

# Delta city

## Demographic and Economic Profile

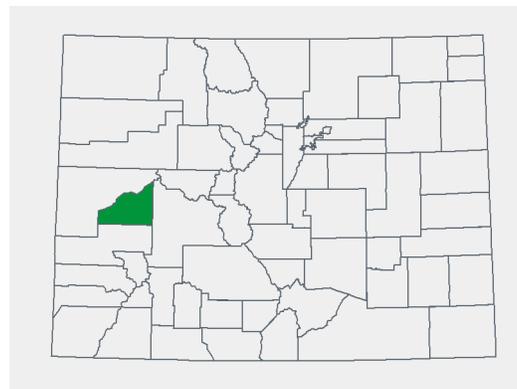


**COLORADO**  
Department of Local Affairs

### Community Quick Facts

Population (2015)	8,769
Population Change 2010 to 2015	-128
Place Median HH Income (ACS 11-15)	\$42,314
State Median HH Income (ACS 11-15)	\$60,629
Employment (County in 2015)	12,375
County Cost of Living Index (State=100)	94.73, Low

Source: State Demography Office  
U.S. Census Bureau

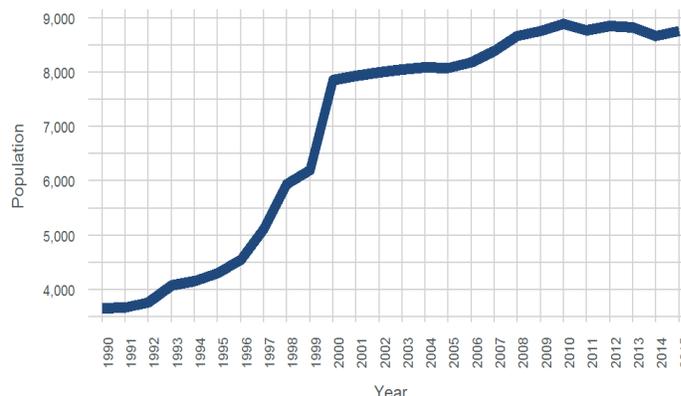


## Population

Population Estimates and Forecasts for the resident population are produced by the State Demography Office.

- Delta experienced extremely fast population growth from 1990 through 2000. Since 2000, the City's population growth slowed significantly but its growth rate has remained above that of Delta County.
- Until 2010, Delta was outpacing the annual average growth rate of Colorado as a whole.
- Since 2010 both the City and County have plateaued due to continued declines in employment.

Delta Population, 1990 to 2015



### Population

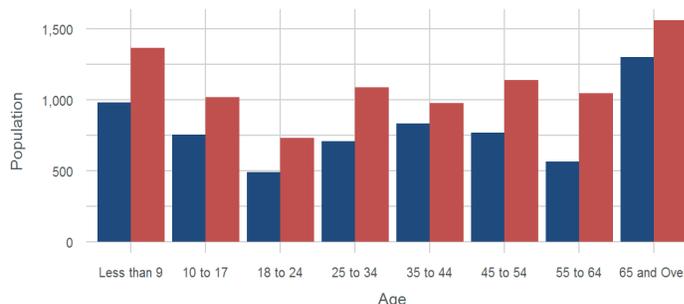
### Annual Average Growth Rate (%)

	Delta city	Delta County	Colorado	Delta city	Delta County	Colorado
1990	3,654	20,991	3,294,473			
1995	4,305	25,193	3,811,074	3.3%	3.7%	2.9%
2000	7,852	27,909	4,338,801	12.8%	2.1%	2.6%
2010	8,897	30,889	5,050,332	1.3%	1%	1.5%
2015	8,769	29,950	5,456,584	-0.3%	-0.6%	1.6%

### Population By Age

Delta's population by age is shown in the chart to the right for both 2000 (darker bar) and 2010 (lighter bar). The largest increase was in the 55 and older age groups, followed by 25 to 34 and Less than 9. Growth in ages under 10 reflects growth in families with children. The growth in the 55+ could indicate a need to evaluate aging services in the County. The aging population may put downward pressure on local government tax revenue due to changes in spending on taxable goods.

