

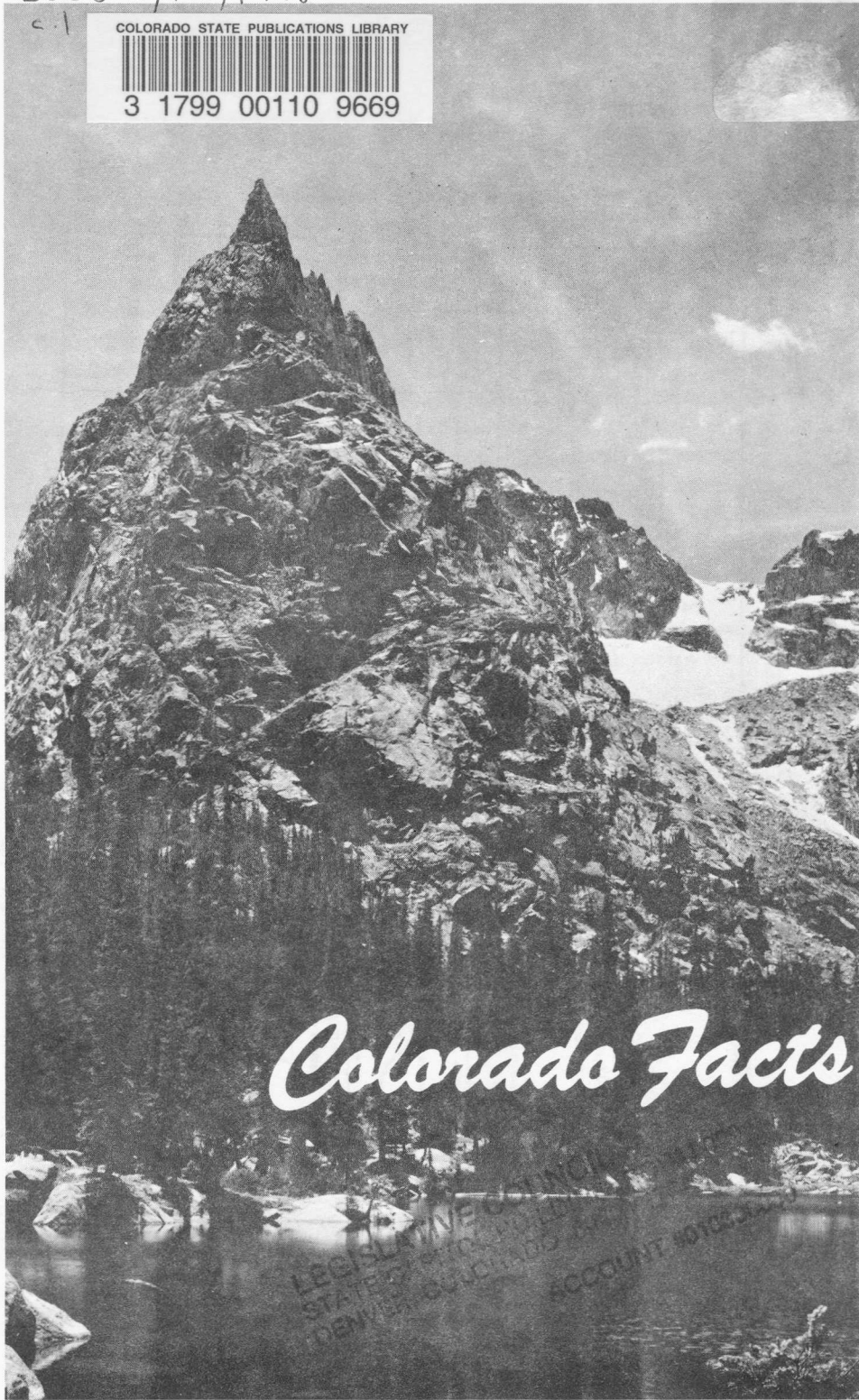
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