## REGION 6 OVERVIEW

Region 6 is composed of six counties in the southeastern corner of the state. Baca, Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, Otero, and Prowers Counties represent 9,533 square miles and about $9 \%$ of the state's land. The 2001 population of 51,527 persons is $1.16 \%$ of the state population. Population growth in the region declined in 2000-2001 and was well below the state average over the past 10 years.

Agriculture is the primary industry sector in terms of employment and income and will likely provide the basis for future economic growth. Area farmers produce corn, hay, sorghum, and wheat, as well as sunflowers and some vegetables. The area produces hogs and cattle and has some meat processing facilities. The agri-industry sector includes food manufacturing which provides significant employment, but shows decline in recent years. 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. Availability of water for crop irrigation will become a major factor in ensuring that the agricultural sector continues to sustain the region's economy.

A second major contributor to the economy in this region is extraction industries, including crude oil and natural gas. Renewable energy development provides the potential for future economic growth in the energy sector. The region has already begun to develop wind resources and production of bio-oils from sunflower seeds. The area could retain its strong agricultural heritage by adding to its capability to produce energy and bio-fuels 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 farm wastes. Development of biomass resources will require coordination and cooperation among farm owner-operators, local governments, and economic developers. While there is also a future possibility to grow pharmaceutical crops, many issues still 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.

Tourism is not a major contributor to the economy in this area of the state. There are no major interstate highways, although roadside services along state highways provide some employment. Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site in Otero County is the primary tourist attraction and offers the potential for continued economic benefits from film production. The Sand Creek Massacre Historical Site, wildlife watching, and local reservoirs also offer tourism development opportunities. There is a commercial airport at Lamar and several general aviation airports throughout the region.

In addition to agri industry and energy extraction, the economy includes jobs in government including schools, community colleges, and state prisons. In addition to food processing, the major manufacturing activity is in the transportation sector. The transportation industry in Baca, Kiowa, and Prowers County may benefit from the Ports-to-Plains Corridor.

The state's MNT broadband telecommunications hubs currently extend into each county and future provision for "last mile" access could support future growth in small manufacturing and service sectors.

All counties in Region 6 are designated federal HubZones providing preferences in selling to the government. This advantage is not likely to generate significant economic growth, however, as very few of the companies offer products and services purchased by government agencies.

There are two community colleges in the region but no four-year institutions and no research base to support growth in high-technology sectors.

## BACA COUNTY



## BACA COUNTY RESOURCES

| BACA COUNTY RESOURCES <br> Transportation <br> Commercial Service Airports: none <br> General Aviation Airports: Springfield Municipal <br> Reliever Airports: none <br> Interstate Highway Miles: 0 <br> Military Bases, Federal Facilities, and Prisons <br> Military Base: none <br> Federal Facilities: none <br> State Prisons: none <br> Higher Education (Main Campus) <br> Four Year: none <br> Two Year: none <br> Private Acc.: none <br> Ski Areas, Casinos, and National Parks <br> Ski Areas: none <br> Casinos/Gaming: none <br> National Parks/Sites: none <br> Natural Resources <br> Oil Production (Barrels of Oil): 125414 <br> Gas Production (Million Cubic Feet): 3295774 <br> Coal Production (Short Tons): 0 <br> CO2 Production (Million Cubic Feet): 0 <br> Wind Level Rating ( $5=$ Outstanding, $4=$ Good): 4 <br> Biomass Energy Potential: <2,500,001 mmbtu |  |
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| BACA COUNTY OVERVIEW |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Baca County | Colorado | US |
| People |  |  |  |
| Population, 2001 estimate | 4,495 | 4,417,714 | 284.8 M |
| Population percent change, April 1, 2000-July 1, 2001 | -0.5\% | 2.7\% | 1.2\% |
| Population, percent change, 1990 to 2000 | -0.9\% | 30.6\% | 13.1\% |
| Persons under 18 years old, percent, 2000 | 24.5\% | 25.6\% | 25.7\% |
| Persons 65 years old and over, percent, 2000 | 22.4\% | 9.7\% | 12.4\% |
| White persons, percent, 2000 | 93.7\% | 82.8\% | 75.1\% |
| Persons of Hispanic or Latino origin, percent, 2000* | 7.0\% | 17.1\% | 12.5\% |
| Black or African American persons, percent, 2000 | 0.0\% | 3.8\% | 12.3\% |
| American Indian and Alaska Native persons, percent, 2000 | 1.2\% | 1.0\% | 0.9\% |
| Asian persons, percent, 2000 | 0.2\% | 2.2\% | 3.6\% |
| Persons reporting some other race, percent, 2000 | 3.0\% | 7.2\% | 5.5\% |
| High school graduates, percent of persons age 25+, 2000 | 78.5\% | 86.9\% | 80.4\% |
| Bachelor's degree or higher, pct of persons age 25+, 2000 | 14.0\% | 32.7\% | 24.4\% |
| Mean travel time to work, workers age 16+ (minutes), 2000 | 15.2 | 24.3 | 25.5 |
| Homeownership rate, 2000 | 76.1\% | 67.3\% | 66.2\% |
| Median value of owner-occupied housing units, 2000 | \$47,300 | \$166,600 | \$119,600 |
| Median household money income, 1999 | \$28,099 | \$47,203 | \$41,994 |
| Per capita money income, 1999 | \$15,068 | \$24,049 | \$21,587 |
| Persons below poverty, percent, 1999 | 16.9\% | 9.3\% | 12.4\% |
| Business |  |  |  |
| Federal funds and grants, 2001 (\$1,000) | 57,628 | 24,344,658 | 1.8 B |
| Geography |  |  |  |
| Land area, 2000 (square miles) | 2,556 | 103,718 | 3.5 M |
| Persons per square mile, 2000 | 1.8 | 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 | 68 | $66.7 \%$ |
| $5-9$ Employees | 21 | $20.6 \%$ |
| $10-19$ Employees | 11 | $10.8 \%$ |
| $20-49$ Employees | 1 | $1.0 \%$ |
| $50-99$ Employees | 0 | $0.0 \%$ |
| $100-249$ Employees | 1 | $1.0 \%$ |
| $250-499$ Employees | 0 | $0.0 \%$ |
| $500-999$ Employees | 0 | $0.0 \%$ |
| $1,000+$ Employees | 0 | $0.0 \%$ |
| Total | 102 | $100.1 \%$ |


| OCCUPATIONS BY TYPE |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Occupation type | Number | Percent |
| Management, Professional, and Related | 790 | 39.1\% |
| Service | 305 | 15.1\% |
| Sales and Office | 344 | 17.0\% |
| Farming, Fishing, and Forestry | 142 | 7.0\% |
| Construction, Extraction, and Maintenance | 222 | 11.0\% |
| Production, Trans., and Material Moving | 220 | 10.9\% |


| HOUSEHOLDS BY INCOMELEVELS |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Income Bracket | Number | Percent |
| $<\$ 10,000$ | 320 | $16.8 \%$ |
| $\$ 10,000$ to $\$ 19,999$ | 387 | $20.3 \%$ |
| $\$ 20,000$ to $\$ 29,999$ | 302 | $15.8 \%$ |
| $\$ 30,000$ to $\$ 39,999$ | 320 | $16.8 \%$ |
| $\$ 40,000$ to $\$ 49,999$ | 220 | $11.5 \%$ |
| $\$ 50,000$ to $\$ 59,999$ | 88 | $4.6 \%$ |
| $\$ 60,000$ to $\$ 74,999$ | 121 | $6.3 \%$ |
| $\$ 75,000$ to $\$ 99,999$ | 95 | $5.0 \%$ |
| $\$ 100,000$ to $\$ 124,999$ | 15 | $0.8 \%$ |
| $\$ 125,000$ to $\$ 149,999$ | 14 | $0.7 \%$ |
| $\$ 150,000$ to $\$ 199,000$ | 12 | $0.6 \%$ |
| $\$ 200,000+$ | 13 | $0.7 \%$ |
| Total | 1,907 | $99.9 \%$ |


| WORKERS BY CLASS |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Worker Class | Number | Percent |
| Private | 1,057 | $52.2 \%$ |
| Government | 425 | $21.0 \%$ |
| Self Employed Non-Inc. | 512 | $25.3 \%$ |
| Unpaid Family | 29 | $1.4 \%$ |

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

| COUNTY ASSETS |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Baca | Bent | Crowley | Kiowa | Otero | Prowers |
| Commercial Airport |  |  |  |  |  | x |
| General Aviation Airport | x |  |  |  | x | x |
| Reliever Airport |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Interstate Highway |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| >10,000 employees |  | x |  |  |  |  |
| Companies w/ $500+$ employees |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Manufacturing Shipments (1997) |  |  |  |  | x |  |
| Ski Resorts |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Casinos/Gaming |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| National Parks/Sites |  |  |  |  | x |  |
| Oil, Gas, $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ Production | x | x |  | x |  | x |
| Coal Production |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Wind Energy | x |  |  | x |  | x |
| Biomass Potential |  |  |  |  |  |  |

## Baca County Highlights

Population

- Baca, like other counties in southeastern Colorado, is a rural and scarcely-populated area with about 5,000 residents. The population has not grown as in other regions of the state. In fact, there has been a net out-migration from this county. The population is $93 \%$ white, with a smaller Hispanic population than neighboring counties.
Income and Housing
- Commensurate with southeastern Colorado, incomes are dramatically low. Per-capita income is about $\$ 15,000 /$ year, compared with $\$ 24,000$ for Colorado.
- Housing prices are incredibly low - median sales prices for housing was $\$ 47,000$.

Occupation, Class of Work, Establishment Size

- Employment is almost completely agriculture and ranching. Government employment is second largest in the county, mostly in education and civil service.
Transportation Infrastructure
- There is a general aviation airport in Springfield.

State, Federal, or Military Facilities

- None

Education

- Primary and secondary only.

Attractions

- There are canyons and grasslands which offer camping and some outdoor recreation opportunities. Mostly near the Comanche National Grassland.
Natural Resources
- Significant deposits of natural gas exist in Baca County.

HISTORICAL ANALYSIS OF EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME BACA COUNTY

| Employment and Income (2001) |  |  |  |  |  | CAGR 1991 to 2001 |  |  |  | Location Quotient (2001) |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Employment |  |  | Income |  |  | Employment |  | Income |  | Employment |  | Income |  |
|  |  | Share |  |  | Share |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ag. | 991 | 36.5\% | Ag. | \$27,550 | 41.7\% | Con. | 16.1\% | OGM | 22.5\% | Ag. | 12.32 | Ag. | 29.96 |
| Gov. | 757 | 27.9 | Gov. | 17,610 | 26.6 | Mfg. | 4.3 | Con. | 9.5 | Gov. | 1.96 | Gov. | 1.80 |
| Trade | 335 | 12.3 | Trade | 7,032 | 10.6 | TCPU | 4.3 | Mfg. | 7.5 | OGM | 1.31 | Trade | 0.74 |
| Services | 325 | 12.0 | Services | 6,061 | 9.2 | Gov. | 3.4 | Services | 7.5 | Trade | 0.57 | OGM | 0.52 |
| FIRE | 89 | 3.3 | Con. | 2,845 | 4.3 | Ag. | 2.4 | TCPU | 7.5 | TCPU | 0.48 | Con. | 0.51 |
| Con. | 83 | 3.1 | TCPU | 2,411 | 3.6 | Trade | 0.4 | FIRE | 6.3 | FIRE | 0.44 | TCPU | 0.37 |
| TCPU | 75 | 2.8 | FIRE | 1,347 | 2.0 | FIRE | -0.6 | Gov. | 6.3 | Services | 0.38 | Services | 0.30 |
| Mfg. | 39 | 1.4 | Mfg. | 673 | 1.0 | Services | -0.6 | Trade | 3.3 | Con. | 0.38 | FIRE | 0.22 |
| OGM | 22 | 0.8 | OGM | 590 | 0.9 | OGM |  | Ag. | 2.4 | Mfg. | 0.19 | Mfg. | 0.11 |

Source: DOLA - Colorado Employment by Sector.