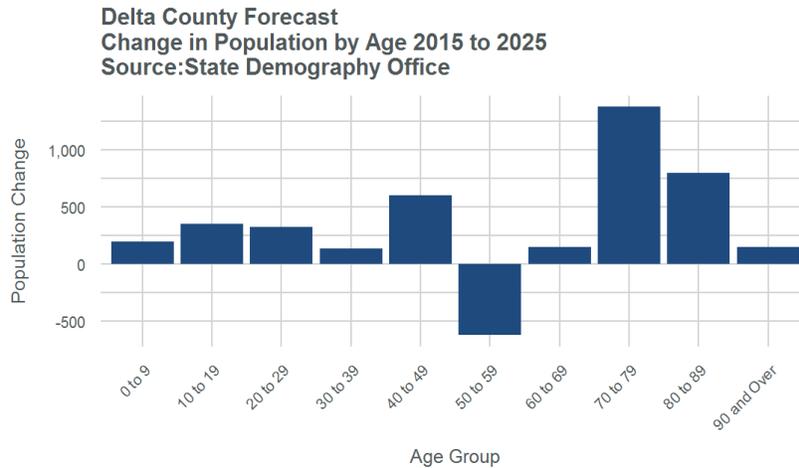
Delta City Population by Age  
Source: U.S. Census Bureau



Census Year ■ 2000 ■ 2010

## Population By Age, Continued

Delta County is forecast to reach just over 30,000 by 2020 and 41,000 by 2040. The forecast growth rate is expected to return to an annual average growth rate of 1.2% per year from 2015 to 2030. Most of this growth is forecast adults ages 30-44, those most likely to relocate to Delta County and their children under 10. The number of residents over age 70 will also increase, the result of current older residents aging in place. The forecast growth will be dependent on housing and community services and how well Delta County attracts and retains its population.

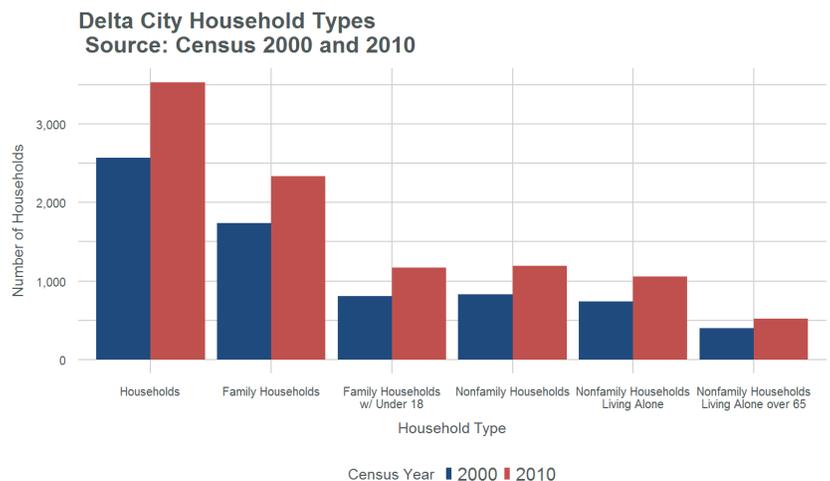


## Housing & Households

Delta city Housing Units	2000	2010	2010 %
Total Housing Units	2,749	3,825	
Occupied Housing Units	2,569	3,530	92.3%
Owner-Occupied Units	1,758	2,338	66.2%
Renter-Occupied Units	811	1,192	33.8%
Vacant Housing Units	180	295	7.7%
For Seasonal	10	22	7.5%
All Other Vacant	170	273	92.5%

- The overall vacancy rate was 7.7% in 2010, excluding seasonal housing it was about 7.1%.
- Vacancy rates have been increasing since 2010.
- Most of the units are owner occupied (66%) but an active rental market exists as well.

- There was an increase in households between 2000 and 2010.
- There was strong growth in family households and also strong growth in non-family households, primarily those living alone.
- Growth in family households was not entirely due to those with children, although it was a large share.



