

REGION 5 OVERVIEW

Region 5 includes four counties in the middle section of the eastern plains reaching from the Denver MSA to the Kansas border. Cheyenne, Elbert, Kit Carson, and Lincoln Counties represent 8,379 square miles, about 8% of the state's land. The 2001 population of 37,389 persons is less than 1% of the state population. Elbert County, which is adjacent to high growth areas of the Denver MSA, is growing faster than the state as a whole, while population growth in the rest of the region declined in 2001 and was well below the state average over the past 10 years. Major cities in the region are Burlington and Limon.

Agriculture is the primary industry sector in terms of employment and income. Area farmers produce oats, corn, hay, and wheat, as well as sunflowers. The area produces hogs and cattle and natural buffalo meat. The agri-industry sector includes food manufacturing. Development of agricultural products that target natural and organic food preferences, processing of locally grown sunflowers, and production of value-added food products could add economic value to the agricultural sector.

A second major contributor to the economy in this region is extraction industries, including crude oil and natural gas. The region has a good potential for future growth from development of wind energy, with wind resources in many areas rated good or above. The area also has potential for future economic benefit by producing energy and ethanol from oil seed crops and agricultural residues (crop wastes, animal manure, etc.). As new technologies are perfected, this region may also be able to produce industrial chemicals, plastics, and other bio-based products from crops and wastes. While there is also a future possibility to grow, and possibly process, pharmaceutical crops, there are many issues that need to be addressed. The primary concern is the need to preserve the existing agricultural economy and prevent contamination of other crops in the region, and across state lines.

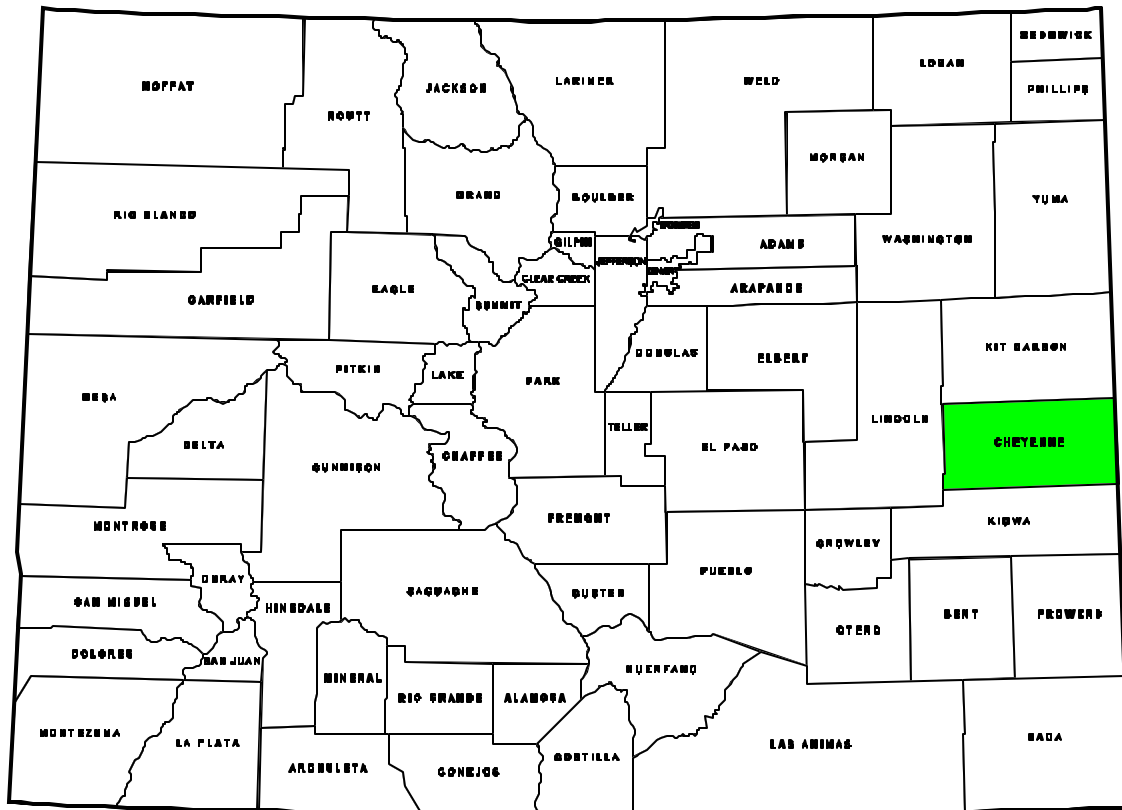
There are no major tourist attractions in the region; however, the area benefits from heavy tourist travel and over-the-road truck traffic on Interstate 70, a major east-west highway connecting the region with Denver on the west and Kansas on the east. Communities along this corridor have developed local attractions and tourist facilities to serve these travelers and build local economies. There are no commercial service airports in the region; however, there is reasonable access to Denver International Airport east of Denver and a commercial service airport in Colorado Springs. Cheyenne, Kit Carson, and Lincoln Counties each have a general aviation airport.

In addition to agri-industry and energy extraction, the region's economy comprises jobs in government, including schools and a state prison. There is also a smattering of various industries, with no large employers. The sectors providing the most jobs are tourist accommodations and food and health care. The state's MNT broadband telecommunications hubs currently extend into each county and future provision for "last mile" access could support future growth in some service sectors.

Lincoln County and portions of Elbert 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.

There are no higher education institutions in the region and no research base for any significant growth in high-technology sectors. The western portion of the region is likely to develop more rapidly as a result of its proximity to the Colorado Springs and Denver MSAs.

CHEYENNE COUNTY



CHEYENNE COUNTY RESOURCES

Transportation

Commercial Service Airports: none
 General Aviation Airports: Eads Airport
 Reliever Airports: none
 Interstate Highway Miles: 0

Military Bases, Federal Facilities, and Prisons

Military Base: none
 Federal Facilities: none
 State Prisons: none

Higher Education (Main Campus)

Four Year: none
 Two Year: none
 Private Acc.: none

Ski Areas, Casinos, and National Parks

Ski Areas: none
 Casinos/Gaming: none
 National Parks/Sites: none

Natural Resources

Oil Production (Barrels of Oil): 3,008,638
 Gas Production (Million Cubic Feet): 75,06,648
 Coal Production (Short Tons): 0
 CO2 Production (Million Cubic Feet): 0
 Wind Level Rating (5=Outstanding, 4=Good): 4
 Biomass Energy Potential: <2,500,001 mmbtu

CHEYENNE COUNTY OVERVIEW			
	Cheyenne County	Colorado	US
People			
Population, 2001 estimate	2,204	4,417,714	284.8 M
Population percent change, April 1, 2000-July 1, 2001	-1.2%	2.7%	1.2%
Population, percent change, 1990 to 2000	-6.9%	30.6%	13.1%
Persons under 18 years old, percent, 2000	28.8%	25.6%	25.7%
Persons 65 years old and over, percent, 2000	16.6%	9.7%	12.4%
White persons, percent, 2000	92.9%	82.8%	75.1%
Persons of Hispanic or Latino origin, percent, 2000*	8.1%	17.1%	12.5%
Black or African American persons, percent, 2000	0.5%	3.8%	12.3%
American Indian and Alaska Native persons, percent, 2000	0.8%	1.0%	0.9%
Asian persons, percent, 2000	0.1%	2.2%	3.6%
Persons reporting some other race, percent, 2000	5.1%	7.2%	5.5%
High school graduates, percent of persons age 25+, 2000	84.1%	86.9%	80.4%
Bachelor's degree or higher, pct of persons age 25+, 2000	14.2%	32.7%	24.4%
Mean travel time to work, workers age 16+ (minutes), 2000	13.5	24.3	25.5
Homeownership rate, 2000	74.3%	67.3%	66.2%
Median value of owner-occupied housing units, 2000	\$62,400	\$166,600	\$119,600
Median household money income, 1999	\$37,054	\$47,203	\$41,994
Per capita money income, 1999	\$17,850	\$24,049	\$21,587
Persons below poverty, percent, 1999	11.1%	9.3%	12.4%
Business			
Federal funds and grants, 2001 (\$1,000)	33,599	24,344,658	1.8 B
Geography			
Land area, 2000 (square miles)	1,781	103,718	3.5 M
Persons per square mile, 2000	1.3	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	34	58.6%
5-9 Employees	12	20.7%
10-19 Employees	3	5.2%
20-49 Employees	8	13.8%
50-99 Employees	1	1.7%
100-249 Employees	0	0.0%
250-499 Employees	0	0.0%
500-999 Employees	0	0.0%
1,000+ Employees	0	0.0%
Total	58	100.0%

HOUSEHOLDS BY INCOME LEVELS		
Income Bracket	Number	Percent
<\$10,000	99	11.3%
\$10,000 to \$19,999	134	15.3%
\$20,000 to \$29,999	116	13.2%
\$30,000 to \$39,999	120	13.7%
\$40,000 to \$49,999	126	14.4%
\$50,000 to \$59,999	88	10.0%
\$60,000 to \$74,999	89	10.1%
\$75,000 to \$99,999	44	5.0%
\$100,000 to \$124,999	34	3.9%
\$125,000 to \$149,999	14	1.6%
\$150,000 to \$199,000	6	0.7%
\$200,000+	8	0.9%
Total	878	100.1%

OCCUPATIONS BY TYPE		
Occupation type	Number	Percent
Management, Professional, and Related	372	35.3%
Service	176	16.7%
Sales and Office	188	17.8%
Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	49	4.6%
Construction, Extraction, and Maintenance	159	15.1%
Production, Trans., and Material Moving	110	10.4%

