

Fremont County

Demographic and Economic Profile



COLORADO
Department of Local Affairs

Community Quick Facts

Population (2014)	46,294
Population Change 2010 to 2014	-560
Median HH Income (ACS 10-14)	\$40,569
State Median HH Income (ACS 10-14)	\$59,448
Employment (County in 2014)	16,469
Cost of Living Index (State=100)	92.19, Low

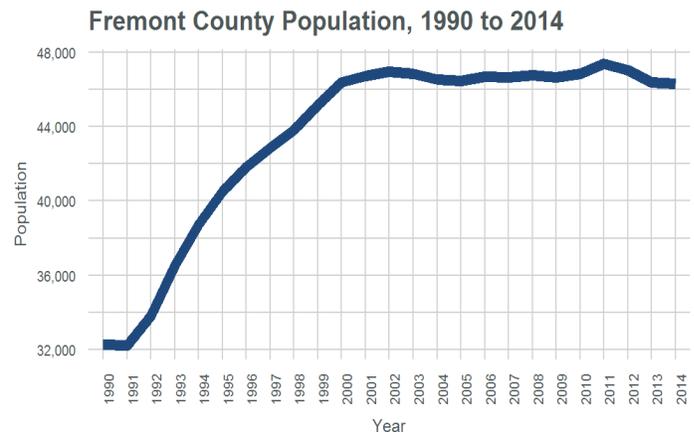
Source: State Demography Office
U.S. Census Bureau



Population

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

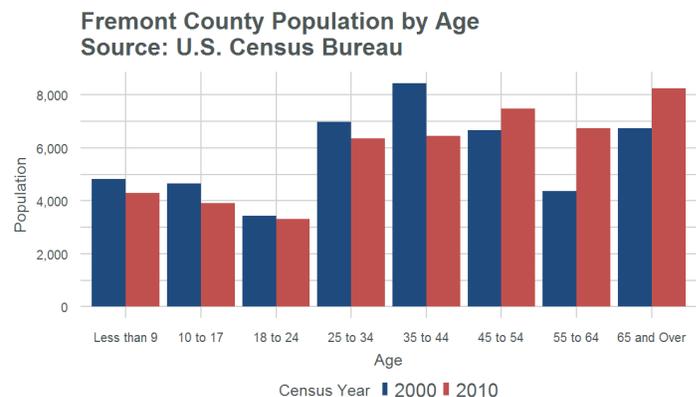
- Fremont County's population grew from 1990 to 2000 before leveling out. Most of this growth was due to the opening of Federal Prisons.
- Since 2011 population has been declining slightly, this is again linked to prison population declines.



	Population		Annual Average Growth Rate (%)	
	Fremont	Colorado	Fremont	Colorado
1990	32,273	3,294,473		
1995	40,522	3,811,074	4.7%	3%
2000	46,370	4,338,801	2.7%	2.6%
2010	46,854	5,050,289	0.1%	1.5%
2014	46,294	5,353,471	-0.3%	1.5%

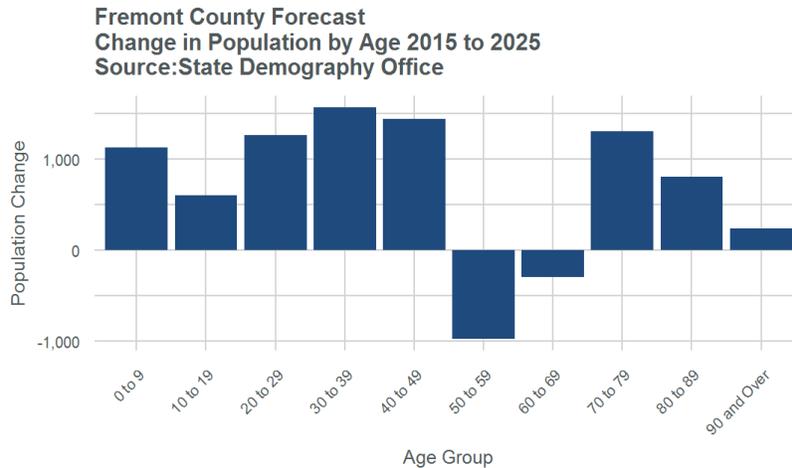
Population By Age

Fremont'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 to 64 year old age groups, which could indicate a need to evaluate aging services in the future. Decreases in 25 to 34 as well as in the under 18 is related to prisons and declines in households with children. The aging population may put downward pressure on local government tax revenue due to changes in spending on taxable goods.



