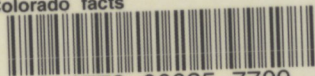


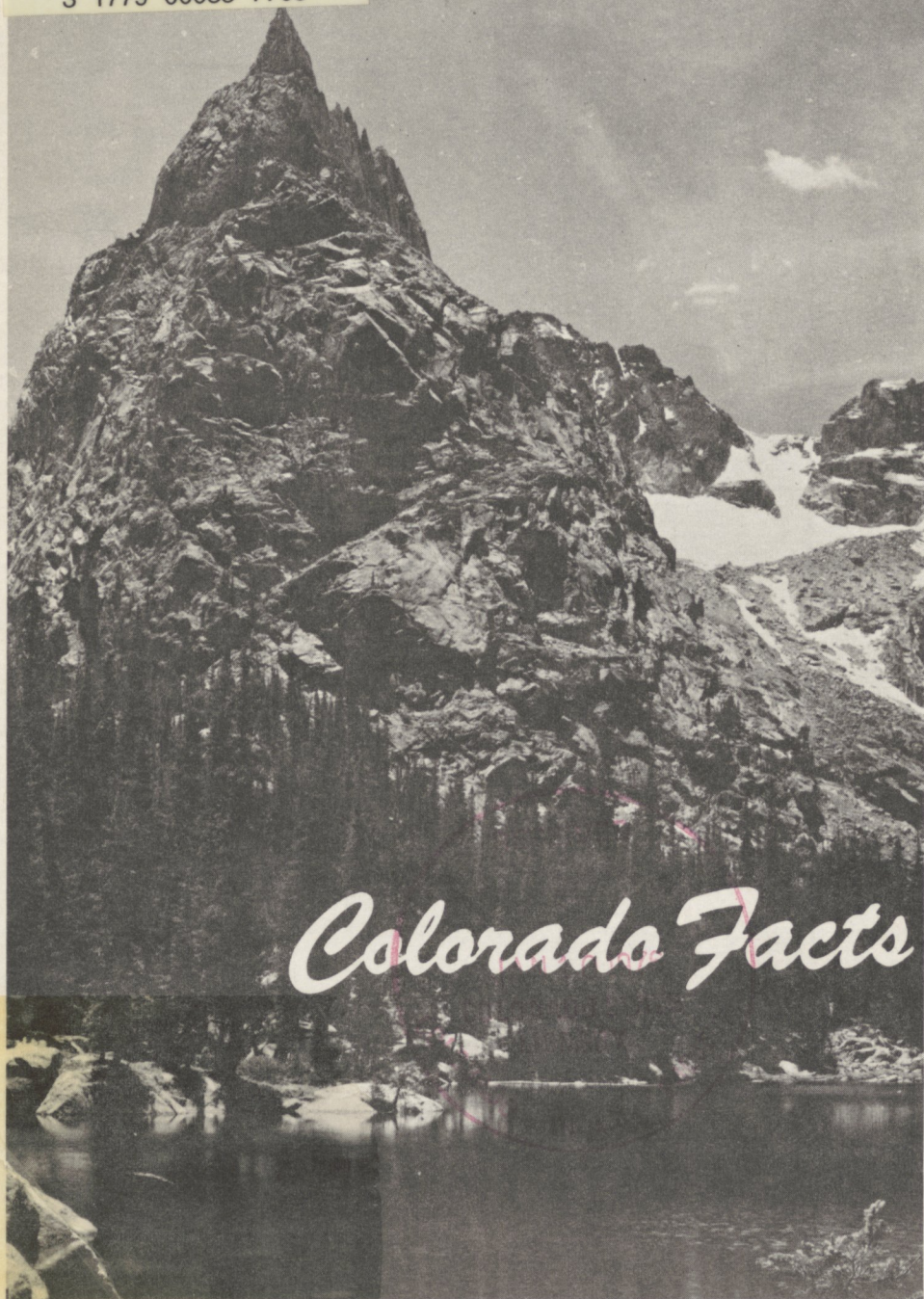
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# Colorado Facts



## "**COLORADO FACTS**"

The following information has been compiled in order to answer the most frequently asked questions about our state:

### **Climate and Topography**

Because of Colorado's varied topography, her climate is varied also. Generally speaking, it is a mild semi-arid climate. The eastern half of the state is alluvial high plains; the western half is a land of mountains and plateaus and some of the most magnificent scenery in the United States. With 54 peaks over 14,000 feet high, the state's average elevation is 6,800 feet. The lowest point is 3,350 feet and the highest is 14,433, atop Mount Elbert. Denver is at 5,280 feet (thus the name "Mile High City").

