

REGION 2 OVERVIEW

Region 2 is comprised of Larimer and Weld Counties. It accounts for 6.4% of Colorado total land area.

The total population for the region is 454,421, or approximately 10.3% of the state's total population. Per capita income for both counties is below the state average.

There are two MSAs in the Region, Fort Collins-Loveland and Greeley. The region's largest city is Fort Collins in Larimer County; Greeley is the largest city in Weld County. There is a major airport in Larimer County. Major highways include Interstate 25 (north-south) and state highway 14 (east-west) in Larimer County and U.S. highway 85 (north-south) and state highway 34 (east-west) in Weld County. Interstate 76 also cuts through Weld County from the northeast part of the state.

Several institutions of higher education are located in the region, including Colorado State University, University of Northern Colorado, and Aims Community College.

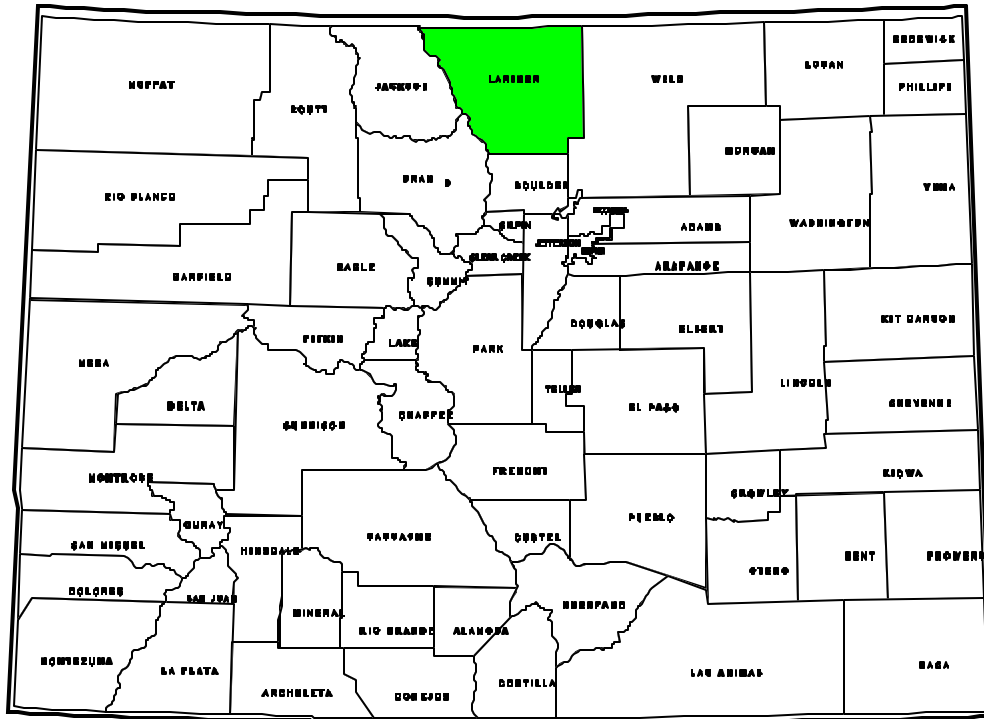
Of the two counties in this region, Weld County's economy is based more on agriculture than Larimer's. Weld has the highest number of dairy operations in the state, and is the nation's number one cattle producer (1997 Census of Agriculture). It is also one of the state's top oil and gas producers. Given the county's agricultural base, opportunities exist to further expand food processing industries, agricultural research, biopharma, and bio-based products. Population growth will foster development in the services area.

Portions of Larimer and Weld Counties are designated federal HubZones providing preferences in selling to the government. This advantage could generate economic growth for companies offering products and services purchased by Department of Defense and other federal agencies, or by federal prime contractors. The HubZone could also be used to attract companies already doing business with the government to relocate to eligible areas of the region.

Larimer's economic growth will be based on its strength in computer and electronic manufacturing. Nearly one-quarter of the state's computer manufacturing employees work in Larimer County.

Homeland security will be an area of growth, driven by research conducted in the area of bioterrorism. It is likely that there will also be growth from ag-bio research.

LARIMER COUNTY



LARIMER COUNTY RESOURCES

Transportation

Commercial Service Airports: Fort Collins/Loveland Municipal Airport

General Aviation Airports: Downtown Airpark

Reliever Airports: none

Interstate Highway Miles: 38.98

Military Bases, Federal Facilities, and Prisons

Military Base: none

Federal Facilities: APHIS- National Wildlife Research Center, ARS- National Seed Storage Laboratory, ARS- Northern Plains Area, FS- Rocky Mountain Research Station, USGS- MidContinent Ecological Science Center

State Prisons: none

Higher Education (Main Campus)