Population By Age, Continued

Fremont's population is forecast to reach 50,200 by 2020 and 63,800 by 2040. The forecast growth rate of 1.4% per year through 2030 is about three-tenths slower than the statewide rate of growth. Over the next decade, the largest increase is projected in young adults (30-39), those most likely to move and their children under 10. There will also be considerable growth in the 70+ age group due to the aging of Baby Boomers. The forecast growth will be dependent on housing and employment growth, but will also be subject to changes in prison populations.

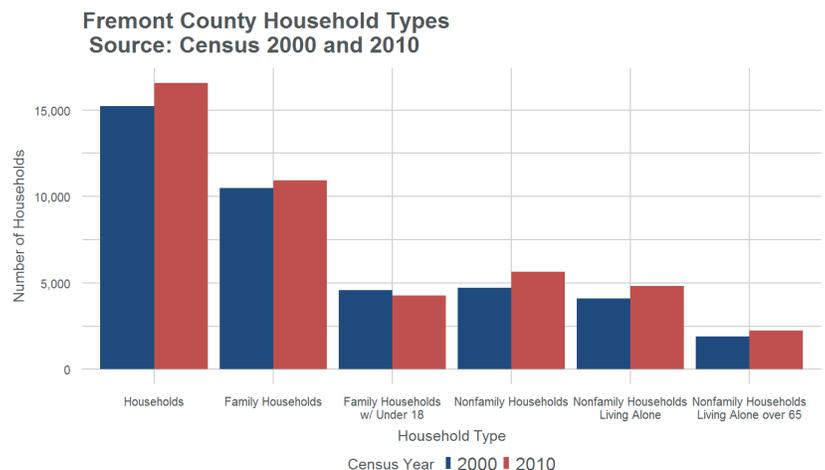


Housing & Households

Fremont County Housing Units	2000	2010	2010 %
Total Housing Units	17,145	19,242	
Occupied Housing Units	15,232	16,582	86.2%
Owner-Occupied Units	11,565	12,421	74.9%
Renter-Occupied Units	3,667	4,161	25.1%
Vacant Housing Units	1,913	2,660	13.8%
For Seasonal	857	1,053	39.6%
All Other Vacant	1,056	1,607	60.4%

- The overall vacancy rate was 13.8% in 2010.
- Vacancy rates were slightly higher than the state average (10.8%).
- Most of the units are owner occupied (75%) with a small rental market.

- There was a small increase in households between 2000 and 2010.
- This increase is almost entirely due to growth in Nonfamily households including those living alone.
- This increase is likely tied to population growth in the 55 and over age groups.



Race & Ethnicity

Fremont County Population by Race/Ethnicity

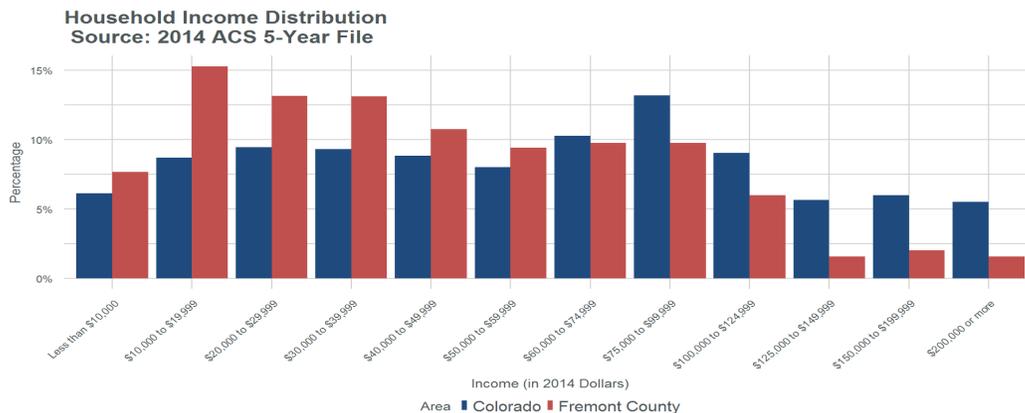
	2000	2010	2010 %	Colorado 2010%
Total	46,145	46,824		
White	37,408	37,647	80.4%	70.0%
Black or African American	2,439	1,805	3.9%	3.8%
American Indian or Alaska Native	613	686	1.5%	0.6%
Asian	224	274	0.6%	2.7%
Native Hawaiian and Other	17	16	0.0%	0.1%
Some Other Race	22	19	0.0%	0.2%
Two or More	646	607	1.3%	2.0%
Hispanic	4,776	5,770	12.3%	20.7%

Source: U.S. Census 2010

- Fremont is less diverse than the state as a whole but is becoming more diverse over time.
- There has been growth in the Hispanic, Asian and White population between 2000 and 2010, while the Black population declined.