Midday temperatures often reach the high 80's and 90's in the summertime; however, due to Colorado's low humidity most people remain comfortable. Air conditioning is seldom necessary.

While the first snows may occur in early September, they soon disappear under the warm, bright sun, and Indian Summer may last well into December. Then winter comes in earnest to the high country. But at lower elevations, where the largest concentration of the population lives, winters are fairly mild and snow seldom stays on the ground more than a few days.

**THE COVER**  
**Lone Eagle Peak**

	AVERAGE TEMPERATURE (°F)		PRECIPITATION (INCHES)	
	January	July	Total	Total Snowfall
Alamosa	17.4	64.9	6.56	27.5
Burlington	29.7	75.5	16.35	24.8
Canon City	36.6	75.8	12.66	36.6
Colorado Springs	28.6	70.5	13.19	37.8
Cortez	27.5	71.3	13.20	39.2
Delta	26.4	74.8	7.75	19.3
Denver	32.6	74.4	12.89	55.4
Durango	25.3	67.0	18.04	65.4
Fort Collins	26.6	71.0	14.19	42.9
Fort Morgan	24.3	73.9	12.86	26.0
Glenwood Springs	24.8	71.1	18.03	66.6
Grand Junction	26.0	78.2	8.29	28.6
Greeley	24.1	73.7	11.12	32.3
Gunnison	11.4	62.3	11.00	54.1
Lamar	29.9	79.1	14.20	24.9
Leadville	17.9	56.9	18.48	124.7
Montrose	26.5	73.3	9.11	32.2
Pueblo	30.0	76.5	11.84	32.6
Rifle	23.2	71.0	10.93	36.9
Rocky Ford	30.0	76.8	12.31	23.1
Steamboat Springs	15.1	62.0	23.47	163.8
Sterling	24.8	73.9	14.10	31.2

### Spectator Sports and Cultural Activities

Both professional and college sports are very popular in Colorado. The University of Colorado, with traditional rivals in Oklahoma and Nebraska, is in the Big 8 Conference, and Colorado State University is a member of the Western Athletic Conference. Of course, the U.S. Air Force Academy's traditional rival is Army.

The University of Denver hockey team and the hockey unit from Colorado College are among the nation's best. Denver also has professional baseball, football, basketball, and hockey.

Colorado's cultural community is broadly developed, with the Aspen Music Festival and other summer institutes, Central City Play Festival, Denver Symphony Orchestra, Colorado Springs Symphony Orchestra, Pueblo Civic Symphony, Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, Denver Art Museum, Sangre De Cristo Arts and Conference Center (in Pueblo), as well as others. Stock companies and touring Broadway shows offer much to theater patrons. Many smaller communities have active theater groups, community orchestras, and arts and crafts programs.

## **Recreation**

Outdoor recreation is unusually varied in Colorado: trout and warm-water fishing, big and small game hunting, picnicking and camping in the Rockies, water sports, tennis, golf and skiing.

Colorado has some 30 major ski areas, featuring excellent snow conditions, varied terrain, and spectacular scenery. Most ski areas are open from November through April.

Golf is played in many cities in Colorado more than 300 days out of the year. Outdoor tennis courts can be found in most communities, and indoor courts are available in many cities and resort areas.

For further information contact: U.S. Forest Service, Rocky Mtn. Regional Office, Denver Federal Center, Denver, Colorado; National Park Service, P.O. Box 26248, Lakewood, Colorado 80226; U.S. Geological Survey, Map Sales, Denver Federal Center, Denver, Colorado 80225; Colorado Division of Wildlife, 6060 Broadway, Denver, Colorado 80216; Colorado Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation, 1313 Sherman, Room 618, Denver, Colorado 80203; Colorado Ski Country U.S.A., 1461 Larimer Square, Denver, Colorado 80202.

## **Schools and Education**

In 1975-76 there were 568,900 students enrolled in Colorado public elementary and secondary schools and approximately 34,500 students enrolled in private elementary and secondary schools. The student-to-teacher ratio in public schools was 20.2:1. Financial support for public schools is provided by state revenues and local property taxes. Colorado follows the philosophy of local control of schools, and additional information on schools may be obtained from school district offices.