Four Year: Colorado State University

Two Year: Front Range Community College

Private Acc.: none

Ski Areas, Casinos, and National Parks

Ski Areas: none

Casinos/Gaming: Greyhound track in Loveland

National Parks/Sites: Rocky Mountain NP

Natural Resources

Oil Production (Barrels of Oil): 110,994

Gas Production (Million Cubic Feet): 263,755

Coal Production (Short Tons): 0

CO2 Production (Million Cubic Feet): 0

Wind Level Rating (5=Outstanding, 4=Good): 5

Biomass Energy Potential: 5,500,001-11,200,000 mmbtu

LARIMER COUNTY OVERVIEW			
	Larimer County	Colorado	US
People			
Population, 2001 estimate	259,472	4,417,714	284.8 M
Population percent change, April 1, 2000-July 1, 2001	3.2%	2.7%	1.2%
Population, percent change, 1990 to 2000	35.1%	30.6%	13.1%
Persons under 18 years old, percent, 2000	23.8%	25.6%	25.7%
Persons 65 years old and over, percent, 2000	9.6%	9.7%	12.4%
White persons, percent, 2000	91.4%	82.8%	75.1%
Persons of Hispanic or Latino origin, percent, 2000*	8.3%	17.1%	12.5%
Black or African American persons, percent, 2000	0.7%	3.8%	12.3%
American Indian and Alaska Native persons, percent, 2000	0.7%	1.0%	0.9%
Asian persons, percent, 2000	1.6%	2.2%	3.6%
Persons reporting some other race, percent, 2000	3.4%	7.2%	5.5%
High school graduates, percent of persons age 25+, 2000	92.3%	86.9%	80.4%
Bachelor's degree or higher, pct of persons age 25+, 2000	39.5%	32.7%	24.4%
Mean travel time to work, workers age 16+ (minutes), 2000	21.4	24.3	25.5
Homeownership rate, 2000	67.7%	67.3%	66.2%
Median value of owner-occupied housing units, 2000	\$172,000	\$166,600	\$119,600
Median household money income, 1999	\$48,655	\$47,203	\$41,994
Per capita money income, 1999	\$23,689	\$24,049	\$21,587
Persons below poverty, percent, 1999	9.2%	9.3%	12.4%
Business			
Federal funds and grants, 2001 (\$1,000)	906,419	24,344,658	1.8 B
Geography			
Land area, 2000 (square miles)	2,601	103,718	3.5 M
Persons per square mile, 2000	96.7	41.5	79.6
Note: *Hispanics may be of any race, so also are included in applicable race categories.			

ESTABLISHMENTS BY SIZE CLASS		
Size Class	Number	Percent
1-4 Employees	4,628	56.7%
5-9 Employees	1,563	19.2%
10-19 Employees	995	12.2%
20-49 Employees	635	7.8%
50-99 Employees	212	2.6%
100-249 Employees	102	1.3%
250-499 Employees	13	0.2%
500-999 Employees	10	0.1%
1,000+ Employees	2	0.0%
Total	8,160	100.1%

HOUSEHOLDS BY INCOME LEVELS		
Income Bracket	Number	Percent
<\$10,000	6,018	6.2%
\$10,000 to \$19,999	10,313	10.6%
\$20,000 to \$29,999	11,277	11.6%
\$30,000 to \$39,999	11,305	11.6%
\$40,000 to \$49,999	10,865	11.2%
\$50,000 to \$59,999	9,879	10.2%
\$60,000 to \$74,999	11,676	12.0%
\$75,000 to \$99,999	12,311	12.7%
\$100,000 to \$124,999	6,324	6.5%
\$125,000 to \$149,999	2,657	2.7%
\$150,000 to \$199,000	2,393	2.5%
\$200,000+	2,110	2.2%
Total	97,128	100.0%

OCCUPATIONS BY TYPE		
Occupation type	Number	Percent
Management, Professional, and Related	54,263	39.6%
Service	19,020	13.9%
Sales and Office	33,984	24.8%
Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	743	0.5%
Construction, Extraction, and Maintenance	13,190	9.6%
Production, Trans., and Material Moving	15,703	11.5%

WORKERS BY CLASS		
Worker Class	Number	Percent
Private	102,848	75.1%
Government	22,057	16.1%
Self Employed Non-Inc.	11,386	8.3%
Unpaid Family	612	0.4%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau - County Quickfacts, 2001 County Business Patterns, and 2000 Census Summary File 3.

COUNTY ASSETS		
	Larimer	Weld
Commercial Airport	x	
General Aviation Airport	x	x
Reliever Airport		
Interstate Highway	x	x
State Prison		
Federal Facility	x	
Military Facility		x
Two-year College/University	x	x
Four-year College/University	x	x
Private College/University	x	
>25% of Population with Bachelor Degree	x	
>10,000 employees	x	x
Companies w/ 500+ employees	x	x
Manufacturing Shipments (1997)	x	x
Ski Resorts		
Casinos	x	
National Parks/Sites	x	
Oil, Gas, CO ₂ Production	x	x
Coal Production		
Wind Energy	x	x
Biomass Potential	x	x