WORKERS BY CLASS		
Worker Class	Number	Percent
Private	622	59.0%
Government	213	20.2%
Self Employed Non-Inc.	200	19.0%
Unpaid Family	19	1.8%

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

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

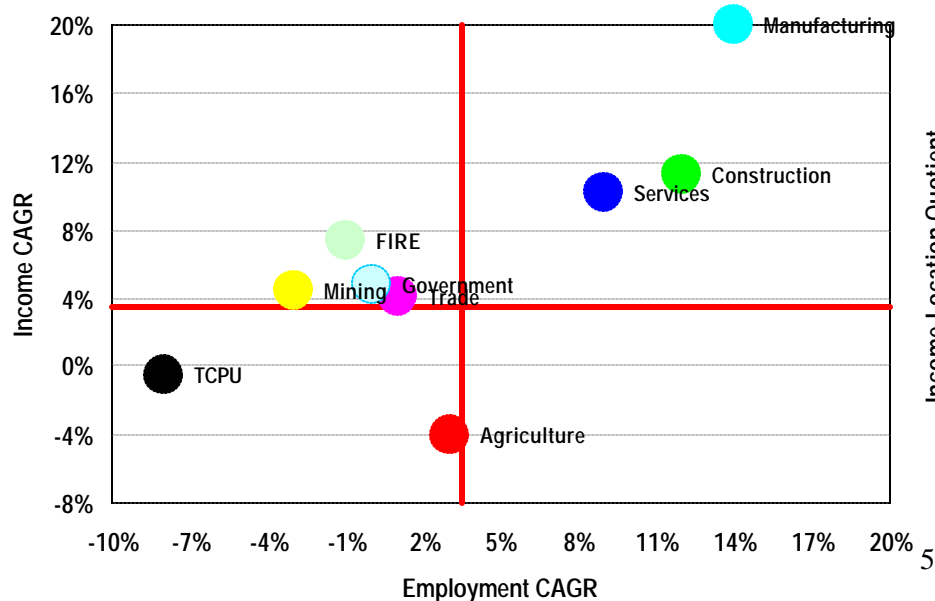
Cheyenne County Highlights	
Population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cheyenne County is one of the only counties in Colorado to experience <i>population losses</i> over the past decade. Population fell by 7%, compared with the state population growth of 30%. The county is sparsely populated, with 2,000 residents.
Income and Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Income and housing are both very low compared with the state. Housing costs are \$100,000 below the state median and incomes are about \$10,000 below the state median.
Occupation, Class of Work, Establishment Size	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agricultural employment constitutes almost half of all employment in the county, and most establishments are small. No establishments have 100+ employees.
Transportation Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are no interstate highways in Cheyenne.
State, Federal, or Military Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No major government facilities.
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Primary and secondary only.
Attractions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No major attractions, but like other counties in this area, Cheyenne has a rich history of settlers.
Natural Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some significant oil and natural gas reserves are present in Cheyenne. This is a possible area for development.

HISTORICAL ANALYSIS OF EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME CHEYENNE COUNTY													
Employment and Income (2001)						CAGR 1991 to 2001				Location Quotient (2001)			
Employment			Income			Employment		Income		Employment		Income	
		Share			Share								Share
Ag.	573	38.7%	Gov.	\$8,785	22.8%	Mfg.	14.3%	Mfg.	26.4%	Ag.	13.04	Ag.	12.75
Gov.	322	21.8	Ag.	6,841	17.7	Con.	11.5	Con.	11.3	OGM	11.19	OGM	9.26
Trade	211	14.3	OGM	6,094	15.8	Services	8.5	Services	10.2	Gov.	1.53	Gov.	1.54
OGM	104	7.0	Trade	4,643	12.0	Ag.	3.4	FIRE	7.4	FIRE	0.79	Trade	0.84
Services	101	6.8	Services	3,767	9.8	Trade	1.4	Gov.	4.5	Trade	0.66	Con.	0.81
FIRE	87	5.9	Con.	2,665	6.9	Gov.	0.4	OGM	4.5	TCPU	0.38	TCPU	0.64
TCPU	32	2.2	TCPU	2,465	6.4	FIRE	-0.7	Trade	4.4	Con.	0.24	FIRE	0.56
Con.	28	1.9	FIRE	2,021	5.2	OGM	-2.6	TCPU	-0.5	Services	0.22	Mfg.	0.35
Mfg.	22	1.5	Mfg.	1,291	3.3	TCPU	-7.9	Ag.	-4.0	Mfg.	0.21	Services	0.32

Source: DOLA – Colorado Employment by Sector.

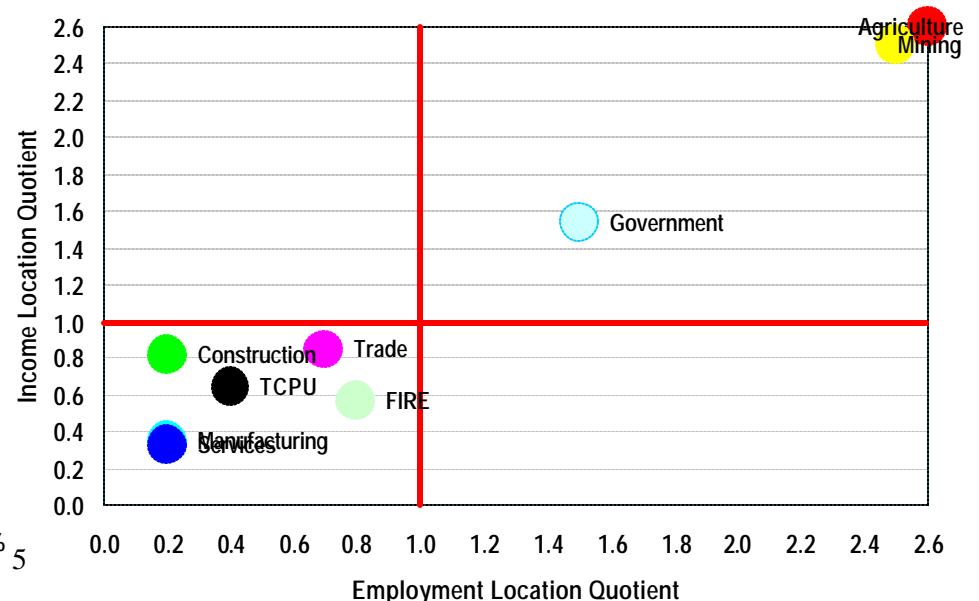
Cheyenne County Industry Growth 1991-2001

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.



Cheyenne 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.



CHEYENNE COUNTY SECTOR BREAKDOWN				
Sector	Number of Workers	Total Production (M)	% of Production Exported	Value of Exports (M)
Top 10 Sectors by Employment				
Food Grains	192	\$13.7	99%	\$13.6
State & Local Government - Non-Education	187	4.6	0	0.0
State & Local Government - Education	118	4.1	0	0.0
Ranch Fed Cattle	94	9.4	87	8.2
Accounting, Auditing and Bookkeeping	86	3.1	81	2.5
Wholesale Trade	79	7.7	9	0.7
Banking	69	10.6	75	8.0
Hay and Pasture	63	2.6	96	2.5
Feed Grains, except Hay & Pasture	48	5.3	96	5.1
Miscellaneous Retail	47	0.8	0	0.0
Top Sectors by Production				
Food Grains	192	\$13.7	99	\$13.6
Natural Gas & Crude Petroleum	30	10.6	83	8.8
Banking	69	10.6	75	8.0
Ranch Fed Cattle	94	9.4	87	8.2
Wholesale Trade	79	7.7	9	0.7
Feed Grains, except Hay & Pasture	48	5.3	96	5.1
State & Local Government - Non-Education	187	4.6	0	0.0
State & Local Government - Education	118	4.1	0	0.0
Top Primary Sectors				
Food Grains	192	\$13.7	99%	\$13.6
Natural Gas & Crude Petroleum	30	10.6	83	8.8
Ranch Fed Cattle	94	9.4	87	8.2
Banking	69	10.6	75	8.0
Feed Grains, except Hay & Pasture	48	5.3	96	5.1
Accounting, Auditing and Bookkeeping	86	3.1	81	2.5
Oil Bearing Crops	32	2.6	96	2.5
Hay and Pasture	63	2.6	96	2.5
Cattle Feedlots	7	2.6	88	2.3

Source: Minnesota IMPLAN Group, Inc. (2000)

Note: In some of the state's smaller counties employment may be misrepresented due to the nature of the IMPLAN model. Refer to the section introduction for more information.