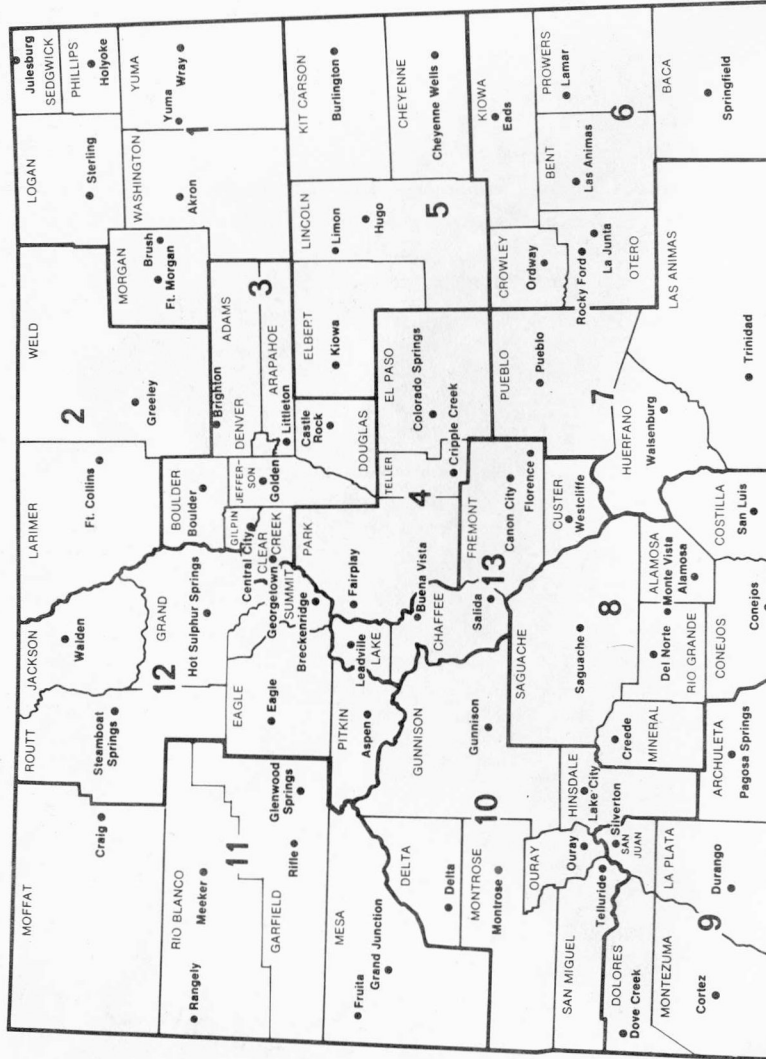
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Colorado Facts

