

Otero County



Demographic Profile

Prepared by Southern Colorado Economic Development District
1104 North Main Street
Pueblo, CO 81003
719-545-8680

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Otero County



Otero County is centrally located in the Southeastern region of Colorado. The county is 1,268 square miles with an average elevation of 3,600 feet. Otero County was established in 1889. The county seat, La Junta, means “The Junction”. The pioneers recognized the location and importance of Otero County as a trade center, and the same outlook remains today as it continues to be the trade hub for Southeastern Colorado. Otero County’s diverse economy consists of industry, agriculture, historical sites and recreational activities.

County Commissioners:

Kevin Karney
James Baldwin
Keith Goodwin

Legislative Districts:

Congressional District: 3 & 4
Senate District: 2
House District: 64

County Seat: La Junta

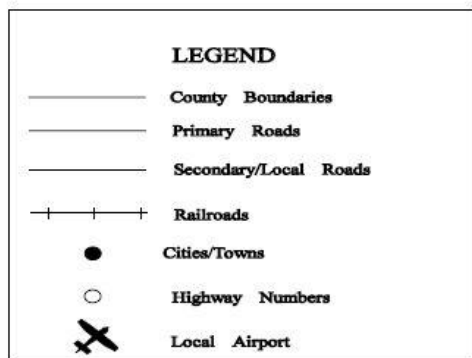
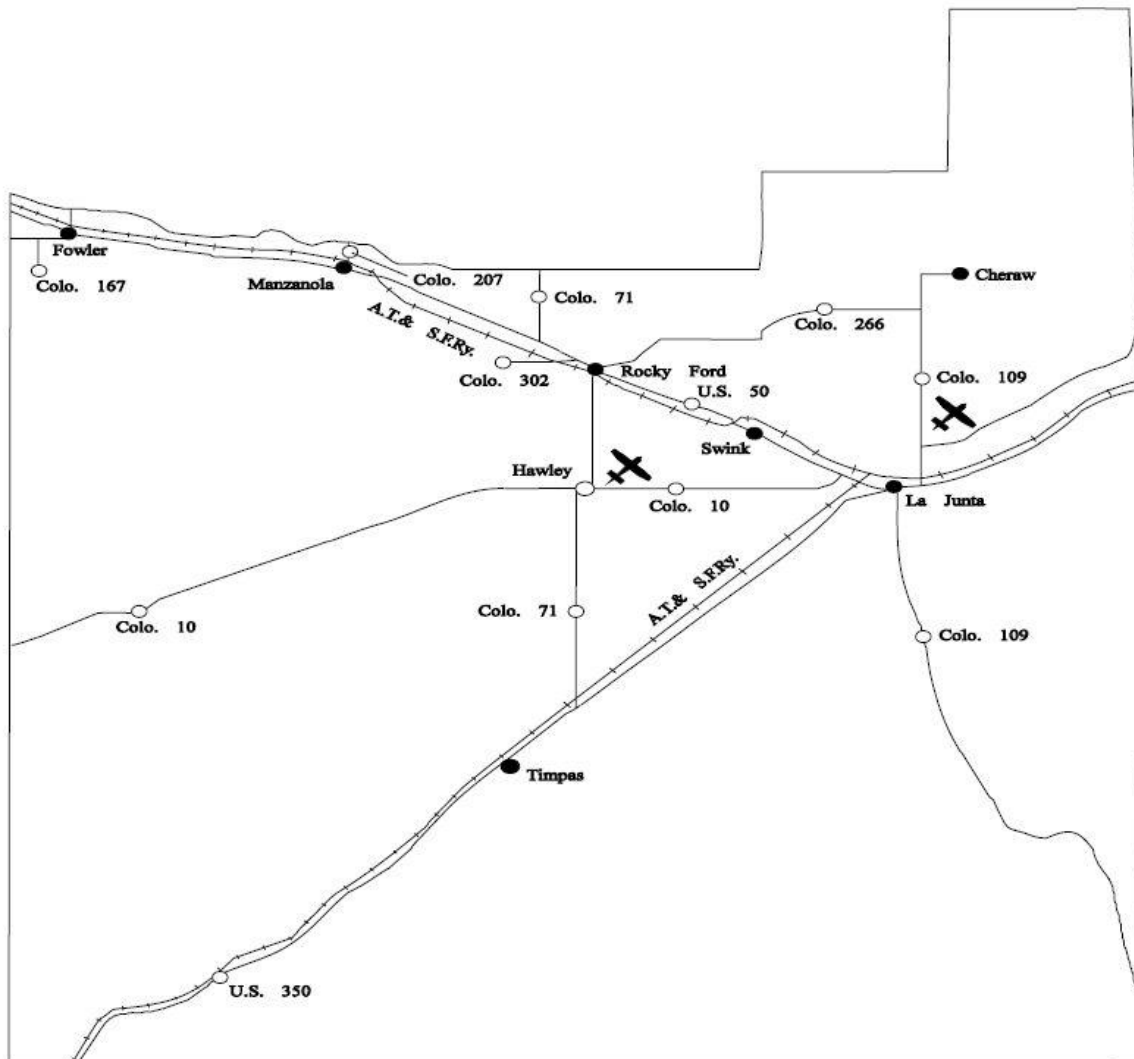
Contact:

13 West Third Street
La Junta, CO 81050
Phone: 719-383-3000
Fax: 719-383-3090

SCEDD Board Representatives:

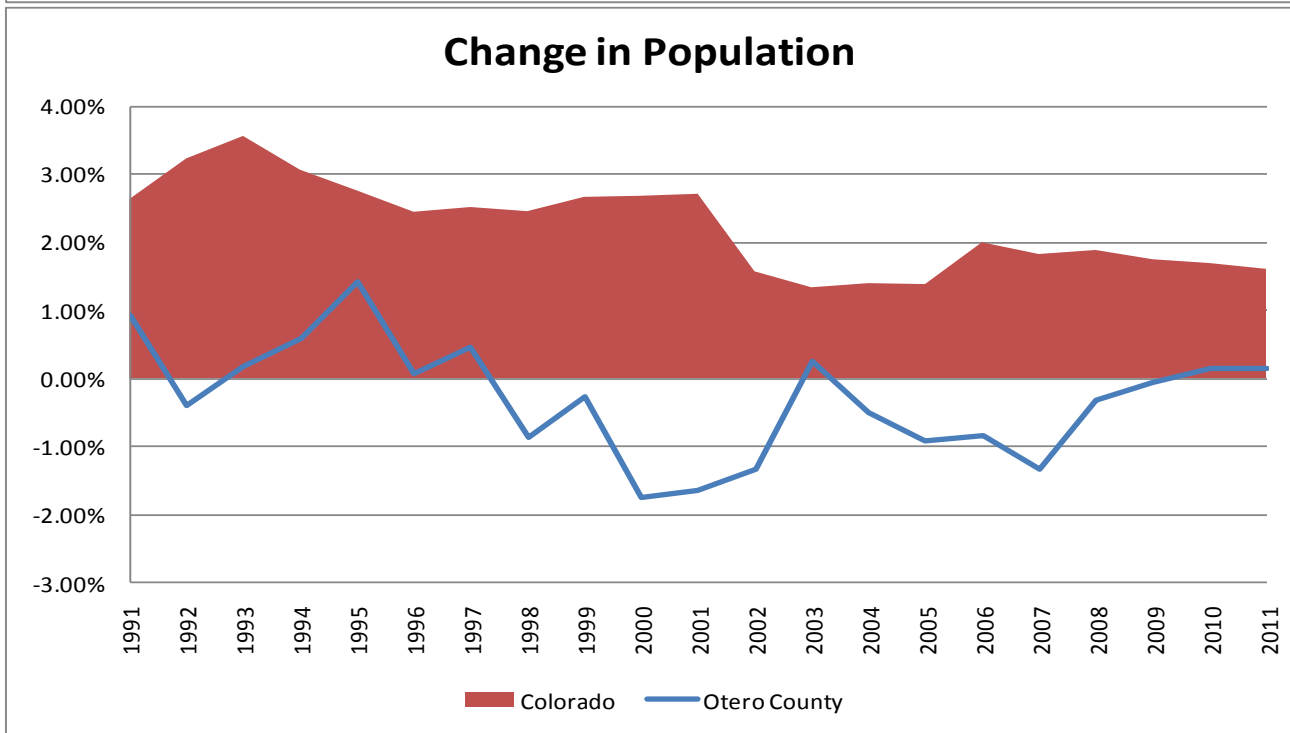