Industry Summary

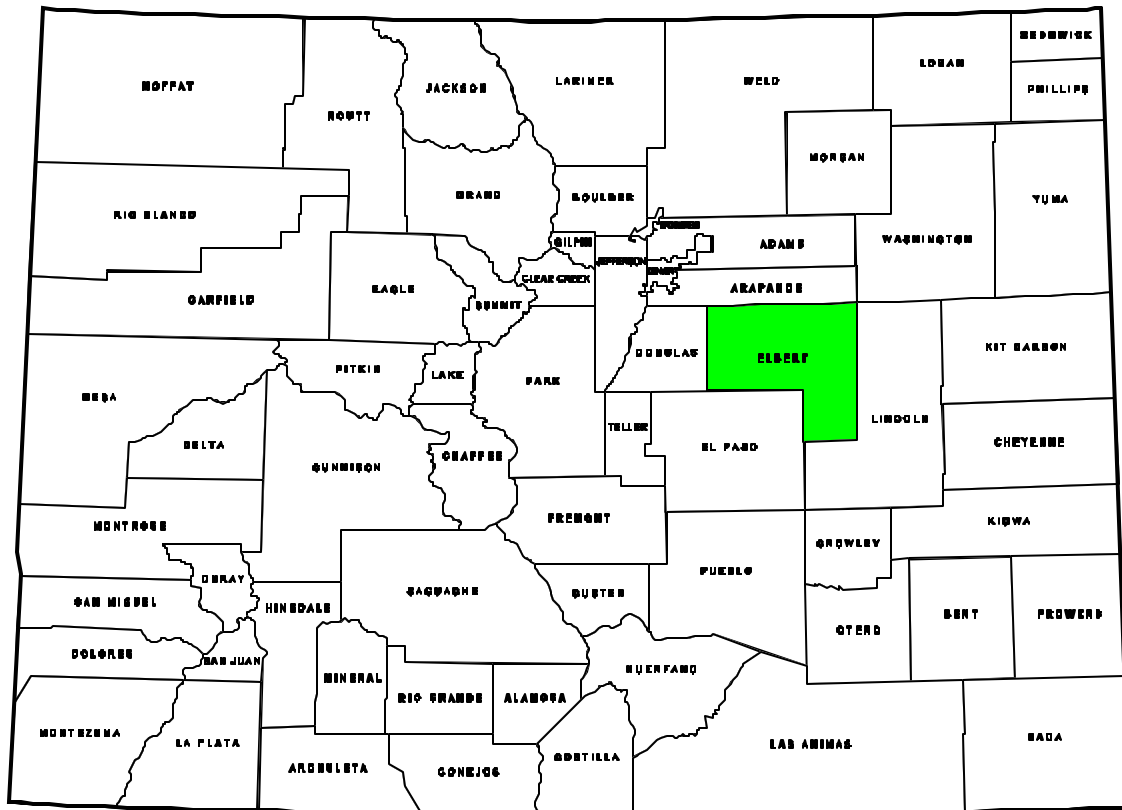
- Cheyenne County was created in 1889 from parts of Elbert and Bent Counties. Like most of eastern Colorado, Cheyenne County is an agricultural and rural area. The county's population has been declining over the past 10 years, but has a lower poverty rate than some neighboring counties.
- As with most smaller counties, the state government is probably the largest single employer. Besides the government, the economy of this county is dominated by agriculture and fossil fuel extraction. Most of the employment is agricultural, but a substantial portion of total output comes from fossil fuel extraction.
- Several support industries exist as well. For example, accounting, and banking are significant employers in the county.

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

	Current	Target	Growth	Comments
Agriculture				<p>Colorado Agricultural Statistics data for 2003 says that Cheyenne County is the state's top producer of sunflowers. It also produces corn for grain, dry beans, hay, sorghum, winter wheat, and cattle. According to the 1997 Census of Agriculture, market value of crops sold was \$19,180,000 and value of livestock and products sold was \$14,465,000. The area has the opportunity for additional economic benefit from developing a local capacity to process sunflower seeds. The area has developed one farmers' market offering ranch raised beef and providing higher revenues by selling direct to consumers. According to the DOLA base industry study, 48.5% of basic jobs are agriculture related. Future growth could result from additional value-added food production that targets consumer preferences.</p> <p>Cheyenne County is one the state's highest oil producing areas. It has the opportunity for future economic benefit from development of renewable energy from wind with a wind-rating of 4 or "good." The area has potential to use corn, oil grains, and agricultural residues for development of biomass to energy and biomass to fuel production with a biomass rating for 2,500,001 mmbtu. The Ladder Creek Helium Plant near Cheyenne Wells is one of the world's top leading producers of helium.</p> <p>Cluster industries such as biotechnology, software, aerospace, defense, and nanotechnology have a minimal presence here and it is unlikely that their presence will increase significantly in the near term.</p> <p>Extension of broadband services from the MNT hub in the county could provide modest growth opportunities for a variety of businesses.</p> <p>Tourism is not a major industry in the county. According to the DOLA base industry study, 1.3% of the county's basic jobs are related to tourism.</p> <p>One film production took place in the county in 2002.</p> <p>The population of the county has decreased over the past 10 years.</p>
Animals	x	x	x	
Crops	x	x	x	
Dairy				
Manufacturing				
General				
Computer Hardware/Storage				
Photonics				
Energy and Environmental				
Minerals, Gas/Petroleum	x	x	x	
Renewable Energy			x	
Environmental Industries				
Transportation				
Air				
Trucking				
Rail				
General				
Aerospace/Space				
Defense/Homeland Security				
Telecommunications				
Biotechnology				
Nanotechnology				
Services				
Call Centers				
Financial				
Healthcare	x			
Research and Development				
Software				
Tourism				
Film	x			

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

ELBERT COUNTY



ELBERT COUNTY RESOURCES

Transportation

Commercial Service Airports: none
 General Aviation Airports: none
 Reliever Airports: none
 Interstate Highway Miles: 46.88

Military Bases, Federal Facilities, and Prisons

Military Base: none
 Federal Facilities: none
 State Prisons: none

Higher Education (Main Campus)

Four Year: none
 Two Year: none
 Private Acc.: none

Ski Areas, Casinos, and National Parks

Ski Areas: none
 Casinos/Gaming: none
 National Parks/Sites: none

Natural Resources

Oil Production (Barrels of Oil): 45127
 Gas Production (Million Cubic Feet): 229374
 Coal Production (Short Tons): 0
 CO2 Production (Million Cubic Feet): 0
 Wind Level Rating (5=Outstanding, 4=Good): <4
 Biomass Energy Potential: <2,500,001 mmbtu

ELBERT COUNTY OVERVIEW			
	Elbert County	Colorado	US
People			
Population, 2001 estimate	21,445	4,417,714	284.8 M
Population percent change, April 1, 2000-July 1, 2001	7.9%	2.7%	1.2%
Population, percent change, 1990 to 2000	106.0%	30.6%	13.1%
Persons under 18 years old, percent, 2000	30.2%	25.6%	25.7%
Persons 65 years old and over, percent, 2000	6.0%	9.7%	12.4%
White persons, percent, 2000	95.2%	82.8%	75.1%
Persons of Hispanic or Latino origin, percent, 2000*	3.9%	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	0.6%	1.0%	0.9%
Asian persons, percent, 2000	0.4%	2.2%	3.6%
Persons reporting some other race, percent, 2000	1.3%	7.2%	5.5%
High school graduates, percent of persons age 25+, 2000	92.5%	86.9%	80.4%
Bachelor's degree or higher, pct of persons age 25+, 2000	26.6%	32.7%	24.4%
Mean travel time to work, workers age 16+ (minutes), 2000	41.1	24.3	25.5
Homeownership rate, 2000	89.6%	67.3%	66.2%
Median value of owner-occupied housing units, 2000	\$221,700	\$166,600	\$119,600
Median household money income, 1999	\$62,480	\$47,203	\$41,994
Per capita money income, 1999	\$24,960	\$24,049	\$21,587
Persons below poverty, percent, 1999	4.0%	9.3%	12.4%
Business			
Federal funds and grants, 2001 (\$1,000)	44,070	24,344,658	1.8 B
Geography			
Land area, 2000 (square miles)	1,851	103,718	3.5 M
Persons per square mile, 2000	10.7	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	338	73.8%
5-9 Employees	70	15.3%
10-19 Employees	29	6.3%
20-49 Employees	15	3.3%
50-99 Employees	3	0.7%
100-249 Employees	3	0.7%
250-499 Employees	0	0.0%
500-999 Employees	0	0.0%
1,000+ Employees	0	0.0%
Total	458	100.1%

HOUSEHOLDS BY INCOME LEVELS		
Income Bracket	Number	Percent
<\$10,000	185	2.7%
\$10,000 to \$19,999	320	4.7%
\$20,000 to \$29,999	584	8.6%
\$30,000 to \$39,999	650	9.6%
\$40,000 to \$49,999	711	10.5%
\$50,000 to \$59,999	678	10.0%
\$60,000 to \$74,999	1,005	14.9%
\$75,000 to \$99,999	1,205	17.8%
\$100,000 to \$124,999	653	9.7%
\$125,000 to \$149,999	354	5.2%
\$150,000 to \$199,000	203	3.0%
\$200,000+	212	3.1%
Total	6,760	99.8%

OCCUPATIONS BY TYPE		
Occupation type	Number	Percent
Management, Professional, and Related	3,906	36.2%
Service	1,208	11.2%
Sales and Office	2,881	26.7%
Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	194	1.8%
Construction, Extraction, and Maintenance	1,482	13.8%
Production, Trans., and Material Moving	1,106	10.3%

WORKERS BY CLASS		
Worker Class	Number	Percent
Private	7,856	72.9%
Government	1,505	14.0%
Self Employed Non-Inc.	1,284	11.9%
Unpaid Family	132	1.2%