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
STATE OF COLORADO
DENVER, COLORADO
ACCOUNT 401023

COLORADO



COLORADO FACTS

The following information has been compiled in order to answer the most frequently asked questions about our state:

Climate and Topography

Because of Colorado's varied topography, her climate is varied also. Generally speaking, it is a mild semi-arid climate. The eastern half of the state is alluvial high plains; the western half is a land of mountains and plateaus and some of the most magnificent scenery in the United States. With 54 peaks over 14,000 feet high, the state's average elevation is 6,800 feet. The lowest point is 3,350 feet and the highest is 14,433, atop Mount Elbert. Denver is at 5,280 feet (thus the name "Mile High City").

Midday temperatures often reach the high 80's and 90's in the summertime; however, due to Colorado's low humidity most people remain comfortable. Air conditioning is seldom necessary.

While the first snows may occur in early September, they soon disappear under the warm, bright sun, and Indian Summer may last well into December. Then winter comes in earnest to the high country. But at lower elevations, where the largest concentration of the population lives, winters are fairly mild and snow seldom stays on the ground more than a few days.

THE COVER
Lone Eagle Peak

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
STATE CAPITOL BUILDING, ROOM 029
DENVER, COLORADO 80203-1784
ACCOUNT #0103000110

| | AVERAGE TEMPERATURE (°F) | | PRECIPITATION (INCHES) | |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|------|---------------------------|-------------------|
| | January | July | Total | Total Snowfall |
| | Alamosa | 17.4 | 64.9 | 6.56 |
| Burlington | 29.7 | 75.5 | 16.35 | 24.8 |
| Canon City | 36.6 | 75.8 | 12.66 | 36.6 |
| Colorado Springs | 28.6 | 70.5 | 13.19 | 37.8 |
| Cortez | 27.5 | 71.3 | 13.20 | 39.2 |
| Delta | 26.4 | 74.8 | 7.75 | 19.3 |
| Denver | 32.6 | 74.4 | 12.89 | 55.4 |
| Durango | 25.3 | 67.0 | 18.04 | 65.4 |
| Fort Collins | 26.6 | 71.0 | 14.19 | 42.9 |
| Fort Morgan | 24.3 | 73.9 | 12.86 | 26.0 |
| Glenwood Springs | 24.8 | 71.1 | 18.03 | 66.6 |
| Grand Junction | 26.0 | 78.2 | 8.29 | 28.6 |
| Greeley | 24.1 | 73.7 | 11.12 | 32.3 |
| Gunnison | 11.4 | 62.3 | 11.00 | 54.1 |
| Lamar | 29.9 | 79.1 | 14.20 | 24.9 |
| Leadville | 17.9 | 56.9 | 18.48 | 124.7 |
| Montrose | 26.5 | 73.3 | 9.11 | 32.2 |
| Pueblo | 30.0 | 76.5 | 11.84 | 32.6 |
| Rifle | 23.2 | 71.0 | 10.93 | 36.9 |
| Rocky Ford | 30.0 | 76.8 | 12.31 | 23.1 |
| Steamboat Springs | 15.1 | 62.0 | 23.47 | 163.8 |
| Sterling | 24.8 | 73.9 | 14.10 | 31.2 |

Spectator Sports and Cultural Activities

Both professional and college sports are very popular in Colorado. The University of Colorado, with traditional rivals in Oklahoma and Nebraska, is in the Big 8 Conference, and Colorado State University is a member of the Western Athletic Conference. Of course, the U.S. Air Force Academy's traditional rival is Army.

The University of Denver hockey team and the hockey unit from Colorado College are among the nation's best. Denver also has professional baseball, football, basketball, hockey, and soccer.

Colorado's cultural community is broadly developed, with the Aspen Music Festival and other summer institutes, Central City Play Festival, Denver Symphony Orchestra, Colorado Springs Symphony Orchestra, Pueblo Civic Symphony, Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, Denver Art Museum, Sangre De Cristo Arts and Conference Center (in Pueblo), as well as others. Stock companies and touring Broadway shows offer much to theater patrons. Many smaller communities have active theater groups, community orchestras, and arts and crafts programs.

Recreation

Outdoor recreation is unusually varied in Colorado: trout and warm-water fishing, big and small game hunting, picnicking and camping in the Rockies, water sports, tennis, golf and skiing.

Colorado has some 30 major ski areas, featuring excellent snow conditions, varied terrain, and spectacular scenery. Most ski areas are open from November through April.

Golf is played in many cities in Colorado more than 300 days out of the year. Outdoor tennis courts can be found in most communities, and indoor courts are available in many cities and resort areas.

For further information contact: U.S. Forest Service, Rocky Mtn. Regional Office, Denver Federal Center, Denver, Colorado; National Park Service, P.O. Box 26248, Lakewood, Colorado 80226; U.S. Geological Survey, Map Sales, Denver Federal Center, Denver, Colorado 80225; Colorado Division of Wildlife, 6060 Broadway, Denver, Colorado 80216; Colorado Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation, 1313 Sherman, Room 618, Denver, Colorado 80203; Colorado Ski Country U.S.A., 1410 Grant St., Denver, Colorado 80203.

Schools and Education

In 1977-78 there were 561,800 students enrolled in Colorado public elementary and secondary schools and approximately 34,500 students enrolled in private elementary and secondary schools. The student-to-teacher ratio in public schools was 19.3 to 1. Financial support for public schools is provided by state revenues and local property taxes. Colorado follows the philosophy of local control of schools, and additional information on schools may be obtained from school district offices.

To receive information about teaching certification requirements in Colorado, contact the Colorado Department of Education, 530 State Office Building, Denver, Colorado 80203.

Colleges and Universities

There are 16 four-year colleges and universities in Colorado, including the Air Force Academy, with a combined 1977 fall enrollment of 113,361 students. In addition, there are 11 two-year colleges with a 1977 enrollment of 40,551. A listing of these schools, their location and enrollment follows:

Four-year State Supported

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO in Boulder with 21,767 students is the largest university in the state. Graduate programs are offered in arts, business administration, education, engineering, humanities, law, mathematics, medicine, and science with Ph.D. offerings in many of the same areas. There are 8,832 additional students enrolled in the Denver Campus, 4,127 in the Colorado Springs Campus, and 1,477 at the Medical School in Denver.

COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY in Fort Collins has 17,812 students in its colleges: agriculture, business, engineering, forestry and natural resources, home economics, humanities and social sciences, natural sciences, veterinary medicine and biomedical sciences.

UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN COLORADO in Greeley, has 11,048 students. It specializes in teacher training and education.

METROPOLITAN STATE COLLEGE in Denver, with 12,587 students, offers programs of instruction in semi-professional technical education in science and engineering technology, as well as liberal arts curriculum.

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN COLORADO in Pueblo, with 5,166 students, offers BA and BS degrees and a two-year trade technical-vocational program.

WESTERN STATE COLLEGE in Gunnison has 3,152 students. It specializes in education and liberal arts and offers graduate and undergraduate degrees.

MESA COLLEGE in Grand Junction has 3,068 students. It offers both four-year and two-year degrees.

ADAMS STATE COLLEGE in Alamosa, is a liberal arts college with a current enrollment of 2,345 offering both undergraduate and graduate degrees.

FORT LEWIS COLLEGE in Durango, a four-year liberal arts school with 2,787 students, operates on a trimester program. It offers a "pre-professional" program in agriculture, engineering, and forestry.

COLORADO SCHOOL OF MINES in Golden is the nation's oldest and largest center for mineral resources education with 2,584 students. Graduate degrees are offered in the areas of chemical and petroleum refining engineering, geological, geophysical, metallurgical, mining, and petroleum engineering.

Four-year Private

UNIVERSITY OF DENVER is the largest private university in the eight Mountain States with a current enrollment of 7,753. The University offers degrees in arts, business, education, humanities, law, mathematics, science, and theology.

THE COLORADO COLLEGE in Colorado Springs is a private, co-educational college specializing in arts and sciences. Programs in pre-engineering, business administration and the humanities are also offered. Current enrollment is 1,928 students.

REGIS COLLEGE in Denver is a Catholic college of liberal arts and sciences with an enrollment of 1,076.

LORETTO HEIGHTS COLLEGE is a four-year Catholic college of arts and sciences in Denver. Current enrollment is 864.

COLORADO WOMEN'S COLLEGE in Denver has an enrollment of 416 and specializes in the liberal arts.

National Service Academy

U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, located near Colorado Springs, has 4,572 students.

Two-Year State-Supported Colleges

Colorado's 11 two-year state-supported colleges, with 14 campuses, offer vocational and technical programs and associate degrees for transfer to four-year institutions:

| | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|--------|
| COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF | | |
| DENVER (3 campuses) | Denver, Lakewood | 15,271 |
| PIKES PEAK COMMUNITY COLLEGE | Colorado Springs | 5,216 |
| ARAPAHOE COMMUNITY COLLEGE | Littleton | 6,005 |
| AIMS COLLEGE | Greeley | 3,716 |

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|-------|
| COLO. MOUNTAIN COLLEGE | Glenwood Springs & Leadville | 4,614 |
| TRINIDAD STATE JR. COLLEGE | Trinidad | 1,309 |
| NORTHEASTERN JR. COLLEGE | Sterling | 1,147 |
| OTERO JUNIOR COLLEGE | La Junta | 851 |
| MORGAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE | Fort Morgan | 636 |
| LAMAR COMMUNITY COLLEGE | Lamar | 474 |
| COLO. NORTHWESTERN COM. COL. | Rangely | 1,312 |

Military Installations

The principal military installations in Colorado include the Army's Ft. Carson mechanized infantry division south of Colorado Springs, with about 21,000 officers and enlisted men; Lowry Air Force Base in Denver, with about 10,000 personnel; the Peterson Air Force Base-North American Air Defense Command complex in Colorado Springs, with about 5,300 military personnel; the U.S. Air Force Academy, also in Colorado Springs (7,000 personnel); the Air National Guard's Buckley Field, in Denver; and the Fitzsimmons Army Medical Center, also in Denver.

Population

The State's 1977 population is estimated to be 2,619,000. Colorado's 1970 population was 2,207,259, having grown 26% since 1960. Nearly half of the population growth of 453,312 from 1960 to 1970 was due to the migration of new residents to Colorado. Although the State's total population increased, 32 of the State's 63 counties lost population over the same period. In 1970, people of Spanish surname comprised 13% of Colorado's population, while Blacks made up 3%.

