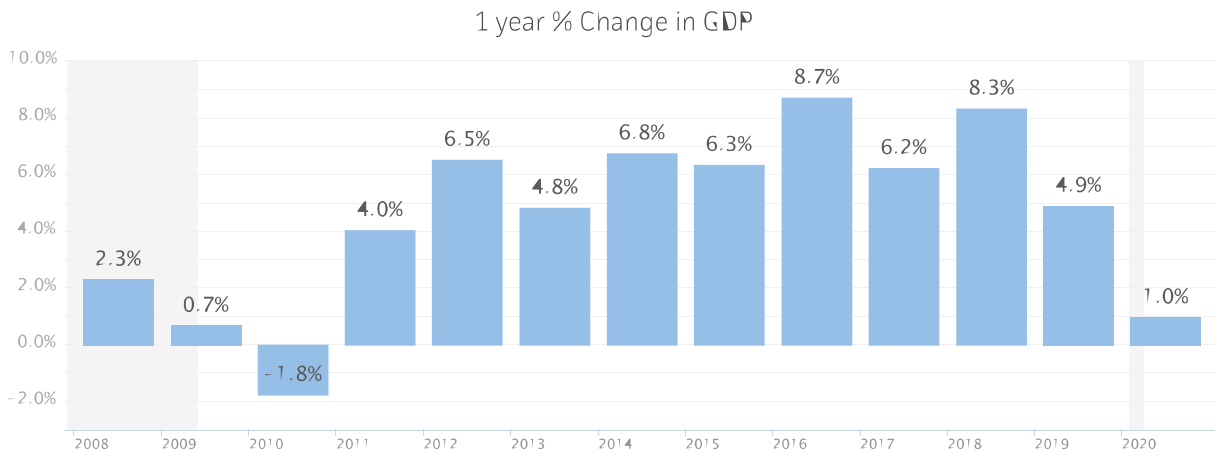
Annual Average Projected Job Growth by Training Required for Chaffee County, Colorado



Employment by occupation data are estimates as of 2021Q1. Education levels of occupations are based on BLS assignments. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

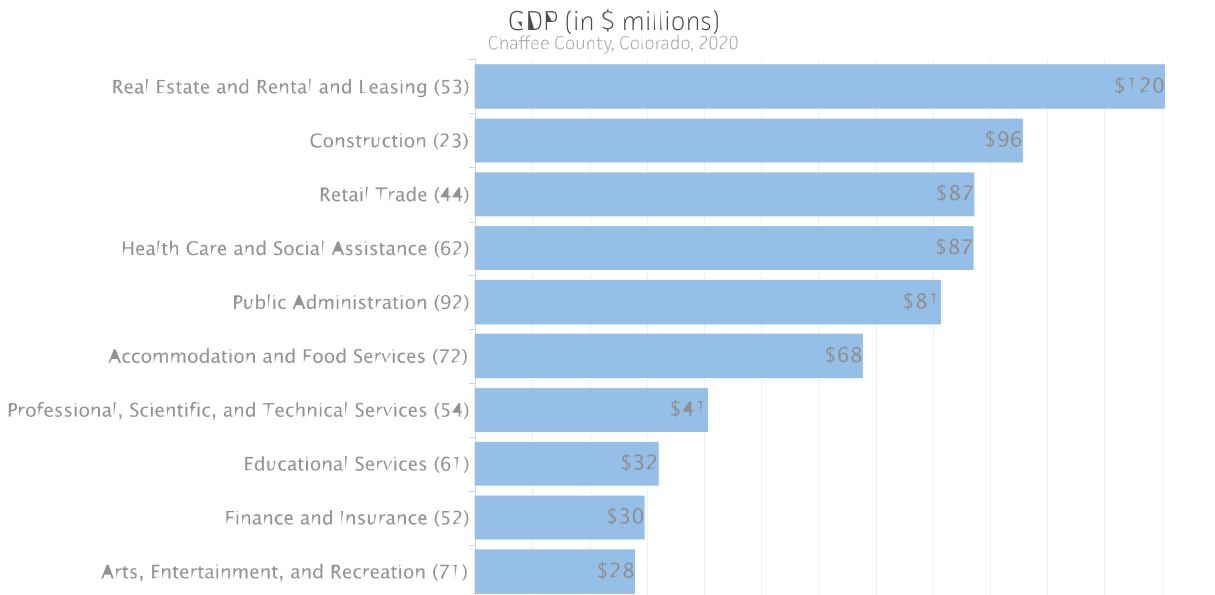
Gross Domestic Product

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the total value of goods and services produced by a region. In 2020, nominal GDP in Chaffee County, Colorado expanded 1.0%. This follows growth of 4.9% in 2019. As of 2020, total GDP in Chaffee County, Colorado was \$812,666,000.



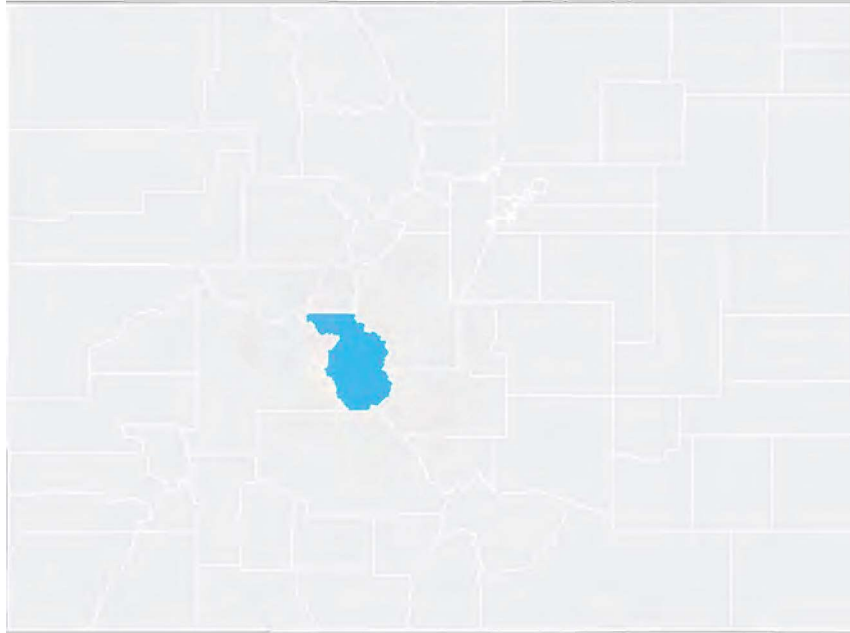
Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2020.

Of the sectors in Chaffee County, Colorado, Real Estate and Rental and Leasing contributed the largest portion of GDP in 2020, \$120,444,000. The next-largest contributions came from Construction (\$95,671,000); Retail Trade (\$87,175,000); and Health Care and Social Assistance (\$87,064,000).



Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2020.

Chaffee County, Colorado Regional Map



FAQ

What is a location quotient?

A location quotient (LQ) is a measurement of concentration in comparison to the nation. An LQ of 1.00 indicates a region has the same concentration of an industry (or occupation) as the nation. An LQ of 2.00 would mean the region has twice the expected employment compared to the nation and an LQ of 0.50 would mean the region has half the expected employment in comparison to the nation.

What is separation demand?

Separation demand is the number of jobs required due to separations—labor force exits (including retirements) and turnover resulting from workers moving from one occupation into another. Note that separation demand does not include all turnover—it does not include when workers stay in the same occupation but switch employers. The total projected demand for an occupation is the sum of the separation demand and the growth demand (which is the increase or decrease of jobs in an occupation expected due to expansion or contraction of the overall number of jobs in that occupation).

What is a cluster?

A cluster is a geographic concentration of interrelated industries or occupations. If a regional cluster has a location quotient of 1.25 or greater, the region is considered to possess a competitive advantage in that cluster.

What is the difference between industry wages and occupation wages?

Industry wages and occupation wages are estimated via separate data sets, often the time periods being reported do not align, and wages are defined slightly differently in the two systems (for example, certain bonuses are included in the industry wages but not the occupation wages). It is therefore common that estimates of the average industry wages and average occupation wages in a region do not match exactly.

What is NAICS?

The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) is used to classify business establishments according to the type of economic activity. The NAICS Code comprises six levels, from the “all industry” level to the 6-digit level. The first two digits define the top level category, known as the “sector,” which is the level examined in this report.

What is SOC?

The Standard Occupational Classification system (SOC) is used to classify workers into occupational categories. All workers are classified into one of over 804 occupations according to their occupational definition. To facilitate classification, occupations are combined to form 22 major groups, 95 minor groups, and 452 occupation groups. Each occupation group includes detailed occupations requiring similar job duties, skills, education, or experience.

About This Report

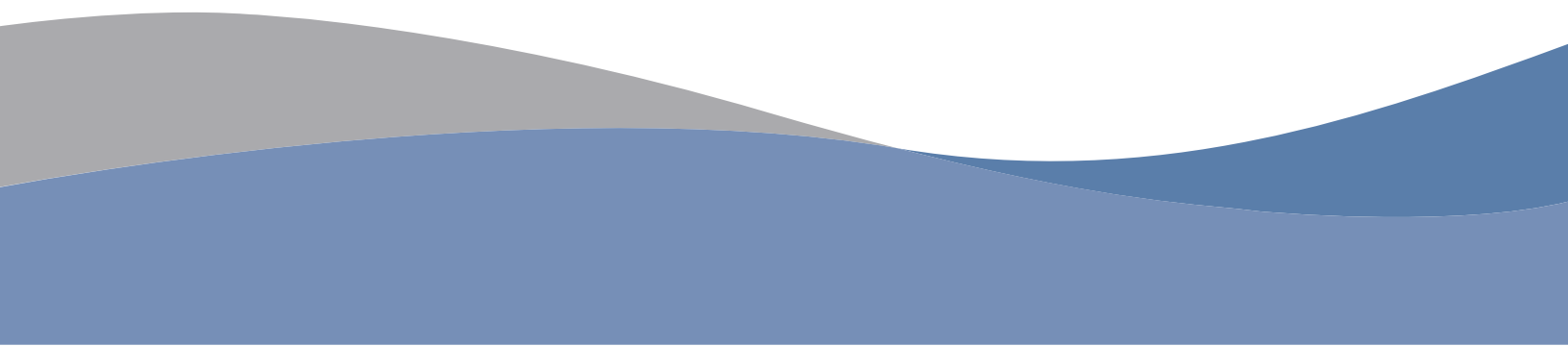
This report and all data herein were produced by JobsEQ®, a product of Chmura Economics & Analytics. The information contained herein was obtained from sources we believe to be reliable. However, we cannot guarantee its accuracy and completeness.



Economic Overview



Crowley County, Colorado



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Demographic Profile

The population in Crowley County, Colorado was 5,754 per American Community Survey data for 2015-2019.

The region has a civilian labor force of 2,257 with a participation rate of 44.1%. Of individuals 25 to 64 in Crowley County, Colorado, 9.1% have a bachelor's degree or higher which compares with 33.5% in the nation.

The median household income in Crowley County, Colorado is \$42,135 and the median house value is \$79,400.

Summary¹

Demographics	Percent			Value		
	Crowley County, Colorado	Colorado	USA	Crowley County, Colorado	Colorado	USA
Population (ACS)	—	—	—	5,754	5,610,349	324,697,795
Male	63.5%	50.3%	49.2%	3,654	2,823,201	159,886,919
Female	36.5%	49.7%	50.8%	2,100	2,787,148	164,810,876
Median Age ²	—	—	—	35.4	36.7	38.1
Under 18 Years	12.3%	22.5%	22.6%	709	1,261,005	73,429,392
18 to 24 Years	20.2%	9.3%	9.4%	1,162	523,765	30,646,327
25 to 34 Years	16.8%	15.5%	13.9%	969	871,500	45,030,415
35 to 44 Years	11.8%	13.6%	12.6%	681	764,183	40,978,831
45 to 54 Years	14.1%	12.7%	13.0%	812	713,520	42,072,620
55 to 64 Years	11.3%	12.5%	12.9%	651	702,670	41,756,414
65 to 74 Years	8.3%	8.5%	9.1%	476	478,345	29,542,266
75 Years, and Over	5.1%	5.3%	6.5%	294	295,361	21,241,530
Race: White	88.6%	84.0%	72.5%	5,098	4,712,574	235,377,662
Race: Black or African American	3.5%	4.2%	12.7%	203	233,647	41,234,642
Race: American Indian and Alaska Native	1.4%	1.0%	0.8%	80	54,847	2,750,143
Race: Asian	0.6%	3.2%	5.5%	34	178,147	17,924,209
Race: Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.2%	0.2%	0	8,643	599,868
Race: Some Other Race	1.1%	3.9%	4.9%	65	216,767	16,047,369
Race: Two or More Races	4.8%	3.7%	3.3%	274	205,724	10,763,902
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	31.9%	21.5%	18.0%	1,833	1,208,172	58,479,370
Population Growth						
Population (Pop Estimates) ⁴	—	—	—	5,696	5,807,719	329,484,123
Population Annual Average Growth ⁴	-0.3%	1.4%	0.6%	-16	76,018	2,015,698
People per Square Mile	—	—	—	7.7	55.6	92.9
Economic						
Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 16 years and over)	44.1%	68.1%	63.2%	2,257	3,035,960	163,555,585
Prime-Age Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 25-54)	53.3%	84.7%	82.1%	1,312	1,972,225	104,634,905
Armed Forces Labor Force	0.4%	0.8%	0.4%	20	33,671	1,073,907
Veterans, Age 18-64	4.8%	6.0%	4.6%	206	211,937	9,143,042
Veterans Labor Force Participation Rate and Size, Age 18-64	42.7%	79.5%	76.6%	88	168,558	7,003,778
Median Household Income ²	—	—	—	\$42,135	\$72,331	\$62,843
Per Capita Income	—	—	—	\$15,517	\$38,226	\$34,103
Mean Commute Time (minutes)	—	—	—	21.4	25.8	26.9
Commute via Public Transportation	0.8%	3.0%	5.0%	15	87,734	7,641,160
Educational Attainment, Age 25-64						
No High School Diploma	13.4%	8.0%	10.9%	417	245,575	18,550,150
High School Graduate	43.1%	20.7%	25.7%	1,343	632,736	43,627,868
Some College, No Degree	18.4%	20.7%	20.7%	574	631,698	35,174,790
Associate's Degree	16.0%	8.9%	9.1%	497	270,468	15,526,064

Summary¹

	Percent			Value		
	Crowley County, Colorado	Colorado	USA	Crowley County, Colorado	Colorado	USA
Bachelor's Degree	7.2%	26.9%	21.2%	223	822,135	35,997,848
Postgraduate Degree	1.9%	14.7%	12.3%	59	449,261	20,961,560
Housing						
Total Housing Units	—	—	—	1,589	2,386,475	137,428,986
Median House Value (of owner-occupied units) ²	—	—	—	\$79,400	\$343,300	\$217,500
Homeowner Vacancy	2.3%	1.1%	1.6%	22	14,983	1,257,737
Rental Vacancy	7.4%	4.8%	6.0%	29	38,254	2,793,023
Renter-Occupied Housing Units (% of Occupied Units)	27.5%	34.8%	36.0%	358	747,259	43,481,667
Occupied Housing Units with No Vehicle Available (% of Occupied Units)	4.2%	5.1%	8.6%	55	109,324	10,395,713
Social						
Poverty Level (of all people)	27.9%	10.3%	13.4%	1,339	565,873	42,510,843
Households Receiving Food Stamps/SNAP	16.9%	7.5%	11.7%	220	161,543	14,171,567
Enrolled in Grade 12 (% of total population)	5.4%	1.3%	1.4%	312	73,560	4,422,344
Disconnected Youth ³	2.4%	2.4%	2.5%	15	6,997	423,273
Children in Single Parent Families (% of all children)	34.2%	27.2%	34.1%	232	328,712	23,790,005
Uninsured	6.2%	7.6%	8.8%	297	420,782	28,248,613
With a Disability, Age 18-64	20.6%	8.6%	10.3%	685	300,250	20,187,604
With a Disability, Age 18-64, Labor Force Participation Rate and Size	36.8%	50.4%	42.2%	252	151,253	8,509,463
Foreign Born	3.4%	9.7%	13.6%	198	546,513	44,011,870
Speak English Less Than Very Well (population 5 yrs and over)	3.9%	5.8%	8.4%	220	304,772	25,615,365

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

1. American Community Survey 2015-2019, unless noted otherwise

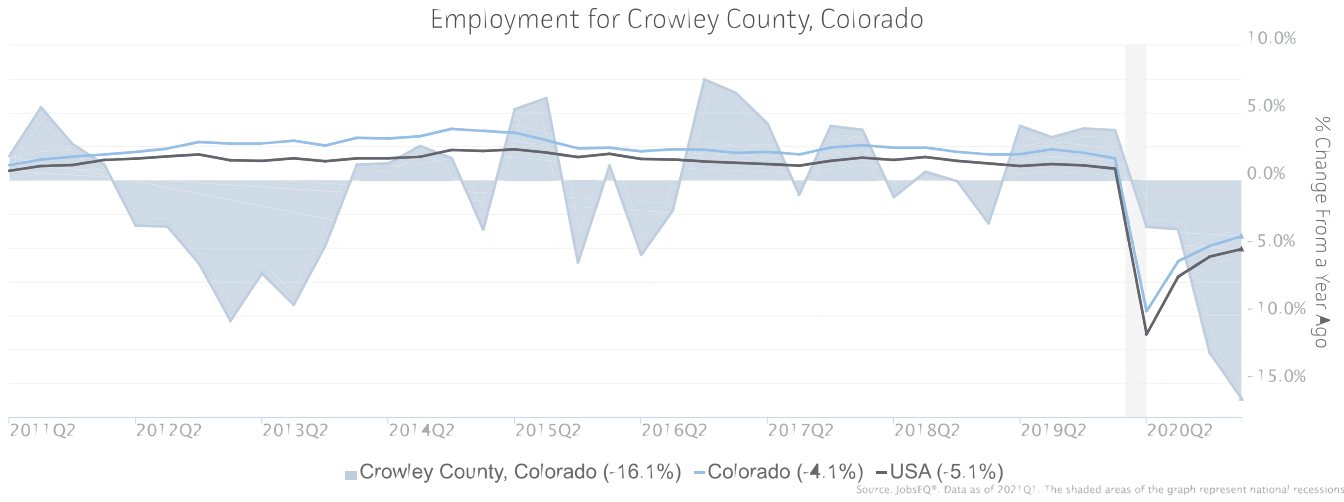
2. Median values for certain aggregate regions (such as MSAs) may be estimated as the weighted averages of the median values from the composing counties.

3. Disconnected Youth are 16-19 year olds who are (1) not in school, (2) not high school graduates, and (3) either unemployed or not in the labor force.

4. Census 2020, annual average growth rate since 2010

Employment Trends

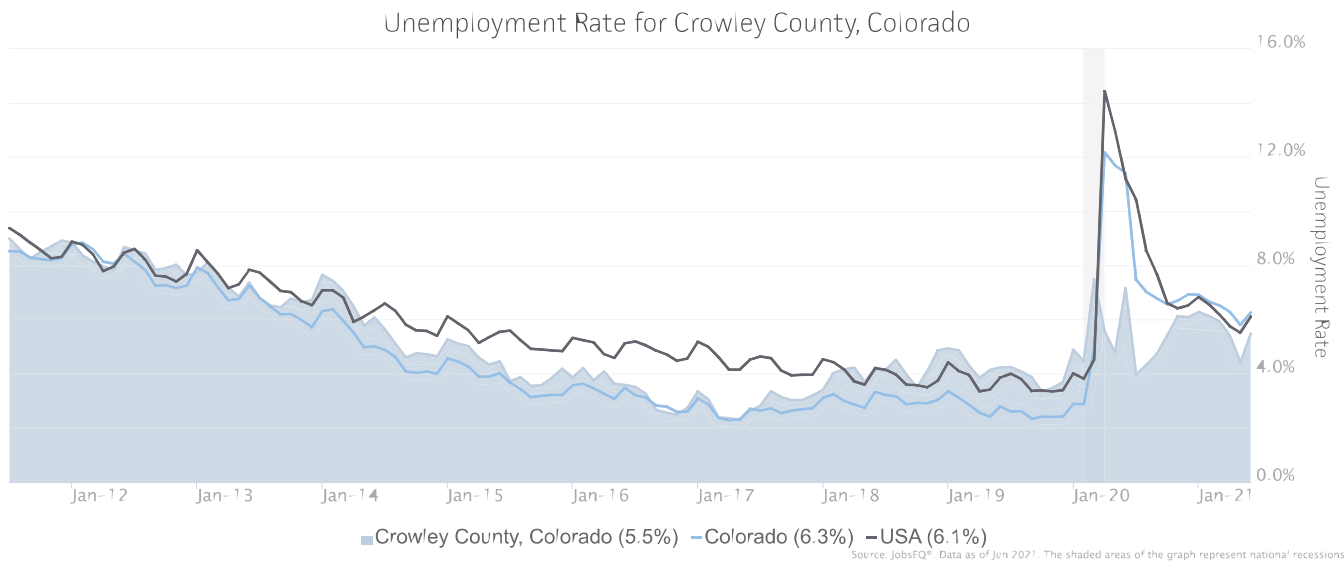
As of 2021Q1, total employment for Crowley County, Colorado was 1,202 (based on a four-quarter moving average). Over the year ending 2021Q1, employment declined 16.1% in the region.



Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1.

Unemployment Rate

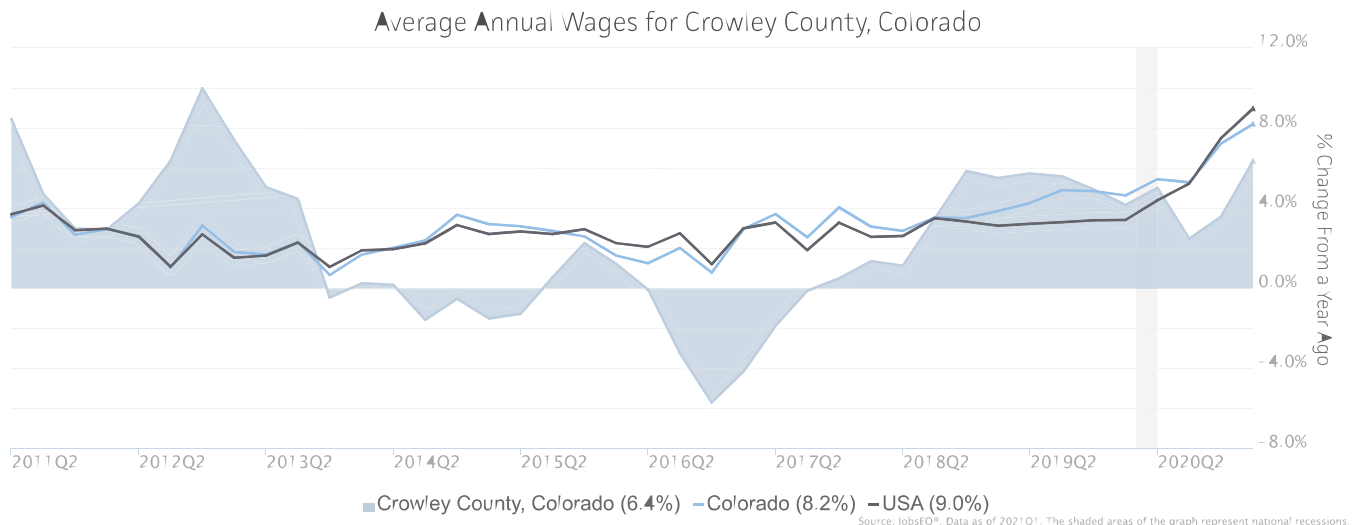
The unemployment rate for Crowley County, Colorado was 5.5% as of June 2021. The regional unemployment rate was lower than the national rate of 6.1%. One year earlier, in June 2020, the unemployment rate in Crowley County, Colorado was 7.2%.



Unemployment rate data are from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and updated through June 2021.

Wage Trends

The average worker in Crowley County, Colorado earned annual wages of \$43,184 as of 2021Q1. Average annual wages per worker increased 6.4% in the region over the preceding four quarters. For comparison purposes, annual average wages were \$63,393 in the nation as of 2021Q1.



Annual average wages per worker data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1.

Cost of Living Index

The Cost of Living Index estimates the relative price levels for consumer goods and services. When applied to wages and salaries, the result is a measure of relative purchasing power. The cost of living is 15.8% lower in Crowley County, Colorado than the U.S. average.

Cost of Living Information

	Annual Average Salary	Cost of Living Index (Base US)	US Purchasing Power
Crowley County, Colorado	\$43,184	84.2	\$51,271
Colorado	\$65,645	109.9	\$59,755
USA	\$63,393	100.0	\$63,393

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

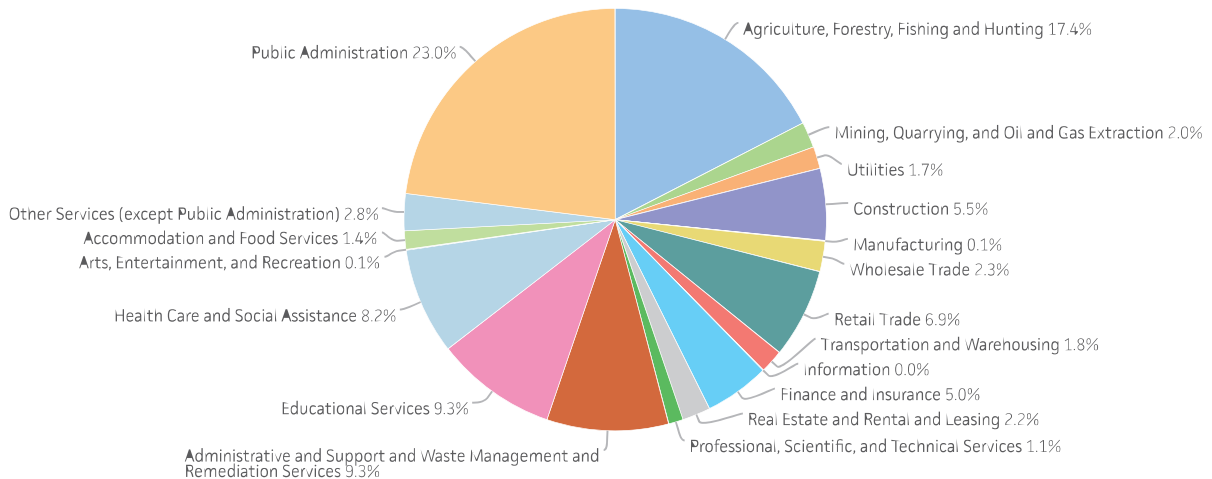
Data as of 2021Q1

Cost of Living per C2ER, data as of 2021Q1, imputed by Chmura where necessary.

Industry Snapshot

The largest sector in Crowley County, Colorado is Public Administration, employing 277 workers. The next-largest sectors in the region are Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (210 workers) and Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services (112). High location quotients (LQs) indicate sectors in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The sectors with the largest LQs in the region are Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (LQ = 12.20), Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction (5.53), and Public Administration (4.58).

Total Workers for Crowley County, Colorado by Industry



Source: JobsEQ®, Data as of 2021Q1

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1.

Sectors in Crowley County, Colorado with the highest average wages per worker are Finance and Insurance (\$63,624), Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (\$55,024), and Transportation and Warehousing (\$50,178). Regional sectors with the best job growth (or most moderate job losses) over the last 5 years are Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (+39 jobs), Finance and Insurance (+28), and Health Care and Social Assistance (+25).

Over the next 5 years, employment in Crowley County, Colorado is projected to expand by 63 jobs. The fastest growing sector in the region is expected to be Health Care and Social Assistance with a +1.6% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Public Administration (+16 jobs), Educational Services (+8), and Health Care and Social Assistance (+8).

NAICS	Industry	Empl	Current		5-Year History		Total Demand	5-Year Forecast			
			Avg Ann Wages	LQ	Empl Change	Ann %		Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
92	Public Administration	277	\$34,396	4.58	-48	-3.2%	146	55	75	16	1.1%
11	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	210	\$55,024	12.20	39	4.2%	118	49	66	4	0.4%
56	Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	112	\$36,920	1.48	-105	-12.4%	73	28	38	7	1.2%
61	Educational Services	112	\$41,087	1.14	19	3.8%	62	26	28	8	1.5%
62	Health Care and Social Assistance	98	\$33,711	0.55	25	6.2%	56	24	24	8	1.6%
44	Retail Trade	83	\$34,961	0.66	-9	-2.0%	58	25	31	3	0.6%
23	Construction	66	\$40,720	0.92	-34	-8.0%	38	12	21	5	1.4%
52	Finance and Insurance	60	\$63,624	1.17	28	13.6%	31	11	18	3	0.8%
81	Other Services (except Public Administration)	34	\$35,142	0.66	5	2.9%	22	9	11	2	1.2%
42	Wholesale Trade	28	\$42,540	0.61	16	19.0%	15	6	9	1	0.4%
53	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	26	\$40,733	1.24	15	18.5%	15	6	7	1	1.1%
21	Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	24	\$46,508	5.53	24	n/a	14	4	8	2	1.5%
48	Transportation and Warehousing	22	\$50,178	0.36	0	-0.1%	11	5	7	0	-0.2%
22	Utilities	20	\$46,814	3.11	-3	-2.4%	11	3	6	2	1.5%
72	Accommodation and Food Services	17	\$28,606	0.19	-6	-6.0%	15	6	8	1	1.2%
54	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	13	\$35,775	0.15	-1	-0.8%	7	2	4	1	1.5%
31	Manufacturing	1	\$1,843	0.01	0	-3.8%	0	0	0	0	0.3%
71	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	1	\$2,266	0.05	0	-0.5%	1	0	0	0	1.3%
Total - All Industries		1,202	\$43,184	1.00	-36	-0.6%	733	286	384	63	1.0%

Source: [JobsEQ®](http://www.chmuraecon.com/jobseq)

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1. Forecast employment growth uses national projections adapted for regional growth patterns.

Occupation Snapshot

The largest major occupation group in Crowley County, Colorado is Management Occupations, employing 176 workers. The next-largest occupation groups in the region are Office and Administrative Support Occupations (133 workers) and Protective Service Occupations (112). High location quotients (LQs) indicate occupation groups in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The major groups with the largest LQs in the region are Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations (LQ = 8.26), Protective Service Occupations (4.33), and Management Occupations (2.17).

Occupation groups in Crowley County, Colorado with the highest average wages per worker are Legal Occupations (\$110,600), Computer and Mathematical Occupations (\$72,400), and Architecture and Engineering Occupations (\$71,000). The unemployment rate in the region varied among the major groups from 1.3% among Management Occupations to 12.1% among Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations.

Over the next 5 years, the fastest growing occupation group in Crowley County, Colorado is expected to be Healthcare Support Occupations with a +2.0% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Educational Instruction and Library Occupations (+7 jobs) and Management Occupations (+5). Over the same period, the highest separation demand (occupation demand due to retirements and workers moving from one occupation to another) is expected in Management Occupations (85 jobs) and Office and Administrative Support Occupations (75).

Crowley County, Colorado, 2021Q1¹

SOC	Occupation	Empl	Mean Ann Wages ²	Current			5-Year History			5-Year Forecast				
				LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads ³	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
11-0000	Management	176	\$69,300	2.17	2	1.3%	5	8	0.9%	89	46	39	5	0.5%
43-0000	Office and Administrative Support	133	\$36,400	0.87	10	4.6%	7	2	0.2%	77	32	43	2	0.3%
33-0000	Protective Service	112	\$41,300	4.33	4	3.3%	5	-38	-5.7%	56	22	30	3	0.6%
25-0000	Educational Instruction and Library	84	\$36,800	1.26	5	5.7%	4	7	1.7%	46	18	22	7	1.5%
47-0000	Construction and Extraction	71	\$41,200	1.26	13	6.5%	1	-17	-4.3%	48	13	30	5	1.5%
41-0000	Sales and Related	70	\$38,800	0.61	12	7.4%	2	7	2.0%	54	21	30	3	0.7%
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	67	\$31,800	8.26	6	7.1%	1	31	13.1%	58	14	43	2	0.5%
13-0000	Business and Financial Operations	65	\$61,800	0.91	2	2.9%	1	0	-0.1%	37	9	23	5	1.4%
53-0000	Transportation and Material Moving	59	\$37,400	0.57	14	6.6%	5	-2	-0.8%	41	14	24	3	1.0%
37-0000	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	48	\$29,800	1.24	7	7.3%	3	-19	-6.4%	38	15	19	4	1.7%
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	47	\$40,800	1.01	6	4.6%	3	-6	-2.4%	27	8	16	3	1.4%
31-0000	Healthcare Support	46	\$29,500	0.84	5	4.7%	2	16	9.2%	34	14	15	5	2.0%
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	43	\$66,500	0.59	2	2.4%	16	0	0.2%	16	6	8	3	1.2%
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related	36	\$28,000	0.42	17	12.1%	7	-8	-4.0%	34	13	18	2	1.3%
21-0000	Community and Social Service	34	\$42,700	1.59	0	n/a	11	-5	-2.5%	22	6	13	3	1.6%
39-0000	Personal Care and Service	24	\$31,100	0.81	4	10.7%	n/a	-1	-0.4%	21	9	11	2	1.5%
51-0000	Production	23	\$37,500	0.33	7	5.5%	3	0	-0.3%	15	5	9	1	1.0%
15-0000	Computer and Mathematical	18	\$72,400	0.46	1	2.8%	n/a	1	0.6%	8	2	5	1	1.5%

Crowley County, Colorado, 2021Q1¹

SOC	Occupation	Empl	Mean Ann Wages ²	Current			5-Year History			5-Year Forecast				
				LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads ³	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
19-0000	Life, Physical, and Social Science	14	\$70,300	1.23	1	4.3%	0	-2	-3.0%	8	1	6	1	1.4%
17-0000	Architecture and Engineering	12	\$71,000	0.56	1	3.5%	n/a	-7	-8.7%	6	2	4	1	1.4%
23-0000	Legal	11	\$110,600	1.09	0	n/a	n/a	-1	-2.3%	4	1	2	1	1.4%
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media	9	\$38,900	0.43	1	10.0%	0	0	0.7%	6	2	3	1	1.6%
Total - All Occupations		1,202	\$45,800	1.00	119	5.5%	78	-36	-0.6%	747	274	411	63	1.0%

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

Data as of 2021Q1 unless noted otherwise

Note: Figures may not sum due to rounding.

1. Data based on a four-quarter moving average unless noted otherwise.

2. Wage data are as of 2020 and represent the average for all Covered Employment

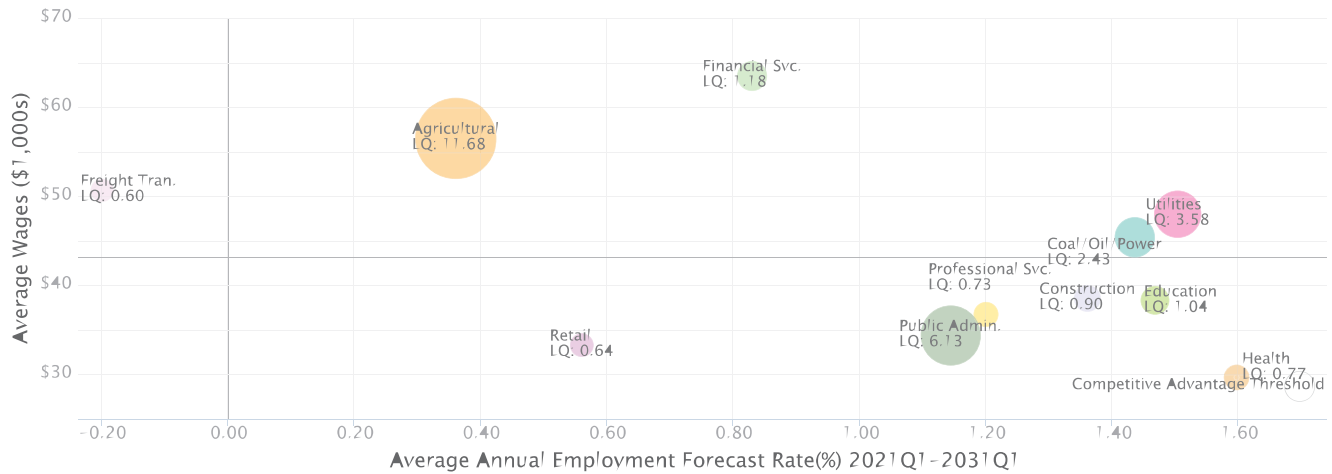
3. Data represent found online ads active within the last thirty days in the selected region; data represents a sampling rather than the complete universe of postings. Ads lacking zip code information but designating a place (city, town, etc.) may be assigned to the zip code with greatest employment in that place for queries in this analytic. Due to alternative county-assignment algorithms, ad counts in this analytic may not match that shown in RTI (nor in the popup window ad list).

Occupation employment data are estimated via industry employment data and the estimated industry/occupation mix. Industry employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and currently updated through 2020Q4, imputed where necessary with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1. Wages by occupation are as of 2020 provided by the BLS and imputed where necessary. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

Industry Clusters

A cluster is a geographic concentration of interrelated industries or occupations. The industry cluster in Crowley County, Colorado with the highest relative concentration is Agricultural with a location quotient of 11.68. This cluster employs 209 workers in the region with an average wage of \$56,544. Employment in the Agricultural cluster is projected to expand in the region about 0.4% per year over the next ten years.

Industry Clusters for Crowley County, Colorado as of 2021Q1



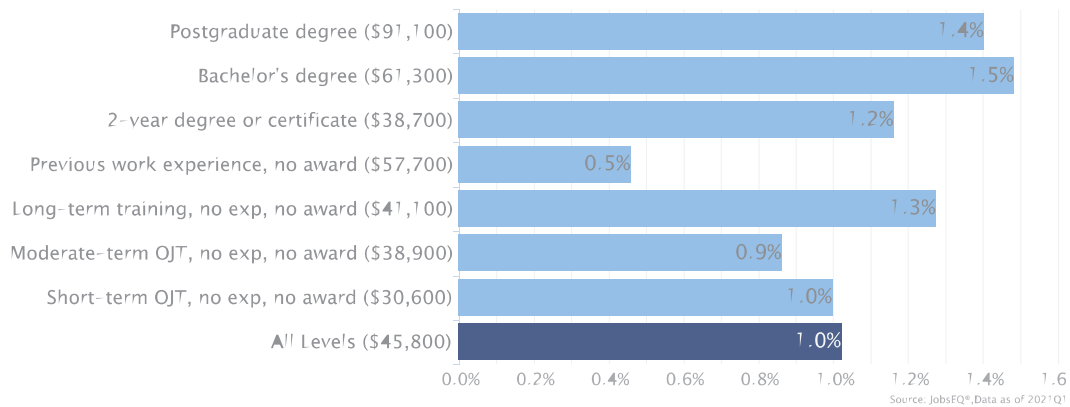
Source: JobsEQ®, Data as of 2021Q1

Location quotient and average wage data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, imputed where necessary, and updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

Education Levels

Expected growth rates for occupations vary by the education and training required. While all employment in Crowley County, Colorado is projected to grow 1.0% over the next ten years, occupations typically requiring a postgraduate degree are expected to grow 1.4% per year, those requiring a bachelor’s degree are forecast to grow 1.5% per year, and occupations typically needing a 2-year degree or certificate are expected to grow 1.2% per year.

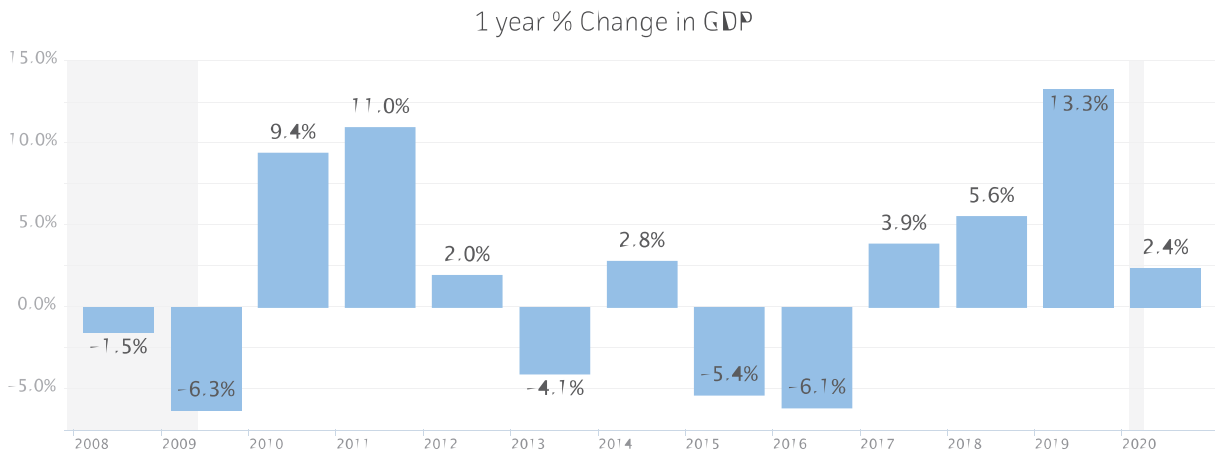
Annual Average Projected Job Growth by Training Required for Crowley County, Colorado



Employment by occupation data are estimates as of 2021Q1. Education levels of occupations are based on BLS assignments. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

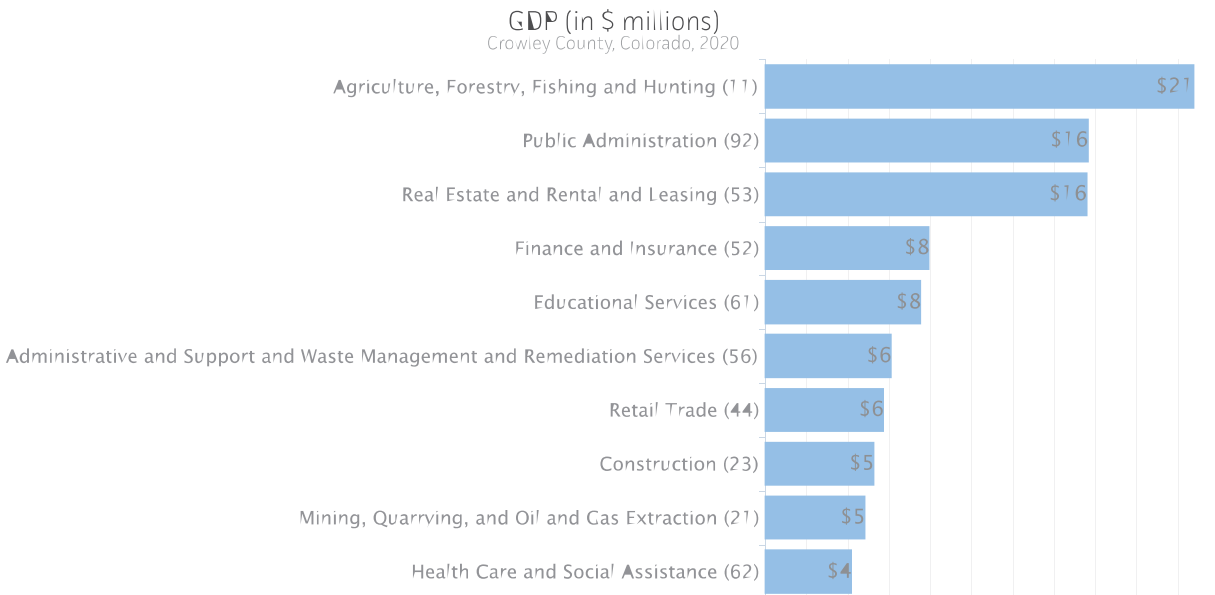
Gross Domestic Product

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the total value of goods and services produced by a region. In 2020, nominal GDP in Crowley County, Colorado expanded 2.4%. This follows growth of 13.3% in 2019. As of 2020, total GDP in Crowley County, Colorado was \$105,544,000.



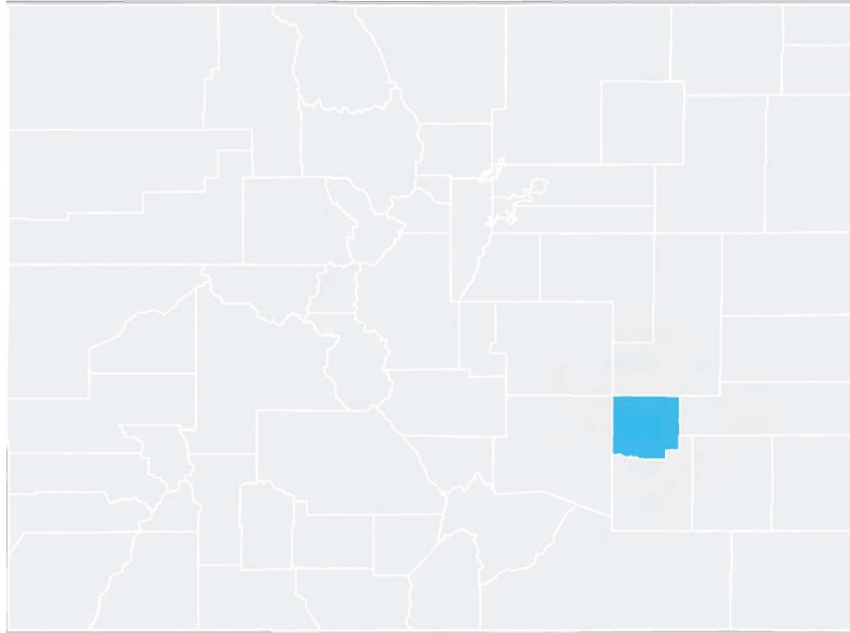
Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2020.

Of the sectors in Crowley County, Colorado, Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting contributed the largest portion of GDP in 2020, \$20,786,000. The next-largest contributions came from Public Administration (\$15,672,000); Real Estate and Rental and Leasing (\$15,595,000); and Finance and Insurance (\$7,932,000).



Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2020.

Crowley County, Colorado Regional Map



FAQ

What is a location quotient?

A location quotient (LQ) is a measurement of concentration in comparison to the nation. An LQ of 1.00 indicates a region has the same concentration of an industry (or occupation) as the nation. An LQ of 2.00 would mean the region has twice the expected employment compared to the nation and an LQ of 0.50 would mean the region has half the expected employment in comparison to the nation.

What is separation demand?

Separation demand is the number of jobs required due to separations—labor force exits (including retirements) and turnover resulting from workers moving from one occupation into another. Note that separation demand does not include all turnover—it does not include when workers stay in the same occupation but switch employers. The total projected demand for an occupation is the sum of the separation demand and the growth demand (which is the increase or decrease of jobs in an occupation expected due to expansion or contraction of the overall number of jobs in that occupation).

What is a cluster?

A cluster is a geographic concentration of interrelated industries or occupations. If a regional cluster has a location quotient of 1.25 or greater, the region is considered to possess a competitive advantage in that cluster.

What is the difference between industry wages and occupation wages?

Industry wages and occupation wages are estimated via separate data sets, often the time periods being reported do not align, and wages are defined slightly differently in the two systems (for example, certain bonuses are included in the industry wages but not the occupation wages). It is therefore common that estimates of the average industry wages and average occupation wages in a region do not match exactly.

What is NAICS?

The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) is used to classify business establishments according to the type of economic activity. The NAICS Code comprises six levels, from the “all industry” level to the 6-digit level. The first two digits define the top level category, known as the “sector,” which is the level examined in this report.

What is SOC?

The Standard Occupational Classification system (SOC) is used to classify workers into occupational categories. All workers are classified into one of over 804 occupations according to their occupational definition. To facilitate classification, occupations are combined to form 22 major groups, 95 minor groups, and 452 occupation groups. Each occupation group includes detailed occupations requiring similar job duties, skills, education, or experience.

About This Report

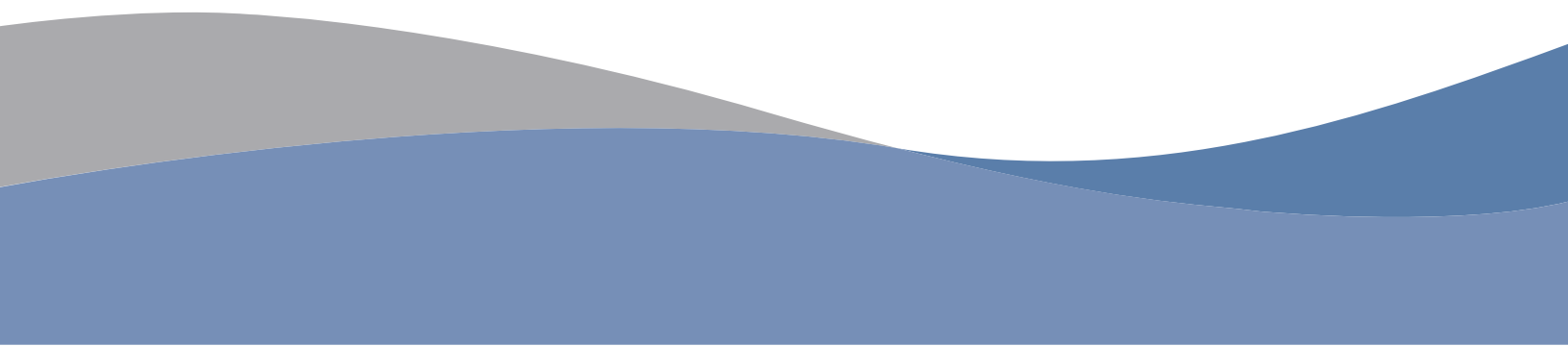
This report and all data herein were produced by JobsEQ®, a product of Chmura Economics & Analytics. The information contained herein was obtained from sources we believe to be reliable. However, we cannot guarantee its accuracy and completeness.



Economic Overview



Custer County, Colorado



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Demographic Profile

The population in Custer County, Colorado was 4,776 per American Community Survey data for 2015-2019.

The region has a civilian labor force of 1,829 with a participation rate of 44.3%. Of individuals 25 to 64 in Custer County, Colorado, 34.2% have a bachelor's degree or higher which compares with 33.5% in the nation.

The median household income in Custer County, Colorado is \$53,119 and the median house value is \$281,900.

Summary¹

Demographics	Percent			Value		
	Custer County, Colorado	Colorado	USA	Custer County, Colorado	Colorado	USA
Population (ACS)	—	—	—	4,776	5,610,349	324,697,795
Male	51.1%	50.3%	49.2%	2,442	2,823,201	159,886,919
Female	48.9%	49.7%	50.8%	2,334	2,787,148	164,810,876
Median Age ²	—	—	—	59.7	36.7	38.1
Under 18 Years	15.0%	22.5%	22.6%	716	1,261,005	73,429,392
18 to 24 Years	5.2%	9.3%	9.4%	248	523,765	30,646,327
25 to 34 Years	5.7%	15.5%	13.9%	271	871,500	45,030,415
35 to 44 Years	5.8%	13.6%	12.6%	275	764,183	40,978,831
45 to 54 Years	8.6%	12.7%	13.0%	410	713,520	42,072,620
55 to 64 Years	23.8%	12.5%	12.9%	1,139	702,670	41,756,414
65 to 74 Years	24.9%	8.5%	9.1%	1,187	478,345	29,542,266
75 Years, and Over	11.1%	5.3%	6.5%	530	295,361	21,241,530
Race: White	93.0%	84.0%	72.5%	4,441	4,712,574	235,377,662
Race: Black or African American	2.9%	4.2%	12.7%	138	233,647	41,234,642
Race: American Indian and Alaska Native	0.9%	1.0%	0.8%	44	54,847	2,750,143
Race: Asian	0.0%	3.2%	5.5%	0	178,147	17,924,209
Race: Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.2%	0.2%	0	8,643	599,868
Race: Some Other Race	0.8%	3.9%	4.9%	38	216,767	16,047,369
Race: Two or More Races	2.4%	3.7%	3.3%	115	205,724	10,763,902
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	9.2%	21.5%	18.0%	440	1,208,172	58,479,370
Population Growth						
Population (Pop Estimates) ⁴	—	—	—	5,183	5,807,719	329,484,123
Population Annual Average Growth ⁴	1.9%	1.4%	0.6%	91	76,018	2,015,698
People per Square Mile	—	—	—	6.9	55.6	92.9
Economic						
Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 16 years and over)	44.3%	68.1%	63.2%	1,829	3,035,960	163,555,585
Prime-Age Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 25-54)	75.0%	84.7%	82.1%	717	1,972,225	104,634,905
Armed Forces Labor Force	0.0%	0.8%	0.4%	0	33,671	1,073,907
Veterans, Age 18-64	13.2%	6.0%	4.6%	310	211,937	9,143,042
Veterans Labor Force Participation Rate and Size, Age 18-64	57.4%	79.5%	76.6%	178	168,558	7,003,778
Median Household Income ²	—	—	—	\$53,119	\$72,331	\$62,843
Per Capita Income	—	—	—	\$29,258	\$38,226	\$34,103
Mean Commute Time (minutes)	—	—	—	31.3	25.8	26.9
Commute via Public Transportation	0.0%	3.0%	5.0%	0	87,734	7,641,160
Educational Attainment, Age 25-64						
No High School Diploma	7.8%	8.0%	10.9%	164	245,575	18,550,150
High School Graduate	22.5%	20.7%	25.7%	471	632,736	43,627,868
Some College, No Degree	28.2%	20.7%	20.7%	591	631,698	35,174,790
Associate's Degree	7.3%	8.9%	9.1%	152	270,468	15,526,064

Summary¹

	Percent			Value		
	Custer County, Colorado	Colorado	USA	Custer County, Colorado	Colorado	USA
Bachelor's Degree	25.3%	26.9%	21.2%	530	822,135	35,997,848
Postgraduate Degree	8.9%	14.7%	12.3%	187	449,261	20,961,560
Housing						
Total Housing Units	—	—	—	4,408	2,386,475	137,428,986
Median House Value (of owner-occupied units) ²	—	—	—	\$281,900	\$343,300	\$217,500
Homeowner Vacancy	10.6%	1.1%	1.6%	228	14,983	1,257,737
Rental Vacancy	18.6%	4.8%	6.0%	76	38,254	2,793,023
Renter-Occupied Housing Units (% of Occupied Units)	12.8%	34.8%	36.0%	284	747,259	43,481,667
Occupied Housing Units with No Vehicle Available (% of Occupied Units)	2.2%	5.1%	8.6%	49	109,324	10,395,713
Social						
Poverty Level (of all people)	12.7%	10.3%	13.4%	601	565,873	42,510,843
Households Receiving Food Stamps/SNAP	6.1%	7.5%	11.7%	134	161,543	14,171,567
Enrolled in Grade 12 (% of total population)	0.8%	1.3%	1.4%	40	73,560	4,422,344
Disconnected Youth ³	2.5%	2.4%	2.5%	4	6,997	423,273
Children in Single Parent Families (% of all children)	18.7%	27.2%	34.1%	121	328,712	23,790,005
Uninsured	16.2%	7.6%	8.8%	774	420,782	28,248,613
With a Disability, Age 18-64	14.6%	8.6%	10.3%	341	300,250	20,187,604
With a Disability, Age 18-64, Labor Force Participation Rate and Size	34.9%	50.4%	42.2%	119	151,253	8,509,463
Foreign Born	3.1%	9.7%	13.6%	149	546,513	44,011,870
Speak English Less Than Very Well (population 5 yrs and over)	3.3%	5.8%	8.4%	155	304,772	25,615,365

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

1. American Community Survey 2015-2019, unless noted otherwise

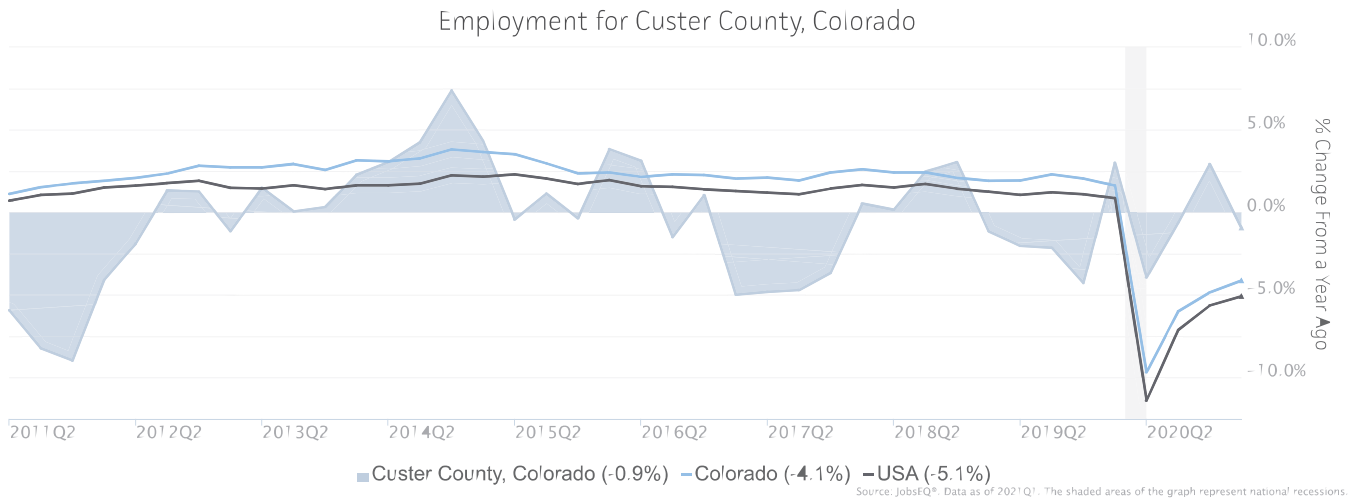
2. Median values for certain aggregate regions (such as MSAs) may be estimated as the weighted averages of the median values from the composing counties.

3. Disconnected Youth are 16-19 year olds who are (1) not in school, (2) not high school graduates, and (3) either unemployed or not in the labor force.

4. Census 2020, annual average growth rate since 2010

Employment Trends

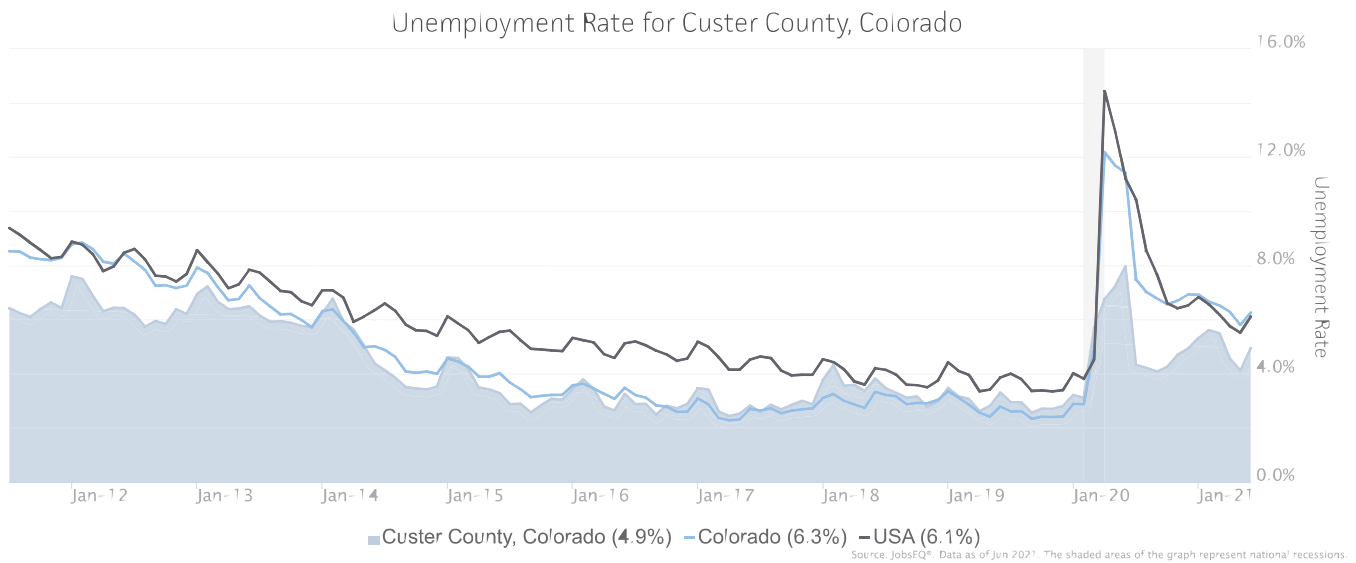
As of 2021Q1, total employment for Custer County, Colorado was 1,232 (based on a four-quarter moving average). Over the year ending 2021Q1, employment declined 0.9% in the region.



Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1.

Unemployment Rate

The unemployment rate for Custer County, Colorado was 4.9% as of June 2021. The regional unemployment rate was lower than the national rate of 6.1%. One year earlier, in June 2020, the unemployment rate in Custer County, Colorado was 8.0%.

