

Colorado's gateway to the Rocky Mountain West



Regional Data

Examples of Largest Employers

- Cargill Meat Solutions Corp.
- Sterling Regional MedCenter
- Colorado Plains Medical Center
- Sykes Enterprises
- Leprino Foods

Top 5 Key Industries by Employment

1. Food & Agriculture
2. Advanced Manufacturing
3. Health & Wellness
4. Energy & Natural Resources
5. Transportation & Logistics

Top 5 Regional Assets

- I-76, I-80 Corridor – Heartland Expressway
- Two Class 1 Railroads (UP and BNSF)
- Energy and natural resource capability
- Friendly business climate and land available for development
- Quality Workforce - two Community Colleges to serve local workforce training needs

Where the Region would like to be in 5 years

- Strengthened manufacturing climate
- Infrastructure development
- Aviation development
- Developed transmission lines
- Transportation improvements across region
- Water storage development

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Northeast Golden Plains region (Region 1) is a rural agricultural area comprised of the six counties located in the northeastern corner of the state including: Logan, Morgan, Phillips, Sedgwick, Washington and Yuma. Economic development specialists in this region have worked diligently to move the region forward and have long-standing relationships and regional cooperation in economic development.

Northeast Colorado is dedicated to creating jobs, attracting new business, fostering a stable and diversified economy, and maintaining and improving the quality of life in the region.

VISION

The Northeast Golden Plains region encourages economic growth that keeps our hometown and traditional values, preserves natural resources, and provides opportunities for families to choose to work and live in Northeast Colorado.

MISSION

The Northeast Golden Plains region will focus on:

- Marketing the region collectively
- Improving telecommunications
- Expanding and marketing capital resources
- Maintaining and building Agriculture economy
- Energy and Tourism development
- Building entrepreneurship opportunities

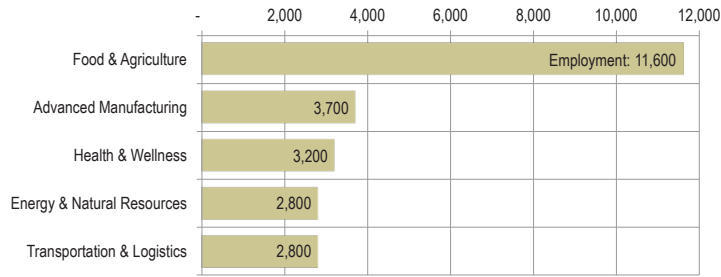
QUICK WINS

- Completed Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) document and applying for designation to be a federally designated Economic Development District (EDD)
- Flood resiliency in this region has been a true testament of the quality of people and stable business climate. The South Platte flood corridor is moving forward in a strong collaborative manner
- Lodging capacity growth for the entire region; four additional hotels opened in 2013
- Public education institutions improved and constructed in the region; four BEST grants awarded for capital improvements in four

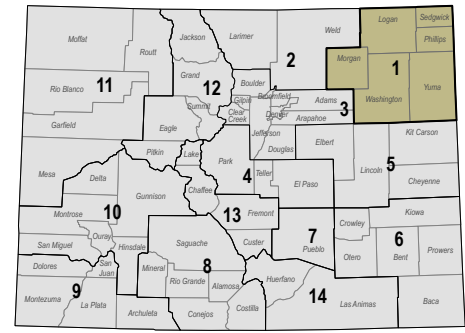
- school districts
- Renewable energy development continues to expand in the region with 90 new towers being added to the Prairie Wind Farm and a solar garden ramped up to serve Sterling Prison
- Sedgwick County Regional Comm Center
- Oilseed Feasibility Study completed for Logan County /workshop held for the region to help enhance Ag economy
- Medevac Helicopter Service on line for Akron Regional Airport
- CHS transporting frack sand into the region to serve oil & gas economy
- CDOT interstate and highway improvements

- throughout the region
- Projects Completed:
 - Brush Meat Processors
 - Yuma Children's Academy
 - Seaboard Farms Regional Mill Operation
 - Leprino Foods \$97 million expansion
 - Xcel Power Plant \$18 million expansion
- Awarded \$3.8 million from the Colorado Department of Local Affairs, Energy /Mineral Impact Assistance Grant
- Awarded \$250,000 in Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI) Program Grants, which will help to create 23 jobs and \$645,000 Capital Investment

TOP 5 KEY INDUSTRIES BY EMPLOYMENT



Source: EMSI, 2013.2



State of Colorado, Region 1

CORE OBJECTIVES

1 Build a Business-Friendly Environment

GOALS

- Preserve regulatory environment - preserve Ag tax, preserve EZ, monitor EPA regulations
- Continue to promote business incentives
- Further develop relationships with state agencies and local governments