## Baca 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 employme nt 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 righthand quadrant includes industries in the county that had employment growth greater than the state average and income growth greater than the CPI.


## Baca 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 righthand quadrant includes industries with high employment concentration and income concentration.


| BACA 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 - Non-Education | 496 | \$12.4 | 0\% | \$0.0 |
| State \& Local Government - Education | 250 | 5.8 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Food Grains | 192 | 14.0 | 99 | 13.9 |
| Feed Grains, except Hay \& Pasture | 189 | 18.2 | 94 | 17.1 |
| Ranch Fed Cattle | 124 | 12.7 | 86 | 10.9 |
| Hay and Pasture | 124 | 8.9 | 92 | 8.2 |
| Accounting, Auditing and Bookkeeping | 121 | 3.9 | 82 | 3.2 |
| Eating \& Drinking | 104 | 3.5 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Cattle Feedlots | 88 | 30.8 | 88 | 27.1 |
| Other Medical and Health Services | 85 | 4.8 | 65 | 3.1 |
| Top Sectors by Production |  |  |  |  |
| Cattle Feedlots | 88 | 30.8 | 88 | 27.1 |
| Feed Grains, except Hay \& Pasture | 189 | 18.2 | 94 | 17.1 |
| Food Grains | 192 | 14.0 | 99 | 13.9 |
| Ranch Fed Cattle | 124 | 12.7 | 86 | 10.9 |
| State \& Local Government - Non-Education | 496 | 12.4 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Hay and Pasture | 124 | 8.9 | 92 | 8.2 |
| Motor Freight Transport and Warehousing | 79 | 7.0 | 30 | 2.1 |
| Banking | 44 | 6.4 | 20 | 1.3 |
| Top Primary Sectors |  |  |  |  |
| Cattle Feedlots | 88 | \$30.8 | 88\% | \$27.1 |
| Feed Grains, except Hay \& Pasture | 189 | 18.2 | 94 | 17.1 |
| Food Grains | 192 | 14.0 | 99 | 13.9 |
| Ranch Fed Cattle | 124 | 12.7 | 86 | 10.9 |
| Hay and Pasture | 124 | 8.9 | 92 | 8.2 |
| Confectionery Products | 29 | 5.4 | 100 | 5.4 |
| Hogs, Pigs and Swine | 45 | 6.1 | 85 | 5.2 |
| Automobile Repair and Services | 72 | 5.5 | 78 | 4.3 |
| Accounting, Auditing and Bookkeeping | 121 | 3.9 | 82 | 3.2 |
| Other Medical and Health Services | 85 | 4.8 | 65 | 3.1 |

Source: Minnesota IMPLAN Group, Inc. (2000)

## Industry Summary

- Baca County is a rural agrarian county. The economy is based upon farming and ranching, and state government employers. Like other counties in southeastern Colorado, Baca has a high poverty rate, currently at $16.9 \%$.
- The core economy is dominated by agriculture and agricultural related industries such as cattle feedlots, food grains, and ranch-fed cattle.
- Prospects for growth industries and high technology are not likely in this county. Some potential exists in natural resource production, as well as in agricultural development.

| BACA COUNTY - CURRENT, TARGET, AND EMERGING GROWTH INDUSTRIES* |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Current | Target | Growth | Comments |
| Agriculture |  |  |  | Baca County has a relatively small population of 4,495 that has declined over the past decade. Almost onefourth of the population is over 65 years of age. <br> Baca County is the state's highest producer of grain sorghum, fifth in production of sunflowers, and seventh in production of corn for grain. The county ranks ninth in cattle inventories. According to the 1997 Census of Agriculture, the market value of crops sold was $\$ 27,921,000$; the value of livestock and products sold was $\$ 49,448,000$. There is potential for economic growth through development of local or regional capacity to add value to locally grown sunflower seeds through local processing. The county could also have a future potential for higher value crops through corn-based bio-pharmaceutical crops and/or production facilities. According to the DOLA base industry study, $44.5 \%$ of basic jobs are agriculture related. Future threats to the agriculturalbased economy include the advanced age of farm owner-operators, and potential sale of agricultural water rights to urban areas. |
| Animals | X | X |  |  |
| Crops | X | X | X |  |
| Dairy |  |  |  |  |
| Manufacturing |  |  |  |  |
| General |  |  |  |  |
| Computer Hardware/Storage |  |  |  |  |
| Photonics |  |  |  |  |
| Energy and Environmental |  |  |  |  |
| Minerals, Gas/Petroleum | X |  |  |  |
| Renewable Energy |  |  |  |  |
| Environmental Industries |  |  |  | The county produces both natural gas and crude oil. Baca County has the potential to develop renewable energy from wind, although it is not expected to have a noticeable impact on the economy. |
| Transportation |  |  |  |  |
| Air |  |  |  |  |
| Trucking |  |  |  | Cluster industries such as biotechnology, aerospace, defense, and nanotechnology do not have a presence in Baca County, and it is unlikely that they will have a presence in the immediate future. |
| Rail |  |  |  |  |
| General |  |  |  | Having a broadband hub in the county, as a result of the MNT, should foster growth. |
| AerospacelSpace |  |  |  |  |
| Defense/Homeland Security |  |  |  | Technology-based industries have no presence in this county and are not likely to develop in the future. |
| Telecommunications |  |  |  |  |
| Biotechnology |  |  |  | In spite of the aging population, there is only a small health-care sector here. |
| Nanotechnology |  |  |  | Tourism is not a major industry in the county. According to the DOLA base industry study, 1.1\% of basic jobs are tourism related. |
| Services |  |  |  |  |
| Call Centers |  |  |  |  |
| Financial |  |  |  | Film is not a major industry in the county. |
| Healthcare |  |  |  |  |
| Research and Development |  |  |  |  |
| Software |  |  |  |  |
| Tourism |  |  |  |  |
| Film |  |  |  |  |
| *Note: Definition of currenttarg | and eme | g gro | dustry | luded in introduction to this section. |

## BENT COUNTY



## BENT COUNTY RESOURCES



| BENT COUNTY OVERVIEW |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Bent County | Colorado | US |
| People |  |  |  |
| Population, 2001 estimate | 5,883 | 4,417,714 | 284.8 M |
| Population percent change, April 1, 2000-July 1, 2001 | -1.9\% | 2.7\% | 1.2\% |
| Population, percent change, 1990 to 2000 | 18.8\% | 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 | 15.9\% | 9.7\% | 12.4\% |
| White persons, percent, 2000 | 79.5\% | 82.8\% | 75.1\% |
| Persons of Hispanic or Latino origin, percent, 2000* | 30.2\% | 17.1\% | 12.5\% |
| Black or African American persons, percent, 2000 | 3.7\% | 3.8\% | 12.3\% |
| American Indian and Alaska Native persons, percent, 2000 | 2.2\% | 1.0\% | 0.9\% |
| Asian persons, percent, 2000 | 0.6\% | 2.2\% | 3.6\% |
| Persons reporting some other race, percent, 2000 | 10.3\% | 7.2\% | 5.5\% |
| High school graduates, percent of persons age 25+, 2000 | 77.2\% | 86.9\% | 80.4\% |
| Bachelor's degree or higher, pct of persons age 25+, 2000 | 11.5\% | 32.7\% | 24.4\% |
| Mean travel time to work, workers age 16+ (minutes), 2000 | 18.6 | 24.3 | 25.5 |
| Homeownership rate, 2000 | 68.0\% | 67.3\% | 66.2\% |
| Median value of owner-occupied housing units, 2000 | \$57,200 | \$166,600 | \$119,600 |
| Median household money income, 1999 | \$28,125 | \$47,203 | \$41,994 |
| Per capita money income, 1999 | \$13,567 | \$24,049 | \$21,587 |
| Persons below poverty, percent, 1999 | 19.5\% | 9.3\% | 12.4\% |
| Business |  |  |  |
| Federal funds and grants, 2001 (\$1,000) | 51,658 | 24,344,658 | 1.8 B |
| Geography |  |  |  |
| Land area, 2000 (square miles) | 1,514 | 103,718 | 3.5 M |
| Persons per square mile, 2000 | 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 | 40 | $54.8 \%$ |
| $5-9$ Employees | 17 | $23.3 \%$ |
| $10-19$ Employees | 11 | $15.1 \%$ |
| 20-49 Employees | 3 | $4.1 \%$ |
| $50-99$ Employees | 0 | $0.0 \%$ |
| $100-249$ Employees | 1 | $1.4 \%$ |
| $250-499$ Employees | 0 | $0.0 \%$ |
| $500-999$ Employees | 1 | $1.4 \%$ |
| $1,000+$ Employees | 0 | $0.0 \%$ |
| Total | 73 | $100.1 \%$ |


| OCCUPATIONS BY TYPE |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Occupation type | Number | Percent |
| Management, Professional, and Related | 731 | 33.5\% |
| Service | 368 | 16.9\% |
| Sales and Office | 523 | 24.0\% |
| Farming, Fishing, and Forestry | 220 | 10.1\% |
| Construction, Extraction, and Maintenance | 165 | 7.6\% |
| Production, Trans., and Material Moving | 175 | 8.0\% |


| HOUSEHOLDS BY INCOMELEVELS |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Income Bracket | Number | Percent |
| $<10,000$ | 310 | $15.5 \%$ |
| $\$ 10,000$ to $\$ 19,999$ | 382 | $19.1 \%$ |
| $\$ 20,000$ to $\$ 29,999$ | 394 | $19.7 \%$ |
| $\$ 30,000$ to $\$ 39,999$ | 263 | $13.1 \%$ |
| $\$ 40,000$ to $\$ 49,999$ | 190 | $9.5 \%$ |
| $\$ 50,000$ to $\$ 59,999$ | 172 | $8.6 \%$ |
| $\$ 60,000$ to $\$ 74,999$ | 143 | $7.1 \%$ |
| $\$ 75,000$ to $\$ 99,999$ | 71 | $3.5 \%$ |
| $\$ 100,000$ to $\$ 124,999$ | 35 | $1.7 \%$ |
| $\$ 125,000$ to $\$ 149,999$ | 11 | $0.5 \%$ |
| $\$ 150,000$ to $\$ 199,000$ | 13 | $0.6 \%$ |
| $\$ 200,000+$ | 17 | $0.8 \%$ |
| Total | 2,001 | $99.7 \%$ |


| WORKERS BY CLASS |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Worker Class | Number | Percent |
| Private | 1,198 | $54.9 \%$ |
| Government | 631 | $28.9 \%$ |
| Self Employed Non-Inc. | 327 | $15.0 \%$ |
| Unpaid Family | 26 | $1.2 \%$ |

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

| COUNTY ASSETS |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Bent | Baca | Crowley | Kiowa | Otero | Prowers |
| Commercial Airport |  |  |  |  |  | x |
| General Aviation Airport |  | x |  |  | x | x |
| Reliever Airport |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Interstate Highway |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| >10,000 employees | x |  |  |  |  |  |
| Companies w/ $500+$ employees |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Manufacturing Shipments (1997) |  |  |  |  | x |  |
| Ski Resorts |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Casinos/Gaming |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| National Parks/Sites |  |  |  |  | x |  |
| Oil, Gas, $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ Production | x | x |  | x |  | x |
| Coal Production |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Wind Energy |  | x |  | x |  | x |
| Biomass Potential |  |  |  |  |  |  |

## Bent County Highlights

Population

- Bent County is a rural and scarcely-populated area with about 6,000 residents, most of whom live in the city of Las Animas. The population grew faster than the national average since 1990, but more slowly than Colorado as a whole.
- There is a large Latino population, with $30 \%$ of residents reporting a Hispanic heritage.