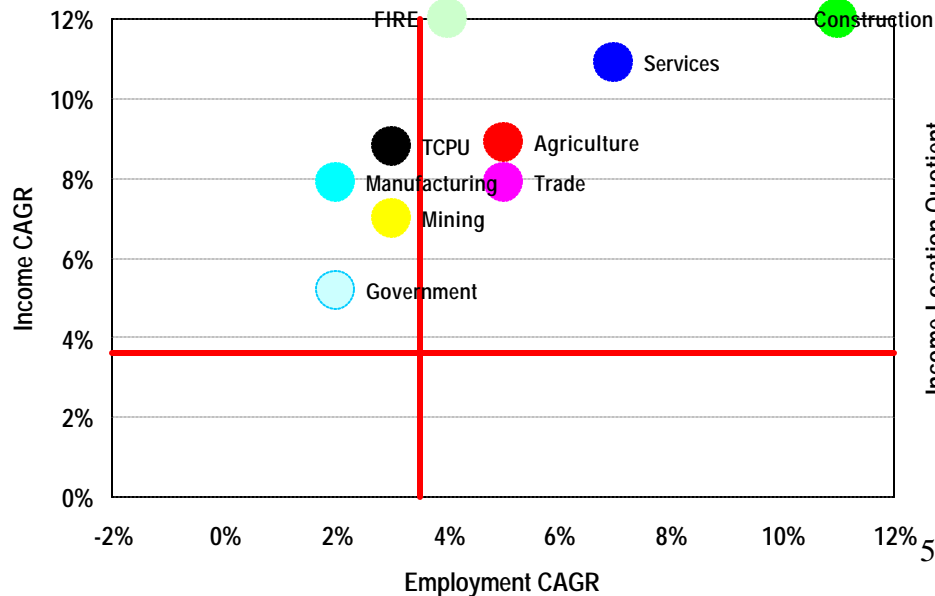
Larimer County Highlights	
Population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Larimer has the seventh largest population in Colorado. Population grew 35% over the past decade and 3.2% from 2000-2001.
Income and Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incomes in Larimer are slightly higher than the state and national averages. Housing prices are slightly higher than the state average, but lower than in other counties on the Front Range.
Occupation, Class of Work, Establishment Size	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A wide variety of occupations can be found in the county. Academics, engineering, and high-technology, and farming are major occupations. There are many large employers with 100+ employees.
Transportation Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I-25 runs through the county, and there is a major airport.
State, Federal, or Military Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are several federal research facilities related to agriculture, ecology, and wildlife.
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Colorado State University is located in Fort Collins. Enrollment totals about 24,000 students. There are also several branch campuses located in Larimer County.
Attractions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Poudre Canyon and Rocky Mountain National Park are both in Larimer County, plus several recreation attractions.
Natural Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Significant fossil resources exist and are being exploited.

HISTORICAL ANALYSIS OF EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME LARIMER COUNTY													
Employment and Income (2001)						CAGR 1991 to 2001				Location Quotient (2001)			
Employment			Income			Employment		Income		Employment		Income	
		Share			Share								
Services	42,360	27.9%	Services	\$1,296,193	24.7%	Con.	10.5%	FIRE	12.8%	Mfg.	1.76	Mfg.	2.46
Trade	35,626	23.5	Mfg.	1,227,789	23.4	Services	7.0	Con.	12.0	Gov.	1.20	Gov.	1.31
Gov.	25,777	17.0	Gov.	1,024,209	19.5	Ag.	4.8	Services	10.9	Con.	1.09	Ag.	1.03
Mfg.	20,052	13.2	Trade	725,690	13.8	Trade	4.8	Ag.	8.9	Trade	1.09	Con.	1.01
Con.	13,342	8.8	Con.	452,505	8.6	FIRE	3.9	TCPU	8.8	Ag.	0.99	Trade	0.96
FIRE	6,468	4.3	FIRE	273,826	5.2	OGM	2.9	Mfg.	7.9	Services	0.88	Services	0.81
Ag.	4,431	2.9	TCPU	160,583	3.1	TCPU	2.9	Trade	7.9	FIRE	0.57	FIRE	0.55
TCPU	3,226	2.1	Ag.	75,514	1.4	Gov.	2.1	OGM	7.0	OGM	0.42	TCPU	0.31
OGM	402	0.3	OGM	19,233	0.4	Mfg.	2.1	Gov.	5.2	TCPU	0.37	OGM	0.21

Source: DOLA – Colorado Employment by Sector.

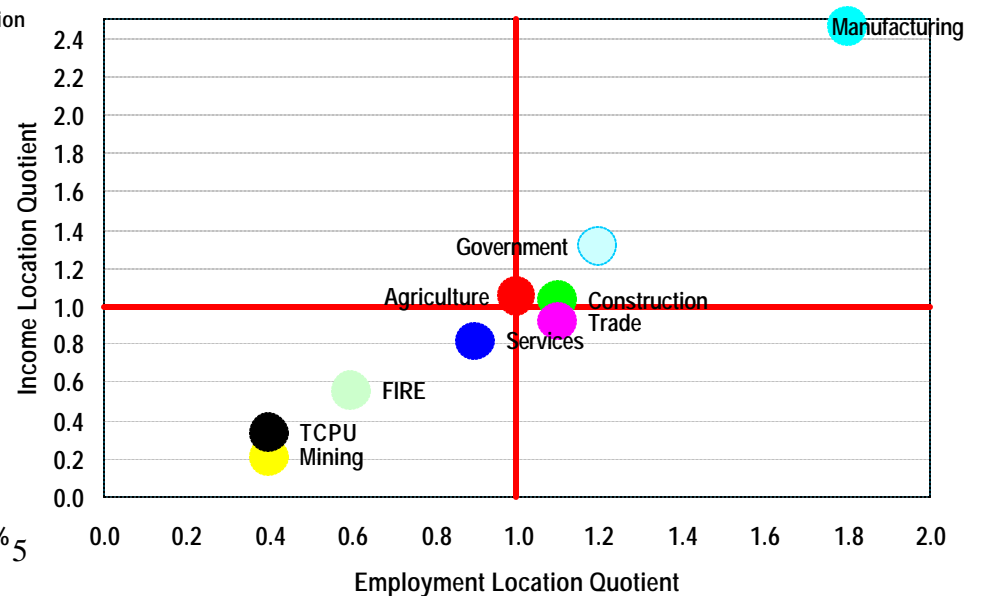
Larimer County Industry Growth 1991-2001

The chart below illustrates growth of the nine major industry sectors from 1991-2001. Compound annual growth rates (CAGR) are used. From 1991-2001 total state employment grew at a CAGR of 3.6%, and the Denver/Boulder CPI grew at a CAGR of 3.5%. The chart is divided into quadrants based on these values. The upper right-hand quadrant includes industries in the county that had employment growth greater than the state average and income growth greater than the CPI.