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

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

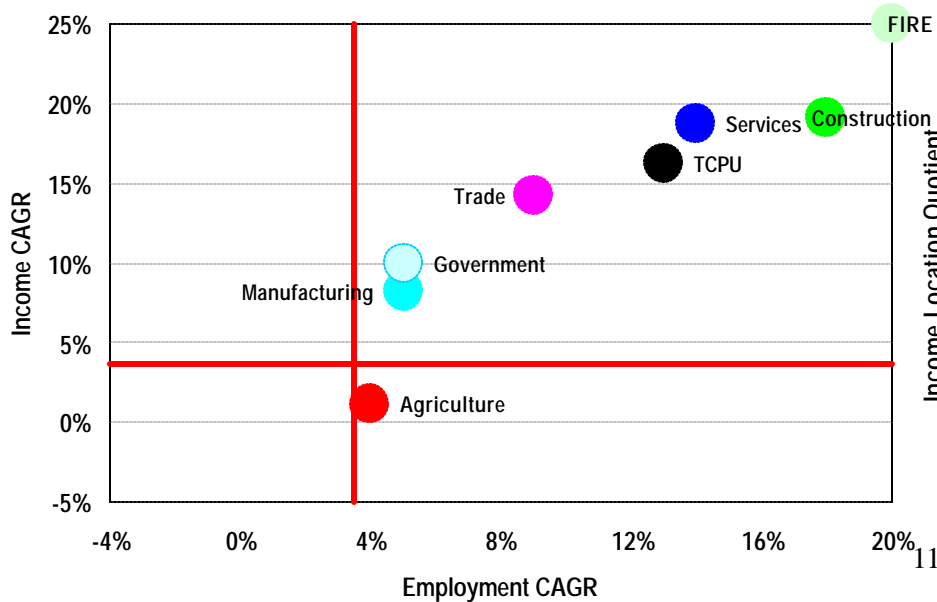
Elbert County Highlights
<p>Population</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elbert County is located southeast of Denver. Its population is low but quickly growing. The percent change in population from 1990 to 2000 was 106% and from 2000 to 2001 was almost 8%. These rates are about 3 times the state average and well above the national averages also. <p>Income and Housing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Median household income in Elbert County is above the state and national averages. Housing costs in Elbert County are also significantly above the state and national averages. <p>Occupation, Class of Work, Establishment Size</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishment sizes in Elbert range from small to medium. Agriculture and construction are top sectors for employment and income. Education is also a large employer in the county. <p>Transportation Infrastructure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interstate 70 bisects the county's northeastern section. Both Denver International Airport and Colorado Springs Airport are only 45 minutes away. However, there are no commercial service, general aviation, or reliever airports in Elbert County. <p>State, Federal, or Military Facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are no state prisons, federal facilities, or military bases in Elbert County. <p>Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are no higher education facilities in Elbert County. The percentage of high school graduates is above the state and national averages and those with a bachelor degree or higher are above the national average but below the state. <p>Attractions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are no major tourist attractions in Elbert County, although numerous attractions exist in neighboring counties. <p>Natural Resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natural Resources include natural gas and crude petroleum.

HISTORICAL ANALYSIS OF EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME ELBERT COUNTY													
Employment and Income (2001)						CAGR 1991 to 2001				Location Quotient (2001)			
Employment			Income			Employment		Income		Employment		Income	
		Share			Share								
Ag.	1,312	21.8%	Con.	\$39,011	26.6%	FIRE	19.6%	OGM	33.7%	Ag.	7.38	Con.	3.13
Con.	1,246	20.7	Services	31,465	21.5	Con.	18.4	FIRE	29.9	Con.	2.58	Ag.	2.58
Services	1,112	18.5	Gov.	31,403	21.4	Services	14.1	Con.	19.1	Gov.	1.21	Gov.	1.45
Gov.	1,028	17.1	Trade	16,687	11.4	TCPU	12.9	Services	18.8	FIRE	0.74	FIRE	0.96
Trade	658	11.0	FIRE	13,214	9.0	Trade	9.2	TCPU	16.2	TCPU	0.59	Trade	0.79
FIRE	334	5.6	TCPU	6,093	4.2	Gov.	5.0	Trade	14.3	Services	0.58	Services	0.71
TCPU	204	3.4	Ag.	5,267	3.6	Mfg.	5.0	Gov.	10.0	Trade	0.51	TCPU	0.42
Mfg.	115	1.9	Mfg.	2,811	1.9	Ag.	4.1	Mfg.	8.2	Mfg.	0.26	OGM	0.26
OGM	0	0.0	OGM	640	0.4	OGM		Ag.	1.1	OGM	0.00	Mfg.	0.20

Source: DOLA – Colorado Employment by Sector.

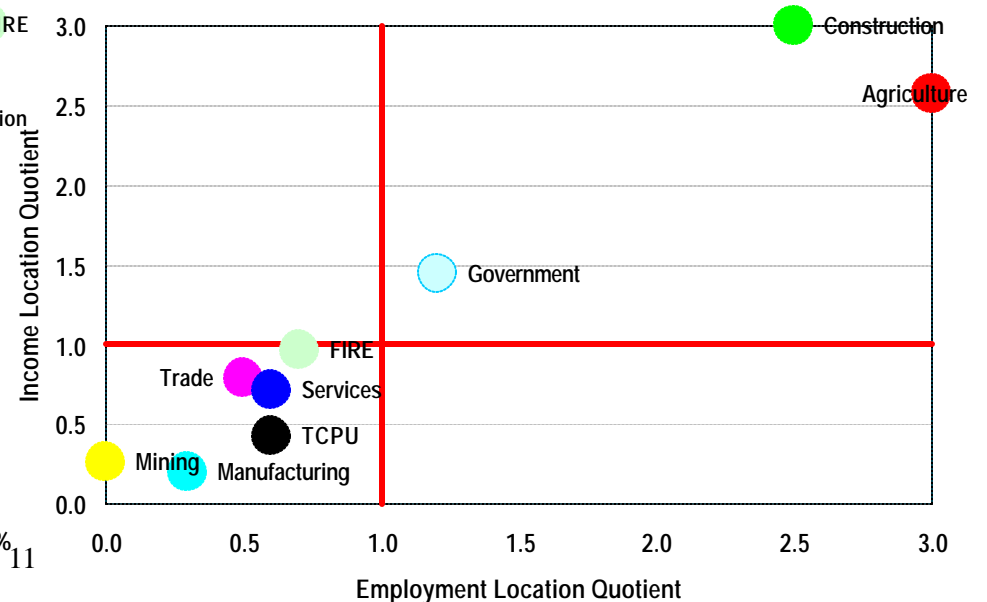
Elbert County Industry Growth 1991-2001

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.



Elbert 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.



ELBERT 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	566	\$18.2	0%	\$0.0
Hay and Pasture	405	4.0	93	3.7
New Residential Structures	380	59.9	0	0.0
Maintenance and Repair, Other Facilities	332	21.1	77	16.2
State & Local Government - Non-Education	271	8.7	0	0.0
Accounting, Auditing and Bookkeeping	256	8.1	52	4.2
Range Fed Cattle	251	15.8	73	11.5
New Industrial and Commercial Buildings	247	29.7	0	0.0
Landscape and Horticultural Service	234	8.2	78	6.4
Amusement and Recreation Services	232	6.6	45	3.0
Top Sectors by Production				
New Residential Structures	380	59.9	0	0.0
Banking	225	39.4	56	22.1
New Industrial and Commercial Buildings	247	29.7	0	0.0
Real Estate	107	26.3	21	5.5
Maintenance and Repair, Other Facilities	332	21.1	77	16.2
Motor Freight Transport and Warehousing	187	19.0	32	6.1
New Government Facilities	116	18.3	74	13.5
Top Primary Sectors				
Maintenance and Repair, Other Facilities	332	\$21.1	77%	\$16.2
New Government Facilities	116	18.3	74	13.5
Range Fed Cattle	251	15.8	73	11.5
Management and Consulting Services	165	16.1	64	10.3
Feed Grains, except Hay & Pasture	6	7.3	95	6.9
Ranch Fed Cattle	124	8.7	77	6.7
Landscape and Horticultural Service	234	8.2	78	6.4
Natural Gas & Crude Petroleum	25	7.1	79	5.6
Poultry and Eggs	20	5.2	94	4.9
Miscellaneous Plastics Products	25	4.7	100	4.7

Source: Minnesota IMPLAN Group, Inc. (2000)