Income and Housing

- Incomes are dramatically low. Per-capita income is about $\$ 13,500 /$ year, compared with $\$ 24,000$ for Colorado.
- Housing prices match the income - median sales prices for housing was $\$ 57,000$.

Occupation, Class of Work, Establishment Size

- Most employment is government related, ranching and farming, or service-related. Establishments are small and class of work is typically trade-level. It should be noted that the Establishments table includes the VA hospital that has since been closed and replaced by Fort Lyon Corrections.
Transportation Infrastructure
- Highway 50 moves through the county.

State, Federal, or Military Facilities

- There is a significant correctional facility: Fort Lyon Corrections. It employs about 200 workers (compared to 600 for the Ft. Lyon VA Hospital).
Education
- Basic elementary and secondary only.

Attractions

- Kit Carson Museum, National Cemetery, and other historical landmarks. Wildlife watching is also important to the area. Natural Resources
- Some natural gas reserves contribute to core employment.

| HISTORICAL ANALYSIS OF EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME BENT COUNTY |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Employment and Income (2001) |  |  |  |  |  | CAGR 1991 to 2001 |  |  |  | Location Quotient (2001) |  |  |  |
| Employment |  |  | Income |  |  | Employment |  | Income |  | Employment |  | Income |  |
|  |  | Share |  |  | Share |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Gov. | 892 | 38.5\% | Gov. | \$39,598 | 64.0\% | Con. | 12.5\% | Con. | 20.2\% | Ag. | 7.17 | Gov. | 4.31 |
| Ag. | 492 | 21.2 | Services | 9,292 | 15.0 | Services | 8.7 | Services | 18.4 | Gov. | 2.71 | Ag. | 1.60 |
| Services | 448 | 19.3 | Trade | 3,382 | 5.5 | FIRE | 6.5 | FIRE | 11.4 | FIRE | 0.68 | Con. | 0.61 |
| Trade | 237 | 10.2 | Con. | 3,199 | 5.2 | Trade | 4.3 | OGM | 11.4 | Services | 0.61 | Services | 0.49 |
| FIRE | 118 | 5.1 | FIRE | 2,358 | 3.8 | Ag. | 2.4 | TCPU | 6.3 | Trade | 0.47 | FIRE | 0.41 |
| TCPU | 61 | 2.6 | TCPU | 2,095 | 3.4 | TCPU | 2.4 | Trade | 6.3 | TCPU | 0.46 | Trade | 0.38 |
| Con. | 59 | 2.5 | Ag. | 1,377 | 2.2 | Gov. | -1.6 | Gov. | 2.4 | Con. | 0.32 | TCPU | 0.34 |
| Mfg. | 12 | 0.5 | OGM | 351 | 0.6 | Mfg. | -10.6 | Mfg. | -8.2 | Mfg. | 0.07 | OGM | 0.33 |
| OGM | 0 | 0.0 | Mfg. | 258 | 0.4 | OGM | -100.0 | Ag. | -17.5 | OGM | 0.00 | Mfg. | 0.04 |

Source: DOLA - Colorado Employment by Sector.

## Bent 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 righthand quadrant includes industries in the county that had employment growth greater than the state average and income growth greater than the CPI.


## Bent 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 righthand quadrant includes industries with high employment concentration and income concentration.


| BENT COUNTY SECTOR BREAKDOWN |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Sector | Number of Workers | Total Production (M) | \% of Production Exported | Value of Exports (M) |
| Top 10 Sectors by Employment |  |  |  |  |
| Federal Government - Non-Defense | 656 | \$38.2 | 0\% | \$0.0 |
| State \& Local Government - Non-Education | 284 | 6.5 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Hay and Pasture | 234 | 6.1 | 90 | 5.5 |
| State \& Local Government - Education | 218 | 6.3 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Eating \& Drinking | 101 | 3.2 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Hotels and Lodging Places | 86 | 4.2 | 74 | 3.1 |
| Banking | 76 | 13.1 | 63 | 8.3 |
| Agricultural, Forestry, and Fishery Services | 71 | 2.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Accounting, Auditing and Bookkeeping | 67 | 2.4 | 75 | 1.8 |
| Range Fed Cattle | 61 | 8.4 | 67 | 5.6 |
| Top Sectors by Production |  |  |  |  |
| Federal Government - Non-Defense | 656 | 38.2 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Cattle Feedlots | 51 | 26.9 | 86 | 23.1 |
| Natural Gas \& Crude Petroleum | 51 | 15.7 | 80 | 12.6 |
| Banking | 76 | 13.1 | 63 | 8.3 |
| Feed Grains, except Hay \& Pasture | 20 | 11.4 | 91 | 10.4 |
| Range Fed Cattle | 61 | 8.4 | 67 | 5.6 |
| State \& Local Government - Non-Education | 284 | 6.5 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Top Primary Sectors |  |  |  |  |
| Cattle Feedlots | 51 | \$26.9 | 86\% | \$23.1 |
| Natural Gas \& Crude Petroleum | 51 | 15.7 | 80 | 12.6 |
| Feed Grains, except Hay \& Pasture | 20 | 11.4 | 91 | 10.4 |
| Banking | 76 | 13.1 | 63 | 8.3 |
| Range Fed Cattle | 61 | 8.4 | 67 | 5.6 |
| Hay and Pasture | 234 | 6.1 | 90 | 5.5 |
| Hogs, Pigs and Swine | 26 | 5.2 | 85 | 4.4 |
| Business Associations | 43 | 4.1 | 95 | 3.9 |
| Hotels and Lodging Places | 86 | 4.2 | 74 | 3.1 |
| Prepared Feeds, N.E.C | 8 | 2.9 | 100 | 2.9 |
| Dairy Farm Products | 5 | 2.2 | 100 | 2.2 |

Source: Minnesota IMPLAN Group, Inc. (2000)

## Industry Summary

- Bent County is a rural agrarian county. The economy is based upon the Fort Lyon facility, farming and ranching, as well as natural gas extraction. Bent has an unusually high poverty rate, at 18\%, but this figure does not incorporate the low cost of living.
- Core industries include natural gas production, the state correctional facility, and agricultural related industries such as cattle ranching and grains farming. The largest single employer is the corrections facility, followed by hay and pasture farming.
- Although infrastructure for growth industries and high-technology are not likely in this county. Moderate growth with an increasing state population will continue to make Bent County an attractive and traditional rural location.

| BENT COUNTY - CURRENT, TARGET, AND EMERGING GROWTH INDUSTRIES* |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Current | Target | Growth | Comments |
| Agriculture |  |  |  | Bent County has a 2001 population of 5,883 , which has increased only $18.8 \%$ over the past 10 years, well below the state population growth average. Per capital money income (1999) is only $\$ 13,567$ compared to the state average of $\$ 24,049$. |
| Animals | X | X |  |  |
| Crops | X | X |  |  |
| Dairy |  |  |  |  |
| Manufacturing |  |  |  | Bent County ranks fourth among counties in the state's production of grain sorghum. The area also produces hay, winter wheat, corn for grain, hogs, and cattle. According to the 1997 Census of Agriculture, the market value of crops sold was $\$ 12,518,000$; the market value of livestock and products sold was $\$ 38,457,000$. According to the DOLA base industry study, $26.5 \%$ of basic jobs are agriculture related. |
| General |  |  |  |  |
| Computer Hardware/Storage |  |  |  |  |
| Photonics |  |  |  |  |
| Energy and Environmental |  |  |  | Future threats to the agricultural-based economy include the advanced age of farm owner-operators, and potential sale of agricultural water rights to urban areas. |
| Minerals, Gas/Petroleum | X | X |  |  |
| Renewable Energy |  |  |  |  |
| Environmental Industries |  |  |  | The county produces both natural gas and crude oil. |
| Transportation |  |  |  |  |
| Air |  |  |  | Technology-based industries have no presence in this county and are not likely to develop in the future. |
| Trucking |  |  |  |  |
| Rail |  |  |  | Having a broadband hub in the county, as a result of the MNT, should foster growth. |
| General |  |  |  | In spite of the aging population, there is only a small health-care service sector here. |
| AerospacelSpace |  |  |  |  |
| Defense/Homeland Security |  |  |  | Jobs in base industries include government, schools, and work at the Fort Lyons Correctional facility. This state facility provides fewer jobs than the federal facility it replaced. |
| Telecommunications |  |  |  |  |
| Biotechnology |  |  |  |  |
| Nanotechnology |  |  |  | Tourism is not a major industry in the county. According to the DOLA base industry study, $0.7 \%$ of basic jobs are tourism related. |
| Services |  |  |  |  |
| Call Centers |  |  |  | Film is not a major industry in the county. |
| Financial |  |  |  |  |
| Healthcare |  |  |  |  |
| Research and Development |  |  |  |  |
| Software |  |  |  |  |
| Tourism |  |  |  |  |
| Film |  |  |  |  |
| *Note: Definition of currenttar | and eme | g grov | ndustry | luded in introduction to this section. |

## CROWLEY COUNTY



| CROWLEY COUNTY RESOURCES |
| :--- |
| Transportation |
| Commercial Service Airports: none |
| General Aviation Airports: none |
| Reliever Airports: none |
| Interstate Highway Miles: 0 |
| Military Bases, Federal Facilities, and Prisons |
| Military Base: none |
| Federal Facilities: none |
| State Prisons: Arkansas Valley 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): 0 |
| Gas Production (Million Cubic Feet): 0 |
| 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 |


| CROWLEY COUNTY OVERVIEW |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Crowley County | Colorado | US |
| People |  |  |  |
| Population, 2001 estimate | 5,434 | 4,417,714 | 284.8 M |
| Population percent change, April 1, 2000-July 1, 2001 | -1.5\% | 2.7\% | 1.2\% |
| Population, percent change, 1990 to 2000 | 39.8\% | 30.6\% | 13.1\% |
| Persons under 18 years old, percent, 2000 | 18.8\% | 25.6\% | 25.7\% |
| Persons 65 years old and over, percent, 2000 | 10.8\% | 9.7\% | 12.4\% |
| White persons, percent, 2000 | 82.9\% | 82.8\% | 75.1\% |
| Persons of Hispanic or Latino origin, percent, 2000* | 22.5\% | 17.1\% | 12.5\% |
| Black or African American persons, percent, 2000 | 7.0\% | 3.8\% | 12.3\% |
| American Indian and Alaska Native persons, percent, 2000 | 2.6\% | 1.0\% | 0.9\% |
| Asian persons, percent, 2000 | 0.8\% | 2.2\% | 3.6\% |
| Persons reporting some other race, percent, 2000 | 4.8\% | 7.2\% | 5.5\% |
| High school graduates, percent of persons age 25+, 2000 | 77.5\% | 86.9\% | 80.4\% |
| Bachelor's degree or higher, pct of persons age 25+, 2000 | 11.9\% | 32.7\% | 24.4\% |
| Mean travel time to work, workers age 16+ (minutes), 2000 | 22.2 | 24.3 | 25.5 |
| Homeownership rate, 2000 | 72.5\% | 67.3\% | 66.2\% |
| Median value of owner-occupied housing units, 2000 | \$57,200 | \$166,600 | \$119,600 |
| Median household money income, 1999 | \$26,803 | \$47,203 | \$41,994 |
| Per capita money income, 1999 | \$12,836 | \$24,049 | \$21,587 |
| Persons below poverty, percent, 1999 | 18.5\% | 9.3\% | 12.4\% |
| Business |  |  |  |
| Federal funds and grants, 2001 (\$1,000) | 23,452 | 24,344,658 | 1.8 B |
| Geography |  |  |  |
| Land area, 2000 (square miles) | 789 | 103,718 | 3.5 M |
| Persons per square mile, 2000 | 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 | 33 | $64.7 \%$ |
| $5-9$ Employees | 8 | $15.7 \%$ |
| $10-19$ Employees | 8 | $15.7 \%$ |
| 20-49 Employees | 2 | $3.9 \%$ |
| $50-99$ Employees | 0 | $0.0 \%$ |
| $100-249$ Employees | 0 | $0.0 \%$ |
| $250-499$ Employees | 0 | $0.0 \%$ |
| $500-999$ Employees | 0 | $0.0 \%$ |
| $1,000+$ Employees | 0 | $0.0 \%$ |
| Total | 51 | $100.0 \%$ |