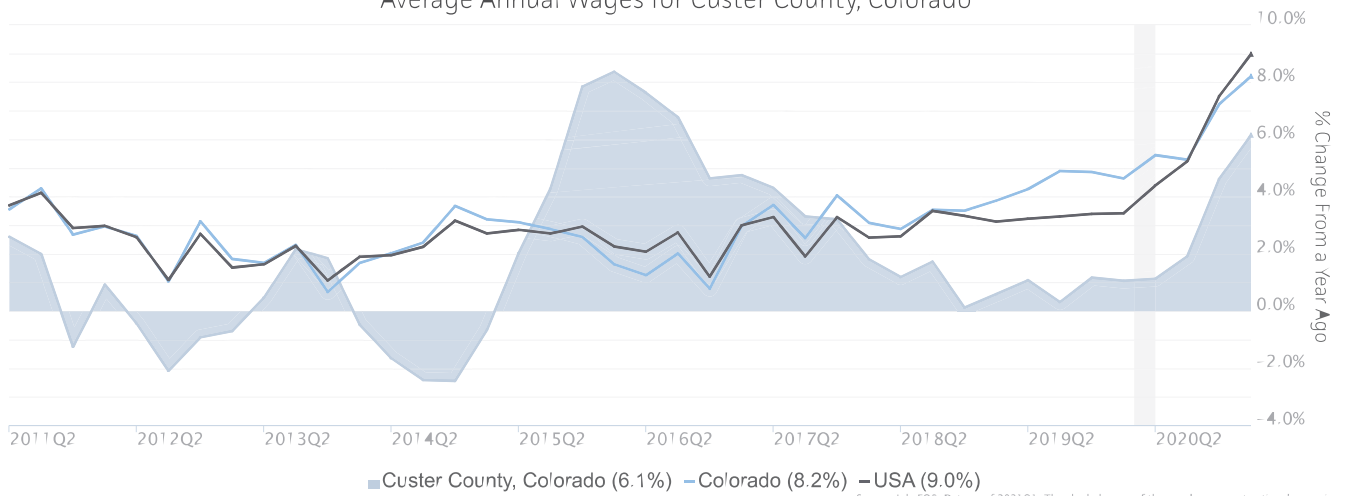


Unemployment rate data are from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and updated through June 2021.

Wage Trends

The average worker in Custer County, Colorado earned annual wages of \$33,664 as of 2021Q1. Average annual wages per worker increased 6.1% in the region over the preceding four quarters. For comparison purposes, annual average wages were \$63,393 in the nation as of 2021Q1.

Average Annual Wages for Custer County, Colorado



Annual average wages per worker data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1.

Cost of Living Index

The Cost of Living Index estimates the relative price levels for consumer goods and services. When applied to wages and salaries, the result is a measure of relative purchasing power. The cost of living is 7.2% higher in Custer County, Colorado than the U.S. average.

Cost of Living Information

	Annual Average Salary	Cost of Living Index (Base US)	US Purchasing Power
Custer County, Colorado	\$33,664	107.2	\$31,398
Colorado	\$65,645	109.9	\$59,755
USA	\$63,393	100.0	\$63,393

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

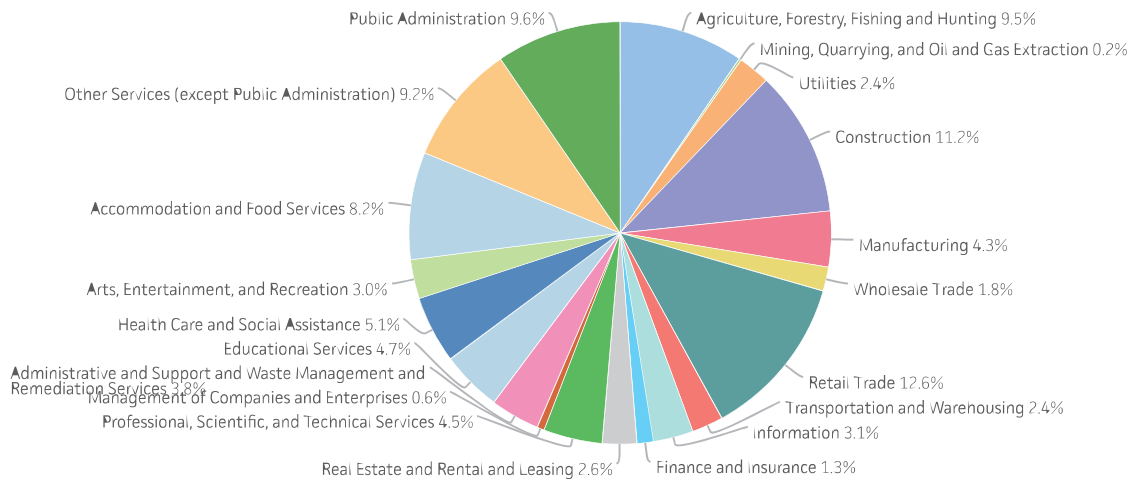
Data as of 2021Q1

Cost of Living per C2ER, data as of 2021Q1, imputed by Chmura where necessary.

Industry Snapshot

The largest sector in Custer County, Colorado is Retail Trade, employing 155 workers. The next-largest sectors in the region are Construction (138 workers) and Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (118). High location quotients (LQs) indicate sectors in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The sectors with the largest LQs in the region are Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (LQ = 6.68), Utilities (4.46), and Other Services (except Public Administration) (2.15).

Total Workers for Custer County, Colorado by Industry



Source: JobsEQ®, Data as of 2021Q1

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1.

Sectors in Custer County, Colorado with the highest average wages per worker are Wholesale Trade (\$96,958), Management of Companies and Enterprises (\$73,269), and Utilities (\$56,843). Regional sectors with the best job growth (or most moderate job losses) over the last 5 years are Retail Trade (+20 jobs), Other Services (except Public Administration) (+20), and Public Administration (+14).

Over the next 5 years, employment in Custer County, Colorado is projected to expand by 98 jobs. The fastest growing sector in the region is expected to be Health Care and Social Assistance with a +3.1% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Health Care and Social Assistance (+11 jobs), Public Administration (+10), and Other Services (except Public Administration) (+10).

NAICS	Industry	Empl	Current		5-Year History		Total Demand	5-Year Forecast			
			Avg Ann Wages	LQ	Empl Change	Ann %		Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
44	Retail Trade	155	\$34,296	1.21	20	2.9%	113	47	59	7	0.9%
23	Construction	138	\$42,400	1.88	-71	-8.0%	79	25	45	9	1.3%
11	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	118	\$21,870	6.68	-1	-0.1%	69	28	37	5	0.8%
92	Public Administration	118	\$35,914	1.91	14	2.6%	67	24	32	10	1.7%
81	Other Services (except Public Administration)	114	\$23,627	2.15	20	4.0%	78	31	37	10	1.7%
72	Accommodation and Food Services	101	\$17,536	1.13	-1	-0.3%	95	38	48	9	1.8%
62	Health Care and Social Assistance	63	\$36,538	0.34	-7	-2.1%	43	16	16	11	3.1%
61	Educational Services	57	\$36,711	0.57	-18	-5.2%	37	14	15	9	2.8%
54	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	56	\$45,925	0.63	-4	-1.5%	29	9	15	4	1.5%
31	Manufacturing	53	\$33,905	0.52	-14	-4.6%	30	10	18	2	0.8%
56	Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	46	\$32,344	0.60	11	5.9%	32	12	16	4	1.6%
51	Information	38	\$26,840	1.55	-10	-4.5%	22	7	12	3	1.6%
71	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	37	\$22,713	1.98	-8	-3.9%	32	12	15	4	2.2%
53	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	32	\$37,602	1.51	4	2.9%	19	8	9	2	1.3%
22	Utilities	30	\$56,843	4.46	-16	-8.2%	15	5	9	2	1.0%
48	Transportation and Warehousing	30	\$46,505	0.49	7	5.7%	18	7	9	2	1.3%
42	Wholesale Trade	23	\$96,958	0.48	11	14.8%	14	5	8	1	1.2%
52	Finance and Insurance	15	\$55,924	0.29	-5	-5.9%	8	3	5	1	1.1%
55	Management of Companies and Enterprises	7	\$73,269	0.36	4	15.6%	4	1	2	1	1.8%
21	Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	2	\$51,158	0.52	2	29.8%	2	0	1	0	3.0%
Total - All Industries		1,232	\$33,664	1.00	-61	-1.0%	793	297	398	98	1.5%

Source: [JobsEQ®](http://www.chmuraecon.com/jobseq)

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1. Forecast employment growth uses national projections adapted for regional growth patterns.

Occupation Snapshot

The largest major occupation group in Custer County, Colorado is Management Occupations, employing 166 workers. The next-largest occupation groups in the region are Sales and Related Occupations (138 workers) and Office and Administrative Support Occupations (125). High location quotients (LQs) indicate occupation groups in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The major groups with the largest LQs in the region are Management Occupations (LQ = 1.99), Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations (1.95), and Construction and Extraction Occupations (1.83).

Occupation groups in Custer County, Colorado with the highest average wages per worker are Legal Occupations (\$117,900), Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations (\$84,900), and Management Occupations (\$76,800). The unemployment rate in the region varied among the major groups from 1.8% among Architecture and Engineering Occupations to 12.7% among Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations.

Over the next 5 years, the fastest growing occupation group in Custer County, Colorado is expected to be Healthcare Support Occupations with a +3.9% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations (+10 jobs) and Construction and Extraction Occupations (+8). Over the same period, the highest separation demand (occupation demand due to retirements and workers moving from one occupation to another) is expected in Sales and Related Occupations (102 jobs) and Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations (89).

Custer County, Colorado, 2021Q1¹

SOC	Occupation	Empl	Mean Ann Wages ²	Current			5-Year History			5-Year Forecast				
				LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads ³	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
11-0000	Management	166	\$76,800	1.99	4	2.0%	0	-8	-1.0%	83	35	41	7	0.8%
41-0000	Sales and Related	138	\$39,100	1.17	12	6.1%	9	9	1.4%	108	41	61	6	0.9%
43-0000	Office and Administrative Support	125	\$36,600	0.80	8	4.3%	3	-8	-1.2%	78	32	42	5	0.7%
47-0000	Construction and Extraction	106	\$38,900	1.83	8	6.6%	1	-43	-6.6%	70	18	43	8	1.5%
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related	95	\$26,900	1.07	17	12.7%	1	22	5.5%	100	35	54	10	2.1%
53-0000	Transportation and Material Moving	68	\$35,400	0.65	6	6.0%	4	4	1.3%	53	18	29	6	1.7%
13-0000	Business and Financial Operations	62	\$61,200	0.85	3	2.8%	n/a	2	0.5%	38	9	23	5	1.7%
37-0000	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	56	\$31,600	1.41	5	6.2%	n/a	-2	-0.8%	48	17	24	7	2.5%
25-0000	Educational Instruction and Library	53	\$36,300	0.78	4	5.7%	2	-18	-5.7%	36	13	15	7	2.6%
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	50	\$44,400	1.05	2	4.2%	3	-14	-4.8%	29	8	17	4	1.4%
51-0000	Production	47	\$36,900	0.65	3	5.4%	n/a	-10	-4.0%	29	9	18	2	0.9%
39-0000	Personal Care and Service	41	\$31,800	1.36	8	11.7%	0	-11	-4.6%	42	16	21	5	2.4%
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media	37	\$38,300	1.68	7	8.0%	n/a	-2	-0.8%	24	8	14	3	1.5%
33-0000	Protective Service	32	\$43,700	1.22	3	5.3%	0	2	1.3%	21	8	10	3	1.8%
21-0000	Community and Social Service	31	\$43,400	1.38	1	2.3%	2	8	6.3%	23	7	12	4	2.2%
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	28	\$84,900	0.38	1	1.8%	1	4	2.9%	12	4	5	4	2.4%
31-0000	Healthcare Support	26	\$29,600	0.46	2	4.1%	0	6	4.9%	25	9	10	5	3.9%

Custer County, Colorado, 2021Q1¹

SOC	Occupation	Empl	Mean Ann Wages ²	Current			Online Job Ads ³	5-Year History		Total Demand	5-Year Forecast			Ann % Growth
				LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate		Empl Change	Ann %		Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	
15-0000	Computer and Mathematical	23	\$76,400	0.60	1	2.0%	2	0	0.4%	12	2	7	3	2.1%
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	16	\$35,800	1.95	2	6.0%	n/a	1	1.0%	14	3	10	1	0.6%
17-0000	Architecture and Engineering	15	\$72,700	0.71	1	1.8%	n/a	-4	-4.6%	7	2	4	1	0.8%
19-0000	Life, Physical, and Social Science	9	\$72,700	0.82	1	3.0%	n/a	1	3.3%	5	1	4	1	1.5%
23-0000	Legal	8	\$117,900	0.70	0	n/a	n/a	0	-0.7%	3	1	1	1	1.5%
Total - All Occupations		1,232	\$46,200	1.00	98	5.4%	27	-61	-1.0%	860	297	466	98	1.5%

Source: [JobsEQ®](https://www.jobseq.com)

Data as of 2021Q1 unless noted otherwise

Note: Figures may not sum due to rounding.

1. Data based on a four-quarter moving average unless noted otherwise.

2. Wage data are as of 2020 and represent the average for all Covered Employment

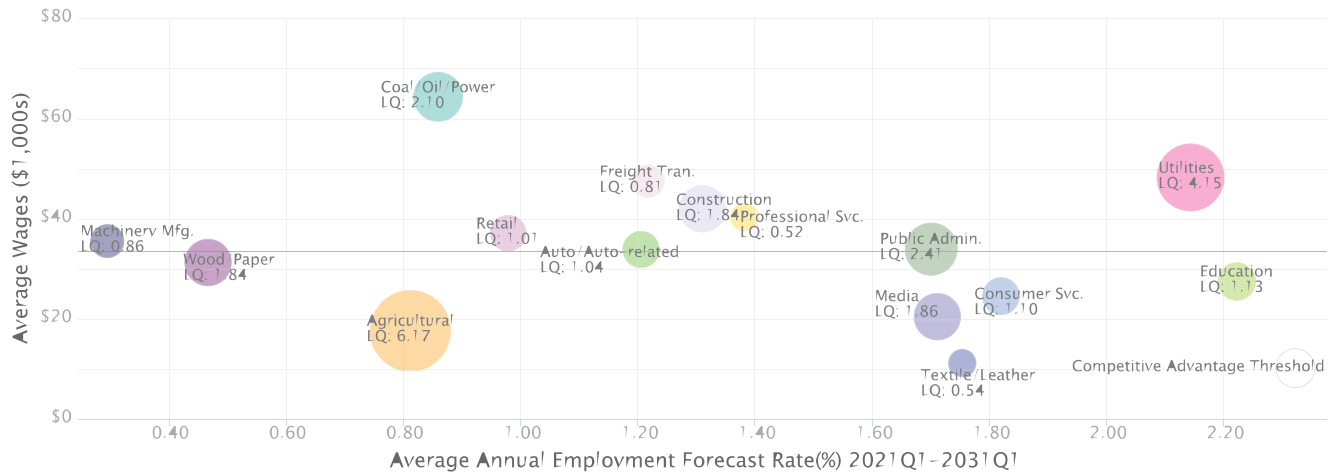
3. Data represent found online ads active within the last thirty days in the selected region; data represents a sampling rather than the complete universe of postings. Ads lacking zip code information but designating a place (city, town, etc.) may be assigned to the zip code with greatest employment in that place for queries in this analytic. Due to alternative county-assignment algorithms, ad counts in this analytic may not match that shown in RTI (nor in the popup window ad list).

Occupation employment data are estimated via industry employment data and the estimated industry/occupation mix. Industry employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and currently updated through 2020Q4, imputed where necessary with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1. Wages by occupation are as of 2020 provided by the BLS and imputed where necessary. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

Industry Clusters

A cluster is a geographic concentration of interrelated industries or occupations. The industry cluster in Custer County, Colorado with the highest relative concentration is Agricultural with a location quotient of 6.17. This cluster employs 113 workers in the region with an average wage of \$17,644. Employment in the Agricultural cluster is projected to expand in the region about 0.8% per year over the next ten years.

Industry Clusters for Custer County, Colorado as of 2021Q1



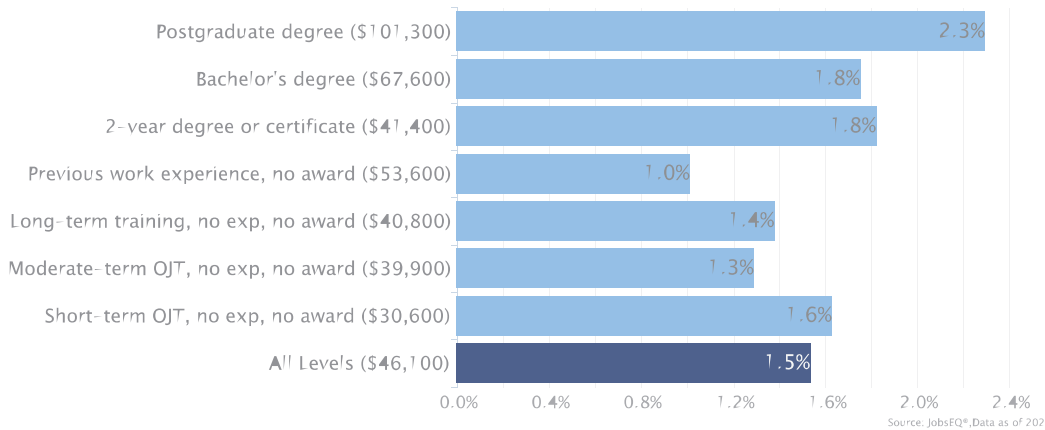
Source: JobsEQ®, Data as of 2021Q1

Location quotient and average wage data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, imputed where necessary, and updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

Education Levels

Expected growth rates for occupations vary by the education and training required. While all employment in Custer County, Colorado is projected to grow 1.5% over the next ten years, occupations typically requiring a postgraduate degree are expected to grow 2.3% per year, those requiring a bachelor’s degree are forecast to grow 1.8% per year, and occupations typically needing a 2-year degree or certificate are expected to grow 1.8% per year.

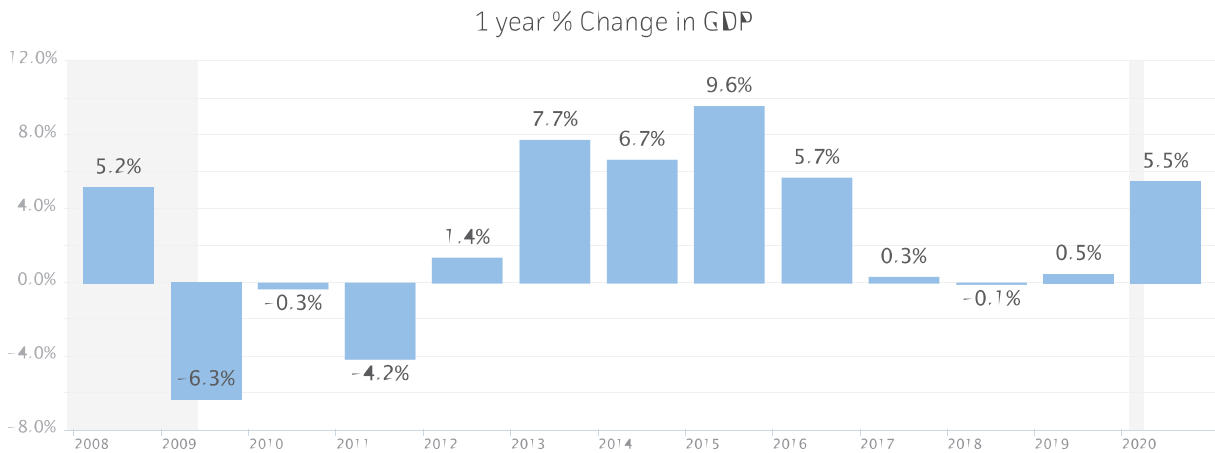
Annual Average Projected Job Growth by Training Required for Custer County, Colorado



Employment by occupation data are estimates as of 2021Q1. Education levels of occupations are based on BLS assignments. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

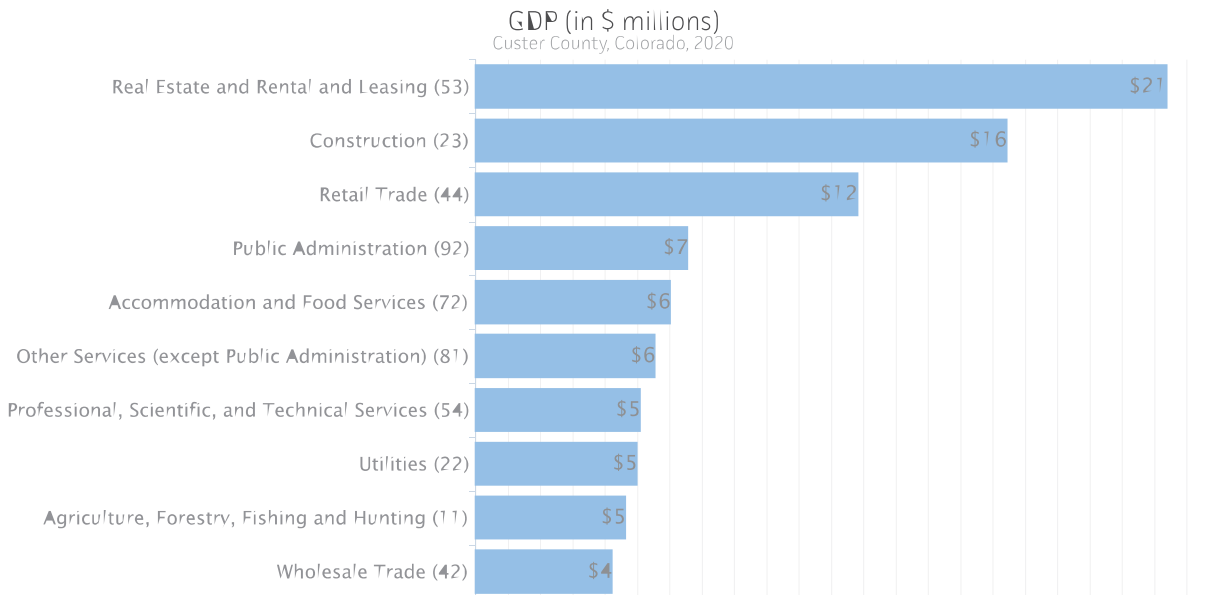
Gross Domestic Product

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the total value of goods and services produced by a region. In 2020, nominal GDP in Custer County, Colorado expanded 5.5%. This follows growth of 0.5% in 2019. As of 2020, total GDP in Custer County, Colorado was \$110,647,000.



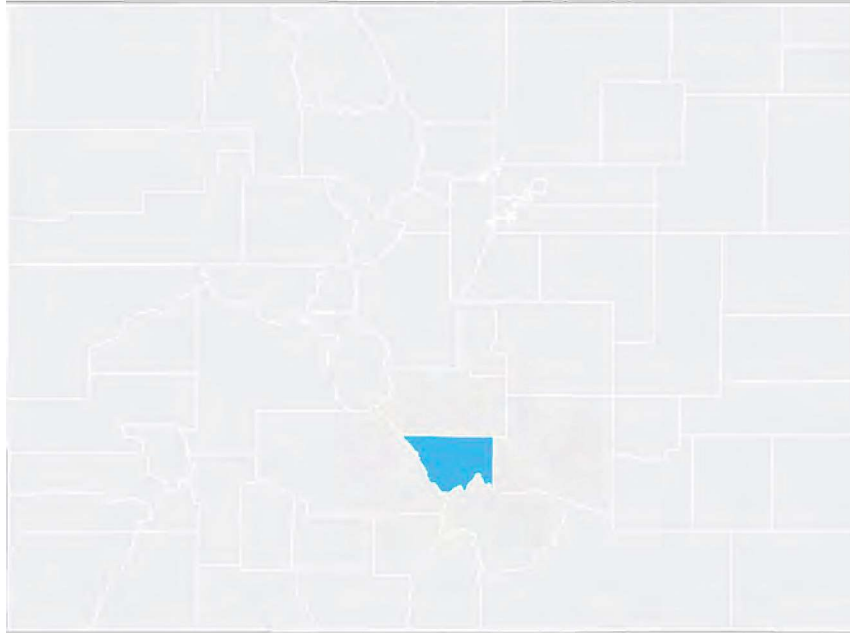
Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2020.

Of the sectors in Custer County, Colorado, Real Estate and Rental and Leasing contributed the largest portion of GDP in 2020, \$21,400,000. The next-largest contributions came from Construction (\$16,452,000); Retail Trade (\$11,841,000); and Public Administration (\$6,567,000).



Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2020.

Custer County, Colorado Regional Map



FAQ

What is a location quotient?

A location quotient (LQ) is a measurement of concentration in comparison to the nation. An LQ of 1.00 indicates a region has the same concentration of an industry (or occupation) as the nation. An LQ of 2.00 would mean the region has twice the expected employment compared to the nation and an LQ of 0.50 would mean the region has half the expected employment in comparison to the nation.

What is separation demand?

Separation demand is the number of jobs required due to separations—labor force exits (including retirements) and turnover resulting from workers moving from one occupation into another. Note that separation demand does not include all turnover—it does not include when workers stay in the same occupation but switch employers. The total projected demand for an occupation is the sum of the separation demand and the growth demand (which is the increase or decrease of jobs in an occupation expected due to expansion or contraction of the overall number of jobs in that occupation).

What is a cluster?

A cluster is a geographic concentration of interrelated industries or occupations. If a regional cluster has a location quotient of 1.25 or greater, the region is considered to possess a competitive advantage in that cluster.

What is the difference between industry wages and occupation wages?

Industry wages and occupation wages are estimated via separate data sets, often the time periods being reported do not align, and wages are defined slightly differently in the two systems (for example, certain bonuses are included in the industry wages but not the occupation wages). It is therefore common that estimates of the average industry wages and average occupation wages in a region do not match exactly.

What is NAICS?

The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) is used to classify business establishments according to the type of economic activity. The NAICS Code comprises six levels, from the “all industry” level to the 6-digit level. The first two digits define the top level category, known as the “sector,” which is the level examined in this report.

What is SOC?

The Standard Occupational Classification system (SOC) is used to classify workers into occupational categories. All workers are classified into one of over 804 occupations according to their occupational definition. To facilitate classification, occupations are combined to form 22 major groups, 95 minor groups, and 452 occupation groups. Each occupation group includes detailed occupations requiring similar job duties, skills, education, or experience.

About This Report

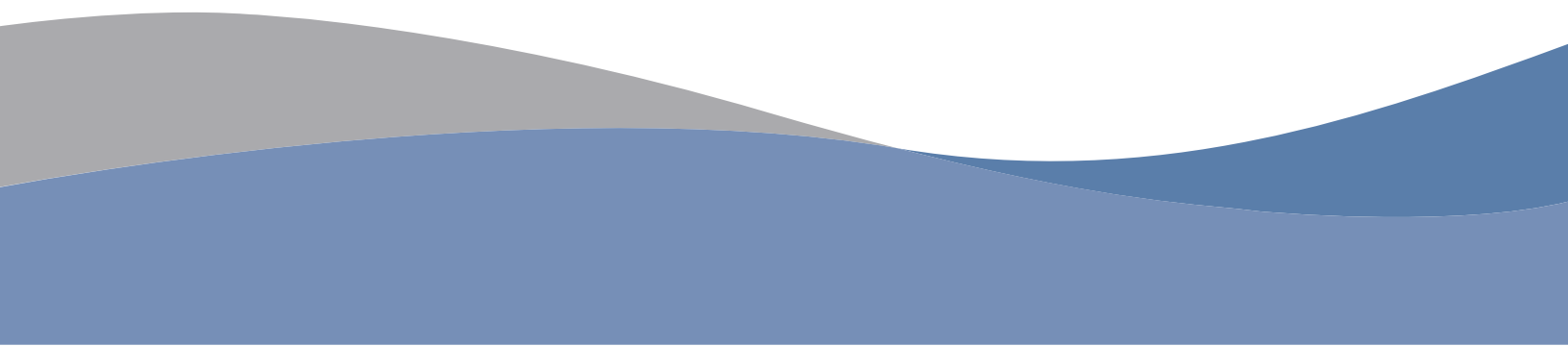
This report and all data herein were produced by JobsEQ®, a product of Chmura Economics & Analytics. The information contained herein was obtained from sources we believe to be reliable. However, we cannot guarantee its accuracy and completeness.



Economic Overview



Fremont County, Colorado



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FAQ 16

Demographic Profile

The population in Fremont County, Colorado was 47,321 per American Community Survey data for 2015-2019.

The region has a civilian labor force of 15,160 with a participation rate of 37.2%. Of individuals 25 to 64 in Fremont County, Colorado, 16.4% have a bachelor's degree or higher which compares with 33.5% in the nation.

The median household income in Fremont County, Colorado is \$49,409 and the median house value is \$174,000.

Summary¹

	Percent			Value		
	Fremont County, Colorado	Colorado	USA	Fremont County, Colorado	Colorado	USA
Demographics						
Population (ACS)	—	—	—	47,321	5,610,349	324,697,795
Male	58.3%	50.3%	49.2%	27,599	2,823,201	159,886,919
Female	41.7%	49.7%	50.8%	19,722	2,787,148	164,810,876
Median Age ²	—	—	—	45.1	36.7	38.1
Under 18 Years	15.8%	22.5%	22.6%	7,495	1,261,005	73,429,392
18 to 24 Years	6.1%	9.3%	9.4%	2,884	523,765	30,646,327
25 to 34 Years	14.7%	15.5%	13.9%	6,953	871,500	45,030,415
35 to 44 Years	13.3%	13.6%	12.6%	6,271	764,183	40,978,831
45 to 54 Years	13.9%	12.7%	13.0%	6,597	713,520	42,072,620
55 to 64 Years	15.0%	12.5%	12.9%	7,111	702,670	41,756,414
65 to 74 Years	12.5%	8.5%	9.1%	5,914	478,345	29,542,266
75 Years, and Over	8.7%	5.3%	6.5%	4,096	295,361	21,241,530
Race: White	89.8%	84.0%	72.5%	42,504	4,712,574	235,377,662
Race: Black or African American	4.6%	4.2%	12.7%	2,177	233,647	41,234,642
Race: American Indian and Alaska Native	1.4%	1.0%	0.8%	649	54,847	2,750,143
Race: Asian	0.7%	3.2%	5.5%	320	178,147	17,924,209
Race: Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.2%	0.2%	5	8,643	599,868
Race: Some Other Race	1.3%	3.9%	4.9%	617	216,767	16,047,369
Race: Two or More Races	2.2%	3.7%	3.3%	1,049	205,724	10,763,902
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	13.3%	21.5%	18.0%	6,288	1,208,172	58,479,370
Population Growth						
Population (Pop Estimates) ⁴	—	—	—	47,867	5,807,719	329,484,123
Population Annual Average Growth ⁴	0.2%	1.4%	0.6%	103	76,018	2,015,698
People per Square Mile	—	—	—	31.2	55.6	92.9
Economic						
Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 16 years and over)	37.2%	68.1%	63.2%	15,160	3,035,960	163,555,585
Prime-Age Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 25-54)	43.0%	84.7%	82.1%	8,502	1,972,225	104,634,905
Armed Forces Labor Force	0.1%	0.8%	0.4%	31	33,671	1,073,907
Veterans, Age 18-64	9.7%	6.0%	4.6%	2,879	211,937	9,143,042
Veterans Labor Force Participation Rate and Size, Age 18-64	51.4%	79.5%	76.6%	1,480	168,558	7,003,778
Median Household Income ²	—	—	—	\$49,409	\$72,331	\$62,843
Per Capita Income	—	—	—	\$22,692	\$38,226	\$34,103
Mean Commute Time (minutes)	—	—	—	23.4	25.8	26.9
Commute via Public Transportation	0.2%	3.0%	5.0%	24	87,734	7,641,160
Educational Attainment, Age 25-64						
No High School Diploma	9.6%	8.0%	10.9%	2,578	245,575	18,550,150
High School Graduate	42.8%	20.7%	25.7%	11,519	632,736	43,627,868
Some College, No Degree	22.3%	20.7%	20.7%	5,997	631,698	35,174,790

Summary¹

	Percent			Value		
	Fremont County, Colorado	Colorado	USA	Fremont County, Colorado	Colorado	USA
Associate's Degree	9.0%	8.9%	9.1%	2,431	270,468	15,526,064
Bachelor's Degree	10.3%	26.9%	21.2%	2,771	822,135	35,997,848
Postgraduate Degree	6.1%	14.7%	12.3%	1,636	449,261	20,961,560
Housing						
Total Housing Units	—	—	—	19,805	2,386,475	137,428,986
Median House Value (of owner-occupied units) ²	—	—	—	\$174,000	\$343,300	\$217,500
Homeowner Vacancy	1.6%	1.1%	1.6%	213	14,983	1,257,737
Rental Vacancy	5.6%	4.8%	6.0%	255	38,254	2,793,023
Renter-Occupied Housing Units (% of Occupied Units)	25.0%	34.8%	36.0%	4,278	747,259	43,481,667
Occupied Housing Units with No Vehicle Available (% of Occupied Units)	5.7%	5.1%	8.6%	983	109,324	10,395,713
Social						
Poverty Level (of all people)	14.5%	10.3%	13.4%	5,226	565,873	42,510,843
Households Receiving Food Stamps/SNAP	14.3%	7.5%	11.7%	2,446	161,543	14,171,567
Enrolled in Grade 12 (% of total population)	1.0%	1.3%	1.4%	456	73,560	4,422,344
Disconnected Youth ³	1.3%	2.4%	2.5%	21	6,997	423,273
Children in Single Parent Families (% of all children)	29.4%	27.2%	34.1%	2,022	328,712	23,790,005
Uninsured	6.9%	7.6%	8.8%	2,506	420,782	28,248,613
With a Disability, Age 18-64	15.8%	8.6%	10.3%	3,116	300,250	20,187,604
With a Disability, Age 18-64, Labor Force Participation Rate and Size	31.1%	50.4%	42.2%	969	151,253	8,509,463
Foreign Born	2.7%	9.7%	13.6%	1,263	546,513	44,011,870
Speak English Less Than Very Well (population 5 yrs and over)	3.9%	5.8%	8.4%	1,779	304,772	25,615,365

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

1. American Community Survey 2015-2019, unless noted otherwise

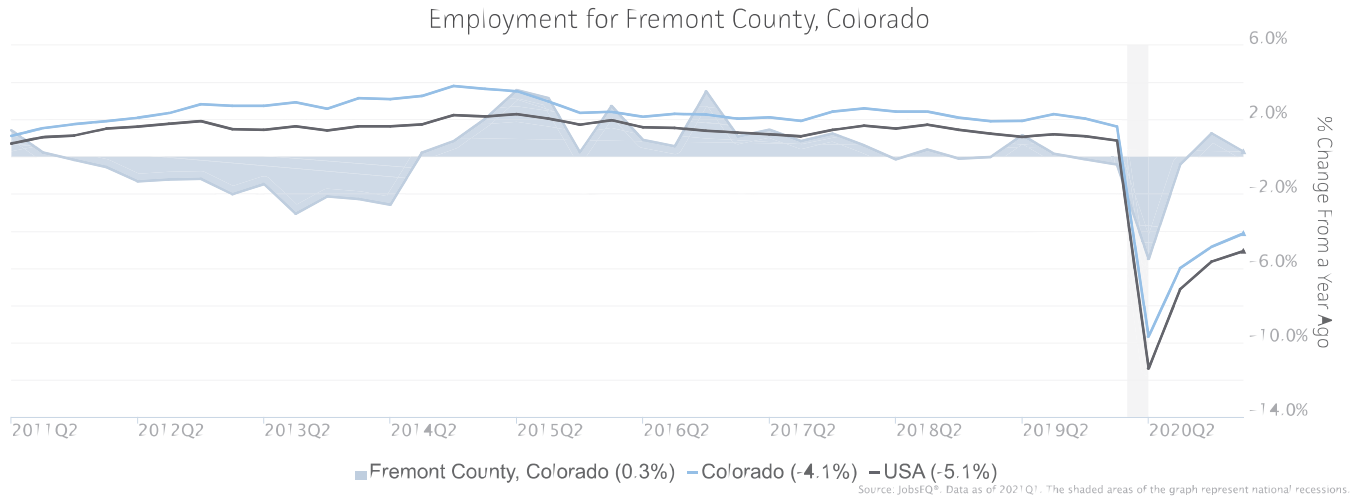
2. Median values for certain aggregate regions (such as MSAs) may be estimated as the weighted averages of the median values from the composing counties.

3. Disconnected Youth are 16-19 year olds who are (1) not in school, (2) not high school graduates, and (3) either unemployed or not in the labor force.

4. Census 2020, annual average growth rate since 2010

Employment Trends

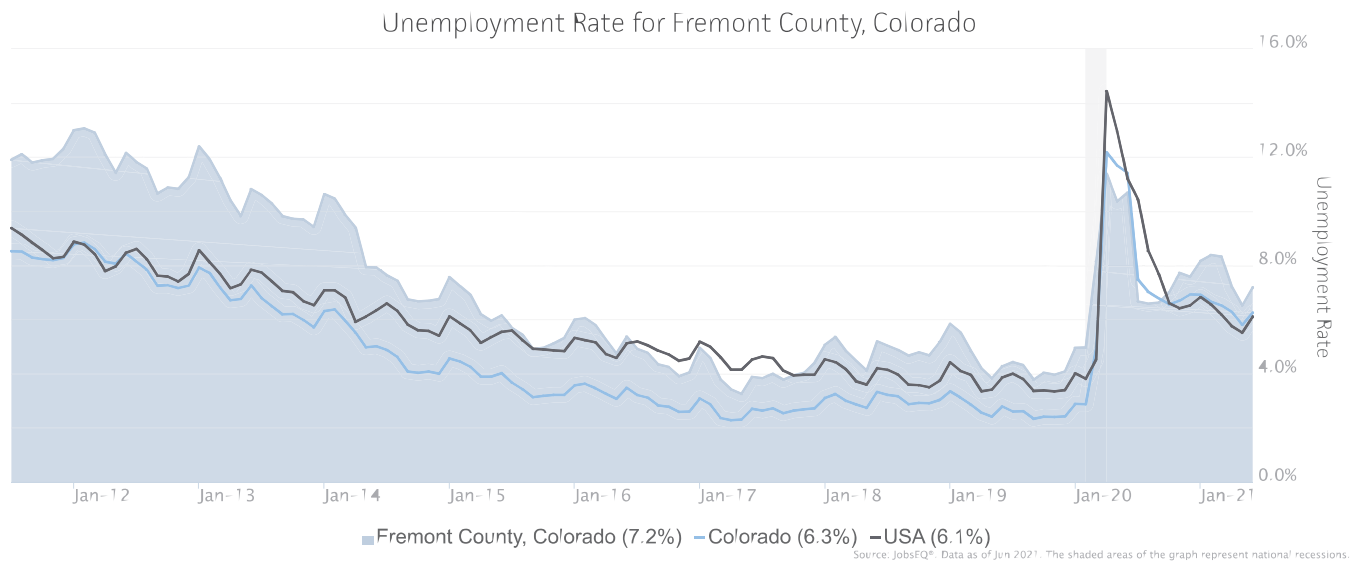
As of 2021Q1, total employment for Fremont County, Colorado was 15,072 (based on a four-quarter moving average). Over the year ending 2021Q1, employment increased 0.3% in the region.



Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1.

Unemployment Rate

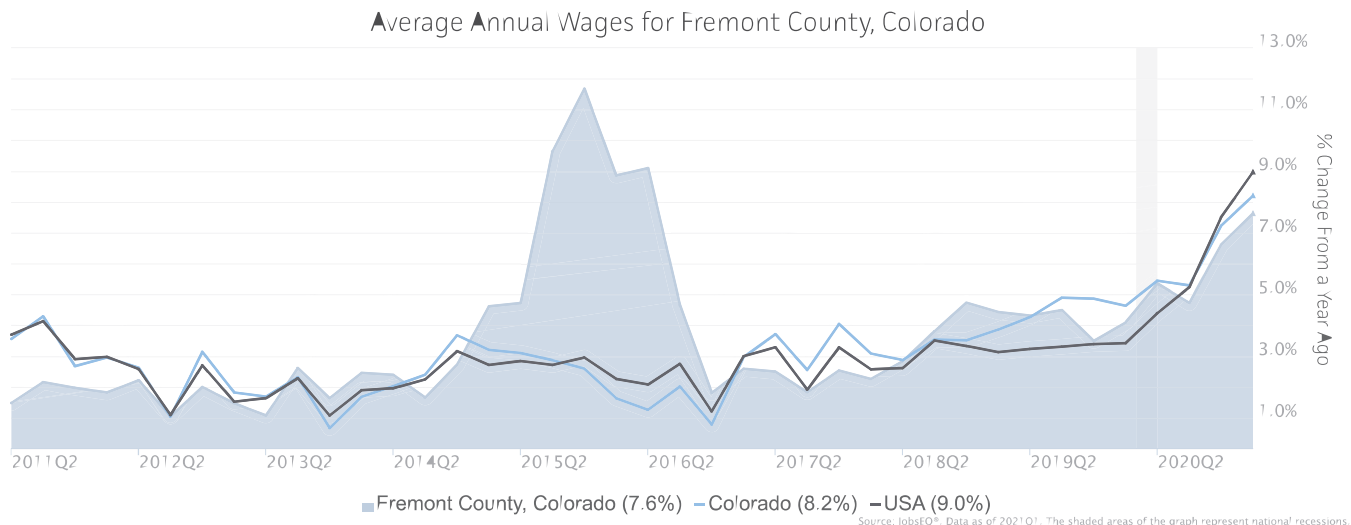
The unemployment rate for Fremont County, Colorado was 7.2% as of June 2021. The regional unemployment rate was higher than the national rate of 6.1%. One year earlier, in June 2020, the unemployment rate in Fremont County, Colorado was 10.7%.



Unemployment rate data are from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and updated through June 2021.

Wage Trends

The average worker in Fremont County, Colorado earned annual wages of \$44,243 as of 2021Q1. Average annual wages per worker increased 7.6% in the region over the preceding four quarters. For comparison purposes, annual average wages were \$63,393 in the nation as of 2021Q1.



Annual average wages per worker data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1.

Cost of Living Index

The Cost of Living Index estimates the relative price levels for consumer goods and services. When applied to wages and salaries, the result is a measure of relative purchasing power. The cost of living is 5.0% lower in Fremont County, Colorado than the U.S. average.

Cost of Living Information

	Annual Average Salary	Cost of Living Index (Base US)	US Purchasing Power
Fremont County, Colorado	\$44,243	95.0	\$46,587
Colorado	\$65,645	109.9	\$59,755
USA	\$63,393	100.0	\$63,393

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

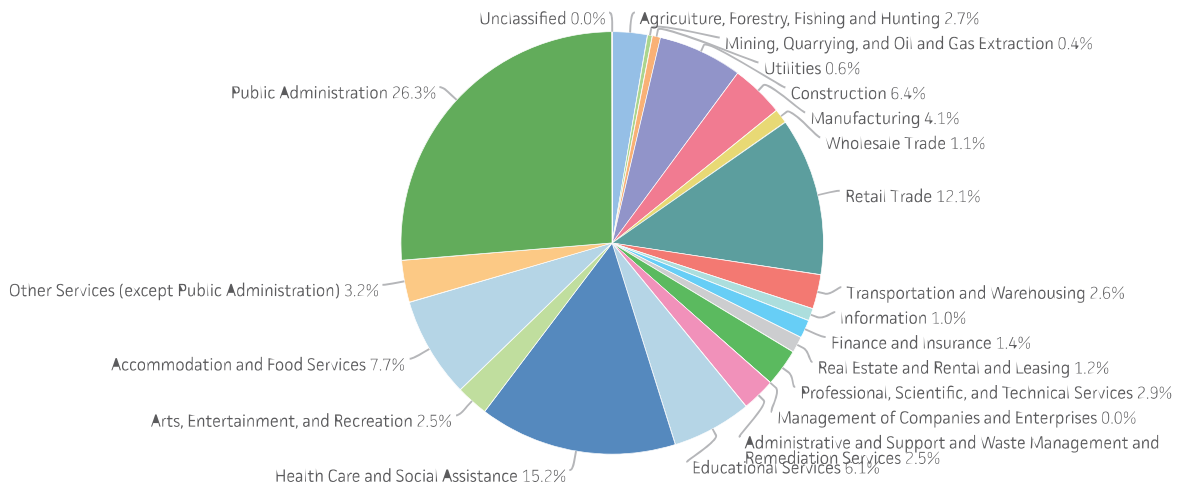
Data as of 2021Q1

Cost of Living per C2ER, data as of 2021Q1, imputed by Chmura where necessary.

Industry Snapshot

The largest sector in Fremont County, Colorado is Public Administration, employing 3,962 workers. The next-largest sectors in the region are Health Care and Social Assistance (2,283 workers) and Retail Trade (1,823). High location quotients (LQs) indicate sectors in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The sectors with the largest LQs in the region are Public Administration (LQ = 5.23), Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (1.88), and Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation (1.64).

Total Workers for Fremont County, Colorado by industry



Source: JobsEQ®, Data as of 2021Q1

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1.

Sectors in Fremont County, Colorado with the highest average wages per worker are Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction (\$82,167), Utilities (\$66,459), and Finance and Insurance (\$66,280). Regional sectors with the best job growth (or most moderate job losses) over the last 5 years are Public Administration (+150 jobs), Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (+92), and Retail Trade (+89).

Over the next 5 years, employment in Fremont County, Colorado is projected to expand by 229 jobs. The fastest growing sector in the region is expected to be Health Care and Social Assistance with a +1.5% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Health Care and Social Assistance (+175 jobs), Accommodation and Food Services (+40), and Educational Services (+32).

NAICS	Industry	Empl	Current	5-Year History			5-Year Forecast				
			Avg Ann Wages	LQ	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
92	Public Administration	3,962	\$54,318	5.23	150	0.8%	1,791	767	1,043	-19	-0.1%
62	Health Care and Social Assistance	2,283	\$40,727	1.02	-51	-0.4%	1,287	547	565	175	1.5%
44	Retail Trade	1,823	\$28,870	1.16	89	1.0%	1,159	531	671	-44	-0.5%
72	Accommodation and Food Services	1,159	\$19,047	1.06	42	0.7%	991	421	530	40	0.7%
23	Construction	970	\$46,419	1.08	68	1.5%	493	172	307	14	0.3%
61	Educational Services	919	\$38,136	0.75	8	0.2%	463	207	224	32	0.7%
31	Manufacturing	612	\$57,695	0.49	-3	-0.1%	286	115	197	-26	-0.8%
81	Other Services (except Public Administration)	486	\$23,648	0.75	-64	-2.4%	285	127	151	7	0.3%
54	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	435	\$56,200	0.40	92	4.9%	205	70	119	16	0.7%
11	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	405	\$10,341	1.88	-37	-1.7%	197	91	123	-17	-0.9%
48	Transportation and Warehousing	397	\$43,200	0.53	-9	-0.5%	229	91	124	14	0.7%
56	Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	383	\$25,773	0.40	66	3.9%	232	94	129	8	0.4%
71	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	373	\$25,108	1.64	-61	-3.0%	293	121	149	24	1.2%
52	Finance and Insurance	209	\$66,280	0.33	-26	-2.3%	97	37	61	0	0.0%
53	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	187	\$37,095	0.71	-14	-1.4%	93	43	51	-1	-0.1%
42	Wholesale Trade	168	\$41,888	0.29	21	2.6%	84	33	54	-4	-0.4%
51	Information	143	\$39,219	0.48	6	0.8%	66	25	44	-3	-0.4%
22	Utilities	98	\$66,459	1.19	-8	-1.5%	44	16	28	0	0.0%
21	Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	54	\$82,167	1.00	-31	-8.6%	29	9	19	1	0.4%
55	Management of Companies and Enterprises	3	\$63,503	0.01	-2	-10.2%	1	0	1	0	0.6%
99	Unclassified	1	\$33,508	0.09	1	n/a	1	0	0	0	0.3%
Total - All Industries		15,072	\$44,243	1.00	237	0.3%	8,489	3,531	4,730	229	0.3%

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1. Forecast employment growth uses national projections adapted for regional growth patterns.

Occupation Snapshot

The largest major occupation group in Fremont County, Colorado is Office and Administrative Support Occupations, employing 1,582 workers. The next-largest occupation groups in the region are Sales and Related Occupations (1,382 workers) and Protective Service Occupations (1,213). High location quotients (LQs) indicate occupation groups in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The major groups with the largest LQs in the region are Protective Service Occupations (LQ = 3.72), Community and Social Service Occupations (2.17), and Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations (1.77).

Occupation groups in Fremont County, Colorado with the highest average wages per worker are Management Occupations (\$86,300), Legal Occupations (\$80,400), and Architecture and Engineering Occupations (\$79,500). The unemployment rate in the region varied among the major groups from 2.2% among Legal Occupations to 17.8% among Personal Care and Service Occupations.

Over the next 5 years, the fastest growing occupation group in Fremont County, Colorado is expected to be Healthcare Support Occupations with a +2.2% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Healthcare Support Occupations (+86 jobs) and Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations (+46). Over the same period, the highest separation demand (occupation demand due to retirements and workers moving from one occupation to another) is expected in Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations (1,043 jobs) and Sales and Related Occupations (967).

Fremont County, Colorado, 2021Q1¹

SOC	Occupation	Empl	Mean Ann Wages ²	Current			5-Year History			Total Demand	5-Year Forecast			
				LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads ³	Empl Change	Ann %		Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
43-0000	Office and Administrative Support	1,582	\$37,900	0.82	119	6.9%	65	-44	-0.5%	842	376	502	-36	-0.5%
41-0000	Sales and Related	1,382	\$37,200	0.96	161	10.5%	79	14	0.2%	935	387	580	-33	-0.5%
33-0000	Protective Service	1,213	\$55,400	3.72	40	3.5%	8	19	0.3%	520	234	306	-20	-0.3%
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related	1,183	\$27,300	1.09	291	17.4%	107	-15	-0.3%	1,090	421	622	46	0.8%
11-0000	Management	997	\$86,300	0.98	26	3.1%	31	-6	-0.1%	425	176	253	-4	-0.1%
13-0000	Business and Financial Operations	969	\$64,800	1.09	30	3.8%	18	52	1.1%	479	137	327	15	0.3%
53-0000	Transportation and Material Moving	935	\$36,100	0.72	136	9.9%	59	45	1.0%	602	226	363	13	0.3%
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	849	\$72,300	0.94	26	3.3%	123	4	0.1%	277	114	134	29	0.7%
47-0000	Construction and Extraction	841	\$44,800	1.19	111	9.3%	17	48	1.2%	482	140	329	13	0.3%
25-0000	Educational Instruction and Library	765	\$40,800	0.91	61	8.4%	49	-1	0.0%	384	164	193	27	0.7%
31-0000	Healthcare Support	760	\$30,500	1.11	56	6.5%	56	70	2.0%	604	253	265	86	2.2%
21-0000	Community and Social Service	591	\$48,900	2.17	14	2.7%	42	7	0.2%	356	101	218	37	1.2%
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	505	\$45,800	0.87	52	6.9%	40	-3	-0.1%	253	79	169	5	0.2%
37-0000	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	488	\$31,600	1.00	63	9.8%	22	46	2.0%	348	135	193	19	0.8%
51-0000	Production	428	\$38,800	0.49	62	8.4%	16	-37	-1.6%	223	81	155	-14	-0.6%
39-0000	Personal Care and Service	397	\$32,700	1.07	87	17.8%	12	-37	-1.8%	350	145	185	20	1.0%
15-0000	Computer and Mathematical	280	\$74,000	0.58	7	3.6%	8	42	3.3%	117	24	83	10	0.7%
19-0000	Science	247	\$68,500	1.77	5	4.4%	2	9	0.7%	121	25	94	1	0.1%

Fremont County, Colorado, 2021Q1¹

SOC	Occupation	Empl	Mean Ann Wages ²	Current			5-Year History			Total Demand	5-Year Forecast			
				LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads ³	Empl Change	Ann %		Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media	215	\$46,300	0.81	12	13.1%	11	3	0.3%	123	44	77	2	0.2%
17-0000	Architecture and Engineering	205	\$79,500	0.78	5	4.3%	4	18	1.8%	81	24	56	0	0.0%
23-0000	Legal	184	\$80,400	1.39	3	2.2%	1	4	0.4%	56	22	33	2	0.2%
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	55	\$36,000	0.53	5	7.8%	3	-3	-1.1%	42	11	32	-1	-0.3%
Total - All Occupations		15,072	\$48,100	1.00	1,373	8.3%	773	237	0.3%	8,719	3,319	5,171	229	0.3%

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

Data as of 2021Q1 unless noted otherwise

Note: Figures may not sum due to rounding.

1. Data based on a four-quarter moving average unless noted otherwise.

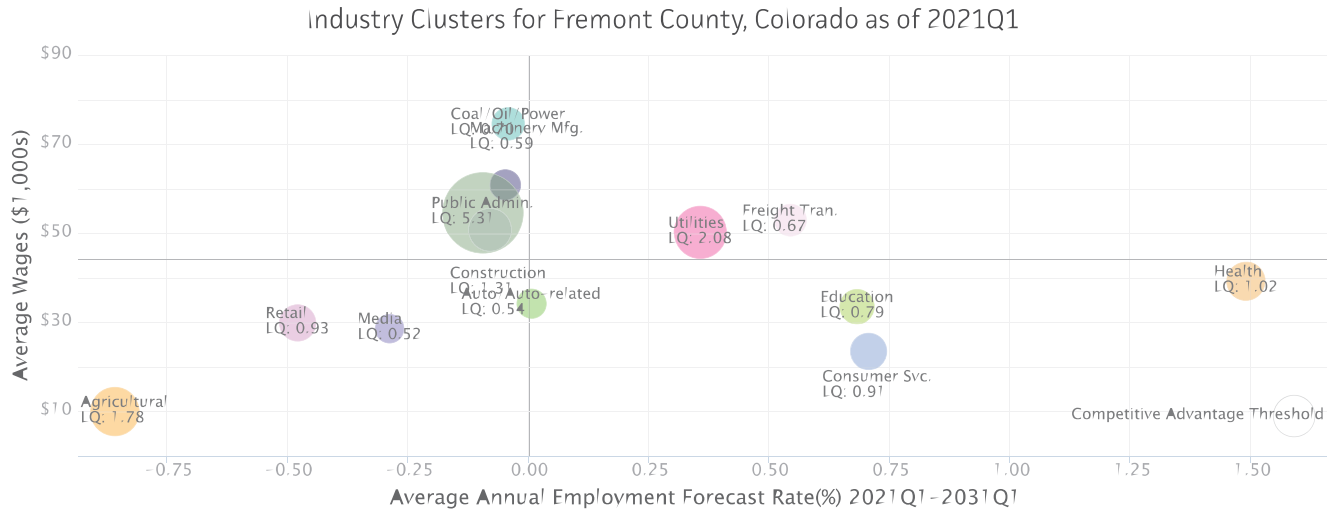
2. Wage data are as of 2020 and represent the average for all Covered Employment

3. Data represent found online ads active within the last thirty days in the selected region; data represents a sampling rather than the complete universe of postings. Ads lacking zip code information but designating a place (city, town, etc.) may be assigned to the zip code with greatest employment in that place for queries in this analytic. Due to alternative county-assignment algorithms, ad counts in this analytic may not match that shown in RTI (nor in the popup window ad list).

Occupation employment data are estimated via industry employment data and the estimated industry/occupation mix. Industry employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and currently updated through 2020Q4, imputed where necessary with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1. Wages by occupation are as of 2020 provided by the BLS and imputed where necessary. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

Industry Clusters

A cluster is a geographic concentration of interrelated industries or occupations. The industry cluster in Fremont County, Colorado with the highest relative concentration is Public Admin. with a location quotient of 5.31. This cluster employs 3,962 workers in the region with an average wage of \$54,661. Employment in the Public Admin. cluster is projected to contract in the region about 0.1% per year over the next ten years.



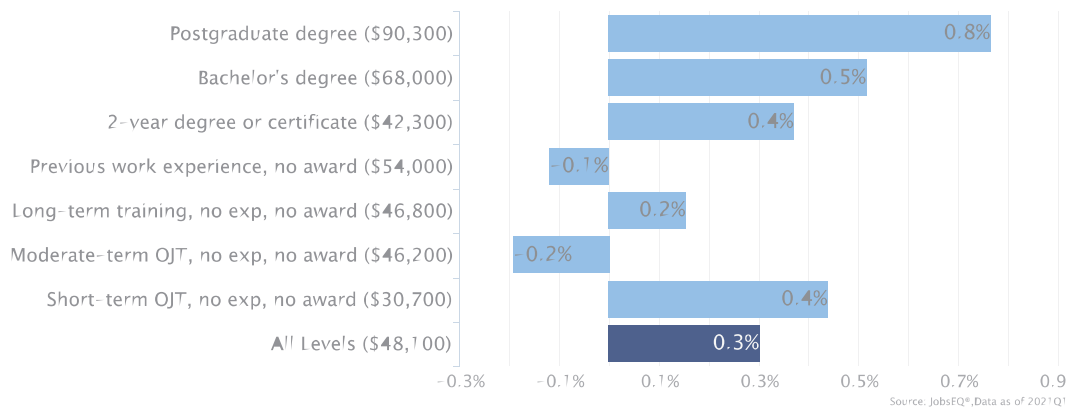
Source: JobsEQ®, Data as of 2021Q1

Location quotient and average wage data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, imputed where necessary, and updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

Education Levels

Expected growth rates for occupations vary by the education and training required. While all employment in Fremont County, Colorado is projected to grow 0.3% over the next ten years, occupations typically requiring a postgraduate degree are expected to grow 0.8% per year, those requiring a bachelor’s degree are forecast to grow 0.5% per year, and occupations typically needing a 2-year degree or certificate are expected to grow 0.4% per year.

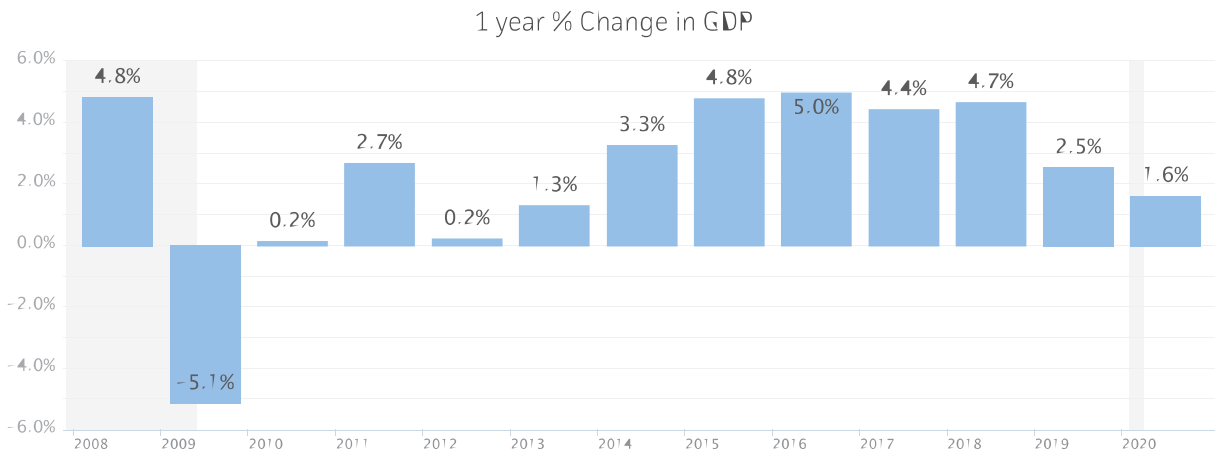
Annual Average Projected Job Growth by Training Required for Fremont County, Colorado



Employment by occupation data are estimates as of 2021Q1. Education levels of occupations are based on BLS assignments. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

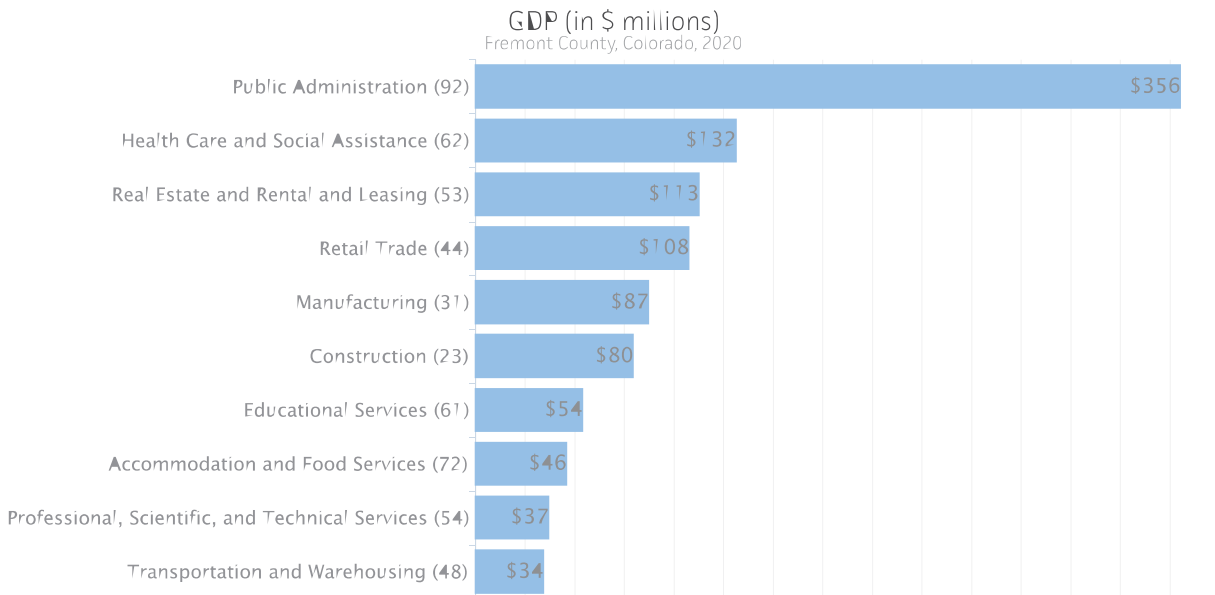
Gross Domestic Product

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the total value of goods and services produced by a region. In 2020, nominal GDP in Fremont County, Colorado expanded 1.6%. This follows growth of 2.5% in 2019. As of 2020, total GDP in Fremont County, Colorado was \$1,223,943,000.