DELIVERABLES

- Maintain regional collaboration and strong implementation of the CEDS (Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy) goal and objectives

4 Create and Market a Stronger CO Brand

GOALS

- Enhance the image of the region by promoting and marketing as the Golden Plains region

DELIVERABLES

- Build a strong working relationship with neighboring states (NE & KS)

2 Recruit, Grow and Retain Business

GOALS

- Identify available land, vacant buildings and other regional assets for business expansion and development
- Identify target markets of key industries

DELIVERABLES

- Create jobs across the region to support our agriculture based economy
- Work on awareness of tourism and energy industries

5 Educate and Train the Future Workforce

GOALS

- Enhance strategic partnerships with community colleges for workforce skill development
- Identify the business needs of the workforce

DELIVERABLES

- To be cognizant of the ever changing workforce and adapt with the workforce
- Partner with the Regional Workforce Center on sector partnership development.

3 Increase Access to Capital

GOALS

- Education on programs available; leverage relationship with SBDC
- Continue to develop relationship with revolving loan fund program
- Maintain and promote alternative forms of capital (incubator funds, RLF, regional angel/venture capital fund, Redleg loan program)

DELIVERABLES:

- Bring financing seminars to the region, involve NERLF in economic development efforts

6 Cultivate Innovation and Technology

GOALS

- Identify innovative practices within the region
- Visit business incubators throughout the tri-state region to identify opportunities for region
- Keep broadband infrastructure a priority for the region

DELIVERABLES

- Utilize innovative assets to determine areas of focus ie ag innovation
- Develop broadband regional strategic plan

STRATEGIC PROJECTS

- Regional housing assessment
- Broadband strategic pal
- Ag development oilseed, industrial hemp exploration

STAKEHOLDERS

Department of Local Affairs
 Logan County Board of Commissioners
 Logan County Economic Development Corporation
 Morgan County Board of Commissioners
 Morgan County Economic Development Corporation

Phillips County Board of Commissioners
 Phillips County Economic Development
 Sedgwick County Board of Commissioners
 Sedgwick County Economic Development
 USDA - Rural Development

Washington County Board of Commissioners
 Washington County Government
 Yuma County Board of Commissioners
 Yuma County Economic Development



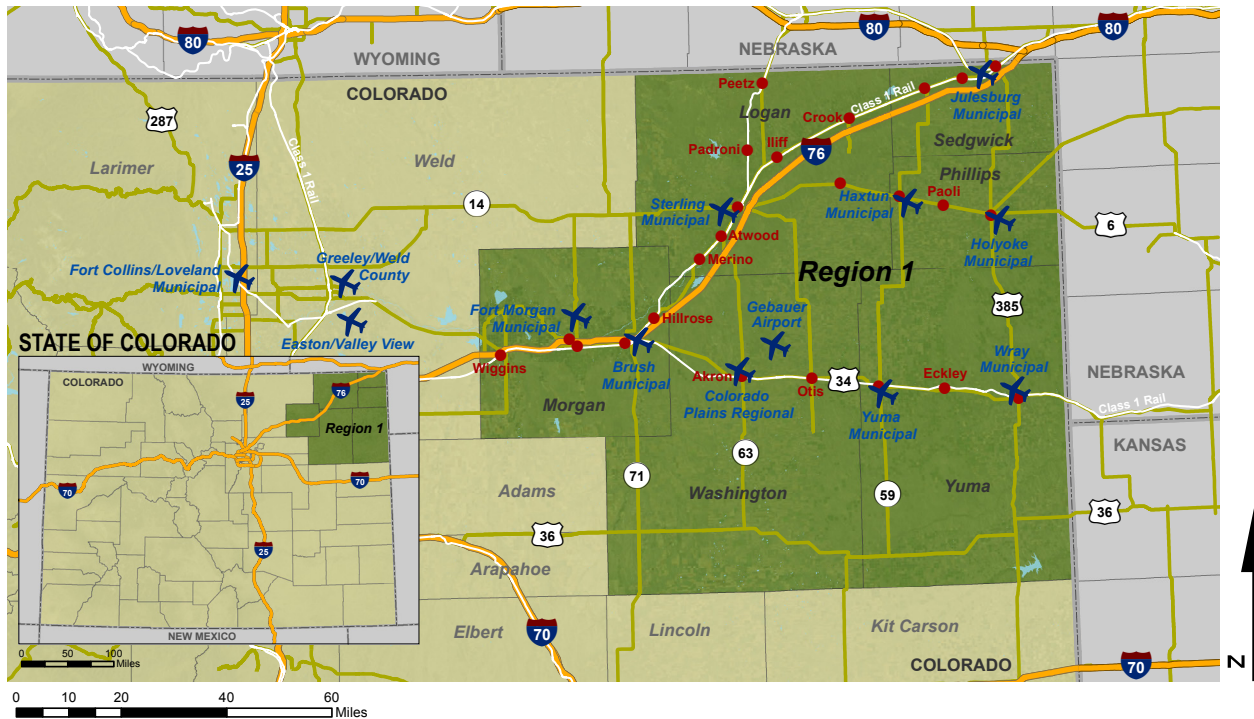
COLORADO
 Office of Economic Development & International Trade



