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THE COVER

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# LIVING AND WORKING IN COLORADO

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 climate, almost semi-arid. Many major motion pictures and television programs have been filmed in Colorado because of the varied and unlimited locations available in the state and the ideal climatic conditions for perfect photography.

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 14,431 feet, 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. For example, none of the Air Force installations in the state are required to have air conditioning (and the regulations covering this are very strict), nor does the Titan III Standard Launch Vehicle production area of the Martin Marietta Corporation require air conditioning.

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.

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

Detailed information on Colorado's climate is available for \$0.15 from the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C., 20402, under the title: Climates of the States: Colorado.

# 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, 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 little theater groups that are quite active.

#### Recreation

Outdoor recreation is unusually varied in this playground paradise: trout and warm-water fishing, big and small game hunting, picnicking and camping in the Rockies, water sports, tennis, golf and skiing. Skiing is many things in Colorado: a way of life, a highly refined art, a pleasant pastime. One thing for sure, skiing here is skiing at its finest. Nowhere else are conditions so good and so varied and ski areas so available.

Golf is played in many cities in Colorado more than 300 days out of the year. According to many of the pros, Denver has the best golfing weather in the nation from May through November.

#### Schools and Education

In 1972-1973 there were 577,600 students enrolled in Colorado public elementary and secondary schools and approximately 40,500 students enrolled in private elementary and secondary schools. In the fall of 1971, the most recent year for which data is available, the student to teacher ratio in public schools was the same as the national average of 23:1. Colorado per capita expenditure on education is also approximately the same as the national average.

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 1972 fall enrollment of 103,544 students. In addition, there are 13 two-year colleges with a 1972 enrollment of 27,089. A listing of these schools, their location and enrollment follows:

Four-year State Supported

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO in Boulder with 22,053 students is the largest university in the state. Graduate programs are offered in arts, business administration, education, engineering, humanities, mathematics, and science, with Ph.D. offerings in many of the same areas. There are 6,872 additional students enrolled in the Denver Center and 2,603 in the Colorado Springs Center

COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY in Fort Collins has 16,653 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 10,692 students. It specializes in teacher training and education.

METROPOLITAN STATE COLLEGE in Denver, with 8,750 students, offers programs of instruction in semi-professional technical education in science and engineering technology, as well as a liberal arts curriculum.

SOUTHERN COLORADO STATE COLLEGE in Pueblo, with 6,328 students, offers BA and BS degrees and a two-year trade technical-vocational program.

WESTERN STATE COLLEGE in Gunnison has 3,156 students. It specializes in education and liberal arts and offers graduate and undergraduate degrees.

ADAMS STATE COLLEGE in Alamosa, is a liberal arts college with a current enrollment of 2,800, offering both undergraduate and graduate degrees.

FORT LEWIS COLLEGE in Durango, a four-year liberal arts school with 2,506 students, operates on a tri-mester 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 1,688 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 8,936. The University offers degrees in arts, business, education, engineering, 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 1,832 students.

REGIS COLLEGE in Denver is a Catholic college of liberal arts and sciences with an enrollment of 1,485.

TEMPLE BUELL COLLEGE in Denver has an enrollment of 914 and specializes in the liberal arts.

LORETTO HEIGHTS COLLEGE is a four-year Catholic college of arts and sciences in Denver. Current enrollment is 809.

COLORADO ALPINE COLLEGE in Steamboat Springs offers the first two years of the four-year United States International University. It has an enrollment of 68 students.

# National Service Academy

U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, located near Colorado Springs, has 4,201 students.

# Two-year State Supported Colleges

College	City	Students
College of the Canoni El Paso	sCanon City	100
Community College	eColorado Springs	3,200
of Denver	Denver & Lakew	ood 8,069
Morgan County Community College	eFort Morgan	713

Colorado Mountain	Glenwood Springs	
College	& Leadville 902	
Mesa College	Grand Junction 3,200	
Aims College	Greeley 3,174	
Otero		
Junior College	La Junta 776	
Lamar		
Community College	Lamar 600	
Arapahoe		
Community College	Littleton 2,377	
Rangely College	Rangely 215	
Northeastern		
Junior College	Sterling 1,988	
Trinidad State		
Junior College	Trinidad 1,407	

Those interested in attending Colorado colleges or universities should contact those schools of interest to them for admission requirements. Address inquiries to: Office of Admissions, (College or University), (City), Colorado, (Zip).