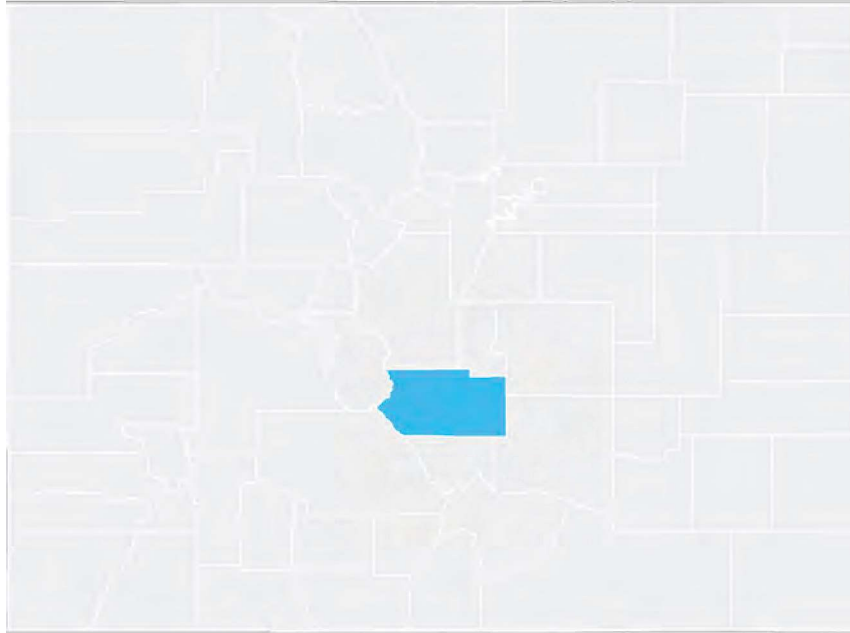
Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2020.

Of the sectors in Fremont County, Colorado, Public Administration contributed the largest portion of GDP in 2020, \$355,642,000. The next-largest contributions came from Health Care and Social Assistance (\$131,634,000); Real Estate and Rental and Leasing (\$112,878,000); and Retail Trade (\$107,792,000).



Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2020.

Fremont County, Colorado Regional Map



FAQ

What is a location quotient?

A location quotient (LQ) is a measurement of concentration in comparison to the nation. An LQ of 1.00 indicates a region has the same concentration of an industry (or occupation) as the nation. An LQ of 2.00 would mean the region has twice the expected employment compared to the nation and an LQ of 0.50 would mean the region has half the expected employment in comparison to the nation.

What is separation demand?

Separation demand is the number of jobs required due to separations—labor force exits (including retirements) and turnover resulting from workers moving from one occupation into another. Note that separation demand does not include all turnover—it does not include when workers stay in the same occupation but switch employers. The total projected demand for an occupation is the sum of the separation demand and the growth demand (which is the increase or decrease of jobs in an occupation expected due to expansion or contraction of the overall number of jobs in that occupation).

What is a cluster?

A cluster is a geographic concentration of interrelated industries or occupations. If a regional cluster has a location quotient of 1.25 or greater, the region is considered to possess a competitive advantage in that cluster.

What is the difference between industry wages and occupation wages?

Industry wages and occupation wages are estimated via separate data sets, often the time periods being reported do not align, and wages are defined slightly differently in the two systems (for example, certain bonuses are included in the industry wages but not the occupation wages). It is therefore common that estimates of the average industry wages and average occupation wages in a region do not match exactly.

What is NAICS?

The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) is used to classify business establishments according to the type of economic activity. The NAICS Code comprises six levels, from the “all industry” level to the 6-digit level. The first two digits define the top level category, known as the “sector,” which is the level examined in this report.

What is SOC?

The Standard Occupational Classification system (SOC) is used to classify workers into occupational categories. All workers are classified into one of over 804 occupations according to their occupational definition. To facilitate classification, occupations are combined to form 22 major groups, 95 minor groups, and 452 occupation groups. Each occupation group includes detailed occupations requiring similar job duties, skills, education, or experience.

About This Report

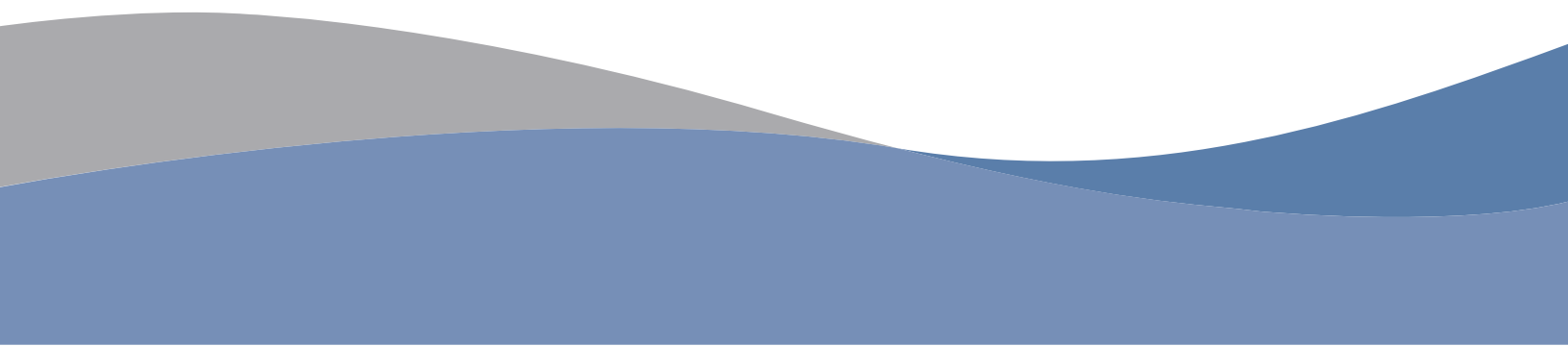
This report and all data herein were produced by JobsEQ®, a product of Chmura Economics & Analytics. The information contained herein was obtained from sources we believe to be reliable. However, we cannot guarantee its accuracy and completeness.



Economic Overview



Huerfano County, Colorado



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FAQ 16

Demographic Profile

The population in Huerfano County, Colorado was 6,679 per American Community Survey data for 2015-2019.

The region has a civilian labor force of 2,642 with a participation rate of 46.6%. Of individuals 25 to 64 in Huerfano County, Colorado, 18.8% have a bachelor's degree or higher which compares with 33.5% in the nation.

The median household income in Huerfano County, Colorado is \$38,137 and the median house value is \$161,600.

Summary¹

Demographics	Percent			Value		
	Huerfano County, Colorado	Colorado	USA	Huerfano County, Colorado	Colorado	USA
Demographics						
Population (ACS)	—	—	—	6,679	5,610,349	324,697,795
Male	49.2%	50.3%	49.2%	3,288	2,823,201	159,886,919
Female	50.8%	49.7%	50.8%	3,391	2,787,148	164,810,876
Median Age ²	—	—	—	55.0	36.7	38.1
Under 18 Years	16.1%	22.5%	22.6%	1,074	1,261,005	73,429,392
18 to 24 Years	5.8%	9.3%	9.4%	389	523,765	30,646,327
25 to 34 Years	7.8%	15.5%	13.9%	523	871,500	45,030,415
35 to 44 Years	8.8%	13.6%	12.6%	588	764,183	40,978,831
45 to 54 Years	11.5%	12.7%	13.0%	768	713,520	42,072,620
55 to 64 Years	18.8%	12.5%	12.9%	1,254	702,670	41,756,414
65 to 74 Years	18.3%	8.5%	9.1%	1,224	478,345	29,542,266
75 Years, and Over	12.9%	5.3%	6.5%	859	295,361	21,241,530
Race: White	91.9%	84.0%	72.5%	6,140	4,712,574	235,377,662
Race: Black or African American	0.5%	4.2%	12.7%	34	233,647	41,234,642
Race: American Indian and Alaska Native	1.8%	1.0%	0.8%	120	54,847	2,750,143
Race: Asian	0.0%	3.2%	5.5%	0	178,147	17,924,209
Race: Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.2%	0.2%	0	8,643	599,868
Race: Some Other Race	1.5%	3.9%	4.9%	103	216,767	16,047,369
Race: Two or More Races	4.2%	3.7%	3.3%	282	205,724	10,763,902
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	34.3%	21.5%	18.0%	2,290	1,208,172	58,479,370
Population Growth						
Population (Pop Estimates) ⁴	—	—	—	6,883	5,807,719	329,484,123
Population Annual Average Growth ⁴	0.3%	1.4%	0.6%	20	76,018	2,015,698
People per Square Mile	—	—	—	4.3	55.6	92.9
Economic						
Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 16 years and over)	46.6%	68.1%	63.2%	2,642	3,035,960	163,555,585
Prime-Age Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 25-54)	74.1%	84.7%	82.1%	1,393	1,972,225	104,634,905
Armed Forces Labor Force	0.0%	0.8%	0.4%	0	33,671	1,073,907
Veterans, Age 18-64	9.7%	6.0%	4.6%	343	211,937	9,143,042
Veterans Labor Force Participation Rate and Size, Age 18-64	72.9%	79.5%	76.6%	250	168,558	7,003,778
Median Household Income ²	—	—	—	\$38,137	\$72,331	\$62,843
Per Capita Income	—	—	—	\$25,140	\$38,226	\$34,103
Mean Commute Time (minutes)	—	—	—	21.2	25.8	26.9
Commute via Public Transportation	0.2%	3.0%	5.0%	5	87,734	7,641,160
Educational Attainment, Age 25-64						
No High School Diploma	4.6%	8.0%	10.9%	144	245,575	18,550,150
High School Graduate	33.1%	20.7%	25.7%	1,037	632,736	43,627,868
Some College, No Degree	32.3%	20.7%	20.7%	1,013	631,698	35,174,790

Summary¹

	Percent			Value		
	Huerfano County, Colorado	Colorado	USA	Huerfano County, Colorado	Colorado	USA
Associate's Degree	11.2%	8.9%	9.1%	350	270,468	15,526,064
Bachelor's Degree	13.2%	26.9%	21.2%	415	822,135	35,997,848
Postgraduate Degree	5.6%	14.7%	12.3%	174	449,261	20,961,560
Housing						
Total Housing Units	—	—	—	5,265	2,386,475	137,428,986
Median House Value (of owner-occupied units) ²	—	—	—	\$161,600	\$343,300	\$217,500
Homeowner Vacancy	5.9%	1.1%	1.6%	146	14,983	1,257,737
Rental Vacancy	0.0%	4.8%	6.0%	0	38,254	2,793,023
Renter-Occupied Housing Units (% of Occupied Units)	28.2%	34.8%	36.0%	911	747,259	43,481,667
Occupied Housing Units with No Vehicle Available (% of Occupied Units)	10.0%	5.1%	8.6%	321	109,324	10,395,713
Social						
Poverty Level (of all people)	15.8%	10.3%	13.4%	1,030	565,873	42,510,843
Households Receiving Food Stamps/SNAP	15.9%	7.5%	11.7%	514	161,543	14,171,567
Enrolled in Grade 12 (% of total population)	0.6%	1.3%	1.4%	43	73,560	4,422,344
Disconnected Youth ³	11.6%	2.4%	2.5%	13	6,997	423,273
Children in Single Parent Families (% of all children)	35.6%	27.2%	34.1%	336	328,712	23,790,005
Uninsured	9.6%	7.6%	8.8%	627	420,782	28,248,613
With a Disability, Age 18-64	17.1%	8.6%	10.3%	593	300,250	20,187,604
With a Disability, Age 18-64, Labor Force Participation Rate and Size	26.8%	50.4%	42.2%	159	151,253	8,509,463
Foreign Born	2.3%	9.7%	13.6%	155	546,513	44,011,870
Speak English Less Than Very Well (population 5 yrs and over)	2.2%	5.8%	8.4%	141	304,772	25,615,365

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

1. American Community Survey 2015-2019, unless noted otherwise

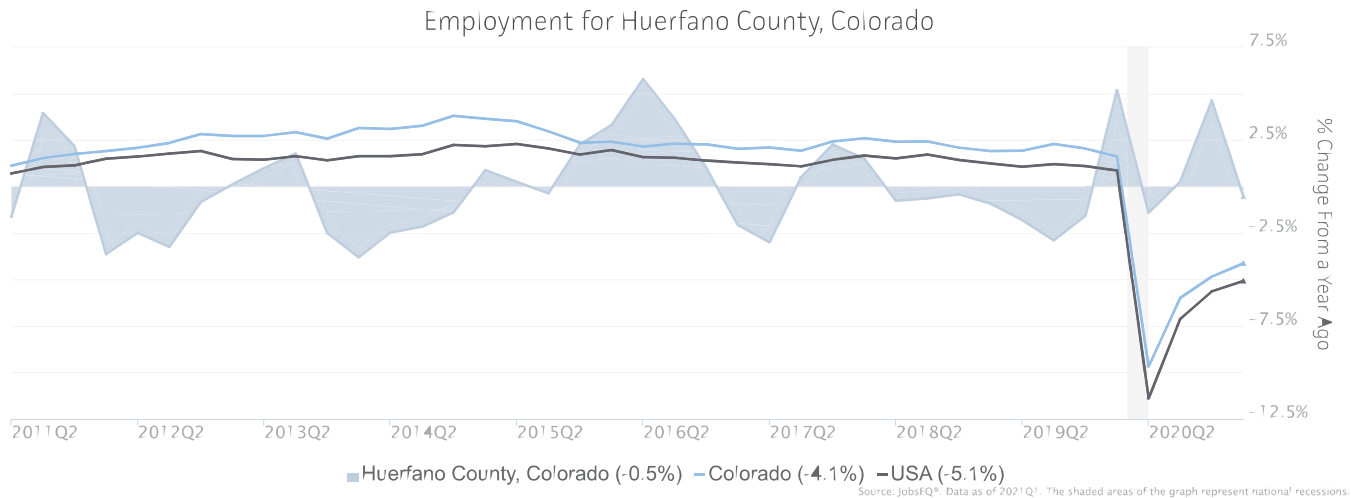
2. Median values for certain aggregate regions (such as MSAs) may be estimated as the weighted averages of the median values from the composing counties.

3. Disconnected Youth are 16-19 year olds who are (1) not in school, (2) not high school graduates, and (3) either unemployed or not in the labor force.

4. Census 2020, annual average growth rate since 2010

Employment Trends

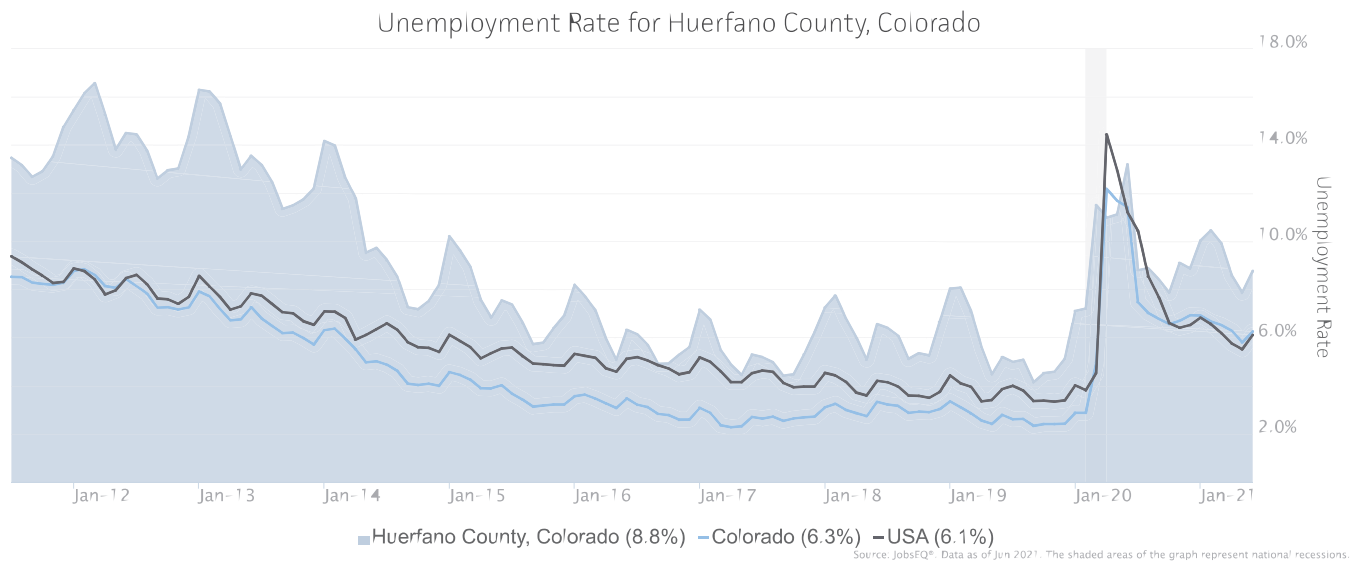
As of 2021Q1, total employment for Huerfano County, Colorado was 2,147 (based on a four-quarter moving average). Over the year ending 2021Q1, employment declined 0.5% in the region.



Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1.

Unemployment Rate

The unemployment rate for Huerfano County, Colorado was 8.8% as of June 2021. The regional unemployment rate was higher than the national rate of 6.1%. One year earlier, in June 2020, the unemployment rate in Huerfano County, Colorado was 13.2%.

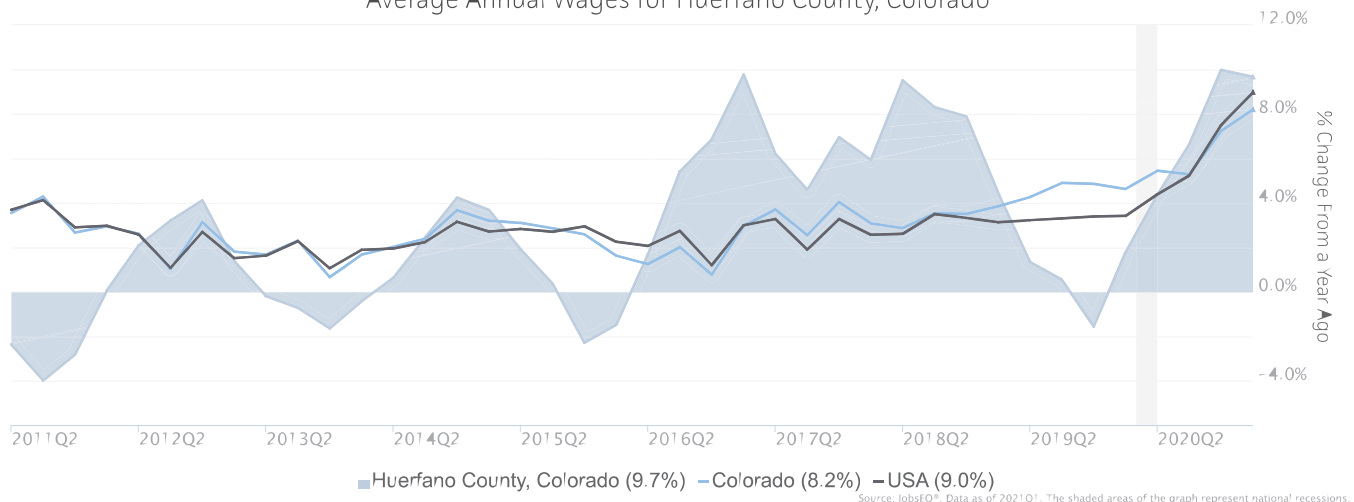


Unemployment rate data are from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and updated through June 2021.

Wage Trends

The average worker in Huerfano County, Colorado earned annual wages of \$36,419 as of 2021Q1. Average annual wages per worker increased 9.7% in the region over the preceding four quarters. For comparison purposes, annual average wages were \$63,393 in the nation as of 2021Q1.

Average Annual Wages for Huerfano County, Colorado



Annual average wages per worker data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1.

Cost of Living Index

The Cost of Living Index estimates the relative price levels for consumer goods and services. When applied to wages and salaries, the result is a measure of relative purchasing power. The cost of living is 6.4% lower in Huerfano County, Colorado than the U.S. average.

Cost of Living Information

	Annual Average Salary	Cost of Living Index (Base US)	US Purchasing Power
Huerfano County, Colorado	\$36,419	93.6	\$38,926
Colorado	\$65,645	109.9	\$59,755
USA	\$63,393	100.0	\$63,393

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

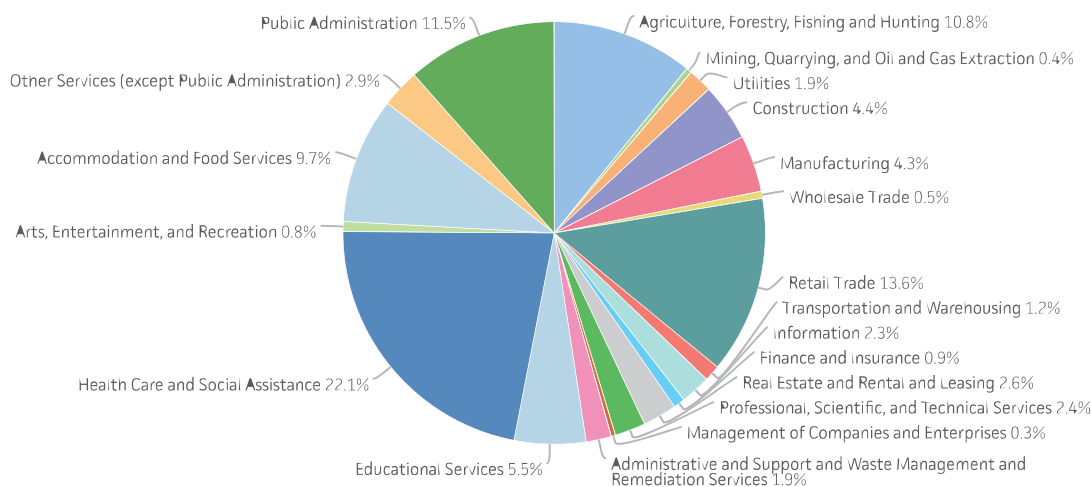
Data as of 2021Q1

Cost of Living per C2ER, data as of 2021Q1, imputed by Chmura where necessary.

Industry Snapshot

The largest sector in Huerfano County, Colorado is Health Care and Social Assistance, employing 473 workers. The next-largest sectors in the region are Retail Trade (292 workers) and Public Administration (247). High location quotients (LQs) indicate sectors in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The sectors with the largest LQs in the region are Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (LQ = 7.57), Utilities (3.41), and Public Administration (2.29).

Total Workers for Huerfano County, Colorado by industry



Source: JobsEQ®, Data as of 2021Q1

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1.

Sectors in Huerfano County, Colorado with the highest average wages per worker are Management of Companies and Enterprises (\$80,545), Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction (\$77,739), and Transportation and Warehousing (\$61,478). Regional sectors with the best job growth (or most moderate job losses) over the last 5 years are Manufacturing (+40 jobs), Retail Trade (+34), and Accommodation and Food Services (+18).

Over the next 5 years, employment in Huerfano County, Colorado is projected to expand by 48 jobs. The fastest growing sector in the region is expected to be Educational Services with a +1.1% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Health Care and Social Assistance (+18 jobs), Accommodation and Food Services (+9), and Public Administration (+8).

NAICS	Industry	Empl	Current		5-Year History		Total Demand	5-Year Forecast			
			Avg Ann Wages	LQ	Empl Change	Ann %		Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
62	Health Care and Social Assistance	473	\$41,204	1.48	11	0.5%	245	111	115	18	0.8%
44	Retail Trade	292	\$30,168	1.30	34	2.5%	194	86	109	0	0.0%
92	Public Administration	247	\$41,929	2.29	6	0.5%	123	49	66	8	0.6%
11	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	232	\$12,793	7.57	8	0.7%	120	53	71	-5	-0.4%
72	Accommodation and Food Services	207	\$20,037	1.33	18	1.8%	180	76	95	9	0.9%
61	Educational Services	118	\$34,363	0.67	-49	-6.8%	63	27	29	7	1.1%
23	Construction	95	\$42,358	0.74	-42	-7.0%	49	17	30	2	0.4%
31	Manufacturing	93	\$37,494	0.53	40	11.7%	49	18	31	0	0.1%
81	Other Services (except Public Administration)	63	\$20,185	0.69	-5	-1.6%	38	17	20	2	0.6%
53	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	56	\$36,789	1.49	16	7.1%	29	13	16	1	0.2%
54	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	51	\$50,161	0.33	7	3.0%	23	8	14	1	0.5%
51	Information	50	\$26,174	1.17	9	4.1%	26	9	16	2	0.7%
56	Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	42	\$26,525	0.31	11	6.2%	26	10	14	2	0.7%
22	Utilities	40	\$59,035	3.41	1	0.4%	18	6	11	0	0.0%
48	Transportation and Warehousing	26	\$61,478	0.25	-2	-1.1%	13	6	8	-1	-0.7%
52	Finance and Insurance	19	\$39,010	0.20	-2	-2.1%	9	3	5	0	0.2%
71	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	17	\$18,587	0.51	-2	-1.8%	13	5	7	1	1.1%
42	Wholesale Trade	11	\$29,811	0.14	-23	-19.7%	6	2	4	0	-0.4%
21	Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	9	\$77,739	1.16	6	23.4%	4	1	3	0	-0.4%
55	Management of Companies and Enterprises	7	\$80,545	0.20	2	6.9%	3	1	2	0	0.9%
99	Unclassified	0	n/a	0.00	-1	n/a	0	0	0	0	
Total - All Industries		2,147	\$36,419	1.00	43	0.4%	1,228	505	676	48	0.4%

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1. Forecast employment growth uses national projections adapted for regional growth patterns.

Occupation Snapshot

The largest major occupation group in Huerfano County, Colorado is Management Occupations, employing 278 workers. The next-largest occupation groups in the region are Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations (228 workers) and Sales and Related Occupations (221). High location quotients (LQs) indicate occupation groups in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The major groups with the largest LQs in the region are Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations (LQ = 2.11), Management Occupations (1.92), and Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations (1.78).

Occupation groups in Huerfano County, Colorado with the highest average wages per worker are Legal Occupations (\$114,100), Architecture and Engineering Occupations (\$78,100), and Computer and Mathematical Occupations (\$76,600). The unemployment rate in the region varied among the major groups from 2.6% among Management Occupations to 21.0% among Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations.

Over the next 5 years, the fastest growing occupation group in Huerfano County, Colorado is expected to be Healthcare Support Occupations with a +1.4% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations (+10 jobs) and Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations (+9). Over the same period, the highest separation demand (occupation demand due to retirements and workers moving from one occupation to another) is expected in Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations (177 jobs) and Sales and Related Occupations (165).

Huerfano County, Colorado, 2021Q1¹

SOC	Occupation	Empl	Mean Ann Wages ²	LQ	Current			5-Year History		Total Demand	5-Year Forecast			
					Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads ³	Empl Change	Ann %		Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
11-0000	Management	278	\$75,200	1.92	7	2.6%	7	-10	-0.7%	121	64	62	-4	-0.3%
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	228	\$72,100	1.78	6	3.3%	12	-7	-0.6%	74	31	35	9	0.8%
41-0000	Sales and Related	221	\$37,500	1.08	34	12.2%	21	22	2.1%	164	69	96	-1	-0.1%
43-0000	Office and Administrative Support	204	\$37,300	0.74	23	8.2%	7	-5	-0.5%	112	49	66	-3	-0.3%
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related	197	\$27,400	1.28	63	21.0%	15	13	1.4%	187	71	106	10	1.0%
53-0000	Transportation and Material Moving	101	\$35,800	0.55	21	11.6%	10	3	0.7%	66	25	40	1	0.3%
25-0000	Educational Instruction and Library	96	\$38,400	0.80	11	10.6%	6	-29	-5.2%	52	22	25	5	1.0%
13-0000	Business and Financial Operations	95	\$62,200	0.75	4	4.7%	2	15	3.5%	50	14	33	3	0.6%
47-0000	Construction and Extraction	87	\$41,600	0.87	15	10.9%	2	-23	-4.6%	52	15	34	2	0.5%
37-0000	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	85	\$31,800	1.22	13	12.0%	5	16	4.2%	63	24	34	5	1.1%
31-0000	Healthcare Support	81	\$31,000	0.83	9	7.8%	1	3	0.6%	57	25	27	6	1.4%
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	72	\$44,900	0.87	8	7.6%	8	-1	-0.2%	37	11	24	1	0.4%
51-0000	Production	72	\$39,500	0.58	9	8.5%	3	17	5.7%	41	14	27	0	0.0%
21-0000	Community and Social Service	64	\$43,800	1.66	2	2.8%	8	6	2.0%	38	11	24	3	0.9%
33-0000	Protective Service	62	\$45,200	1.32	6	8.4%	3	-6	-1.9%	32	13	17	2	0.6%
39-0000	Personal Care and Service	52	\$31,900	0.98	15	18.2%	1	7	2.9%	45	18	24	3	1.1%
15-0000	Computer and Mathematical	34	\$76,600	0.50	1	3.7%	3	4	2.2%	15	3	10	2	0.9%

Huerfano County, Colorado, 2021Q1¹

SOC	Occupation	Empl	Mean Ann Wages ²	Current		Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads ³	5-Year History		Total Demand	5-Year Forecast			Ann % Growth
				LQ	Unempl			Empl Change	Ann %		Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media	33	\$39,700	0.88	4	16.4%	n/a	0	0.2%	19	7	12	1	0.5%
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	31	\$35,100	2.11	2	10.1%	1	9	7.2%	25	6	19	0	0.0%
19-0000	Life, Physical, and Social Science	22	\$75,300	1.11	1	5.6%	n/a	5	5.5%	11	2	8	1	0.6%
17-0000	Architecture and Engineering	20	\$78,100	0.53	1	5.6%	n/a	4	5.2%	8	2	5	0	0.0%
23-0000	Legal	11	\$114,100	0.58	0	n/a	n/a	0	-0.1%	4	1	2	0	0.7%
Total - All Occupations		2,147	\$48,200	1.00	254	9.8%	115	43	0.4%	1,274	496	730	48	0.4%

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

Data as of 2021Q1 unless noted otherwise

Note: Figures may not sum due to rounding.

1. Data based on a four-quarter moving average unless noted otherwise.

2. Wage data are as of 2020 and represent the average for all Covered Employment

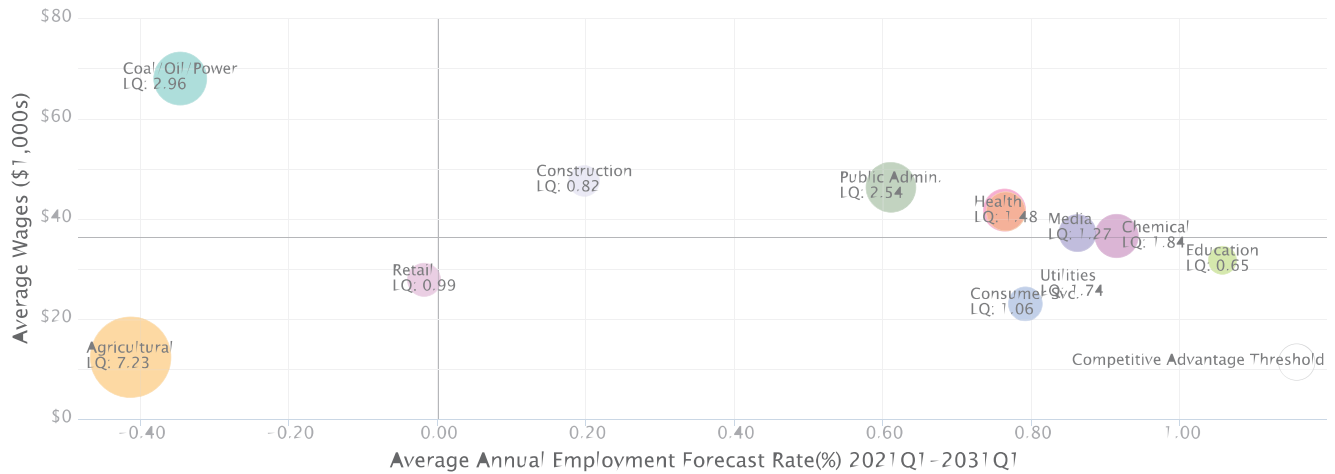
3. Data represent found online ads active within the last thirty days in the selected region; data represents a sampling rather than the complete universe of postings. Ads lacking zip code information but designating a place (city, town, etc.) may be assigned to the zip code with greatest employment in that place for queries in this analytic. Due to alternative county-assignment algorithms, ad counts in this analytic may not match that shown in RTI (nor in the popup window ad list).

Occupation employment data are estimated via industry employment data and the estimated industry/occupation mix. Industry employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and currently updated through 2020Q4, imputed where necessary with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1. Wages by occupation are as of 2020 provided by the BLS and imputed where necessary. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

Industry Clusters

A cluster is a geographic concentration of interrelated industries or occupations. The industry cluster in Huerfano County, Colorado with the highest relative concentration is Agricultural with a location quotient of 7.23. This cluster employs 231 workers in the region with an average wage of \$12,385. Employment in the Agricultural cluster is projected to contract in the region about 0.4% per year over the next ten years.

Industry Clusters for Huerfano County, Colorado as of 2021Q1



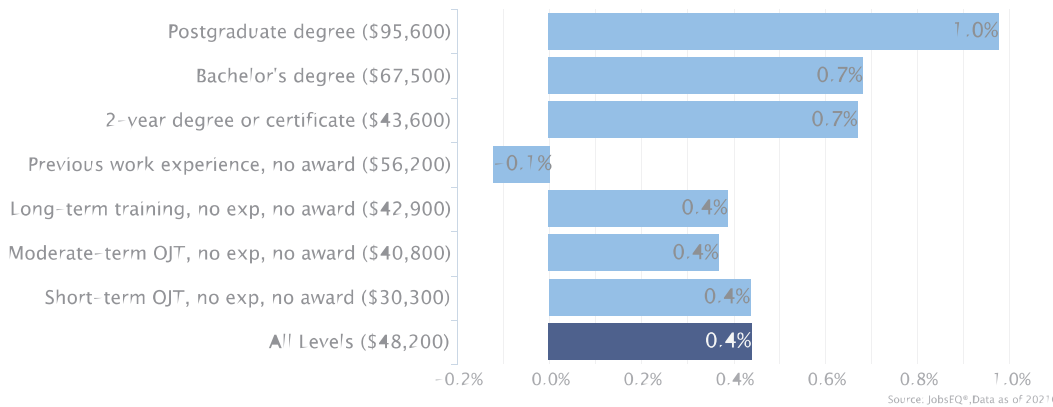
Source: JobsEQ®, Data as of 2021Q1

Location quotient and average wage data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, imputed where necessary, and updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

Education Levels

Expected growth rates for occupations vary by the education and training required. While all employment in Huerfano County, Colorado is projected to grow 0.4% over the next ten years, occupations typically requiring a postgraduate degree are expected to grow 1.0% per year, those requiring a bachelor’s degree are forecast to grow 0.7% per year, and occupations typically needing a 2-year degree or certificate are expected to grow 0.7% per year.

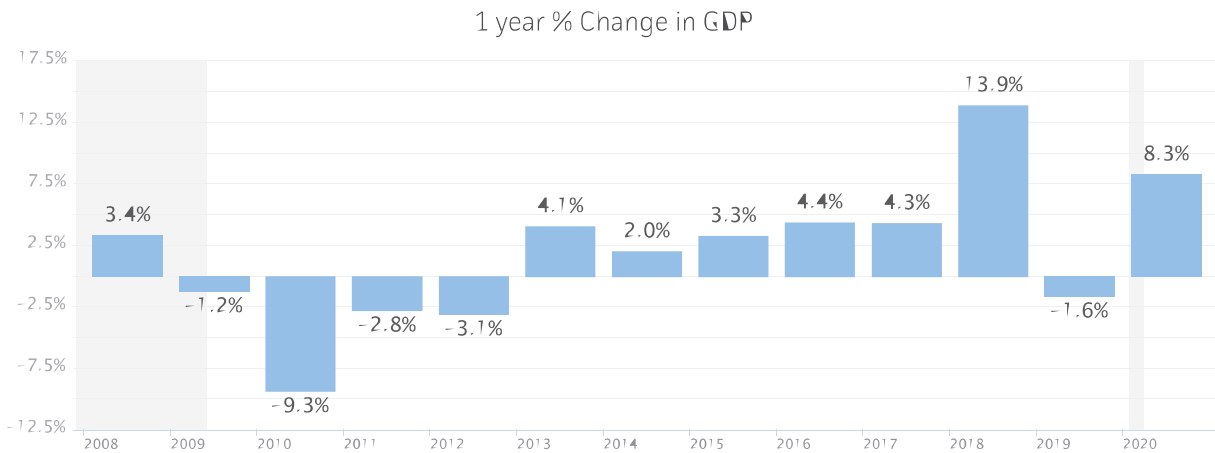
Annual Average Projected Job Growth by Training Required for Huerfano County, Colorado



Employment by occupation data are estimates as of 2021Q1. Education levels of occupations are based on BLS assignments. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

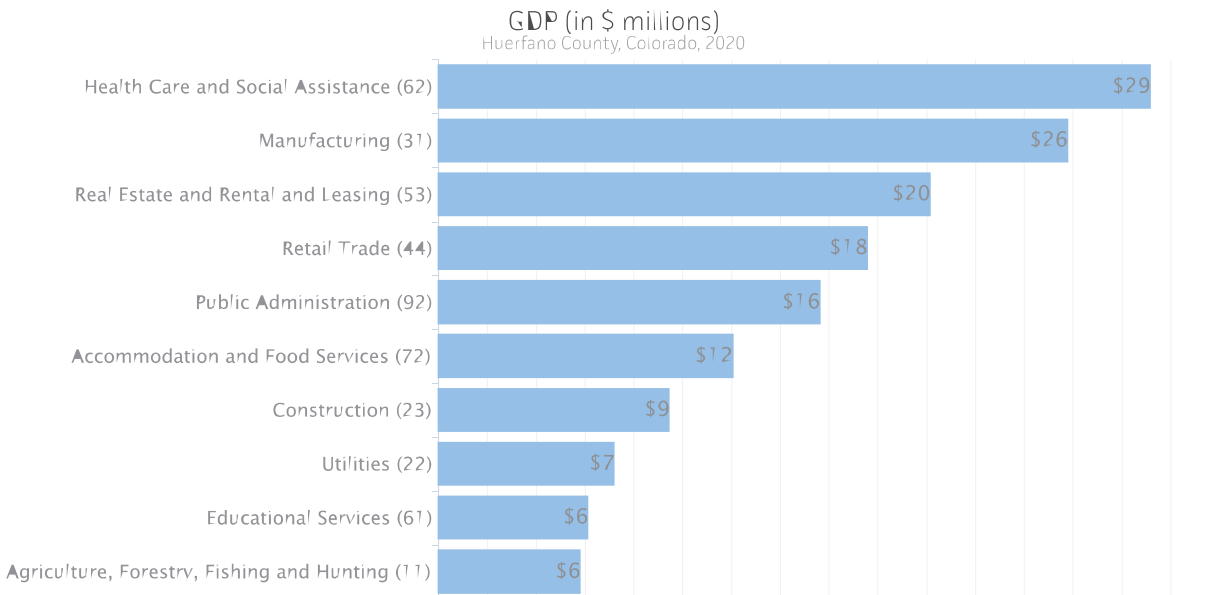
Gross Domestic Product

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the total value of goods and services produced by a region. In 2020, nominal GDP in Huerfano County, Colorado expanded 8.3%. This follows a contraction of 1.6% in 2019. As of 2020, total GDP in Huerfano County, Colorado was \$176,132,000.



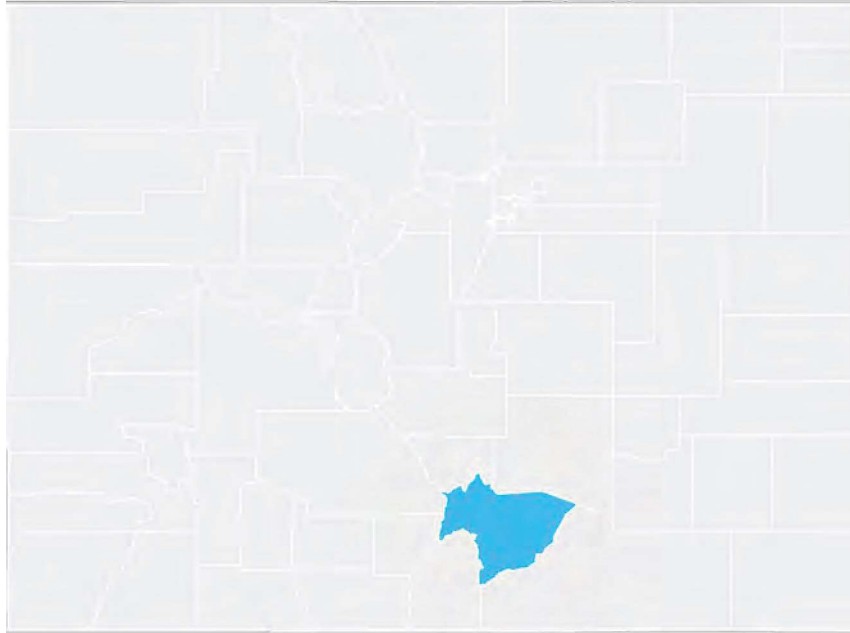
Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2020.

Of the sectors in Huerfano County, Colorado, Health Care and Social Assistance contributed the largest portion of GDP in 2020, \$29,185,000. The next-largest contributions came from Manufacturing (\$25,805,000); Real Estate and Rental and Leasing (\$20,177,000); and Retail Trade (\$17,606,000).



Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2020.

Huerfano County, Colorado Regional Map



FAQ

What is a location quotient?

A location quotient (LQ) is a measurement of concentration in comparison to the nation. An LQ of 1.00 indicates a region has the same concentration of an industry (or occupation) as the nation. An LQ of 2.00 would mean the region has twice the expected employment compared to the nation and an LQ of 0.50 would mean the region has half the expected employment in comparison to the nation.

What is separation demand?

Separation demand is the number of jobs required due to separations—labor force exits (including retirements) and turnover resulting from workers moving from one occupation into another. Note that separation demand does not include all turnover—it does not include when workers stay in the same occupation but switch employers. The total projected demand for an occupation is the sum of the separation demand and the growth demand (which is the increase or decrease of jobs in an occupation expected due to expansion or contraction of the overall number of jobs in that occupation).

What is a cluster?

A cluster is a geographic concentration of interrelated industries or occupations. If a regional cluster has a location quotient of 1.25 or greater, the region is considered to possess a competitive advantage in that cluster.

What is the difference between industry wages and occupation wages?

Industry wages and occupation wages are estimated via separate data sets, often the time periods being reported do not align, and wages are defined slightly differently in the two systems (for example, certain bonuses are included in the industry wages but not the occupation wages). It is therefore common that estimates of the average industry wages and average occupation wages in a region do not match exactly.

What is NAICS?

The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) is used to classify business establishments according to the type of economic activity. The NAICS Code comprises six levels, from the “all industry” level to the 6-digit level. The first two digits define the top level category, known as the “sector,” which is the level examined in this report.

What is SOC?

The Standard Occupational Classification system (SOC) is used to classify workers into occupational categories. All workers are classified into one of over 804 occupations according to their occupational definition. To facilitate classification, occupations are combined to form 22 major groups, 95 minor groups, and 452 occupation groups. Each occupation group includes detailed occupations requiring similar job duties, skills, education, or experience.

About This Report

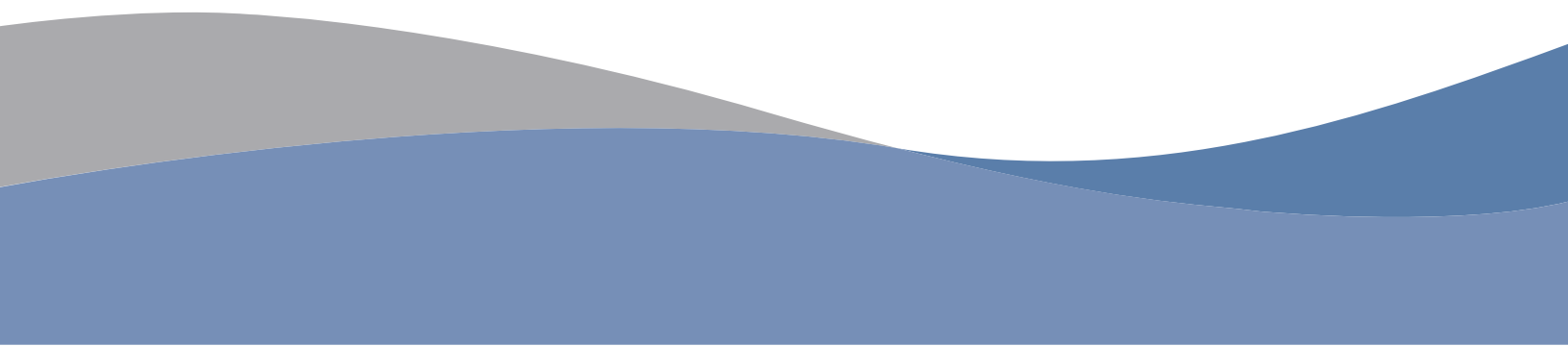
This report and all data herein were produced by JobsEQ®, a product of Chmura Economics & Analytics. The information contained herein was obtained from sources we believe to be reliable. However, we cannot guarantee its accuracy and completeness.



Economic Overview



Kiowa County, Colorado



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FAQ 16

Demographic Profile

The population in Kiowa County, Colorado was 1,489 per American Community Survey data for 2015-2019.

The region has a civilian labor force of 717 with a participation rate of 64.2%. Of individuals 25 to 64 in Kiowa County, Colorado, 26.3% have a bachelor's degree or higher which compares with 33.5% in the nation.

The median household income in Kiowa County, Colorado is \$41,731 and the median house value is \$86,500.

Summary¹

Demographics	Percent			Value		
	Kiowa County, Colorado	Colorado	USA	Kiowa County, Colorado	Colorado	USA
Population (ACS)	—	—	—	1,489	5,610,349	324,697,795
Male	48.5%	50.3%	49.2%	722	2,823,201	159,886,919
Female	51.5%	49.7%	50.8%	767	2,787,148	164,810,876
Median Age ²	—	—	—	42.5	36.7	38.1
Under 18 Years	26.4%	22.5%	22.6%	393	1,261,005	73,429,392
18 to 24 Years	6.7%	9.3%	9.4%	100	523,765	30,646,327
25 to 34 Years	10.3%	15.5%	13.9%	154	871,500	45,030,415
35 to 44 Years	8.2%	13.6%	12.6%	122	764,183	40,978,831
45 to 54 Years	10.3%	12.7%	13.0%	153	713,520	42,072,620
55 to 64 Years	13.4%	12.5%	12.9%	199	702,670	41,756,414
65 to 74 Years	12.2%	8.5%	9.1%	182	478,345	29,542,266
75 Years, and Over	12.5%	5.3%	6.5%	186	295,361	21,241,530
Race: White	96.2%	84.0%	72.5%	1,433	4,712,574	235,377,662
Race: Black or African American	0.4%	4.2%	12.7%	6	233,647	41,234,642
Race: American Indian and Alaska Native	0.0%	1.0%	0.8%	0	54,847	2,750,143
Race: Asian	0.0%	3.2%	5.5%	0	178,147	17,924,209
Race: Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.2%	0.2%	0	8,643	599,868
Race: Some Other Race	0.3%	3.9%	4.9%	4	216,767	16,047,369
Race: Two or More Races	3.1%	3.7%	3.3%	46	205,724	10,763,902
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	4.8%	21.5%	18.0%	72	1,208,172	58,479,370
Population Growth						
Population (Pop Estimates) ⁴	—	—	—	1,458	5,807,719	329,484,123
Population Annual Average Growth ⁴	0.4%	1.4%	0.6%	5	76,018	2,015,698
People per Square Mile	—	—	—	0.8	55.6	92.9
Economic						
Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 16 years and over)	64.2%	68.1%	63.2%	717	3,035,960	163,555,585
Prime-Age Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 25-54)	83.4%	84.7%	82.1%	358	1,972,225	104,634,905
Armed Forces Labor Force	0.0%	0.8%	0.4%	0	33,671	1,073,907
Veterans, Age 18-64	5.1%	6.0%	4.6%	37	211,937	9,143,042
Veterans Labor Force Participation Rate and Size, Age 18-64	86.5%	79.5%	76.6%	32	168,558	7,003,778
Median Household Income ²	—	—	—	\$41,731	\$72,331	\$62,843
Per Capita Income	—	—	—	\$25,937	\$38,226	\$34,103
Mean Commute Time (minutes)	—	—	—	15.0	25.8	26.9
Commute via Public Transportation	0.0%	3.0%	5.0%	0	87,734	7,641,160
Educational Attainment, Age 25-64						
No High School Diploma	2.4%	8.0%	10.9%	15	245,575	18,550,150
High School Graduate	30.9%	20.7%	25.7%	194	632,736	43,627,868
Some College, No Degree	27.9%	20.7%	20.7%	175	631,698	35,174,790
Associate's Degree	12.6%	8.9%	9.1%	79	270,468	15,526,064

Summary¹

	Percent			Value		
	Kiowa County, Colorado	Colorado	USA	Kiowa County, Colorado	Colorado	USA
Bachelor's Degree	19.3%	26.9%	21.2%	121	822,135	35,997,848
Postgraduate Degree	7.0%	14.7%	12.3%	44	449,261	20,961,560
Housing						
Total Housing Units	—	—	—	795	2,386,475	137,428,986
Median House Value (of owner-occupied units) ²	—	—	—	\$86,500	\$343,300	\$217,500
Homeowner Vacancy	0.0%	1.1%	1.6%	0	14,983	1,257,737
Rental Vacancy	5.5%	4.8%	6.0%	10	38,254	2,793,023
Renter-Occupied Housing Units (% of Occupied Units)	25.7%	34.8%	36.0%	164	747,259	43,481,667
Occupied Housing Units with No Vehicle Available (% of Occupied Units)	5.6%	5.1%	8.6%	36	109,324	10,395,713
Social						
Poverty Level (of all people)	12.1%	10.3%	13.4%	177	565,873	42,510,843
Households Receiving Food Stamps/SNAP	13.9%	7.5%	11.7%	89	161,543	14,171,567
Enrolled in Grade 12 (% of total population)	0.1%	1.3%	1.4%	2	73,560	4,422,344
Disconnected Youth ³	0.0%	2.4%	2.5%	0	6,997	423,273
Children in Single Parent Families (% of all children)	20.3%	27.2%	34.1%	74	328,712	23,790,005
Uninsured	6.3%	7.6%	8.8%	92	420,782	28,248,613
With a Disability, Age 18-64	12.9%	8.6%	10.3%	94	300,250	20,187,604
With a Disability, Age 18-64, Labor Force Participation Rate and Size	63.8%	50.4%	42.2%	60	151,253	8,509,463
Foreign Born	0.6%	9.7%	13.6%	9	546,513	44,011,870
Speak English Less Than Very Well (population 5 yrs and over)	1.2%	5.8%	8.4%	16	304,772	25,615,365

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

1. American Community Survey 2015-2019, unless noted otherwise

2. Median values for certain aggregate regions (such as MSAs) may be estimated as the weighted averages of the median values from the composing counties.

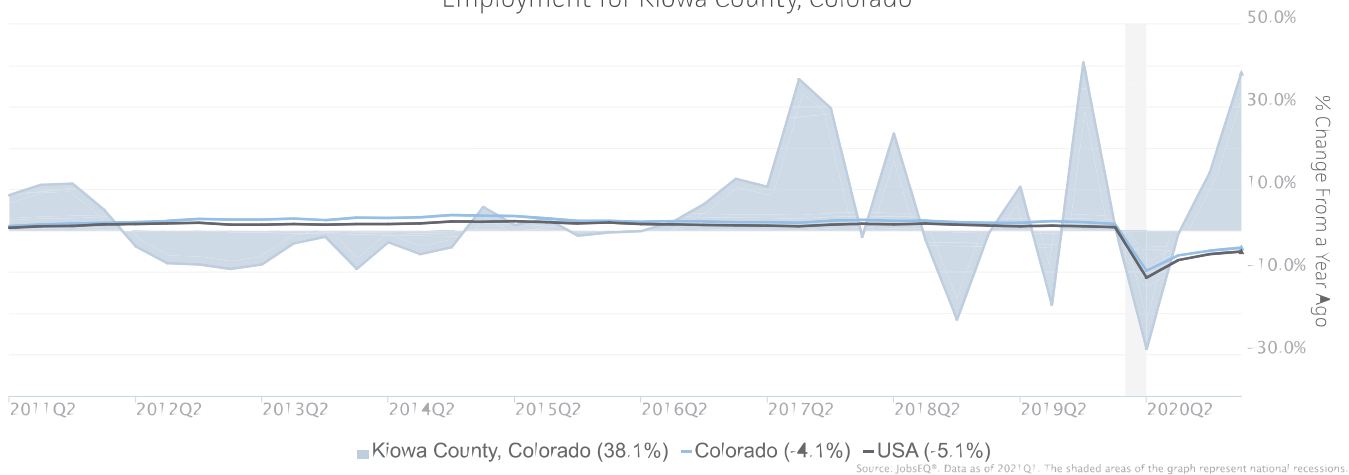
3. Disconnected Youth are 16-19 year olds who are (1) not in school, (2) not high school graduates, and (3) either unemployed or not in the labor force.

4. Census 2020, annual average growth rate since 2010

Employment Trends

As of 2021Q1, total employment for Kiowa County, Colorado was 964 (based on a four-quarter moving average). Over the year ending 2021Q1, employment increased 38.1% in the region.

Employment for Kiowa County, Colorado

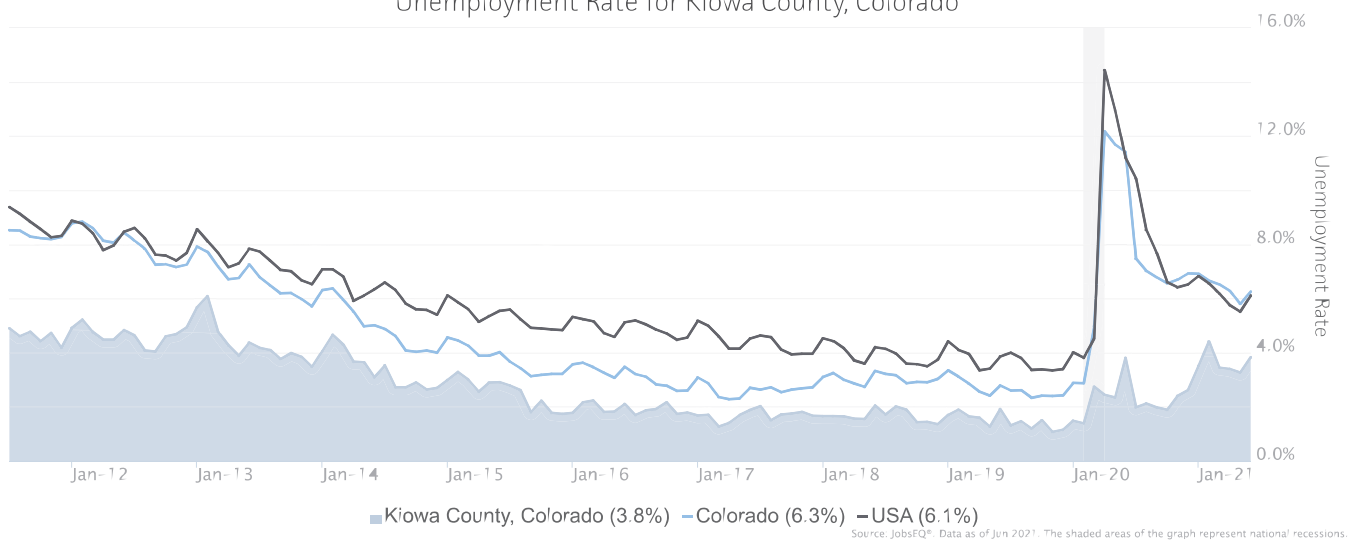


Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1.

Unemployment Rate

The unemployment rate for Kiowa County, Colorado was 3.8% as of June 2021. The regional unemployment rate was lower than the national rate of 6.1%. One year earlier, in June 2020, the unemployment rate in Kiowa County, Colorado was 3.8%.

Unemployment Rate for Kiowa County, Colorado

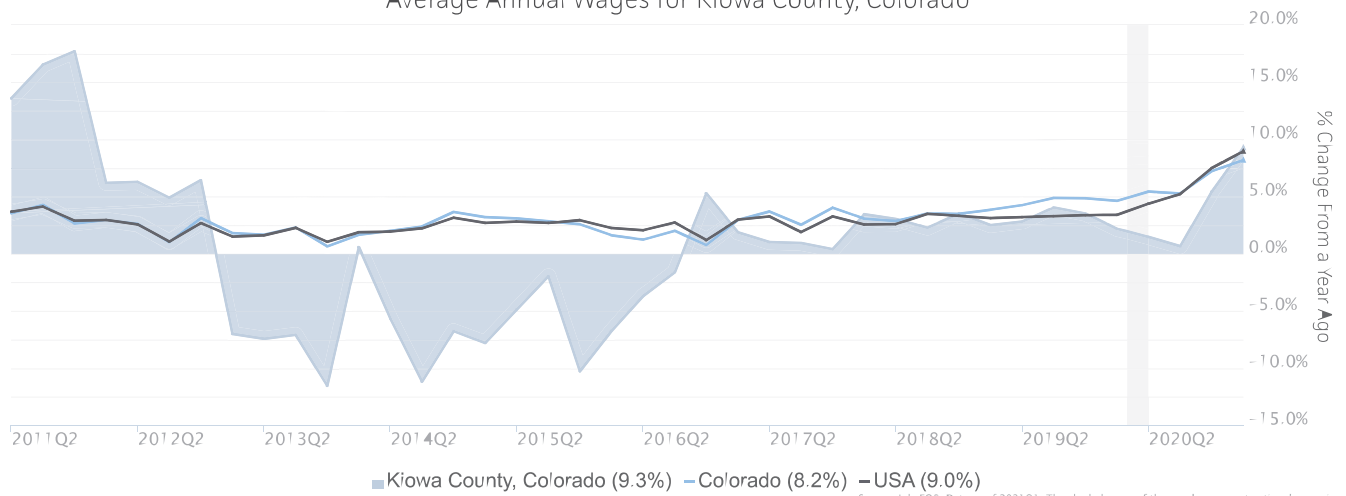


Unemployment rate data are from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and updated through June 2021.

Wage Trends

The average worker in Kiowa County, Colorado earned annual wages of \$44,525 as of 2021Q1. Average annual wages per worker increased 9.3% in the region over the preceding four quarters. For comparison purposes, annual average wages were \$63,393 in the nation as of 2021Q1.

Average Annual Wages for Kiowa County, Colorado



Annual average wages per worker data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1.

Cost of Living Index

The Cost of Living Index estimates the relative price levels for consumer goods and services. When applied to wages and salaries, the result is a measure of relative purchasing power. The cost of living is 15.0% lower in Kiowa County, Colorado than the U.S. average.

Cost of Living Information

	Annual Average Salary	Cost of Living Index (Base US)	US Purchasing Power
Kiowa County, Colorado	\$44,525	85.0	\$52,361
Colorado	\$65,645	109.9	\$59,755
USA	\$63,393	100.0	\$63,393

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

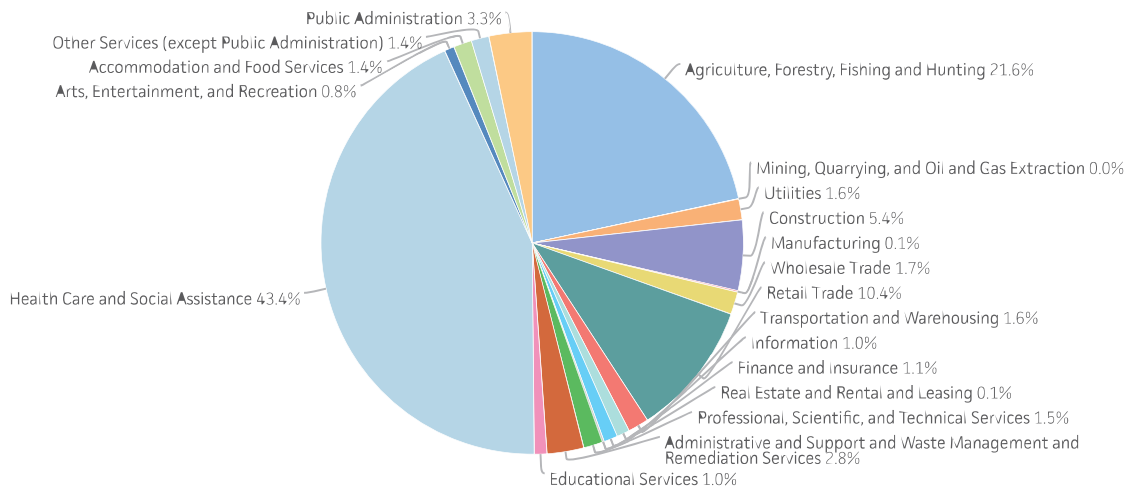
Data as of 2021Q1

Cost of Living per C2ER, data as of 2021Q1, imputed by Chmura where necessary.