| OCCUPATIONS BY TYPE |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Occupation type | Number | Percent |
| Management, Professional, and Related | 429 | 31.0\% |
| Service | 235 | 17.0\% |
| Sales and Office | 265 | 19.1\% |
| Farming, Fishing, and Forestry | 76 | 5.5\% |
| Construction, Extraction, and Maintenance | 196 | 14.2\% |
| Production, Trans., and Material Moving | 184 | 13.3\% |


| HOUSEHOLDS BY INCOME LEVELS |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Income Bracket | Number | Percent |
| $\mathbf{\$ 1 0 , 0 0 0}$ | 208 | $15.3 \%$ |
| $\$ 10,000$ to $\$ 19,999$ | 269 | $19.8 \%$ |
| $\$ 20,000$ to $\$ 29,999$ | 289 | $21.2 \%$ |
| $\$ 30,000$ to $\$ 39,999$ | 200 | $14.7 \%$ |
| $\$ 40,000$ to $\$ 49,999$ | 129 | $9.5 \%$ |
| $\$ 50,000$ to $\$ 59,999$ | 76 | $5.6 \%$ |
| $\$ 60,000$ to $\$ 74,999$ | 78 | $5.7 \%$ |
| $\$ 75,000$ to $\$ 99,999$ | 71 | $5.2 \%$ |
| $\$ 100,000$ to $\$ 124,999$ | 6 | $0.4 \%$ |
| $\$ 125,000$ to $\$ 149,999$ | 9 | $0.7 \%$ |
| $\$ 150,000$ to $\$ 199,000$ | 8 | $0.6 \%$ |
| $\$ 200,000+$ | 19 | $1.4 \%$ |
| Total | 1,362 | $100.1 \%$ |


| WORKERS BY CLASS |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Worker Class | Number | Percent |
| Private | 798 | $57.6 \%$ |
| Government | 388 | $28.0 \%$ |
| Self Employed Non-Inc. | 188 | $13.6 \%$ |
| Unpaid Family | 11 | $0.8 \%$ |

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

| COUNTY ASSETS |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Crowley | Baca | Bent | Kiowa | Otero | Prowers |
| Commercial Airport |  |  |  |  |  | x |
| General Aviation Airport |  | x |  |  | x | x |
| Reliever Airport |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Interstate Highway |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| >10,000 employees |  |  | x |  |  |  |
| Companies w/ 500+ employees |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Manufacturing Shipments (1997) |  |  |  |  | x |  |
| Ski Resorts |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Casinos/Gaming |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| National Parks/Sites |  |  |  |  | X |  |
| Oil, Gas, $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ Production |  | x | x | X |  | x |
| Coal Production |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Wind Energy |  | X |  | X |  | x |
| Biomass Potential |  |  |  |  |  |  |

## Crowley County Highlights

Population

- Crowley County is a rural agricultural county like neighbors Otero and Baca. The population grew by more than the state average (about 39\%) to 5,400 in 2001.
Income and Housing
- Like most of southeastern Colorado, income and housing prices are both low. Per-capita income is $\$ 12,800$ - compared with $\$ 21,500$ national average. However housing is inexpensive, the median home sells for just $\$ 57,000$ which is about $\$ 100,000$ below the state median home.
Occupation, Class of Work, Establishment Size
- The majority of work is either government related (education, prison and functions) or agriculture. Ag jobs account for $22 \%$ of all jobs in the county, while government provides $33 \%$. There are no large establishments in this county - all are less than 50 employees.
Transportation Infrastructure
- No major airports or freeways in the county.

State, Federal, or Military Facilities

- There is a state prison located in Crowley.

Education

- Primary and secondary only.

Attractions

- No major attractions, but there is a rich homesteading history.

Natural Resources

- No substantial fossil fuel resources.

| HISTORICAL ANALYSIS OF EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME CROWLEY COUNTY |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Employment and Income (2001) |  |  |  |  |  | CAGR 1991 to 2001 |  |  |  | Location Quotient (2001) |  |  |  |
| Employment |  |  | Income |  |  | Employment |  | Income |  | Employment |  | Income |  |
|  |  | Share |  |  | Share |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Gov. | 565 | 33.2\% | Ag. | 32,665 | 46.0\% | Services | 13.4\% | Services | 19.2\% | Ag. | 7.45 | Ag. | 33.05 |
| Services | 472 | 27.7 | Gov. | 20,956 | 29.5 | FIRE | 5.3 | OGM | 16.4 | Gov. | 2.34 | Gov. | 1.99 |
| Ag. | 376 | 22.1 | Services | 11,152 | 15.7 | Trade | 4.3 | Ag. | 11.3 | Services | 0.87 | Services | 0.52 |
| Trade | 168 | 9.9 | Trade | 2,670 | 3.8 | Ag. | 1.3 | FIRE | 9.3 | FIRE | 0.47 | OGM | 0.29 |
| FIRE | 59 | 3.5 | TCPU | 1,338 | 1.9 | Gov. | 1.3 | TCPU | 8.3 | Trade | 0.46 | Trade | 0.26 |
| Con. | 34 | 2.0 | Con. | 1,021 | 1.4 | Con. | -1.9 | Con. | 7.4 | Con. | 0.25 | TCPU | 0.19 |
| TCPU | 23 | 1.3 | FIRE | 878 | 1.2 | TCPU | -4.5 | Trade | 5.4 | TCPU | 0.23 | Con. | 0.17 |
| Mfg. | 7 | 0.4 | OGM | 354 | 0.5 | Mfg. |  | Gov. | 4.3 | Mfg. | 0.06 | FIRE | 0.13 |
| OGM | 0 | 0.0 | Mfg. | 36 | 0.1 | OGM |  | Mfg. |  | OGM | 0.00 | Mfg. | 0.01 |

Source: DOLA - Colorado Employment by Sector.

## Crowley 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 righthand quadrant includes industries in the county that had employment growth greater than the state average and income growth greater than the CPI.


## Crowley 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 righthand quadrant includes industries with high employment concentration and income concentration.


| CROWLEY 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 | 302 | \$14.5 | 0\% | \$0.0 |
| Beauty and Barber Shops | 222 | 7.6 | 86 | 6.5 |
| State \& Local Government - Non-Education | 204 | 6.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Cattle Feedlots | 102 | 50.8 | 84 | 42.7 |
| Range Fed Cattle | 95 | 12.5 | 65 | 8.1 |
| Miscellaneous Retail | 81 | 1.4 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Nursing and Protective Care | 75 | 2.9 | 59 | 1.7 |
| Hotels and Lodging Places | 70 | 4.9 | 82 | 4.0 |
| Hay and Pasture | 69 | 1.8 | 67 | 1.2 |
| Motion Pictures | 67 | 4.3 | 53 | 2.3 |
| Top Sectors by Production |  |  |  |  |
| Cattle Feedlots | 102 | \$50.8 | 84\% | \$42.7 |
| State \& Local Government - Education | 302 | 14.5 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Range Fed Cattle | 95 | 12.5 | 65 | 8.1 |
| Beauty and Barber Shops | 222 | 7.6 | 86 | 6.5 |
| State \& Local Government - Non-Education | 204 | 6.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Ranch Fed Cattle | 40 | 5.7 | 84 | 4.8 |
| Banking | 36 | 5.5 | 27 | 1.5 |
| Top Primary Sectors |  |  |  |  |
| Cattle Feedlots | 102 | \$50.8 | 84\% | \$42.7 |
| Range Fed Cattle | 95 | 12.5 | 65 | 8.1 |
| Ranch Fed Cattle | 40 | 5.7 | 84 | 4.8 |
| Hotels and Lodging Places | 70 | 4.9 | 82 | 4.0 |
| Feed Grains, except Hay \& Pasture | 9 | 3.5 | 71 | 2.5 |
| Structural Wood Members, N.E.C | 18 | 1.9 | 95 | 1.8 |
| Nursing and Protective Care | 75 | 2.9 | 59 | 1.7 |
| Vegetables | 7 | 1.9 | 89 | 1.7 |
| Hay and Pasture | 69 | 1.8 | 67 | 1.2 |
| Natural Gas \& Crude Petroleum | 5 | 1.3 | 85 | 1.1 |

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

- Crowley County's economy depends heavily upon agriculture. Ranching and farming are the principle industries. Wages in these industries are typically low, which is partly responsible for the county's high poverty rate ( $18 \%$ compared with $12 \%$ U.S. average).
- Schools and government operations are also a major employer in the county; they account for $32 \%$ of all employment.
- In general, Crowley County is a traditional rural area with some local industry and a comparative advantage in farming and low wage employment. Like many rural counties, dramatic economic development is unlikely. Instead, the economy and population will grow gradually.

| CROWLEY COUNTY - CURRENT, TARGET, AND EMERGING GROWTH INDUSTRIES* |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Current | Target | Growth | Comments |
| Agriculture |  |  |  | The county has shown population growth above the state average since 1990, with an estimated 2001 population of 5,434 . Per capita money income is low at $\$ 12,836$, about half that of the state average. |
| Animals | X | X |  |  |
| Crops | X | X |  |  |
| Dairy |  |  |  |  |
| Manufacturing |  |  |  | Ranching and farming are the principal occupations, with hay and cattle the primary outputs. According to the DOLA base industry study, $26.7 \%$ of basic jobs are agriculture related. Economic benefits from agricultural production could be achieved through development of value-added meat or food processing capabilities. The county could also have a future potential for higher value crops through corn-based bio-pharmaceutical crops and/or production facilities. |
| General |  |  |  |  |
| Computer Hardware/Storage |  |  |  |  |
| Photonics |  |  |  |  |
| Energy and Environmental |  |  |  | Future threats to the agricultural-based economy include potential sale of agricultural water rights to urban areas. |
| Minerals, Gas/Petroleum |  |  |  |  |
| Renewable Energy |  |  |  |  |
| Environmental Industries |  |  |  | Technology-based industries have no presence in this county and are not likely to develop in the future. |
| Transportation |  |  |  |  |
| Air |  |  |  | Having a broadband hub in the county, as a result of the MNT, should foster growth. |
| Trucking |  |  |  |  |
| Rail |  |  |  | The county has no gas, oil, or energy resource base. |
| General |  |  |  | Jobs in base industries include government, education, and work in the state prison. Health-care services could increase as the population grows. |
| AerospacelSpace |  |  |  |  |
| Defense/Homeland Security |  |  |  |  |
| Telecommunications |  |  |  | Tourism is not a major industry in the county. According to the DOLA base industry study, $0.6 \%$ of basic jobs are tourism related. |
| Biotechnology |  |  |  |  |
| Nanotechnology |  |  |  | Film is not a major industry in the county. |
| Services |  |  |  |  |
| Call Centers |  |  |  |  |
| Financial |  |  |  |  |
| Healthcare | X |  |  |  |
| Research and Development |  |  |  |  |
| Software |  |  |  |  |
| Tourism |  |  |  |  |
| Film |  |  |  |  |
| *Note: Definition of current targ | and eme | ng grow | ndustry | luded in introduction to this section. |