Larimer County Industry Concentration 2001

The chart below illustrates concentration of the nine major industry sectors in 2001. Location quotients (LQ) are used to measure the concentration of an industry in the county relative to the state. An LQ greater than 1 means the county has a high concentration in that industry. The chart is divided into quadrants. The upper right-hand quadrant includes industries with high employment concentration and income concentration.



LARIMER COUNTY SECTOR BREAKDOWN				
Sector	Number of Workers	Total Production (M)	% of Production Exported	Value of Exports (M)
Top 10 Sectors by Employment				
State & Local Government - Education	15,140	\$564.5	0%	\$0.0
Eating & Drinking	11,083	389.0	31	120.6
Real Estate	6,740	1,410.9	67	945.3
Miscellaneous Retail	6,417	187.7	0	0.0
Personnel Supply Services	5,047	130.2	38	49.5
General Merchandise Stores	4,961	229.9	56	128.7
State & Local Government - Non-Education	4,758	226.1	0	0.0
New Residential Structures	4,714	754.3	0	0.0
Electronic Computers	4,661	1,121.5	42	471.0
Doctors and Dentists	4,591	429.1	34	145.9
Top Sectors by Production				
Real Estate	6,740	\$1,410.9	67%	\$945.3
Electronic Computers	4,661	1,121.5	42	471.0
New Residential Structures	4,714	754.3	0	0.0
State & Local Government - Education	15,140	564.5	0	0.0
Instruments To Measure Electricity	2,490	543.9	51	277.4
Malt Beverages	859	522.5	100	522.5
Doctors and Dentists	4,591	429.1	34	145.9
Top Primary Sectors				
Malt Beverages	859	\$522.5	100%	\$522.5
Electronic Computers	4,661	1,121.5	42	471.0
Internal Combustion Engines, N.E.C.	1,044	353.1	81	286.0
Instruments To Measure Electricity	2,490	543.9	51	277.4
Computer Peripheral Equipment, N.E.C.	553	142.3	100	142.3
Semiconductors and Related Devices	515	140.1	61	85.5
Miscellaneous Plastics Products	404	69.8	100	69.8
Analytical Instruments	637	82.8	78	64.6
Cement, Hydraulic	178	60.9	99	60.3
Periodicals	583	45.5	91	41.4
Electric Housewares and Fans	234	41.8	99	41.4

Source: Minnesota IMPLAN Group, Inc. (2000)

Industry Summary

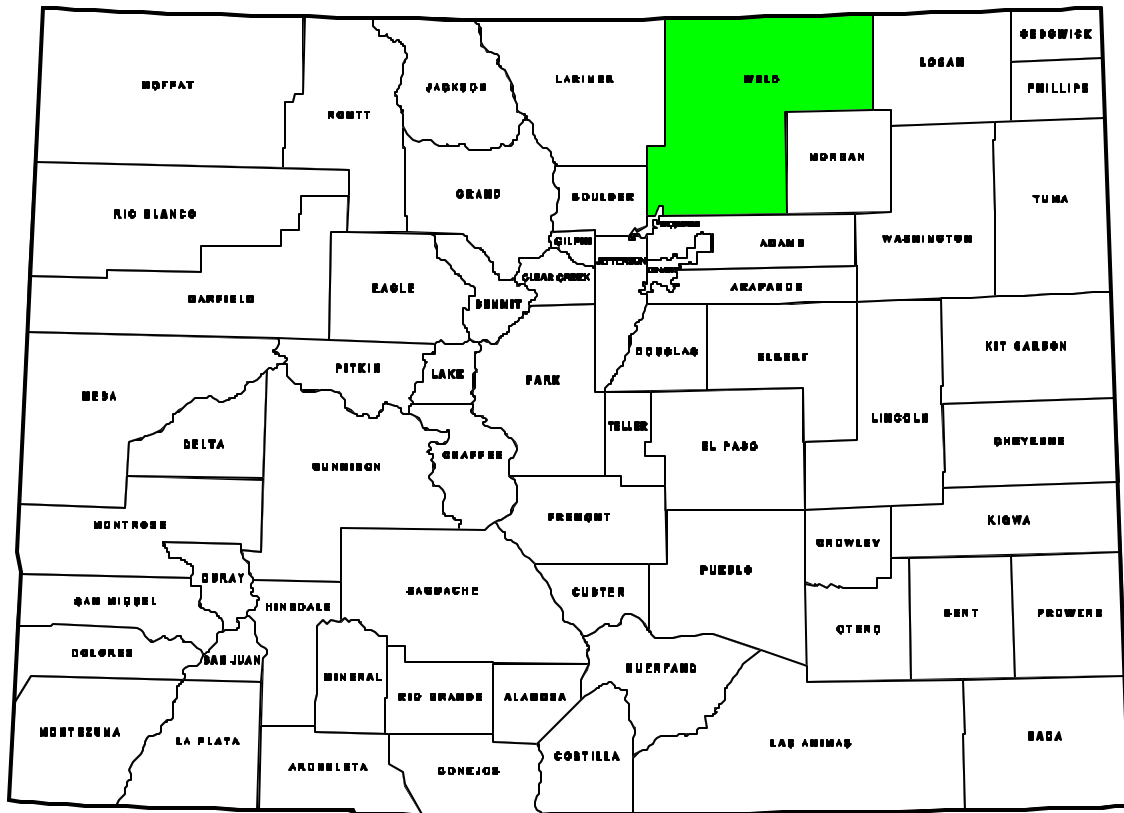
- Situated along the Front Range and I-25 corridor, and also very close to the Rocky Mountains, Larimer County has a critical mass to attract major employers, but remains a relatively affordable and rural destination for workers.
- Several high-technology manufacturers have operations in Larimer, including Hewlett-Packard, Celestica, and LSI Logic. Anheuser Busch and Teledyne WaterPik represent some other large employers.
- Colorado State University is the largest single employer and houses several research centers. The county also benefits from substantial federal research grants in the agriculture and forestry fields.
- Construction and manufacturing have fast-growing output and incomes, which reflects the housing boom in this county. But the core employers remain high-technology, manufacturing, the university, and farming/ranching.