Industry Snapshot

The largest sector in Kiowa County, Colorado is Health Care and Social Assistance, employing 418 workers. The next-largest sectors in the region are Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (209 workers) and Retail Trade (100). High location quotients (LQs) indicate sectors in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The sectors with the largest LQs in the region are Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (LQ = 15.15), Utilities (2.92), and Health Care and Social Assistance (2.91).

Total Workers for Kiowa County, Colorado by industry



Source: JobsEQ®, Data as of 2021Q1

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1.

Sectors in Kiowa County, Colorado with the highest average wages per worker are Finance and Insurance (\$92,623), Utilities (\$80,565), and Manufacturing (\$76,940). Regional sectors with the best job growth (or most moderate job losses) over the last 5 years are Health Care and Social Assistance (+199 jobs), Retail Trade (+56), and Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services (+18).

Over the next 5 years, employment in Kiowa County, Colorado is projected to contract by 9 jobs. The fastest growing sector in the region is expected to be Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation with a +1.1% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Health Care and Social Assistance (+6 jobs), Construction (0), and Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services (0).

NAICS	Industry	Empl	Current		5-Year History		Total Demand	5-Year Forecast			
			Avg Ann Wages	LQ	Empl Change	Ann %		Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
62	Health Care and Social Assistance	418	\$48,774	2.91	199	13.8%	204	97	101	6	0.3%
11	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	209	\$42,251	15.15	12	1.2%	103	47	64	-8	-0.8%
44	Retail Trade	100	\$23,392	0.99	56	17.9%	62	29	36	-4	-0.8%
23	Construction	52	\$32,480	0.91	-9	-3.0%	26	9	16	0	0.1%
92	Public Administration	32	\$40,900	0.65	3	2.0%	14	6	8	-1	-0.5%
56	Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	27	\$33,223	0.44	18	25.1%	16	7	9	0	0.1%
42	Wholesale Trade	17	\$22,292	0.45	-7	-6.7%	7	3	5	-1	-1.3%
22	Utilities	15	\$80,565	2.92	-1	-1.1%	6	2	4	-1	-1.2%
48	Transportation and Warehousing	15	\$43,202	0.32	-3	-3.1%	7	3	5	-1	-1.4%
54	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	14	\$56,573	0.20	8	16.9%	6	2	4	0	-0.5%
72	Accommodation and Food Services	13	\$24,128	0.19	-5	-6.7%	11	5	6	0	0.0%
81	Other Services (except Public Administration)	13	\$19,410	0.32	0	0.4%	7	3	4	0	-0.3%
52	Finance and Insurance	10	\$92,623	0.25	-8	-10.5%	5	2	3	0	-0.5%
51	Information	9	\$33,826	0.49	5	14.6%	4	2	3	0	-0.4%
61	Educational Services	9	\$40,756	0.12	2	5.5%	4	2	2	0	-0.6%
71	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	7	\$49,429	0.51	-1	-3.4%	6	2	3	0	1.1%
31	Manufacturing	1	\$76,940	0.01	0	1.4%	0	0	0	0	-1.2%
53	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	1	\$36,404	0.08	0	1.1%	1	0	0	0	-0.8%
21	Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	0	n/a	0.00	-14	n/a	0	0	0	0	-1.0%
Total - All Industries		964	\$44,525	1.00	255	6.4%	512	223	299	-9	-0.2%

Source: [JobsEQ®](http://www.chmuraecon.com/jobseq)

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1. Forecast employment growth uses national projections adapted for regional growth patterns.

Occupation Snapshot

The largest major occupation group in Kiowa County, Colorado is Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations, employing 217 workers. The next-largest occupation groups in the region are Management Occupations (178 workers) and Office and Administrative Support Occupations (89). High location quotients (LQs) indicate occupation groups in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The major groups with the largest LQs in the region are Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations (LQ = 4.51), Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations (3.77), and Management Occupations (2.74).

Occupation groups in Kiowa County, Colorado with the highest average wages per worker are Legal Occupations (\$104,300), Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations (\$78,400), and Architecture and Engineering Occupations (\$71,300). The unemployment rate in the region varied among the major groups from 0.7% among Management Occupations to 8.4% among Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations.

Over the next 5 years, the fastest growing occupation group in Kiowa County, Colorado is expected to be Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations with a +1.0% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations (+3 jobs) and Healthcare Support Occupations (+2). Over the same period, the highest separation demand (occupation demand due to retirements and workers moving from one occupation to another) is expected in Management Occupations (79 jobs) and Sales and Related Occupations (63).

Kiowa County, Colorado, 2021Q1¹

SOC	Occupation	Empl	Mean Ann Wages ²	Current			5-Year History			5-Year Forecast				
				LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads ³	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	217	\$68,900	3.77	2	1.2%	0	102	13.6%	63	29	32	3	0.2%
11-0000	Management	178	\$70,900	2.74	1	0.7%	0	-5	-0.5%	69	43	36	-9	-1.0%
43-0000	Office and Administrative Support	89	\$34,600	0.72	3	3.7%	0	22	5.8%	45	21	28	-4	-0.8%
41-0000	Sales and Related	80	\$32,300	0.87	3	4.3%	5	36	12.7%	59	28	35	-3	-0.9%
31-0000	Healthcare Support	57	\$29,800	1.31	2	3.0%	n/a	27	13.6%	36	16	19	2	0.8%
37-0000	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	50	\$31,600	1.58	2	4.6%	n/a	17	8.9%	36	13	20	2	1.0%
47-0000	Construction and Extraction	39	\$39,400	0.86	2	5.0%	0	-11	-4.8%	22	7	15	0	0.1%
53-0000	Transportation and Material Moving	36	\$35,000	0.43	2	4.3%	0	5	2.9%	21	8	14	-1	-0.4%
13-0000	Business and Financial Operations	34	\$58,500	0.60	0	n/a	n/a	7	4.6%	16	5	12	0	0.0%
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related	30	\$27,400	0.43	3	8.4%	3	6	4.6%	26	10	15	1	0.5%
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	30	\$34,700	4.51	0	n/a	0	13	12.7%	24	6	18	0	-0.1%
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	20	\$44,700	0.55	1	3.2%	n/a	3	3.5%	9	3	6	-1	-0.6%
21-0000	Community and Social Service	18	\$41,800	1.02	0	n/a	n/a	6	9.3%	9	3	6	0	0.2%
15-0000	Computer and Mathematical	14	\$70,900	0.46	0	n/a	0	4	7.8%	5	1	4	0	0.1%
25-0000	Educational Instruction and Library	12	\$35,700	0.23	0	n/a	0	4	7.9%	6	3	3	0	-0.2%
39-0000	Personal Care and Service	12	\$30,400	0.50	1	6.9%	n/a	4	7.9%	9	4	5	0	0.5%
17-0000	Architecture and Engineering	10	\$71,300	0.57	0	n/a	n/a	4	12.7%	4	1	3	0	-0.3%

Kiowa County, Colorado, 2021Q1¹

SOC	Occupation	Empl	Current				5-Year History			5-Year Forecast				
			Mean Ann Wages ²	LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads ³	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
33-0000	Protective Service	10	\$36,000	0.48	1	5.1%	n/a	5	13.5%	6	3	3	0	-0.1%
51-0000	Production	9	\$37,800	0.16	0	n/a	0	2	4.8%	5	2	3	0	-0.8%
19-0000	Life, Physical, and Social Science	8	\$78,400	0.88	0	n/a	1	2	5.8%	3	1	3	0	-0.9%
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media	8	\$38,400	0.45	0	n/a	n/a	2	4.9%	4	1	3	0	-0.3%
23-0000	Legal	3	\$104,300	0.39	0	n/a	n/a	0	-2.6%	1	0	1	0	0.0%
Total - All Occupations		964	\$51,100	1.00	24	2.7%	10	255	6.4%	480	206	283	-9	-0.2%

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

Data as of 2021Q1 unless noted otherwise

Note: Figures may not sum due to rounding.

1. Data based on a four-quarter moving average unless noted otherwise.

2. Wage data are as of 2020 and represent the average for all Covered Employment

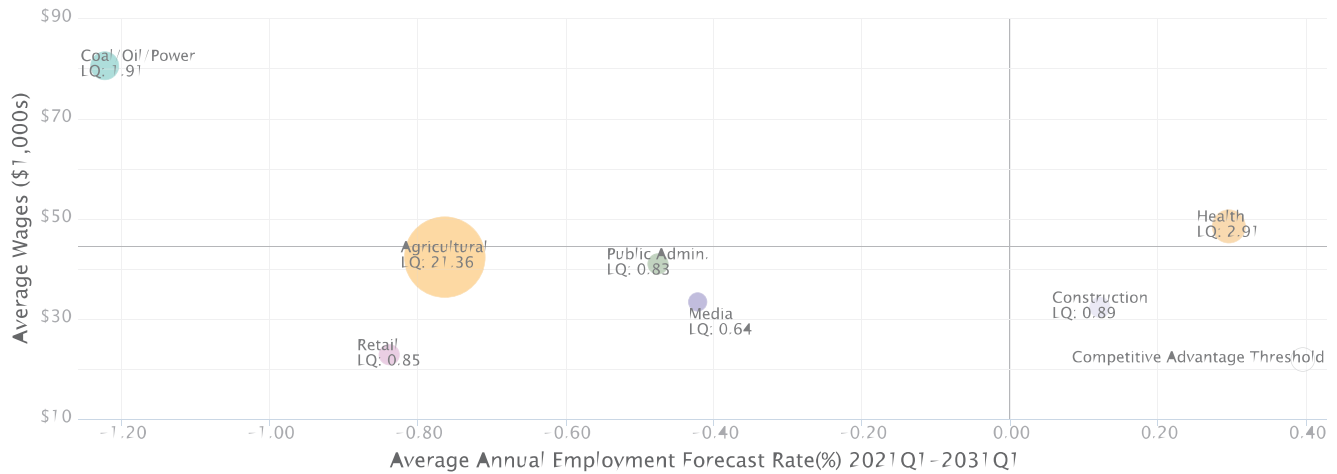
3. Data represent found online ads active within the last thirty days in the selected region; data represents a sampling rather than the complete universe of postings. Ads lacking zip code information but designating a place (city, town, etc.) may be assigned to the zip code with greatest employment in that place for queries in this analytic. Due to alternative county-assignment algorithms, ad counts in this analytic may not match that shown in RTI (nor in the popup window ad list).

Occupation employment data are estimated via industry employment data and the estimated industry/occupation mix. Industry employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and currently updated through 2020Q4, imputed where necessary with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1. Wages by occupation are as of 2020 provided by the BLS and imputed where necessary. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

Industry Clusters

A cluster is a geographic concentration of interrelated industries or occupations. The industry cluster in Kiowa County, Colorado with the highest relative concentration is Agricultural with a location quotient of 21.36. This cluster employs 208 workers in the region with an average wage of \$42,361. Employment in the Agricultural cluster is projected to contract in the region about 0.8% per year over the next ten years.

Industry Clusters for Kiowa County, Colorado as of 2021Q1



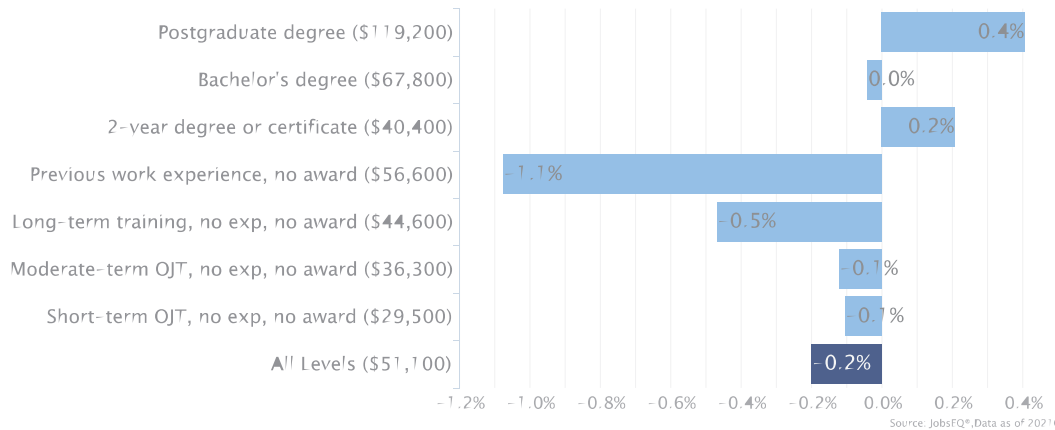
Source: JobsEQ®, Data as of 2021Q1

Location quotient and average wage data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, imputed where necessary, and updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

Education Levels

Expected growth rates for occupations vary by the education and training required. While all employment in Kiowa County, Colorado is projected to contract 0.2% over the next ten years, occupations typically requiring a postgraduate degree are expected to grow 0.4% per year, those requiring a bachelor's degree are forecast to contract 0.0% per year, and occupations typically needing a 2-year degree or certificate are expected to grow 0.2% per year.

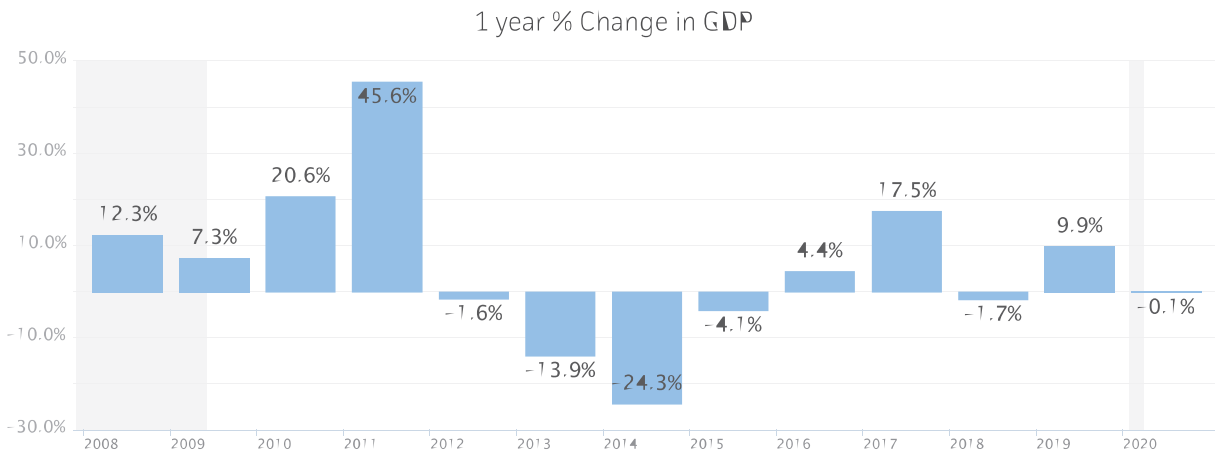
Annual Average Projected Job Growth by Training Required for Kiowa County, Colorado



Employment by occupation data are estimates as of 2021Q1. Education levels of occupations are based on BLS assignments. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

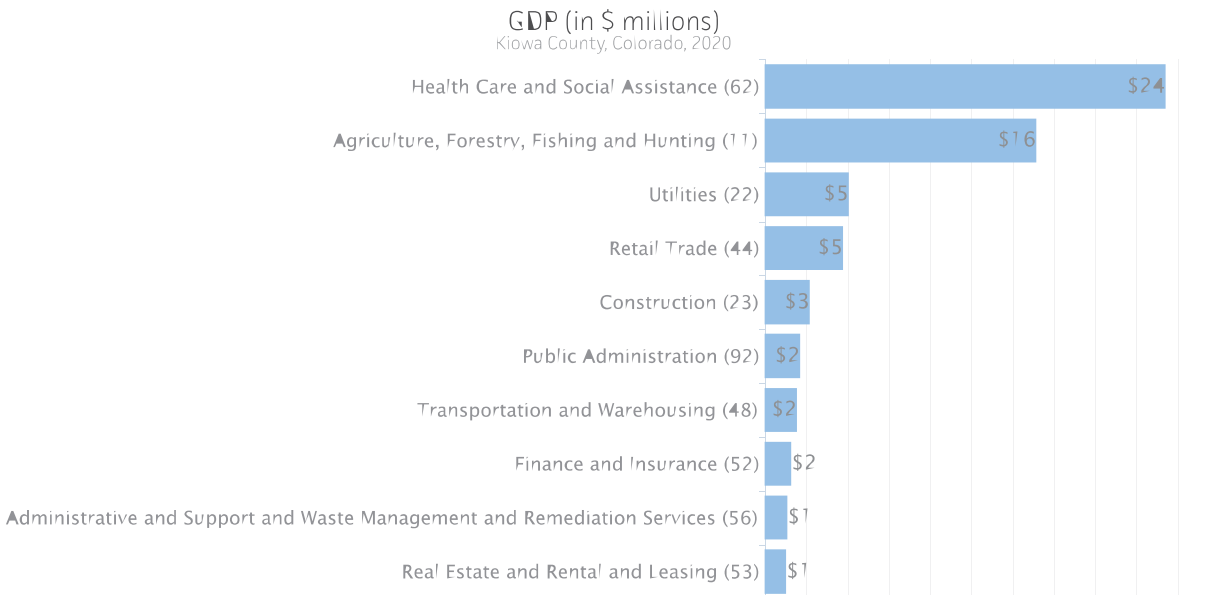
Gross Domestic Product

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the total value of goods and services produced by a region. In 2020, nominal GDP in Kiowa County, Colorado contracted 0.1%. This follows growth of 9.9% in 2019. As of 2020, total GDP in Kiowa County, Colorado was \$66,015,000.



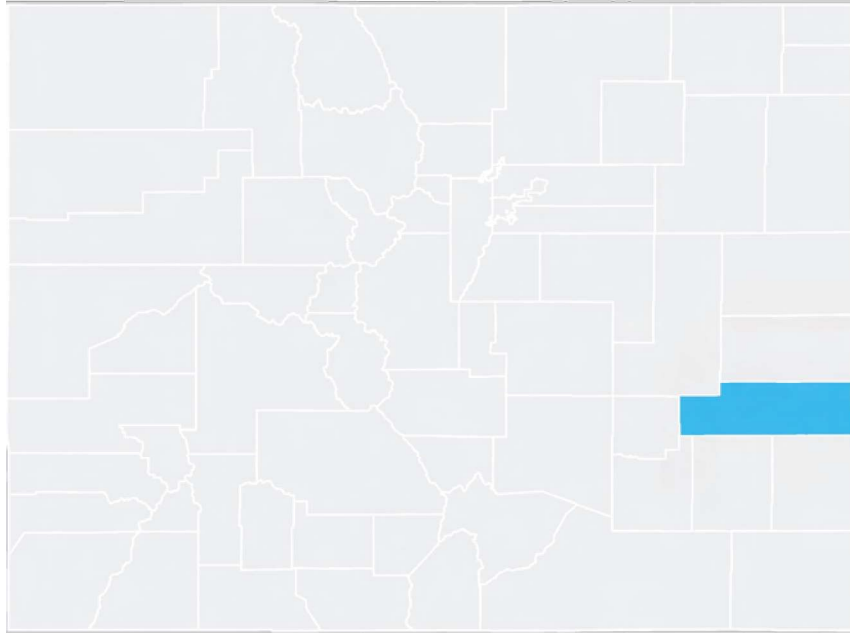
Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2020.

Of the sectors in Kiowa County, Colorado, Health Care and Social Assistance contributed the largest portion of GDP in 2020, \$24,233,000. The next-largest contributions came from Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (\$16,392,000); Utilities (\$5,030,000); and Retail Trade (\$4,684,000).



Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2020.

Kiowa County, Colorado Regional Map



FAQ

What is a location quotient?

A location quotient (LQ) is a measurement of concentration in comparison to the nation. An LQ of 1.00 indicates a region has the same concentration of an industry (or occupation) as the nation. An LQ of 2.00 would mean the region has twice the expected employment compared to the nation and an LQ of 0.50 would mean the region has half the expected employment in comparison to the nation.

What is separation demand?

Separation demand is the number of jobs required due to separations—labor force exits (including retirements) and turnover resulting from workers moving from one occupation into another. Note that separation demand does not include all turnover—it does not include when workers stay in the same occupation but switch employers. The total projected demand for an occupation is the sum of the separation demand and the growth demand (which is the increase or decrease of jobs in an occupation expected due to expansion or contraction of the overall number of jobs in that occupation).

What is a cluster?

A cluster is a geographic concentration of interrelated industries or occupations. If a regional cluster has a location quotient of 1.25 or greater, the region is considered to possess a competitive advantage in that cluster.

What is the difference between industry wages and occupation wages?

Industry wages and occupation wages are estimated via separate data sets, often the time periods being reported do not align, and wages are defined slightly differently in the two systems (for example, certain bonuses are included in the industry wages but not the occupation wages). It is therefore common that estimates of the average industry wages and average occupation wages in a region do not match exactly.

What is NAICS?

The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) is used to classify business establishments according to the type of economic activity. The NAICS Code comprises six levels, from the “all industry” level to the 6-digit level. The first two digits define the top level category, known as the “sector,” which is the level examined in this report.

What is SOC?

The Standard Occupational Classification system (SOC) is used to classify workers into occupational categories. All workers are classified into one of over 804 occupations according to their occupational definition. To facilitate classification, occupations are combined to form 22 major groups, 95 minor groups, and 452 occupation groups. Each occupation group includes detailed occupations requiring similar job duties, skills, education, or experience.

About This Report

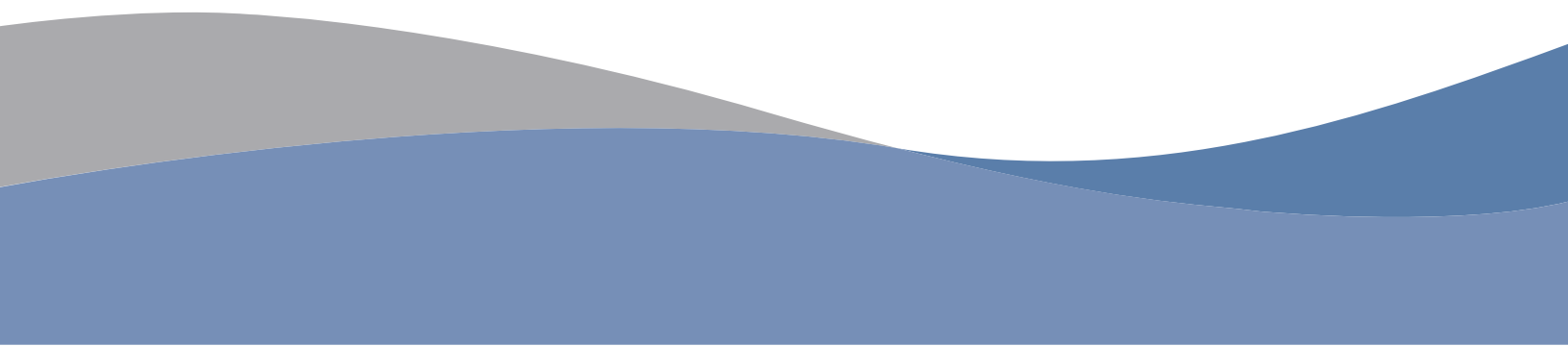
This report and all data herein were produced by JobsEQ®, a product of Chmura Economics & Analytics. The information contained herein was obtained from sources we believe to be reliable. However, we cannot guarantee its accuracy and completeness.



Economic Overview



Lake County, Colorado



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Demographic Profile

The population in Lake County, Colorado was 7,751 per American Community Survey data for 2015-2019.

The region has a civilian labor force of 4,431 with a participation rate of 67.4%. Of individuals 25 to 64 in Lake County, Colorado, 33.1% have a bachelor's degree or higher which compares with 33.5% in the nation.

The median household income in Lake County, Colorado is \$50,565 and the median house value is \$232,100.

Summary¹

Demographics	Percent			Value		
	Lake County, Colorado	Colorado	USA	Lake County, Colorado	Colorado	USA
Population (ACS)	—	—	—	7,751	5,610,349	324,697,795
Male	55.6%	50.3%	49.2%	4,308	2,823,201	159,886,919
Female	44.4%	49.7%	50.8%	3,443	2,787,148	164,810,876
Median Age ²	—	—	—	36.7	36.7	38.1
Under 18 Years	18.1%	22.5%	22.6%	1,400	1,261,005	73,429,392
18 to 24 Years	10.2%	9.3%	9.4%	788	523,765	30,646,327
25 to 34 Years	19.0%	15.5%	13.9%	1,476	871,500	45,030,415
35 to 44 Years	14.8%	13.6%	12.6%	1,151	764,183	40,978,831
45 to 54 Years	14.4%	12.7%	13.0%	1,113	713,520	42,072,620
55 to 64 Years	13.0%	12.5%	12.9%	1,005	702,670	41,756,414
65 to 74 Years	7.7%	8.5%	9.1%	596	478,345	29,542,266
75 Years, and Over	2.9%	5.3%	6.5%	222	295,361	21,241,530
Race: White	85.3%	84.0%	72.5%	6,614	4,712,574	235,377,662
Race: Black or African American	0.1%	4.2%	12.7%	9	233,647	41,234,642
Race: American Indian and Alaska Native	1.5%	1.0%	0.8%	118	54,847	2,750,143
Race: Asian	0.8%	3.2%	5.5%	65	178,147	17,924,209
Race: Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.2%	0.2%	3	8,643	599,868
Race: Some Other Race	10.5%	3.9%	4.9%	816	216,767	16,047,369
Race: Two or More Races	1.6%	3.7%	3.3%	126	205,724	10,763,902
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	32.4%	21.5%	18.0%	2,508	1,208,172	58,479,370
Population Growth						
Population (Pop Estimates) ⁴	—	—	—	7,987	5,807,719	329,484,123
Population Annual Average Growth ⁴	1.0%	1.4%	0.6%	72	76,018	2,015,698
People per Square Mile	—	—	—	21.6	55.6	92.9
Economic						
Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 16 years and over)	67.4%	68.1%	63.2%	4,431	3,035,960	163,555,585
Prime-Age Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 25-54)	78.4%	84.7%	82.1%	2,933	1,972,225	104,634,905
Armed Forces Labor Force	0.1%	0.8%	0.4%	4	33,671	1,073,907
Veterans, Age 18-64	4.6%	6.0%	4.6%	256	211,937	9,143,042
Veterans Labor Force Participation Rate and Size, Age 18-64	98.4%	79.5%	76.6%	252	168,558	7,003,778
Median Household Income ²	—	—	—	\$50,565	\$72,331	\$62,843
Per Capita Income	—	—	—	\$29,122	\$38,226	\$34,103
Mean Commute Time (minutes)	—	—	—	31.7	25.8	26.9
Commute via Public Transportation	0.0%	3.0%	5.0%	0	87,734	7,641,160
Educational Attainment, Age 25-64						
No High School Diploma	16.3%	8.0%	10.9%	774	245,575	18,550,150
High School Graduate	24.9%	20.7%	25.7%	1,181	632,736	43,627,868
Some College, No Degree	17.9%	20.7%	20.7%	851	631,698	35,174,790
Associate's Degree	7.8%	8.9%	9.1%	370	270,468	15,526,064

Summary¹

	Percent			Value		
	Lake County, Colorado	Colorado	USA	Lake County, Colorado	Colorado	USA
Bachelor's Degree	25.4%	26.9%	21.2%	1,207	822,135	35,997,848
Postgraduate Degree	7.6%	14.7%	12.3%	362	449,261	20,961,560
Housing						
Total Housing Units	—	—	—	4,894	2,386,475	137,428,986
Median House Value (of owner-occupied units) ²	—	—	—	\$232,100	\$343,300	\$217,500
Homeowner Vacancy	0.4%	1.1%	1.6%	9	14,983	1,257,737
Rental Vacancy	8.4%	4.8%	6.0%	98	38,254	2,793,023
Renter-Occupied Housing Units (% of Occupied Units)	31.6%	34.8%	36.0%	1,072	747,259	43,481,667
Occupied Housing Units with No Vehicle Available (% of Occupied Units)	3.9%	5.1%	8.6%	131	109,324	10,395,713
Social						
Poverty Level (of all people)	14.6%	10.3%	13.4%	1,110	565,873	42,510,843
Households Receiving Food Stamps/SNAP	8.9%	7.5%	11.7%	303	161,543	14,171,567
Enrolled in Grade 12 (% of total population)	0.9%	1.3%	1.4%	72	73,560	4,422,344
Disconnected Youth ³	1.5%	2.4%	2.5%	6	6,997	423,273
Children in Single Parent Families (% of all children)	25.4%	27.2%	34.1%	341	328,712	23,790,005
Uninsured	14.0%	7.6%	8.8%	1,078	420,782	28,248,613
With a Disability, Age 18-64	12.3%	8.6%	10.3%	676	300,250	20,187,604
With a Disability, Age 18-64, Labor Force Participation Rate and Size	33.1%	50.4%	42.2%	224	151,253	8,509,463
Foreign Born	9.4%	9.7%	13.6%	728	546,513	44,011,870
Speak English Less Than Very Well (population 5 yrs and over)	6.0%	5.8%	8.4%	455	304,772	25,615,365

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

1. American Community Survey 2015-2019, unless noted otherwise

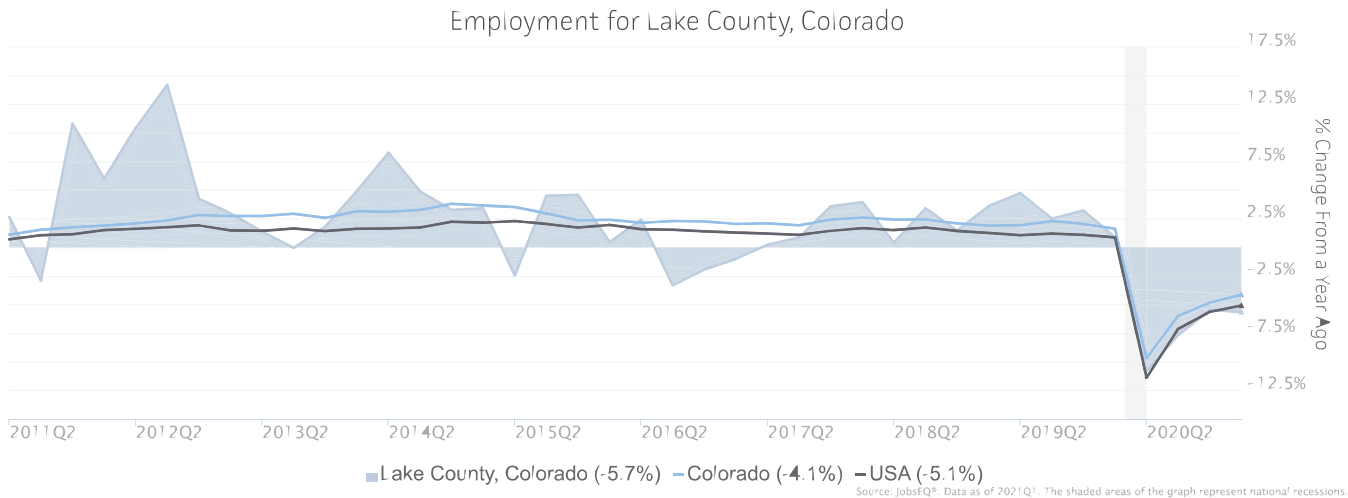
2. Median values for certain aggregate regions (such as MSAs) may be estimated as the weighted averages of the median values from the composing counties.

3. Disconnected Youth are 16-19 year olds who are (1) not in school, (2) not high school graduates, and (3) either unemployed or not in the labor force.

4. Census 2020, annual average growth rate since 2010

Employment Trends

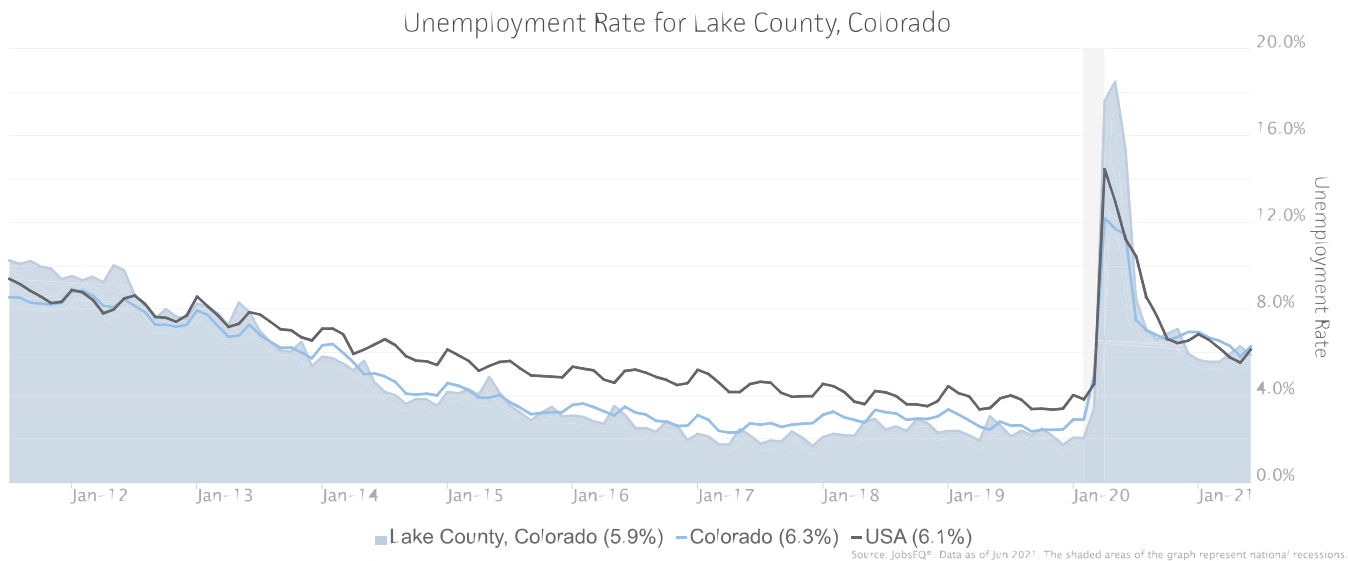
As of 2021Q1, total employment for Lake County, Colorado was 2,515 (based on a four-quarter moving average). Over the year ending 2021Q1, employment declined 5.7% in the region.



Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1.

Unemployment Rate

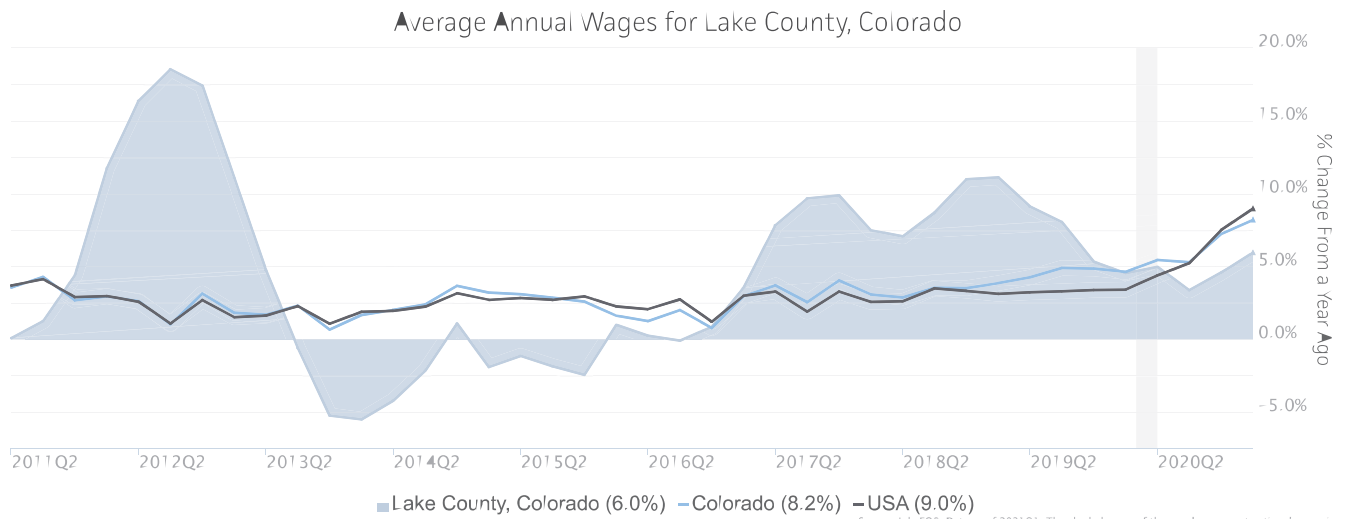
The unemployment rate for Lake County, Colorado was 5.9% as of June 2021. The regional unemployment rate was lower than the national rate of 6.1%. One year earlier, in June 2020, the unemployment rate in Lake County, Colorado was 15.3%.



Unemployment rate data are from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and updated through June 2021.

Wage Trends

The average worker in Lake County, Colorado earned annual wages of \$45,337 as of 2021Q1. Average annual wages per worker increased 6.0% in the region over the preceding four quarters. For comparison purposes, annual average wages were \$63,393 in the nation as of 2021Q1.



Annual average wages per worker data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1.

Cost of Living Index

The Cost of Living Index estimates the relative price levels for consumer goods and services. When applied to wages and salaries, the result is a measure of relative purchasing power. The cost of living is 3.9% higher in Lake County, Colorado than the U.S. average.

Cost of Living Information

	Annual Average Salary	Cost of Living Index (Base US)	US Purchasing Power
Lake County, Colorado	\$45,337	103.9	\$43,631
Colorado	\$65,645	109.9	\$59,755
USA	\$63,393	100.0	\$63,393

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

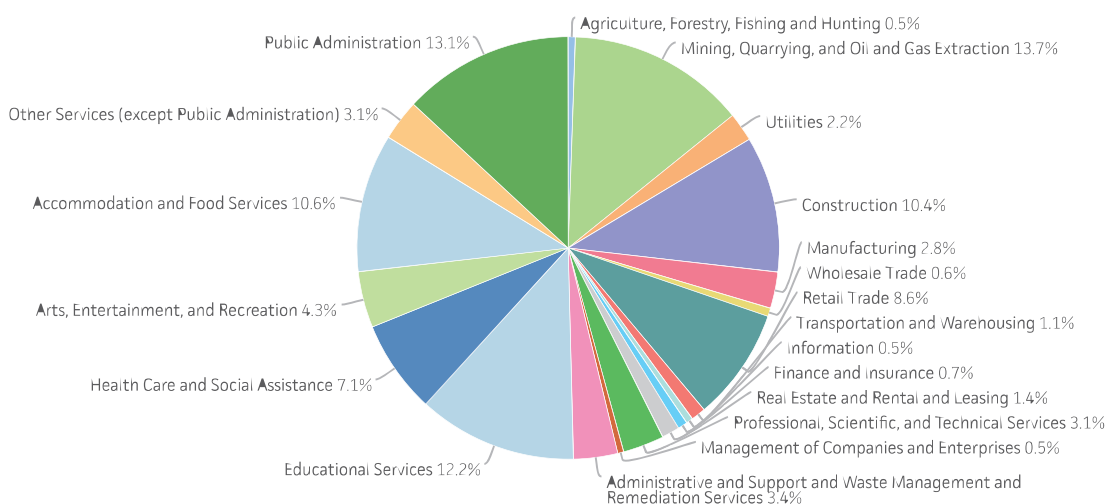
Data as of 2021Q1

Cost of Living per C2ER, data as of 2021Q1, imputed by Chmura where necessary.

Industry Snapshot

The largest sector in Lake County, Colorado is Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction, employing 344 workers. The next-largest sectors in the region are Public Administration (329 workers) and Educational Services (306). High location quotients (LQs) indicate sectors in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The sectors with the largest LQs in the region are Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction (LQ = 38.21), Utilities (4.04), and Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation (2.85).

Total Workers for Lake County, Colorado by Industry



Source: JobsEQ®, Data as of 2021Q1

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1.

Sectors in Lake County, Colorado with the highest average wages per worker are Management of Companies and Enterprises (\$93,065), Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction (\$69,276), and Wholesale Trade (\$61,621). Regional sectors with the best job growth (or most moderate job losses) over the last 5 years are Manufacturing (+33 jobs), Health Care and Social Assistance (+26), and Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (+26).

Over the next 5 years, employment in Lake County, Colorado is projected to expand by 184 jobs. The fastest growing sector in the region is expected to be Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction with a +2.5% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction (+45 jobs), Public Administration (+23), and Accommodation and Food Services (+21).

NAICS	Industry	Empl	Current		5-Year History		Total Demand	5-Year Forecast			
			Avg Ann Wages	LQ	Empl Change	Ann %		Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
21	Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	344	\$69,276	38.21	-25	-1.4%	230	60	125	45	2.5%
92	Public Administration	329	\$48,609	2.60	6	0.4%	179	66	90	23	1.4%
61	Educational Services	306	\$36,743	1.49	-56	-3.3%	155	69	75	11	0.7%
72	Accommodation and Food Services	266	\$23,475	1.46	-10	-0.7%	244	99	124	21	1.5%
23	Construction	262	\$45,584	1.76	-52	-3.5%	149	47	85	17	1.3%
44	Retail Trade	217	\$34,682	0.83	25	2.5%	157	65	82	10	0.9%
62	Health Care and Social Assistance	179	\$52,972	0.48	26	3.2%	106	43	45	18	1.9%
71	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	108	\$30,045	2.85	-49	-7.2%	92	36	44	12	2.1%
56	Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	85	\$23,476	0.54	-1	-0.1%	59	22	29	8	1.8%
54	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	79	\$44,205	0.44	26	8.3%	40	13	22	5	1.2%
81	Other Services (except Public Administration)	79	\$25,911	0.73	15	4.2%	52	21	25	6	1.4%
31	Manufacturing	70	\$47,465	0.34	33	13.3%	36	13	23	-1	-0.2%
22	Utilities	55	\$57,142	4.04	9	3.5%	29	9	16	4	1.3%
53	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	35	\$31,765	0.79	6	3.7%	20	8	10	2	0.9%
48	Transportation and Warehousing	28	\$46,405	0.22	-5	-3.2%	16	6	9	1	0.8%
52	Finance and Insurance	18	\$41,262	0.17	1	0.6%	9	3	5	1	0.8%
42	Wholesale Trade	16	\$61,621	0.17	-14	-11.8%	9	3	5	0	0.3%
11	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	14	\$25,216	0.38	12	54.5%	8	3	4	0	0.3%
51	Information	13	\$34,719	0.27	1	0.9%	6	2	4	0	-0.2%
55	Management of Companies and Enterprises	11	\$93,065	0.29	11	n/a	6	2	3	1	1.6%
Total - All Industries		2,515	\$45,337	1.00	-40	-0.3%	1,600	605	811	184	1.4%

Source: [JobsEQ®](http://www.chmuraecon.com/jobseq)

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1. Forecast employment growth uses national projections adapted for regional growth patterns.

Occupation Snapshot

The largest major occupation group in Lake County, Colorado is Construction and Extraction Occupations, employing 335 workers. The next-largest occupation groups in the region are Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations (242 workers) and Office and Administrative Support Occupations (241). High location quotients (LQs) indicate occupation groups in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The major groups with the largest LQs in the region are Construction and Extraction Occupations (LQ = 2.85), Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations (1.69), and Protective Service Occupations (1.54).

Occupation groups in Lake County, Colorado with the highest average wages per worker are Legal Occupations (\$108,500), Management Occupations (\$94,500), and Architecture and Engineering Occupations (\$87,200). The unemployment rate in the region varied among the major groups from 2.5% among Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations to 17.6% among Personal Care and Service Occupations.

Over the next 5 years, the fastest growing occupation group in Lake County, Colorado is expected to be Healthcare Support Occupations with a +2.4% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Construction and Extraction Occupations (+32 jobs) and Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations (+22). Over the same period, the highest separation demand (occupation demand due to retirements and workers moving from one occupation to another) is expected in Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations (225 jobs) and Construction and Extraction Occupations (208).

Lake County, Colorado, 2021Q1¹

SOC	Occupation	Empl	Mean Ann Wages ²	Current			5-Year History			5-Year Forecast				
				LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads ³	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
47-0000	Construction and Extraction	335	\$51,700	2.85	46	8.9%	5	-34	-1.9%	240	60	148	32	1.9%
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related	242	\$30,000	1.34	95	17.1%	15	-19	-1.5%	247	89	136	22	1.8%
43-0000	Office and Administrative Support	241	\$39,800	0.75	22	7.1%	11	0	0.0%	147	61	81	6	0.5%
25-0000	Educational Instruction and Library	213	\$55,600	1.53	15	6.7%	2	-35	-3.0%	108	45	53	10	0.9%
41-0000	Sales and Related	189	\$38,000	0.79	27	9.2%	34	8	0.8%	155	61	86	8	0.8%
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	142	\$52,500	1.46	12	6.0%	8	-6	-0.8%	89	25	50	14	1.9%
13-0000	Business and Financial Operations	137	\$69,300	0.92	7	3.9%	5	25	4.0%	80	21	50	10	1.5%
11-0000	Management	136	\$94,500	0.80	7	4.0%	14	1	0.2%	68	18	41	10	1.4%
53-0000	Transportation and Material Moving	122	\$39,300	0.56	24	9.5%	31	-6	-1.0%	92	32	50	10	1.6%
37-0000	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	121	\$31,700	1.48	26	9.6%	9	-11	-1.7%	96	38	48	11	1.7%
51-0000	Production	108	\$47,600	0.74	14	7.8%	6	16	3.2%	68	22	41	5	0.9%
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	101	\$76,200	0.67	2	2.5%	6	18	4.1%	38	14	16	8	1.6%
33-0000	Protective Service	84	\$52,700	1.54	10	9.7%	4	-1	-0.2%	52	20	26	6	1.5%
39-0000	Personal Care and Service	77	\$34,300	1.25	24	17.6%	2	-8	-2.0%	80	31	40	8	2.0%
17-0000	Architecture and Engineering	51	\$87,200	1.16	2	3.3%	5	1	0.5%	27	7	15	5	1.8%
21-0000	Community and Social Service	44	\$49,900	0.97	1	2.8%	5	1	0.3%	29	8	17	4	1.9%
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media	40	\$47,100	0.90	7	11.5%	n/a	-4	-1.8%	27	9	16	2	1.2%

Lake County, Colorado, 2021Q1¹

SOC	Occupation	Empl	Mean Ann Wages ²	Current			5-Year History			Total Demand	5-Year Forecast			Ann % Growth
				LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads ³	Empl Change	Ann %		Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	
19-0000	Life, Physical, and Social Science	39	\$72,000	1.69	2	4.2%	1	-1	-0.7%	25	4	16	4	2.0%
31-0000	Healthcare Support	37	\$34,500	0.32	4	6.4%	4	4	2.6%	29	11	13	5	2.4%
15-0000	Computer and Mathematical	33	\$74,500	0.41	1	3.0%	7	4	2.7%	15	3	10	2	1.3%
23-0000	Legal	14	\$108,500	0.63	0	n/a	n/a	-1	-1.1%	5	2	3	1	1.5%
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	9	\$40,600	0.55	2	8.7%	n/a	7	33.9%	8	2	6	0	0.0%
Total - All Occupations		2,515	\$51,100	1.00	350	9.2%	174	-40	-0.3%	1,727	581	962	184	1.4%

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

Data as of 2021Q1 unless noted otherwise

Note: Figures may not sum due to rounding.

1. Data based on a four-quarter moving average unless noted otherwise.

2. Wage data are as of 2020 and represent the average for all Covered Employment

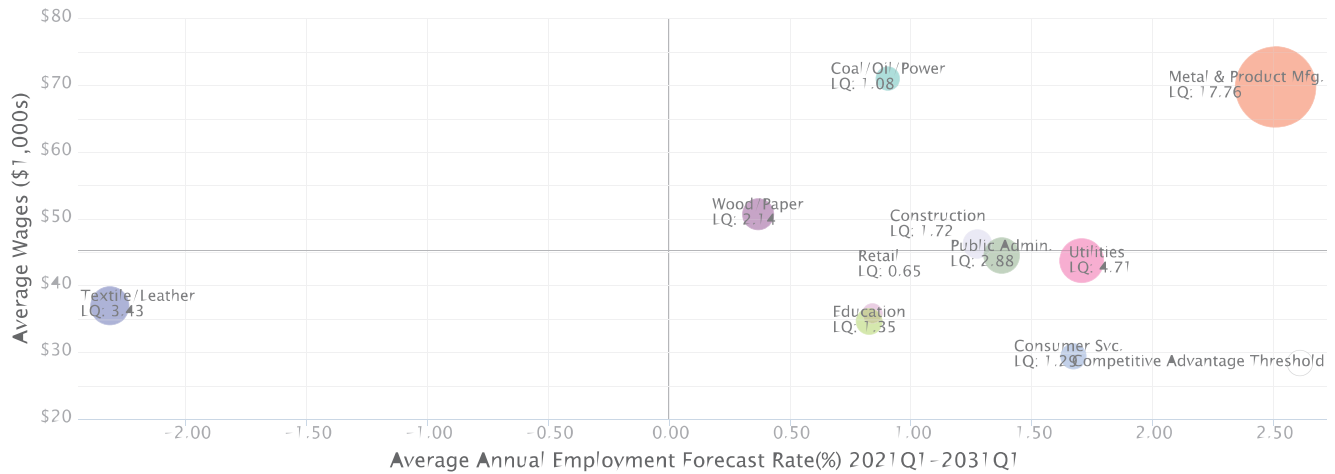
3. Data represent found online ads active within the last thirty days in the selected region; data represents a sampling rather than the complete universe of postings. Ads lacking zip code information but designating a place (city, town, etc.) may be assigned to the zip code with greatest employment in that place for queries in this analytic. Due to alternative county-assignment algorithms, ad counts in this analytic may not match that shown in RTI (nor in the popup window ad list).

Occupation employment data are estimated via industry employment data and the estimated industry/occupation mix. Industry employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and currently updated through 2020Q4, imputed where necessary with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1. Wages by occupation are as of 2020 provided by the BLS and imputed where necessary. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

Industry Clusters

A cluster is a geographic concentration of interrelated industries or occupations. The industry cluster in Lake County, Colorado with the highest relative concentration is Metal & Product Mfg. with a location quotient of 17.76. This cluster employs 334 workers in the region with an average wage of \$69,755. Employment in the Metal & Product Mfg. cluster is projected to expand in the region about 2.5% per year over the next ten years.

Industry Clusters for Lake County, Colorado as of 2021Q1



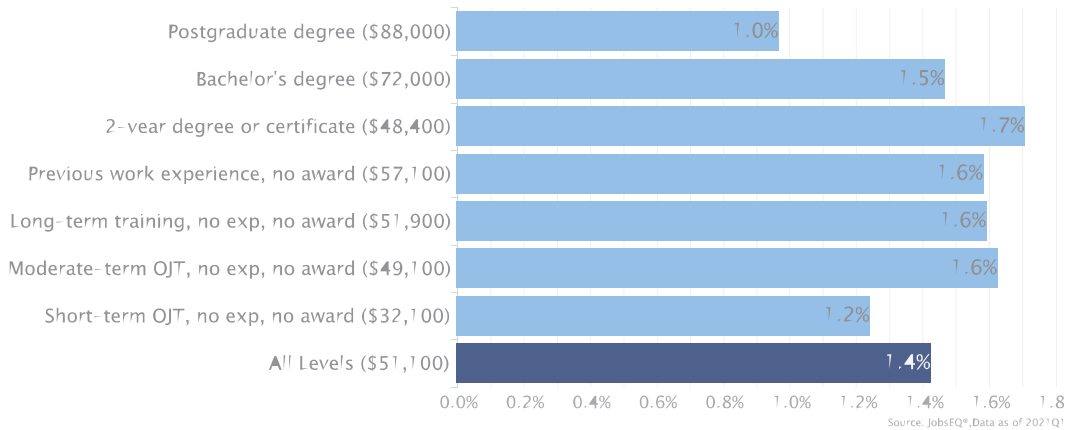
Source: JobsEQ®, Data as of 2021Q1

Location quotient and average wage data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, imputed where necessary, and updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

Education Levels

Expected growth rates for occupations vary by the education and training required. While all employment in Lake County, Colorado is projected to grow 1.4% over the next ten years, occupations typically requiring a postgraduate degree are expected to grow 1.0% per year, those requiring a bachelor’s degree are forecast to grow 1.5% per year, and occupations typically needing a 2-year degree or certificate are expected to grow 1.7% per year.

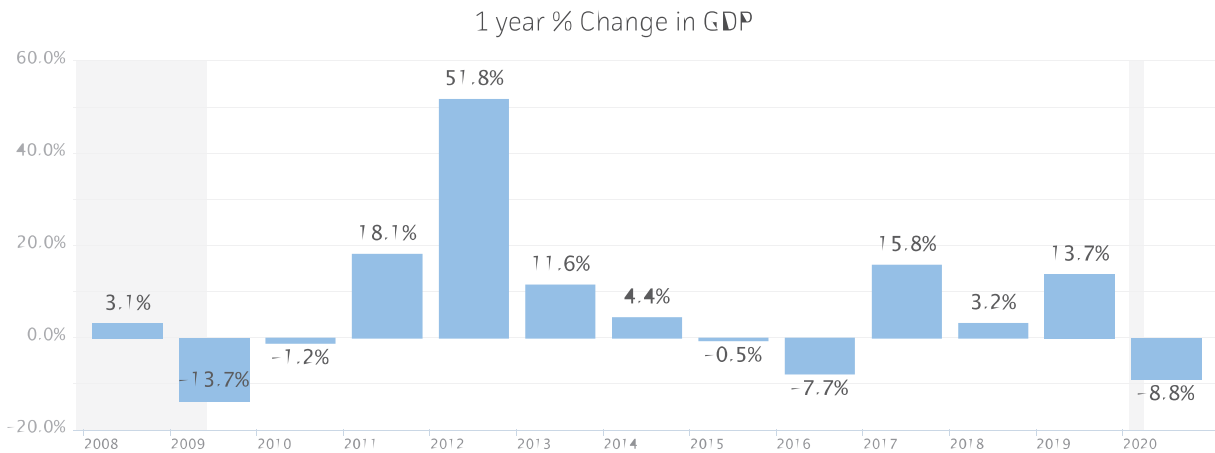
Annual Average Projected Job Growth by Training Required for Lake County, Colorado



Employment by occupation data are estimates as of 2021Q1. Education levels of occupations are based on BLS assignments. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

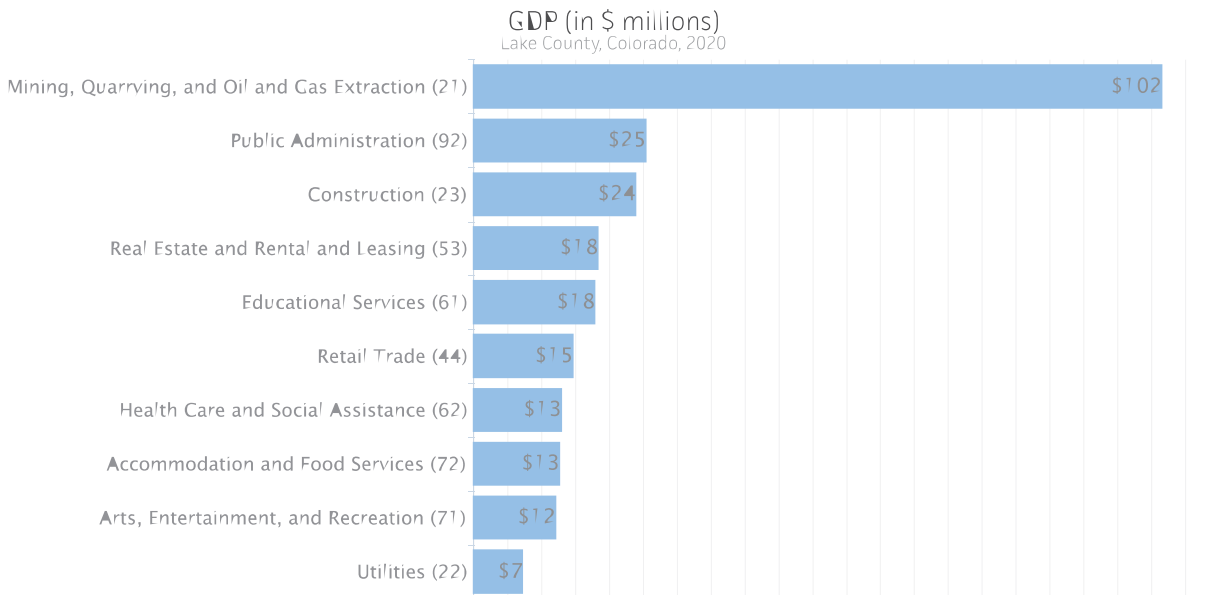
Gross Domestic Product

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the total value of goods and services produced by a region. In 2020, nominal GDP in Lake County, Colorado contracted 8.8%. This follows growth of 13.7% in 2019. As of 2020, total GDP in Lake County, Colorado was \$277,598,000.



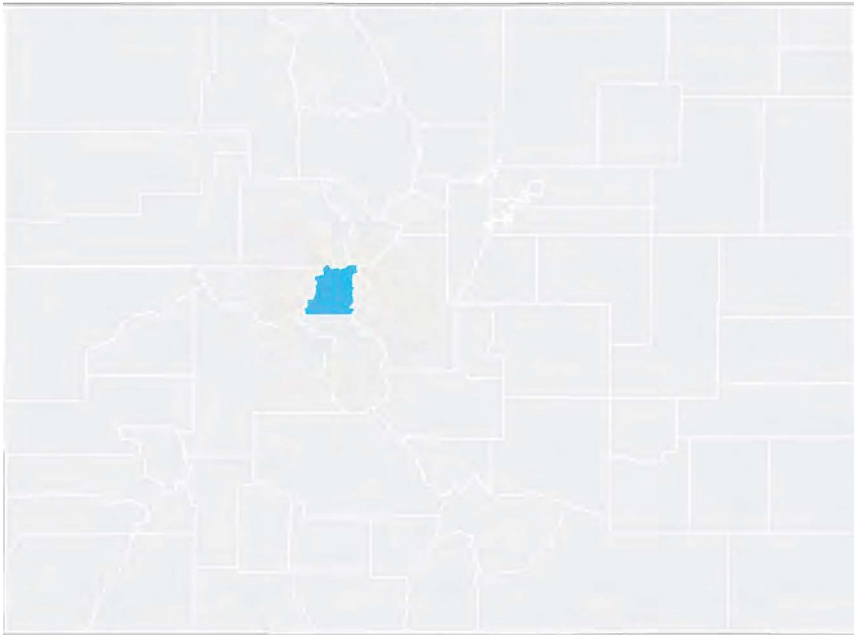
Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2020.

Of the sectors in Lake County, Colorado, Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction contributed the largest portion of GDP in 2020, \$101,584,000. The next-largest contributions came from Public Administration (\$25,454,000); Construction (\$24,029,000); and Real Estate and Rental and Leasing (\$18,411,000).



Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2020.

Lake County, Colorado Regional Map



FAQ

What is a location quotient?

A location quotient (LQ) is a measurement of concentration in comparison to the nation. An LQ of 1.00 indicates a region has the same concentration of an industry (or occupation) as the nation. An LQ of 2.00 would mean the region has twice the expected employment compared to the nation and an LQ of 0.50 would mean the region has half the expected employment in comparison to the nation.

What is separation demand?

Separation demand is the number of jobs required due to separations—labor force exits (including retirements) and turnover resulting from workers moving from one occupation into another. Note that separation demand does not include all turnover—it does not include when workers stay in the same occupation but switch employers. The total projected demand for an occupation is the sum of the separation demand and the growth demand (which is the increase or decrease of jobs in an occupation expected due to expansion or contraction of the overall number of jobs in that occupation).

What is a cluster?

A cluster is a geographic concentration of interrelated industries or occupations. If a regional cluster has a location quotient of 1.25 or greater, the region is considered to possess a competitive advantage in that cluster.

What is the difference between industry wages and occupation wages?

Industry wages and occupation wages are estimated via separate data sets, often the time periods being reported do not align, and wages are defined slightly differently in the two systems (for example, certain bonuses are included in the industry wages but not the occupation wages). It is therefore common that estimates of the average industry wages and average occupation wages in a region do not match exactly.

What is NAICS?

The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) is used to classify business establishments according to the type of economic activity. The NAICS Code comprises six levels, from the “all industry” level to the 6-digit level. The first two digits define the top level category, known as the “sector,” which is the level examined in this report.

What is SOC?

The Standard Occupational Classification system (SOC) is used to classify workers into occupational categories. All workers are classified into one of over 804 occupations according to their occupational definition. To facilitate classification, occupations are combined to form 22 major groups, 95 minor groups, and 452 occupation groups. Each occupation group includes detailed occupations requiring similar job duties, skills, education, or experience.