The majority of Colorado's population growth occurred in the cities along the Front Range of the Rocky Mountains. In 1977, 81% of the State's population lived in the five metropolitan areas of Denver-Boulder (1,465,000), Colorado Springs (293,000), Pueblo 123,000, Fort Collins (124,000), and Greeley (110,000).

POPULATION OF COLORADO CITIES & TOWNS (1975)

EASTERN PLAINS

| | | | |
|-------------|-------|-------------|--------|
| Akron | 1,760 | Las Animas | 3,100 |
| Brush | 3,860 | Limon | 1,990 |
| Burlington | 3,140 | Rocky Ford | 4,810 |
| Fort Lupton | 3,040 | Springfield | 1,750 |
| Fort Morgan | 8,480 | Sterling | 10,780 |
| Holyoke | 1,730 | Trinidad | 10,060 |
| Julesburg | 1,620 | Walsenburg | 4,020 |
| La Junta | 8,180 | Wray | 1,930 |
| Lamar | 8,140 | Yuma | 2,550 |

MOUNTAINS & PLATEAU

| | | | |
|------------------|--------|-------------------|---------|
| Alamosa | 8,420 | Grand Junction | 25,400* |
| Aspen | 3,350 | Gunnison | 5,640 |
| Buena Vista | 2,550 | Leadville | 4,390 |
| Cortez | 6,790 | Meeker | 1,850* |
| Craig | 6,680* | Monte Vista | 4,490 |
| Delta | 3,700* | Montrose | 7,690 |
| Durango | 11,770 | Pagosa Springs | 1,570 |
| Fruita | 2,330* | Rifle | 2,240* |
| Glenwood Springs | 4,090* | Salida | 5,190 |
| | | Steamboat Springs | 4,030* |

FRONT RANGE

| | | | |
|------------------|---------|-------------|---------|
| Arvada | 74,250 | Golden | 12,860 |
| Aurora | 118,060 | Greeley | 47,360 |
| Boulder | 78,560 | Lakewood | 120,350 |
| Brighton | 11,130 | Littleton | 28,130 |
| Canon City | 12,790 | Longmont | 31,830 |
| Colorado Springs | 179,600 | Loveland | 25,280 |
| Denver | 484,500 | Northglenn | 35,320 |
| Englewood | 35,870 | Pueblo | 105,310 |
| Fort Collins | 55,980 | Wheat Ridge | 29,440 |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau estimates; *1977 Special Census.

Taxes and Government

The main support for State government in Colorado comes from income and sales taxes. At the local level, property taxes provide the main support. About one-half of State government expenditures go for primary, secondary and higher education; health and social services take almost one-fifth; and highways one-tenth. One-quarter goes for all other state government functions.

Individual income tax rates range from 2½% on the first \$1,000 of taxable income to 8% of income over \$10,000. Individuals with income from intangibles pay a 2% surtax on the gross amount after a \$5,000 exemption. A \$750 per dependent exemption is allowed plus the full amount of federal taxes.

There is a state sales and use tax of 3%. Cities and counties are also permitted to levy a sales tax, which ranges from zero in some areas of the state to 3½% in others. Local property tax mill levies vary throughout the state. The county assessor in the county of interest to you can provide the current mill levies for the county which he serves. Address inquiries to: County Assessor, (County Seat), Colorado, (Zip). Private real property except business inventories is assessed at 30% of actual value. However, all business inventories are assessed at 5% of actual value. Non-income producing household furnishings and personal effects are tax exempt.

Residence Requirements

Legal residence in Colorado is a matter of intent; one need only move here to be considered a legal resident of the state. To be a voting resident one must live within the state for 32 days and the precinct for 15 days, and be registered with the proper agency. Registration is made with the County Clerk or the Election Commission depending upon the area. Non-partisan information on state and local politics may be obtained from the League of Women Voters, 1375 Delaware St., Denver 80204.

To qualify for in-state tuition for state institutions of higher education, students (or their parents if they are under 21) must establish domicile in the State and indicate their intent to remain, for a period of 12 months. Tax returns, vehicle registration and driver's license, and voter registration are among the records used to determine domicile and intent to remain.

A Colorado driver's license and motor vehicle registration must be obtained within 30 days after becoming a resident. For this purpose, a resident is anyone employed or operating a business in Colorado, or residing in Colorado continuously for 90 days. Active military personnel and their dependents, and students are exempt if they are at least 16 years old and have a valid license

from their state of residence. For further information, contact Colorado Division of Motor Vehicles, 140 W. 6th Ave., Denver 80204.