To receive information about teaching certification requirements in Colorado, contact the Colorado Department of Education, 530 State Office Building, Denver, Colorado 80203.

## **Colleges and Universities**

There are 16 four-year colleges and universities in Colorado, including the Air Force Academy, with a combined 1975 fall enrollment of 111,310 students. In addition, there are 12 two-year colleges with a 1975 enrollment of 39,281. A listing of these schools, their location and enrollment follows:

#### **Four-year State Supported**

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO in Boulder with 21,618 students is the largest university in the state. Graduate programs are offered in arts, business administration, education, engineering, humanities, law, mathematics, medicine, and science with Ph.D. offerings in many of the same areas. There are 8,097 additional students enrolled in the Denver Center, 3,288 in the Colorado Springs Center, and 1,426 at the Medical School in Denver.

COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY in Fort Collins has 16,809 students in its colleges: agriculture, business, engineering, forestry and natural resources, home economics, humanities and social sciences, natural sciences, veterinary medicine and biomedical sciences.

UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN COLORADO in Greeley, has 10,829 students. It specializes in teacher training and education.

METROPOLITAN STATE COLLEGE in Denver, with 12,197 students, offers programs of instruction in semi-professional technical education in science and engineering technology, as well as liberal arts curriculum.

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN COLORADO in Pueblo, with 5,959 students, offers BA and BS degrees and a two-year trade technical-vocational program.

WESTERN STATE COLLEGE in Gunnison has 3,291 students. It specializes in education and liberal arts and offers graduate and undergraduate degrees.

MESA COLLEGE in Grand Junction has 3,285 students. It offers both four-year and two-year degrees.

ADAMS STATE COLLEGE in Alamosa, is a liberal arts college with a current enrollment of 2,825 offering both undergraduate and graduate degrees.

FORT LEWIS COLLEGE in Durango, a four-year liberal arts school with 2,807 students, operates on a trimester program. It offers a "pre-professional" program in agriculture, engineering, and forestry.

COLORADO SCHOOL OF MINES in Golden is the nation's oldest and largest center for mineral resources education with 2,204 students. Graduate degrees are offered in the areas of chemical and petroleum refining engineering, geological, geophysical, metallurgical, mining, and petroleum engineering.

### **Four-year Private**

UNIVERSITY OF DENVER is the largest private university in the eight Mountain States with a current enrollment of 7,708. The University offers degrees in arts, business, education, humanities, law, mathematics, science, and theology.

THE COLORADO COLLEGE in Colorado Springs is a private, co-educational college specializing in arts and sciences. Programs in pre-engineering, business administration and the humanities are also offered. Current enrollment is 1,882 students.

REGIS COLLEGE in Denver is a Catholic college of liberal arts and sciences with an enrollment of 1,094.

LORETTO HEIGHTS COLLEGE is a four-year Catholic college of arts and sciences in Denver. Current enrollment is 780.

COLORADO WOMEN'S COLLEGE in Denver has an enrollment of 637 and specializes in the liberal arts.

### **National Service Academy**

U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, located near Colorado Springs, has 4,574 students.

### **Two-Year Private**

COLORADO ALPINE COLLEGE in Steamboat Springs offers the first two years of college in the United States International University's grade 11-14 program. It has an enrollment of about 70 students.

### **Two-Year State-Supported Colleges**

Colorado's 11 two-year state-supported colleges, with 14 campuses, offer vocational and technical programs and associate degrees for transfer to four-year institutions:

#### **COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF**

DENVER (3 campuses) .....	Denver, Lakewood .....	14,292
EL PASO COMMUNITY COLLEGE ...	Colorado Springs .....	6,007
ARAPAHOE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	Littleton .....	4,740
AIMS COLLEGE .....	Greeley .....	3,323

COLO. MOUNTAIN COLLEGE . . . . .	Glenwood Springs & Leadville . . . . .	1,395
TRINIDAD STATE JR. COLLEGE . . . . .	Trinidad . . . . .	1,305
NORTHEASTERN JR. COLLEGE . . . . .	Sterling . . . . .	1,147
OTERO JUNIOR COLLEGE . . . . .	La Junta . . . . .	841
MORGAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE . . . . .	Fort Morgan . . . . .	580
LAMAR COMMUNITY COLLEGE . . . . .	Lamar . . . . .	401
COLO. NORTHWESTERN COM. COL. . . . .	Rangely . . . . .	236

### **Military Installations**

The principal military installations in Colorado include the Army's Ft. Carson mechanized infantry division south of Colorado Springs, with about 21,000 officers and enlisted men; Lowry Air Force Base in Denver, with about 10,000 personnel; the Peterson Air Force Base-North American Air Defense Command complex in Colorado Springs, with about 5,300 military personnel; the U.S. Air Force Academy, also in Colorado Springs (7,000 personnel); the Air National Guard's Buckley Field, in Denver; and the Fitzsimmons Army Medical Center, also in Denver.