About This Report

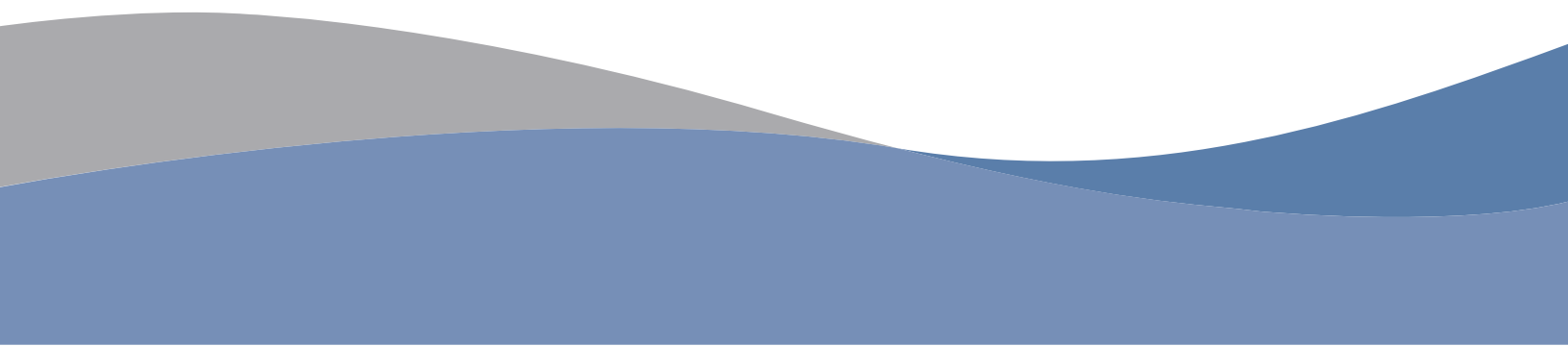
This report and all data herein were produced by JobsEQ®, a product of Chmura Economics & Analytics. The information contained herein was obtained from sources we believe to be reliable. However, we cannot guarantee its accuracy and completeness.



Economic Overview



Las Animas County, Colorado



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Demographic Profile

The population in Las Animas County, Colorado was 14,266 per American Community Survey data for 2015-2019.

The region has a civilian labor force of 6,356 with a participation rate of 52.7%. Of individuals 25 to 64 in Las Animas County, Colorado, 16.3% have a bachelor's degree or higher which compares with 33.5% in the nation.

The median household income in Las Animas County, Colorado is \$41,817 and the median house value is \$151,100.

Summary¹

	Percent			Value		
	Las Animas County, Colorado	Colorado	USA	Las Animas County, Colorado	Colorado	USA
Demographics						
Population (ACS)	—	—	—	14,266	5,610,349	324,697,795
Male	52.5%	50.3%	49.2%	7,485	2,823,201	159,886,919
Female	47.5%	49.7%	50.8%	6,781	2,787,148	164,810,876
Median Age ²	—	—	—	45.9	36.7	38.1
Under 18 Years	17.7%	22.5%	22.6%	2,532	1,261,005	73,429,392
18 to 24 Years	8.5%	9.3%	9.4%	1,207	523,765	30,646,327
25 to 34 Years	12.1%	15.5%	13.9%	1,724	871,500	45,030,415
35 to 44 Years	10.7%	13.6%	12.6%	1,531	764,183	40,978,831
45 to 54 Years	11.5%	12.7%	13.0%	1,639	713,520	42,072,620
55 to 64 Years	15.8%	12.5%	12.9%	2,256	702,670	41,756,414
65 to 74 Years	14.2%	8.5%	9.1%	2,030	478,345	29,542,266
75 Years, and Over	9.4%	5.3%	6.5%	1,347	295,361	21,241,530
Race: White	84.9%	84.0%	72.5%	12,111	4,712,574	235,377,662
Race: Black or African American	0.9%	4.2%	12.7%	125	233,647	41,234,642
Race: American Indian and Alaska Native	3.8%	1.0%	0.8%	544	54,847	2,750,143
Race: Asian	1.0%	3.2%	5.5%	137	178,147	17,924,209
Race: Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.2%	0.2%	0	8,643	599,868
Race: Some Other Race	4.2%	3.9%	4.9%	603	216,767	16,047,369
Race: Two or More Races	5.2%	3.7%	3.3%	746	205,724	10,763,902
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	41.5%	21.5%	18.0%	5,921	1,208,172	58,479,370
Population Growth						
Population (Pop Estimates) ⁴	—	—	—	14,420	5,807,719	329,484,123
Population Annual Average Growth ⁴	-0.7%	1.4%	0.6%	-100	76,018	2,015,698
People per Square Mile	—	—	—	3.0	55.6	92.9
Economic						
Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 16 years and over)	52.7%	68.1%	63.2%	6,356	3,035,960	163,555,585
Prime-Age Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 25-54)	71.4%	84.7%	82.1%	3,493	1,972,225	104,634,905
Armed Forces Labor Force	0.0%	0.8%	0.4%	3	33,671	1,073,907
Veterans, Age 18-64	5.2%	6.0%	4.6%	437	211,937	9,143,042
Veterans Labor Force Participation Rate and Size, Age 18-64	50.3%	79.5%	76.6%	220	168,558	7,003,778
Median Household Income ²	—	—	—	\$41,817	\$72,331	\$62,843
Per Capita Income	—	—	—	\$25,813	\$38,226	\$34,103
Mean Commute Time (minutes)	—	—	—	21.2	25.8	26.9
Commute via Public Transportation	0.6%	3.0%	5.0%	32	87,734	7,641,160
Educational Attainment, Age 25-64						
No High School Diploma	11.8%	8.0%	10.9%	843	245,575	18,550,150
High School Graduate	32.3%	20.7%	25.7%	2,313	632,736	43,627,868
Some College, No Degree	26.6%	20.7%	20.7%	1,905	631,698	35,174,790

Summary¹

	Percent			Value		
	Las Animas County, Colorado	Colorado	USA	Las Animas County, Colorado	Colorado	USA
Associate's Degree	12.9%	8.9%	9.1%	924	270,468	15,526,064
Bachelor's Degree	11.0%	26.9%	21.2%	787	822,135	35,997,848
Postgraduate Degree	5.3%	14.7%	12.3%	378	449,261	20,961,560
Housing						
Total Housing Units	—	—	—	8,576	2,386,475	137,428,986
Median House Value (of owner-occupied units) ²	—	—	—	\$151,100	\$343,300	\$217,500
Homeowner Vacancy	1.8%	1.1%	1.6%	84	14,983	1,257,737
Rental Vacancy	9.4%	4.8%	6.0%	228	38,254	2,793,023
Renter-Occupied Housing Units (% of Occupied Units)	32.6%	34.8%	36.0%	2,176	747,259	43,481,667
Occupied Housing Units with No Vehicle Available (% of Occupied Units)	10.7%	5.1%	8.6%	716	109,324	10,395,713
Social						
Poverty Level (of all people)	18.5%	10.3%	13.4%	2,474	565,873	42,510,843
Households Receiving Food Stamps/SNAP	20.3%	7.5%	11.7%	1,353	161,543	14,171,567
Enrolled in Grade 12 (% of total population)	0.8%	1.3%	1.4%	113	73,560	4,422,344
Disconnected Youth ³	9.2%	2.4%	2.5%	62	6,997	423,273
Children in Single Parent Families (% of all children)	37.1%	27.2%	34.1%	806	328,712	23,790,005
Uninsured	8.5%	7.6%	8.8%	1,162	420,782	28,248,613
With a Disability, Age 18-64	20.9%	8.6%	10.3%	1,633	300,250	20,187,604
With a Disability, Age 18-64, Labor Force Participation Rate and Size	47.0%	50.4%	42.2%	768	151,253	8,509,463
Foreign Born	5.3%	9.7%	13.6%	763	546,513	44,011,870
Speak English Less Than Very Well (population 5 yrs and over)	3.9%	5.8%	8.4%	537	304,772	25,615,365

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

1. American Community Survey 2015-2019, unless noted otherwise

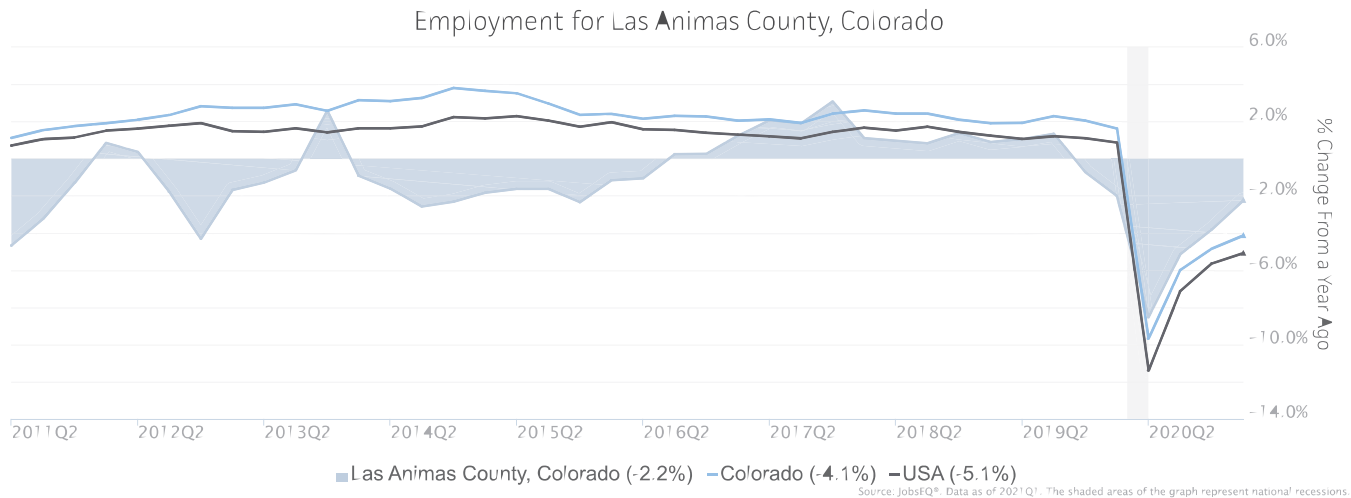
2. Median values for certain aggregate regions (such as MSAs) may be estimated as the weighted averages of the median values from the composing counties.

3. Disconnected Youth are 16-19 year olds who are (1) not in school, (2) not high school graduates, and (3) either unemployed or not in the labor force.

4. Census 2020, annual average growth rate since 2010

Employment Trends

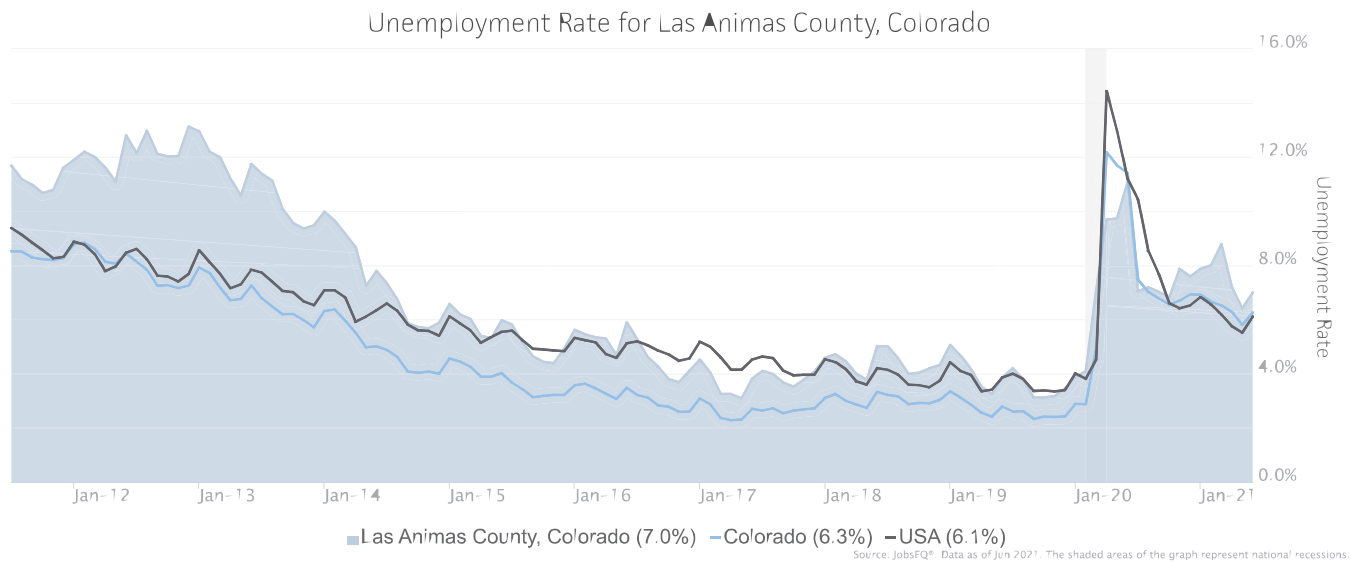
As of 2021Q1, total employment for Las Animas County, Colorado was 5,370 (based on a four-quarter moving average). Over the year ending 2021Q1, employment declined 2.2% in the region.



Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1.

Unemployment Rate

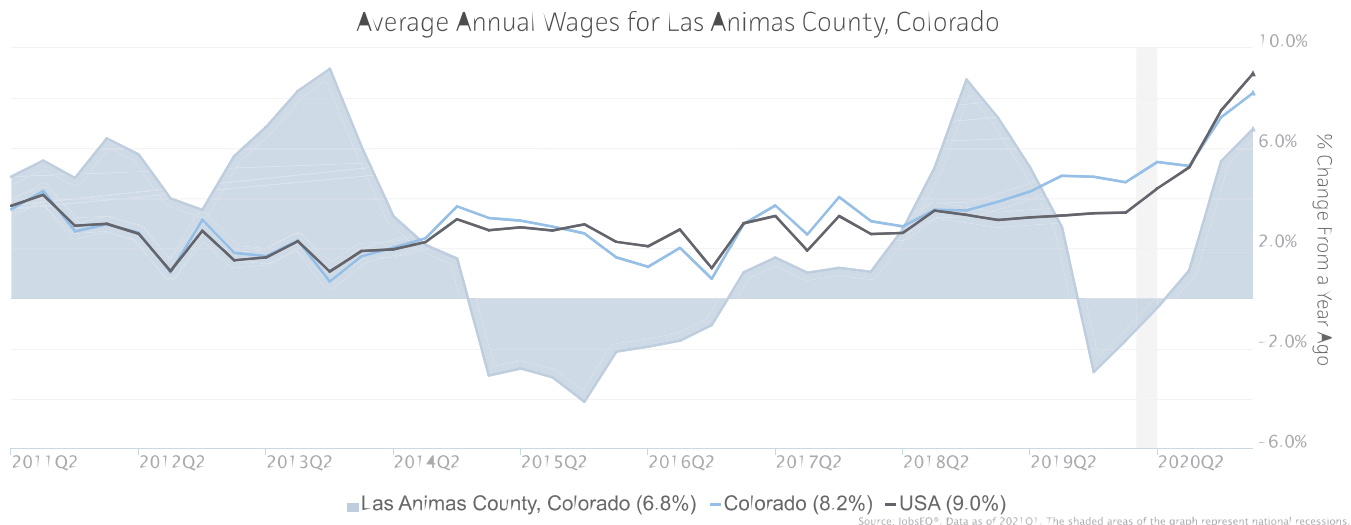
The unemployment rate for Las Animas County, Colorado was 7.0% as of June 2021. The regional unemployment rate was higher than the national rate of 6.1%. One year earlier, in June 2020, the unemployment rate in Las Animas County, Colorado was 11.1%.



Unemployment rate data are from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and updated through June 2021.

Wage Trends

The average worker in Las Animas County, Colorado earned annual wages of \$40,107 as of 2021Q1. Average annual wages per worker increased 6.8% in the region over the preceding four quarters. For comparison purposes, annual average wages were \$63,393 in the nation as of 2021Q1.



Annual average wages per worker data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1.

Cost of Living Index

The Cost of Living Index estimates the relative price levels for consumer goods and services. When applied to wages and salaries, the result is a measure of relative purchasing power. The cost of living is 7.6% lower in Las Animas County, Colorado than the U.S. average.

Cost of Living Information

	Annual Average Salary	Cost of Living Index (Base US)	US Purchasing Power
Las Animas County, Colorado	\$40,107	92.4	\$43,421
Colorado	\$65,645	109.9	\$59,755
USA	\$63,393	100.0	\$63,393

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

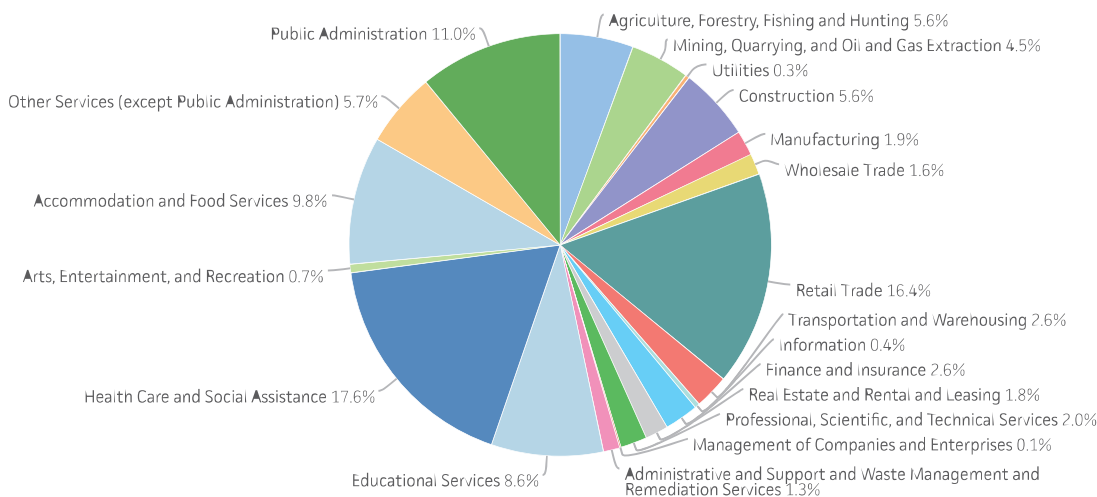
Data as of 2021Q1

Cost of Living per C2ER, data as of 2021Q1, imputed by Chmura where necessary.

Industry Snapshot

The largest sector in Las Animas County, Colorado is Health Care and Social Assistance, employing 946 workers. The next-largest sectors in the region are Retail Trade (880 workers) and Public Administration (588). High location quotients (LQs) indicate sectors in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The sectors with the largest LQs in the region are Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction (LQ = 12.67), Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (3.93), and Public Administration (2.18).

Total Workers for Las Animas County, Colorado by Industry



Source: JobsEQ®, Data as of 2021Q1

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1.

Sectors in Las Animas County, Colorado with the highest average wages per worker are Utilities (\$83,378), Management of Companies and Enterprises (\$81,900), and Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction (\$72,515). Regional sectors with the best job growth (or most moderate job losses) over the last 5 years are Retail Trade (+224 jobs), Manufacturing (+45), and Public Administration (+9).

Over the next 5 years, employment in Las Animas County, Colorado is projected to expand by 26 jobs. The fastest growing sector in the region is expected to be Health Care and Social Assistance with a +1.7% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Health Care and Social Assistance (+83 jobs), Accommodation and Food Services (+5), and Educational Services (+2).

NAICS	Industry	Empl	Current		5-Year History		Total Demand	5-Year Forecast			
			Avg Ann Wages	LQ	Empl Change	Ann %		Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
62	Health Care and Social Assistance	946	\$47,265	1.18	-23	-0.5%	547	228	235	83	1.7%
44	Retail Trade	880	\$30,434	1.57	224	6.0%	556	256	323	-23	-0.5%
92	Public Administration	588	\$52,278	2.18	9	0.3%	263	114	155	-6	-0.2%
72	Accommodation and Food Services	525	\$21,190	1.35	-11	-0.4%	432	189	238	5	0.2%
61	Educational Services	460	\$37,067	1.05	-88	-3.5%	215	103	111	2	0.1%
81	Other Services (except Public Administration)	306	\$26,589	1.33	-63	-3.7%	175	79	95	1	0.1%
11	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	302	\$16,245	3.93	4	0.3%	143	68	91	-16	-1.1%
23	Construction	300	\$39,739	0.94	-40	-2.5%	146	53	94	-1	-0.1%
21	Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	243	\$72,515	12.67	-76	-5.3%	113	40	82	-9	-0.7%
48	Transportation and Warehousing	141	\$66,972	0.53	-28	-3.5%	71	32	43	-3	-0.4%
52	Finance and Insurance	139	\$49,703	0.61	-7	-1.0%	62	24	40	-2	-0.3%
54	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	110	\$60,578	0.29	-23	-3.8%	46	17	29	-1	-0.1%
31	Manufacturing	103	\$55,512	0.23	45	12.3%	48	19	33	-5	-0.9%
53	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	95	\$41,032	1.01	3	0.7%	45	22	26	-2	-0.5%
42	Wholesale Trade	86	\$63,198	0.42	-12	-2.6%	41	17	28	-4	-0.9%
56	Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	68	\$27,506	0.20	-4	-1.1%	41	17	23	1	0.3%
71	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	35	\$35,115	0.44	-7	-3.5%	27	11	14	1	0.7%
51	Information	21	\$36,578	0.20	-11	-8.3%	9	4	6	-1	-1.2%
22	Utilities	17	\$83,378	0.57	-1	-1.7%	6	3	5	-1	-1.1%
55	Management of Companies and Enterprises	4	\$81,900	0.05	2	9.9%	2	1	1	0	0.2%
Total - All Industries		5,370	\$40,107	1.00	-108	-0.4%	2,956	1,252	1,677	26	0.1%

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1. Forecast employment growth uses national projections adapted for regional growth patterns.

Occupation Snapshot

The largest major occupation group in Las Animas County, Colorado is Sales and Related Occupations, employing 621 workers. The next-largest occupation groups in the region are Office and Administrative Support Occupations (571 workers) and Management Occupations (473). High location quotients (LQs) indicate occupation groups in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The major groups with the largest LQs in the region are Protective Service Occupations (LQ = 1.47), Community and Social Service Occupations (1.47), and Personal Care and Service Occupations (1.42).

Occupation groups in Las Animas County, Colorado with the highest average wages per worker are Legal Occupations (\$114,200), Architecture and Engineering Occupations (\$92,400), and Management Occupations (\$84,300). The unemployment rate in the region varied among the major groups from 2.4% among Legal Occupations to 16.3% among Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations.

Over the next 5 years, the fastest growing occupation group in Las Animas County, Colorado is expected to be Healthcare Support Occupations with a +2.6% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Healthcare Support Occupations (+47 jobs) and Community and Social Service Occupations (+11). Over the same period, the highest separation demand (occupation demand due to retirements and workers moving from one occupation to another) is expected in Sales and Related Occupations (440 jobs) and Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations (392).

Las Animas County, Colorado, 2021Q1¹

SOC	Occupation	Empl	Mean Ann Wages ²	Current			5-Year History			5-Year Forecast				
				LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads ³	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
41-0000	Sales and Related	621	\$38,700	1.21	63	10.0%	38	105	3.8%	423	179	261	-17	-0.5%
43-0000	Office and Administrative Support	571	\$38,900	0.83	41	6.5%	18	-56	-1.9%	297	135	184	-22	-0.8%
11-0000	Management	473	\$84,300	1.30	12	2.8%	8	-26	-1.1%	188	92	111	-15	-0.7%
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related	451	\$28,800	1.17	94	16.3%	21	-19	-0.8%	401	159	233	10	0.4%
53-0000	Transportation and Material Moving	363	\$39,700	0.79	38	9.5%	24	-11	-0.6%	222	85	140	-3	-0.1%
31-0000	Healthcare Support	341	\$31,500	1.39	23	6.1%	7	75	5.1%	287	119	121	47	2.6%
25-0000	Educational Instruction and Library	334	\$44,300	1.12	21	7.2%	13	-73	-3.9%	153	68	81	4	0.2%
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	311	\$82,200	0.97	9	2.9%	22	17	1.1%	98	41	47	10	0.6%
47-0000	Construction and Extraction	292	\$45,000	1.16	32	9.9%	6	-58	-3.6%	168	47	119	1	0.1%
13-0000	Business and Financial Operations	276	\$65,700	0.87	10	4.2%	3	6	0.5%	130	38	92	-1	0.0%
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	198	\$45,200	0.96	14	6.1%	16	-18	-1.7%	94	31	65	-1	-0.1%
37-0000	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	192	\$32,500	1.10	22	10.1%	3	6	0.7%	129	55	72	2	0.2%
39-0000	Personal Care and Service	187	\$33,500	1.42	31	14.7%	3	-3	-0.4%	151	63	83	5	0.5%
33-0000	Protective Service	171	\$44,700	1.47	13	7.4%	5	-3	-0.4%	88	40	49	-2	-0.2%
21-0000	Community and Social Service	142	\$45,000	1.47	3	3.0%	9	-48	-5.7%	90	25	54	11	1.6%
51-0000	Production	117	\$40,800	0.37	11	8.1%	4	-4	-0.6%	61	22	43	-4	-0.7%
15-0000	Computer and Mathematical	76	\$79,100	0.44	2	3.5%	4	-4	-1.0%	27	6	21	0	-0.1%

Las Animas County, Colorado, 2021Q1¹

SOC	Occupation	Empl	Mean Ann Wages ²	Current			5-Year History			5-Year Forecast				
				LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads ³	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media	66	\$41,100	0.70	8	15.3%	6	2	0.5%	36	13	23	0	-0.1%
17-0000	Architecture and Engineering	64	\$92,400	0.68	4	6.9%	n/a	-7	-1.9%	22	7	17	-2	-0.6%
19-0000	Life, Physical, and Social Science	58	\$81,100	1.16	2	5.4%	3	-1	-0.4%	26	5	21	-1	-0.2%
23-0000	Legal	34	\$114,200	0.72	1	2.4%	2	-4	-2.2%	10	4	6	0	-0.1%
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	34	\$38,400	0.94	4	9.4%	3	14	10.9%	26	7	20	-1	-0.6%
Total - All Occupations		5,370	\$48,500	1.00	458	8.2%	219	-108	-0.4%	3,133	1,241	1,865	26	0.1%

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

Data as of 2021Q1 unless noted otherwise

Note: Figures may not sum due to rounding.

1. Data based on a four-quarter moving average unless noted otherwise.

2. Wage data are as of 2020 and represent the average for all Covered Employment

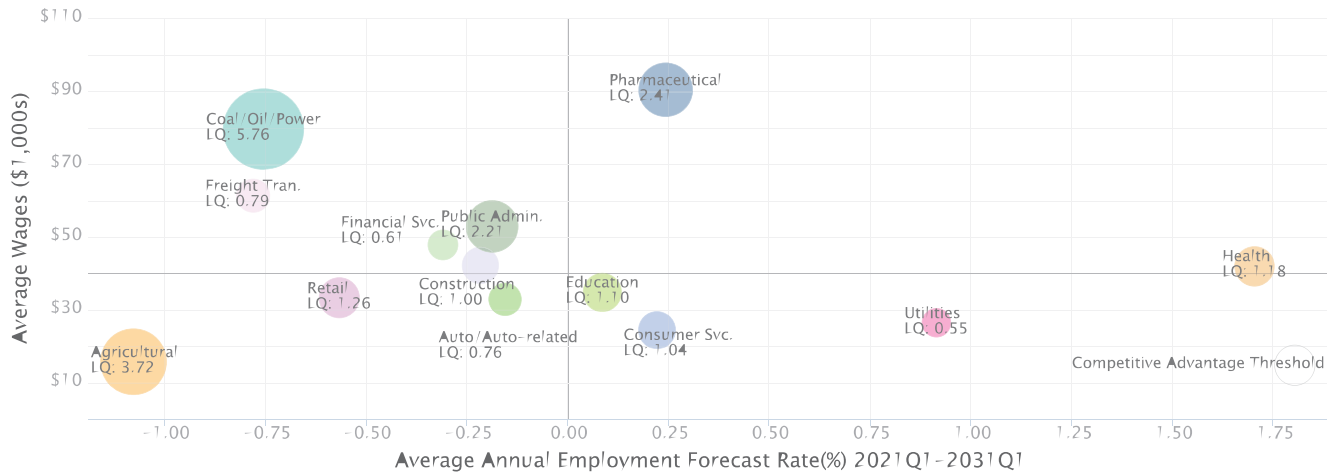
3. Data represent found online ads active within the last thirty days in the selected region; data represents a sampling rather than the complete universe of postings. Ads lacking zip code information but designating a place (city, town, etc.) may be assigned to the zip code with greatest employment in that place for queries in this analytic. Due to alternative county-assignment algorithms, ad counts in this analytic may not match that shown in RTI (nor in the popup window ad list).

Occupation employment data are estimated via industry employment data and the estimated industry/occupation mix. Industry employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and currently updated through 2020Q4, imputed where necessary with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1. Wages by occupation are as of 2020 provided by the BLS and imputed where necessary. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

Industry Clusters

A cluster is a geographic concentration of interrelated industries or occupations. The industry cluster in Las Animas County, Colorado with the highest relative concentration is Coal/Oil/Power with a location quotient of 5.76. This cluster employs 258 workers in the region with an average wage of \$79,695. Employment in the Coal/Oil/Power cluster is projected to contract in the region about 0.8% per year over the next ten years.

Industry Clusters for Las Animas County, Colorado as of 2021Q1



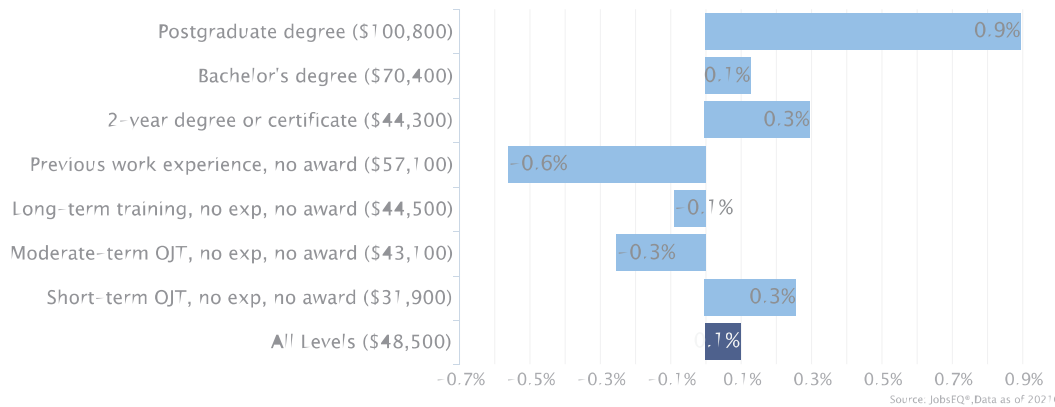
Source: JobsEQ®, Data as of 2021Q1

Location quotient and average wage data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, imputed where necessary, and updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

Education Levels

Expected growth rates for occupations vary by the education and training required. While all employment in Las Animas County, Colorado is projected to grow 0.1% over the next ten years, occupations typically requiring a postgraduate degree are expected to grow 0.9% per year, those requiring a bachelor's degree are forecast to grow 0.1% per year, and occupations typically needing a 2-year degree or certificate are expected to grow 0.3% per year.

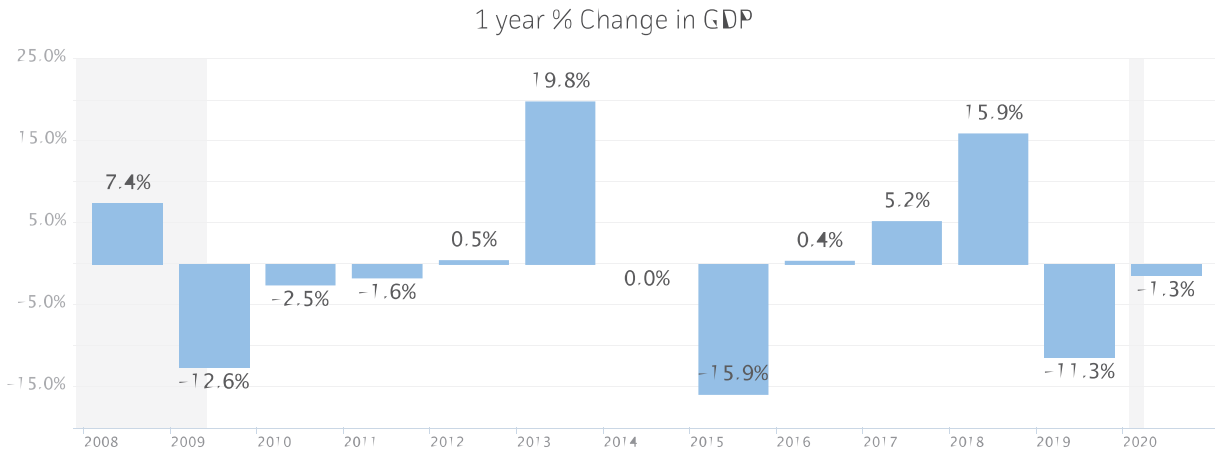
Annual Average Projected Job Growth by Training Required for Las Animas County, Colorado



Employment by occupation data are estimates as of 2021Q1. Education levels of occupations are based on BLS assignments. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

Gross Domestic Product

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the total value of goods and services produced by a region. In 2020, nominal GDP in Las Animas County, Colorado contracted 1.3%. This follows a contraction of 11.3% in 2019. As of 2020, total GDP in Las Animas County, Colorado was \$452,051,000.



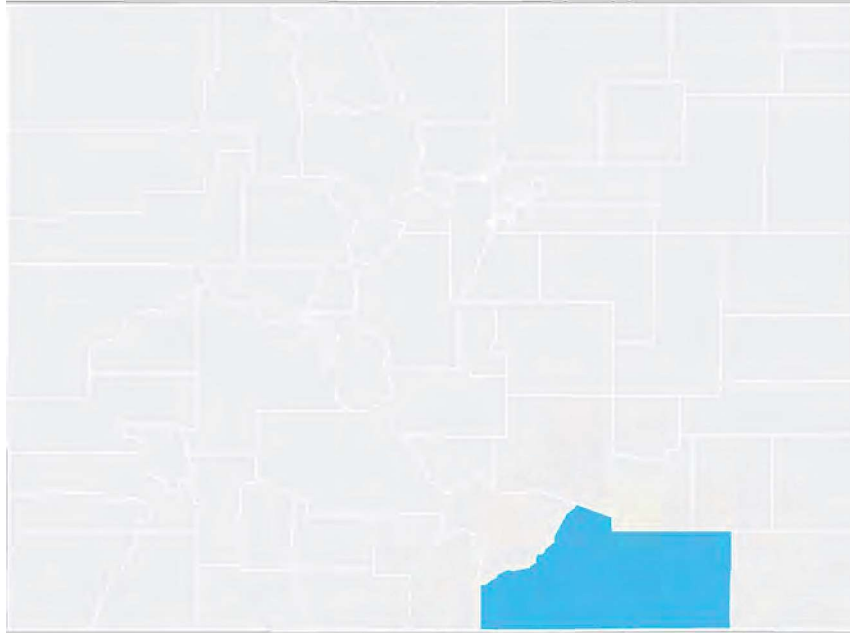
Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2020.

Of the sectors in Las Animas County, Colorado, Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction contributed the largest portion of GDP in 2020, \$63,478,000. The next-largest contributions came from Health Care and Social Assistance (\$61,109,000); Retail Trade (\$53,861,000); and Public Administration (\$47,095,000).



Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2020.

Las Animas County, Colorado Regional Map



FAQ

What is a location quotient?

A location quotient (LQ) is a measurement of concentration in comparison to the nation. An LQ of 1.00 indicates a region has the same concentration of an industry (or occupation) as the nation. An LQ of 2.00 would mean the region has twice the expected employment compared to the nation and an LQ of 0.50 would mean the region has half the expected employment in comparison to the nation.

What is separation demand?

Separation demand is the number of jobs required due to separations—labor force exits (including retirements) and turnover resulting from workers moving from one occupation into another. Note that separation demand does not include all turnover—it does not include when workers stay in the same occupation but switch employers. The total projected demand for an occupation is the sum of the separation demand and the growth demand (which is the increase or decrease of jobs in an occupation expected due to expansion or contraction of the overall number of jobs in that occupation).

What is a cluster?

A cluster is a geographic concentration of interrelated industries or occupations. If a regional cluster has a location quotient of 1.25 or greater, the region is considered to possess a competitive advantage in that cluster.

What is the difference between industry wages and occupation wages?

Industry wages and occupation wages are estimated via separate data sets, often the time periods being reported do not align, and wages are defined slightly differently in the two systems (for example, certain bonuses are included in the industry wages but not the occupation wages). It is therefore common that estimates of the average industry wages and average occupation wages in a region do not match exactly.

What is NAICS?

The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) is used to classify business establishments according to the type of economic activity. The NAICS Code comprises six levels, from the “all industry” level to the 6-digit level. The first two digits define the top level category, known as the “sector,” which is the level examined in this report.

What is SOC?

The Standard Occupational Classification system (SOC) is used to classify workers into occupational categories. All workers are classified into one of over 804 occupations according to their occupational definition. To facilitate classification, occupations are combined to form 22 major groups, 95 minor groups, and 452 occupation groups. Each occupation group includes detailed occupations requiring similar job duties, skills, education, or experience.

About This Report

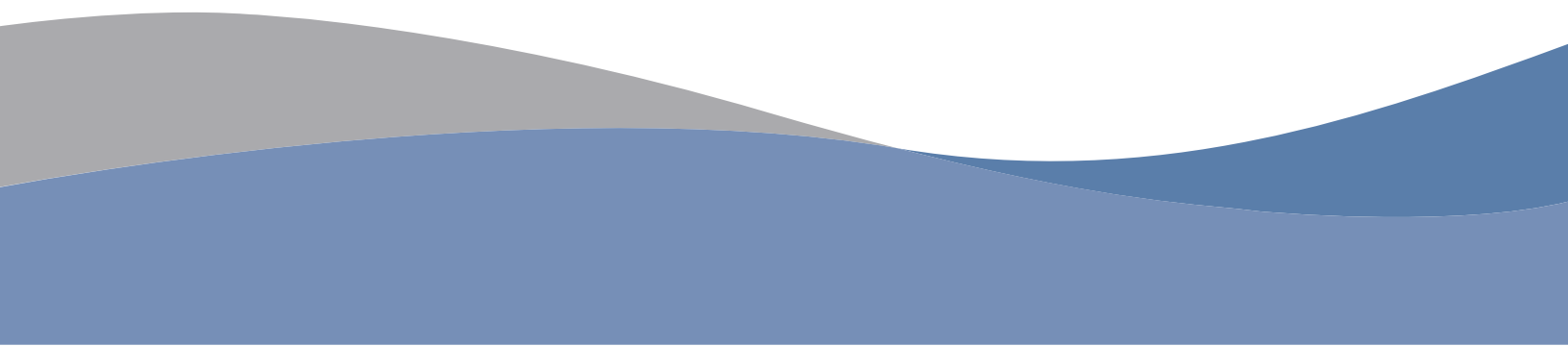
This report and all data herein were produced by JobsEQ®, a product of Chmura Economics & Analytics. The information contained herein was obtained from sources we believe to be reliable. However, we cannot guarantee its accuracy and completeness.



Economic Overview



Otero County, Colorado



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Demographic Profile

The population in Otero County, Colorado was 18,282 per American Community Survey data for 2015-2019.

The region has a civilian labor force of 7,587 with a participation rate of 52.4%. Of individuals 25 to 64 in Otero County, Colorado, 19.3% have a bachelor's degree or higher which compares with 33.5% in the nation.

The median household income in Otero County, Colorado is \$38,169 and the median house value is \$94,900.

Summary¹

Demographics	Percent			Value		
	Otero County, Colorado	Colorado	USA	Otero County, Colorado	Colorado	USA
Population (ACS)	—	—	—	18,282	5,610,349	324,697,795
Male	48.7%	50.3%	49.2%	8,904	2,823,201	159,886,919
Female	51.3%	49.7%	50.8%	9,378	2,787,148	164,810,876
Median Age ²	—	—	—	39.9	36.7	38.1
Under 18 Years	24.1%	22.5%	22.6%	4,410	1,261,005	73,429,392
18 to 24 Years	9.5%	9.3%	9.4%	1,735	523,765	30,646,327
25 to 34 Years	10.4%	15.5%	13.9%	1,907	871,500	45,030,415
35 to 44 Years	12.1%	13.6%	12.6%	2,210	764,183	40,978,831
45 to 54 Years	10.5%	12.7%	13.0%	1,913	713,520	42,072,620
55 to 64 Years	13.3%	12.5%	12.9%	2,436	702,670	41,756,414
65 to 74 Years	11.1%	8.5%	9.1%	2,030	478,345	29,542,266
75 Years, and Over	9.0%	5.3%	6.5%	1,641	295,361	21,241,530
Race: White	90.1%	84.0%	72.5%	16,479	4,712,574	235,377,662
Race: Black or African American	0.6%	4.2%	12.7%	113	233,647	41,234,642
Race: American Indian and Alaska Native	1.2%	1.0%	0.8%	218	54,847	2,750,143
Race: Asian	0.9%	3.2%	5.5%	167	178,147	17,924,209
Race: Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0.1%	0.2%	0.2%	13	8,643	599,868
Race: Some Other Race	4.0%	3.9%	4.9%	732	216,767	16,047,369
Race: Two or More Races	3.1%	3.7%	3.3%	560	205,724	10,763,902
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	41.9%	21.5%	18.0%	7,658	1,208,172	58,479,370
Population Growth						
Population (Pop Estimates) ⁴	—	—	—	18,201	5,807,719	329,484,123
Population Annual Average Growth ⁴	-0.4%	1.4%	0.6%	-66	76,018	2,015,698
People per Square Mile	—	—	—	14.5	55.6	92.9
Economic						
Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 16 years and over)	52.4%	68.1%	63.2%	7,587	3,035,960	163,555,585
Prime-Age Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 25-54)	78.4%	84.7%	82.1%	4,727	1,972,225	104,634,905
Armed Forces Labor Force	0.0%	0.8%	0.4%	0	33,671	1,073,907
Veterans, Age 18-64	4.7%	6.0%	4.6%	479	211,937	9,143,042
Veterans Labor Force Participation Rate and Size, Age 18-64	69.9%	79.5%	76.6%	335	168,558	7,003,778
Median Household Income ²	—	—	—	\$38,169	\$72,331	\$62,843
Per Capita Income	—	—	—	\$21,110	\$38,226	\$34,103
Mean Commute Time (minutes)	—	—	—	16.2	25.8	26.9
Commute via Public Transportation	0.1%	3.0%	5.0%	8	87,734	7,641,160
Educational Attainment, Age 25-64						
No High School Diploma	10.9%	8.0%	10.9%	925	245,575	18,550,150
High School Graduate	29.8%	20.7%	25.7%	2,526	632,736	43,627,868
Some College, No Degree	27.7%	20.7%	20.7%	2,347	631,698	35,174,790
Associate's Degree	12.2%	8.9%	9.1%	1,037	270,468	15,526,064

Summary¹

	Percent			Value		
	Otero County, Colorado	Colorado	USA	Otero County, Colorado	Colorado	USA
Bachelor's Degree	12.8%	26.9%	21.2%	1,085	822,135	35,997,848
Postgraduate Degree	6.4%	14.7%	12.3%	546	449,261	20,961,560
Housing						
Total Housing Units	—	—	—	8,999	2,386,475	137,428,986
Median House Value (of owner-occupied units) ²	—	—	—	\$94,900	\$343,300	\$217,500
Homeowner Vacancy	0.3%	1.1%	1.6%	14	14,983	1,257,737
Rental Vacancy	7.5%	4.8%	6.0%	229	38,254	2,793,023
Renter-Occupied Housing Units (% of Occupied Units)	36.1%	34.8%	36.0%	2,786	747,259	43,481,667
Occupied Housing Units with No Vehicle Available (% of Occupied Units)	10.9%	5.1%	8.6%	844	109,324	10,395,713
Social						
Poverty Level (of all people)	23.7%	10.3%	13.4%	4,226	565,873	42,510,843
Households Receiving Food Stamps/SNAP	17.6%	7.5%	11.7%	1,358	161,543	14,171,567
Enrolled in Grade 12 (% of total population)	1.8%	1.3%	1.4%	323	73,560	4,422,344
Disconnected Youth ³	2.7%	2.4%	2.5%	38	6,997	423,273
Children in Single Parent Families (% of all children)	36.2%	27.2%	34.1%	1,441	328,712	23,790,005
Uninsured	10.3%	7.6%	8.8%	1,869	420,782	28,248,613
With a Disability, Age 18-64	16.7%	8.6%	10.3%	1,706	300,250	20,187,604
With a Disability, Age 18-64, Labor Force Participation Rate and Size	34.1%	50.4%	42.2%	582	151,253	8,509,463
Foreign Born	5.0%	9.7%	13.6%	917	546,513	44,011,870
Speak English Less Than Very Well (population 5 yrs and over)	4.1%	5.8%	8.4%	709	304,772	25,615,365

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

1. American Community Survey 2015-2019, unless noted otherwise

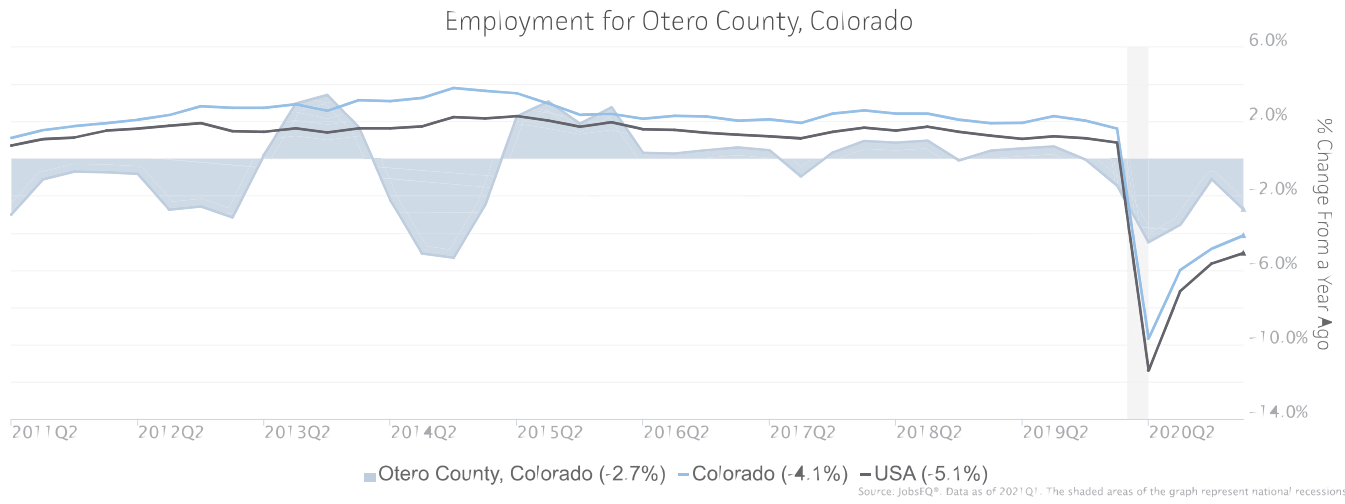
2. Median values for certain aggregate regions (such as MSAs) may be estimated as the weighted averages of the median values from the composing counties.

3. Disconnected Youth are 16-19 year olds who are (1) not in school, (2) not high school graduates, and (3) either unemployed or not in the labor force.

4. Census 2020, annual average growth rate since 2010

Employment Trends

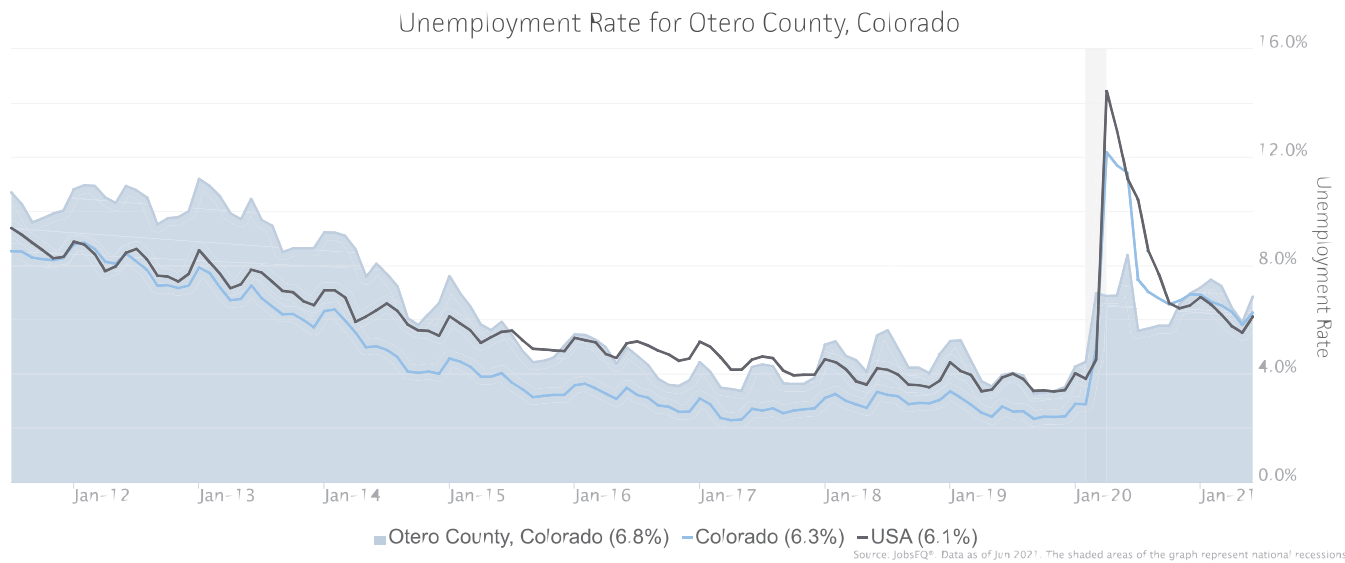
As of 2021Q1, total employment for Otero County, Colorado was 6,671 (based on a four-quarter moving average). Over the year ending 2021Q1, employment declined 2.7% in the region.



Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1.

Unemployment Rate

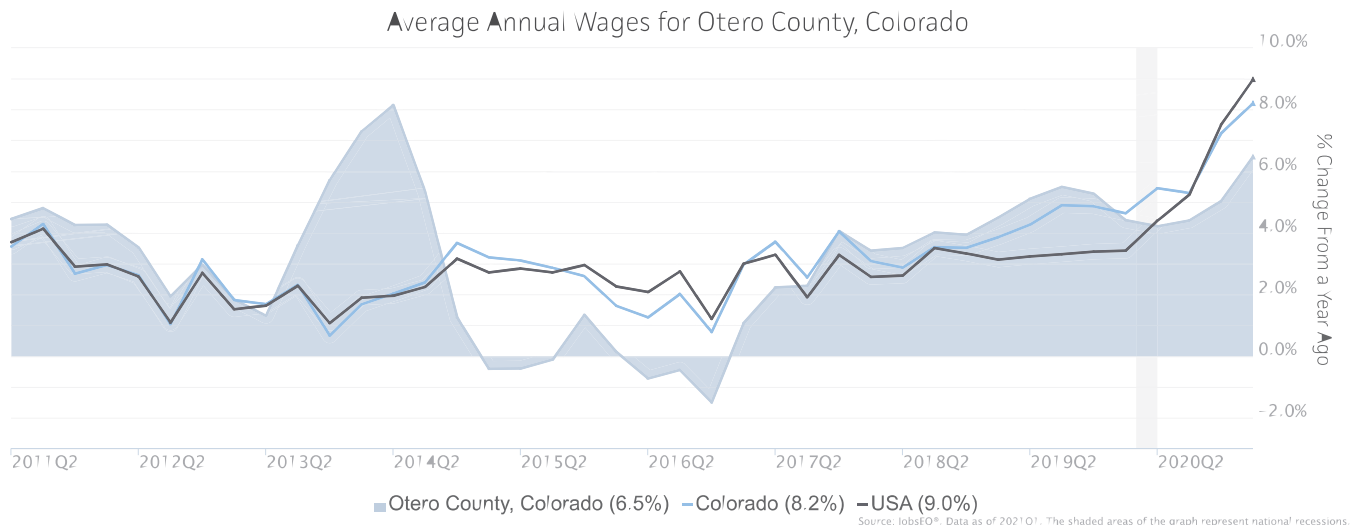
The unemployment rate for Otero County, Colorado was 6.8% as of June 2021. The regional unemployment rate was higher than the national rate of 6.1%. One year earlier, in June 2020, the unemployment rate in Otero County, Colorado was 8.4%.



Unemployment rate data are from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and updated through June 2021.

Wage Trends

The average worker in Otero County, Colorado earned annual wages of \$40,494 as of 2021Q1. Average annual wages per worker increased 6.5% in the region over the preceding four quarters. For comparison purposes, annual average wages were \$63,393 in the nation as of 2021Q1.



Annual average wages per worker data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1.

Cost of Living Index

The Cost of Living Index estimates the relative price levels for consumer goods and services. When applied to wages and salaries, the result is a measure of relative purchasing power. The cost of living is 14.0% lower in Otero County, Colorado than the U.S. average.

Cost of Living Information

	Annual Average Salary	Cost of Living Index (Base US)	US Purchasing Power
Otero County, Colorado	\$40,494	86.0	\$47,093
Colorado	\$65,645	109.9	\$59,755
USA	\$63,393	100.0	\$63,393

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

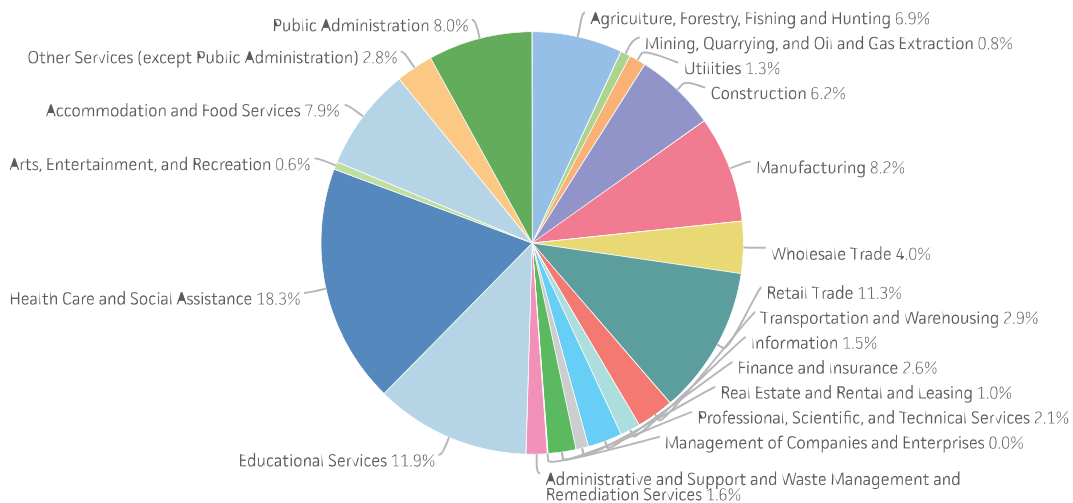
Data as of 2021Q1

Cost of Living per C2ER, data as of 2021Q1, imputed by Chmura where necessary.

Industry Snapshot

The largest sector in Otero County, Colorado is Health Care and Social Assistance, employing 1,223 workers. The next-largest sectors in the region are Educational Services (793 workers) and Retail Trade (757). High location quotients (LQs) indicate sectors in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The sectors with the largest LQs in the region are Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (LQ = 4.84), Utilities (2.35), and Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction (2.16).

Total Workers for Otero County, Colorado by industry



Source: JobsEQ®, Data as of 2021Q1

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1.

Sectors in Otero County, Colorado with the highest average wages per worker are Utilities (\$67,181), Transportation and Warehousing (\$64,966), and Finance and Insurance (\$60,769). Regional sectors with the best job growth (or most moderate job losses) over the last 5 years are Construction (+56 jobs), Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction (+45), and Retail Trade (+35).

Over the next 5 years, employment in Otero County, Colorado is projected to contract by 44 jobs. The fastest growing sector in the region is expected to be Health Care and Social Assistance with a +1.1% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Health Care and Social Assistance (+66 jobs), Accommodation and Food Services (+8), and Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (+2).

NAICS	Industry	Empl	Current		5-Year History		Total Demand	5-Year Forecast			
			Avg Ann Wages	LQ	Empl Change	Ann %		Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
62	Health Care and Social Assistance	1,223	\$46,018	1.23	-2	0.0%	656	290	300	66	1.1%
61	Educational Services	793	\$33,934	1.46	-76	-1.8%	351	175	189	-12	-0.3%
44	Retail Trade	757	\$29,279	1.09	35	1.0%	470	219	277	-27	-0.7%
31	Manufacturing	545	\$44,722	0.99	-7	-0.3%	236	101	173	-38	-1.5%
92	Public Administration	532	\$41,034	1.59	8	0.3%	243	103	140	0	0.0%
72	Accommodation and Food Services	526	\$18,200	1.09	-30	-1.1%	437	190	239	8	0.3%
11	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	461	\$43,426	4.84	-39	-1.6%	231	105	141	-14	-0.6%
23	Construction	414	\$42,931	1.05	56	3.0%	204	73	130	1	0.0%
42	Wholesale Trade	265	\$39,642	1.04	15	1.2%	125	51	85	-12	-0.9%
48	Transportation and Warehousing	192	\$64,966	0.58	-49	-4.5%	92	42	57	-8	-0.8%
81	Other Services (except Public Administration)	190	\$25,519	0.66	-19	-1.9%	109	49	59	1	0.1%
52	Finance and Insurance	175	\$60,769	0.62	-12	-1.3%	77	31	50	-4	-0.4%
54	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	142	\$59,577	0.30	19	2.9%	63	23	38	2	0.3%
56	Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	108	\$27,197	0.26	-18	-3.1%	64	26	36	2	0.3%
51	Information	103	\$54,430	0.78	-32	-5.3%	34	17	30	-13	-2.6%
22	Utilities	85	\$67,181	2.35	-4	-0.8%	36	14	24	-2	-0.5%
53	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	65	\$41,828	0.56	-11	-3.2%	31	15	18	-1	-0.5%
21	Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	52	\$42,247	2.16	45	52.2%	27	9	18	0	0.1%
71	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	39	\$36,745	0.39	-4	-1.8%	30	13	16	2	1.0%
55	Management of Companies and Enterprises	3	\$27,896	0.03	-3	-13.6%	1	1	1	0	0.2%
99	Unclassified	0	n/a	0.00	-5	n/a	0	0	0	0	
Total - All Industries		6,671	\$40,494	1.00	-132	-0.4%	3,575	1,547	2,072	-44	-0.1%

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1. Forecast employment growth uses national projections adapted for regional growth patterns.

Occupation Snapshot

The largest major occupation group in Otero County, Colorado is Office and Administrative Support Occupations, employing 717 workers. The next-largest occupation groups in the region are Sales and Related Occupations (634 workers) and Educational Instruction and Library Occupations (552). High location quotients (LQs) indicate occupation groups in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The major groups with the largest LQs in the region are Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations (LQ = 3.74), Community and Social Service Occupations (1.75), and Educational Instruction and Library Occupations (1.49).

Occupation groups in Otero County, Colorado with the highest average wages per worker are Legal Occupations (\$109,000), Management Occupations (\$80,500), and Architecture and Engineering Occupations (\$78,800). The unemployment rate in the region varied among the major groups from 1.6% among Legal Occupations to 14.9% among Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations.

Over the next 5 years, the fastest growing occupation group in Otero County, Colorado is expected to be Healthcare Support Occupations with a +1.9% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Healthcare Support Occupations (+36 jobs) and Community and Social Service Occupations (+12). Over the same period, the highest separation demand (occupation demand due to retirements and workers moving from one occupation to another) is expected in Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations (443 jobs) and Sales and Related Occupations (442).