Housing

Local newspapers are among the best sources of information on current housing rates and availability. Copies of the major, daily Colorado newspapers may be available through your local newsstand or public library, or you may wish to subscribe to them directly. The real estate board covering the area of the state you are interested in can provide a list of realtors that you may wish to contact. To receive a current list of local real estate boards, address your inquiries to: Colorado Association of Real Estate Boards, Suite 302, 909 17th Street, Denver, Colorado 80202.

Newspapers

The major daily Colorado newspapers are: Alamosa, *San Luis Valley Courier*; Aspen, *Aspen Times*; Boulder, *Boulder Daily Camera*; Canon City, *Canon City Daily Record*; Colorado Springs, *Gazette Telegraph, Sun*; Craig, *Northwest Colorado Press*; Denver, *Denver Post, Rocky Mountain News*; Durango, *Durango Herald*; Fort Collins, *Fort Collins Coloradoan*; Fort Morgan, *Fort Morgan Times*; Grand Junction, *Daily Sentinel*; Greeley, *Greeley Daily Tribune*; La Junta, *La Junta Tribune Democrat*; Lamar, *Lamar Daily News*; Leadville, *Herald Democrat*; Loveland, *Daily Reporter Herald*; Montrose, *Daily Press*; Pueblo, *Star-Journal, The Chieftain*; Sterling, *Journal Advocate*; Trinidad, *Chronicle News*. Requests for newspapers should be addressed to the publisher in the city in which they appear.

Employment Opportunities

Because of the large number of occupations and changing labor market conditions, we are unable to maintain listings of job opportunities or wage rates. Information can be obtained by writing Colorado Division of Employment, 1210 Sherman Street, Denver 80203, Attention: Clearance Department. Please state age, educational background, and job experience in detail. Personal interviews are usually required by Colorado employers.

Local newspapers are good sources for learning of current employment opportunities in the area in which you are interested, and the Yellow Pages of Colorado phone books contain names of companies in particular lines of business. For information on federal, state, and local government jobs, contact Intergovernmental Job Information Center, U.S. Post Office, Denver 80202. Information on occupations requiring a Colorado license may be obtained from the Colorado Department of Regulatory Agencies, State Services Building, Denver 80203.

There are many seasonal jobs available in Colorado in the resorts that cater to the visitors to our state. Summer jobs are usually spoken for by March or April at the latest, and winter jobs by August or September. Many of the summer resorts recruit through the Colorado Division of Employment. You may also contact resorts or ski areas directly.

Business Opportunities

Due to the large number and varying nature of possible business opportunities available in Colorado, we are unable to maintain listings of these opportunities in the state. We suggest contacting the chamber of commerce in the community in which you are interested. Address inquiries to: Manager, Chamber of Commerce, (City), Colorado, (Zip). Local newspapers are good sources for learning current business opportunities in the area in which you are interested.

Land Sales

No State agency is in a position to endorse land sales in Colorado. However, it is strongly recommended that land, as with any other commodity, be investigated prior to purchase, preferably by an on-site inspection. An effort should be made to assure that clear title exists for the land in question.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development is a federal government agency for consumer protection on interstate land sales. Address your inquiries to: Office of Interstate Land Sales Registration, Department of Housing and Urban Development, Washington, D.C., 20411. Often local chambers of commerce are able to provide additional information as are the local newspapers.

There is no free land available for homesteading in Colorado. For information on public domain lands, contact U.S. Bureau of Land Management, 1600 Broadway, Denver 80202.

Retirement

Colorado has many areas suitable for those retired persons living within a limited income. The State of Colorado, Department of Social Services, Division of Services to the Aging, 1575 Sherman Street, Denver, Colorado 80203, maintains a listing of non-profit housing throughout the state and can supply the address of the appropriate agency in the area in which you are interested. The chamber of commerce in the city of your interest may be able to provide additional information.