## KIOWA COUNTY



| KIOWA COUNTY RESOURCES |
| :--- |
| Transportation |
| Commercial Service Airports: none |
| General Aviation Airports: none |
| 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): 260284 |
| Gas Production (Million Cubic Feet): 1253467 |
| 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 |


| KIOWA COUNTYOVERVIEW |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Kiowa County | Colorado | US |
| People |  |  |  |
| Population, 2001 estimate | 1,537 | 4,417,714 | 284.8 M |
| Population percent change, April 1, 2000-July 1, 2001 | -5.2\% | 2.7\% | 1.2\% |
| Population, percent change, 1990 to 2000 | -3.9\% | 30.6\% | 13.1\% |
| Persons under 18 years old, percent, 2000 | 25.9\% | 25.6\% | 25.7\% |
| Persons 65 years old and over, percent, 2000 | 17.6\% | 9.7\% | 12.4\% |
| White persons, percent, 2000 | 96.1\% | 82.8\% | 75.1\% |
| Persons of Hispanic or Latino origin, percent, 2000* | 3.1\% | 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 | 1.1\% | 1.0\% | 0.9\% |
| Asian persons, percent, 2000 | 0.0\% | 2.2\% | 3.6\% |
| Persons reporting some other race, percent, 2000 | 1.4\% | 7.2\% | 5.5\% |
| High school graduates, percent of persons age $25+$, 2000 | 86.3\% | 86.9\% | 80.4\% |
| Bachelor's degree or higher, pct of persons age 25+, 2000 | 16.1\% | 32.7\% | 24.4\% |
| Mean travel time to work, workers age 16+ (minutes), 2000 | 18.3 | 24.3 | 25.5 |
| Homeownership rate, 2000 | 71.3\% | 67.3\% | 66.2\% |
| Median value of owner-occupied housing units, 2000 | \$46,100 | \$166,600 | \$119,600 |
| Median household money income, 1999 | \$30,494 | \$47,203 | \$41,994 |
| Per capita money income, 1999 | \$16,382 | \$24,049 | \$21,587 |
| Persons below poverty, percent, 1999 | 12.2\% | 9.3\% | 12.4\% |
| Business |  |  |  |
| Federal funds and grants, 2001 (\$1,000) | 39,036 | 24,344,658 | 1.8 B |
| Geography |  |  |  |
| Land area, 2000 (square miles) | 1,771 | 103,718 | 3.5 M |
| Persons per square mile, 2000 | 0.9 | 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 | 35 | $74.5 \%$ |
| $5-9$ Employees | 7 | $14.9 \%$ |
| $10-19$ Employees | 4 | $8.5 \%$ |
| 20-49 Employees | 0 | $0.0 \%$ |
| $50-99$ Employees | 1 | $2.1 \%$ |
| $100-249$ Employees | 0 | $0.0 \%$ |
| $250-499$ Employees | 0 | $0.0 \%$ |
| $500-999$ Employees | 0 | $0.0 \%$ |
| $1,000+$ Employees | 0 | $0.0 \%$ |
| Total | 47 | $100.0 \%$ |


| OCCUPATIONS BY TYPE |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Occupation type | Number | Percent |
| Management Professional, and Related | 269 | 35.7\% |
| Service | 119 | 15.8\% |
| Sales and Office | 133 | 17.7\% |
| Farming, Fishing, and Forestry | 82 | 10.9\% |
| Construction, Extraction, and Maintenance | 76 | 10.1\% |
| Production, Trans., and Material Moving | 74 | 9.8\% |


| HOUSEHOLDS BY INCOMELEVELS |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Income Bracket | Number | Percent |
| $<10,000$ | 73 | $11.1 \%$ |
| $\$ 10,000$ to $\$ 19,999$ | 146 | $22.3 \%$ |
| $\$ 20,000$ to $\$ 29,999$ | 100 | $15.3 \%$ |
| $\$ 30,000$ to $\$ 39,999$ | 104 | $15.9 \%$ |
| $\$ 40,000$ to $\$ 49,999$ | 71 | $10.8 \%$ |
| $\$ 50,000$ to $\$ 59,999$ | 47 | $7.2 \%$ |
| $\$ 60,000$ to $\$ 74,999$ | 44 | $6.7 \%$ |
| $\$ 75,000$ to $\$ 99,999$ | 23 | $3.5 \%$ |
| $\$ 100,000$ to $\$ 124,999$ | 19 | $2.9 \%$ |
| $\$ 125,000$ to $\$ 149,999$ | 18 | $2.7 \%$ |
| $\$ 150,000$ to $\$ 199,000$ | 1 | $0.2 \%$ |
| $\$ 200,000+$ | 9 | $1.4 \%$ |
| Total | 655 | $100.0 \%$ |


| WORKERS BY CLASS |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Worker Class | Number | Percent |
| Private | 383 | $50.9 \%$ |
| Government | 211 | $28.0 \%$ |
| Self Employed Non-Inc. | 150 | $19.9 \%$ |
| Unpaid Family | 9 | $1.2 \%$ |

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

| COUNTY ASSETS |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Kiowa | Baca | Bent | Crowley | Otero | Prowers |
| Commercial Airport |  |  |  |  |  | x |
| General Aviation Airport |  | x |  |  | x | x |
| Reliever Airport |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Interstate Highway |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| >10,000 employees |  |  | x |  |  |  |
| Companies w/ 500+ employees |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Manufacturing Shipments (1997) |  |  |  |  | x |  |
| Ski Resorts |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Casinos/Gaming |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| National Parks/Sites |  |  |  |  | x |  |
| Oil, Gas, $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ Production | x | x | x |  |  | x |
| Coal Production |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Wind Energy | x | x |  |  |  | x |
| Biomass Potential |  |  |  |  |  |  |

## Kiowa County Highlights

Population

- Located on the eastern border of Colorado, Kiowa County is a remote region having a population of only 1,500 . Its population has decreased significantly from 2000 to 2001 by $5.2 \%$. Relative to the state, its population also consists of a large percentage of persons 65 or older.
Income and Housing
- The average income is well below the state and national average. The majority of the population (roughly 75\%) has a combined household income below $\$ 50,000$.
- Kiowa County has extremely low housing costs at only one-third of the state and national averages.

Occupation, Class of Work, Establishment Size

- The majority of establishments employ just 1-4 people. Farming of food grains and raising cattle are the most important core areas of employment and production.
Transportation Infrastructure
- There is no major transportation infrastructure in Kiowa County, although it is located in the Ports to Plains NAFTA Corridor.
State, Federal, or Military Facilities
- Kiowa County has no state prisons, federal facilities, or military bases.

Education

- There are no higher education facilities in Kiowa. The percentage of high school graduates is commensurate with the state average and above the national average. The percentage of persons with a Bachelor's degree or higher is roughly half of the state and national averages.


## Attractions

- There are nomajor tourist attractions in Kiowa County, however, wildlife watching is a major industry and the Sand Creek National Historic Site is expected to be established in 2004.
Natural Resources
- Kiowa County has significant oil and gas resources and potential as a source for wind energy.

HISTORICAL ANALYSIS OF EMPLOYM ENT AND INCOME KIOWA COUNTY

| Employment and Income (2001) |  |  |  |  |  | CAGR 1991 to 2001 |  |  |  | Location Quotient (2001) |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Employment |  |  | Income |  |  | Employment |  | Income |  | Employment |  | Income |  |
|  |  | Share |  |  | Share |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ag. | 649 | 54.3\% | Ag. | \$30,688 | 68.9\% | Con. | 4.8\% | TCPU | 9.9\% | Ag. | 18.31 | Ag. | 49.56 |
| Gov. | 261 | 21.8 | Gov. | 6,699 | 15.0 | Ag. | 4.0 | Ag. | 8.1 | OGM | 1.75 | Gov. | 1.01 |
| Trade | 122 | 10.2 | TCPU | 3,039 | 6.8 | Gov. | 1.2 | Mfg. | 8.1 | Gov. | 1.54 | TCPU | 0.68 |
| Services | 50 | 4.2 | Services | 1,413 | 3.2 | Mfg. | 1.2 | Services | 5.2 | TCPU | 0.68 | OGM | 0.65 |
| TCPU | 47 | 3.9 | Trade | 1,396 | 3.1 | TCPU | 1.2 | Gov. | 4.1 | Trade | 0.48 | Trade | 0.22 |
| Con. | 33 | 2.8 | OGM | 497 | 1.1 | Trade | 1.2 | FIRE | 2.0 | Con. | 0.35 | Con. | 0.11 |
| FIRE | 13 | 1.1 | Con. | 435 | 1.0 | Services | -2.8 | OGM | 0.3 | FIRE | 0.15 | Services | 0.10 |
| OGM | 13 | 1.1 | FIRE | 230 | 0.5 | FIRE | -3.8 | Con. | -1.2 | Services | 0.13 | FIRE | 0.05 |
| Mfg. | 7 | 0.6 | Mfg. | 131 | 0.3 | OGM | -9.7 | Trade | -1.4 | Mfg. | 0.08 | Mfg. | 0.03 |



| KIOWA COUNTY SECTOR BREAKDOWN |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Sector | Number of Workers | Total Production (M) | \% of Production Exported | Value of Exports (M) |
| Top 10 Sectors by Employment |  |  |  |  |
| Food Grains | 268 | \$14.5 | 100\% | \$14.5 |
| State \& Local Government - Non-Education | 185 | 5.6 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Hay and Pasture | 88 | 2.8 | 96 | 2.7 |
| State \& Local Government - Education | 72 | 1.9 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Feed Grains, except Hay \& Pasture | 68 | 5.7 | 98 | 5.6 |
| Ranch Fed Cattle | 65 | 4.9 | 73 | 3.6 |
| Agricultural, Forestry, and Fishery Services | 54 | 1.5 | 47 | 0.7 |
| Miscellaneous Retail | 43 | 0.5 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Wholesale Trade | 33 | 1.6 | 6 | 0.1 |
| Accounting, Auditing and Bookkeeping | 32 | 0.9 | 67 | 0.6 |
| Top Sectors by Production |  |  |  |  |
| Food Grains | 268 | 14.5 | 100 | 14.5 |
| Feed Grains, except Hay \& Pasture | 68 | 5.7 | 98 | 5.6 |
| State \& Local Government - Non-Education | 185 | 5.6 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Ranch Fed Cattle | 65 | 4.9 | 73 | 3.6 |
| Gas Production and Distribution | 5 | 4.6 | 72 | 3.3 |
| Meat Packing Plants | 10 | 3.4 | 88 | 3.0 |
| Motor Freight Transport and Warehousing | 27 | 3.1 | 45 | 1.4 |
| Top Primary Sectors |  |  |  |  |
| Food Grains | 268 | \$14.5 | 100\% | \$14.5 |
| Feed Grains, except Hay \& Pasture | 68 | 5.7 | 98 | 5.6 |
| Ranch Fed Cattle | 65 | 4.9 | 73 | 3.6 |
| Gas Production and Distribution | 5 | 4.6 | 72 | 3.3 |
| Meat Packing Plants | 10 | 3.4 | 88 | 3.0 |
| Hay and Pasture | 88 | 2.8 | 96 | 2.7 |
| Religious Organizations | 17 | 2.3 | 87 | 2.0 |
| Lubricating Oils and Greases | 5 | 2.0 | 90 | 1.8 |
| Oil Bearing Crops | 14 | 0.9 | 100 | 0.9 |
| Range Fed Cattle | 24 | 1.6 | 56 | 0.9 |