Census Year ■ 2000 ■ 2010

# Race & Ethnicity

Delta city Population by Race/Ethnicity

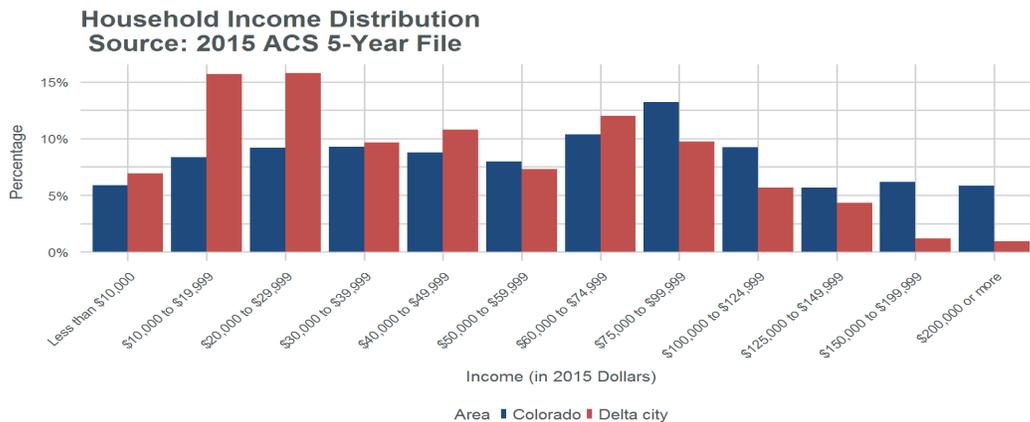
	2000	2010	2010 %	Colorado 2010 %
Total	6,400	8,915		
White	4,820	6,340	71.1%	70.0%
Black or African American	10	20	0.2%	3.8%
American Indian or Alaska Native	34	54	0.6%	0.6%
Asian	20	57	0.6%	2.7%
Native Hawaiian and Other	0	0	0%	0.1%
Some Other Race	9	7	0.1%	0.2%
Two or More	65	110	1.2%	2.0%
Hispanic	1,442	2,327	26.1%	20.7%

Source: U.S. Census 2010

- Delta is slightly less diverse than the state as a whole but is becoming more diverse over time.
- The largest growth was in the Non-Hispanic White population, growing over 1,500 (a 39.3% increase), followed by the Hispanic population increasing by just under 900 people, which grew faster in percentage terms with a 61.3% increase.

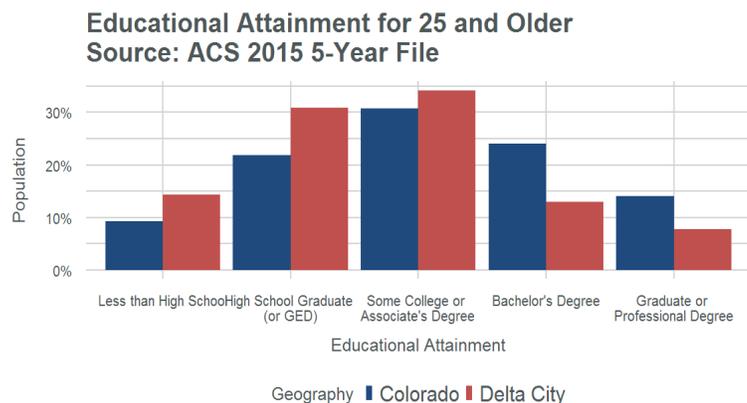
# Income

The graph below compares Delta's income distribution to the state. Delta has a lower median household income than the state, \$42,314 vs. \$60,629. Delta has a larger share of people earning less than \$30,000 than the state. The lower incomes reflect the large number of retail, agriculture, and health care jobs.



# Education

- Delta has a lower share of its population with a Bachelor's degree or higher than the state.
- The largest share of the population has some college or an associate's degree, followed by those with a high school diploma or GED.