Income

The graph below compares Fremont's income distribution to the state. Fremont has a lower median household income than the state, \$40,569 vs. \$58,433. Looking at the income distribution, there is a higher share of households with less than \$60,000 in income compared to the state. This reflects the large number of lower wage retail, healthcare, and government jobs alongside fewer higher wage professional service jobs.

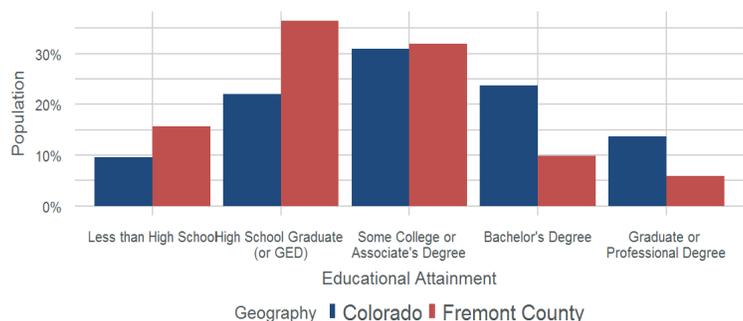


Education

- Fremont County has a lower share of its population with a Bachelor's degree or higher than the state.
- The largest share of the population has a high school diploma or GED.

Educational Attainment for 25 and Older

Source: ACS 2014 5-Year File



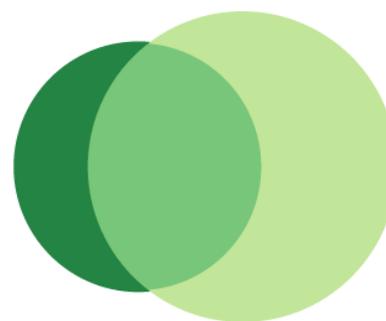
Commuting

Fremont County Commuting Patterns, 2014

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.

Fremont County has a larger workforce than the number of jobs in the county and is linked to the Pueblo area. About 59% of the resident workforce (light green) works outside of Fremont County. Of the jobs in Fremont (dark green), 63.4% are filled by residents with 36.6% being filled by workforce from outside of the county.

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



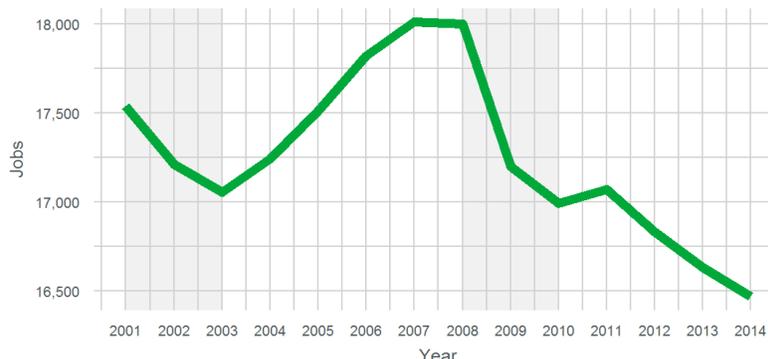
- Jobs in Fremont County
- Workforce in Fremont County
- Overlap: Work and Live in Fremont County

Source: LEHD On the Map, 2014

Jobs & the Economy

Total employment in the county was estimated to be 16,469 in 2014. Fremont has consistently lost jobs since its pre-recession peak in 2007. These losses are concentrated in construction, manufacturing, and accommodation and food. Industries above their pre-recession peak include retail trade, administration and waste, agriculture, mining, and management of companies.

Fremont County Total Estimated Jobs, 2001 to 2014
Source: State Demography Office



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

2015 Share of Jobs by Industry

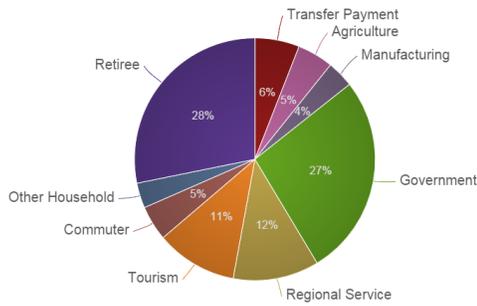
Sector Name	Fremont	Colorado
Agriculture	2.9%	1.5%
Mining	0.6%	1.1%
Utilities	0.3%	0.3%
Construction	6.1%	6.5%
Manufacturing	3.6%	4.7%
Wholesale Trade	1.0%	3.5%
Retail Trade	11.5%	9.6%
Transportation & Warehousing	2.6%	2.8%
Information	0.6%	2.4%
Finance and Insurance	1.7%	4.0%
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	2.6%	3.4%
Professional and Technical Services	3.1%	9.1%
Management of Companies	0.0%	1.2%
Administrative and Waste Services	2.7%	6.0%
Educational Services	0.4%	2.0%
Health Care and Social Assistance	13.6%	9.8%
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	2.6%	2.5%
Accommodation and Food Services	6.8%	8.5%
Other Services	6.3%	5.9%
Government	31.0%	15.2%