LARIMER COUNTY - CURRENT, TARGET, AND EMERGING GROWTH INDUSTRIES*

	Current	Target	Growth	Comments
Agriculture				Larimer County produces a variety of crops including barley, corn, dry beans, hay, sugar beets, and wheat. Market value of crops sold in 1997 was \$38,285,000. Market value of livestock and products sold was \$62,198,000. The area has developed 13 farmer's markets providing specialty crop growers with higher revenues by selling direct to urban consumers. According to the DOLA base industry study, 4.2% of the county's basic jobs are related to agribusiness.
Animals	X			
Crops				
Dairy				
Manufacturing				There are opportunities to build on strengths in computer and electronic product manufacturing, machinery manufacturing, and beverage manufacturing. According to the DOLA base industry study, 16% of the county's basic jobs are related to manufacturing.
General	X	X	X	
Computer Hardware/Storage	X	X	X	
Photonics	X	X	X	About 22% of the state's computer manufacturing employees work in Larimer County. This critical mass of employees will drive growth in this sector in northern Colorado.
Energy and Environmental				
Minerals, Gas/Petroleum	X			About 7% of photonics companies are located in Larimer County.
Renewable Energy			X	
Environmental Industries	X			
Transportation				Larimer produces limestone.
Air				It has the potential for development of renewable energy from wind and biomass with "5" or "high" wind rating areas along the border with Wyoming and biomass from agricultural residues providing the potential for biomass to energy. As population increases and agricultural lands decrease, however, the biomass capacity will decline.
Trucking				
Rail				
General				
Aerospace/Space				Extension of broadband services from the MNT hub in the county could provide modest growth opportunities for a variety of businesses.
Defense/Homeland Security			X	
Telecommunications				Fort Collins is home to several biomedical companies and has the opportunity to expand this sector through research spin offs and partnerships with Colorado State University. Of particular importance to opportunities in homeland security will be the expansion of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
Biotechnology	X	X	X	
Nanotechnology	X			Larimer County currently has a call center industry that employs nearly 500 people. Call centers could grow in Larimer. With the presence of the university, there is a large pool of relatively inexpensive labor that could attract additional call centers.
Services				
Call Centers	X	X	X	
Financial				
Healthcare				Poudre Canyon, Rocky Mountain National Park, and a greyhound track present a diverse set of recreational opportunities. According to the DOLA base industry study, 10.2% of the county's basic jobs are related to tourism.
Research and Development	X	X	X	
Software				Seven film projects were done in Larimer County during 2002. Growth in filming is expected in the future with the presence of places such as Rocky Mountain National Park and the historic Stanley Hotel in Estes Park.
Tourism	X	X		
Film	X	X	X	

*Note: Definition of current target and emerging growth industry included in introduction to this section.

WELD COUNTY



WELD COUNTY RESOURCES

Transportation

Commercial Service Airports: none

General Aviation Airports: Weld County Airport, Easton Valley View Airport, Tri-County Airport, Platte Valley Airpark

Reliever Airports: none

Interstate Highway Miles: 65.1 (Interstate I-25) (Interstate I-76)

Military Bases, Federal Facilities, and Prisons

Military Base: 137th Space Warning Squadron

Federal Facilities: none

State Prisons: none

Higher Education (Main Campus)

Four Year: University of Northern Colorado

Two Year: Aims Community College

Private Acc.: none

Ski Areas, Casinos, and National Parks

Ski Areas: none

Casinos: none

National Parks/Sites: none

Natural Resources

Oil Production (Barrels of Oil): 7719676

Gas Production (Million Cubic Feet): 160334094

Coal Production (Short Tons): 0

CO2 Production (Million Cubic Feet): 0

Wind Level Rating (5=Outstanding, 4=Good): 5

Biomass Energy Potential: 5,500,001-11,200,000 mmbtu

WELD COUNTY OVERVIEW			
	Weld County	Colorado	US
People			
Population, 2001 estimate	194,949	4,417,714	284.8 M
Population percent change, April 1, 2000-July 1, 2001	7.7%	2.7%	1.2%
Population, percent change, 1990 to 2000	37.3%	30.6%	13.1%
Persons under 18 years old, percent, 2000	28.2%	25.6%	25.7%
Persons 65 years old and over, percent, 2000	9.0%	9.7%	12.4%
White persons, percent, 2000	81.7%	82.8%	75.1%
Persons of Hispanic or Latino origin, percent, 2000	27.0%	17.1%	12.5%
Black or African American persons, percent, 2000	0.6%	3.8%	12.3%
American Indian and Alaska Native persons, percent, 2000	0.9%	1.0%	0.9%
Asian persons, percent, 2000	0.8%	2.2%	3.6%
Persons reporting some other race, percent, 2000	13.3%	7.2%	5.5%
High school graduates, percent of persons age 25+, 2000	79.6%	86.9%	80.4%
Bachelor's degree or higher, pct of persons age 25+, 2000	21.6%	32.7%	24.4%
Mean travel time to work, workers age 16+ (minutes), 2000	23.7	24.3	25.5
Homeownership rate, 2000	68.6%	67.3%	66.2%
Median value of owner-occupied housing units, 2000	\$140,400	\$166,600	\$119,600
Median household money income, 1999	\$42,321	\$47,203	\$41,994
Per capita money income, 1999	\$18,957	\$24,049	\$21,587
Persons below poverty, percent, 1999	12.5%	9.3%	12.4%
Business			
Federal funds and grants, 2001 (\$1,000)	568,724	24,344,658	1.8 B
Geography			
Land area, 2000 (square miles)	3,992	103,718	3.5 M
Persons per square mile, 2000	45.3	41.5	79.6
Note: *Hispanics may be of any race, so also are included in applicable race categories.			