## Population

The State's 1973 population is estimated to be 2,419,600, Colorado's 1970 population was 2,207,259, having grown 26% since 1960. Although the State's total population increased, 32 counties lost population over the same period. Colorado's population increase of 453,312 from 1960 through 1970 was due partially to 220,000 new residents who migrated to Colorado, but 40 counties actually experienced net out migration. In 1970 the three largest metropolitan areas in Colorado were the Denver SMSA (1,227,529), Colorado Springs SMSA (235,972), and Pueblo (118,238).

The majority of Colorado's population growth occurred in the cities along the Front Range of the Rocky Mountains: Boulder (66,870), Brighton (8,309), Canon City (9,206), Colorado Springs (135,060), Denver (514,678), Fort Collins (43,337), Golden (9,817), Greeley (38,902), Longmont (23,209), Loveland (16,220), Pueblo (97,453).

Other large cities and communities in the more rural areas of the state include: Akron (1,775), Alamosa (6,985), Aspen (2,404), Brush (3,377), Buena Vista (1,962), Burlington (2,828), Cortez (6,032), Craig (4,205), Delta (3,694), Durango (10,333),

Evans (2,570), Fort Lupton (2,489), Fort Morgan (7,594), Fruita (1,882), Glenwood Springs (4,106), Grand Junction (20,170), Gunnison (4,613), Holyoke (1,640), La Junta (7,938), Lamar (7,797), Las Animas (3,148), Leadville (4,314), Limon (1,814), Meeker (1,597), Monte Vista (3,909), Montrose (6,496), Rifle (2,150), Rocky Ford (4,859), Salida (4,355), Springfield (1,660), Steamboat Springs (2,340), Sterling (10,636), Trinidad (9,901), Walsenburg (4,329), Wray (1,953), Yuma (2,259).

#### 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. During fiscal year 1970-71, two-fifths of State government expenditures went for primary, secondary and higher education, while health, welfare and rehabilitation took one-fifth and highways took one-fifth. One-fifth went for all other state government functions including correctional, mental and rehabilitative institutions.

Individual income tax rates range from  $2\frac{1}{2}\%$  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.

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.

Eligibility to qualify for in-state tuition for state institutions of higher learning is determined by those institutions.

## 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.

## **Employment Opportunities**

Information can be obtained by writing: Colorado Division of Employment, 1210 Sherman Street, Denver, Colorado 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.

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. Many of the summer resorts recruit through the Colorado Division of Employment.

# **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 of 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 inquires 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.

#### 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, 1600 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

An index to measure cost of living differences between cities has been developed by the American Chamber of Commerce Researchers Association. Data derived from this index are listed below.

# COST OF LIVING INDICATORS: 1971-1972 AVERAGE U. S. AVERAGE = 100

	TOTAL	FOOD	HOUSING
Colorado Springs, Colorado	98.7	95.2	111.8
Denver, Colorado	104.0	93.7	119.3
Fort Collings, Colorado	93.3	93.4	93.3
Glenwood Springs, Colorado	101.4	99.8	96.9
Greeley, Colorado	94.7	92.1	99.6
Birmingham, Alabama	102.1	104.5	94.2
San Diego, California	98.5	91.3	105.1
Chicago, Illinois	109.2	103.8	121.1
Grand Rapids, Michigan	94.3	96.0	92.5
St. Louis, Missouri	98.4	97.5	105.9
New York City, New York	116.5	128.4	115.7
Columbus, Ohio	99.9	103.4	95.1

Portland, Oregon	107.2	91.5	91.6
Fort Worth, Texas	89.1	101.1	88.8
Houston, Texas	93.5	102.6	91.6

NOTE: Although data is 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.

## Newspapers

The major daily Colorado newspapers are: Alamosa, San Luis Valley Courier; 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 Chieftan; Sterling, Journal Advocate; Trinidad, Chronicle News. Requests for newspapers should be addressed to the publisher in the city in which they appear.

# 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.

#### 6M-3-73

PUBLISHED BY: State of Colorado, Division of Commerce & Development, Community Development Section, 600 State Capitol Annex,
Denver, Colorado 80203