Industry Summary

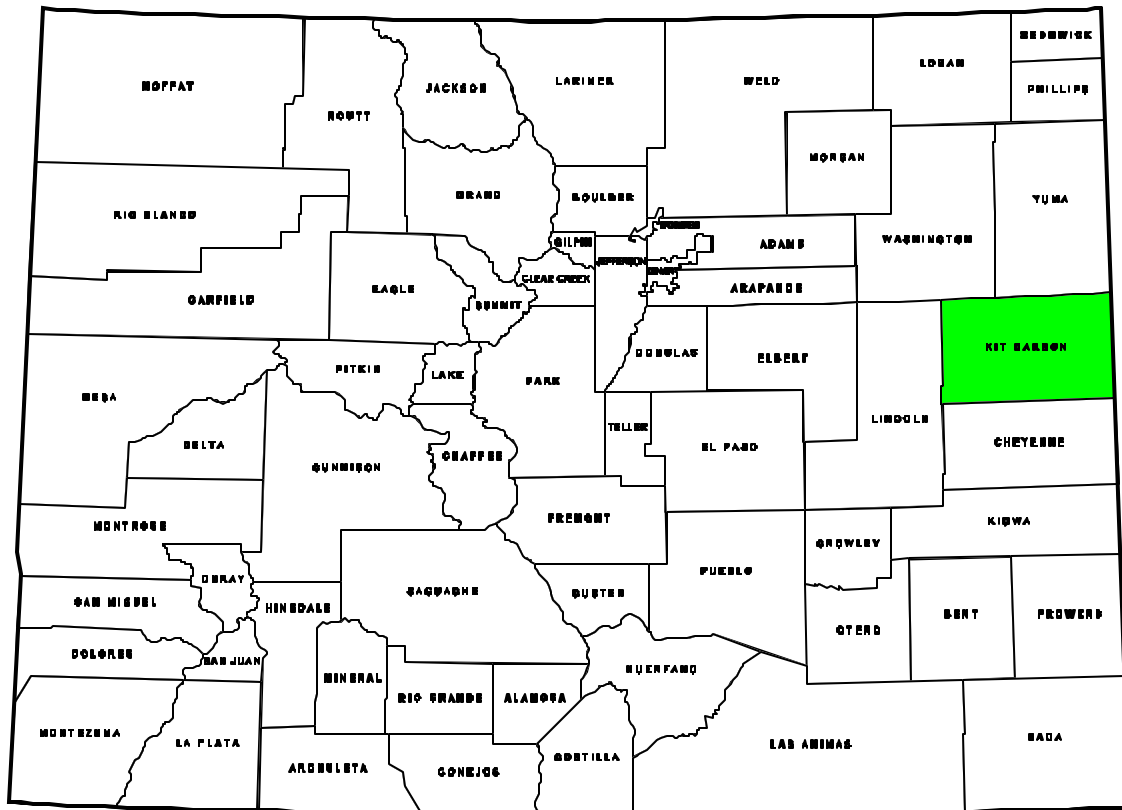
- Elbert County is located in central Colorado, southeast of Denver. With its close proximity to Denver, many people may choose to live in Elbert and drive to Denver. Its population is growing quickly (106% from 1990 to 2000) and its poverty rate is low relative to the state and the country.
- Elbert County's main employment sectors are education (566 employees), hay and pasture for raising cattle (405 employees) and construction for its fast growing community (roughly 600 employees).
- Elbert County's top sectors for production include new residential structures and industrial and commercial buildings, and banking.
- The FIRE sector experienced an employment growth rate 20% greater than the state average and an income growth rate 25% greater than the CPI.

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

	Current	Target	Growth	Comments
Agriculture				Elbert County has a high concentration of agricultural activity relative to other areas of the state; however, this industry is declining with urban expansion. Elbert produces oats, sunflowers, corn, hay, sorghum, and winter wheat, with a 1997 market value from crops sold of \$4,420,000. Livestock and products sold in 2002 were valued at \$26,830,000. The area has developed two farmers' markets providing specialty crop growers with higher revenues by selling direct to urban consumers. Specialty products include natural buffalo meat and gift items targeting future consumer demand for healthful food products. According to the DOLA base industry study, 12.8% of basic jobs are agriculture related. Future growth could result from additional value-added food production that targets consumer preferences.
Animals	X	X	X	
Crops	X	X	X	
Dairy				
Manufacturing				There are few jobs related to mineral extraction; however, a significant number of jobs in environmental remediation. It has the opportunity for future economic benefit from development of renewable energy from wind with a wind-rating of 4 or "good." The area has potential to use corn, oil grains, and agricultural residues for development of biomass to energy and biomass to fuel production with a biomass rating for 2,500,001 mmbtu. In the future, improved technologies could make production of industrial chemicals, bio-plastics, and other bio-products economically viable.
General				
Computer Hardware/Storage				
Photonics	X			
Energy and Environmental				There are a small number of photonics and aerospace companies located in Elbert County and cluster industries such as biotechnology, software, aerospace, defense, and nanotechnology could begin to develop over the next decade because of the area's proximity to the Denver and Colorado Springs MSAs.
Minerals, Gas/Petroleum	X	X		
Renewable Energy			X	
Environmental Industries	X			
Transportation				Proximity to the Denver and Colorado Springs MSAs is increasing population inflow to the county and increasing the number of workers commuting to jobs outside the county. The increased population is creating economic growth in new home construction.
Air				
Trucking				
Rail				
General				
Aerospace/Space				There is a small concentration of plastic producers in the county. As new technologies develop for production of bio-plastics from corn and agricultural residues, this area could explore the feasibility of a bio-plastics manufacturing facility.
Defense/Homeland Security				
Telecommunications				
Biotechnology			X	
Nanotechnology				Extension of broadband services from the MNT hub in the county could provide modest growth opportunities for a variety of businesses.
Services				
Call Centers				
Financial				
Healthcare				
Research and Development				
Software				Tourism is not a major industry in the county. According to the DOLA base industry study, 0.9% of the county's basic jobs are related to tourism.
Tourism				
Film				
				Film is not a major industry in the county.

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

KIT CARSON COUNTY



KIT CARSON COUNTY RESOURCES

Transportation

Commercial Service Airports: none
 General Aviation Airports: Burlington-Kit Carson County
 Reliever Airports: none
 Interstate Highway Miles: 60.02

Military Bases, Federal Facilities, and Prisons

Military Base: none
 Federal Facilities: none
 State Prisons: Correctional Corporation of America

Higher Education (Main Campus)

Four Year: none
 Two Year: none
 Private Acc.: none

Ski Areas, Casinos, and National Parks

Ski Areas: none
 Casinos/Gaming: none
 National Parks/Sites: none

Natural Resources

Oil Production (Barrels of Oil): 40,333
 Gas Production (Million Cubic Feet): 721,771
 Coal Production (Short Tons): 0
 CO2 Production (Million Cubic Feet): 0
 Wind Level Rating (5=Outstanding, 4=Good): 4
 Biomass Energy Potential: 2,500,001-5,500,000 mmbtu

KIT CARSON COUNTY OVERVIEW			
	Kit Carson County	Colorado	US
People			
Population, 2001 estimate	7,813	4,417,714	284.8 M
Population percent change, April 1, 2000-July 1, 2001	-2.5%	2.7%	1.2%
Population, percent change, 1990 to 2000	12.2%	30.6%	13.1%
Persons under 18 years old, percent, 2000	26.7%	25.6%	25.7%
Persons 65 years old and over, percent, 2000	14.6%	9.7%	12.4%
White persons, percent, 2000	87.3%	82.8%	75.1%
Persons of Hispanic or Latino origin, percent, 2000*	13.7%	17.1%	12.5%
Black or African American persons, percent, 2000	1.7%	3.8%	12.3%
American Indian and Alaska Native persons, percent, 2000	0.5%	1.0%	0.9%
Asian persons, percent, 2000	0.3%	2.2%	3.6%
Persons reporting some other race, percent, 2000	9.2%	7.2%	5.5%
High school graduates, percent of persons age 25+, 2000	77.0%	86.9%	80.4%
Bachelor's degree or higher, pct of persons age 25+, 2000	15.4%	32.7%	24.4%
Mean travel time to work, workers age 16+ (minutes), 2000	14.6	24.3	25.5
Homeownership rate, 2000	71.9%	67.3%	66.2%
Median value of owner-occupied housing units, 2000	\$80,400	\$166,600	\$119,600
Median household money income, 1999	\$33,152	\$47,203	\$41,994
Per capita money income, 1999	\$16,964	\$24,049	\$21,587
Persons below poverty, percent, 1999	12.1%	9.3%	12.4%
Business			
Federal funds and grants, 2001 (\$1,000)	86,896	24,344,658	1.8 B
Geography			
Land area, 2000 (square miles)	2,161	103,718	3.5 M
Persons per square mile, 2000	3.7	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	177	62.5%
5-9 Employees	54	19.1%
10-19 Employees	28	9.9%
20-49 Employees	22	7.8%
50-99 Employees	0	0.0%
100-249 Employees	2	0.7%
250-499 Employees	0	0.0%
500-999 Employees	0	0.0%
1,000+ Employees	0	0.0%
Total	283	100.0%

HOUSEHOLDS BY INCOME LEVELS		
Income Bracket	Number	Percent
<\$10,000	322	10.7%
\$10,000 to \$19,999	512	17.1%
\$20,000 to \$29,999	519	17.3%
\$30,000 to \$39,999	377	12.6%
\$40,000 to \$49,999	337	11.2%
\$50,000 to \$59,999	301	10.0%
\$60,000 to \$74,999	252	8.4%
\$75,000 to \$99,999	197	6.6%
\$100,000 to \$124,999	84	2.8%
\$125,000 to \$149,999	31	1.0%
\$150,000 to \$199,000	43	1.4%
\$200,000+	25	0.8%
Total	3,000	99.9%

OCCUPATIONS BY TYPE		
Occupation type	Number	Percent
Management, Professional, and Related	1,235	33.7%
Service	566	15.4%
Sales and Office	895	24.4%
Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	273	7.4%
Construction, Extraction, and Maintenance	319	8.7%
Production, Trans., and Material Moving	377	10.3%

WORKERS BY CLASS		
Worker Class	Number	Percent
Private	2,230	60.8%
Government	767	20.9%
Self Employed Non-Inc.	624	17.0%
Unpaid Family	44	1.2%