### **Population**

The State's 1976 population is estimated to be 2,580,000. Colorado's 1970 population was 2,207,259, having grown 26% since 1960. Nearly half of the population growth of 453,312 from 1960 to 1970 was due to the migration of new residents to Colorado. Although the State's total population increased, 32 of the State's 63 counties lost population over the same period. In 1970, people of Spanish surname comprised 13% of Colorado's population, while Blacks made up 3%.

The majority of Colorado's population growth occurred in the cities along the Front Range of the Rocky Mountains. In 1975, 81% of the State's population lived in the five metropolitan areas of Denver-Boulder (1,404,000), Colorado Springs (292,000), Pueblo (125,000), Fort Collins (121,000), and Greeley (108,000).



**POPULATION OF COLORADO CITIES & TOWNS (1973)**

**EASTERN PLAINS**

Akron	1,740	Las Animas	2,880
Brush	3,810	Limon	1,940
Burlington	3,030	Rocky Ford	4,840
Fort Lupton	2,810	Springfield	1,690
Fort Morgan	8,010	Sterling	10,710
Holyoke	1,650	Trinidad	9,990
Julesburg	1,570	Walsenburg	4,320
La Junta	8,060	Wray	1,910
Lamar	8,010	Yuma	2,330

**MOUNTAINS & PLATEAU**

Alamosa	6,950	Grand Junction	25,740
Aspen	3,120	Gunnison	5,080
Buena Vista	2,070	Leadville	4,420
Cortez	6,280	Meeker	1,890
Craig	4,440	Monte Vista	3,580
Delta	3,540	Montrose	6,710
Durango	10,990	Pagosa Springs	1,430
Fruita	2,100	Rifle	2,030
Glenwood Springs	4,640	Salida	5,140
		Steamboat Springs	2,560

**FRONT RANGE**

Arvada	59,900	Golden	11,720
Aurora	93,200	Greeley	44,870
Boulder	75,250	Lakewood	106,480
Brighton	10,710	Littleton	31,680
Canon City	11,770	Longmont	29,570
Colorado Springs	175,750	Loveland	22,680
Denver	515,600	Northglenn	31,670
Englewood	38,860	Pueblo	102,830
Fort Collins	55,680	Wheat Ridge	30,350

## **Taxes and Government**

The main support for State government in Colorado comes from income and sales taxes. At the local level, property taxes provide the main support. About one-half of State government expenditures go for primary, secondary and higher education; health and social services take almost one-fifth; and highways one-tenth. One-quarter goes for all other state government functions.

Individual income tax rates range from 2½% on the first \$1,000 of taxable income to 8% of income over \$10,000. Individuals with income from intangibles pay a 2% surtax on the gross amount after a \$5,000 exemption. A \$750 per dependent exemption is allowed plus the full amount of federal taxes.

There is a state sales and use tax of 3%. Cities and counties are also permitted to levy a sales tax, which ranges from zero in some areas of the state to 3½% in others. Local property tax mill levies vary throughout the state. The county assessor in the county of interest to you can provide the current mill levies for the county which he serves. Address inquiries to: County Assessor, (County Seat), Colorado, (Zip). Private real property except business inventories is assessed at 30% of actual value. However, all business inventories are assessed at 5% of actual value. Non-income producing household furnishings and personal effects are tax exempt.

## **Residence Requirements**

Legal residence in Colorado is a matter of intent; one need only move here to be considered a legal resident of the state. To be a voting resident one must live within the state for 32 days and the precinct for 15 days, and be registered with the proper agency. Registration is made with the County Clerk or the Election Commission depending upon the area. Non-partisan information on state and local politics may be obtained from the League of Women Voters, 1375 Delaware St., Denver 80204.