ESTABLISHMENTS BY SIZE CLASS		
Size Class	Number	Percent
1-4 Employees	2,421	56.6%
5-9 Employees	803	18.8%
10-19 Employees	525	12.3%
20-49 Employees	342	8.0%
50-99 Employees	113	2.6%
100-249 Employees	55	1.3%
250-499 Employees	14	0.3%
500-999 Employees	3	0.1%
1,000+ Employees	5	0.1%
Total	4,281	100.1%

HOUSEHOLDS BY INCOME LEVELS		
Income Bracket	Number	Percent
<\$10,000	5,384	8.5%
\$10,000 to \$19,999	7,569	12.0%
\$20,000 to \$29,999	8,250	13.1%
\$30,000 to \$39,999	8,341	13.2%
\$40,000 to \$49,999	7,463	11.8%
\$50,000 to \$59,999	6,271	9.9%
\$60,000 to \$74,999	7,207	11.4%
\$75,000 to \$99,999	6,714	10.6%
\$100,000 to \$124,999	2,733	4.3%
\$125,000 to \$149,999	1,256	2.0%
\$150,000 to \$199,000	941	1.5%
\$200,000+	1,068	1.7%
Total	63,197	100.0%

OCCUPATIONS BY TYPE		
Occupation type	Number	Percent
Management, Professional, and Related	25,873	29.5%
Service	12,803	14.6%
Sales and Office	22,112	25.2%
Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	1,737	2.0%
Construction, Extraction, and Maintenance	11,200	12.8%
Production, Trans., and Material Moving	13,901	15.9%

WORKERS BY CLASS		
Worker Class	Number	Percent
Private	66,854	76.3%
Government	13,289	15.2%
Self Employed Non-Inc.	7,098	8.1%
Unpaid Family	385	0.4%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau - County Quickfacts, 2001 County Business Patterns, and 2000 Census Summary File 3.

COUNTY ASSETS		
	Weld	Larimer
Commercial Airport		x
General Aviation Airport	x	x
Reliever Airport		
Interstate Highway	x	x
State Prison		
Federal Facility		x
Military Facility	x	
Two-year College/University	x	x
Four-year College/University	x	x
Private College/University		x
>25% of Population with Bachelor Degree		x
>10,000 employees	x	x
Companies w/ 500+ employees	x	x
Manufacturing Shipments (1997)	x	x
Ski Resorts		
Casinos		x
National Parks/Sites		x
Oil, Gas, CO ₂ Production	x	x
Coal Production		
Wind Energy	x	x
Biomass Potential	x	x

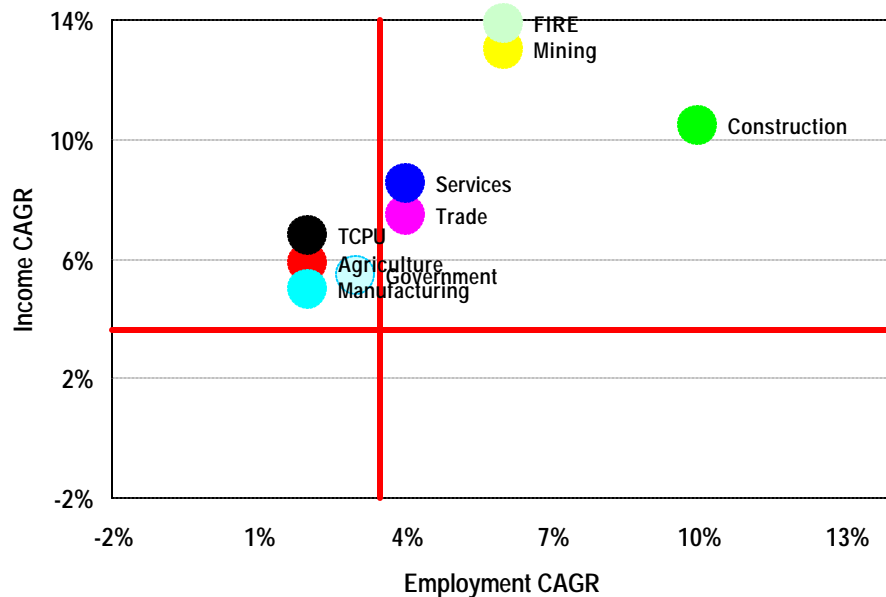
Weld County Highlights
<p>Population</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weld is one of the fastest-growing counties in Colorado. Growth from 2000-2001 was 7.7%. <p>Income and Housing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weld County household and per capita income is slightly lower than the state average; but the distribution of income reflects the urban-rural dichotomy: several households earning above-average wages, but a large poverty-level rural population. The average price of a home in Weld is \$140,000, compared to \$166,000 for the state. <p>Occupation, Class of Work, Establishment Size</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a base of 77 companies with 100+ employees. Agriculture, mining, and manufacturing are important core employers; FIRE and other private services constitute the remaining private employment (about 70%). Thirty percent of employment is government-funded. <p>Transportation Infrastructure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Both I-25 and I-76 run through Weld County. There are also four general aviation airports. <p>State, Federal, or Military Facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are no federal labs or state prisons located in Weld County, although it is in relatively close proximity to Boulder, Larimer, and other metro counties where numerous federal facilities exist. The 137th Space Warning Squadron is located in Weld County. <p>Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a four-year university and a two-year college in Weld County. <p>Attractions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weld County is not generally considered a tourist destination, but recreation opportunities exist for residents within 1 hour's drive from the county. <p>Natural Resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weld County produces nearly 38% of the state's oil, and nearly 20% of its natural gas. The county also has significant potential in biomass energy and wind energy.