Cost of Living

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates the cost of an intermediate budget for a family of four in selected metropolitan areas as follows:

**ANNUAL COSTS OF AN INTERMEDIATE BUDGET
FOR A 4-PERSON FAMILY, AUTUMN 1977**

| | | Index, US = 100 | |
|-----------------------------|---------------|-----------------|------------|
| | Budget | Food | Housing |
| Boston, Mass. | \$20,609 | 108 | 139 |
| New York-NE New Jersey | 19,972 | 114 | 126 |
| San Francisco-Oakland, Cal. | 18,519 | 100 | 116 |
| Buffalo, NY | 18,298 | 103 | 106 |
| Milwaukee, Wis. | 18,230 | 93 | 109 |
| Washington, D.C. | 18,026 | 102 | 107 |
| Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minn. | 17,813 | 98 | 96 |
| Hartford, Conn. | 17,796 | 108 | 111 |
| Philadelphia, Pa.-NJ | 17,792 | 112 | 97 |
| Cleveland, Ohio | 17,411 | 100 | 105 |
| Chicago, Ill.-Ind. | 17,330 | 102 | 103 |
| Seattle-Everett, Wash. | 17,211 | 103 | 103 |
| Baltimore, Md. | 17,204 | 98 | 94 |
| Los Angeles, Calif. | 17,126 | 96 | 100 |
| URBAN U.S. AVERAGE | 17,106 | 100 | 100 |
| San Diego, Cal. | 16,721 | 93 | 98 |
| DENVER, COLO. | 16,711 | 96 | 91 |
| Indianapolis, Ind. | 16,695 | 97 | 96 |
| Cincinnati, Ohio-Ky.-Ind. | 16,547 | 101 | 93 |
| Pittsburgh, Pa. | 16,516 | 104 | 89 |
| Kansas City, Mo.-Kans. | 16,486 | 99 | 89 |
| St. Louis, Mo.-Ill. | 16,377 | 103 | 89 |
| Houston, Tex. | 15,488 | 96 | 84 |
| Atlanta, Ga. | 15,483 | 97 | 81 |
| Dallas, Tex. | 15,313 | 92 | 85 |

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, April, 1978.

An index to measure cost of living differences between cities developed by the American Chamber of Commerce Researchers Association shows the following 1977-78 averages for other Colorado cities (U.S. average = 100): Colorado Springs - 88.8; Denver - 101.2; Fort Collins - 96.4; Grand Junction - 95.6; Pueblo - 91.1. Although data are not available for many of the cities in rural Colorado, most may be expected to have their total costs of living below the national average.

Division of Commerce and Development

The Division of Commerce and Development promotes tourism and economic development throughout Colorado. The Division provides basic assistance to industries considering expansion into rural Colorado by supplying information and analyses on the state, its resources, and its economy.

At no time does the State of Colorado or any state division make loans or participate in loan-making operations. Local offices of the Small Business Administration, the Economic Development Administration, the Farmers Home Administration, or the Office of Minority Business Enterprise should be contacted directly.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES:

Aspen Chamber & Visitors Bureau
P.O. Box 739
Aspen, CO 81611
(303) 925-2963

Colorado Visitors Bureau
225 West Colfax Ave.
Denver, CO 80202
(303) 892-1505

Boulder Chamber of Commerce
1001 Canyon Blvd.
Boulder, CO 80302
(303) 442-1044

Colorado State Historical Society
1300 Broadway
Denver, CO 80203
(303) 839-3681

Colorado Springs Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Drawer B
Colorado Springs, CO 80901
(303) 635-1551

Colorado Ski Country U.S.A.
1410 Grant St.
Denver, CO 80203
(303) 837-9907 (winter only)

Denver Chamber of Commerce
1301 Welton St.
Denver, CO 80204
(303) 534-3211

Colorado State Patrol
4201 E. Arkansas Ave.
Denver, CO 80222
(303) 757-9011

Fort Collins Area Chamber of Commerce
Post Office Box D
Fort Collins, CO 80521
(303) 482-3746

Director of Communications
National Asthma Center
1999 Julian St.
Denver, CO 80204

Grand Junction Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 1330
Grand Junction, CO 81501
(303) 242-3214

Colorado Division of Employment
1210 Sherman St.
Denver, CO 80203
(303) 839-5833

Greeley Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box CC
Greeley, CO 80631
(303) 352-3566

(Denver-Boulder public transportation)
Regional Transportation District
1325 So. Colorado Blvd.
Denver, CO 80210
(303) 778-6000

Pueblo Chamber of Commerce
Third & Santa Fe
Pueblo, CO 81002
(303) 542-1704

8M-6-78

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