To qualify for in-state tuition for state institutions of higher education, students (or their parents if they are under 21) must establish domicile in the State and indicate their intent to remain, for a period of 12 months. Tax returns, vehicle registration and driver's license, and voter registration are among the records used to determine domicile and intent to remain.

A Colorado driver's license and motor vehicle registration must be obtained within 30 days after becoming a resident. For this purpose, a resident is anyone employed or operating a business in Colorado, or residing in Colorado continuously for 90 days. Active military personnel and their dependents, and students are exempt if they are at least 16 years old and have a valid license

from their state of residence. For further information, contact Colorado Division of Motor Vehicles, 140 W. 6th Ave., Denver 80204.

### **Housing**

Local newspapers are among the best sources of information on current housing rates and availability. Copies of the major, daily Colorado newspapers may be available through your local newsstand or public library, or you may wish to subscribe to them directly. The real estate board covering the area of the state you are interested in can provide a list of realtors that you may wish to contact. To receive a current list of local real estate boards, address your inquiries to: Colorado Association of Real Estate Boards, Suite 302, 909 17th Street, Denver, Colorado 80202.

### **Newspapers**

The major daily Colorado newspapers are: Alamosa, *San Luis Valley Courier*; Aspen, *Aspen Times*; Boulder, *Boulder Daily Camera*; Canon City, *Canon City Daily Record*; Colorado Springs, *Gazette Telegraph, Sun*; Craig, *Northwest Colorado Press*; Denver, *Denver Post, Rocky Mountain News*; Durango, *Durango Herald*; Fort Collins, *Fort Collins Coloradoan*; Fort Morgan, *Fort Morgan Times*; Grand Junction, *Daily Sentinel*; Greeley, *Greeley Daily Tribune*; La Junta, *La Junta Tribune Democrat*; Lamar, *Lamar Daily News*; Leadville, *Herald Democrat*; Loveland, *Daily Reporter Herald*; Montrose, *Daily Press*; Pueblo, *Star-Journal, The Chieftain*; Sterling, *Journal Advocate*; Trinidad, *Chronicle News*. Requests for newspapers should be addressed to the publisher in the city in which they appear.

### **Employment Opportunities**

Because of the large number of occupations and changing labor market conditions, we are unable to maintain listings of job opportunities or wage rates. Information can be obtained by writing Colorado Division of Employment, 1210 Sherman Street, Denver 80203, Attention: Clearance Department. Please state age, educational background, and job experience in detail. Personal interviews are usually required by Colorado employers.

Local newspapers are good sources for learning of current employment opportunities in the area in which you are interested, and the Yellow Pages of Colorado phone books contain names of companies in particular lines of business. For information on federal, state, and local government jobs, contact Intergovernmental Job Information Center, U.S. Post Office, Denver 80202. Information on occupations requiring a Colorado license may be obtained from the Colorado Department of Regulatory Agencies, State Services Building, Denver 80203.

There are many seasonal jobs available in Colorado in the resorts that cater to the visitors to our state. Summer jobs are usually spoken for by March or April at the latest, and winter jobs by August or September. Many of the summer resorts recruit through the Colorado Division of Employment. You may also contact resorts or ski areas directly.

### **Business Opportunities**

Due to the large number and varying nature of possible business opportunities available in Colorado, we are unable to maintain listings of these opportunities in the state. We suggest contacting the chamber of commerce in the community in which you are interested. Address inquiries to: Manager, Chamber of Commerce, (City), Colorado, (Zip). Local newspapers are good sources for learning current business opportunities in the area in which you are interested.

### **Land Sales**

No State agency is in a position to endorse land sales in Colorado. However, it is strongly recommended that land, as with any other commodity, be investigated prior to purchase, preferably by an on-site inspection. An effort should be made to assure that clear title exists for the land in question.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development is a federal government agency for consumer protection on interstate land sales. Address your inquiries to: Office of Interstate Land Sales Registration, Department of Housing and Urban Development, Washington, D.C., 20411. Often local chambers of commerce are able to provide additional information as are the local newspapers.

There is no free land available for homesteading in Colorado. For information on public domain lands, contact U.S. Bureau of Land Management, 1600 Broadway, Denver 80202.

### **Retirement**

Colorado has many areas suitable for those retired persons living within a limited income. The State of Colorado, Department of Social Services, Division of Services to the Aging, 1575 Sherman Street, Denver, Colorado 80203, maintains a listing of non-profit housing throughout the state and can supply the address of the appropriate agency in the area in which you are interested. The chamber of commerce in the city of your interest may be able to provide additional information.