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

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

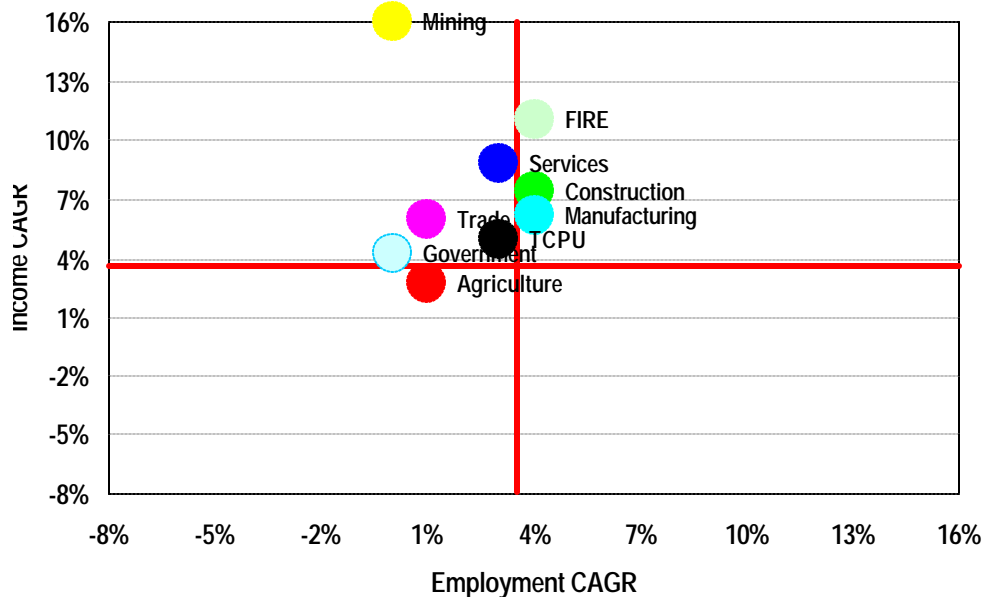
Kit Carson County Highlights
<p>Population</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Situated next to Kansas, Kit Carson County is sparsely-populated and rural. The population increased 12% over the past 10 years, about half of the state average, and on-par with the nation. About 13% of the population is Hispanic. <p>Income and Housing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Like most east-Colorado regions, housing prices are low, about \$80,000 below the state average and \$40,000 below national average. Incomes are also low. <p>Occupation, Class of Work, Establishment Size</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are 2 establishments with 100+ employees. Most occupations are semi-skilled, primarily in agriculture. <p>Transportation Infrastructure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 60 Miles of Interstate highway and a small general aviation airport. <p>State, Federal, or Military Facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No major facilities. <p>Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A branch campus of Morgan Community College is present in Kit Carson County. <p>Attractions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No major attractions, although there exist some historical sites, museums and local attractions. <p>Natural Resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are notable deposits of natural gas and oil.

Historical Analysis of Employment and Income Kit Carson County													
Employment and Income (2001)					CAGR 1991 to 2001				Location Quotient (2001)				
Employment			Income		Employment		Income		Employment		Income		
		Share		Share									
Ag.	1,293	25.2%	Ag.	\$40,163	31.7%	Con.	4.0%	OGM	15.8%	Ag.	8.53	Ag.	22.77
Con.	1,119	21.8	Gov.	22,420	17.7	FIRE	4.0	FIRE	11.0	Gov.	1.16	Gov.	1.19
FIRE	1,038	20.3	Trade	21,478	16.9	Mfg.	4.0	Services	9.0	Trade	1.01	Trade	1.18
Gov.	845	16.5	Services	18,297	14.4	Services	3.1	Con.	8.0	FIRE	0.81	TCPU	0.60
Mfg.	311	6.1	TCPU	7,553	6.0	TCPU	3.1	Mfg.	6.0	TCPU	0.66	Con.	0.53
OGM	195	3.8	FIRE	6,141	4.8	Ag.	1.2	TCPU	6.0	Services	0.64	FIRE	0.52
Services	166	3.2	Con.	5,678	4.5	Gov.	1.1	Gov.	4.1	Mfg.	0.43	Services	0.48
TCPU	155	3.0	Mfg.	4,733	3.7	Trade	1.1	Trade	4.1	Con.	0.38	Mfg.	0.39
Trade	0	0.0	OGM	359	0.3	OGM		Ag.	3.1	OGM	0.00	OGM	0.17

Source: DOLA – Colorado Employment by Sector.

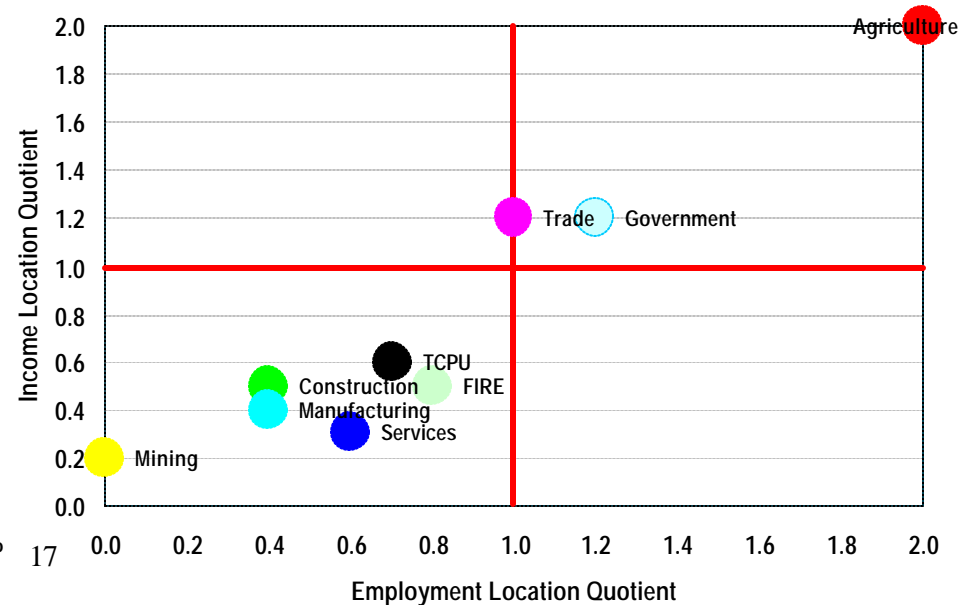
Kit Carson County Industry Growth 1991-2001

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.



Kit Carson 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.



KIT CARSON 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	388	\$11.0	0%	\$0.0
Wholesale Trade	360	25.5	9	2.3
State & Local Government - Non-Education	346	9.9	0	0.0
Food Grains	240	22.9	99	22.7
Eating & Drinking	237	7.9	1	0.1
Management and Consulting Services	234	14.2	77	10.9
Ranch Fed Cattle	197	26.2	77	20.2
Feed Grains, except Hay & Pasture	188	25.6	91	23.3
Hay and Pasture	182	12.7	88	11.2
Cattle Feedlots	150	69.0	81	55.9
Top Sectors by Production				
Cattle Feedlots	150	\$69.0	81%	\$55.9
Ranch Fed Cattle	197	26.2	77	20.2
Feed Grains, except Hay & Pasture	188	25.6	91	23.3
Wholesale Trade	360	25.5	9	2.3
Food Grains	240	22.9	99	22.7
Banking	118	20.7	54	11.2
Management and Consulting Services	234	14.2	77	10.9
Top Primary Sectors				
Cattle Feedlots	150	\$69.0	81%	\$55.9
Feed Grains, except Hay & Pasture	188	25.6	91	23.3
Food Grains	240	22.9	99	22.7
Ranch Fed Cattle	197	26.2	77	20.2
Hay and Pasture	182	12.7	88	11.2
Management and Consulting Services	234	14.2	77	10.9
Meat Packing Plants	27	10.2	87	8.9
Dog, Cat and Other Pet Food	17	6.7	100	6.7
Range Fed Cattle	86	10.4	59	6.1
Gas Production and Distribution	10	10.0	61	6.1

Source: Minnesota IMPLAN Group, Inc. (2000)

Industry Summary

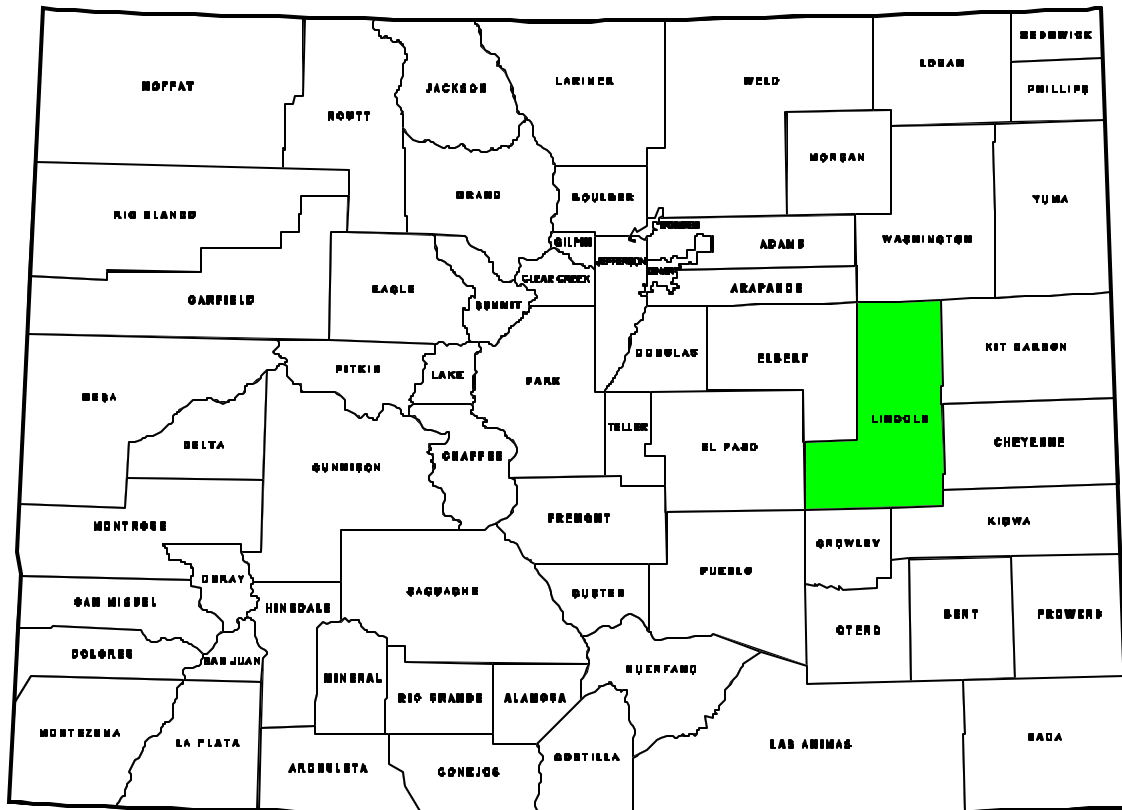
- Kit Carson County fits in with the rest of eastern Colorado as an agricultural and farming county. More than 25% of all employment is in the agriculture sector, and most of the county's output is farming and ranching related.
- The county produced over \$130 million in the cattle ranching grains farming areas. Other notable areas are wholesale trade, meat packing, pet food, and other derivatives of the agricultural sector.
- The remaining sectors are mostly service sectors and education related.

