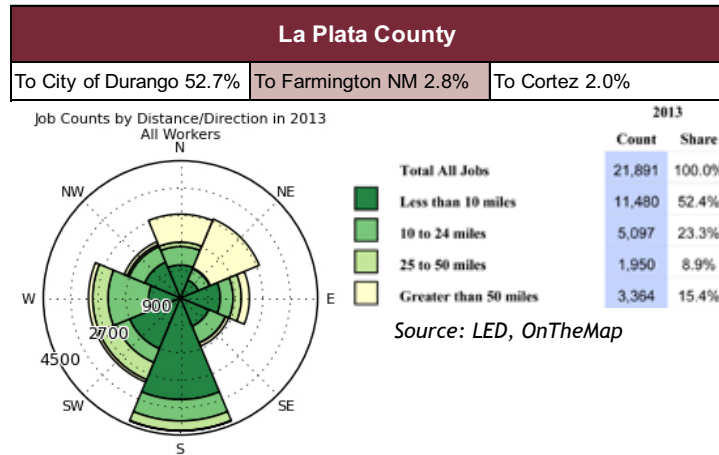


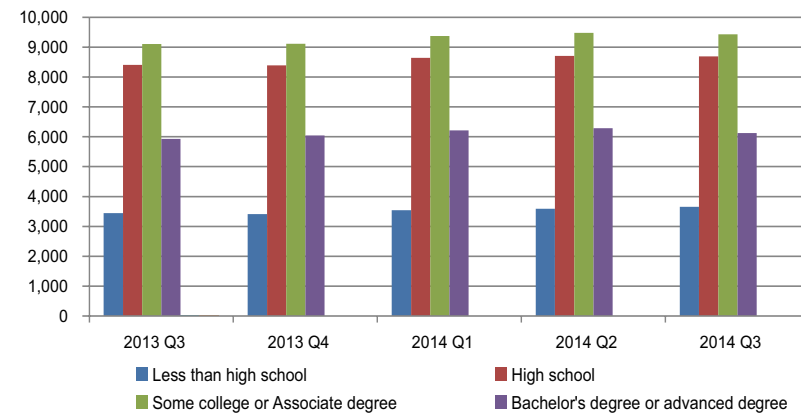
Local Employment Dynamics



The majority of workers living in La Plata County, the region's largest employment base, also work within the county. Over 15% of workers travel more than 50 miles to work. Top destinations outside of the county are Farmington, NM, Cortez and Grand Junction. Some of these workers may telecommute.

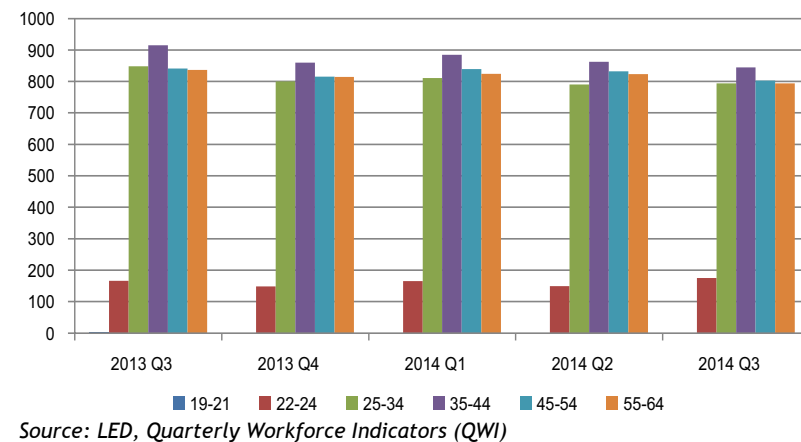
Quarterly Workforce Indicator (QWI) data provide a great deal of information on a region's workforce. If a business or a job seeker is interested in their region's educational attainment, that can be extracted. The graph on the right shows the largest segment of the region's workforce has some college or associate degree. These data are based on workers age 25 and over.

Southwest Labor Force



Another application of QWI data is to look at the age of workers in a given region or industry within that region. If age is highly skewed to the older age groups, there may be difficulty filling jobs as baby boomers retire. Looking at Health Care & Social Assistance in the Southwest Workforce Region, it appears the age distribution of the labor force is well balanced.

Southwest Healthcare & Social Assistance



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Labor Market Information
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Southwest Workforce Region Labor Market Information

Labor Market Information (LMI) in the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment collects and analyzes information about labor market trends throughout Colorado. Data are presented in a variety of ways: industry employment and wages, current and projected industry and occupation levels, occupational wages, and labor force employment and wages. LMI conducts various research projects and assists workforce centers and others with customized regional information requests.