HISTORICAL ANALYSIS OF EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME WELD COUNTY													
Employment and Income (2001)						CAGR 1991 to 2001				Location Quotient (2001)			
Employment			Income			Employment		Income		Employment		Income	
		Share			Share								Share
Services	22,302	23.8%	Mfg.	\$614,837	19.4%	Con.	9.6%	FIRE	13.6%	Ag.	2.94	Ag.	6.22
Trade	18,330	19.6	Services	564,147	17.8	FIRE	5.5	OGM	13.5	OGM	2.69	Mfg.	2.05
Mfg.	12,751	13.6	Trade	442,760	14.0	OGM	5.5	Con.	10.5	Mfg.	1.81	OGM	1.74
Gov.	12,749	13.6	Gov.	442,617	14.0	Services	3.5	Services	8.5	Con.	1.09	Con.	1.23
Con.	8,236	8.8	Con.	331,155	10.5	Trade	3.5	Trade	7.5	Gov.	0.96	Trade	0.97
Ag.	8,162	8.7	Ag.	273,477	8.6	Gov.	2.5	TCPU	6.5	Trade	0.91	Gov.	0.94
FIRE	5,942	6.3	FIRE	232,869	7.4	Ag.	1.6	Ag.	5.7	FIRE	0.85	FIRE	0.78
TCPU	3,666	3.9	TCPU	166,036	5.3	Mfg.	1.6	Gov.	5.6	Services	0.75	Services	0.59
OGM	1,583	1.7	OGM	93,918	3.0	TCPU	1.6	Mfg.	5.6	TCPU	0.67	TCPU	0.53

Source: DOLA – Colorado Employment by Sector.

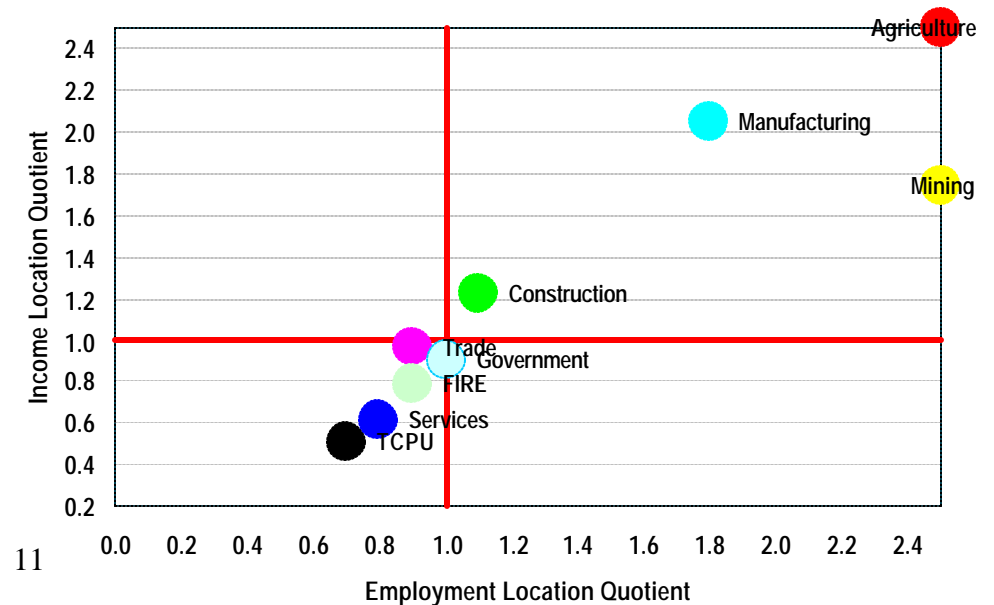
Weld County Industry Growth 1991-2001

The chart below illustrates growth of the nine major industry sectors from 1991-2001. Compound annual growth rates (CAGR) are used. From 1991-2001 total state employment grew at a CAGR of 3.6%, and the Denver/Boulder CPI grew at a CAGR of 3.5%. The chart is divided into quadrants based on these values. The upper right-hand quadrant includes industries in the county that had employment growth greater than the state average and income growth greater than the CPI.



Weld County Industry Concentration 2001

The chart below illustrates concentration of the nine major industry sectors in 2001. Location quotients (LQ) are used to measure the concentration of an industry in the county relative to the state. An LQ greater than 1 means the county has a high concentration in that industry. The chart is divided into quadrants. The upper right-hand quadrant includes industries with high employment concentration and income concentration.