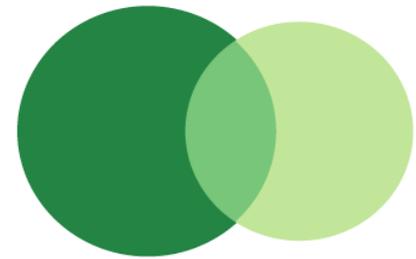


# Commuting

Commuting plays an important role in the economy of an area because not all workers live where they work. Commuting impacts local job growth, access to employees, and transportation infrastructure.

Just over 24% of the jobs in Delta are held by residents and nearly 76% of the jobs are held by people who live outside the city. Considering Delta's labor force, about 31% work in Delta but more than 68% are employed outside the city.

Delta city Commuting Patterns, 2014



- Jobs in Delta city
- Workforce in Delta city
- Overlap: Work and Live in Delta city

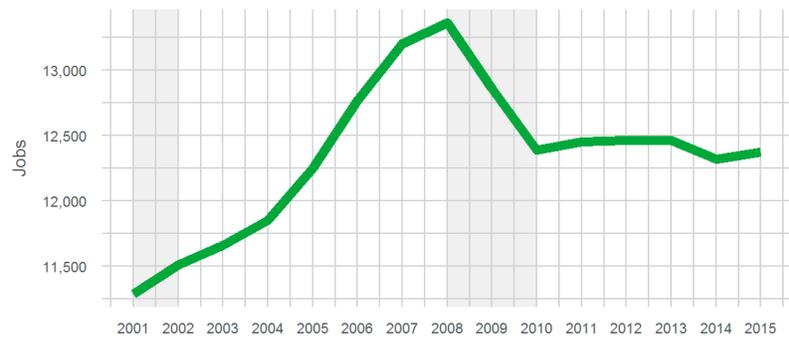
Source: LEHD On the Map, 2016

Note: Data does not include agricultural and self-employed jobs and uses administrative boundaries only.

## Jobs & the Economy

Total employment in the county was estimated to be 11,990 in 2015, down 1,213 jobs from Delta's peak employment in 2007 of 13,202. The industries with the largest loss in jobs since 2007 were construction, retail trade, professional & technical services, manufacturing, wholesale trade, mining, and other services. Unlike most counties across the state, employment in Delta has continued to decline. Agriculture, accommodation and food, health services and education are the only industries that have seen significant employment growth from 2010 to 2015.

Delta County County Total Estimated Jobs, 2001 to 2015  
Source: State Demography Office



Note: Grey shading represents beginning to bottom of U.S. recessions.

2015 Share of Jobs by Industry

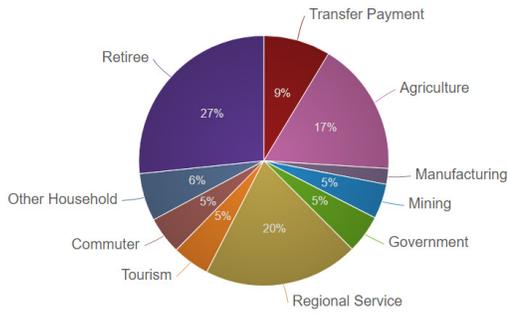
Sector Name	Delta City	Delta County
Agriculture	3.0%	11.2%
Mining	0.7%	3.3%
Utilities	0.6%	0.3%
Construction	2.6%	6.3%
Manufacturing	5.7%	4.5%
Wholesale Trade	2.0%	1.5%
Retail Trade	15.3%	11.9%
Transportation & Warehousing	0.8%	1.1%
Information	0.9%	1.4%
Finance and Insurance	2.3%	2.6%
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	0.8%	3.2%
Professional and Technical Services	1.6%	3.8%
Management of Companies	0.4%	0.2%
Administrative and Waste Services	2.2%	2.9%
Educational Services	0.0%	0.8%
Health Care and Social Assistance	12.2%	11.2%
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	0.1%	1.1%
Accommodation and Food Services	8.9%	6.4%
Other Services	1.9%	6.7%
Government	38.0%	19.7%

Source: SDO Total Estimated Jobs

## Economic Industry Mix

The industrial mix in Delta can be seen at left. The largest industries by employment are government, retail trade, health service, and accommodation and food services. These 4 industries employ nearly 75% of all workers and have a larger employment share than in Delta County. Manufacturing and wholesale trade also have a larger share of employment than the county.