KIT CARSON COUNTY - CURRENT, TARGET, AND EMERGING GROWTH INDUSTRIES*

	Current	Target	Growth	Comments
Agriculture				<p>Kit Carson County produces 3.9% of the state's agricultural receipts ranking fifth among counties. It is the second highest producer of winter wheat. The county also produces corn, sunflowers, dry beans, hay and sugar beets. The Colorado Agricultural Statistics for 2003 indicates that the county is the sixth largest producer of sunflower seeds. Total value of crops sold in 1997 was \$70,150,000. The county is also fifth highest in cattle and calf inventories and fourth highest in beef cows and heifers that have calved. Total market value of livestock and products sold in 1997 was \$106,901,000. According to the DOLA base industry study, 41% of basic jobs are agriculture related, with 4% attributed to processing. Future growth could result from additional value-added food production that targets consumer preferences.</p> <p>The area has current oil and natural gas production. It also has the potential to develop renewable energy resources from wind which is rated at "4" or "good" and from biomass to energy with a rated energy potential between 2,500,001 to 5,500,000 mmb tu. In the future, improved technologies could make production of industrial chemicals, bio-plastics, and other bio-products economically viable.</p> <p>Cluster industries such as biotechnology, software, aerospace, defense, and nanotechnology have a minimal presence here and it is unlikely that their presence will increase significantly in the near term.</p> <p>Extension of broadband services from the MNT hub in the county could provide modest growth opportunities for a variety of businesses.</p> <p>Tourism is not a major industry in the county. According to the DOLA base industry study, 5% of basic jobs are tourism related. The area has developed local attractions to draw people from I-70.</p> <p>Film is not a major industry in the county.</p>
Animals	x	x	x	
Crops	x	x	x	
Dairy				
Manufacturing				
General				
Computer Hardware/Storage				
Photonics				
Energy and Environmental				
Minerals, Gas/Petroleum	x	x		
Renewable Energy			x	
Environmental Industries				
Transportation				
Air				
Trucking				
Rail				
General				
Aerospace/Space				
Defense/Homeland Security				
Telecommunications				
Biotechnology				
Nanotechnology				
Services				
Call Centers				
Financial				
Healthcare				
Research and Development				
Software				
Tourism				
Film				

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

LINCOLN COUNTY



LINCOLN COUNTY RESOURCES

Transportation

Commercial Service Airports: none
 General Aviation Airports: Limon Municipal Airport
 Reliever Airports: none
 Interstate Highway Miles: 30.39

Military Bases, Federal Facilities, and Prisons

Military Base: none
 Federal Facilities: none
 State Prisons: Limon Correctional Facility

Higher Education (Main Campus)

Four Year: none
 Two Year: none
 Private Acc.: none

Ski Areas, Casinos, and National Parks

Ski Areas: none
 Casinos/Gaming: none
 National Parks/Sites: none

Natural Resources

Oil Production (Barrels of Oil): 73182
 Gas Production (Million Cubic Feet): 16796
 Coal Production (Short Tons): 0
 CO2 Production (Million Cubic Feet): 0
 Wind Level Rating (5=Outstanding, 4=Good): 4
 Biomass Energy Potential: <2,500,001 mmbtu

LINCOLN COUNTY OVERVIEW			
	Lincoln County	Colorado	US
People			
Population, 2001 estimate	5,927	4,417,714	284.8 M
Population percent change, April 1, 2000-July 1, 2001	-2.6%	2.7%	1.2%
Population, percent change, 1990 to 2000	34.4%	30.6%	13.1%
Persons under 18 years old, percent, 2000	23.9%	25.6%	25.7%
Persons 65 years old and over, percent, 2000	14.3%	9.7%	12.4%
White persons, percent, 2000	86.3%	82.8%	75.1%
Persons of Hispanic or Latino origin, percent, 2000*	8.5%	17.1%	12.5%
Black or African American persons, percent, 2000	5.0%	3.8%	12.3%
American Indian and Alaska Native persons, percent, 2000	0.9%	1.0%	0.9%
Asian persons, percent, 2000	0.6%	2.2%	3.6%
Persons reporting some other race, percent, 2000	5.7%	7.2%	5.5%
High school graduates, percent of persons age 25+, 2000	81.8%	86.9%	80.4%
Bachelor's degree or higher, pct of persons age 25+, 2000	13.2%	32.7%	24.4%
Mean travel time to work, workers age 16+ (minutes), 2000	19.2	24.3	25.5
Homeownership rate, 2000	69.0%	67.3%	66.2%
Median value of owner-occupied housing units, 2000	\$77,800	\$166,600	\$119,600
Median household money income, 1999	\$31,914	\$47,203	\$41,994
Per capita money income, 1999	\$15,510	\$24,049	\$21,587
Persons below poverty, percent, 1999	11.7%	9.3%	12.4%
Business			
Federal funds and grants, 2001 (\$1,000)	42,116	24,344,658	1.8 B
Geography			
Land area, 2000 (square miles)	2,586	103,718	3.5 M
Persons per square mile, 2000	2.4	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	70	51.9%
5-9 Employees	29	21.5%
10-19 Employees	18	13.3%
20-49 Employees	14	10.4%
50-99 Employees	4	3.0%
100-249 Employees	0	0.0%
250-499 Employees	0	0.0%
500-999 Employees	0	0.0%
1,000+ Employees	0	0.0%
Total	135	100.1%

HOUSEHOLDS BY INCOME LEVELS		
Income Bracket	Number	Percent
<\$10,000	222	10.8%
\$10,000 to \$19,999	321	15.6%
\$20,000 to \$29,999	387	18.8%
\$30,000 to \$39,999	320	15.6%
\$40,000 to \$49,999	220	10.7%
\$50,000 to \$59,999	193	9.4%
\$60,000 to \$74,999	156	7.6%
\$75,000 to \$99,999	118	5.7%
\$100,000 to \$124,999	68	3.3%
\$125,000 to \$149,999	18	0.9%
\$150,000 to \$199,000	16	0.8%
\$200,000+	17	0.8%
Total	2,056	100.0%

OCCUPATIONS BY TYPE		
Occupation type	Number	Percent
Management, Professional, and Related	797	32.2%
Service	595	24.0%
Sales and Office	507	20.5%
Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	81	3.3%
Construction, Extraction, and Maintenance	249	10.1%
Production, Trans., and Material Moving	247	10.0%

WORKERS BY CLASS		
Worker Class	Number	Percent
Private	1,286	51.9%
Government	712	28.8%
Self Employed Non-Inc.	425	17.2%
Unpaid Family	53	2.1%

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

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

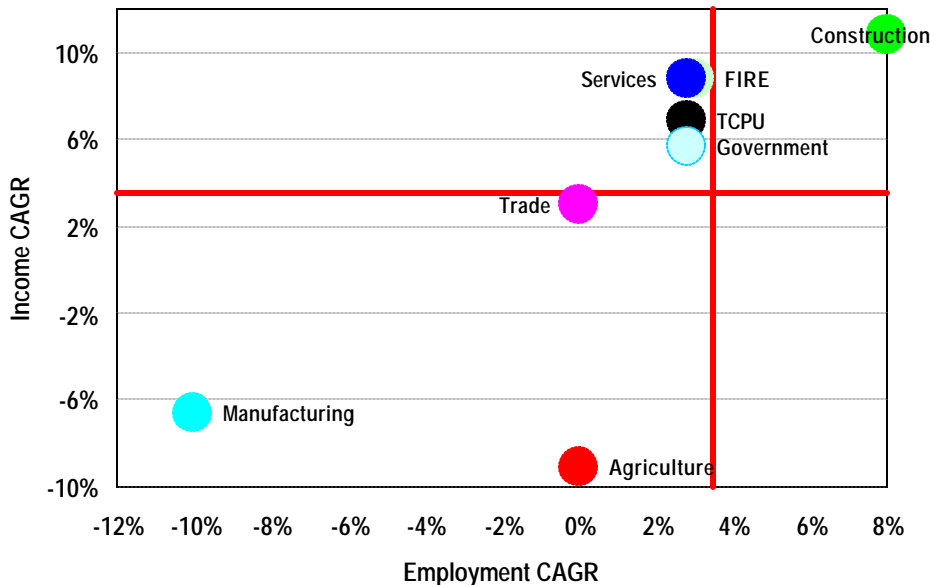
Lincoln County Highlights
<p>Population</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Since 1990, Lincoln County has grown by 34%, more than the state average, and twice as fast as the national average. The county is still sparsely populated, with about 6,000 residents. Density is 2.4 persons/sq. mi. <p>Income and Housing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As with most rural areas, income is very low compared with the state and national averages. Housing prices are extremely low, with a median housing price of \$77,800, roughly half of the state median. <p>Occupation, Class of Work, Establishment Size</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are no private companies with 100+ employees. Most employment is resource-based or government employment. The Limon Correctional Facility employs roughly 300 persons. <p>Transportation Infrastructure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I-70 passes through the county and through Limon. The county is within 1.5 hours of several major airports, including Denver International. The county has two railroad systems (Union Pacific and Kyle). <p>State, Federal, or Military Facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limon Correctional Facility <p>Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a branch campus of Northeastern Junior College in Lincoln County <p>Attractions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A heritage museum and railroad park are located in Limon. Truckers are considered as a key component of the tourism industry in parts of the county. <p>Natural Resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some deposits of oil and natural gas are present, but the reserves are not large.