### **Cost of Living**

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates the cost of an intermediate budget for a family of four in selected metropolitan areas as follows:

**ANNUAL COSTS OF AN INTERMEDIATE BUDGET  
FOR A 4-PERSON FAMILY, AUTUMN 1975**

	Index, U.S. = 100		
	Budget	Food	Housing
Boston, MASS.	\$18,090	108	138
New York-NE N.J.	17,498	113	123
San Francisco-Oakland, CALIF.	16,415	100	114
Hartford, CONN.	16,314	108	117
Milwaukee, WIS.	16,293	93	112
Buffalo, NY	16,283	102	107
Washington D.C.-MD-VA	15,890	102	103
Chicago, ILL., NW-ILL.	15,712	100	107
Minneapolis-St. Paul, MINN.	15,709	98	98
Detroit, MICH.	15,701	99	104
Seattle-Everett, WASH.	15,630	103	109
Cleveland, OHIO	15,570	99	106
Philadelphia, PA-NJ	15,689	111	96
Urban United States	15,318	100	100
Baltimore, MD	15,226	97	90
Los Angeles-Long Beach, CALIF.	15,186	96	97
Indianapolis, IND.	15,090	97	99
San Diego, CALIF.	15,036	93	97
Durham, NC	14,871	95	91
Kansas City, MO-KANS	14,868	95	91
St. Louis, MO-ILL.	14,805	101	92
Denver, COLO.	14,724	95	88
Cincinnati, OHIO-KY-IND.	14,645	98	93
Pittsburgh, PA	14,587	103	96
Atlanta, GA	14,166	98	83
Houston, TX	14,020	97	83
Dallas, TX	13,924	92	86

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

An index to measure cost of living differences between cities developed by the American Chamber of Commerce Researchers Association shows the following 1975-76 averages for other Colorado cities (U.S. average = 100): Aspen - 135.1; Colorado Springs - 91.1; Denver - 99.8; Fort Collins - 91.3; Grand Junction - 93.9; Pueblo - 89.2. Although data are not available for many of the cities in rural Colorado, most may be expected to have their total costs of living below the national average.

### **Division of Commerce and Development**

The Division of Commerce and Development promotes tourism and economic development throughout Colorado. The Division provides basic assistance to industries considering expansion into rural Colorado by supplying information and analyses on the state, its resources, and its economy.

At no time does the State of Colorado or any state division make loans or participate in loan-making operations. Local offices of the Small Business Administration, the Economic Development Administration, the Farmers Home Administration, or the Office of Minority Business Enterprise should be contacted directly.

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES:**

Aspen Chamber & Visitors Bureau  
P.O. Box 739  
Aspen, CO 81611  
(303) 925-2963

Colorado Visitors Bureau  
225 West Colfax Ave.  
Denver, CO 80202  
(303) 892-1112

Boulder Chamber of Commerce  
1001 Canyon Blvd.  
Boulder, CO 80302  
(303) 442-1044

Colorado State Historical Society  
200 East 14th Avenue  
Denver, CO 80203  
(303) 892-2136

Colorado Springs Chamber of Commerce  
P.O. Drawer B  
Colorado Springs, CO 80901  
(303) 635-1551

Colorado Ski Country U.S.A.  
1461 Larimer Square  
Denver, CO 80202  
(303) 893-2201 (winter only)

Denver Chamber of Commerce  
1301 Welton St.  
Denver, CO 80204  
(303) 534-3211

Colorado State Patrol  
4201 E. Arkansas Ave.  
Denver, CO 80222

Fort Collins Area Chamber of Commerce  
Post Office Box D  
Fort Collins, CO 80521  
(303) 482-3746

Director of Communications  
National Asthma Center  
1999 Julian St.  
Denver, CO 80204

Grand Junction Chamber of Commerce  
P.O. Box 1330  
Grand Junction, CO 81501

Colorado Division of Employment  
1210 Sherman St.  
Denver, CO 80203  
(303) 893-2400

Greeley Chamber of Commerce  
P.O. Box CC  
Greeley, CO 80631  
(303) 352-3566

(Denver-Boulder public transportation)  
Regional Transportation District  
350 So. Santa Fe Drive  
Denver, CO 80223  
(303) 778-6000

Pueblo Chamber of Commerce  
Third & Santa Fe  
Pueblo, CO 81002

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