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

- Kiowa County's main sectors of employment are agriculture, state and local government (noneducation), and hay and pasture. Its main sectors of production are scrap and agriculture.
- Kiowa County's establishments employ few people. Its largest establishment employs between 50 and 99 people.

| KIOWA COUNTY - CURRENT, TARGET, AND EMERGING GROWTH INDUSTRIES* |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Current | Target | Growth | Comments |
| Agriculture |  |  |  | Kiowa County has a small population base estimated at 1,537 in 2001. The population has been declining over the past decade. |
| Animals | X | X |  |  |
| Crops | X | X | X |  |
| Dairy |  |  |  | Kiowa County is the third highest producer of grain sorghum in the state. The county also produces corn for grain, hay, winter wheat, and sunflowers. Market value of crops sold in 1997 was $\$ 17,144$. The county has meatpacking plants to add value to livestock production. Market value of livestock and products sold in 1997 was $\$ 44,581$. According to the DOLA base industry study, $67 \%$ of basic jobs are agriculture related. |
| Manufacturing |  |  |  |  |
| General |  |  |  |  |
| Computer Hardware/Storage |  |  |  |  |
| Photonics |  |  |  | There is potential for economic growth in the agricultural sector through development of natural and organic crops and development of local or regional capacity to add value to locally grown sunflower seeds through local |
| Energy and Environmental |  |  |  |  |
| Minerals, Gas/Petroleum | X | X |  | processing. The county could also have a future potential for corn-based bio-pharmaceutical crops and/or production facilities. Future threats to the agricultural-based economy include the advanced age of farm owneroperators, and potential sale of agricultural water rights to urban areas. |
| Renewable Energy |  |  | X |  |
| Environmental Industries |  |  |  |  |
| Transportation |  |  |  | The county currently produces both crude oil and natural gas. Wind levels in some areas are rated " 4 " or "good," indicating the potential for commercial or community level economic impact from renewable energy. |
| Air |  |  |  |  |
| Trucking |  |  |  | Previous county development resulted in a small company producing motor oils from sunflower seeds and offers the opportunity for future growth in the production of ethanol, oils, and bio-fuels from sunflowers and |
| Rail |  |  |  |  |
| General |  |  |  |  |
| Aerospace/Space |  |  |  | Having a broadband hub in the county, as a result of the MNT, could foster growth |
| Defense/Homeland Security |  |  |  | Having a broadband hub in the county, as a result of the MNT, could foster growth. |
| Telecommunications |  |  |  | Technology-based industries have no presence in this county and are not likely to develop in the future. |
| Biotechnology |  |  |  |  |
| Nanotechnology |  |  |  | Tourism is not a major industry in the county. According to the DOLA base industry study, $0.7 \%$ of basic jobs are tourism related. The Sand Creek Massacre Historical Site and the reservoirs offer opportunities to develop |
| Services |  |  |  |  |
| Call Centers |  |  |  | tourism services. |
| Financial |  |  |  | Film is not a major industry in the county. |
| Healthcare |  |  |  |  |
| Research and Development |  |  |  |  |
| Software |  |  |  |  |
| Tourism |  | X |  |  |
| Film |  |  |  |  |
| *Note: Definition of currenttarg | and eme | g grow | ndustry | uded in introduction to this section. |

## OTERO COUNTY



## OTERO COUNTY RESOURCES

| $\quad$ OTERO COUNTY RESOURCES |
| :--- |
| Transportation |
| Commercial Service Airports: none |
| General Aviation Airports: La Junta Municipal 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: Otero Junior College |
| Private Acc.: none |
| Ski Areas, Casinos, and National Parks |
| Ski Areas: none |
| Casinos/Gaming: none |
| National Parks/Sites: Bents Old Fort NHS |
| Natural Resources |
| Oil Production (Barrels of Oil): 0 |
| Gas Production (Million Cubic Feet): 0 |
| 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 |


| OTERO COUNTY OVERVIEW |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Otero County | Colorado | US |
| People |  |  |  |
| Population, 2001 estimate | 19,972 | 4,417,714 | 284.8 M |
| Population percent change, April 1, 2000-July 1, 2001 | -1.7\% | 2.7\% | 1.2\% |
| Population, percent change, 1990 to 2000 | 0.6\% | 30.6\% | 13.1\% |
| Persons under 18 years old, percent, 2000 | 26.9\% | 25.6\% | 25.7\% |
| Persons 65 years old and over, percent, 2000 | 16.5\% | 9.7\% | 12.4\% |
| White persons, percent, 2000 | 79.0\% | 82.8\% | 75.1\% |
| Persons of Hispanic or Latino origin, percent, 2000* | 37.6\% | 17.1\% | 12.5\% |
| Black or African American persons, percent, 2000 | 0.8\% | 3.8\% | 12.3\% |
| American Indian and Alaska Native persons, percent, 2000 | 1.4\% | 1.0\% | 0.9\% |
| Asian persons, percent, 2000 | 0.7\% | 2.2\% | 3.6\% |
| Persons reporting some other race, percent, 2000 | 15.1\% | 7.2\% | 5.5\% |
| High school graduates, percent of persons age 25+, 2000 | 75.7\% | 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 | 18 | 24.3 | 25.5 |
| Homeownership rate, 2000 | 69.1\% | 67.3\% | 66.2\% |
| Median value of owner-occupied housing units, 2000 | \$66,300 | \$166,600 | \$119,600 |
| Median household money income, 1999 | \$29,738 | \$47,203 | \$41,994 |
| Per capita money income, 1999 | \$15,113 | \$24,049 | \$21,587 |
| Persons below poverty, percent, 1999 | 18.8\% | 9.3\% | 12.4\% |
| Business |  |  |  |
| Federal funds and grants, 2001 (\$1,000) | 138,090 | 24,344,658 | 1.8 B |
| Geography |  |  |  |
| Land area, 2000 (square miles) | 1,263 | 103,718 | 3.5 M |
| Persons per square mile, 2000 | 16.1 | 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 | 290 | $57.0 \%$ |
| $5-9$ Employees | 120 | $23.6 \%$ |
| 10-19 Employees | 58 | $11.4 \%$ |
| 20-49 Employees | 26 | $5.1 \%$ |
| $50-99$ Employees | 8 | $1.6 \%$ |
| $100-249$ Employees | 5 | $1.0 \%$ |
| $250-499$ Employees | 2 | $0.4 \%$ |
| $500-999$ Employees | 0 | $0.0 \%$ |
| $1,000+$ Employees | 0 | $0.0 \%$ |
| Total | 509 | $100.1 \%$ |


| OCCUPATIONS BY TYPE |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Occupation type | Number | Percent |
| Management, Professional, and Related | 2,675 | 32.1\% |
| Service | 1,487 | 17.8\% |
| Sales and Office | 2,051 | 24.6\% |
| Farming, Fishing, and Forestry | 258 | 3.1\% |
| Construction, Extraction, and Maintenance | 839 | 10.1\% |
| Production, Trans., and Material Moving | 1,035 | 12.4\% |


| HOUSEHOLDS BY INCOMELEVELS |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Income Bracket | Number | Percent |
| $<10,000$ | 1,142 | $14.5 \%$ |
| $\$ 10,000$ to $\$ 19,999$ | 1,622 | $20.5 \%$ |
| $\$ 20,000$ to $\$ 29,999$ | 1,220 | $15.4 \%$ |
| $\$ 30,000$ to $\$ 39,999$ | 1,112 | $14.1 \%$ |
| $\$ 40,000$ to $\$ 49,999$ | 816 | $10.3 \%$ |
| $\$ 50,000$ to $\$ 59,999$ | 614 | $7.8 \%$ |
| $\$ 60,000$ to $\$ 74,999$ | 642 | $8.1 \%$ |
| $\$ 75,000$ to $\$ 99,999$ | 381 | $4.8 \%$ |
| $\$ 100,000$ to $\$ 124,999$ | 199 | $2.5 \%$ |
| $\$ 125,000$ to $\$ 149,999$ | 79 | $1.0 \%$ |
| $\$ 150,000$ to $\$ 199,000$ | 32 | $0.4 \%$ |
| $\$ 200,000+$ | 43 | $0.5 \%$ |
| Total | 7,902 | $99.9 \%$ |


| WORKERS BY CLASS |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Worker Class | Number | Percent |
| Private | 5,402 | $64.7 \%$ |
| Government | 1,980 | $23.7 \%$ |
| Self Employed Non-Inc. | 927 | $11.1 \%$ |
| Unpaid Family | 36 | $0.4 \%$ |

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

## COUNTY ASSETS

|  | Otero | Baca | Bent | Crowley | Kiowa | Prowers |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Commercial Airport |  |  |  |  |  | x |
| General Aviation Airport | x | x |  |  |  | x |
| Reliever Airport |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Interstate Highway |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| State Prison |  |  | x | x |  |  |
| Federal Facility |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Military Facility | x |  |  |  |  |  |
| Two-year College/University |  |  |  |  |  | x |
| Four-year College/University |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Private College/University |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $>25 \%$ of Population with Bachelor Degree |  |  | x |  |  |  |
| $>10,000$ employees |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Companies w/ 500+ employees | x |  |  |  |  |  |
| Manufacturing Shipments (1997) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ski Resorts |  |  |  |  |  | x |
| Casinos/Gaming | x |  |  |  | x |  |
| National Parks/Sites |  | x | x |  |  |  |
| Oil, Gas, CO2 Production |  | x |  |  |  |  |
| Coal Production |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Wind Energy |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Biomass Potential |  |  |  |  |  |  |

## Otero County Highlights

Population

- At 20,000 residents, Otero County is a sparsely populated area with most of the residents in or near La Junta or Rocky Ford. The closest MSA, Pueblo, to these cities is $50-60$ miles to the west. There was minimal population growth in the county between 1990 and 2000.
Income and Housing
- Otero County household and per capita income is well-below the state average.
- Housing and land are less expensive than the state and national average.

Occupation, Class of Work, Establishment Size

- The county has only seven companies with 100+ employees. Most employees work in the private sector (65\%).

Transportation Infrastructure

- There is a general aviation airport in the county.

State, Federal, or Military Facilities

- There are no Federal Labs, military facilities, or state prisons located in Otero County.

Education

- Otero Junior College is located in Otero County.

Attractions

- Bents Old Fort National Historic Site is located inOtero County.

Natural Resources

- There are no significant levels of natural resource production in Otero County.

| HISTORICAL ANALYSIS OF EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME OTERO COUNTY |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Employment and Income (2001) |  |  |  |  |  | CAGR 1991 to 2001 |  |  |  | Location Quotient (2001) |  |  |  |
|  | yment |  |  | Income |  | Emp |  |  |  | Emplo |  |  |  |
|  |  | Share |  |  | Share |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Services | 2,641 | 25.8\% | Gov. | \$58,708 | 23.9\% | Ag. | 1.9\% | OGM | 15.7\% | Ag. | 3.50 | Ag. | 5.73 |
| Trade | 2,189 | 21.4 | Services | 57,776 | 23.5 | TCPU | 1.8 | FIRE | 9.8 | Gov. | 1.43 | Gov. | 1.61 |
| Gov. | 2,068 | 20.2 | Trade | 37,839 | 15.4 | Con. | 0.9 | Con. | 5.8 | TCPU | 1.09 | TCPU | 1.24 |
| Ag. | 1,059 | 10.4 | TCPU | 30,320 | 12.3 | FIRE | 0.9 | Services | 5.0 | Trade | 0.99 | Trade | 1.07 |
| TCPU | 645 | 6.3 | Ag. | 19,606 | 8.0 | Gov. | 0.8 | TCPU | 4.9 | Mfg. | 0.84 | Services | 0.77 |
| Mfg. | 641 | 6.3 | Mfg. | 17,716 | 7.2 | Services | 0.8 | Gov. | 4.0 | FIRE | 0.82 | Mfg. | 0.76 |
| FIRE | 630 | 6.2 | FIRE | 13,886 | 5.6 | Trade | 0.0 | Trade | 4.0 | Services | 0.81 | FIRE | 0.60 |
| Con. | 357 | 3.5 | Con. | 9,710 | 3.9 | Mfg. | -3.0 | Mfg. | 1.8 | Con. | 0.44 | Con. | 0.46 |
| OGM | 0 | 0.0 | OGM | 353 | 0.1 | OGM |  | Ag. | 1.0 | OGM | 0.00 | OGM | 0.08 |

Source: DOLA - Colorado Employment by Sector.