Delta Base Industries, 2015



Source: State Demography Office

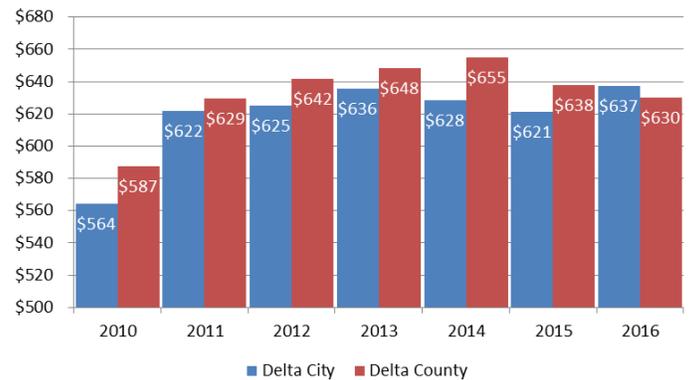
## Economic Base Analysis

The Base Industries chart shows which industries drive the economy in Delta. The chart shows the important share of economic activity driven by retirees; they are a driver because they spend their savings or pensions locally. Agriculture and regional services (like construction and health care) are also important drivers. Commuters and mining are also important drivers, but their impact is less now due to layoffs at coal mines in Delta and Gunnison. Transfer payments (including other household), government and tourism are small, yet important drivers. The county hopes to leverage its rich agricultural heritage to grow its tourism base in the face of declines in mining.

## Average Wage Trends

- Average weekly wages Delta increased by 13.0% between 2010 and 2016 compared to the state which increased by 14.3%.
- Weekly wages of \$637 in Delta in 2016 surpassed the county's average of \$630, but were only 61% of the \$1,052 statewide average.
- Wages in Delta grew by 3% between 2015 and 2016, while statewide wages increased by 1%. Due to the loss of high-paying mining jobs, weekly wages in Delta County fell 1% in 2016 and are now \$25 lower than they were in 2014.

## Average Weekly Wage



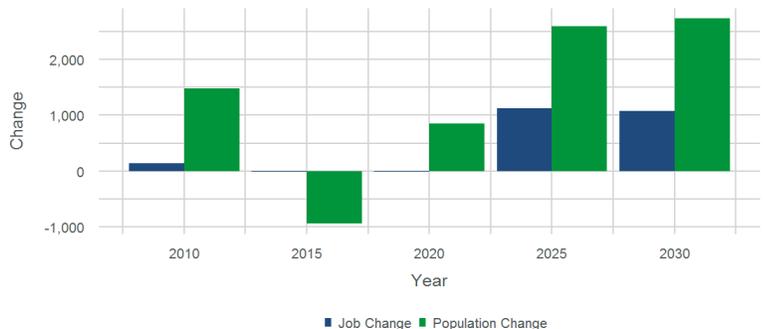
Source: Department of Labor and Employment (QCEW)

## Population and Economic Forecast

The rates of growth of both population and jobs can differ somewhat because of changes in the labor market, i.e., labor force participation rates, age, unemployment rates, multiple job holding, and/or commuting. In addition, macroeconomic conditions such as business cycle fluctuations and faster or slower periods of U.S. and Colorado economic growth can affect overall job growth in a region.

- Population growth is forecast to exceed job growth for the period from 2015 to 2020 and continue through 2030.
- This is driven in part by the aging of the population and the labor force in particular. Population growth occurs as people move into jobs vacated when a person ages out of the labor force. This drives population growth, but not necessarily new jobs.
- Although employment isn't expected to be growing through 2020, the population will. This may require additional housing and community services. Additionally, an aging population may require increased need for accessible housing and other aging services.

Delta County  
Forecast Change in Population and Jobs 2010 to 2030  
Source: State Demography Office



	Total Jobs	Population
2010	12,389	30,897
2015	12,375	29,950
2020	12,358	30,799
2025	13,481	33,400
2030	14,556	36,137