Otero County, Colorado, 2021Q1¹

SOC	Occupation	Empl	Mean Ann Wages ²	Current			5-Year History			5-Year Forecast				
				LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads ³	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
43-0000	Office and Administrative Support	717	\$37,300	0.84	41	5.4%	19	-61	-1.6%	359	166	226	-33	-0.9%
41-0000	Sales and Related	634	\$38,400	1.00	55	8.2%	39	3	0.1%	419	178	264	-24	-0.8%
25-0000	Educational Instruction and Library	552	\$42,800	1.49	30	5.7%	2	-48	-1.6%	234	109	130	-5	-0.2%
11-0000	Management	531	\$80,500	1.18	9	2.1%	8	-20	-0.7%	215	104	125	-14	-0.5%
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related	514	\$27,500	1.07	91	14.9%	23	-32	-1.2%	453	181	262	9	0.4%
53-0000	Transportation and Material Moving	468	\$37,300	0.82	39	7.8%	33	-4	-0.2%	275	104	180	-9	-0.4%
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	440	\$69,300	1.10	10	2.5%	40	33	1.6%	139	56	73	11	0.5%
51-0000	Production	412	\$38,000	1.06	26	6.3%	8	-11	-0.5%	187	74	141	-28	-1.4%
31-0000	Healthcare Support	363	\$30,000	1.19	21	5.3%	10	-1	-0.1%	280	119	125	36	1.9%
47-0000	Construction and Extraction	348	\$42,300	1.11	31	8.3%	1	49	3.1%	194	57	136	1	0.1%
13-0000	Business and Financial Operations	284	\$62,600	0.72	6	2.6%	5	12	0.9%	134	39	96	-1	0.0%
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	249	\$45,900	0.97	14	5.4%	15	-4	-0.3%	117	38	82	-3	-0.2%
21-0000	Community and Social Service	211	\$44,400	1.75	4	1.9%	28	-6	-0.6%	126	37	78	12	1.1%
37-0000	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	186	\$31,300	0.86	19	9.0%	5	-16	-1.6%	126	52	70	3	0.3%
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	170	\$34,400	3.74	17	9.4%	n/a	-15	-1.7%	133	33	103	-3	-0.3%
33-0000	Protective Service	153	\$44,100	1.06	9	5.2%	2	3	0.4%	77	34	44	0	0.0%
39-0000	Personal Care and Service	140	\$31,900	0.85	22	12.6%	2	-4	-0.6%	110	47	60	3	0.5%
15-0000	Computer and Mathematical	91	\$74,200	0.43	2	2.1%	7	2	0.4%	32	8	26	-1	-0.2%

Otero County, Colorado, 2021Q1¹

SOC	Occupation	Empl	Mean Ann Wages ²	Current			5-Year History			Total Demand	5-Year Forecast			
				LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads ³	Empl Change	Ann %		Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media	67	\$38,900	0.57	4	8.9%	5	-20	-5.0%	34	13	23	-2	-0.7%
17-0000	Architecture and Engineering	61	\$78,800	0.52	2	2.9%	n/a	3	1.1%	21	7	16	-2	-0.6%
19-0000	Life, Physical, and Social Science	48	\$74,900	0.77	1	3.4%	4	4	1.6%	21	5	17	0	0.0%
23-0000	Legal	35	\$109,000	0.60	1	1.6%	1	0	-0.1%	11	4	7	0	0.1%
Total - All Occupations		6,671	\$45,500	1.00	452	6.7%	256	-132	-0.4%	3,704	1,465	2,283	-44	-0.1%

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

Data as of 2021Q1 unless noted otherwise

Note: Figures may not sum due to rounding.

1. Data based on a four-quarter moving average unless noted otherwise.

2. Wage data are as of 2020 and represent the average for all Covered Employment

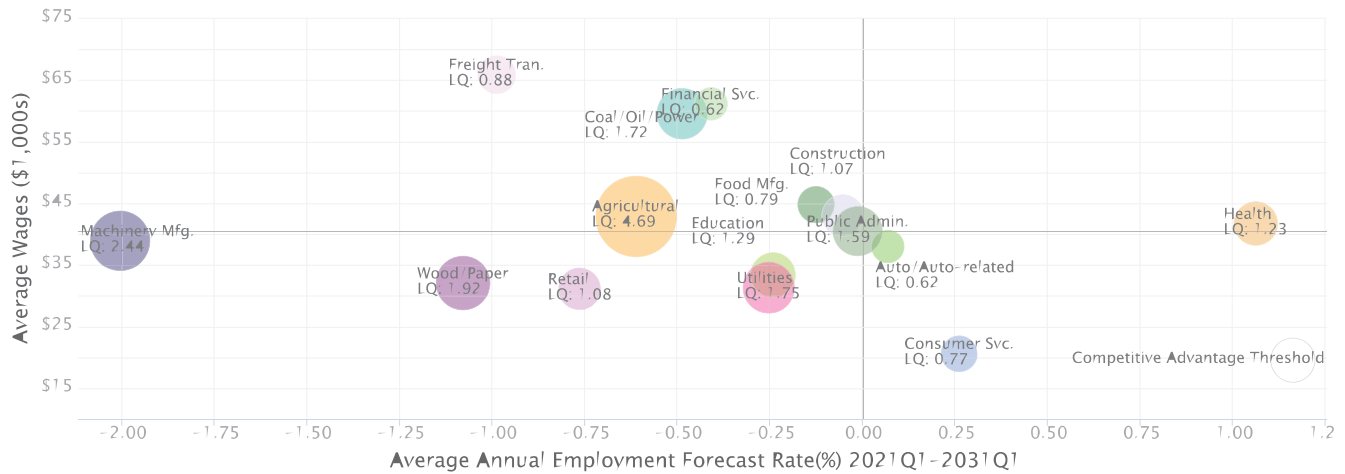
3. Data represent found online ads active within the last thirty days in the selected region; data represents a sampling rather than the complete universe of postings. Ads lacking zip code information but designating a place (city, town, etc.) may be assigned to the zip code with greatest employment in that place for queries in this analytic. Due to alternative county-assignment algorithms, ad counts in this analytic may not match that shown in RTI (nor in the popup window ad list).

Occupation employment data are estimated via industry employment data and the estimated industry/occupation mix. Industry employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and currently updated through 2020Q4, imputed where necessary with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1. Wages by occupation are as of 2020 provided by the BLS and imputed where necessary. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

Industry Clusters

A cluster is a geographic concentration of interrelated industries or occupations. The industry cluster in Otero County, Colorado with the highest relative concentration is Agricultural with a location quotient of 4.69. This cluster employs 467 workers in the region with an average wage of \$42,920. Employment in the Agricultural cluster is projected to contract in the region about 0.6% per year over the next ten years.

Industry Clusters for Otero County, Colorado as of 2021Q1



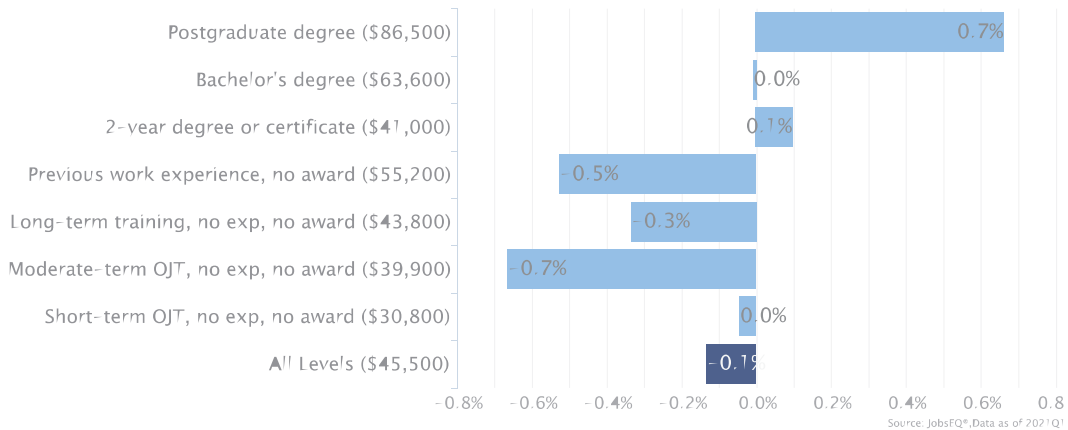
Source: JobsEQ®, Data as of 2021Q1

Location quotient and average wage data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, imputed where necessary, and updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

Education Levels

Expected growth rates for occupations vary by the education and training required. While all employment in Otero County, Colorado is projected to contract 0.1% over the next ten years, occupations typically requiring a postgraduate degree are expected to grow 0.7% per year, those requiring a bachelor’s degree are forecast to contract 0.0% per year, and occupations typically needing a 2-year degree or certificate are expected to grow 0.1% per year.

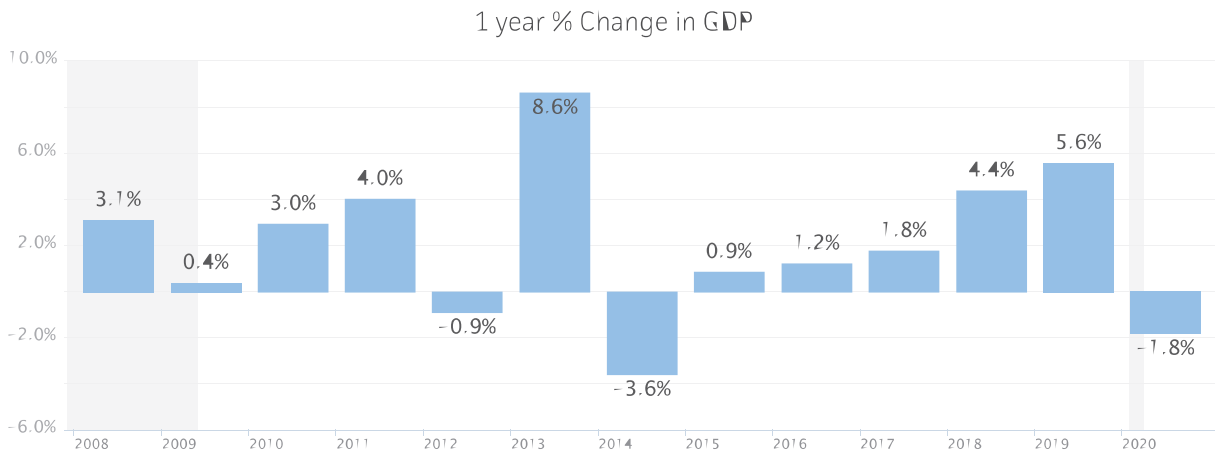
Annual Average Projected Job Growth by Training Required for Otero County, Colorado



Employment by occupation data are estimates as of 2021Q1. Education levels of occupations are based on BLS assignments. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

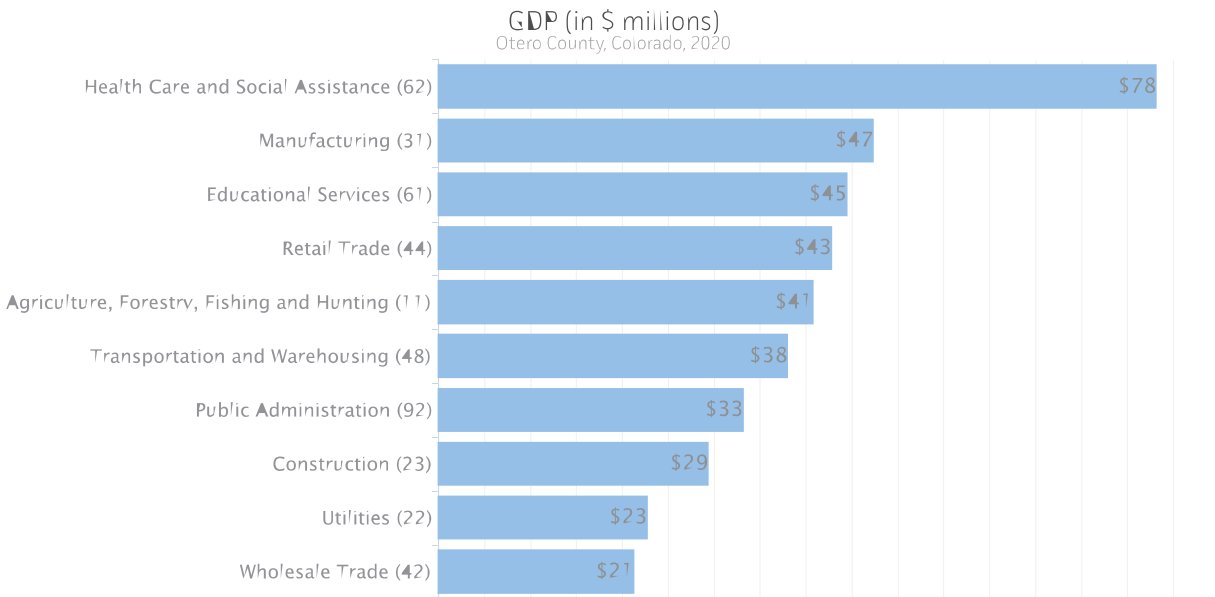
Gross Domestic Product

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the total value of goods and services produced by a region. In 2020, nominal GDP in Otero County, Colorado contracted 1.8%. This follows growth of 5.6% in 2019. As of 2020, total GDP in Otero County, Colorado was \$508,341,000.



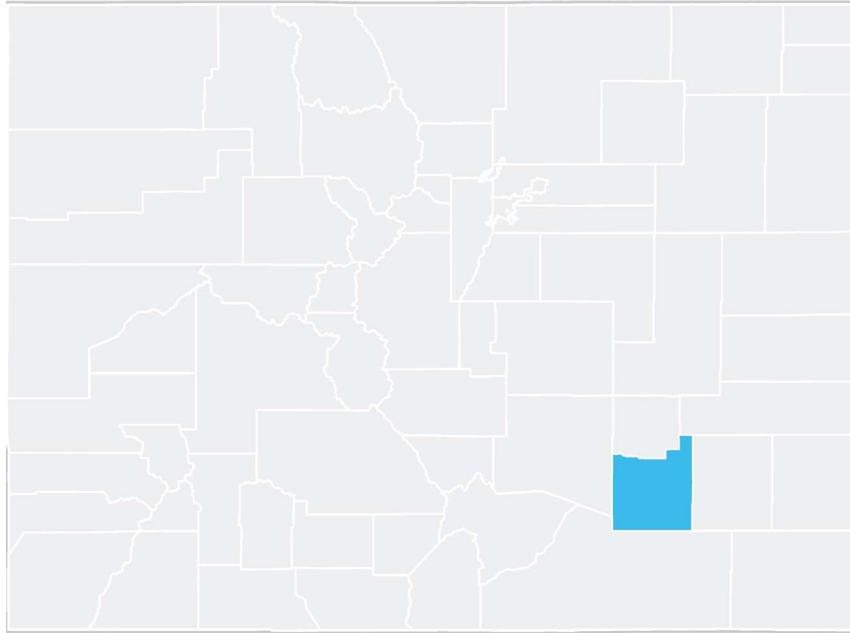
Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2020.

Of the sectors in Otero County, Colorado, Health Care and Social Assistance contributed the largest portion of GDP in 2020, \$78,189,000. The next-largest contributions came from Manufacturing (\$47,368,000); Educational Services (\$44,517,000); and Retail Trade (\$42,832,000).



Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2020.

Otero County, Colorado Regional Map



FAQ

What is a location quotient?

A location quotient (LQ) is a measurement of concentration in comparison to the nation. An LQ of 1.00 indicates a region has the same concentration of an industry (or occupation) as the nation. An LQ of 2.00 would mean the region has twice the expected employment compared to the nation and an LQ of 0.50 would mean the region has half the expected employment in comparison to the nation.

What is separation demand?

Separation demand is the number of jobs required due to separations—labor force exits (including retirements) and turnover resulting from workers moving from one occupation into another. Note that separation demand does not include all turnover—it does not include when workers stay in the same occupation but switch employers. The total projected demand for an occupation is the sum of the separation demand and the growth demand (which is the increase or decrease of jobs in an occupation expected due to expansion or contraction of the overall number of jobs in that occupation).

What is a cluster?

A cluster is a geographic concentration of interrelated industries or occupations. If a regional cluster has a location quotient of 1.25 or greater, the region is considered to possess a competitive advantage in that cluster.

What is the difference between industry wages and occupation wages?

Industry wages and occupation wages are estimated via separate data sets, often the time periods being reported do not align, and wages are defined slightly differently in the two systems (for example, certain bonuses are included in the industry wages but not the occupation wages). It is therefore common that estimates of the average industry wages and average occupation wages in a region do not match exactly.

What is NAICS?

The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) is used to classify business establishments according to the type of economic activity. The NAICS Code comprises six levels, from the “all industry” level to the 6-digit level. The first two digits define the top level category, known as the “sector,” which is the level examined in this report.

What is SOC?

The Standard Occupational Classification system (SOC) is used to classify workers into occupational categories. All workers are classified into one of over 804 occupations according to their occupational definition. To facilitate classification, occupations are combined to form 22 major groups, 95 minor groups, and 452 occupation groups. Each occupation group includes detailed occupations requiring similar job duties, skills, education, or experience.

About This Report

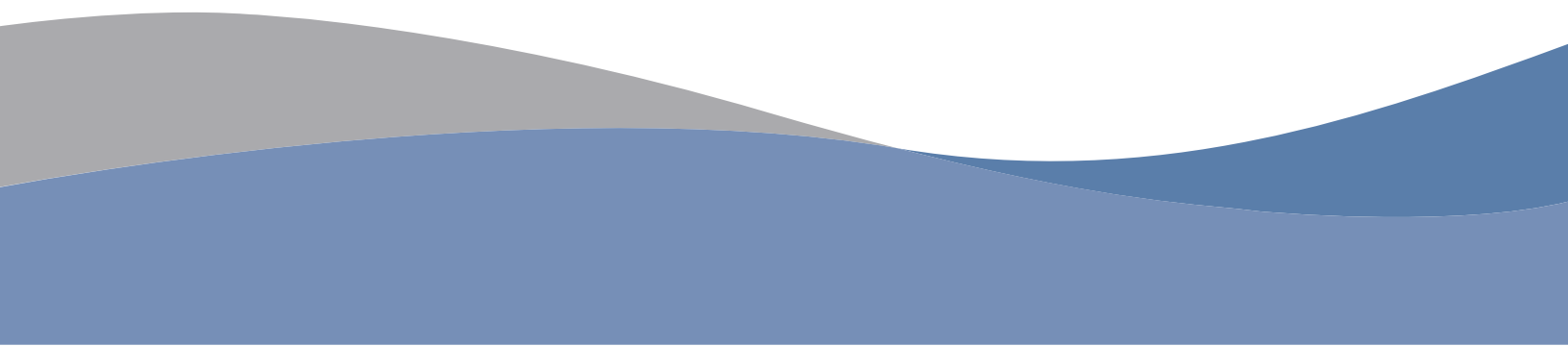
This report and all data herein were produced by JobsEQ®, a product of Chmura Economics & Analytics. The information contained herein was obtained from sources we believe to be reliable. However, we cannot guarantee its accuracy and completeness.



Economic Overview



Prowers County, Colorado



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Demographic Profile

The population in Prowers County, Colorado was 12,022 per American Community Survey data for 2015-2019.

The region has a civilian labor force of 5,772 with a participation rate of 62.1%. Of individuals 25 to 64 in Prowers County, Colorado, 18.6% have a bachelor's degree or higher which compares with 33.5% in the nation.

The median household income in Prowers County, Colorado is \$41,929 and the median house value is \$106,100.

Summary¹

Demographics	Percent			Value		
	Prowers County, Colorado	Colorado	USA	Prowers County, Colorado	Colorado	USA
Population (ACS)	—	—	—	12,022	5,610,349	324,697,795
Male	51.0%	50.3%	49.2%	6,132	2,823,201	159,886,919
Female	49.0%	49.7%	50.8%	5,890	2,787,148	164,810,876
Median Age ²	—	—	—	38.3	36.7	38.1
Under 18 Years	25.5%	22.5%	22.6%	3,071	1,261,005	73,429,392
18 to 24 Years	9.8%	9.3%	9.4%	1,177	523,765	30,646,327
25 to 34 Years	11.2%	15.5%	13.9%	1,347	871,500	45,030,415
35 to 44 Years	11.0%	13.6%	12.6%	1,325	764,183	40,978,831
45 to 54 Years	11.2%	12.7%	13.0%	1,346	713,520	42,072,620
55 to 64 Years	13.8%	12.5%	12.9%	1,664	702,670	41,756,414
65 to 74 Years	9.9%	8.5%	9.1%	1,188	478,345	29,542,266
75 Years, and Over	7.5%	5.3%	6.5%	904	295,361	21,241,530
Race: White	94.4%	84.0%	72.5%	11,351	4,712,574	235,377,662
Race: Black or African American	0.8%	4.2%	12.7%	95	233,647	41,234,642
Race: American Indian and Alaska Native	1.5%	1.0%	0.8%	181	54,847	2,750,143
Race: Asian	0.6%	3.2%	5.5%	70	178,147	17,924,209
Race: Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.2%	0.2%	0	8,643	599,868
Race: Some Other Race	1.0%	3.9%	4.9%	123	216,767	16,047,369
Race: Two or More Races	1.7%	3.7%	3.3%	202	205,724	10,763,902
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	38.0%	21.5%	18.0%	4,573	1,208,172	58,479,370
Population Growth						
Population (Pop Estimates) ⁴	—	—	—	12,106	5,807,719	329,484,123
Population Annual Average Growth ⁴	-0.4%	1.4%	0.6%	-44	76,018	2,015,698
People per Square Mile	—	—	—	7.4	55.6	92.9
Economic						
Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 16 years and over)	62.1%	68.1%	63.2%	5,772	3,035,960	163,555,585
Prime-Age Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 25-54)	80.1%	84.7%	82.1%	3,220	1,972,225	104,634,905
Armed Forces Labor Force	0.0%	0.8%	0.4%	0	33,671	1,073,907
Veterans, Age 18-64	5.1%	6.0%	4.6%	353	211,937	9,143,042
Veterans Labor Force Participation Rate and Size, Age 18-64	61.2%	79.5%	76.6%	216	168,558	7,003,778
Median Household Income ²	—	—	—	\$41,929	\$72,331	\$62,843
Per Capita Income	—	—	—	\$23,698	\$38,226	\$34,103
Mean Commute Time (minutes)	—	—	—	14.4	25.8	26.9
Commute via Public Transportation	0.0%	3.0%	5.0%	0	87,734	7,641,160
Educational Attainment, Age 25-64						
No High School Diploma	19.4%	8.0%	10.9%	1,103	245,575	18,550,150
High School Graduate	25.4%	20.7%	25.7%	1,443	632,736	43,627,868
Some College, No Degree	24.9%	20.7%	20.7%	1,416	631,698	35,174,790
Associate's Degree	11.7%	8.9%	9.1%	663	270,468	15,526,064

Summary¹

	Percent			Value		
	Prowers County, Colorado	Colorado	USA	Prowers County, Colorado	Colorado	USA
Bachelor's Degree	12.5%	26.9%	21.2%	712	822,135	35,997,848
Postgraduate Degree	6.1%	14.7%	12.3%	345	449,261	20,961,560
Housing						
Total Housing Units	—	—	—	5,982	2,386,475	137,428,986
Median House Value (of owner-occupied units) ²	—	—	—	\$106,100	\$343,300	\$217,500
Homeowner Vacancy	1.4%	1.1%	1.6%	45	14,983	1,257,737
Rental Vacancy	7.9%	4.8%	6.0%	146	38,254	2,793,023
Renter-Occupied Housing Units (% of Occupied Units)	34.6%	34.8%	36.0%	1,690	747,259	43,481,667
Occupied Housing Units with No Vehicle Available (% of Occupied Units)	6.0%	5.1%	8.6%	293	109,324	10,395,713
Social						
Poverty Level (of all people)	16.0%	10.3%	13.4%	1,866	565,873	42,510,843
Households Receiving Food Stamps/SNAP	15.6%	7.5%	11.7%	761	161,543	14,171,567
Enrolled in Grade 12 (% of total population)	0.8%	1.3%	1.4%	102	73,560	4,422,344
Disconnected Youth ³	1.0%	2.4%	2.5%	8	6,997	423,273
Children in Single Parent Families (% of all children)	39.3%	27.2%	34.1%	1,167	328,712	23,790,005
Uninsured	10.0%	7.6%	8.8%	1,191	420,782	28,248,613
With a Disability, Age 18-64	14.4%	8.6%	10.3%	981	300,250	20,187,604
With a Disability, Age 18-64, Labor Force Participation Rate and Size	45.3%	50.4%	42.2%	444	151,253	8,509,463
Foreign Born	10.3%	9.7%	13.6%	1,234	546,513	44,011,870
Speak English Less Than Very Well (population 5 yrs and over)	8.0%	5.8%	8.4%	898	304,772	25,615,365

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

1. American Community Survey 2015-2019, unless noted otherwise

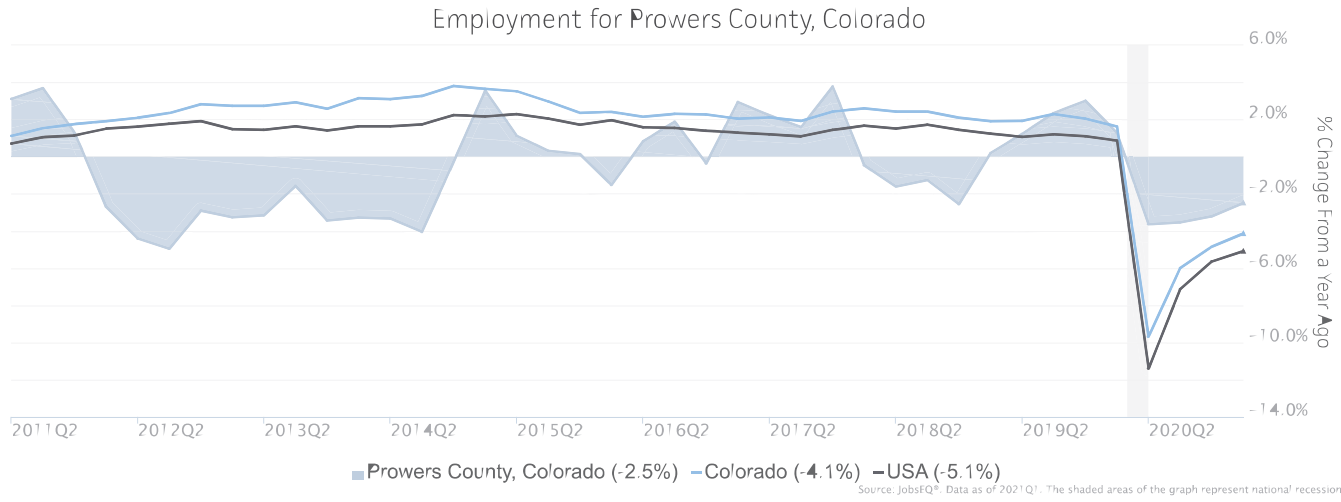
2. Median values for certain aggregate regions (such as MSAs) may be estimated as the weighted averages of the median values from the composing counties.

3. Disconnected Youth are 16-19 year olds who are (1) not in school, (2) not high school graduates, and (3) either unemployed or not in the labor force.

4. Census 2020, annual average growth rate since 2010

Employment Trends

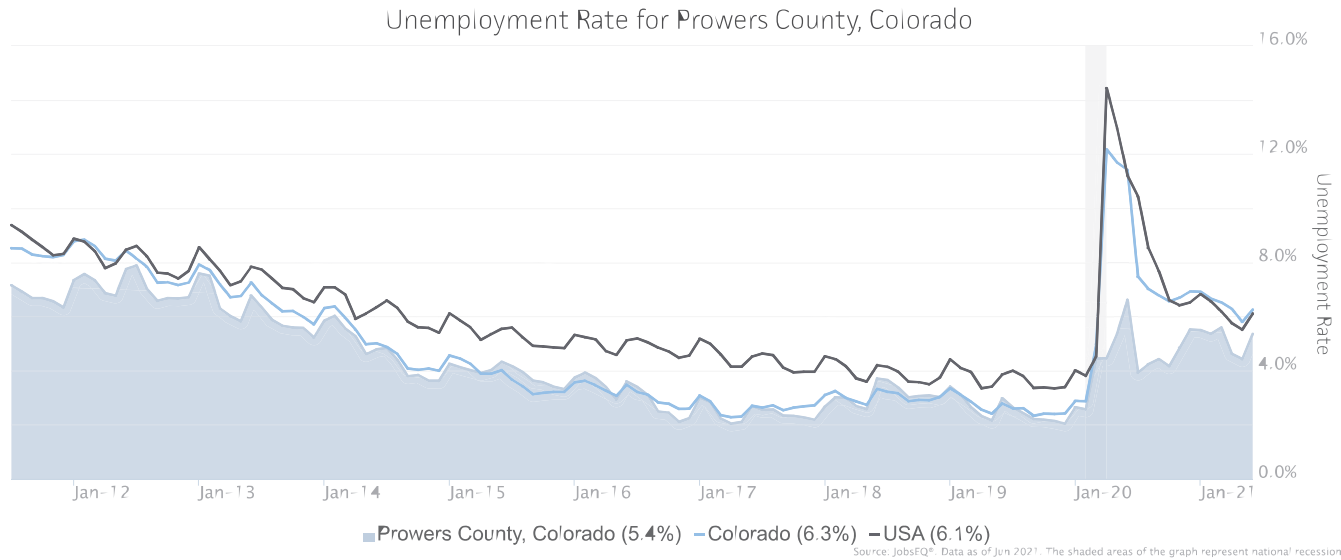
As of 2021Q1, total employment for Prowers County, Colorado was 4,999 (based on a four-quarter moving average). Over the year ending 2021Q1, employment declined 2.5% in the region.



Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1.

Unemployment Rate

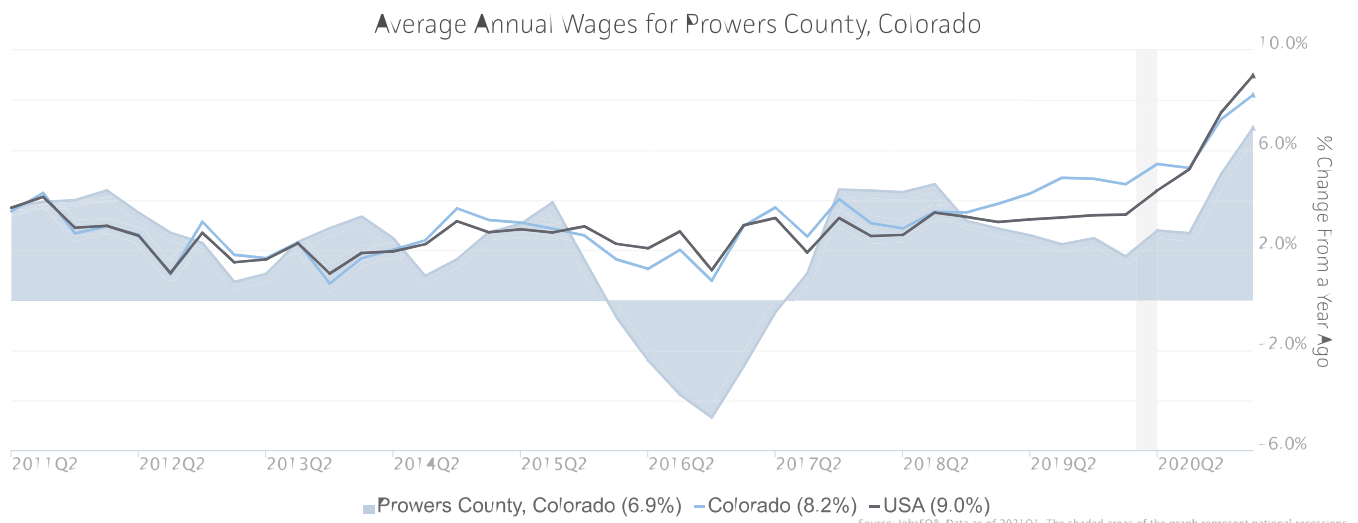
The unemployment rate for Prowers County, Colorado was 5.4% as of June 2021. The regional unemployment rate was lower than the national rate of 6.1%. One year earlier, in June 2020, the unemployment rate in Prowers County, Colorado was 6.6%.



Unemployment rate data are from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and updated through June 2021.

Wage Trends

The average worker in Prowers County, Colorado earned annual wages of \$40,904 as of 2021Q1. Average annual wages per worker increased 6.9% in the region over the preceding four quarters. For comparison purposes, annual average wages were \$63,393 in the nation as of 2021Q1.



Annual average wages per worker data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1.

Cost of Living Index

The Cost of Living Index estimates the relative price levels for consumer goods and services. When applied to wages and salaries, the result is a measure of relative purchasing power. The cost of living is 12.7% lower in Prowers County, Colorado than the U.S. average.

Cost of Living Information

	Annual Average Salary	Cost of Living Index (Base US)	US Purchasing Power
Prowers County, Colorado	\$40,904	87.3	\$46,877
Colorado	\$65,645	109.9	\$59,755
USA	\$63,393	100.0	\$63,393

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

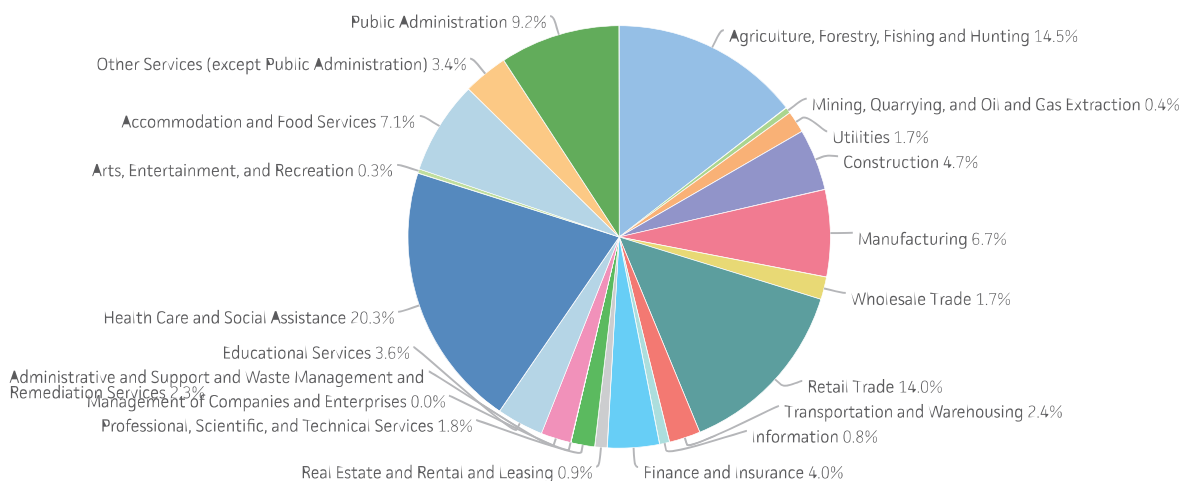
Data as of 2021Q1

Cost of Living per C2ER, data as of 2021Q1, imputed by Chmura where necessary.

Industry Snapshot

The largest sector in Prowers County, Colorado is Health Care and Social Assistance, employing 1,016 workers. The next-largest sectors in the region are Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (726 workers) and Retail Trade (700). High location quotients (LQs) indicate sectors in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The sectors with the largest LQs in the region are Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (LQ = 10.17), Utilities (3.08), and Public Administration (1.83).

Total Workers for Prowers County, Colorado by Industry



Source: JobsEQ®, Data as of 2021Q1

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1.

Sectors in Prowers County, Colorado with the highest average wages per worker are Utilities (\$83,255), Management of Companies and Enterprises (\$73,090), and Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (\$60,427). Regional sectors with the best job growth (or most moderate job losses) over the last 5 years are Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (+135 jobs), Health Care and Social Assistance (+102), and Retail Trade (+55).

Over the next 5 years, employment in Prowers County, Colorado is projected to expand by 6 jobs. The fastest growing sector in the region is expected to be Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction with a +2.4% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Health Care and Social Assistance (+34 jobs), Accommodation and Food Services (+9), and Public Administration (+4).

NAICS	Industry	Empl	Current		5-Year History		Total Demand	5-Year Forecast			
			Avg Ann Wages	LQ	Empl Change	Ann %		Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
62	Health Care and Social Assistance	1,016	\$42,192	1.36	102	2.1%	520	239	247	34	0.7%
11	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	726	\$60,427	10.17	135	4.2%	363	165	222	-24	-0.7%
44	Retail Trade	700	\$28,331	1.35	55	1.7%	447	204	258	-15	-0.4%
92	Public Administration	460	\$45,150	1.83	-32	-1.3%	216	90	122	4	0.2%
72	Accommodation and Food Services	357	\$19,195	0.98	-60	-3.1%	300	129	162	9	0.5%
31	Manufacturing	333	\$38,174	0.80	28	1.8%	167	63	109	-5	-0.3%
23	Construction	236	\$33,395	0.80	-24	-1.9%	118	42	75	2	0.2%
52	Finance and Insurance	199	\$51,671	0.94	-23	-2.1%	90	35	57	-2	-0.2%
61	Educational Services	179	\$38,371	0.44	-61	-5.7%	84	40	43	1	0.1%
81	Other Services (except Public Administration)	171	\$27,688	0.80	12	1.5%	98	44	53	1	0.1%
48	Transportation and Warehousing	120	\$57,100	0.49	1	0.2%	59	27	36	-4	-0.6%
56	Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	115	\$37,055	0.37	32	6.8%	67	28	38	1	0.1%
54	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	92	\$46,372	0.26	-17	-3.4%	42	15	25	2	0.5%
42	Wholesale Trade	86	\$55,185	0.45	-25	-5.0%	43	17	28	-2	-0.5%
22	Utilities	84	\$83,255	3.08	-25	-5.1%	40	14	24	2	0.4%
53	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	47	\$31,451	0.54	1	0.4%	23	11	13	-1	-0.4%
51	Information	38	\$32,875	0.38	-1	-0.6%	14	6	11	-4	-2.0%
21	Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	22	\$42,972	1.26	-74	-25.3%	15	4	8	3	2.4%
71	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	16	\$16,412	0.22	-5	-5.0%	12	5	6	1	1.0%
55	Management of Companies and Enterprises	1	\$73,090	0.01	1	n/a	0	0	0	0	0.4%
99	Unclassified	0	n/a	0.00	-1	n/a	0	0	0	0	
Total - All Industries		4,999	\$40,904	1.00	20	0.1%	2,727	1,163	1,558	6	0.0%

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1. Forecast employment growth uses national projections adapted for regional growth patterns.

Occupation Snapshot

The largest major occupation group in Prowers County, Colorado is Sales and Related Occupations, employing 561 workers. The next-largest occupation groups in the region are Management Occupations (539 workers) and Office and Administrative Support Occupations (537). High location quotients (LQs) indicate occupation groups in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The major groups with the largest LQs in the region are Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations (LQ = 8.41), Management Occupations (1.60), and Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations (1.48).

Occupation groups in Prowers County, Colorado with the highest average wages per worker are Legal Occupations (\$109,400), Architecture and Engineering Occupations (\$78,500), and Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations (\$77,300). The unemployment rate in the region varied among the major groups from 1.2% among Management Occupations to 11.3% among Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations.

Over the next 5 years, the fastest growing occupation group in Prowers County, Colorado is expected to be Healthcare Support Occupations with a +1.2% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations (+14 jobs) and Healthcare Support Occupations (+13). Over the same period, the highest separation demand (occupation demand due to retirements and workers moving from one occupation to another) is expected in Sales and Related Occupations (408 jobs) and Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations (311).

Prowers County, Colorado, 2021Q1¹

SOC	Occupation	Empl	Mean Ann Wages ²	Current				5-Year History		Total Demand	5-Year Forecast			
				LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads ³	Empl Change	Ann %		Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
41-0000	Sales and Related	561	\$36,800	1.18	37	6.6%	29	21	0.8%	396	168	240	-12	-0.4%
11-0000	Management	539	\$75,500	1.60	6	1.2%	11	21	0.8%	230	124	119	-12	-0.5%
43-0000	Office and Administrative Support	537	\$36,900	0.84	25	4.5%	7	-52	-1.8%	281	126	173	-18	-0.7%
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	441	\$77,300	1.48	8	1.9%	47	68	3.4%	138	58	66	14	0.6%
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related	356	\$27,500	0.99	50	11.3%	7	-23	-1.2%	321	129	182	11	0.6%
53-0000	Transportation and Material Moving	337	\$36,100	0.79	22	6.1%	21	7	0.4%	211	78	134	-1	0.0%
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	286	\$33,400	8.41	17	5.7%	3	82	7.0%	220	55	172	-7	-0.5%
51-0000	Production	252	\$36,700	0.87	14	5.9%	6	12	1.0%	135	47	95	-7	-0.5%
13-0000	Business and Financial Operations	227	\$63,200	0.77	4	2.1%	4	4	0.4%	110	31	77	2	0.2%
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	222	\$44,400	1.15	11	4.7%	5	-4	-0.3%	111	34	75	2	0.2%
31-0000	Healthcare Support	217	\$31,100	0.95	11	4.3%	8	30	3.0%	149	62	73	13	1.2%
47-0000	Construction and Extraction	201	\$42,800	0.86	15	6.4%	2	-58	-4.9%	119	33	81	4	0.4%
25-0000	Educational Instruction and Library	146	\$44,700	0.53	7	4.3%	8	-43	-5.1%	69	31	36	2	0.2%
37-0000	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	130	\$31,500	0.80	11	6.5%	5	-10	-1.5%	90	37	50	4	0.5%
33-0000	Protective Service	113	\$45,100	1.05	2	2.0%	n/a	-9	-1.5%	57	23	32	1	0.2%
39-0000	Personal Care and Service	103	\$32,200	0.84	10	9.6%	3	-2	-0.4%	82	35	45	2	0.5%
21-0000	Community and Social Service	98	\$43,100	1.09	1	1.4%	12	-8	-1.6%	55	17	35	3	0.6%
15-0000	Computer and Mathematical	76	\$75,900	0.47	1	1.4%	6	0	0.0%	30	6	22	2	0.4%

Prowers County, Colorado, 2021Q1¹

SOC	Occupation	Empl	Mean Ann Wages ²	Current			5-Year History			Total Demand	5-Year Forecast			
				LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads ³	Empl Change	Ann %		Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
17-0000	Architecture and Engineering	46	\$78,500	0.53	1	2.2%	1	-5	-1.8%	19	5	13	1	0.2%
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media	44	\$39,300	0.50	3	7.2%	2	-4	-1.5%	24	9	16	-1	-0.3%
19-0000	Life, Physical, and Social Science	34	\$72,100	0.73	1	2.3%	4	-1	-0.6%	17	3	13	1	0.3%
23-0000	Legal	31	\$109,400	0.72	0	n/a	n/a	-8	-4.5%	10	4	6	0	0.3%
Total - All Occupations		4,999	\$47,200	1.00	256	5.0%	189	20	0.1%	2,875	1,118	1,752	6	0.0%

Source: [JobsEQ®](https://www.chmuraecon.com/jobseq)

Data as of 2021Q1 unless noted otherwise

Note: Figures may not sum due to rounding.

1. Data based on a four-quarter moving average unless noted otherwise.

2. Wage data are as of 2020 and represent the average for all Covered Employment

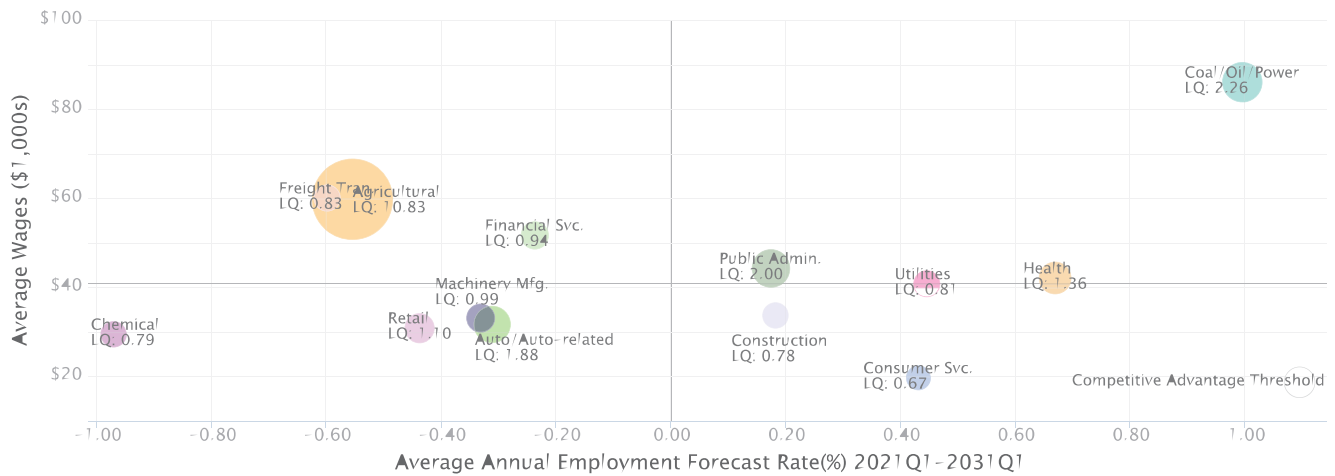
3. Data represent found online ads active within the last thirty days in the selected region; data represents a sampling rather than the complete universe of postings. Ads lacking zip code information but designating a place (city, town, etc.) may be assigned to the zip code with greatest employment in that place for queries in this analytic. Due to alternative county-assignment algorithms, ad counts in this analytic may not match that shown in RTI (nor in the popup window ad list).

Occupation employment data are estimated via industry employment data and the estimated industry/occupation mix. Industry employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and currently updated through 2020Q4, imputed where necessary with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1. Wages by occupation are as of 2020 provided by the BLS and imputed where necessary. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

Industry Clusters

A cluster is a geographic concentration of interrelated industries or occupations. The industry cluster in Prowers County, Colorado with the highest relative concentration is Agricultural with a location quotient of 10.83. This cluster employs 807 workers in the region with an average wage of \$59,826. Employment in the Agricultural cluster is projected to contract in the region about 0.6% per year over the next ten years.

Industry Clusters for Prowers County, Colorado as of 2021Q1



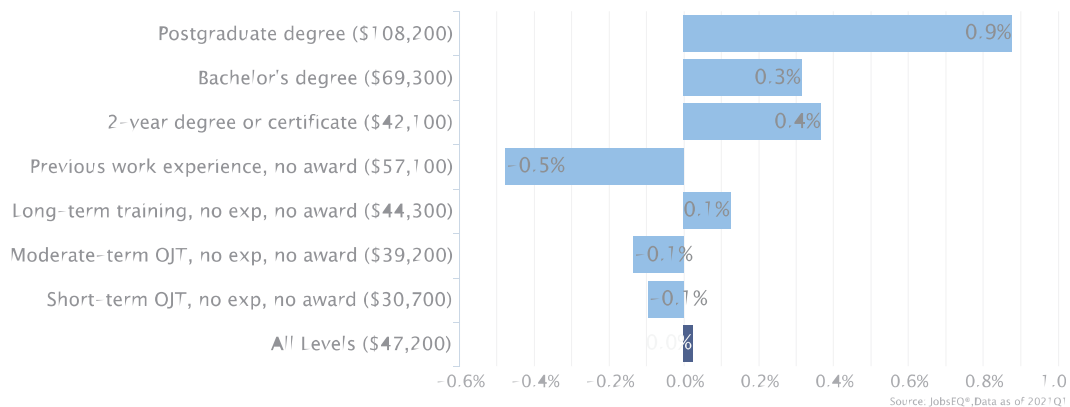
Source: JobsEQ®, Data as of 2021Q1

Location quotient and average wage data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, imputed where necessary, and updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

Education Levels

Expected growth rates for occupations vary by the education and training required. While all employment in Prowers County, Colorado is projected to grow 0.0% over the next ten years, occupations typically requiring a postgraduate degree are expected to grow 0.9% per year, those requiring a bachelor's degree are forecast to grow 0.3% per year, and occupations typically needing a 2-year degree or certificate are expected to grow 0.4% per year.

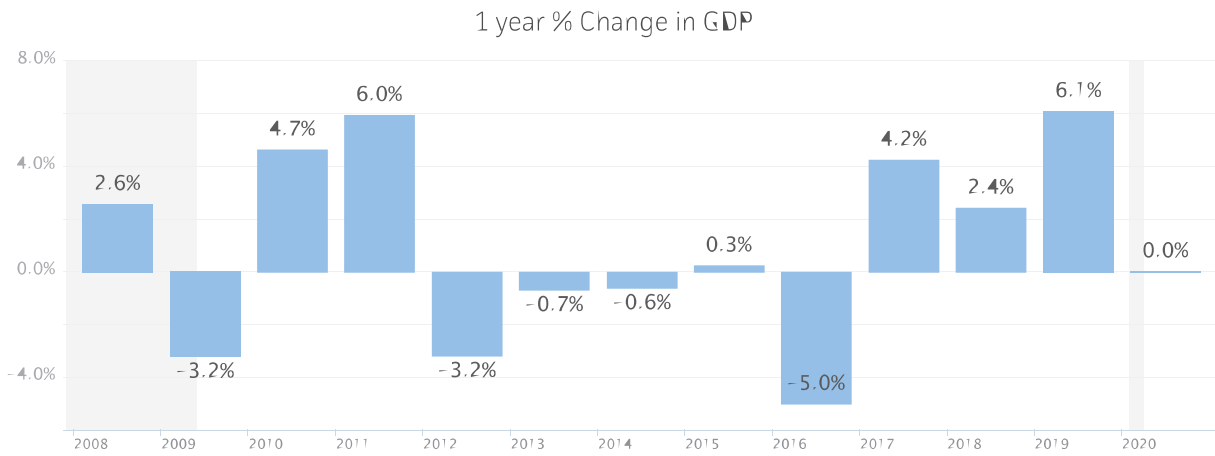
Annual Average Projected Job Growth by Training Required for Prowers County, Colorado



Employment by occupation data are estimates as of 2021Q1. Education levels of occupations are based on BLS assignments. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

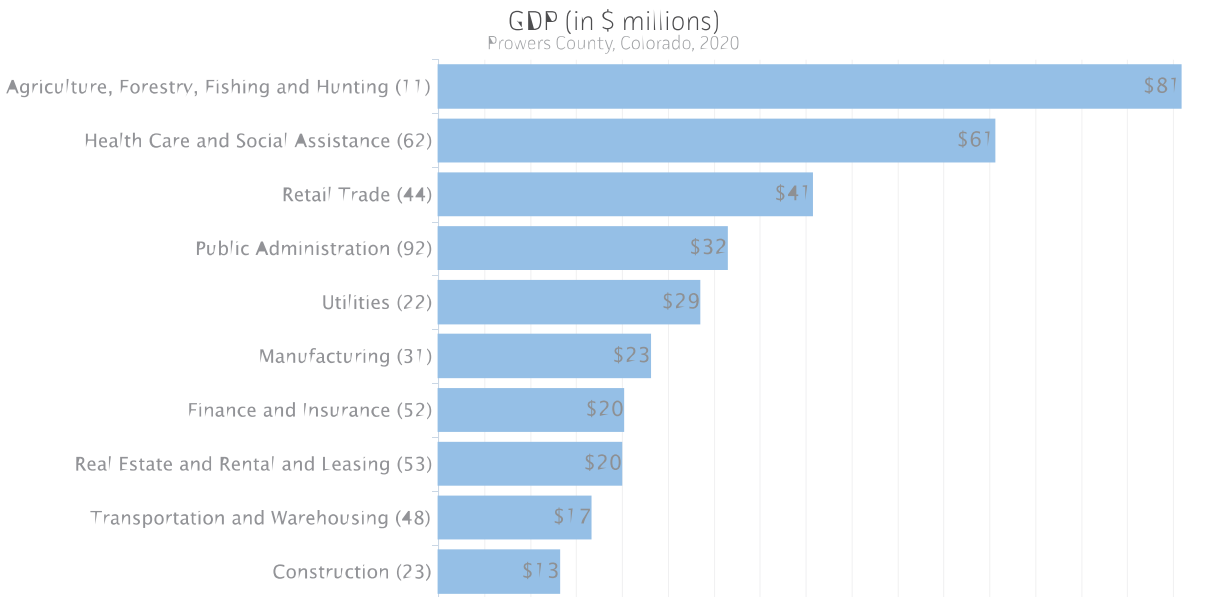
Gross Domestic Product

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the total value of goods and services produced by a region. In 2020, nominal GDP in Prowers County, Colorado expanded 0.0%. This follows growth of 6.1% in 2019. As of 2020, total GDP in Prowers County, Colorado was \$401,504,000.



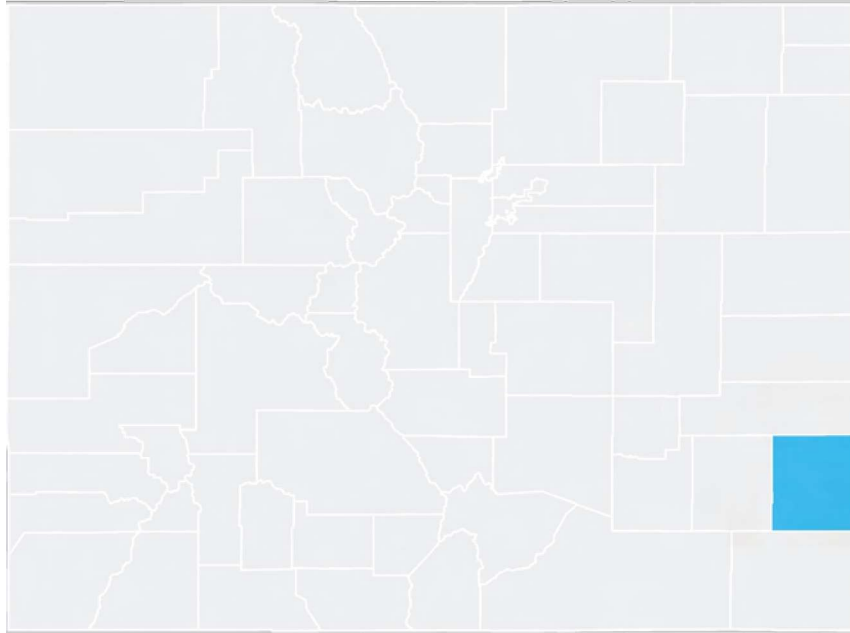
Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2020.

Of the sectors in Prowers County, Colorado, Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting contributed the largest portion of GDP in 2020, \$80,866,000. The next-largest contributions came from Health Care and Social Assistance (\$60,631,000); Retail Trade (\$40,761,000); and Public Administration (\$31,523,000).



Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2020.

Prowers County, Colorado Regional Map



FAQ

What is a location quotient?

A location quotient (LQ) is a measurement of concentration in comparison to the nation. An LQ of 1.00 indicates a region has the same concentration of an industry (or occupation) as the nation. An LQ of 2.00 would mean the region has twice the expected employment compared to the nation and an LQ of 0.50 would mean the region has half the expected employment in comparison to the nation.

What is separation demand?

Separation demand is the number of jobs required due to separations—labor force exits (including retirements) and turnover resulting from workers moving from one occupation into another. Note that separation demand does not include all turnover—it does not include when workers stay in the same occupation but switch employers. The total projected demand for an occupation is the sum of the separation demand and the growth demand (which is the increase or decrease of jobs in an occupation expected due to expansion or contraction of the overall number of jobs in that occupation).

What is a cluster?

A cluster is a geographic concentration of interrelated industries or occupations. If a regional cluster has a location quotient of 1.25 or greater, the region is considered to possess a competitive advantage in that cluster.

What is the difference between industry wages and occupation wages?

Industry wages and occupation wages are estimated via separate data sets, often the time periods being reported do not align, and wages are defined slightly differently in the two systems (for example, certain bonuses are included in the industry wages but not the occupation wages). It is therefore common that estimates of the average industry wages and average occupation wages in a region do not match exactly.

What is NAICS?

The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) is used to classify business establishments according to the type of economic activity. The NAICS Code comprises six levels, from the “all industry” level to the 6-digit level. The first two digits define the top level category, known as the “sector,” which is the level examined in this report.

What is SOC?

The Standard Occupational Classification system (SOC) is used to classify workers into occupational categories. All workers are classified into one of over 804 occupations according to their occupational definition. To facilitate classification, occupations are combined to form 22 major groups, 95 minor groups, and 452 occupation groups. Each occupation group includes detailed occupations requiring similar job duties, skills, education, or experience.

About This Report

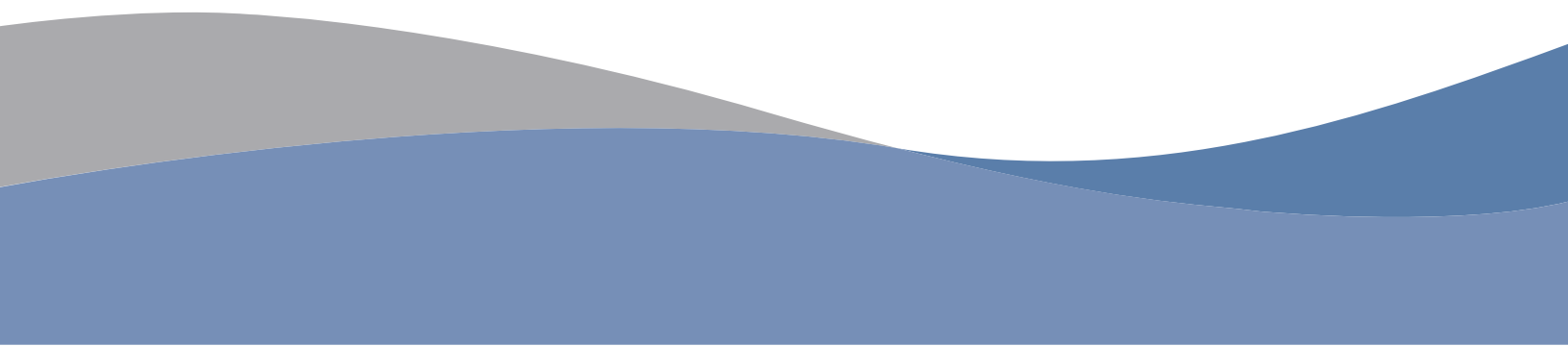
This report and all data herein were produced by JobsEQ®, a product of Chmura Economics & Analytics. The information contained herein was obtained from sources we believe to be reliable. However, we cannot guarantee its accuracy and completeness.



Economic Overview



Pueblo County, Colorado



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Demographic Profile

The population in Pueblo County, Colorado was 165,982 per American Community Survey data for 2015-2019.

The region has a civilian labor force of 74,120 with a participation rate of 56.0%. Of individuals 25 to 64 in Pueblo County, Colorado, 21.5% have a bachelor's degree or higher which compares with 33.5% in the nation.

The median household income in Pueblo County, Colorado is \$46,783 and the median house value is \$164,600.

Summary¹

Demographics	Percent			Value		
	Pueblo County, Colorado	Colorado	USA	Pueblo County, Colorado	Colorado	USA
Population (ACS)	—	—	—	165,982	5,610,349	324,697,795
Male	49.2%	50.3%	49.2%	81,738	2,823,201	159,886,919
Female	50.8%	49.7%	50.8%	84,244	2,787,148	164,810,876
Median Age ²	—	—	—	39.3	36.7	38.1
Under 18 Years	22.7%	22.5%	22.6%	37,629	1,261,005	73,429,392
18 to 24 Years	9.0%	9.3%	9.4%	14,888	523,765	30,646,327
25 to 34 Years	12.9%	15.5%	13.9%	21,420	871,500	45,030,415
35 to 44 Years	11.9%	13.6%	12.6%	19,673	764,183	40,978,831
45 to 54 Years	12.0%	12.7%	13.0%	19,862	713,520	42,072,620
55 to 64 Years	13.4%	12.5%	12.9%	22,312	702,670	41,756,414
65 to 74 Years	10.5%	8.5%	9.1%	17,395	478,345	29,542,266
75 Years, and Over	7.7%	5.3%	6.5%	12,803	295,361	21,241,530
Race: White	80.4%	84.0%	72.5%	133,497	4,712,574	235,377,662
Race: Black or African American	2.1%	4.2%	12.7%	3,494	233,647	41,234,642
Race: American Indian and Alaska Native	4.0%	1.0%	0.8%	6,688	54,847	2,750,143
Race: Asian	0.9%	3.2%	5.5%	1,489	178,147	17,924,209
Race: Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0.1%	0.2%	0.2%	170	8,643	599,868
Race: Some Other Race	8.4%	3.9%	4.9%	13,963	216,767	16,047,369
Race: Two or More Races	4.0%	3.7%	3.3%	6,681	205,724	10,763,902
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	43.0%	21.5%	18.0%	71,356	1,208,172	58,479,370
Population Growth						
Population (Pop Estimates) ⁴	—	—	—	169,823	5,807,719	329,484,123
Population Annual Average Growth ⁴	0.6%	1.4%	0.6%	1,042	76,018	2,015,698
People per Square Mile	—	—	—	70.6	55.6	92.9
Economic						
Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 16 years and over)	56.0%	68.1%	63.2%	74,120	3,035,960	163,555,585
Prime-Age Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 25-54)	76.0%	84.7%	82.1%	46,301	1,972,225	104,634,905
Armed Forces Labor Force	0.2%	0.8%	0.4%	254	33,671	1,073,907
Veterans, Age 18-64	7.4%	6.0%	4.6%	7,266	211,937	9,143,042
Veterans Labor Force Participation Rate and Size, Age 18-64	64.1%	79.5%	76.6%	4,659	168,558	7,003,778
Median Household Income ²	—	—	—	\$46,783	\$72,331	\$62,843
Per Capita Income	—	—	—	\$25,051	\$38,226	\$34,103
Mean Commute Time (minutes)	—	—	—	22.2	25.8	26.9
Commute via Public Transportation	0.7%	3.0%	5.0%	489	87,734	7,641,160
Educational Attainment, Age 25-64						
No High School Diploma	9.4%	8.0%	10.9%	7,820	245,575	18,550,150
High School Graduate	28.9%	20.7%	25.7%	24,062	632,736	43,627,868
Some College, No Degree	27.1%	20.7%	20.7%	22,604	631,698	35,174,790
Associate's Degree	13.1%	8.9%	9.1%	10,892	270,468	15,526,064

Summary¹

	Percent			Value		
	Pueblo County, Colorado	Colorado	USA	Pueblo County, Colorado	Colorado	USA
Bachelor's Degree	14.9%	26.9%	21.2%	12,438	822,135	35,997,848
Postgraduate Degree	6.5%	14.7%	12.3%	5,451	449,261	20,961,560
Housing						
Total Housing Units	—	—	—	71,223	2,386,475	137,428,986
Median House Value (of owner-occupied units) ²	—	—	—	\$164,600	\$343,300	\$217,500
Homeowner Vacancy	1.6%	1.1%	1.6%	695	14,983	1,257,737
Rental Vacancy	3.1%	4.8%	6.0%	736	38,254	2,793,023
Renter-Occupied Housing Units (% of Occupied Units)	35.3%	34.8%	36.0%	22,725	747,259	43,481,667
Occupied Housing Units with No Vehicle Available (% of Occupied Units)	7.5%	5.1%	8.6%	4,806	109,324	10,395,713
Social						
Poverty Level (of all people)	18.9%	10.3%	13.4%	30,591	565,873	42,510,843
Households Receiving Food Stamps/SNAP	18.4%	7.5%	11.7%	11,830	161,543	14,171,567
Enrolled in Grade 12 (% of total population)	1.5%	1.3%	1.4%	2,493	73,560	4,422,344
Disconnected Youth ³	5.3%	2.4%	2.5%	470	6,997	423,273
Children in Single Parent Families (% of all children)	42.9%	27.2%	34.1%	14,603	328,712	23,790,005
Uninsured	6.7%	7.6%	8.8%	10,833	420,782	28,248,613
With a Disability, Age 18-64	17.9%	8.6%	10.3%	17,121	300,250	20,187,604
With a Disability, Age 18-64, Labor Force Participation Rate and Size	34.8%	50.4%	42.2%	5,959	151,253	8,509,463
Foreign Born	3.0%	9.7%	13.6%	4,909	546,513	44,011,870
Speak English Less Than Very Well (population 5 yrs and over)	2.2%	5.8%	8.4%	3,451	304,772	25,615,365

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

1. American Community Survey 2015-2019, unless noted otherwise

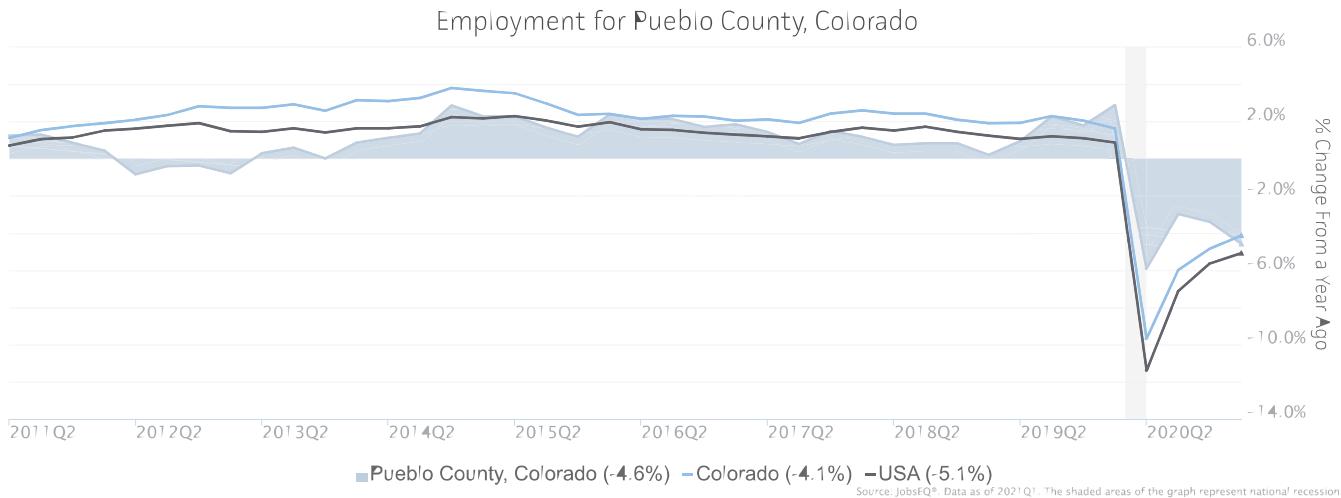
2. Median values for certain aggregate regions (such as MSAs) may be estimated as the weighted averages of the median values from the composing counties.