## Otero County Industry Growth 1991-2001

he 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 righthand quadrant includes industries in the county that had employment growth greater than the state average and income growth greater than the CPI.


## Otero 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 righthand quadrant includes industries with high employment concentration and income concentration.


| OTERO 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 | 1,247 | \$36.3 | 0\% | \$0.0 |
| Eating \& Drinking | 598 | 17.8 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Wholesale Trade | 498 | 28.9 | 9 | 2.6 |
| Hospitals | 490 | 35.3 | 32 | 11.3 |
| General Merchandise Stores | 409 | 13.3 | 50 | 6.7 |
| Residential Care | 401 | 11.9 | 87 | 10.4 |
| State \& Local Government - Non-Education | 385 | 13.5 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Nursing and Protective Care | 346 | 10.6 | 48 | 5.1 |
| Motor Freight Transport and Warehousing | 296 | 25.3 | 29 | 7.3 |
| Real Estate | 264 | 51.0 | 33 | 16.8 |
| Top Sectors by Production |  |  |  |  |
| Cattle Feedlots | 193 | \$64.3 | 84\% | \$54.0 |
| Real Estate | 264 | 51.0 | 33 | 16.8 |
| Banking | 245 | 50.4 | 57 | 28.7 |
| Pickles, Sauces and Salad Dressing | 211 | 49.7 | 100 | 49.7 |
| State \& Local Government - Education | 1,247 | 36.3 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Hospitals | 490 | 35.3 | 32 | 11.3 |
| Wholesale Trade | 498 | 28.9 | 9 | 2.6 |
| Top Primary Sectors |  |  |  |  |
| Cattle Feedlots | 193 | \$64.3 | 84\% | \$54.0 |
| Pickles, Sauces and Salad Dressing | 211 | 49.7 | 100 | 49.7 |
| Residential Care | 401 | 11.9 | 87 | 10.4 |
| Screw Machine Products and Bolts | 84 | 9.2 | 97 | 8.9 |
| Feed Grains, except Hay \& Pasture | 52 | 10.2 | 87 | 8.9 |
| Canned Fruits and Vegetables | 34 | 8.1 | 100 | 8.1 |
| Range Fed Cattle | 143 | 12.6 | 64 | 8.1 |
| Railroads and Related Services | 153 | 11.7 | 68 | 8.0 |
| Apparel Made From Purchased Materials | 94 | 10.2 | 75 | 7.7 |
| Industrial Machines, N.E.C. | 58 | 5.8 | 100 | 5.8 |

Source: Minnesota IMPLAN Group, Inc. (2000)

## Industry Summary

- Otero County's economy is based on traditional industries. Farming, railroads, light manufacturing, and food products are the main private industries. Wages in these industries are typically low, which is partly responsible for the county's high poverty rate ( $18 \%$ compared with $12 \%$ U.S. average).
- Schools and government operations are also a major employer in the county.
- There is a large Hispanic community in Otero compared with the Colorado average. A total of $37 \%$ of the residents are Hispanic, compared with $17 \%$ in Colorado overall. Most Hispanic workers are employed in the farm or food processing (e.g., pickles) industries - and wages are low.
- In general, Otero County is a traditional rural area with some local industry and a comparative advantage in farming and low wage employment. Like many rural counties, dramatic economic development is unlikely. Instead, the economy and population will grow gradually.

| OTERO COUNTY - CURRENT, TARGET, AND EMERGING GROWTH INDUSTRIES* |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Current | Target | Growth | Comments |
| Agriculture |  |  |  | According to the DOLA base industry study, $25.5 \%$ of basic jobs are agriculture related. Otero County produces corn for grain, dry beans, hay, sorghum, winter wheat, dairy products, and cattle. Market value of crops sold in 1997 was $\$ 21,288,000$. Value of livestock and products sold was $\$ 78,926,000$. The area has developed food manufacturing operations, including meat processing, salsa, pickles, and canned fruit and vegetables. |
| Animals | X | X |  |  |
| Crops | X | X | X |  |
| Dairy |  |  |  |  |
| Manufacturing |  |  |  |  |
| General | X | X | X | Sustainability and growth of the agricultural industry could be achieved through continued development of value-added food production targeting U.S. consumer preferences, including natural and organic foods. The county could also have a future potential for higher value bio-pharmaceutical crops and/or production facilities. |
| Computer Hardware/Storage |  |  |  |  |
| Photonics |  |  |  |  |
| Energy and Environmental |  |  |  | Future threats to the agricultural-based economy include the advanced age of farm owner-operators, and potential sale of agricultural water rights to urban areas. |
| Minerals, Gas/Petroleum |  |  |  |  |
| Renewable Energy |  |  |  | The area has no significant gas, oil, or renewable energy resources. |
| Environmental Industries |  |  |  |  |
| Transportation |  |  |  | Technology-based industries have no presence in this county and are not likely to develop in the future. |
| Air |  |  |  |  |
| Trucking |  |  |  | Having a broadband hub in the county, as a result of the MNT, could foster growth. |
| Rail |  |  |  | As an acknowledged hub of this region, there is an established financial services industry. |
| General |  |  |  |  |
| AerospacelSpace |  |  |  | While the county population declined in 2001 and shows almost no growth over the past decade, there is a substantial health-care sector. |
| Defense/Homeland Security |  |  |  |  |
| Telecommunications |  |  |  |  |
| Biotechnology |  |  |  | Despite the fact that Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site is in the county, tourism is not a major industry. |
| Nanotechnology |  |  |  | According to the DOLA base industry study, $2.3 \%$ of basic jobs are tourism related. <br> A total of five film projects were completed in the county during 2002. Two of these were filmed at Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site. Slight growth is anticipated in the future because of this site. |
| Services |  |  |  |  |
| Call Centers |  |  |  |  |
| Financial | X |  |  |  |
| Healthcare | X | X |  |  |
| Research and Development |  |  |  |  |
| Software |  |  |  |  |
| Tourism |  |  |  |  |
| Film | X | X |  |  |
| *Note: Definition of currenttarg | and eme | g grow | dustry | luded in introduction to this section. |

## PROWERS COUNTY



## PROWERS COUNTY RESOURCES

| Transportation |
| :--- |
| Commercial Service Airports: Lamar Municipal Airport |
| Geereral Aviation Airports: Holly 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: Lamar Community College |
| 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): 1326 |
| Gas Production (Million Cubic Feet): 788284 |
| 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 |


| PROWERS COUNTY OVERVIEW |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Prowers County | Colorado | US |  |  |  |
| People |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Population, 2001 estimate | 14,206 | $4,417,714$ | 284.8 M |  |  |  |
| Population percent change, April 1, 2000-July 1, 2001 | $-1.9 \%$ | $2.7 \%$ | $1.2 \%$ |  |  |  |
| Population, percent change, 1990 to 2000 | $8.5 \%$ | $30.6 \%$ | $13.1 \%$ |  |  |  |
| Persons under 18 years old, percent, 2000 | $30.0 \%$ | $25.6 \%$ | $25.7 \%$ |  |  |  |
| Persons 65 years old and over, percent, 2000 | $12.6 \%$ | $9.7 \%$ | $12.4 \%$ |  |  |  |
| White persons, percent, 2000 | $78.6 \%$ | $82.8 \%$ | $75.1 \%$ |  |  |  |
| Persons of Hispanic or Latino origin, percent, 2000* | $32.9 \%$ | $17.1 \%$ | $12.5 \%$ |  |  |  |
| Black or African American persons, percent, 2000 | $0.3 \%$ | $3.8 \%$ | $12.3 \%$ |  |  |  |
| American Indian and Alaska Native persons, percent, 2000 | $1.2 \%$ | $1.0 \%$ | $0.9 \%$ |  |  |  |
| Asian persons, percent, 2000 | $0.4 \%$ | $2.2 \%$ | $3.6 \%$ |  |  |  |
| Persons reporting some other race, percent, 2000 | $17.2 \%$ | $7.2 \%$ | $5.5 \%$ |  |  |  |
| High school graduates, percent of persons age 25+, 2000 | $72.0 \%$ | $86.9 \%$ | $80.4 \%$ |  |  |  |
| Bachelor's degree or higher, pct of persons age 25+, 2000 | $11.9 \%$ | $32.7 \%$ | $24.4 \%$ |  |  |  |
| Mean travel time to work, workers age 16+ (minutes), 2000 | 15.9 | 24.3 | 25.5 |  |  |  |
| Homeownership rate, 2000 | $66.2 \%$ | $67.3 \%$ | $66.2 \%$ |  |  |  |
| Median value of owner-occupied housing units, 2000 | $\$ 67,900$ | $\$ 166,600$ | $\$ 119,600$ |  |  |  |
| Median household money income, 1999 | $\$ 29,935$ | $\$ 47,203$ | $\$ 41,994$ |  |  |  |
| Per capita money income, 1999 | $\$ 14,150$ | $\$ 24,049$ | $\$ 21,587$ |  |  |  |
| Persons below poverty, percent, 1999 | $19.5 \%$ | $9.3 \%$ | $12.4 \%$ |  |  |  |
| Business |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Federal funds and grants, 2001 (\$1,000) | 90,735 | $24,344,658$ | 1.8 B |  |  |  |
| Geography |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Land area, 2000 (square miles) | 1,640 | 103,718 | 3.5 M |  |  |  |
| Persons per square mile, 2000 | 8.8 | 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 | 245 | $58.1 \%$ |
| $5-9$ Employees | 97 | $23.0 \%$ |
| $10-19$ Employees | 41 | $9.7 \%$ |
| $20-49$ Employees | 25 | $5.9 \%$ |
| $50-99$ Employees | 11 | $2.6 \%$ |
| $100-249$ Employees | 2 | $0.5 \%$ |
| $250-499$ Employees | 1 | $0.2 \%$ |
| $500-999$ Employees | 0 | $0.0 \%$ |
| $1,000+$ Employees | 0 | $0.0 \%$ |
| Total | 422 | $100.0 \%$ |


| OCCUPATIONS BY TYPE |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Occupation type | Number | Percent |
| Management, Professional, and Related | 1,754 | 26.3\% |
| Service | 1,060 | 15.9\% |
| Sales and Office | 1,526 | 22.8\% |
| Farming, Fishing, and Forestry | 456 | 6.8\% |
| Construction, Extraction, and Maintenance | 785 | 11.7\% |
| Production, Trans., and Material Moving | 1,100 | 16.5\% |


| HOUSEHOLDS BY INCOMELEVELS |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Income Bracket | Number | Percent |
| $<10,000$ | 704 | $13.2 \%$ |
| $\$ 10,000$ to $\$ 19,999$ | 977 | $18.3 \%$ |
| $\$ 20,000$ to $\$ 29,999$ | 988 | $18.6 \%$ |
| $\$ 30,000$ to $\$ 39,999$ | 791 | $14.9 \%$ |
| $\$ 40,000$ to $\$ 49,999$ | 632 | $11.9 \%$ |
| $\$ 50,000$ to $\$ 59,999$ | 389 | $7.3 \%$ |
| $\$ 60,000$ to $\$ 74,999$ | 377 | $7.1 \%$ |
| $\$ 75,000$ to $\$ 99,999$ | 254 | $4.8 \%$ |
| $\$ 100,000$ to $\$ 124,999$ | 100 | $1.9 \%$ |
| $\$ 125,000$ to $\$ 149,999$ | 55 | $1.0 \%$ |
| $\$ 150,000$ to $\$ 199,000$ | 18 | $0.3 \%$ |
| $\$ 200,000+$ | 40 | $0.8 \%$ |
| Total | 5,325 | $100.1 \%$ |


| WORKERS BY CLASS |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Worker Class | Number | Percent |
| Private | 4,816 | $72.1 \%$ |
| Government | 1,053 | $15.8 \%$ |
| Self Employed Non-Inc. | 788 | $11.8 \%$ |
| Unpaid Family | 24 | $0.4 \%$ |