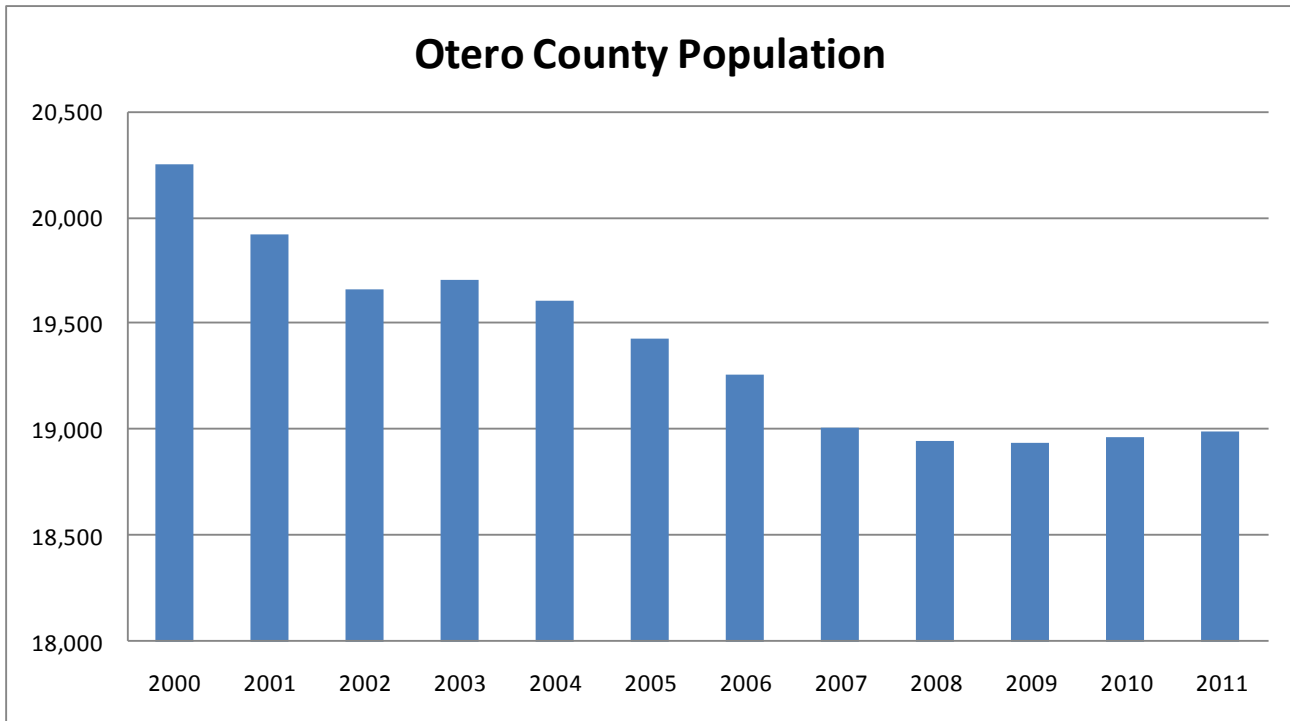
Kevin Karney, County Commissioner
Bryan Bryant, Otero Economic Development