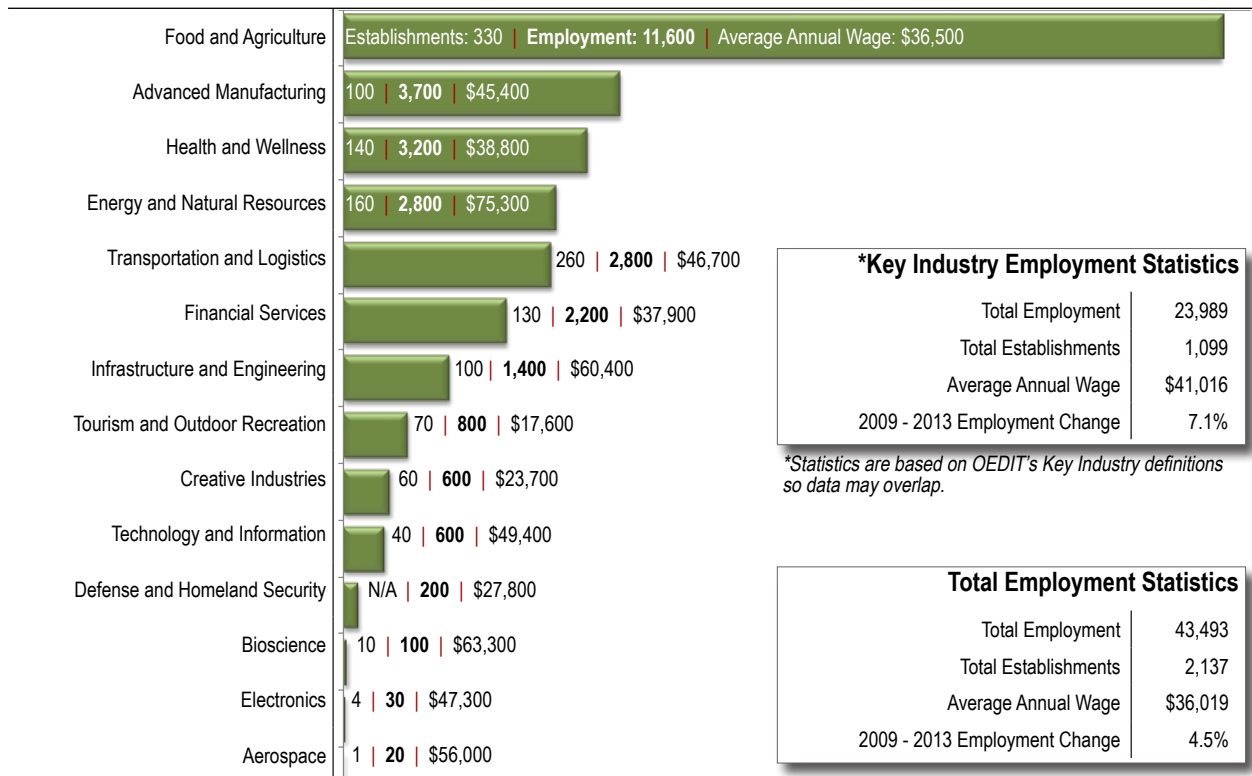
www.advancecolorado.com/blueprint

Colorado Office of Economic Development & International Trade

COLORADO - REGION 1: Economic Profile



Employment by Key Industry



SOURCE: Colorado Office of Economic Development & International Trade and EMSI, 2013.2

Top Employers by Employment

Sectors*	Business or Organization	Jobs
■	Cargill Meat Solutions Corp.	2,100
■	Sterling Regional MedCenter	370
■	Colorado Plains Medical Center	360
■ ■	Sykes Enterprises	320
■	Leprino Foods	290
■ ■ ■	Seaboard Farms	290
■	Eben Ezer Lutheran Care Center	250
■ ■ ■	Murphy-Brown, LLC	210
■	Western Sugar	200
■ ■	East Morgan County Hospital	150