Colorado was the 3rd fastest growing State between 2010 and 2014, with a cumulative population growth of 6.50%. Colorado also outpaced the nation in employment growth by a wide margin.

The Southwest Workforce Region saw a 2.7% increase in its non-farm payroll jobs, lagging Colorado but outpacing the U.S. as a whole. Economically, Colorado is ranked as the 5th fastest growing state in the nation in Gross Domestic Product growth.

Area	2014 Population	2010-2014 Population Change	QCEW 2014 Employment	QCEW Employment Growth 2013-14	October 2015 Unemployment Rate*
State of Colorado	5,355,866	6.5%	2,417,769	3.5%	3.8%
Archuleta	12,249	0.4%	3,535	3.3%	3.1%
Dolores	1,933	-1.6%	786	60.4%	1.6%
La Plata	54,014	1.2%	25,046	2.3%	2.9%
Montezuma	25,812	0.3%	9,005	0.5%	4.6%
San Juan	718	0.3%	282	3.2%	2.9%

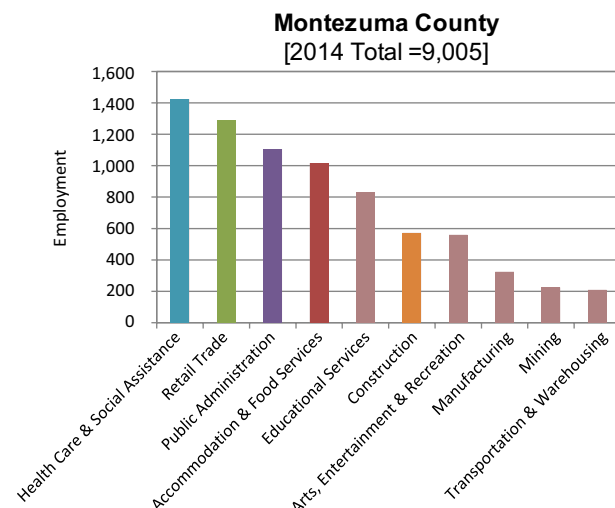
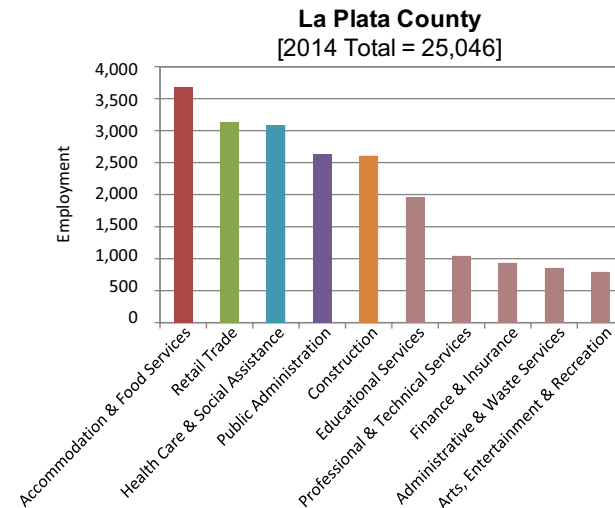
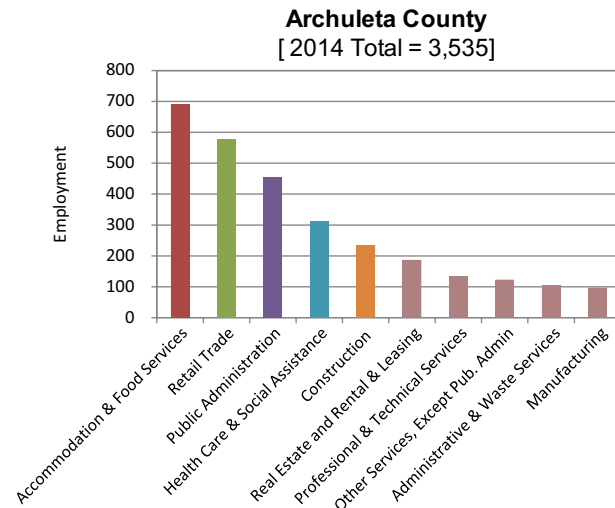
Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) & Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS); Colorado State Demography Office. * Unemployment Rate is Not Seasonally Adjusted.

None of these counties had population growth as strong as the statewide average. Dolores County actually had a slight population decline. Archuleta and San Juan counties had year-over-year job growth close to the statewide average.

Dolores County had a very strong showing in employment growth, due to a short-term infrastructure project, and has the region's lowest unemployment rate at 1.6%. October 2015 unemployment rate for the region as a whole was 3.3%, below the statewide average.