Transportation



Population

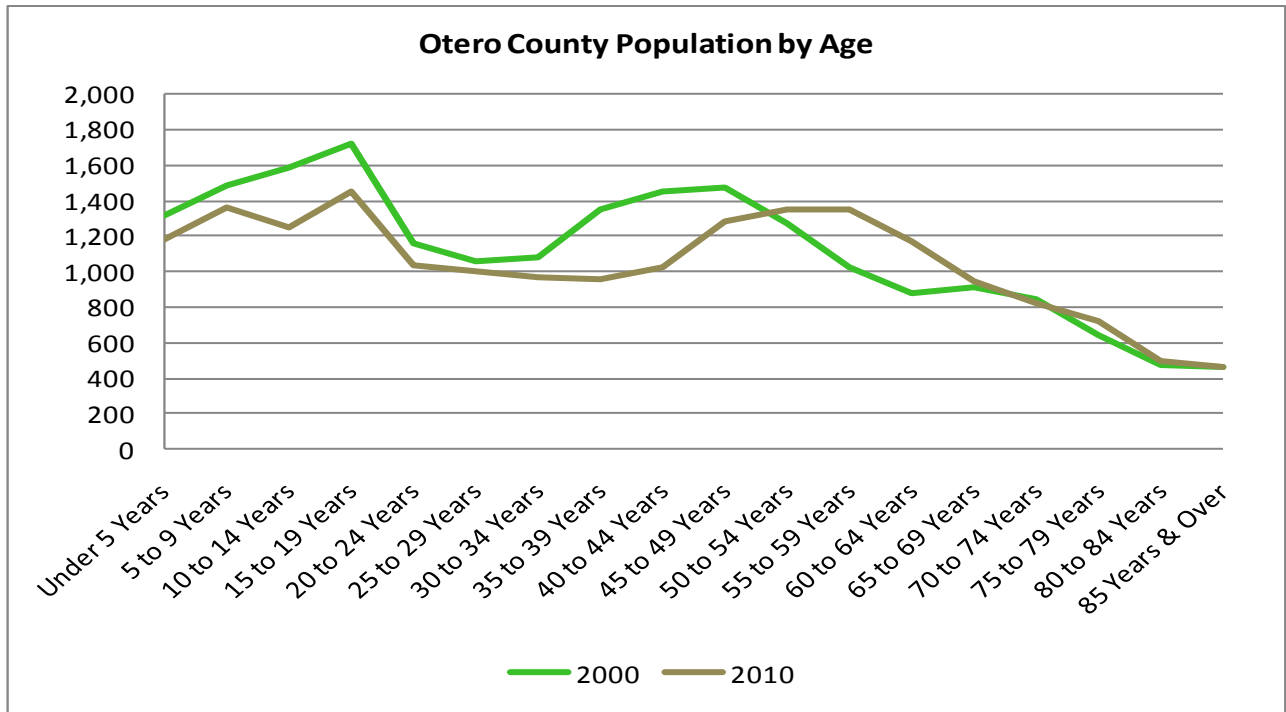
The Department of Local Affairs estimates the 2011 population of Otero County at 18,990, which is approximately .36% of the State's population. In the last ten years, Otero County's population has decreased approximately 5%, while the state saw an 18% increase.



County and State Population data retrieved from State Demography Office-DOLA
www.dola.state.co.us
 5/18/2011