Note: Table does not include establishments that are primarily classified as Public Administration, Educational Services, and/or Retail Trade

* Sectors represented by business and establishment locations

■ Agriculture	■ Wholesale Trade
■ Mining and Oil & Gas Extraction	■ Administrative and Support Services
■ Construction	■ Professional, Technical Services
■ Manufacturing	■ Health Care and Social Assistance

SOURCE: Dun & Bradstreet, Equifax, Local Economic Development Groups, Corporate Websites, and Other Sources

About Top Employers by Employment

Cargill Meat Solutions Corp. - a leading processor and distributor of fresh beef, pork and turkey, plus cooked and marinated meats. Representing more than a dozen major brands that are sold in both retail and foodservice channels to customers around the world.

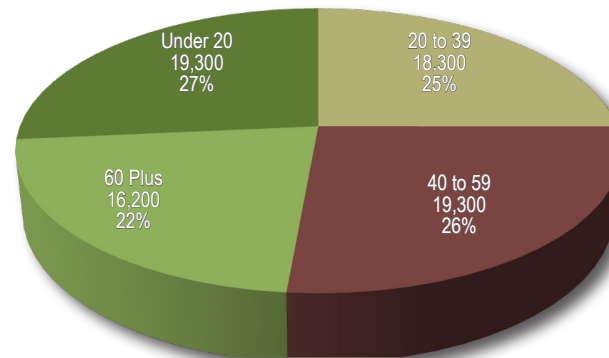
Sterling Regional MedCenter - providing medical care to residents of northeastern Colorado and the surrounding area since 1938. They are a 25-bed acute-care hospital with state-of-the-art technology, providing a full range of health care services.

Colorado Plains Medical Center - a 50-bed acute-care hospital, serving a two-county area of 35,000 people. They are a Level III Trauma Center and host a 24-hour Emergency Room. In addition, they provide a range of diagnostic imaging services including MRI, Nuclear Medicine, CT, Radiography, ACR-certified Mammography and Ultrasound.

Sykes Enterprises - a global leader in providing customer contact management solutions and business process outsourcing services. They serve Fortune 1000 companies, primarily in the communications, financial services, healthcare, technology, transportation, and leisure industries.

Leprino Foods - a worldwide leader in mozzarella cheese manufacturing. The company sells its product to food manufacturers and to pizza purveyors, including such companies as Domino's, Papa John's, and Pizza Hut.

Population by Age Groups



SOURCE: EMSI, 2013.2

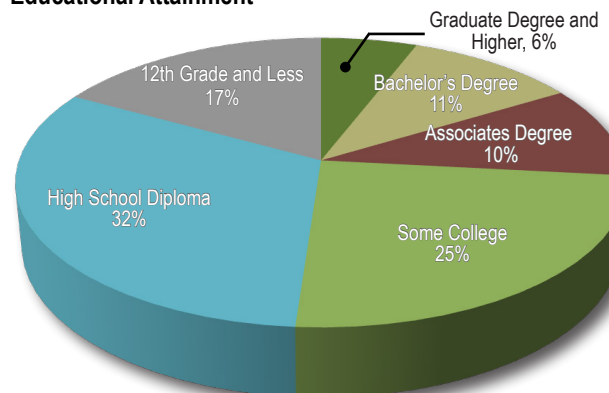
Top Occupation Categories by Employment

	Jobs	Median Wage	Annual Wage*
Management	6,300	\$17.47	\$36,300
Sales and Related	5,100	\$13.33	\$27,700
Office and Administrative Support	4,700	\$14.17	\$29,500
Transportation and Material Moving	3,000	\$14.82	\$30,800
Production	2,700	\$13.75	\$28,600
Construction and Extraction	2,400	\$17.14	\$35,700
Food Preparation and Serving Related	2,300	\$9.22	\$19,200
Education, Training, and Library	2,200	\$17.12	\$35,600
Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	2,000	\$10.13	\$21,100
Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	1,800	\$18.76	\$39,000

* Annual wage is based on a 40 hour work week

SOURCE: EMSI, 2013.2

Educational Attainment



SOURCE: EMSI, 2013.2

Population and Households

Population	72,546
Total Households	27,185
*Median Age	42
*Median Household Income	\$42,600
*Mean Household Income	\$54,200
*Median Family Income	\$53,200
*Per Capita Income	\$22,400

* Average of median or mean values of all counties in region

SOURCE: U.S. Census, 2010 and ACS 2007-2011 5 Year Estimate



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& International Trade

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