WELD COUNTY SECTOR BREAKDOWN				
Sector	Number of Workers	Total Production (M)	% of Production Exported	Value of Exports (M)
Top 10 Sectors by Employment				
State & Local Government - Education	7,799	\$257.4	0%	\$0.0
Eating & Drinking	5,251	172.1	9	15.5
Wholesale Trade	4,385	440.4	9	39.6
Meat Packing Plants	3,383	1,224.1	97	1,187.4
Miscellaneous Retail	3,378	99.0	0	0.0
Personnel Supply Services	2,723	35.7	0	0.0
State & Local Government - Non-Education	2,609	104.7	0	0.0
Real Estate	2,593	499.8	38	189.9
New Residential Structures	2,392	382.0	0	0.0
Hospitals	2,272	200.2	6	12.0
Top Sectors by Production				
Meat Packing Plants	3,383	\$1,224.1	97%	\$1,187.4
Cattle Feedlots	1,097	678.7	29	196.8
Photographic Equipment and Supplies	2,113	557.7	52	290.0
Real Estate	2,593	499.8	38	189.9
Wholesale Trade	4,385	440.4	9	39.6
New Residential Structures	2,392	382.0	0	0.0
State & Local Government - Education	7,799	257.4	0	0.0
Natural Gas & Crude Petroleum	895	228.5	77	175.9
Top Primary Sectors				
Meat Packing Plants	3,383	\$1,224.1	97%	\$1,187.4
Photographic Equipment and Supplies	2,113	557.7	52	290.0
Natural Gas & Crude Petroleum	895	228.5	77	175.9
Electronic Components N.E.C.	348	190.9	72	137.4
Aluminum Rolling and Drawing	353	114.0	99	112.9
Dairy Farm Products	209	100.4	93	93.4
Poultry and Eggs	124	82.9	97	80.4
Electronic Computers	595	167.7	44	73.8
Book Publishing	327	73.3	95	69.6
Transportation Equipment N.E.C.	259	66.0	99	65.3

Source: Minnesota IMPLAN Group, Inc. (2000)

Industry Summary

- Traditional (core) industries are: agriculture, oil, gas, and mining, manufacturing, and construction. Some expansion in these industries can be expected, especially in the food and food processing areas.
- Growth industries and major employers are: meat packing plants (Swift Foods), photographic equipment and supplies (Kodak), natural gas and crude petroleum, electronic components, and aluminum rolling and drawing (Platte Valley Steel and Metal Container Corp.).
- As Greeley (the principal city) expands, support services such as FIRE, Services, Trade, and Construction will be growth industries. Weld's growth will depend largely on whether the county becomes a "bedroom community" to Denver and Boulder Counties, or whether it becomes a center for one of its primary industries.
- The state and local government is also a major employer in the county.

WELD COUNTY - CURRENT, TARGET, AND EMERGING GROWTH INDUSTRIES*

	Current	Target	Growth	Comments
Agriculture				Weld County is the state's top agricultural producer with 28.4% of total state agricultural receipts. It is the highest producer of alfalfa hay and sugar beets. As of January 1, 2003, the county had the highest inventory of cattle and calves and second highest number of beef cows and heifers. According to the 1997 census of agriculture, market value of crops sold was \$209,661,000, and market value of livestock and products sold was \$1,076,975. Meat packing, dairy products, poultry, and eggs are also prominent sectors. Growth in the agricultural sector will result from development of additional meat, dairy, and food processing operations. The area has developed 11 farmer's markets providing specialty crop growers with higher revenues by selling direct to urban consumers. Two markets offers certified organic products to meet increasing consumer demand. Specialty products include buffalo and vegetables. Weld County has the highest number of dairy operations in the state, including 3 with annual sales over \$3 million. According to the DOLA base industry study, 23.6% of the county's basic jobs are related to agribusiness.
Animals	X	X	X	
Crops	X	X	X	
Dairy	X	X	X	
Manufacturing				The strength of the computer sector is tied closely to the companies in Larimer County. About 3% of photonics companies are located in Weld County.
General				
Computer Hardware/Storage				
Photonics	X	X	X	
Energy and Environmental				Opportunities for growth exist in food manufacturing, chemical manufacturing, fabricated metal products, and computer and electrical product manufacturing.
Minerals, Gas/Petroleum	X	X		
Renewable Energy	X	X	X	
Environmental Industries	X			Extension of broadband services from the MNT hub in the county could provide modest growth opportunities for a variety of businesses.
Transportation				Weld County is one of the top oil and gas producers. The county has already begun to develop its potential for development of renewable energy resources from wind taking advantage of its rating of "5" or "Outstanding." It also has a high biomass energy potential of 5,500,001 to 11,200,000 mmbtu. In addition, there is future economic growth potential to produce ethanol and industrial chemicals from agricultural residues (manure and crop waste) as new technologies are perfected.
Air				
Trucking	X	X		
Rail				Call centers in Weld County currently employ over 1,000 people. The county's large agriculture industry and the presence of a university are both conducive towards growth in the call center area, as both students and farmers who are inactive during the winter months are potential sources of labor.
General				
Aerospace/Space				
Defense/Homeland Security				Recreational pursuits are available in nearby Larimer County (Rocky Mountain National Park) and in the Denver metro area. Pawnee National Grassland is also located in the county.
Telecommunications				
Biotechnology				
Nanotechnology				A total of five film projects were completed in the county during 2002, featuring places such as the Pawnee National Grassland and the energy wind farm. According to the DOLA base industry study, 5.0% of the county's basic jobs are related to tourism.
Services				
Call Centers	X	X	X	
Financial				
Healthcare				
Research and Development	X	X	X	
Software				
Tourism	X	X		
Film	X	X		

*Note: Definition of current target and emerging growth industry included in introduction to this section.