HISTORICAL ANALYSIS OF EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME LINCOLN COUNTY													
Employment and Income (2001)						CAGR 1991 to 2001				Location Quotient (2001)			
Employment			Income			Employment		Income		Employment	Income		
		Share			Share								
Gov.	964	28.2%	Gov.	\$34,478	45.4%	Con.	7.8	OGM	15.7%	Ag.	6.69	Gov.	3.06
Trade	693	20.2	Trade	12,010	15.8	FIRE	2.9	Con.	10.8	Gov.	1.98	Ag.	3.02
Ag.	677	19.8	Services	11,768	15.5	Gov.	2.8	FIRE	8.8	Trade	0.94	Trade	1.10
Services	627	18.3	TCPU	8,040	10.6	Services	2.8	Services	8.8	TCPU	0.82	TCPU	1.06
TCPU	162	4.7	Ag.	3,189	4.2	TCPU	2.8	TCPU	6.9	FIRE	0.63	Services	0.51
FIRE	161	4.7	FIRE	3,169	4.2	Ag.	0.0	Gov.	6.0	Services	0.57	FIRE	0.44
Con.	124	3.6	Con.	2,548	3.4	Trade	0.0	Trade	3.0	Con.	0.45	Con.	0.39
Mfg.	15	0.4	Mfg.	436	0.6	Mfg.	-11.3	Mfg.	-6.6	Mfg.	0.06	OGM	0.28
OGM	0	0.0	OGM	361	0.5	OGM		Ag.	-9.1	OGM	0.00	Mfg.	0.06

Source: DOLA - Colorado Employment by Sector.

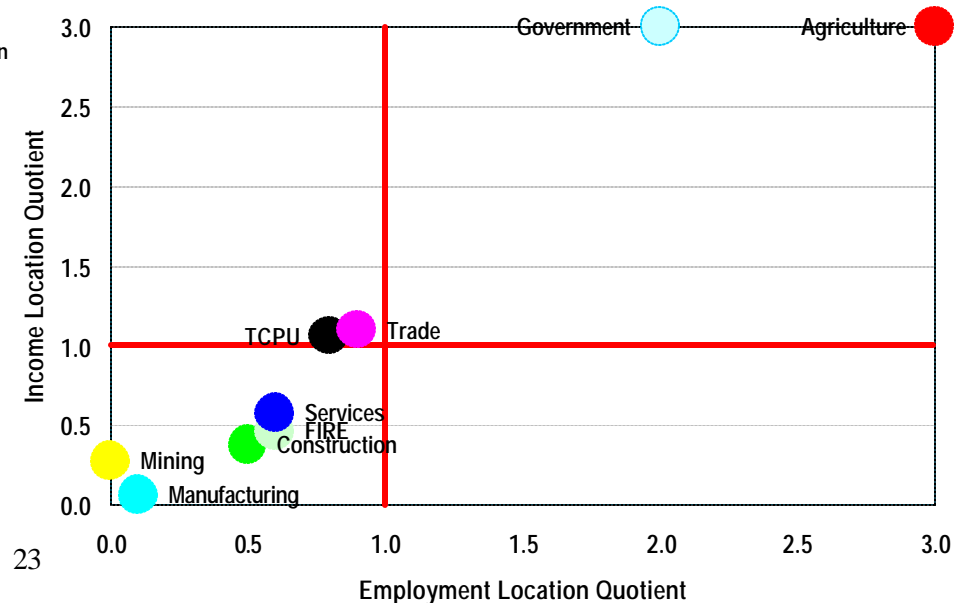
Lincoln County Industry Growth 1991-2001

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.



Lincoln 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.



LINCOLN 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	575	\$19.9	0%	\$0.0
Eating & Drinking	254	9.0	50	4.5
Automotive Dealers & Service Stations	187	10.1	68	6.9
Hotels and Lodging Places	147	5.6	77	4.3
Hay and Pasture	144	3.9	92	3.6
State & Local Government - Non-Education	141	10.4	0	0.0
Food Grains	138	12.2	100	12.2
Natural Gas & Crude Petroleum	117	34.1	81	27.6
Range Fed Cattle	116	13.2	70	9.2
Ranch Fed Cattle	116	14.5	86	12.5
Top Sectors by Production				
Natural Gas & Crude Petroleum	117	\$34.1	81%	\$27.6
State & Local Government - Education	575	19.9	0	0.0
Ranch Fed Cattle	116	14.5	86	12.5
Electric Services	34	13.4	71	9.5
Range Fed Cattle	116	13.2	70	9.2
Banking	70	12.9	57	7.4
Food Grains	138	12.2	100	12.2
State & Local Government - Non-Education	141	10.4	0	0.0
Automotive Dealers & Service Stations	187	10.1	68	6.9
Top Primary Sectors				
Natural Gas & Crude Petroleum	117	\$34.1	81%	\$27.6
Ranch Fed Cattle	116	14.5	86	12.5
Food Grains	138	12.2	100	12.2
Electric Services	34	13.4	71	9.5
Range Fed Cattle	116	13.2	70	9.2
Feed Grains, except Hay & Pasture	32	7.5	93	7.0
Other State and Local Govt Enterprises	81	6.3	84	5.3
Hay and Pasture	144	3.9	92	3.6
Natural Gas Liquids	2	4.3	81	3.5
Hogs, Pigs and Swine	19	3.1	87	2.7

Source: Minnesota IMPLAN Group, Inc. (2000)

Industry Summary

- Lincoln County is a rural agricultural county east of Denver on the high plains. Employment in this county is dominated by state and local education and infrastructure employees who serve local farmers, ranchers, and oil workers.
- Core employment and production is currently oil and gas extraction, ranching, and farming.
- Service employment is substantial in restaurants, truck stops, and hotels, mostly situated along the I-70 corridor. Auto dealers and service stations are one of the biggest employers in the county, with 187 employees.
- Limon is a transport hub between I-70, Highway 40, 24, and 71 all intersecting there.

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

	Current	Target	Growth	Comments
Agriculture				
Animals	x	x	x	Lincoln County ranks fourth in the state's production of sunflowers and beef cows. It also produces corn, hay, sorghum, and winter wheat. Market value of crops sold in 1997 was \$14,963,000; value of livestock and products sold was \$29,809,000. The area also produces hogs, pigs, and swine. Future economic growth could result from local processing of sunflower seeds for oils or food products. According to the DOLA base industry study, 29% of basic jobs are agriculture related, with only 1.5% attributed to processing. Future growth could result from additional value-added food production that targets consumer preferences. In addition, farmers are interested in pharmaceutical crops.
Crops	x	x	x	
Dairy				
Manufacturing				
General				The area currently produces some natural gas and crude oil. There is future opportunity for growth from development of renewable energy resources from wind, with a wind rating of "4" or "good." The area has potential to use corn, oil grains, and agricultural residues for development of biomass to energy and biomass to fuel production with a biomass rating for 2,500,001 mmbtu. In the future, improved technologies could make production of industrial chemicals, bio-plastics, and other bio-products economically viable.
Computer Hardware/Storage				
Photonics				
Energy and Environmental				
Minerals, Gas/Petroleum	x	x		There is potential development in the area of transportation with a possibility that NJC may develop a flight school. In addition, the county is in the Ports-to-Plains corridor.
Renewable Energy			x	
Environmental Industries				
Transportation				
Air				Cluster industries such as biotechnology, software, aerospace, computers, computer storage, defense, and nanotechnology have a minimal presence here, and it is unlikely that their presence will increase significantly in the near term.
Trucking		x		
Rail		x		
General				Extension of broadband services from the MNT hub in the county could provide modest growth opportunities for a variety of businesses.
Aerospace/Space				
Defense/Homeland Security				
Telecommunications				
Biotechnology				According to the DOLA base industry study, 7.5% of basic jobs are tourism-related. The local community views truckers as tourists. They also find that it is a popular sight for destination travelers who want to avoid Denver and go through to the mountains.
Nanotechnology				
Services				
Call Centers				Film is not a major industry in the county.
Financial				
Healthcare				
Research and Development				
Software				
Tourism	x			
Film				

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