3. Disconnected Youth are 16-19 year olds who are (1) not in school, (2) not high school graduates, and (3) either unemployed or not in the labor force.

4. Census 2020, annual average growth rate since 2010

Employment Trends

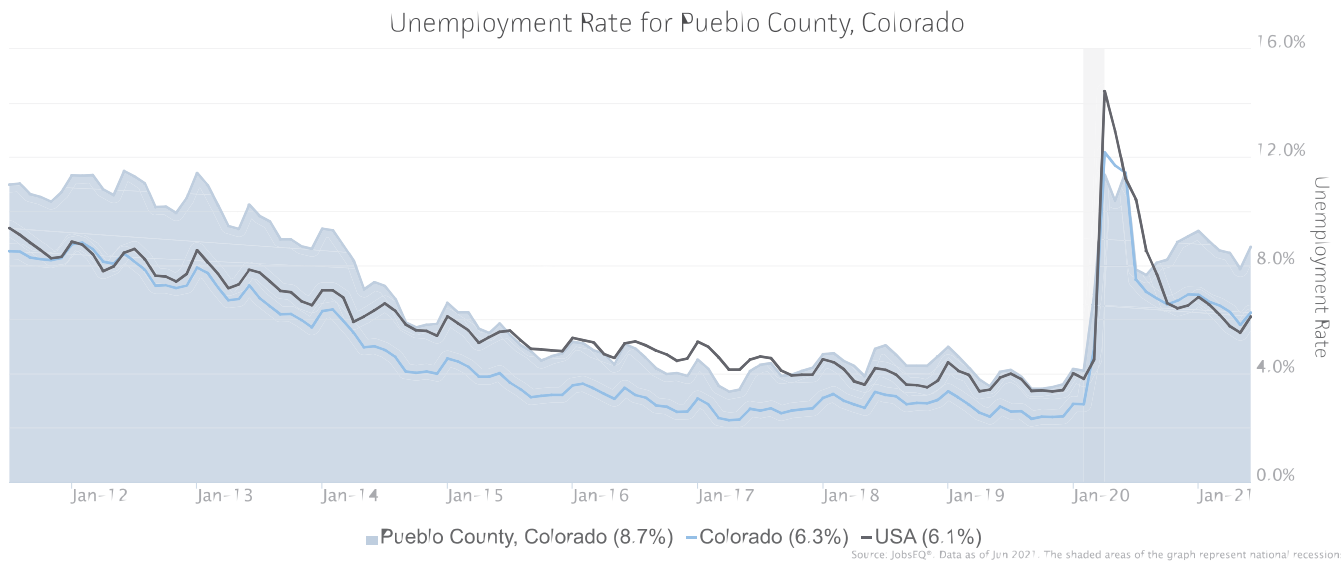
As of 2021Q1, total employment for Pueblo County, Colorado was 64,259 (based on a four-quarter moving average). Over the year ending 2021Q1, employment declined 4.6% in the region.



Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1.

Unemployment Rate

The unemployment rate for Pueblo County, Colorado was 8.7% as of June 2021. The regional unemployment rate was higher than the national rate of 6.1%. One year earlier, in June 2020, the unemployment rate in Pueblo County, Colorado was 11.4%.

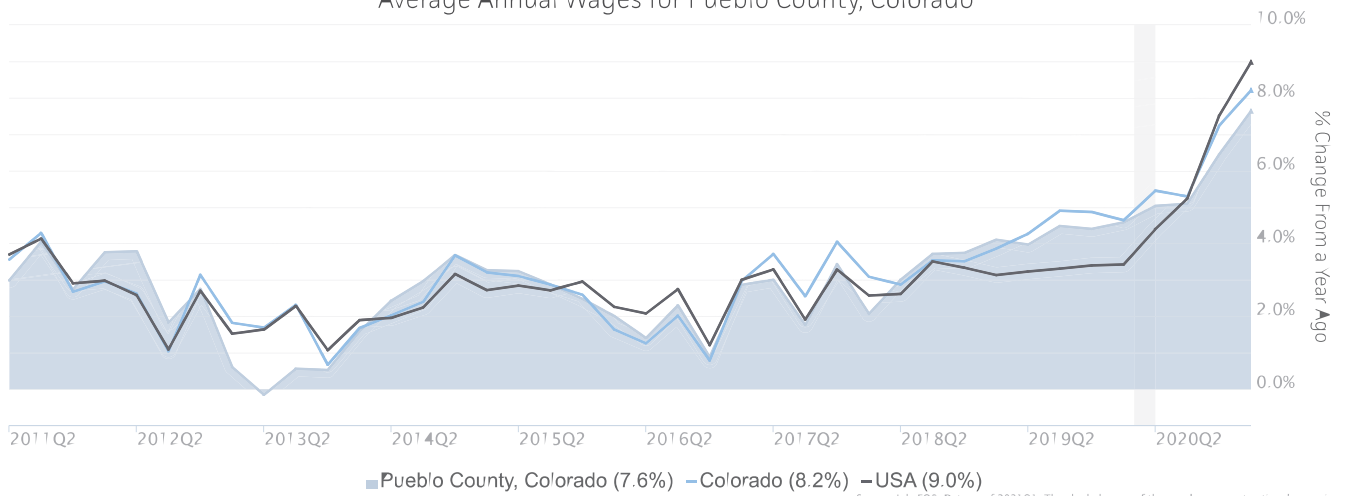


Unemployment rate data are from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and updated through June 2021.

Wage Trends

The average worker in Pueblo County, Colorado earned annual wages of \$48,199 as of 2021Q1. Average annual wages per worker increased 7.6% in the region over the preceding four quarters. For comparison purposes, annual average wages were \$63,393 in the nation as of 2021Q1.

Average Annual Wages for Pueblo County, Colorado



Annual average wages per worker data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1.

Cost of Living Index

The Cost of Living Index estimates the relative price levels for consumer goods and services. When applied to wages and salaries, the result is a measure of relative purchasing power. The cost of living is 6.1% lower in Pueblo County, Colorado than the U.S. average.

Cost of Living Information

	Annual Average Salary	Cost of Living Index (Base US)	US Purchasing Power
Pueblo County, Colorado	\$48,199	93.9	\$51,330
Colorado	\$65,645	109.9	\$59,755
USA	\$63,393	100.0	\$63,393

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

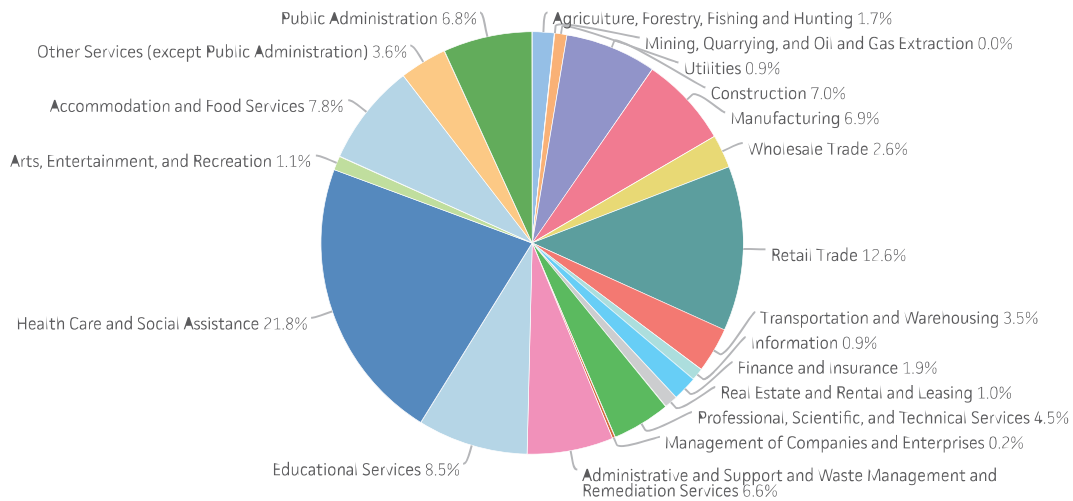
Data as of 2021Q1

Cost of Living per C2ER, data as of 2021Q1, imputed by Chmura where necessary.

Industry Snapshot

The largest sector in Pueblo County, Colorado is Health Care and Social Assistance, employing 14,012 workers. The next-largest sectors in the region are Retail Trade (8,120 workers) and Educational Services (5,435). High location quotients (LQs) indicate sectors in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The sectors with the largest LQs in the region are Utilities (LQ = 1.68), Health Care and Social Assistance (1.46), and Public Administration (1.36).

Total Workers for Pueblo County, Colorado by Industry



Source: JobsEQ®, Data as of 2021Q1

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1.

Sectors in Pueblo County, Colorado with the highest average wages per worker are Management of Companies and Enterprises (\$97,912), Utilities (\$89,832), and Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (\$81,268). Regional sectors with the best job growth (or most moderate job losses) over the last 5 years are Health Care and Social Assistance (+1,267 jobs), Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (+577), and Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (+478).

Over the next 5 years, employment in Pueblo County, Colorado is projected to expand by 1,775 jobs. The fastest growing sector in the region is expected to be Health Care and Social Assistance with a +1.5% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Health Care and Social Assistance (+1,114 jobs), Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services (+212), and Accommodation and Food Services (+190).

NAICS	Industry	Empl	Current	5-Year History			5-Year Forecast				
			Avg Ann Wages	LQ	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
62	Health Care and Social Assistance	14,012	\$52,237	1.46	1,267	1.9%	7,947	3,360	3,473	1,114	1.5%
44	Retail Trade	8,120	\$34,169	1.21	240	0.6%	5,311	2,382	3,010	-81	-0.2%
61	Educational Services	5,435	\$46,153	1.04	-445	-1.6%	2,575	1,213	1,308	54	0.2%
72	Accommodation and Food Services	5,029	\$19,793	1.08	-799	-2.9%	4,323	1,829	2,304	190	0.7%
23	Construction	4,491	\$61,872	1.18	324	1.5%	2,313	796	1,425	92	0.4%
31	Manufacturing	4,456	\$60,971	0.84	-24	-0.1%	2,204	847	1,450	-92	-0.4%
92	Public Administration	4,377	\$59,074	1.36	-23	-0.1%	2,062	853	1,161	48	0.2%
56	Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	4,238	\$34,641	1.05	-820	-3.5%	2,709	1,056	1,441	212	1.0%
54	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	2,878	\$81,268	0.62	577	4.6%	1,334	462	783	89	0.6%
81	Other Services (except Public Administration)	2,327	\$28,768	0.85	-22	-0.2%	1,385	610	728	48	0.4%
48	Transportation and Warehousing	2,224	\$51,224	0.70	348	3.5%	1,241	508	687	46	0.4%
42	Wholesale Trade	1,640	\$56,669	0.66	321	4.5%	849	323	535	-9	-0.1%
52	Finance and Insurance	1,217	\$61,234	0.44	-22	-0.4%	579	215	354	10	0.2%
11	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	1,088	\$24,127	1.18	478	12.3%	605	252	340	14	0.2%
71	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	700	\$25,740	0.72	-204	-5.0%	547	226	279	42	1.2%
53	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	664	\$43,058	0.59	-47	-1.4%	333	152	182	-2	-0.1%
51	Information	609	\$62,054	0.48	-164	-4.6%	254	103	183	-32	-1.1%
22	Utilities	589	\$89,832	1.68	-39	-1.3%	255	95	168	-8	-0.3%
55	Management of Companies and Enterprises	138	\$97,912	0.14	-29	-3.8%	67	23	40	4	0.6%
21	Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	27	\$49,271	0.12	2	1.9%	15	5	9	1	0.4%
99	Unclassified	0	n/a	0.00	-6	n/a	0	0	0	0	
Total - All Industries		64,259	\$48,199	1.00	914	0.3%	37,200	15,141	20,284	1,775	0.5%

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1. Forecast employment growth uses national projections adapted for regional growth patterns.

Occupation Snapshot

The largest major occupation group in Pueblo County, Colorado is Office and Administrative Support Occupations, employing 7,574 workers. The next-largest occupation groups in the region are Sales and Related Occupations (6,620 workers) and Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations (5,170). High location quotients (LQs) indicate occupation groups in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The major groups with the largest LQs in the region are Healthcare Support Occupations (LQ = 1.53), Community and Social Service Occupations (1.45), and Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations (1.31).

Occupation groups in Pueblo County, Colorado with the highest average wages per worker are Management Occupations (\$104,800), Architecture and Engineering Occupations (\$93,000), and Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations (\$85,900). The unemployment rate in the region varied among the major groups from 2.4% among Legal Occupations to 18.9% among Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations.

Over the next 5 years, the fastest growing occupation group in Pueblo County, Colorado is expected to be Healthcare Support Occupations with a +2.2% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Healthcare Support Occupations (+504 jobs) and Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations (+267). Over the same period, the highest separation demand (occupation demand due to retirements and workers moving from one occupation to another) is expected in Sales and Related Occupations (4,690 jobs) and Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations (4,576).

Pueblo County, Colorado, 2021Q1¹

SOC	Occupation	Empl	Current				5-Year History			5-Year Forecast				
			Mean Ann Wages ²	LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads ³	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
43-0000	Office and Administrative Support	7,574	\$39,600	0.92	676	7.7%	278	-849	-2.1%	4,374	1,829	2,579	-34	-0.1%
41-0000	Sales and Related	6,620	\$40,200	1.08	793	11.1%	466	-119	-0.4%	4,648	1,846	2,844	-42	-0.1%
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related	5,170	\$28,200	1.12	1,257	18.9%	310	-764	-2.7%	4,800	1,865	2,711	224	0.9%
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	5,048	\$85,900	1.31	171	3.4%	533	311	1.3%	1,746	684	795	267	1.0%
53-0000	Transportation and Material Moving	4,955	\$38,600	0.90	636	11.0%	299	421	1.8%	3,252	1,175	1,985	92	0.4%
31-0000	Healthcare Support	4,460	\$31,300	1.53	357	7.2%	172	624	3.1%	3,533	1,473	1,556	504	2.2%
25-0000	Educational Instruction and Library	3,643	\$53,200	1.02	279	7.7%	153	-301	-1.6%	1,697	746	884	67	0.4%
47-0000	Construction and Extraction	3,416	\$47,100	1.14	413	10.3%	123	140	0.8%	1,988	559	1,353	75	0.4%
13-0000	Business and Financial Operations	3,337	\$66,000	0.88	126	4.0%	97	288	1.8%	1,751	471	1,173	107	0.6%
11-0000	Management	3,291	\$104,800	0.76	118	3.9%	176	310	2.0%	1,508	472	936	100	0.6%
51-0000	Production	3,025	\$44,000	0.81	356	10.1%	148	-101	-0.7%	1,622	569	1,125	-72	-0.5%
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	2,427	\$50,900	0.98	215	7.3%	195	-3	0.0%	1,235	379	814	42	0.3%
37-0000	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	1,763	\$32,600	0.85	243	11.4%	89	93	1.1%	1,256	507	682	67	0.8%
21-0000	Community and Social Service	1,684	\$49,900	1.45	43	2.9%	170	74	0.9%	1,077	304	637	136	1.6%
33-0000	Protective Service	1,500	\$53,000	1.08	150	8.6%	44	185	2.7%	868	375	472	22	0.3%
39-0000	Personal Care and Service	1,446	\$35,500	0.91	325	17.3%	39	-29	-0.4%	1,217	505	641	71	1.0%
17-0000	Architecture and Engineering	1,353	\$93,000	1.21	49	4.2%	58	212	3.5%	552	160	375	17	0.2%
15-0000	Computer and Mathematical	1,220	\$75,000	0.60	37	3.3%	92	68	1.1%	516	104	362	50	0.8%

Pueblo County, Colorado, 2021Q1¹

SOC	Occupation	Empl	Mean Ann Wages ²	Current			Online Job Ads ³	5-Year History		Total Demand	5-Year Forecast			Ann % Growth
				LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate		Empl Change	Ann %		Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media	805	\$47,500	0.71	73	12.4%	36	-49	-1.2%	458	160	289	9	0.2%
19-0000	Life, Physical, and Social Science	680	\$74,300	1.14	22	4.3%	52	85	2.7%	339	69	252	18	0.5%
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	490	\$36,700	1.12	51	10.2%	2	319	23.4%	420	100	307	13	0.5%
23-0000	Legal	352	\$68,300	0.63	9	2.4%	8	0	0.0%	120	43	67	9	0.5%
Total - All Occupations		64,259	\$50,900	1.00	6,401	9.1%	3,539	914	0.3%	39,009	14,395	22,839	1,775	0.5%

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

Data as of 2021Q1 unless noted otherwise

Note: Figures may not sum due to rounding.

1. Data based on a four-quarter moving average unless noted otherwise.

2. Wage data are as of 2020 and represent the average for all Covered Employment

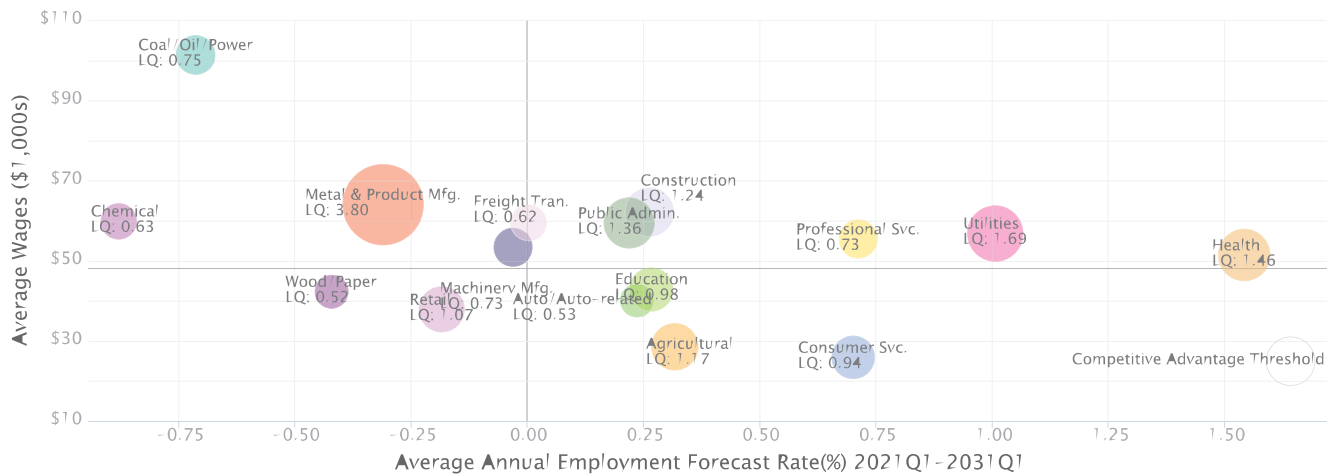
3. Data represent found online ads active within the last thirty days in the selected region; data represents a sampling rather than the complete universe of postings. Ads lacking zip code information but designating a place (city, town, etc.) may be assigned to the zip code with greatest employment in that place for queries in this analytic. Due to alternative county-assignment algorithms, ad counts in this analytic may not match that shown in RTI (nor in the popup window ad list).

Occupation employment data are estimated via industry employment data and the estimated industry/occupation mix. Industry employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and currently updated through 2020Q4, imputed where necessary with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1. Wages by occupation are as of 2020 provided by the BLS and imputed where necessary. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

Industry Clusters

A cluster is a geographic concentration of interrelated industries or occupations. The industry cluster in Pueblo County, Colorado with the highest relative concentration is Metal & Product Mfg. with a location quotient of 3.80. This cluster employs 1,830 workers in the region with an average wage of \$64,080. Employment in the Metal & Product Mfg. cluster is projected to contract in the region about 0.3% per year over the next ten years.

Industry Clusters for Pueblo County, Colorado as of 2021Q1



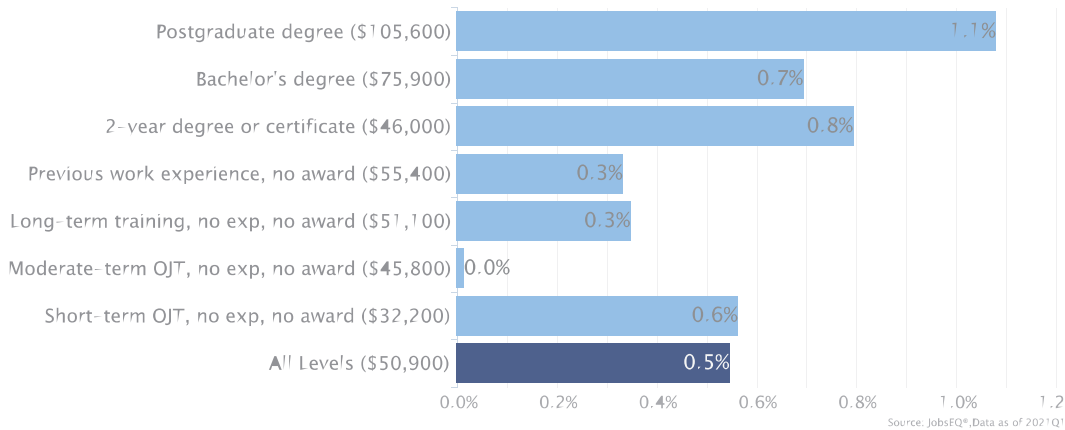
Source: JobsEQ®, Data as of 2021Q1

Location quotient and average wage data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, imputed where necessary, and updated through 2020Q4 with preliminary estimates updated to 2021Q1. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

Education Levels

Expected growth rates for occupations vary by the education and training required. While all employment in Pueblo County, Colorado is projected to grow 0.5% over the next ten years, occupations typically requiring a postgraduate degree are expected to grow 1.1% per year, those requiring a bachelor’s degree are forecast to grow 0.7% per year, and occupations typically needing a 2-year degree or certificate are expected to grow 0.8% per year.

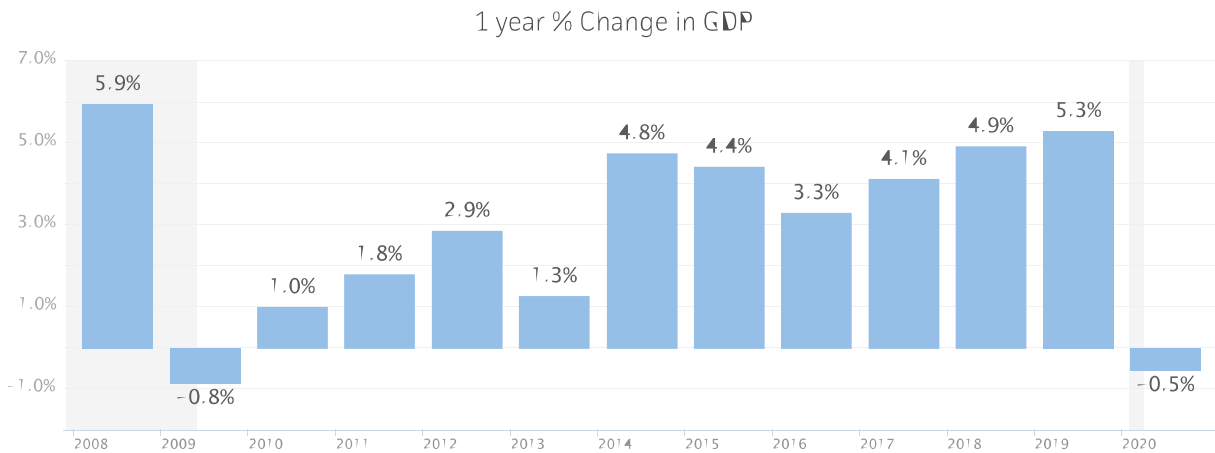
Annual Average Projected Job Growth by Training Required for Pueblo County, Colorado



Employment by occupation data are estimates as of 2021Q1. Education levels of occupations are based on BLS assignments. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

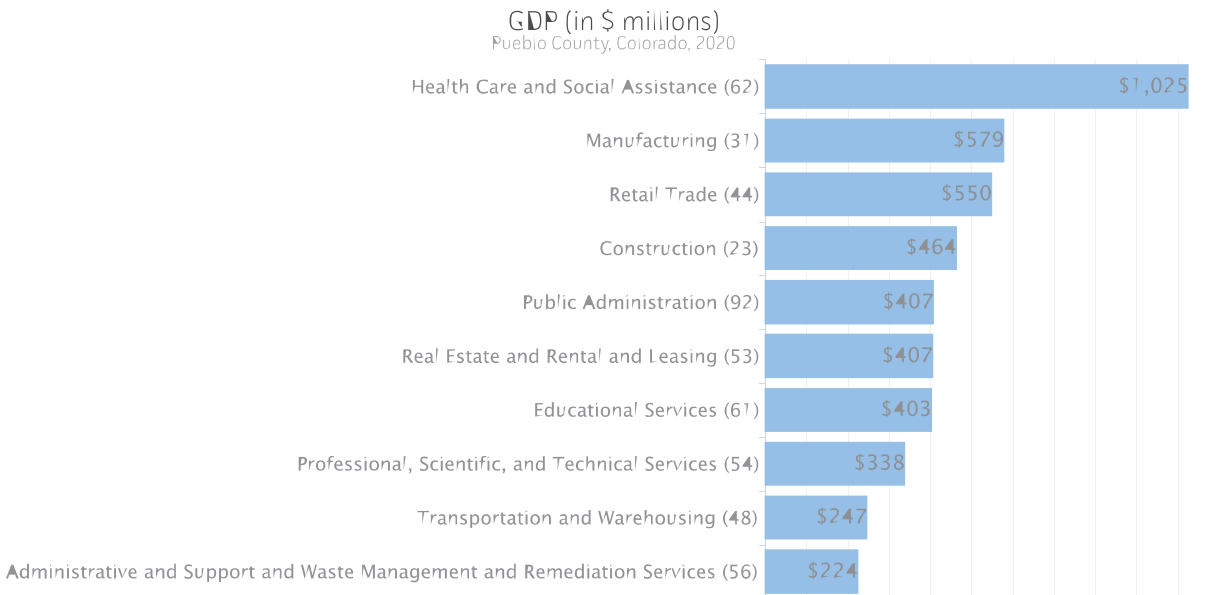
Gross Domestic Product

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the total value of goods and services produced by a region. In 2020, nominal GDP in Pueblo County, Colorado contracted 0.5%. This follows growth of 5.3% in 2019. As of 2020, total GDP in Pueblo County, Colorado was \$5,737,158,000.



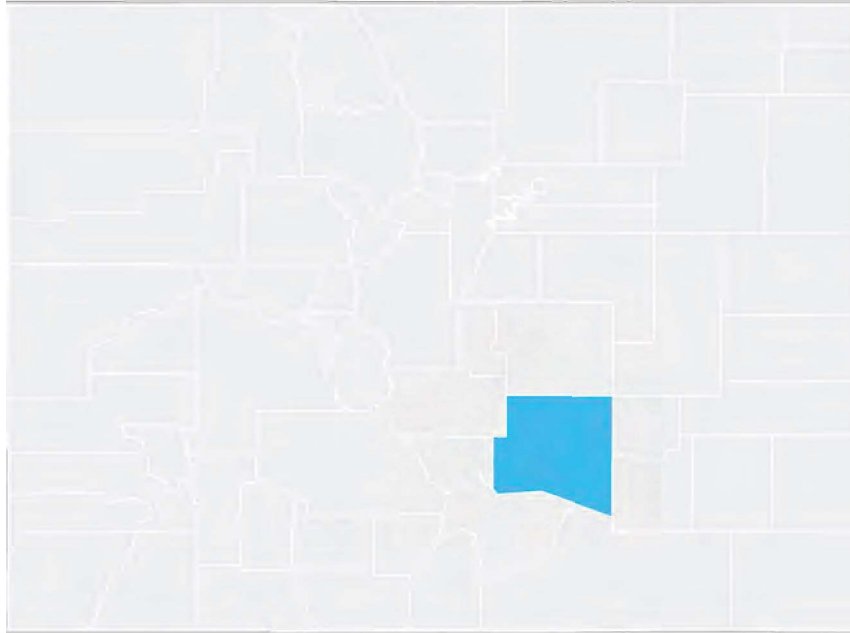
Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2020.

Of the sectors in Pueblo County, Colorado, Health Care and Social Assistance contributed the largest portion of GDP in 2020, \$1,025,246,000. The next-largest contributions came from Manufacturing (\$579,203,000); Retail Trade (\$549,540,000); and Construction (\$464,103,000).



Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2020.

Pueblo County, Colorado Regional Map



FAQ

What is a location quotient?

A location quotient (LQ) is a measurement of concentration in comparison to the nation. An LQ of 1.00 indicates a region has the same concentration of an industry (or occupation) as the nation. An LQ of 2.00 would mean the region has twice the expected employment compared to the nation and an LQ of 0.50 would mean the region has half the expected employment in comparison to the nation.

What is separation demand?

Separation demand is the number of jobs required due to separations—labor force exits (including retirements) and turnover resulting from workers moving from one occupation into another. Note that separation demand does not include all turnover—it does not include when workers stay in the same occupation but switch employers. The total projected demand for an occupation is the sum of the separation demand and the growth demand (which is the increase or decrease of jobs in an occupation expected due to expansion or contraction of the overall number of jobs in that occupation).

What is a cluster?

A cluster is a geographic concentration of interrelated industries or occupations. If a regional cluster has a location quotient of 1.25 or greater, the region is considered to possess a competitive advantage in that cluster.

What is the difference between industry wages and occupation wages?

Industry wages and occupation wages are estimated via separate data sets, often the time periods being reported do not align, and wages are defined slightly differently in the two systems (for example, certain bonuses are included in the industry wages but not the occupation wages). It is therefore common that estimates of the average industry wages and average occupation wages in a region do not match exactly.

What is NAICS?

The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) is used to classify business establishments according to the type of economic activity. The NAICS Code comprises six levels, from the “all industry” level to the 6-digit level. The first two digits define the top level category, known as the “sector,” which is the level examined in this report.

What is SOC?

The Standard Occupational Classification system (SOC) is used to classify workers into occupational categories. All workers are classified into one of over 804 occupations according to their occupational definition. To facilitate classification, occupations are combined to form 22 major groups, 95 minor groups, and 452 occupation groups. Each occupation group includes detailed occupations requiring similar job duties, skills, education, or experience.

About This Report

This report and all data herein were produced by JobsEQ®, a product of Chmura Economics & Analytics. The information contained herein was obtained from sources we believe to be reliable. However, we cannot guarantee its accuracy and completeness.

Appendix C Endanger Species

COLORADO ENDANGERED AND THREATENED SPECIES LIST - ANIMALS

Common Name	Scientific Name	Common Name	Scientific Name	Common Name	Scientific Name
Boreal Toad	<i>Bufo boreas boreas</i>	Lake Chub	<i>Couesius plumbeus</i>	Whooping Crane	<i>Grus americana</i>
Couch's Spadefoot	<i>Scaphiopus couchii</i>	Mountain Sucker	<i>Catostomus platyrhynchus</i>		
Great Plains Narrowmouth Toad	<i>Gastrophryne olivacea</i>	Northern Redbelly Dace	<i>Phoxinus eos</i>	Arkansas Darter	<i>Etheostoma cragini</i>
Northern Cricket Frog	<i>Acris crepitans</i>	Plains Minnow	<i>Hybognathus placitus</i>	Bonytail	<i>Gila elegans</i>
Northern Leopard Frog	<i>Rana pipiens</i>	Plains Orangethroat Darter	<i>Etheostoma spectabile</i>	Brassy Minnow	<i>Hybognathus hankinsoni</i>
Plains Leopard Frog	<i>Rana blairi</i>	Rio Grande Chub	<i>Gila pandora</i>	Colorado Pikeminnow	<i>Ptychocheilus lucius</i>
Wood Frog	<i>Rana sylvatica</i>	Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout	<i>Oncorhynchus clarki virginalis</i>	Colorado River Cutthroat Trout	<i>Oncorhynchus clarki pleuriticus</i>
BIRDS		Rio Grande Sucker	<i>Catostomus plebeius</i>	Colorado Roundtail Chub	<i>Gila robusta</i>
American Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus anatum</i>	Razorback Sucker	<i>Xyrauchen texanus</i>	Common Shiner	<i>Luxilus cornutus</i>
Bald Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	Southern Redbelly Dace	<i>Phoxinus erythrogaster</i>	Flathead Chub	<i>Platygobio gracilis</i>
Burrowing Owl	<i>Athene cunicularia</i>	Stonecat	<i>Noturus flavus</i>	Greenback Cutthroat Trout	<i>Oncorhynchus clarki stomias</i>
Columbian Sharp-Tailed Grouse	<i>Tympanuchus phasianellus columbianus</i>	Suckermouth Minnow	<i>Phenacobius mirabilis</i>	Humpback Chub	<i>Gila cypha</i>
Ferruginous Hawk	<i>Buteo regalis</i>			Iowa Darter	<i>Etheostoma exile</i>
Greater Sage Grouse	<i>Centrocercus urophasianus</i>	Black-Footed Ferret	<i>Mustela nigripes</i>	Triploid Checkered Whiptail	<i>Cnemidophorus neotesselatus</i>
Greater Sandhill Crane	<i>Grus canadensis tabida</i>	Black-Tailed Prairie Dog	<i>Cynomys ludovicianus</i>	Midget Faded Rattlesnake	<i>Crotalus viridis concolor</i>
Gunnison Sage-Grouse	<i>Centrocercus minimus</i>	Botta's Pocket Gopher	<i>Thomomys bottae rubidus</i>	Longnose Leopard Lizard	<i>Gambelia wislizenii</i>
Least Tern	<i>Sterna antillarum</i>	Gray Wolf	<i>Canis lupus</i>	Yellow Mud Turtle	<i>Kinosternon flavescens</i>
Lesser Prairie-Chicken	<i>Tympanuchus pallidicinctus</i>	Grizzly Bear	<i>Ursus arctos</i>	Common King Snake	<i>Lampropeltis getula</i>
Long-Billed Curlew	<i>Numenius americanus</i>	Kit Fox	<i>Vulpes macrotis</i>	Texas Blind Snake	<i>Leptotyphlops dulcis</i>
Mexican Spotted Owl	<i>Strix occidentalis lucida</i>	Lynx	<i>Lynx canadensis</i>	Texas Horned Lizard	<i>Phrynosoma cornutum</i>
Mountain Plover	<i>Charadrius montanus</i>	Northern Pocket Gopher	<i>Thomomys talpoides macrotis</i>	Roundtail Horned Lizard	<i>Phrynosoma modestum</i>
Plains Sharp-Tailed Grouse	<i>Tympanuchus phasianellus jamesii</i>	Preble's Meadow	<i>Zapus hudsonius preblei</i>	Massasauga	<i>Sistrurus catenatus</i>
Piping Plover	<i>Charadrius melodus circumcinctus</i>	River Otter	<i>Lontra canadensis</i>	Common Garter Snake	<i>Thamnophis sirtalis</i>
Southwestern her	<i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i>	Swift fox	<i>Vulpes velox</i>		
Plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>	Eared Bat	<i>Corynorhinus townsendii pallescens</i>	Rocky Mountain Capshell	<i>Acroloxus coloradensis</i>
Western Yellow-Billed Cuckoo	<i>Coccyzus americanus</i>	Wolverine	<i>Gulo gulo</i>		

Appendix D
Prime
Agricultural
Lands

State Sym	Area Symbol	Area Name	mukey	Mapunit SYM	Mapunit Name	Farm Class
CO	CO009	Baca County	94192	1422	Goshen silt loam, rarely flooded	Farmland of statewide importance
CO	CO009	Baca County	2509194	1808	Satanta fine sandy loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance
CO	CO009	Baca County	2509195	1809	Satanta fine sandy loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance
CO	CO009	Baca County	3069205	1967	Buffalo Park-Ulysses silt loams, 1 to 3 percent	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO009	Baca County	94175	An	Anahe cobble loam, 5 to 25 percent slopes, stony	Not prime farmland
CO	CO009	Baca County	2766504	BaA	Baca silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO009	Baca County	2766505	BaC	Baca silt loam, 3 to 5 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO009	Baca County	2766502	BdA	Bacid silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO009	Baca County	2766503	BdB	Bacid silt loam, 3 to 5 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO009	Baca County	94179	Bk	Bankard sand, 0 to 1 percent slopes, moist	Not prime farmland
CO	CO009	Baca County	2808264	Ca	Camno clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	null
CO	CO009	Baca County	2992074	CbB	Colby silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO009	Baca County	94181	Cn	Canulin loam, 1 to 6 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO009	Baca County	94182	CoA	Colby silt loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO009	Baca County	94183	CoB	Colby silt loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO009	Baca County	3040481	CoC	Colby silt loam, 3 to 9 percent slopes	null
CO	CO009	Baca County	94184	CoD	Colby silt loam, 3 to 9 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO009	Baca County	94185	CtA	Colby silt loam, terrace, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO009	Baca County	3079047	CtB	Colby silt loam, terrace, 0 to 2 percent slopes	null
CO	CO009	Baca County	2808273	DaA	Ascalon loamy sand, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO009	Baca County	94187	DaB	Dalhart loamy sand, 1 to 3 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO009	Baca County	2808275	DhA	Ascalon sandy loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance
CO	CO009	Baca County	2808274	DhB	Ascalon sandy loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance
CO	CO009	Baca County	94190	Du	Dune land	Not prime farmland
CO	CO009	Baca County	2933370	FrB	Fort loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	null
CO	CO009	Baca County	2933373	FrC	Fort loam, 3 to 6 percent slopes	null
CO	CO009	Baca County	94191	Gb	Glenberg sandy loam, moist, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance
CO	CO009	Baca County	2933357	GbA	Glenberg fine sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance
CO	CO009	Baca County	94194	Gr	Gravelly land	Not prime farmland
CO	CO009	Baca County	94195	HaA	Fort Collins loam, warm, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO009	Baca County	94196	HaB	Fort Collins loam, warm, 1 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO009	Baca County	94197	HaC	Fort Collins loam, warm, 3 to 5 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO009	Baca County	94198	HrC	Harvey loam, 1 to 5 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO009	Baca County	94199	KmD	Kim loam, 0 to 9 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO009	Baca County	2520959	M-W	Miscellaneous Water	Not prime farmland
CO	CO009	Baca County	2808293	MaA	Manter-Vona sandy loams, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance
CO	CO009	Baca County	2808294	MaB	Manter-Vona sandy loams, 1 to 3 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance
CO	CO009	Baca County	94202	McA	McCook loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance
CO	CO009	Baca County	94203	McB	McCook loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance
CO	CO009	Baca County	94204	Mm	Minnequa-Manvel complex	Not prime farmland
CO	CO009	Baca County	94205	Nu	Nunn clay loam	Farmland of statewide importance
CO	CO009	Baca County	94207	OeB	Otero sandy loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance
CO	CO009	Baca County	94208	OeD	Otero sandy loam, 3 to 6 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance
CO	CO009	Baca County	94206	Op	Otero-Lithic Calciusteps complex, 1 to 9 percent	Not prime farmland
CO	CO009	Baca County	695309	PLY	Plava	Not prime farmland
CO	CO009	Baca County	94209	Pe	Penrose channery loam	Not prime farmland
CO	CO009	Baca County	2766528	PeD	Penrose channery loam, 1 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO009	Baca County	2497655	PeF	Penrose-Midway-Rock outcrop complex, 10 to 45	Not prime farmland
CO	CO009	Baca County	94210	Po	Potter gravelly loam	Not prime farmland
CO	CO009	Baca County	94211	RcA	Richfield silt loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance
CO	CO009	Baca County	94212	Ro	Rough stony land	Not prime farmland
CO	CO009	Baca County	94214	Th	Thedalund silt clay loam	Not prime farmland
CO	CO009	Baca County	94215	Tn	Tivoli sand	Not prime farmland
CO	CO009	Baca County	94213	To	Tivoli-Dune land complex	Not prime farmland
CO	CO009	Baca County	2499249	Tt	Travessilla-Rock outcrop complex, 1 to 25 percent	Not prime farmland
CO	CO009	Baca County	2504882	TsD	Travessilla sandy loam, 1 to 9 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO009	Baca County	2493303	TsF	Travessilla-Rock outcrop complex, 25 to 65 percent	Not prime farmland
CO	CO009	Baca County	94217	UnA	Ulysses and norka silt loams, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance
CO	CO009	Baca County	94218	UnB	Ulysses and norka silt loams, 1 to 3 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance
CO	CO009	Baca County	2766693	VnB	Vona loamy sand, warm, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated and the product of I (soil erodibility) x C (climate)
CO	CO009	Baca County	2766716	VoC	Vona sandy loam, warm, 3 to 6 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated and the product of I (soil erodibility) x C (climate)
CO	CO009	Baca County	2766705	Vr2	Vona soils, warm, 0 to 5 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
CO	CO009	Baca County	2766455	VtD	Valent sand, 1 to 9 percent slopes, warm	Not prime farmland
CO	CO009	Baca County	94222	W	Water	Not prime farmland
CO	CO009	Baca County	94223	WIA	Wiley loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO009	Baca County	94224	WIB	Wiley loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO009	Baca County	94225	WIC	Wiley loam, 3 to 5 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO009	Baca County	94226	WID	Wiley loam, 5 to 9 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO009	Baca County	94227	Wa	Wages loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO009	Baca County	94228	Ws2	Wiley soils, eroded	Not prime farmland
CO	CO009	Baca County	2611045	WvB	Wild silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated

State Svm	Area Symbol	Area Name	mukey	Manunit SYM	Manunit Name	Farm Class
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		702610	AED	Arents, Earthen Dam
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		94229	Ac	Anishana clay loam, 0 to 2
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		94230	ArA	Aeular clay loam, 0 to 3
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		94231	Av2	Aeular clay, 0 to 3 percent
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		2766510	BaA	Baca silt loam, 0 to 3 percent
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		2766509	BaC	Bacid silt loam, 3 to 5 percent
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		2766506	Be	Bacid silty clay loam, 0 to 3
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		94234	Bd	Bankard soils
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		2766508	BdA	Bacid silt loam, 0 to 3 percent
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		2766507	BdC	Bacid silty clay loam, 3 to 5
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		94235	Ca	Cascaio soils and gravelly land
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		2992200	CvB	Colby silt loam, 0 to 3 percent
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		94240	DeB	Deertrail clay loam, 0 to 5
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		2766525	FB	Fort loam, 0 to 3 percent
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		2766493	FC	Fort loam, 3 to 6 percent
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		2766492	FB	Fort loam, drv, 0 to 3 percent
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		702614	GP	Gravel Pits
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		94243	GbA	Glenbere fine sandy loam, 0 to
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		94244	GbB	Glenbere sandy loam, 1 to 3
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		94245	GeA	Glenbere sandy loam, gravel
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		94246	HaC	Kimera loam, drv, 0 to 6
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		702611	HeA	Chromic Haplotorrists, 0 to 1
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		94247	KmB	Kim loam, 0 to 5 percent
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		3223557	KmC	Kimera loam, 0 to 6 percent
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		3223558	KnC	Kandrix loam, 0 to 6 percent
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		94248	KrA	Korman clay loam, 0 to 1
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		94249	KrB	Korman clay loam, 1 to 3
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		94250	La	Las clay loam, loamv
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		94251	Le	Las clay loam, loamv
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		94252	Ld	Las clay loam, 0 to 1 percent
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		94253	Le	Las clay loam, mollie, 0 to 1
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		94254	Lm	Las Animas loam, 0 to 1
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		94255	Lp	Limon clay
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		94256	Lo	Limon clay, alkali
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		94257	LtC	Little clay loam, 1 to 9 percent
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		2608830	M-W	Miscellaneous Water
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		3040245	MaA	Manvel silt loam, drv, 0 to 2
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		2611096	MaC	Manvel silt loam, 2 to 6
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		94237	MbA	Manvel silt loam, terrace, 0 to
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		94238	MbB	Manvel silt loam, 0 to 2
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		2766547	McB	Manzanola clay loam, drv, 0 to
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		2611098	McB	Minnequa loam, drv, 1 to 5
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		2611099	McC	Minnequa loam, 1 to 5 percent
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		2942834	MoA	Manvel silt loam, terrace, drv,
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		2766533	MpC	Penrose-Minnequa complex, 1
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		3040253	MsA	Manvel fine sandy loam, drv, 0
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		94236	MsB	Manvel fine sandy loam, 0 to 3
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		2611097	MvC	Manvel silt loam, 2 to 6
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		2766548	MvC	Manzanola silty clay loam, 0 to
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		94264	NeA	Nepesta clay loam, 0 to 1
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		94265	NeB	Nepesta clay loam, 1 to 3
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		94266	NmA	Numa clay loam, 0 to 1 percent
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		94267	NmB	Numa clay loam, 1 to 3 percent
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		94268	NmB	Numa clay loam, wet, 0 to 3
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		94269	NvB	Numa clay loam, sand
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		2520951	OFB	Olney sandy loam, 0 to 3
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		2520947	OnA	Olney sandy loam, 0 to 3
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		2611066	QC	Oterodrv, loamv sand, 1 to 9
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		2520956	OvE	Olney soils, 0 to 3 percent
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		2992072	PLYB	Ustertic Haplarzids, 0 to 1
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		2766532	PM	Penrose-Minnequa complex, 1
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		2766529	PeD	Penrose channerv loam, 1 to 15
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		2484267	PeF	Penrose-Midwav-Rock outcrotn
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		94274	PaC	Pullnev loam, 1 to 9 percent
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		94275	RaA	Rao silt loam, 0 to 1 percent
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		94276	RfA	Rocky Ford clay loam, 0 to 1
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		94277	RfB	Rocky Ford clay loam, 1 to 3
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		94278	RkA	Rocky Ford clay loam, wet, 0
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		94279	RkB	Rocky Ford loam, wet, 1 to 3
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		94280	RmA	Rocky Ford clay loam, sand
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		94282	Sa	Samsil soils
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		94283	SnB	Satanta loam, 0 to 3 percent
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		94284	StB	Stonsham loam, 0 to 3 percent
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		94285	StC	Stonsham loam, 3 to 5 percent
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		94289	ToC	Travessilla-Olney sandy loam
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		2484257	Tr	Travessilla-Rock outcrotn
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		2504881	TsD	Travessilla sandy loam, 1 to 9
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		2493302	TsF	Travessilla-Rock outcrotn
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		2766448	VE	Valent soils, 10 to 25 percent
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		2766437	Va	Valent sand, 1 to 12 percent
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		2611051	VnB	Vonid sandy loam, 0 to 5
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		2611052	VnC	Vonid sandy loam, 0 to 5
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		2766541	Vs2	Vonid soils, 1 to 6 percent
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		2766443	VtE	Valent sand, 9 to 20 percent
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		94241	VxE	Valent sand, very severely
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		94294	W	Water
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		94295	WeA	Weld silt loam, 0 to 1 percent
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		2611042	WB	Wild silt loam, 0 to 3 percent
CO	CO011	Bent County, Colorado		2611043	WxB	Wild silt loam, 0 to 3 percent

State_Sym	Area_Symbol	Area_Name	mukey	Mapunit_SYM	Mapunit_Name	Farm_Class
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	498048	AdC	Adilis loam, 1 to 5	Not prime farmland
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	498049	AnB	Antero sandy loam	Not prime farmland
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	498050	Ba	Badland	Not prime farmland
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	498051	BJB	Blay on clay loam	Not prime farmland
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	498052	BrF	Bross gravelly	Not prime farmland
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	498053	CaF	Cabin gravelly	Not prime farmland
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	498054	ChB	Chaffee loam 1 to 3	Not prime farmland
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	498055	CIB	Collegiate loam, 1	Not prime farmland
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	498056	CoD	Costilla gravelly	Not prime farmland
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	498057	CID	Colonaxt loamv	Not prime farmland
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	1480399	DmP	Dumps, mine	Not prime farmland
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	498058	DoD	Dommonson gravelly	Not prime farmland
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	498059	DoF	Dommonson gravelly	Not prime farmland
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	1480400	GP	Pits, gravel	null
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	498060	GcB	Gas Creek gravelly	Not prime farmland
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	498061	GrE	Granite gravelly	Not prime farmland
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	498062	GsD	Grantsdale fine	Not prime farmland
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	498063	Gv	Gravelly alluvial	Not prime farmland
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	498064	HaD	Hawksell sandv	Not prime farmland
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	498065	KcC	Keeldar gravelly	Not prime farmland
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	498066	LeE	Leadville sandv	Not prime farmland
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	498070	MP	Mine pits and	Not prime farmland
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	1480398	MV	Miscellaneous	Not prime farmland
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	498067	MAB	Manhattan sandv	Not prime farmland
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	498068	MaD	Manhattan sandv	Not prime farmland
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	498069	Mh	Marsh	Not prime farmland
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	498071	NfB	Newfork gravelly	Not prime farmland
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	498072	OrC	Ouvay sandy loam	Not prime farmland
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	498073	OnB	Ouvay gravelly	Not prime farmland
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	498074	PaD	Pando gravelly	Not prime farmland
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	498075	Pe	Peat	Not prime farmland
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	498076	PeD	Pierian gravelly	Not prime farmland
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	498077	PIF	Pierian soils, 20 to	Not prime farmland
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	498078	Pn	Placer dunes and	Not prime farmland
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	498079	PoC	Poncha gravelly	Not prime farmland
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	498080	ReF	Rockland, 15 to 60	Not prime farmland
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	498081	ReE	Rockland-Gravelly	Not prime farmland
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	498082	RkF	Rockland-Stecum	Not prime farmland
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	498083	Ro	Rock outcrop	Not prime farmland
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	498084	Rs	Rock slides	Not prime farmland
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	498085	RtC	Rosane loam, 1 to	Not prime farmland
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	498086	Ru	Rough broken land	Not prime farmland
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	498087	Rv	Rough broken land	Not prime farmland
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	498088	SeB	St. Elmo gravelly	Not prime farmland
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	498089	SeD	St. Elmo gravelly	Not prime farmland
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	498090	SeF	St. Elmo gravelly	Not prime farmland
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	498091	SsC	San Isabel stony	Not prime farmland
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	498092	SiC	Savatch sandv	Not prime farmland
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	498093	SuD	Shrine clay loam, 3	Not prime farmland
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	498094	Sw	Slickens	Not prime farmland
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	498095	TrE	Tiamon-Turret	Not prime farmland
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	498096	ToE	Tomichi sandv	Not prime farmland
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	498097	TrE	Troutville gravelly	Not prime farmland
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	498098	W	Water	Not prime farmland
CO	C0658	Chaffee-Lake Area, Colorado, Parts of Chaffee and Lake Counties	498099	Wa	Wet alluvial land	Not prime farmland

State_Sym	Area_Symbol	Area_Name	mukey	Manunit_SYM	Manunit_Name	Farm_Class
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	2920658	Ae	Anishana clay loam	Prime farmland if irrigated and drained
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	94353	An	Anishana clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	Prime farmland if irrigated and drained
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	2766511	BeA	Basid silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	94355	Ba	Bankard soils	Not prime farmland
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	94356	Ba	Bankard and Glenberg soils	Not prime farmland
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	94357	Ca	Casaio and gravelly land	Not prime farmland
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	94358	Di	Deertrail sandy loam, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	2766526	FrB	Fort loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	2766491	FrB	Fort loam, drv, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	94361	GP	Gravel pits	Not prime farmland
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	94360	GbA	Glenberg fine sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	Not prime farmland
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	94362	Gs	Gravelly land-Shale outcrop complex	Not prime farmland
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	2484283	HeA	Chromic Hanlotterris, 0 to 1 percent slopes, ponded	Not prime farmland
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	1547157	IW	Intermittent Water	naill
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	94363	Ke	Aquilar sandy loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	94364	Ko2	Aquilar-Deertrail clay loams, 0 to 4 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	94365	KeA	Korman sandy clay loam, clay substratum variant, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated and drained
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	94366	KaB	Korman sandy clay loam, clay substratum, 1 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated and drained
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	94367	Id	Las clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	Prime farmland if irrigated and drained
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	94368	Ln	Las Animas sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	Not prime farmland
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	94369	LnA	Limon silty clay, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	94370	LnB	Limon silty clay, 1 to 3 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	94371	LeA	Limon clay, alkali, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	94372	LoB	Limon clay, alkali, 1 to 3 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	94373	LiB	Little-Ordway clays, 1 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	2520960	M-W	Miscellaneous Water	Not prime farmland
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	2766549	MeA	Manzanola silty clay loam, drv, saline, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	2766550	MeAB	Manzanola clay loam, drv, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	2766551	MeB	Manzanola silty clay loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	94376	NaA	Neesonah sandy clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	94377	NaB	Neesonah sandy clay loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	94378	NeB	Neesonah sandy clay loam, wet, 1 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated and drained
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	94379	NeA	Neresta clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	94380	NfA	Neresta loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	94381	NfB	Neresta loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	94382	NhA	Neresta loam, clay substratum variant, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated and drained
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	94383	NmA	Numa clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	94384	NmB	Numa clay loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	2611067	OdA	Oterodrv sandy loam, drv, 1 to 4 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	2520940	Olb	Olney loamy sand, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	2520948	OmAB	Olney sandy loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	94390	On	Olney-Ordway, alkali, complex	Not prime farmland
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	94391	OnA	Ordway clay, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	94392	OnAB	Ordway clay, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	94393	OnB	Ordway clay, 1 to 3 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	94394	Or3	Ordway clay, severely eroded	Not prime farmland
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	94395	OsA	Ordway clay, wet, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	94397	OrC	Oterodrv sandy loams, 1 to 9 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	2520952	OrB	Olney sandy loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes, drv	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	2520955	OvE	Olney soils, 0 to 3 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	2484285	Pl.YB	Ustertic Hanlaraisds, 0 to 1 percent slopes, ponded	Not prime farmland
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	94399	RfA	Rocky Ford clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	94400	Sa	Midway clay, 3 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	94401	Se	Midway-Rock outcrop complex, 1 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	94402	SaB	Shingle silty clay loam, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	94403	Sh	Shingle clay loam, evrsium, 3 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	94407	TvAB	Tyrone silty clay loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	2766450	Vf	Valent soils, 1 to 25 percent slopes, severely eroded, drv	Not prime farmland
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	2766438	Va	Valent sand, 1 to 12 percent slopes, drv	Not prime farmland
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	2611036	VaB	Vonid loamy sand, 1 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	2766432	VeC	Valent loamy sand, 1 to 15 percent slopes, drv	Not prime farmland
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	2611053	VnC	Vonid sandy loam, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	2611054	VoC	Vonid sandy loam, 0 to 5 percent slopes, drv	Not prime farmland
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	2766546	VoD	Vonid-Oterodrv sandy loams, 3 to 9 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	2766543	Vs2	Vonid-Oterodrv sandy loams, 1 to 6 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	2766445	VvV	Valent-Vonid complex, 1 to 15 percent slopes, drv	Not prime farmland
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	94359	YsE	Valent sand, svrv, severely eroded, drv, 5 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO025	Crowley County, Colorado	1547158	W	Water	Not prime farmland

State_Sym	Area_Symbol	Area_Name	mukey	Manunit	Manunit_Name	Farm_Class
CO	CO635	Custer County	498372	1	Alvarado very cobbly sandy loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance
CO	CO635	Custer County	498373	10	Feltonia sandy loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO635	Custer County	498374	11	Feltonia-Coutis sandy loams, 6 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO635	Custer County	498375	12	Gelkie sandy loam, 1 to 10 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO635	Custer County	498376	13	Granite-Peeler complex, 25 to 50 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO635	Custer County	498377	14	Hoodle cobbly sandy loam, 1 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO635	Custer County	498378	15	Lake creek-Rock outcrop complex, 35 to 65 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO635	Custer County	498379	16	Lamphier loam, 4 to 20 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO635	Custer County	498380	17	Larand variant very stony sandy loam, 4 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO635	Custer County	498381	18	Leadville very cobbly sandy loam, warm, 8 to 20 percent	Not prime farmland
CO	CO635	Custer County	498382	19	Libeg extremely cobbly sandy loam, 5 to 20 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO635	Custer County	498383	2	Becks gravelly loam, 1 to 5 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance
CO	CO635	Custer County	498384	20	Martinsdale gravelly sandy loam, 3 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO635	Custer County	498385	21	Norrison very cobbly sandy loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO635	Custer County	498386	22	Norrison extremely cobbly sandy loam, 6 to 15 percent	Not prime farmland
CO	CO635	Custer County	498387	23	Norrison extremely cobbly sandy loam, 15 to 40 percent	Not prime farmland
CO	CO635	Custer County	498388	24	Northwater very stony loam, 20 to 45 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO635	Custer County	498389	25	Novar loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance
CO	CO635	Custer County	498390	26	Patent loam, 3 to 10 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO635	Custer County	498391	27	Peeler sandy loam, 10 to 30 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO635	Custer County	498392	28	Piltz loam, 5 to 20 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO635	Custer County	498393	29	Redfeather-Rock outcrop complex, 5 to 35 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO635	Custer County	498394	3	Bovle very gravelly sandy loam, warm, 4 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO635	Custer County	498395	30	Rosert-Rock outcrop complex, 20 to 45 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO635	Custer County	498396	31	Rosert-Woodhall extremely cobbly sandy loams, 20 to 45	Not prime farmland
CO	CO635	Custer County	498397	32	Silvercliff gravelly sandy loam, 1 to 4 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO635	Custer County	498398	33	Silvercliff cobbly sandy loam, 15 to 35 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO635	Custer County	498399	34	Silvercliff very cobbly sandy loam, 30 to 50 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO635	Custer County	498400	35	Skutum fine sandy loam, 5 to 20 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO635	Custer County	498401	36	Splitro-Rock outcrop complex, 25 to 55 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO635	Custer County	498402	37	Stump variant loam, 1 to 4 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO635	Custer County	498403	38	Terre Borosapristis, nearly level	Not prime farmland
CO	CO635	Custer County	498404	39	Trinit, warm-Splitro sandy loams, 5 to 20 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO635	Custer County	498405	4	Bovle-Rock outcrop complex, warm, 25 to 55 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO635	Custer County	498406	40	Troutdale-Rosert complex, 5 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO635	Custer County	498407	41	Troutville extremely cobbly sandy loam, 4 to 15 percent	Not prime farmland
CO	CO635	Custer County	498408	42	Troutville extremely stony sandy loam, 25 to 60 percent	Not prime farmland
CO	CO635	Custer County	498409	43	Ula cobbly sandy loam, 5 to 20 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO635	Custer County	498410	44	Ula-Leadville complex, 25 to 60 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO635	Custer County	498411	45	Ula-Splitro complex, 5 to 20 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO635	Custer County	498412	46	Venable loam, 1 to 4 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance
CO	CO635	Custer County	498413	47	Venable cobbly clay loam, 3 to 10 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO635	Custer County	498414	48	Wichup peat, 1 to 3 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance
CO	CO635	Custer County	498415	49	Wix sandy loam, 3 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO635	Custer County	498416	5	Buena Vista sandy loam, 3 to 20 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO635	Custer County	498417	50	Woodhall-Rosert extremely cobbly sandy loams, 5 to 20	Not prime farmland
CO	CO635	Custer County	498423	51	Cathedral family-Rock outcrop complex, 40 to 150 percent	Not prime farmland
CO	CO635	Custer County	498424	52	Cathedral family, moist-Rock outcrop complex, 40 to 150	Not prime farmland
CO	CO635	Custer County	498425	53	Hechtman-Guffey families complex, 40 to 60 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO635	Custer County	498426	54	Hechtman-Ashcroft families complex, 5 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO635	Custer County	498427	55	Merino family-Rock outcrop complex, 40 to 150 percent	Not prime farmland
CO	CO635	Custer County	498428	56	Rosert family-Crvolls complex, 5 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO635	Custer County	498429	57	Silas family-Cryaquolls association, 0 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO635	Custer County	498430	58	Teaspoon-Trae families complex, 25 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO635	Custer County	498422	59	Water	Not prime farmland
CO	CO635	Custer County	498418	6	Bufffork sandy loam, warm, 5 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO635	Custer County	498419	7	Bufffork variant cobbly sandy loam, 20 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO635	Custer County	498420	8	Coutis sandy loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO635	Custer County	498421	9	Coutis sandy loam, 5 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland

State_Sym	Area_Symbol	Area_Name	mukey	Manunit_SYM	Manunit_Name	Farm_Class
CO	C0637	Fremont	498241	1	Adderton loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498242	10	Bronell gravelly sandy loam, 2 to 13 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498243	100	Sedillo cobbly sandy loam, 4 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498244	101	Sedillo very gravelly loam, 3 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498245	102	Seitz gravelly fine sandy loam, 20 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498246	103	Seitz-Bushvalley complex, 15 to 50 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498247	104	Shanta loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	C0637	Fremont	498248	105	Shanta loam, drv, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	C0637	Fremont	498249	106	Shantlebedford association	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498250	107	Shingle very cobbly sandy loam, 10 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498251	108	Shingle loam, 3 to 20 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498252	109	Shinta loam, 2 to 4 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498253	111	Bronell-Kerhaven complex, 10 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498254	110	Swissvale-Bentisc complex, 20 to 55 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498255	111	Teaspoon very gravelly sandy loam, 15 to 45 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498256	112	Tecolote very gravelly sandy loam, 15 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498257	113	Tecolote very cobbly sandy loam, 5 to 20 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498258	114	Tellura gravelly clay loam, 4 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498259	115	Toles very gravelly sandy loam, 15 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498260	116	Tolosa-Jackson complex, varm, 25 to 50 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498261	117	Travessilla channery loam, 5 to 20 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498262	118	Travessilla-Rock outcrop complex, 5 to 50 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498263	119	Trousdale-Court, warm, complex, 2 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498264	121	Bronell variant-Weaver-Rock outcrop complex, 30 to 60 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498265	120	Uatic-Tornionthais, boulders-Rock outcrop complex, 35 to 90 percent	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498266	121	Uatic-Tornionthais-Sedillo complex, 15 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498267	122	Waas loam, 2 to 9 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498268	123	Wahatova-Toles complex, 25 to 55 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498269	124	Wann-Shanta, drv, association	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	C0637	Fremont	498270	125	Waxey very channery loam, 5 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498271	126	Wetmore-Bando, drv-Rock outcrop complex, 35 to 75 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498272	127	Wetmore-Rock outcrop complex, 40 to 80 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498273	128	Wiley loam, cool, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	C0637	Fremont	2611077	129	Wild silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	C0637	Fremont	498275	131	Bundo very cobbly sandy loam, 30 to 60 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498276	130	Yousa sandy loam, 3 to 10 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498279	131	Water	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	2497271	132	Bassel very gravelly sandy loam, 15 to 55 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	2497272	133	Bushark very gravelly loam, 10 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	2497273	134	Bushark-Seitz association, 15 to 50 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	2497274	135	Catmonite-Catley complex, 15 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	2497275	136	Cathedral very gravelly sandy loam, 15 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	2497276	137	Cathedral very gravelly sandy loam, cool, 10 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	2497277	138	Cathedral-Rock outcrop complex, 20 to 60 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	2497278	139	Chubbise-Grantner sandy loams, 5 to 20 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498277	141	Bushvalley cobbly loam, 5 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	2497278	140	Cornet-Howbert complex, 5 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	2497279	141	Crystola very gravelly sandy loam, 20 to 50 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	2497280	142	Crystola-Rock outcrop complex, 25 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	2497281	143	Felso very gravelly sandy loam, 20 to 55 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	2497282	144	Gibson sandy loam, 2 to 10 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	2497283	145	Gulfed-Bofof association, 5 to 10 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	2497284	146	Headline gravelly loam, 5 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	2497285	147	Howbert-Crystola-Cornet complex, 5 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	2497286	148	Hyville-Catmonite complex, 30 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	2497287	149	Jode loam, 0 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498278	151	Bushvalley-Whiteman cobbly loams, 15 to 50 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	2497288	150	Kansvick loam, 1 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	2497289	151	Omanides-Bushark very gravelly loams, 5 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	2514211	152	Rofork very gravelly sandy loam, 5 to 55 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	2514212	153	Seitz very gravelly loam, 20 to 50 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498280	154	Cassio very gravelly sandy loam, 10 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498280	17	Cassio variant gravelly sandy loam, 5 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498281	18	Castare-Teaspoon complex, 20 to 50 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498282	19	Cathedral-Rock outcrop complex, 45 to 80 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498283	21	Amalia very gravelly loam, 25 to 50 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498284	20	Cerrillos gravelly sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498285	21	Chattum sandy loam, drv, 5 to 20 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498286	22	Coddale very gravelly sandy loam, 20 to 45 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498287	23	Cochton clay loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498288	24	Coringne gravelly loam, 5 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498289	25	Crochornis, 15 to 35 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498290	26	Cumilis-Cumilis, 2 to 5 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance
CO	C0637	Fremont	498291	27	Cureant gravelly sandy loam, 4 to 10 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498292	28	Cureant very cobbly sandy loam, 15 to 45 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498293	29	Cureant variant extremely cobbly loam, 8 to 20 percent slopes, very	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498294	3	Acme lithonias	Null
CO	C0637	Fremont	498295	30	Dumps and Pits	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498296	31	Ess very gravelly sandy clay loam, 20 to 45 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498297	32	Ess very gravelly loam, 30 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498298	33	Ess-Bushvalley complex, 10 to 45 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	2766479	34	Fort loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	C0637	Fremont	498300	35	Fort Collins loam, cool, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	C0637	Fremont	498301	36	Fort Collins loam, cool, 2 to 5 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	C0637	Fremont	498302	37	Fort Collins variant loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498303	38	Granite very gravelly sandy loam, 4 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498304	39	Granite very gravelly sandy loam, 25 to 45 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498305	41	Anwells, 1 to 5 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance
CO	C0637	Fremont	498306	40	Granite-Gulfey very gravelly sandy loams, 25 to 50 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498307	41	Hallborolls, very stony-Rock outcrop complex, 40 to 90 percent	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498308	42	Heath cobbly loam, 5 to 30 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498309	43	Heath-Rock outcrop complex, 15 to 45 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498310	44	Hodden gravelly loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498311	45	Huddle loam, 5 to 20 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498312	46	Jodero sandy loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	C0637	Fremont	498313	47	Jodero variant clay loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498314	48	Kim loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	C0637	Fremont	498315	49	Kim loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498316	51	Arents, 10 to 45 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498317	50	Kim loam, cool, 3 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498318	51	Kim loam, moderately wet, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	C0637	Fremont	498319	52	Kim-Cassio complex, 2 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498320	53	Kim-Shinle complex, 3 to 20 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498321	54	Felso-Rock outcrop complex, 45 to 80 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498322	55	Lark very gravelly fine sandy loam, 10 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498323	56	Lark stony loam, 5 to 20 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498324	57	Libez extremely cobbly sandy loam, 10 to 20 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498325	58	Limon silty clay loam, saline	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498326	59	Limon silty clay loam, moderately wet, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance
CO	C0637	Fremont	498327	61	Bloom silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498328	60	Limon silty clay loam, moderately wet, rarely flooded, 0 to 1 percent	Farmland of statewide importance
CO	C0637	Fremont	498329	61	Limon-Cannon silty clay loams, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance
CO	C0637	Fremont	498330	62	Limon-Cannon silty clay loams, 3 to 12 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance
CO	C0637	Fremont	498331	63	Limon-Cannon silty clay loams, moderately wet, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498332	64	Lovaysse-Travessilla complex, 20 to 50 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498333	65	Manvel silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	C0637	Fremont	498334	66	Manvel silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498335	67	Manvel silty clay loam, saline	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498336	68	Martinsdale loam, 1 to 5 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	C0637	Fremont	498337	69	Martinsdale sandy loam, 3 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498338	71	Boyle very gravelly sandy loam, 10 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498339	70	Martinsdale variant sandy loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	C0637	Fremont	498340	71	Midway clay loam, 3 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498341	72	Midway-Cassio complex, 10 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498342	73	Morset loam, 2 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498343	74	Mussey-Bronell complex, 2 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498344	75	Neville fine sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498345	76	Nunn stony loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes, drv	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498346	77	Nunn clay loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes, drv	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	C0637	Fremont	498347	78	Nunn clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes, drv	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	C0637	Fremont	498349	81	Boyle-Martinsdale complex, 3 to 20 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	2670632	80	Otero dry fine sandy loam, 4 to 9 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498351	81	Otero fine sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498352	82	Pendant extremely gravelly loam, 10 to 40 percent slopes, very stony	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	2611127	83	Pentrose-Midway complex, 1 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498354	84	Pentrose-Midway-Rock outcrop complex, 10 to 45 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498355	85	Quieria gravelly sandy loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498356	86	Raleigh-Rock outcrop complex, 15 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498357	87	Redlamereon-Rock outcrop-Teaspoon complex, 20 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498358	88	Bentisc very channery loam, 20 to 55 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498359	89	Boyle variant channery loam, 5 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498360	91	Boyle-Rock outcrop complex, 40 to 60 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498361	90	Resort very gravelly sandy loam, 20 to 45 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498362	91	Riverson-Rock outcrop complex, 30 to 60 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498363	92	Riverson	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498364	93	Rizzo-Neville complex, 3 to 30 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498365	94	Rizzo-Rock outcrop complex, 15 to 45 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498366	95	Rock outcrop	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498367	96	Rosert very gravelly sandy loam, warm, 10 to 40 percent south slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498368	97	Rosert very gravelly sandy loam, warm, 15 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498369	98	Rogovore very gravelly sandy clay loam, 25 to 50 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0637	Fremont	498370	99	Saxford very cobbly loam, 8 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland

State Sym	Area Symbol	Area Name	mukey	Mapunit SYM	Mapunit Name	Farm Class
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496443	1	Arishana silt clay	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496444	10	Castner very channery loam, 20 to 70 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496564	100	Falcon family-Rock outcrop complex, 40 to 150 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496565	101	Falcon-Trae families complex, 5 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496576	102	Hedtmann-outlet families complex, 40 to 60 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496578	103	Hedtmann family-Rock outcrop complex, 40 to 150 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496568	104	Ashcroft-Needleton families complex, drv, 5 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496562	105	Jodero family, 0 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496583	106	Leadville family, 20 to 45 percent slopes, very stony	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496566	107	Needleton-Ashcroft families complex, 5 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496567	108	Needleton-Rosert families-Rock outcrop complex, 40 to 80 percent	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496582	109	Leadville-Linla families association, 10 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496445	11	Coldereck cobbly sandy loam, 25 to 80 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496581	110	Leal-4 cishean families association, 15 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496575	111	Merino family-Rock outcrop complex, 40 to 150 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496570	112	Rims family, drv, 5 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496573	113	Rims family, drv, 40 to 60 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496561	114	Silas family-Cryaonells association, 0 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496579	115	Teaspoon-Trae families complex, 5 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496580	116	Teaspoon-Trae families complex, 25 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496571	117	Ardie Ustorthents, 40 to 60 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496577	118	Water	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496446	12	Collesate loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496447	13	Crooked Creek silt clay loam	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496448	14	Cureanti very cobbly loam, 2 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496449	15	Denver clay loam, 4 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496450	16	Fariata very gravelly sandy loam, 10 to 35 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496451	17	Fort Collins loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496452	18	Fort Collins loam, 3 to 9 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496453	19	Frishes sandy clay loam, 3 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	2738773	2	Baca silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes, cool	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496455	20	Gelkie sandy loam, 3 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496456	21	Gelkie sandy loam, 15 to 30 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496457	22	Glenbere sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, rarely flooded	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496458	23	Gesmer cobbly clay loam, 20 to 50 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496459	24	Haverson clay loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes, rarely flooded	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496460	25	Holderness loam, 4 to 20 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496461	26	Kim fine sandy loam, 3 to 9 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496462	27	Kim-Caseato complex, 1 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496463	28	Lakshelen-Rock outcrop complex, 15 to 80 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496464	29	Larkson stony loam, 5 to 20 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496465	3	Badito very cobbly sandy loam, 25 to 60 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496466	30	Leadville fine sandy loam, 25 to 55 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496467	31	Liber gravelly sandy loam, 15 to 45 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496468	32	Liber-Coutis complex, 5 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496469	33	Limon silt clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496470	34	Limon clay, 3 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496471	35	Liber cobbly loam, 4 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496472	36	Louviers-Travessilla complex, 3 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496473	37	Louviers-Travessilla-Rock outcrop complex, 25 to 85 percent	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496474	38	Lymanson cobbly fine sandy loam, 20 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496475	39	Maitland fine sandy loam, 1 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496476	4	Baverton-Maitland complex, 25 to 50 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496477	40	Manvel silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496478	41	Manvel silt clay loam saline, 1 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496480	43	Manzano loam	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO627	Huerfano	2766566	44	Manzanola silt clay loam, saline, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	2766567	45	Manzanst silt clay loam, cool, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496483	46	Midway clay, 3 to 20 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496484	47	Minneson-Hero sandy loams, 2 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496485	48	Montesorent complex, 15 to 65 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496486	49	Moron loam, 2 to 18 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496487	5	Bentee-Rock outcrop complex, 3 to 18 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496488	50	Neville fine sandy loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496489	51	Neville fine sandy loam, 3 to 9 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496490	52	Noden sandy loam, 1 to 8 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496491	53	Noden sandy loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496492	54	Noden loam, 1 to 9 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496493	55	Noden-Bond sandy loams, 2 to 18 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496494	56	Noden-Bond loams, 1 to 9 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496495	57	Num clay loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496496	58	Num stony loam, 3 to 9 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496497	59	Num clay loam, 3 to 9 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496498	6	Bond-Rock outcrop complex, 15 to 45 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496499	60	Olney sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496500	61	Olney-Progreso sandy loams, 3 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496501	62	Otero sandy loam, cool, 1 to 9 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496502	63	Otero fine sandy loam, 1 to 9 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496503	64	Pattent loam, 2 to 8 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496504	67	Patts sandy loam, 1 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496507	68	Razor clay loam, 1 to 12 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496508	69	Razor silt clay, 2 to 20 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496509	7	Breece sandy loam, 2 to 18 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496510	70	Rims cobbly sandy loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496511	71	Rims cobbly loam, 20 to 45 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496512	72	Ravensal as Animas complex	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496513	73	Rock outcrop	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496514	74	Rogert-Woodhall complex, 25 to 65 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496515	75	Rubble land-Rock outcrop complex	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496516	76	Schamber gravelly sandy loam, 3 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496517	77	Schamber-Midway complex, 3 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496518	78	Tisworth sandy loam, 2 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496519	79	Tolman-Rock outcrop complex, 25 to 65 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496520	8	Brownsto very gravelly loam, 3 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496521	80	Trae loam, 3 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496524	83	Uinta-Lakshelen fine sandy loams, 4 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496525	84	Ustic Torriorthents-Rock outcrop complex, 5 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496526	85	Utica gravelly sandy loam, 2 to 10 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496527	86	Vona fine sandy loam, 2 to 10 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496528	87	Whatova-Rock outcrop complex, 35 to 65 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496529	88	Welton very channery loam, 4 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496530	89	Wetmore-Mortenson association, 20 to 50 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496531	9	Brownsto very channery loam, 15 to 75 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	2766571	90	Wiles silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes, cool	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO627	Huerfano	2766572	91	Wiles-Kandrix complex, 1 to 6 percent slopes, cool	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496534	92	Willowman gravelly sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496535	93	Willowman gravelly sandy loam, 15 to 30 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496536	94	Woodhall-Rock outcrop complex, 5 to 20 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496563	95	Badito family, 5 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496569	96	Boyle-Jodero families association, 0 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496572	97	Parkes family-Ardie Ustorthents complex, 5 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496574	98	Cathedral family-Rock outcrop complex, 40 to 150 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	496577	99	Cathedral family, moist-Rock outcrop complex, 40 to 150 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	2611103/AV	78	Almasre-Villedry complex, 1 to 4 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	2738774/BdA		Beid silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO627	Huerfano	2484276/EL		Ellicott as Animas complex, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	2611105/Fe		Ute Handstarts, 0 to 2 percent slopes, nondred	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	2611104/FIC		Fort loam, 1 to 5 percent slopes, cool	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO627	Huerfano	2766569/MtA		Manzanst clay loam, saline, cool, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	2766568/MrC		Manzanola silt clay loam, 3 to 9 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	2670631/OdB		Oterodry fine sandy loam, 4 to 9 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	2608833/Ost		Olneat sandy loam, cool, 3 to 12 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated and the product of L (soil erodibility) x C
CO	CO627	Huerfano	2766574/PM		Penrose-Minneson complex, 1 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	2766570/PdD		Penrose-channery loam, 1 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	2611071/TsD		Travessilla sandy loam, 1 to 9 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	2499243/TsE		Travessilla-Rock outcrop complex, 25 to 65 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	2670630/VoC		Vomod sandy loam, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	2611084/WM		Minneous-Wild silt loams, 1 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO627	Huerfano	2766573/WMC		Minowet-Wiles silt loams, 1 to 4 percent slopes, cool	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO627	Huerfano	2611069/WvD		Wiled silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated

State Sym	Area Symbol	Area Name	mukey	Mapunit SYM	Mapunit Name	Farm Class
CO	CO061	Kiowa	94417	1	Absted clay, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO061	Kiowa	2942837	10	Colby silt loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO061	Kiowa	94419	11	Colby silt loam, 3 to 9 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO061	Kiowa	94420	12	Fluvaquents, nearly level*	Not prime farmland
CO	CO061	Kiowa	94421	13	Fort Collins sandy loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance
CO	CO061	Kiowa	94422	1422	Goshen silt loam, rarely flooded	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO061	Kiowa	2933375	15	Haverson clay loam	null
CO	CO061	Kiowa	94424	16	Haversid clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes, saline, occasionally flooded	Not prime farmland
CO	CO061	Kiowa	94425	17	Kevner loamy sand, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO061	Kiowa	94426	18	Kevner variant loamy sand	Not prime farmland
CO	CO061	Kiowa	94427	19	Kim-Canyon complex, 2 to 10 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO061	Kiowa	94428	2	Arada-Absted clays, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO061	Kiowa	94429	20	Kim-Harvey loams, 1 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO061	Kiowa	94430	21	Kim-Harvey-Stoneham loams, 1 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO061	Kiowa	94431	22	Kim-Stoneham-arimer loams, 3 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO061	Kiowa	94432	23	Limon clay	Not prime farmland
CO	CO061	Kiowa	2766553	24	Manzanola silty clay loam, saline, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO061	Kiowa	94434	25	Midway clay, 5 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO061	Kiowa	94435	26	Norka silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance
CO	CO061	Kiowa	2520941	27	Olney loamy sand, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO061	Kiowa	94438	29	Plavas	Not prime farmland
CO	CO061	Kiowa	2766513	3	Baca silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO061	Kiowa	94440	30	Richfield silt loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO061	Kiowa	94441	31	Shingle clay loam, 2 to 10 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO061	Kiowa	94442	32	Singerate-Pullney complex, 1 to 10 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO061	Kiowa	94443	33	Stoneham loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO061	Kiowa	94444	34	Stoneham-Kim loams, 0 to 2 percent slopes, eroded	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO061	Kiowa	94445	35	Sundance loamy sand, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO061	Kiowa	94446	36	Sundance-Fort Collins complex, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO061	Kiowa	2766459	37	Valent loamy sand, 1 to 15 percent slopes, warm	Not prime farmland
CO	CO061	Kiowa	2766449	38	Valent soils, 1 to 25 percent slopes, severely eroded, drv	Not prime farmland
CO	CO061	Kiowa	2766697	39	Vona sandy loam, warm, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated and the product of I (soil erodibility) x C
CO	CO061	Kiowa	94450	4	Baca-Wiley complex, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO061	Kiowa	2766717	40	Vonid-Fort sandy loams, 1 to 9 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO061	Kiowa	94452	41	Wiley loam	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO061	Kiowa	1531406	42	Water	Not prime farmland
CO	CO061	Kiowa	2611037	43	Olney sandy loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO061	Kiowa	2611039	44	Wild silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO061	Kiowa	2611057	45	Vonid sandy loam, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO061	Kiowa	2766433	46	Valent loamy sand, 1 to 15 percent slopes, drv	Not prime farmland
CO	CO061	Kiowa	2766461	47	Valent soils, 1 to 25 percent slopes, severely eroded, warm	Not prime farmland
CO	CO061	Kiowa	2766441	48	Valent sand, 1 to 12 percent slopes, drv	Not prime farmland
CO	CO061	Kiowa	2766460	49	Valent-Bijou loamy sands, 1 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO061	Kiowa	94453	5	Bankard-Glenhere complex, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	Not prime farmland
CO	CO061	Kiowa	2766490	50	Fort loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO061	Kiowa	2766489	51	Fort sandy loam, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO061	Kiowa	2766494	52	Fort loam, drv, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO061	Kiowa	2766708	54	Vona-Olnest complex, warm, 3 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO061	Kiowa	2922201	57	Colby silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	null
CO	CO061	Kiowa	2922203	58	Colby silt loam, 3 to 9 percent slopes	null
CO	CO061	Kiowa	94418	59	Manvel silt loam, warm, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO061	Kiowa	94454	6	Bijou loamy sand, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO061	Kiowa	2922190	60	Olnest loamy sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	null
CO	CO061	Kiowa	3040255	61	Manvel silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	null
CO	CO061	Kiowa	2766468	7	Valent-Vonid complex, 1 to 15 percent slopes, drv	Not prime farmland
CO	CO061	Kiowa	94456	8	Cadoma clay, 1 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO061	Kiowa	94457	9	Canvon-Rock outcrop complex, 1 to 20 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO061	Kiowa	2766512	BdA	Bacid silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO061	Kiowa	94423	Hv	Haversid clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes, rarely flooded	Prime farmland if irrigated and drained
CO	CO061	Kiowa	2608832	M-W	Miscellaneous Water	Not prime farmland
CO	CO061	Kiowa	2920686	MaZ	Manzanist clay loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	null
CO	CO061	Kiowa	2766552	MmA	Manzanola silty clay loam, drv, saline, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO061	Kiowa	2611062	Od	Oterodrv fine sandy loam, 1 to 4 percent slopes	Not prime farmland

State_Sym	Area_Symbol	Area_Name	mukey	Manunit_SYM	Manunit_Name	Farm_Class
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105306	AA	Axon-Anaache complex, 1 to 9 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105307	AC	Axon-Capulim complex, 3 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	147431	AD	Earthen Dam	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	800665	AE	Classic Arcuotillo-Rock outcrop complex, 40 to 60 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105308	AV	Arcuotillo-Beckton complex, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	472807	AW	Allens Park-Wahatoa complex, 30 to 60 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105309	AcC	Acanitudo loam, 0 to 7 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	2808276	AnB	Ascalon sandy loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated and the product of 1 (soil)
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105310	Ap	Anaache cobbly loam, 0 to 25 percent slopes, stony	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105311	AsB	Ascalon sandy loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes, overblown	Prime farmland if irrigated and the product of 1 (soil)
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105370	AsC	Acaular silt loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes, mullied	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	472815	BT	Barela-Raton complex, 1 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	2766517	BaA	Baca silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	2766514	BaB	Basid silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	2766515	BaC	Baca silt loam, 3 to 5 percent slopes, cool	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	2766524	BaE	Baca silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes, cool	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	472841	Bk	Fallriver extremely stony sandy loam, 30 to 60 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	2766516	BnA	Baca silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, cool	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105371	BwA	Bloom silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	472816	Bv	Chacoan silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105329	CC	Chacuaeo-Capulim loams, 1 to 4 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	800668	CD	Chacuaeo-Daleros complex, 2 to 7 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105327	CaD	Razor silty clay, 4 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	472818	Co	Colleeatu loam, 1 to 4 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	1591368	CnA	Calomere clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105331	CnB	Calomere silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	472817	CnC	Carulin loam, 1 to 6 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105335	CnT	Carulin-Torreon complex, 0 to 7 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	472865	Ct	Breece sandy loam, 5 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	472831	CwC	Cumilio Cvaquolls, clay, 2 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	472831	DvV	Hera-Darolo-Vanner complex, 10 to 45 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	472842	DH	Davtonese-Cvaquolls complex, 2 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105336	DaE	Daleros-Rock outcrop complex, 3 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	472820	De	Davtone loam, 3 to 9 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105338	Dm	Demayo very cobbly clay loam, 10 to 30 percent slopes, stony	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105339	Ds	Dea Moines-Rock outcrop complex, 15 to 50 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	472821	Dv	Davtone loam, 5 to 20 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105370	Dv	Feterita silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	2499251	EL	Ellicott-Las Animas complex, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	472823	ES	Embaro-Schwachheim complex, 1 to 9 percent slopes, stony	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105341	Ec	Empire-Demayo complex, 1 to 12 percent slopes, stony	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	472814	EW	Bandarito-Fishers complex, 5 to 20 percent slopes, stony	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105342	EcB	Watts clay loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	2766480	EcC	Fort Collins loam, 0 to 9 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105438	EcD	Fort sandy loam, 1 to 8 percent slopes, cool	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	2611129	EcE	Udic Harlusters, 0 to 2 percent slopes, ponded	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	472824	En	Fishers very cobbly loam, 15 to 45 percent slopes, very stony	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	2766479	EnA	Fort Collins silt loam, 0 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105345	EcF	Olney loam, 1 to 6 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	472812	EuD	Bandarito clay loam, 3 to 9 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	472813	EuE	Bandarito clay loam, 9 to 18 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	472826	EvB	Furia clay loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	472829	GA	Gulnare-Allens Park complex, 5 to 35 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	472830	GI	Greener-Cacharas complex, 5 to 35 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	472828	GP	Gravel Pits	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	472830	GR	Gulnare-Rock outcrop complex, 15 to 50 percent slopes, very stony	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105351	GnB	Glenbera fine sand loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	Prime farmland if irrigated and the product of 1 (soil)
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	472809	GmF	Onia Dxtrocepts	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	472810	Gn	Arnesura very stony loam, 20 to 65 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105348	Gn	Hochine fine sand loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	Prime farmland if irrigated and the product of 1 (soil)
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105353	HvA	Haversid loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes, rarely flooded	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	2933391	HvC	Haversid clay loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes, rarely flooded	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105310	HvD	Humbarspinus gravelly loam, 3 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105358	K2D	Kimera-Chocosa complex, 4 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105359	K2E	Kimera-Chocosa complex, 3 to 9 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105398	KO	Kimera-Oterodry fine sandy loams, 2 to 7 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105360	Km	Kimera loam, 1 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105361	KmC	Wild-Kimera complex, 2 to 9 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	779356	Kw	Kandrix loam, 1 to 6 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105362	KwC	Kandrix-Wyles complex, 1 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	472831	LC	Manzanita-Rock outcrop complex, 4 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	472833	LI	Leadville-Howlett complex, 5 to 40 percent slopes, stony	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	472835	LR	Fallriver-Rubble land complex, 40 to 80 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	472839	RT	Lorenite-Rombo-Sarcillo complex, 25 to 65 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	472840	SI	Lorenite-Sarcillo-Truillo complex, 3 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105372	W	Lorenite-Rock outcrop complex, 15 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105366	La	Lanola chamney loam, 3 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105370	Lb	La Brier silty clay loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	472832	Ld	Leadville cobbly sandy loam, 5 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105303	Lo	La Brier-Rock outcrop complex, 0 to 9 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105369	LoA	Liron silty clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105349	LoB	Liron silty clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	472836	Lt	Littlene sandy loam, 3 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	472838	LvD	Lorenite clay loam, 3 to 20 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	472846	MD	Mine Dumps	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	472860	MG	Tercio-Granger complex, 15 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	443232	MGF	Midway-siltstone-Rock outcrop complex, 1 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105382	Mt	Manuver-Wiles silt loams, 1 to 4 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	472845	MJK	Midway-Chocosa complex, 5 to 35 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105379	MIP	Midway-Razor-Rock outcrop Complex, 1 to 15 Percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	472847	MIR	Midway-Rock outcrop complex, 40 to 70 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	276650	MWC	Manuver-Wiles silt loams, 1 to 4 percent slopes, cool	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105388	MvB	Mauriceanv loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes, wet	Not prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	1547156	MaW	Mauriceanv clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, wet	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	472849	Mf	Moran Family, 5 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	2766554	MmA	Manzanola silty clay loam, drv, saline, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	2766555	MmB	Manzanola clay loam, drv, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	154705	MmA	Manzan silty clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105384	MmB	Manzan silty clay loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	1650877	MmV	Aouic Harlusters, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	472844	MoA	Mauriceanv loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105385	MoB	Mauriceanv loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, drv	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105299	MoR	Mion-Rock outcrop complex, 10 to 75 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	2766537	MaA	Manzan silty clay loam, saline, cool, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	2766538	MtB	Manzan silty clay loam, cool, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105388	MvC	Manvel silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105430	MvD	Midway clay loam, 3 to 15 percent slopes, mullied	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	2766556	MvB	Manzanola silty clay loam, saline, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	2766557	MzB	Manzanola silty clay loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	472851	Mv	Norway-Wiles complex, 1 to 40 percent slopes, stony	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	2992199	OeC	Olney sandy loam, cool, 3 to 12 percent slopes	null
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105397	OeC	Otero sandy loam, 3 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	2838005	OeC	Otero sandy loam, cool, 1 to 9 percent slopes	null
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	2611165	OD	Oterodry fine sand loam, 4 to 9 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105398	OB	Olney sandy loam, 3 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland if irrigated and the product of 1 (soil)
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	2520957	OxC	Olney sandy loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated and the product of 1 (soil)
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	2766536	PM	Penrose-Minneapolis complex, 1 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	2766531	PeD	Penrose chamney loam, 1 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	2499252	PeE	Penrose-Midway-Rock outcrop complex, 10 to 45 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105400	TrD	Truillo loam, moist, 2 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	472852	R2A	Raton-Rock outcrop complex, 3 to 15 percent slopes, very stony	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	472854	RF	Rock outcrop-Rubble land complex, 45 to 90 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105376	RaB	Ravine silty clay loam, 1 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105416	RaC	Ravine silty clay loam, 0 to 4 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105417	RaE	Raku silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	154705	RaE	Raku silty clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105418	RaE	Romousil silt loam, 1 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	472851	IR	Raton cobbly loam, 3 to 20 percent slopes, very stony	Not

CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	472858 ScR	Schwabheim-Rock outcropp complex, 5 to 30 percent slopes, extremely	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105435 ShD	Shinale-Penrose complex, 2 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105436 Sn	Sitcan fine sandy loam, 1 to 4 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated and the product of 1 (soil)
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	472848 Sw	Molinaro loam, 2 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105439 Tf	Torreon-Fuena complex, 9 to 30 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105440 Tl	Torreon-Lorenico complex, 8 to 35 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105441 TbA	Trementina silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	472859 Tcl	Tecolote very cobbly sandy loam, 5 to 15 percent slopes, very stony	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	472863 Tcd	Trauillo sandy loam, 3 to 9 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	472864 Taf	Trauillo sandy loam, 9 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	472862 Tmd	Trauillo loam, 3 to 9 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	472861 TnA	Trementina silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, cool	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105442 TnB	Trementina silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, dry	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105443 To	Torreon silt loam, 1 to 4 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105450 TolD	Torreon clay loam, 3 to 9 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105444 Tol	Torreon soils complex, 5 to 20 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	2499247 Tsd	Travessilla sandy loam, 1 to 9 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	800967 Tsf	Torreon stony clay loam, 5 to 20 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	2493301 Tsf	Travessilla-Rock outcropp complex, 25 to 65 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	800965 Tus	Aridic Calcistolls, 15 to 35 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	2766691 VpB	Yona loamy sand, warm, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated and the product of 1 (soil)
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	472819 Vd	Dargol-Stout-Vamer complex, 1 to 9 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105449 Vt	Villedrv-Travessilla complex, 1 to 8 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	2766701 VnC	Vona sandy loam, warm, 3 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	2933351 VnD	Vona fine sandy loam, 1 to 6 percent slopes	null
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	2766700 VnB	Vona sandy loam, warm, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated and the product of 1 (soil)
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	2611055 VnC	Vond sandy loam, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	2766466 VtC	Valent sand, 1 to 9 percent slopes, warm	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	1545743 W	Water	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	2808277 Wc	Phusbat-Villedrv complex, 1 to 4 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	2766495 Wk	Wiley-Kandrix complex, 1 to 6 percent slopes, cool	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	2611085 Wm	Mimsauq-Villedrv silt loams, 1 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	2611106 Wv	Almaare-Villedrv complex, 1 to 4 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105458 Ww	Wapiti loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	2766498 WcB	Wiley silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes, cool	null
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105459 WcB	Wiley silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105387 WvB	Wild silty clay loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance, if warm enough, and either
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	2611041 WvB	Wild silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105464 YaA	Yattle fine sandy loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated and the product of 1 (soil)
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105465 YaC	Yattle fine sandy loam, 1 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105466 Zr	Rizoza-Rock outcropp complex, 3 to 20 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO628	Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano	105467 ZrF	Rizoza-Rock outcropp complex, 20 to 50 percent slopes	Not prime farmland

State Sym	Area Symbol	Area Name	mukey	Mapunit SYM	Mapunit Name	Farm Class
CO	CO089	Otero County	94715	Aa	Apishapa loamy sand, loamy sand substratum, 0 to 2 percent	Not prime farmland
CO	CO089	Otero County	94716	Ac	Apishapa clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally	Farmland of statewide importance
CO	CO089	Otero County	2611178	BG	Bankard-Glenberg complex, 0 to 2 percent slopes,	Prime farmland if irrigated and either protected from
CO	CO089	Otero County	2766519	BcB	Bacid silty clay loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes, drv	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO089	Otero County	2611176	Bk	Bankard soils, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	Not prime farmland
CO	CO089	Otero County	94719	Bm	Bloom silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally	Prime farmland if irrigated and drained
CO	CO089	Otero County	94720	CaD	Cadoma clay, 2 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO089	Otero County	94721	Cs	Cascao soils and gravelly land	Not prime farmland
CO	CO089	Otero County	2611174	ChA	Cheraw clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, drained,	Prime farmland if irrigated and drained
CO	CO089	Otero County	2611168	CwA	Cheraw clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	Prime farmland if irrigated and drained
CO	CO089	Otero County	2611144	FtB	Fort loam, drv, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO089	Otero County	2611180	GbA	Glenberg fine sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally	Prime farmland if irrigated and either protected from
CO	CO089	Otero County	94723	Gp	Gravel pits	Not prime farmland
CO	CO089	Otero County	2611164	HdB	Hackamore silty clay, 0 to 3 percent slopes, very rarely	Not prime farmland
CO	CO089	Otero County	94728	HvB	Haversid loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes, rarely flooded	Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not
CO	CO089	Otero County	2611186	KFB	Kimera-Fort loams, 0 to 3 percent slopes, drv	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO089	Otero County	94729	KmC	Kim and Wilew loams, 1 to 9 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO089	Otero County	2611145	KmW	Krevbill loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated and drained
CO	CO089	Otero County	2611146	KnA	Korрман-Numa clay loams, 0 to 1 percent slopes, very rarely	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO089	Otero County	2611147	KnB	Korрман-Numa clay loams, 1 to 3 percent slopes, very rarely	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO089	Otero County	2611148	KnW	Korрман-Numa clay loams, wet, 0 to 3 percent slopes, very	Prime farmland if irrigated and drained
CO	CO089	Otero County	1547058	LCD	Lime and Cinder Dump	Not prime farmland
CO	CO089	Otero County	94733	Lm	Las Animas silty clay, 0 to 3 percent slopes, occasionally	Not prime farmland
CO	CO089	Otero County	94735	LoB	Limon silty clay, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO089	Otero County	1546464	M-W	Miscellaneous Water	Not prime farmland
CO	CO089	Otero County	94736	MaB	Manvel silt loam, drv, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO089	Otero County	2766558	MbA	Manzanola silty clay loam, drv, saline, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO089	Otero County	2766559	MbB	Manzanola clay loam, drv, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO089	Otero County	94739	Md2	Manzanola soils, eroded	Not prime farmland
CO	CO089	Otero County	2611095	MeB	Minnequa loam, drv, 1 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO089	Otero County	2611149	MnC	Minnequa silty clay loam, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO089	Otero County	2611093	Mv	Minnequa-Manvel silt loams, 1 to 6 percent slopes, drv	Not prime farmland
CO	CO089	Otero County	2766560	MzB	Manzanola silty clay loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO089	Otero County	2611181	NeB	Nenesta clay loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO089	Otero County	2611150	NmA	Numa clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO089	Otero County	2611151	NmB	Numa clay loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO089	Otero County	2611152	NmC	Numa clay loam, 3 to 5 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO089	Otero County	2611184	NvD	Numa-Cascao complex, 3 to 9 percent slopes, very rarely	Not prime farmland
CO	CO089	Otero County	2611068	OdA	Oterodry sandy loam, drv, 1 to 4 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO089	Otero County	2611030	OIB	Olney sandy loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes, drv	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO089	Otero County	2611047	OnB	Olney sandy loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO089	Otero County	2611162	PeE	Penrose channery loam, 1 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO089	Otero County	2497654	PeF	Penrose-Midway-Rock outcrop complex, 10 to 45 percent	Not prime farmland
CO	CO089	Otero County	2611153	RdA	Rocky Ford silty clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO089	Otero County	2611154	RdB	Rocky Ford silty clay loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO089	Otero County	2611155	RfA	Rocky Ford silty clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes, very rarely	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO089	Otero County	2611156	RfB	Rocky Ford silty clay loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes, very rarely	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO089	Otero County	2611166	RuB	Rockwet silty clay loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes, very rarely	Prime farmland if irrigated and drained
CO	CO089	Otero County	2611157	RuP	Rockwet silty clay loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated and drained
CO	CO089	Otero County	2611170	RmB	Bentfort silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally	Prime farmland if irrigated and drained
CO	CO089	Otero County	2611172	RvA	Rocky Ford silty clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes,	Prime farmland if drained and either protected from
CO	CO089	Otero County	94759	Sc	Midway-Rock outcrop complex, 1 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO089	Otero County	94760	SgC	Shingle loam, 1 to 9 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO089	Otero County	94761	ShC	Shingle loam, gypsum, 1 to 9 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO089	Otero County	2611158	TrA	Timpas silty clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO089	Otero County	2611159	TrB	Timpas silty clay loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO089	Otero County	2499246	TsD	Travessilla sandy loam, 1 to 9 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO089	Otero County	2499241	TsF	Travessilla-Rock outcrop complex, 25 to 65 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO089	Otero County	94764	TvB	Tvrone silty clay loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO089	Otero County	2611160	TvW	Tvrone silty clay loam, wet, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated and reclaimed of excess
CO	CO089	Otero County	2766439	Va	Valent sand, 1 to 12 percent slopes, drv	Not prime farmland
CO	CO089	Otero County	2611050	VdC	Vonid sandy loam, 0 to 5 percent slopes, drv	Not prime farmland
CO	CO089	Otero County	1546462	W	Water	Not prime farmland
CO	CO089	Otero County	2611087	WM	Minnequa-Wilid silt loams, 1 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO089	Otero County	2611161	WtA	Wapiti clay loam, drv, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated

State_Sym	Area_Symbol	Area_Name	mukey	Manunit_SYM	Manunit_Name	Farm_Class
CO	CO099	Prowers	94824	1422	Goshen silt loam, rarely flooded	Farmland of statewide importance
CO	CO099	Prowers	2768085	1967	Buffalo Park-Ullyesses silt loams, 1 to 3 percent slopes, eroded	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO099	Prowers	94792	Ac	Arvada clay loam	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	2766521	BaB	Baca silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO099	Prowers	2766522	BaC	Baca silt loam, 3 to 5 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO099	Prowers	2766520	BdA	Bacid silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO099	Prowers	94795	Bk	Breaks-alluvial land complex	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	94796	CaA	Campo clay loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO099	Prowers	2992206	CbB	Colby silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	null
CO	CO099	Prowers	3079055	CbC	Colby silt loam, 3 to 5 percent slopes	null
CO	CO099	Prowers	94797	CdE	Cascade sandy loam, 3 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	94798	CfA	Colby fine sandy loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance
CO	CO099	Prowers	94799	CfAB	Colby fine sandy loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	94800	CfB	Colby fine sandy loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance
CO	CO099	Prowers	94801	CfC	Colby fine sandy loam, 3 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	2837699	CmA	Colby silt loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO099	Prowers	2942836	CmAB	Colby silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO099	Prowers	94804	CmB	Colby silt loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO099	Prowers	94805	CmC	Colby silt loam, 3 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	94806	CoA	Colby silt loam, clay substratum, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO099	Prowers	94807	CsA	Colby silt loam, sand substratum, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	3079053	CtB	Colby silt loam, terrace, 0 to 2 percent slopes	null
CO	CO099	Prowers	3079054	CvA	Colby fine sandy loam, terrace, 0 to 2 percent slopes	null
CO	CO099	Prowers	3079052	CvB	Colby fine sandy loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	null
CO	CO099	Prowers	3079083	CvC	Colby fine sandy loam, 3 to 5 percent slopes	null
CO	CO099	Prowers	94810	FeB	Fort Collins loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO099	Prowers	94811	FeC	Fort Collins loam, 3 to 5 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO099	Prowers	94812	FnC	Fort Collins sandy loam, 3 to 5 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance
CO	CO099	Prowers	94851	GPA	Gravel pits	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	2484521	GaA	Glenberg sandy loam, moist, 0 to 1 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	Farmland of statewide importance
CO	CO099	Prowers	2484522	GaAB	Glenberg sandy loam, moist, 0 to 3 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	Farmland of statewide importance
CO	CO099	Prowers	2933562	GbA	Glenberg fine sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	Farmland of statewide importance
CO	CO099	Prowers	2933563	GbB	Glenberg sandy loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	Farmland of statewide importance
CO	CO099	Prowers	2484524	Ge	Glenberg fine sandy loam, clayey substratum	Farmland of statewide importance
CO	CO099	Prowers	2484525	Gf	Glenberg fine sandy loam, wet	Farmland of statewide importance
CO	CO099	Prowers	2484526	GhA	Glenberg and Haverson fine sandy loams, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance
CO	CO099	Prowers	2484527	GhAB	Glenberg and Haverson fine sandy loams	Farmland of statewide importance
CO	CO099	Prowers	2484528	GhB	Glenberg and Haverson fine sandy loams, 1 to 3 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance
CO	CO099	Prowers	2484529	GnA	Glenberg and Haverson soils, sand substrata, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	2484530	GnAB	Glenberg and Haverson soils, sand substrata	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	2484531	GnB	Glenberg and Haverson soils, sand substrata, 1 to 3 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	94826	HaAB	Kandrix loam, sand and gravel substratum, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO099	Prowers	94828	HaC	Kandrix loam, sand and gravel substratum, 3 to 5 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO099	Prowers	94829	HaD2	Kandrix loam, sand and gravel substratum, 5 to 9 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	2933582	Hm	Haverson loam	null
CO	CO099	Prowers	2484532	Hn	Haversid loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	Prime farmland if irrigated and either protected from flooding or not
CO	CO099	Prowers	94831	KeA	Kormann clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO099	Prowers	94832	KeB	Kormann clay loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO099	Prowers	94833	KmA	Kormann clay loam, clay substratum, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO099	Prowers	94834	KmB	Kormann clay loam, sand substratum, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	94835	KvA	Kormann clay loam, wet, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated and drained
CO	CO099	Prowers	94836	La	Las loam	Prime farmland if irrigated and drained
CO	CO099	Prowers	94837	Lb	Las loam, clay substratum	Prime farmland if irrigated and drained
CO	CO099	Prowers	94838	Lc	Las clay loam	Prime farmland if irrigated and drained
CO	CO099	Prowers	94839	Ld	Las clay loam, clay substratum	Prime farmland if irrigated and drained
CO	CO099	Prowers	94840	Lm	Las clay loam, saline	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	94841	Ln	Las clay loam, sand substratum	Prime farmland if irrigated and drained
CO	CO099	Prowers	94842	Lo	Las clay loam, sand substratum, saline	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	94843	Lp	Las clay, wet, saline	Prime farmland if irrigated and drained
CO	CO099	Prowers	94844	Ls	Las sandy loam	Farmland of statewide importance
CO	CO099	Prowers	94845	Lt	Las Animas soils	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	94846	Lu	Lincoln loam	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	94847	Lv	Lincoln sand	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	94848	Lw	Lismas clay loam	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	94849	Lx	Lismas-Shale outcrop complex	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	94850	Ly	Loamy alluvial land	Prime farmland if irrigated and drained
CO	CO099	Prowers	94852	MAA	Manvel loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO099	Prowers	3040252	MbA	Manvel silt loam, terrace, 0 to 2 percent slopes	null
CO	CO099	Prowers	94803	MbB	Manvel silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO099	Prowers	3040256	MbC	Manvel silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	null
CO	CO099	Prowers	3040247	MfB	Manvel fine sandy loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	94853	MmC	Manvel and Minnequa loams, 1 to 5 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO099	Prowers	3040248	MsB	Manvel fine sandy loam, terrace, 0 to 2 percent slopes	null
CO	CO099	Prowers	94854	NmA	Nenesta clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO099	Prowers	94855	NmB	Nenesta clay loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO099	Prowers	94856	NoA	Nenesta clay loam, saline, 0 to 1 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	94857	NoB	Nenesta clay loam, saline, 1 to 3 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	94858	NsA	Nenesta clay loam, wet, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated and drained
CO	CO099	Prowers	94859	NtA	Numa clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO099	Prowers	94860	NtB	Numa clay loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO099	Prowers	94861	NtC	Numa clay loam, 3 to 5 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO099	Prowers	2837851	NuA	Numa clay loam, moist, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO099	Prowers	94862	NuB	Numa clay loam, saline, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated and drained
CO	CO099	Prowers	2920763	NuC	Numa clay loam, moist, 3 to 5 percent slopes	null
CO	CO099	Prowers	94863	NwB	Numa clay loam, wet, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated and drained
CO	CO099	Prowers	2838003	Od	Oterodrv fine sandy loam, 1 to 4 percent slopes	null
CO	CO099	Prowers	2838004	OdB	Oterodrv fine sandy loam, 4 to 9 percent slopes	null
CO	CO099	Prowers	94864	OtB	Otero sandy loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance
CO	CO099	Prowers	94865	OtC	Otero sandy loam, 3 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	2992071	PLY	Plavas	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	679106	PLYB	Ustertie Hanlraids, 0 to 1 percent slopes, ponded	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	94866	PaC	Penrose loam, 1 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	2766530	PeD	Penrose channerv loam, 1 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	94867	Pk	Penrose-Rock outcrop complex	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	94868	PnC	Potter and Nihil gravelly soils, 1 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	94869	PnE	Potter and Stoneham gravelly loams, 3 to 35 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	94870	PaC	Pultnev loam, 1 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	94871	RaB	Renohill loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	94872	RaC	Renohill loam, 3 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	94873	RbB	Renohill loam, moderately shallow, 1 to 3 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	94874	RbC	Renohill loam, moderately shallow, 3 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	94875	RdB	Renohill sandy loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	94876	RdC	Renohill sandy loam, 3 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	94877	RhB	Renohill sandy loam, moderately shallow, 1 to 3 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	94878	RhC	Renohill sandy loam, moderately shallow, 3 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	94879	Rk2	Renohill soils, eroded	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	94880	RmA	Richfield silt loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance
CO	CO099	Prowers	94881	RoA	Rocky Ford clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance
CO	CO099	Prowers	94882	RoB	Rocky Ford clay loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance
CO	CO099	Prowers	94883	RoC	Rocky Ford clay loam, 3 to 5 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO099	Prowers	94884	RnA	Rocky Ford, clay substratum, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated and drained
CO	CO099	Prowers	94885	RsA	Rocky Ford clay loam, sand substratum, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO099	Prowers	94886	RsB	Rocky Ford clay loam, sand substratum, 1 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO099	Prowers	94887	RsC	Rocky Ford clay loam, sand substratum, 3 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	94888	RtB	Rocky Ford clay loam, over limestone, 1 to 3 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	94889	RtC	Rocky Ford clay loam, over limestone, 3 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	94890	RuA	Rocky Ford clay loam, saline, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance

CO	CO099	Prowers	94891 RuB	Rocky Ford clay loam, saline, 1 to 3 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance
CO	CO099	Prowers	94892 RwA	Rocky Ford clay loam, wet, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated and drained
CO	CO099	Prowers	94893 RwB	Rocky Ford clay loam, wet 1 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated and drained
CO	CO099	Prowers	94894 Sa	Saline wet land	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	94895 Te	Terrace escarpments	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	2499250 Tr	Travessilla-Rock outcrop complex, 1 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	2499245 TsD	Travessilla sandy loam, 1 to 9 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	94901 Tw2	Tyrone soils, eroded	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	94902 TwB	Tyrone loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	94903 TxC	Tyrone loam, 3 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	2768086 UlnB	Ulysses sandy loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance
CO	CO099	Prowers	94905 UeB	Ulysses silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance
CO	CO099	Prowers	2766447 VtE	Valent soils, 10 to 25 percent slopes, severely eroded, drv	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	2766692 VaB	Vona loamy sand, warm, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated and the product of I (soil erodibility) x C
CO	CO099	Prowers	2766695 VaC	Vona loamy sand, warm, 3 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	2766464 VnD	Valent sand, 1 to 9 percent slopes, warm	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	2766465 VnE	Valent soils, 1 to 25 percent slopes, severely eroded, warm	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	2766699 VoB	Vona sandy loam, warm, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated and the product of I (soil erodibility) x C
CO	CO099	Prowers	2766703 VoC	Vona sandy loam, warm, 3 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	2766542 Vs2	Vonid soils, 1 to 6 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	2766706 VsB2	Vona soils, warm, 0 to 5 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	2766440 VtC	Valent sand, 1 to 12 percent slopes, drv	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	2766444 VtE	Valent sand, 9 to 20 percent slopes, drv	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	94809 VxE	Valent sand, very severely eroded, drv, 5 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	2992069 VxF	Valent sand, very severely eroded, 5 to 25 percent slopes	null
CO	CO099	Prowers	679107 W	Water	Not prime farmland
CO	CO099	Prowers	94912 WaB	Wiley silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO099	Prowers	94913 WaC	Wiley silt loam, 3 to 5 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO099	Prowers	94914 WbB2	Wiley and Baca soils, 0 to 3 percent slopes, eroded	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO099	Prowers	94915 WbC2	Wiley and Baca soils, 3 to 5 percent slopes, eroded	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	CO099	Prowers	2611044 WvB	Wild silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated

State_Sym	Area_Symbol	Area_Name	mukey	Manunit_SYM	Manunit_Name	Farm_Class
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95481	AR	Arvada-Kevner complex, 0 to 4 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	2611108	AV	Almora-Villedrv complex, 1 to 4 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95478	Ab	Absted clay loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95479	Am	Adena-Manvel loams	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95480	An	Anishana clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally	Prime farmland if irrigated and reclaimed of excess salts and sodium
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	2766523	Be	Bacid silty clay loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes, drv	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95483	Bk	Bankard sand, 0 to 2 percent slopes, frequently flooded	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95484	Bm	Bloom silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally	Prime farmland if irrigated and reclaimed of excess salts and sodium
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95474	CR	Cathedral family, moist-Rock outcrop complex, 40 to 150	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95485	CaE	Cascaio very gravelly sandy loam, 2 to 20 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95486	CsE	Cascaio-Midwav complex, 5 to 35 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95476	DAM	Orthents	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95487	DeD	Denver clay loam, 3 to 9 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95489	EBF	Eutroboralfs, steep	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95468	FT	Falcon-Trap families complex, 5 to 40 percent slopes,	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	2766482	FrB	Fort loam, 1 to 5 percent slopes, cool	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	2766481	FrB	Fort loam, drv, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95490	GcA	Gilcrest sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95491	GeD	Gilcrest gravelly sandy loam, 3 to 9 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95492	GfC	Gilcrest-Gilcrest moderately deep sandy loams, 3 to 6	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95493	Gh	Glenberg-Haversid complex, 0 to 2 percent slopes,	Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95473	HG	Hechtman-Guffey families complex, 40 to 60 percent	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95475	HH	Hechtman-Ashcroft families complex, 5 to 25 percent	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95494	Ha	Haversid silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, frequently flooded	Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95495	He	Heldt silty clay loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	2484284	HeA	Chronic Haplotorrerts, 0 to 1 percent slopes, ponded	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95470	Hm	Herm family, 5 to 25 percent slopes, very stony	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95496	Ho	Holderness silt loam, 3 to 9 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95497	Ke	Kevner loamy sand, wet, 0 to 3 percent slopes, occasionally	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95498	Km	Kim fine sandy loam	Prime farmland if irrigated and the product of 1 (soil erodibility) x C (climate
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95499	LaE	Lanorte channery loam, 3 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95500	LbD	Larkson loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95501	LeE	Larkson stony loam, 5 to 20 percent slope	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95502	Lm	Las Animas fine sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes,	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95503	LnA	Limon silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95504	LnB	Limon silty clay loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95505	LoA	Limon silty clay, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95506	LyB	Limon silty clay, 0 to 5 percent slopes, silted	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	2608831	M-W	Miscellaneous Water	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95472	MR	Merino family-Rock outcrop complex, 40 to 150 percent	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	2611091	MaA	Manvel silt loam, drv, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	2611090	MaB	Manvel silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes, drv	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95509	Me	Manvel silt loam, silted, 3 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95510	Mn	Manvel silt loam, wet, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated and reclaimed of excess salts and sodium
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	2766561	MoD	Manzanola clay loam, drv, 3 to 9 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	2766562	MpA	Manzanola silty clay loam, drv, saline, 0 to 2 percent	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95513	MsD	Midwav-Shale outcrop complex, 1 to 9 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	2611100	Mv	Minnequa-Manvel silt loams, 1 to 6 percent slopes, drv	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	2611089	MvC	Manvel silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	2766564	MzA	Manzanola silty clay loam, saline, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	2766563	MzC	Manzanola silty clay loam, 3 to 9 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95515	NdE	Nederland stony sandy loam, 9 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95516	NdE	Neville sandy loam, 3 to 9 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	2933384	NnA	Nunn clay loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes, drv	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	2933385	NnB	Nunn clay loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes, drv	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95517	NnC	Nunn stony loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes, drv	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	2933383	NnD	Nunn stony loam, 3 to 9 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	2933386	NnC	Nunn clay loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95519	NuD	Nunn clay loam, 3 to 9 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	2611061	Oda	Oterodrv sandy loam, drv, 1 to 4 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	2520942	Oe	Olney loamy sand, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	2520944	Of	Olney sandy loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	2520950	OFB	Olney sandy loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes, drv	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95524	ORD	Otero gravelly sandy loam, 3 to 9 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95525	Ora	Otero clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95526	OrB	Otero clay loam, 1 to 3 percent slope	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	2497658	PLYB	Ustertic Hanlarzids, 0 to 1 percent slopes, ponded	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	2766535	PM	Penrose-Minnequa complex, 1 to 15 percent slopes, drv	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95529	PW	Pinata-Wetmore association	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	2766534	PmE	Penrose-Minnequa complex, 1 to 15 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95528	PrF	Penrose-Midwav-Rock outcrop complex, 10 to 45 percent	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95530	Ra	Razor clay loam	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95531	Re2	Razor clay, eroded	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95532	RfA	Rocky Ford silty clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95533	RfB	Rocky Ford silty clay loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95534	RfC	Rocky Ford silty clay loam, wet	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95471	Rn	Rine family, 40 to 60 percent slopes, rubbly	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95536	SeD	Shingle silty clay loam, 1 to 9 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95538	StE	Stroupe extremely stony loam, 9 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95539	TM	Table Mountain association	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95469	Te	Teclote very gravelly sandy loam, 15 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95541	TrG	Travessilla-Rock outcrop complex, 30 to 90 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	2499244	TsD	Travessilla sandy loam, 1 to 9 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	2499242	TsF	Travessilla-Rock outcrop complex, 25 to 65 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	2766442	Va	Valent sand, 1 to 12 percent slopes, drv	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95543	VmE	Vamer-Rock outcrop complex, 5 to 25 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	2611033	Vn	Vonid loamy sand, 1 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	2611058	Vo	Vonid sandy loam, 0 to 5 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	2611059	VoC	Vonid sandy loam, 0 to 5 percent slopes, drv	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	2766544	Vs2	Vonid-Oterodrv sandy loams, 1 to 6 percent slopes, eroded	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95550	W	Water	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95547	WE	Wetmore-Mortenson association	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	2611086	WM	Minnequa-Wild silt loams, 1 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	2766501	WMC	Minowet-Wilex silt loams, 1 to 4 percent slopes, cool	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	2766527	WcB	Wild silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95548	Wk	Wilex-Kim loams	Prime farmland if irrigated
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	95549	Wo	Wormser silt loam	Not prime farmland
CO	C0626	Pueblo Area	2520937	WvB	Wild silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes, drv	Prime farmland if irrigated

Appendix E--Region, Sub-Region, and County Gross Domestic Product

	County	2019 GDP	Percent of sub-region	Percent of SCEDD region	Growth from 2018 to 2019	Growth from 2017 to 2018
Sub-region						
Upper Arkansas						
	Chaffee	\$ 786,227,000	32.62%	7.48%	3.1%	-8.5%
	Custer	\$ 98,459,000	4.09%	0.94%	5.6%	0.3%
	Fremont	\$ 1,201,393,000	49.85%	11.43%	2.1%	5.2%
	Lake	\$ 324,130,000	13.45%	3.08%	8.6%	13.4%
Total--Upper Arkansas		\$ 2,410,209,000	100.00%	22.93%		
South Central						
	Huerfano	\$ 163,122,000	26.3%	1.55%	-7.0%	14.9%
	Las Animas	\$ 458,063,278	73.7%	4.36%	-11.3%	N/A
Total--South Central		\$ 621,185,278	100.0%	5.91%		
Southeastern Plains						
	Baca	\$ 104,879,000	6.1%	1.00%	3.0%	3.3%
	Bent	\$ 80,804,000	4.7%	0.77%	1.1%	7.5%
	Crowley	\$ 103,630,000	6.0%	0.99%	10.6%	4.2%
	Kiowa	\$ 58,559,000	3.4%	0.56%	-5.1%	-2.1%
	Las Animas	\$ 480,314,000	28.0%	4.57%	6.9%	14.9%
	Otero	\$ 506,411,000	29.5%	4.82%	3.7%	3.8%
	Prowers	\$ 380,788,000	22.2%	3.62%	2.0%	2.2%
Total--Southeastern Plains		\$ 1,715,385,000	100.00%	16.32%		
Pueblo County						
	Pueblo	\$ 5,765,843,790	100.00%	54.85%	0.5%	N/A
Total--SCEDD Region		\$ 10,512,623,068	100.00%			