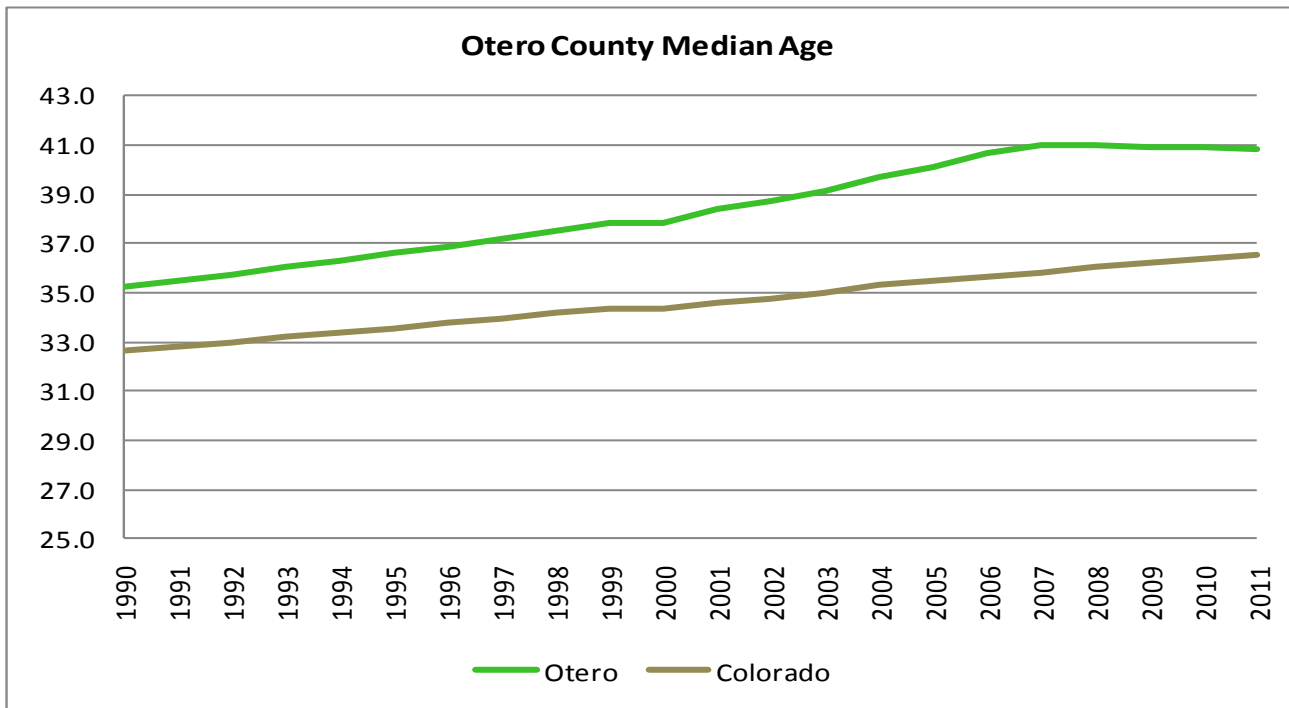
Population

Population by Age



<http://www.factfinder.census.gov>
6/30/11

Estimated Median Age



https://dola.colorado.gov/dlg/demog/age_colo.html
1/11/2011

Population

Population by Community

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Cheraw	213	211	208	209	210	209	206	203	201	200
Fowler	1,211	1,190	1,165	1,157	1,143	1,133	1,120	1,106	1,094	1,087
La Junta	7,553	7,473	7,361	7,314	7,245	7,167	7,096	7,036	7,046	7,000
Manzanola	523	516	506	502	496	490	484	477	472	471
Rocky Ford	4,272	4,212	4,133	4,103	4,115	4,068	4,033	3,983	3,950	3,920
Swink	695	689	679	682	678	674	667	659	653	652
Total	14,467	14,291	14,052	13,967	13,887	13,741	13,606	13,464	13,416	13,330