Industries

Southwest Workforce Counties Top Ten Industry Sectors by Employment



Dolores and San Juan counties have small wage & salary employment totals, so most industry sectors' data are confidential.

- Top 3 sectors in Dolores County:**
- Accommodation & Food Services
 - Public Administration
 - Retail Trade.
- San Juan County's top 3 sectors:**
- Retail Trade
 - Accommodation & Food Services
 - Health Care and Social Assistance.

Note the colors applied to several of the County Industries. The same industry is often seen across all of the counties in this Region.

Source: LMI - 2014 QCEW Annual Data.

Location Quotients

Measures the concentration of an industry's employment in a specified area versus the reference area of the US as a whole. Data are from 2014.

Archuleta Real Estate & Rental & Leasing 3.81	La Plata Mining, Oil & Gas 4.22	Montezuma Mining, Oil & Gas 4.90
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Source: BLS Location Quotient Calculator.

Local Economic Comparisons

Wages, Income and Cost of Living Comparison

Area	Average Weekly Wage	Per capita personal income	Cost of Living
State of Colorado	\$1,071	\$48,869	100.0
Archuleta	\$616	\$36,679	91.0
Dolores	\$950	\$41,652	89.5
La Plata	\$854	\$47,784	103.2
Montezuma	\$663	\$35,870	92.1
San Juan	\$479	\$31,900	100.2

Sources
Average Weekly Wage: 2014 QCEW
Per capita Personal Income: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis
Cost of Living: Colorado Legislative Council Cost of Living Index.

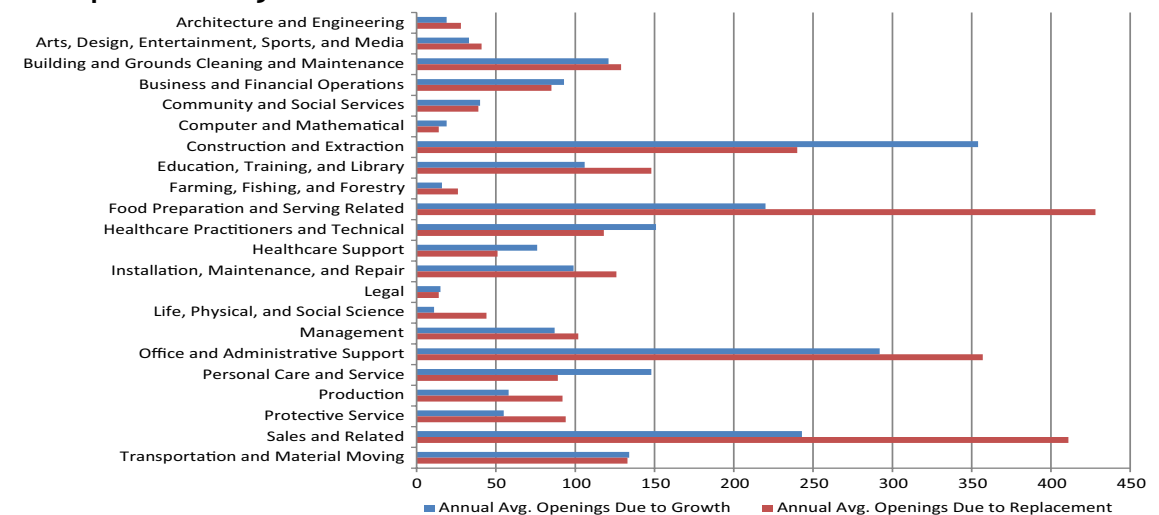
Southwest Occupations

Fastest Growing Occupation Groups and 2014 Wages - Western Colorado

Occupation Title	Employment	Average Hourly Wage	Average Annual Wage	Annual Percent Change 2014-2024
Personal Care & Services	3,230	\$12.59	\$26,178	3.00%
Healthcare Support	2,510	\$14.54	\$30,237	2.49%
Construction & Extraction	10,690	\$22.64	\$47,088	2.45%
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	5,060	\$36.64	\$76,220	2.42%
Business & Financial	3,870	\$32.67	\$67,958	1.98%
Computer & Mathematical	840	\$32.78	\$68,177	1.98%
Building & Grounds Maintenance	4,750	\$13.74	\$28,580	1.86%
Transportation & Material Moving	5,880	\$18.39	\$38,247	1.82%
Protective Services	2,600	\$20.88	\$43,432	1.81%
Food Prep & Serving (tie)	11,030	\$11.30	\$23,508	1.73%
Sales & Related (tie)	11,770	\$16.12	\$33,520	1.73%

Source: LMI - Occupational Employment Projections.

Occupational Projections: 2014-2024



Source: LMI - Occupational Employment Projections.