Source: State Demography Office Total Estimated Jobs

Economic Industry Mix

The industrial mix in Fremont can be seen at left. The largest industries by employment are government (due to prisons), health services, and retail trade, followed by accommodation and food services, other services, and construction.

Fremont Base Industries, 2014



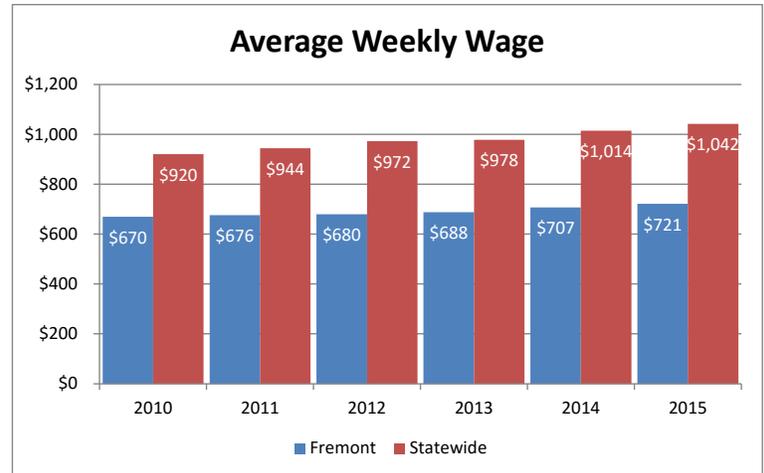
Source: State Demography Office

Economic Base Analysis

The Base Industries chart shows which industries drive the economy in Fremont. The chart shows the important share of economic activity driven by government and retirees. Government employment in Fremont related to the prisons is important because it brings in money from the state and federal governments. Retirees also bring in outside money primarily via retirement plans, transfer payments. Tourism and regional services are also important drivers. Commuters are also a significant driver as they bring earnings from outside the county to spend closer to home.

Average Wage Trends

- Average weekly wages Fremont increased by 8% between 2010 and 2015 compared to the state which increased by 13%.
- Weekly wages of \$721 in Fremont in 2014 were only 69% of the \$1,042 statewide average.
- Most of the difference is due to the industrial mix. Fremont has a large share of jobs in agriculture, retail trade and government (prisons) which tend to have lower wages.



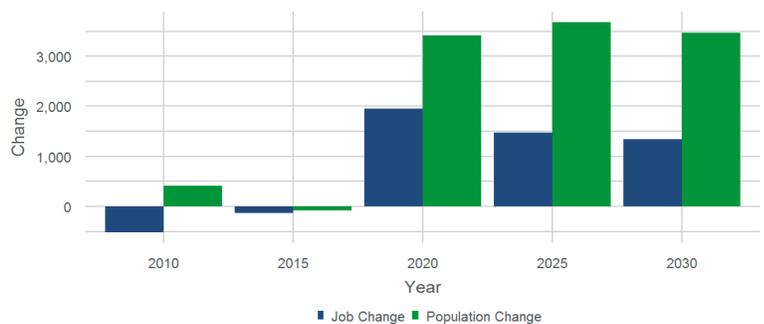
Source: Department of Labor and Employment (QCEW)

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 and jobs have shown little change over the past decade, but are both forecast to increase from 2015 to 2030.
- Population growth is expected to exceed job growth over the remainder of the forecast period; many of the new residents will commute to jobs in Pueblo or El Paso Counties.
- Population is forecast to grow within in the young adult age groups as well as significant aging into 70 and older age groups. This aging will also cause a decline in the number of residents aged 45 to 64, an important age group as they are also typically the households with the highest income.
- Growth in young adults may require additional housing and community services. Additionally, an aging population may require increased need for accessible housing and other services.

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



	Total Jobs	Population
2010	16,993	46,856
2015	16,860	46,770
2020	18,813	50,189
2025	20,285	53,875
2030	21,628	57,348