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

| COUNTY ASSETS |  |  |  |  |  | Crowley |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Prowers | Baca | Bent | Kiowa | Otero |  |
| Commercial Airport | x |  |  |  |  |  |
| General Aviation Airport | x | x |  |  |  | x |
| Reliever Airport |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Interstate Highway |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| State Prison |  |  | x | x |  |  |
| Federal Facility |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Military Facility | x |  |  |  |  |  |
| Two-year College/University |  |  |  |  |  | x |
| Four-year College/University |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Private College/University |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $>25 \%$ of Population with Bachelor Degree |  |  | x |  |  |  |
| $>10,000$ employees |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Companies w/500+ employees |  |  |  |  |  | x |
| Manufacturing Shipments (1997) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ski Resorts |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Casinos/Gaming | x | x | x |  |  | x |
| National Parks/Sites |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Oil, Gas, CO2Production | x | x |  |  | x |  |
| Coal Production |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Wind Energy |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Biomass Potential |  |  |  |  |  |  |

## Prowers County Highlights

Population

- Prowers County is a rural and scarcely-populated area with about 14,000 residents. Most residents live in Lamar. The population has not grown as in other regions of the state. Only $8.5 \%$ more residents live in Prowers than in 1990.
- There is a large Latino population, with $32 \%$ of residents reporting a Hispanic heritage.

Income and Housing

- Like Bent County, incomes are dramatically low. Per-capita income is about $\$ 14,500 /$ year, compared with $\$ 24,000$ for Colorado.
- Housing prices match the income - median home prices were $\$ 67,000$.

Occupation, Class of Work, Establishment Size

- Most employment is government related, ranching and farming, or service-related. Establishments are small and class of work is typically trade-level. Most of the qualified work is in the health-care industry. Only three establishments are 100+ employees.
Transportation Infrastructure
- The Lamar Municipal Airport and intersection of Highway 50 and 287 make Lamar a small transport hub for SE Colorado State, Federal, or Military Facilities
- None

Education

- Lamar Community College serves about 1,000 students per year.


## Attractions

- There is a rich homesteading and ranching history in the county, but no major attractions to speak of.

Natural Resources

- Some natural gas deposits exist.

HISTORICAL ANALYSISOF EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME PROWERS COUNTY

| Employment and Income (2001) |  |  |  |  |  | CAGR 1991 to 2001 |  |  |  | Location Quotient (2001) |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Employment |  |  | Income |  |  | Employment |  | Income |  | Employment |  | Income |  |
|  |  | Share |  |  | Share |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Trade | 1,679 | 20.8\% | Gov. | \$48,543 | 20.6\% | Mfg. | 4.6\% | FIRE | 17.0\% | Ag. | 4.75 | Ag. | 14.74 |
| Gov. | 1,622 | 20.1 | Ag. | 48,254 | 20.5 | Ag. | 1.7 | Services | 9.8 | OGM | 2.30 | Gov. | 1.39 |
| Services | 1,432 | 17.7 | Services | 38,278 | 16.3 | Services | 1.6 | Mfg. | 8.7 | Mfg. | 1.57 | Mfg. | 1.30 |
| Ag. | 1,137 | 14.1 | Mfg. | 29,024 | 12.3 | FIRE | 0.7 | OGM | 6.8 | Gov. | 1.41 | OGM | 1.07 |
| Mfg. | 953 | 11.8 | Trade | 28,801 | 12.2 | Gov. | 0.7 | Gov. | 4.9 | Trade | 0.96 | FIRE | 0.92 |
| FIRE | 556 | 6.9 | FIRE | 20,299 | 8.6 | Trade | 0.7 | Ag. | 3.9 | FIRE | 0.92 | Trade | 0.85 |
| TCPU | 325 | 4.0 | TCPU | 11,388 | 4.8 | Con. | -1.1 | TCPU | 3.9 | TCPU | 0.69 | Services | 0.54 |
| Con. | 268 | 3.3 | Con. | 6,565 | 2.8 | TCPU | -1.2 | Trade | 2.8 | Services | 0.56 | TCPU | 0.49 |
| OGM | 116 | 1.4 | OGM | 4,306 | 1.8 | OGM | -5.3 | Con. | 0.1 | Con. | 0.41 | Con. | 0.33 |

## Prowers 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 righthand quadrant includes industries in the county that had employment growth greater than the state average and income growth greater than the CPI.


## Prowers 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 righthand quadrant includes industries with high employment concentration and income concentration.

| PROWERS 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 | 849 | \$28.8 | 0\% | \$0.0 |
| Motor Vehicles | 621 | 337.4 | 54 | 182.2 |
| State \& Local Government - Non-Education | 550 | 16.8 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Eating \& Drinking | 446 | 13.7 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Hay and Pasture | 436 | 12.5 | 86 | 10.8 |
| General Merchandise Stores | 363 | 12.1 | 57 | 6.9 |
| Insurance Agents and Brokers | 307 | 12.0 | 99 | 11.9 |
| Wholesale Trade | 286 | 18.6 | 9 | 1.7 |
| Automotive Dealers \& Service Stations | 254 | 12.7 | 27 | 3.4 |
| Doctors and Dentists | 221 | 41.3 | 60 | 24.8 |
| Top Sectors by Production |  |  |  |  |
| Motor Vehicles | 621 | \$337.4 | 54\% | \$182.2 |
| Cattle Feedlots | 168 | 93.0 | 85 | 79.1 |
| Doctors and Dentists | 221 | 41.3 | 60 | 24.8 |
| State \& Local Government - Education | 849 | 28.8 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Feed Grains, except Hay \& Pasture | 49 | 23.4 | 88 | 20.6 |
| Prepared Feeds, N.E.C | 62 | 22.7 | 100 | 22.7 |
| Refrigeration and Heating Equipment | 124 | 22.3 | 60 | 13.4 |
| Top Primary Sectors |  |  |  |  |
| Motor Vehicles | 621 | \$337.4 | 54\% | \$182.2 |
| Cattle Feedlots | 168 | 93.0 | 85 | 79.1 |
| Prepared Feeds, N.E.C | 62 | 22.7 | 100 | 22.7 |
| Feed Grains, except Hay \& Pasture | 49 | 23.4 | 88 | 20.6 |
| Refrigeration and Heating Equipment | 124 | 22.3 | 60 | 13.4 |
| Miscellaneous Plastics Products | 80 | 12.4 | 99 | 12.3 |
| Hay and Pasture | 436 | 12.5 | 86 | 10.8 |
| Natural Gas \& Crude Petroleum | 58 | 17.5 | 61 | 10.7 |
| Food Grains | 87 | 10.0 | 100 | 10.0 |
| Ranch Fed Cattle | 54 | 8.6 | 85 | 7.3 |
| Vegetables | 15 | 4.6 | 89 | 4.1 |

Source: Minnesota IMPLAN Group, Inc. (2000)

## Industry Summary

- Prowers County is a rural agrarian county. The economy is based upon farming and ranching, as well as natural gas extraction. Lamar Community College, regional hospitals, and schools are major government employers. Like neighboring Bent County, Prowers has an unusually high poverty rate, at 19.5\%.
- The core economy is dominated by agriculture and agricultural related industries, such as cattle ranching, grains farming, and feedlots. Since Lamar is a relatively large community, sales of motor vehicles are centered here, as well as transportation and education-related services.
- Prospects for growth industries and high technology are not likely in this county. Some potential exists if Lamar is considered a regional hub, educational source, and shopping center.

| PROWERS COUNTY - CURRENT, TARGET, AND EMERGING GROWTH INDUSTRIES* |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Current | Target | Growth | Comments |
| Agriculture |  |  |  | Prowers County ranks second in the state's production of alfalfa hay and grain sorghum. It also produces barley, corn, and winter wheat. The area ranked high among counties in total cattle and calf inventories as of January 2003. Market value of agricultural products sold in 1997 was $\$ 150,677,000$, with $\$ 42,522,000$ generated from crops and $\$ 108,154,000$ from livestock and products. The county also produces some vegetables. According to the DOLA base industry study, $26 \%$ of basic jobs are agriculture related, with only $2.7 \%$ attributed to processing. |
| Animals | X | X |  |  |
| Crops | X | X | X |  |
| Dairy |  |  |  |  |
| Manufacturing |  |  |  |  |
| General | X | X | X |  |
| Computer Hardware/Storage |  |  |  | The area could retain and possibly increase the economic benefits from agricultural production by developing natural and organic products, as well as value-added meat and food production capabilities. The county could also have a future potential for corn-based bio-pharmaceutical crops and/or production facilities. Future threats to the agricultural-based economy include the sale of agricultural water rights to urban areas. |
| Photonics |  |  |  |  |
| Energy and Environmental |  |  |  |  |
| Minerals, Gas/Petroleum | X | X |  |  |
| Renewable Energy | X | X |  | According to the DOLA base industry study, $14 \%$ of basic jobs are manufacturing related. There are opportunities to build on strengths in transportation equipment manufacturing. |
| Environmental Industries |  |  |  |  |
| Transportation |  |  |  |  |
| Air |  |  |  | The county produces some oil and natural gas. Recent development of a wind farm will tap into the area's potential for renewable energy and result in economic benefits from maintenance jobs, lease payments, and tax revenues. Wind rating is " 4 " or "good." |
| Trucking |  |  |  |  |
| Rail |  |  |  |  |
| General |  |  |  | Technology-based industries have no presence in this county and are not likely to develop in the future. Having a broadband hub in the county, as a result of the MNT, could foster growth. |
| AerospacelSpace |  |  |  |  |
| Defense/Homeland Security |  |  |  |  |
| Telecommunications |  |  |  | Other basic jobs are provided by government and education, notably Lamar Community College. Health services also provide local job opportunities; however, low population growth does not suggest a demand for growth in this sector. |
| Biotechnology |  |  |  |  |
| Nanotechnology |  |  |  |  |
| Services |  |  |  | Tourism is not a major industry in the county. According to the DOLA base industry study, only $5.5 \%$ of basic jobs are tourism related. |
| Call Centers |  |  |  |  |
| Financial |  |  |  |  |
| Healthcare | X | X |  | Film is not a major industry in the county. |
| Research and Development |  |  |  |  |
| Software |  |  |  |  |
| Tourism |  |  |  |  |
| Film |  |  |  |  |
| *Note: Definition of current targ | and emers | g grow | dustry | luded in introduction to this section. |