Population estimates from census bureau fact finder

<http://factfinder.census.gov>

7/1/2010

Otero County Socioeconomic Statistics

Child Statistics

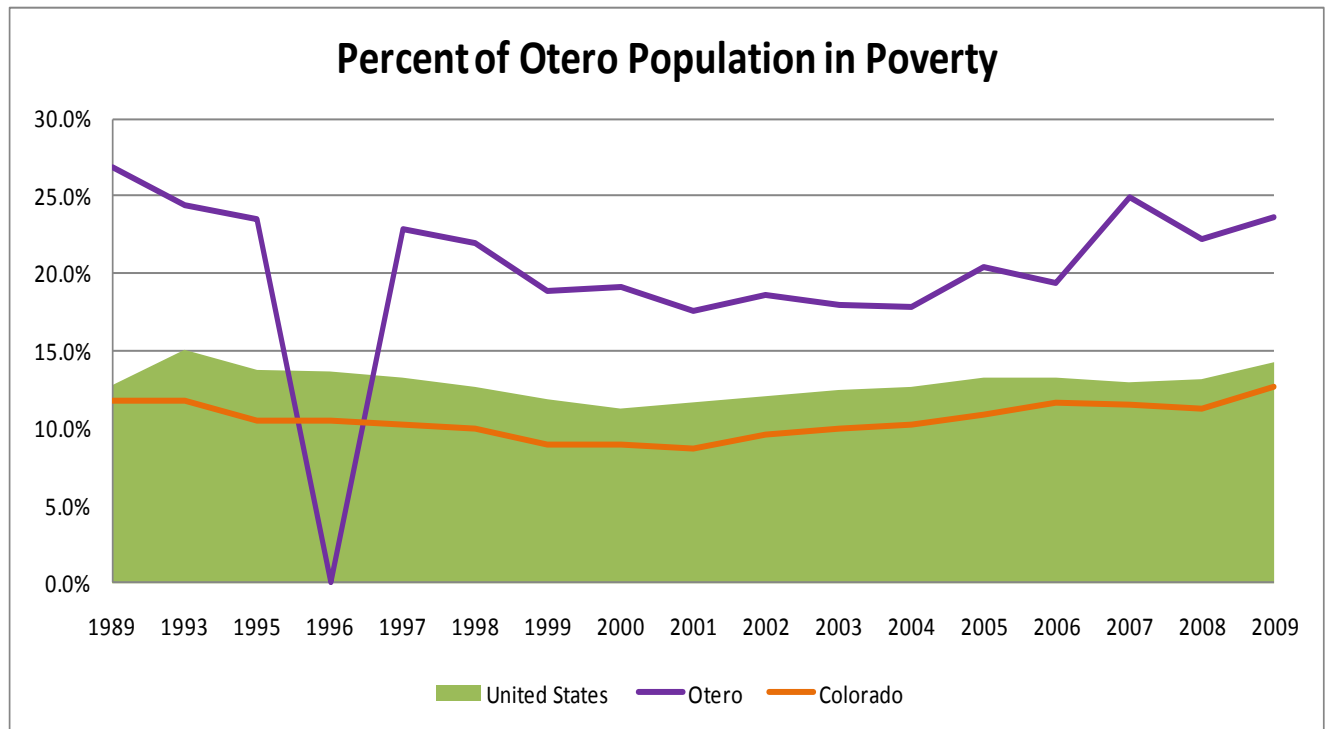
Otero County	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Teen Births (15-17, per 1,000)	51.4	40.0	51.8	58.0	45.2	57.0	27.9	50.5	30.3
Out of Home Placements (per 1,000)	11.2	12.0	14.5	17.3	N/A	15.5	18.3	17.6	23.0
Children Under 18 in Poverty (Percent)	26.8%	N/A	24.8%	25.3%	24.5%	29.7%	28.9%	38.4%	31.5%

www.colordokids.org
6/24/2010

State of Colorado	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Teen Births (15-17, per 1,000)	29.4	25.3	25.9	24.3	24.8	23.8	23.7	22.1	21.4
Out of Home Placements (per 1,000)	12.3	12.2	12.2	11.9	N/A	11.5	10.7	10.2	9.9
Children Under 18 in Poverty (Percent)	12.2%	N/A	11.8%	12.8%	12.8%	14.0%	14.8%	15.3%	14.4%

www.colordokids.org
6/24/2010

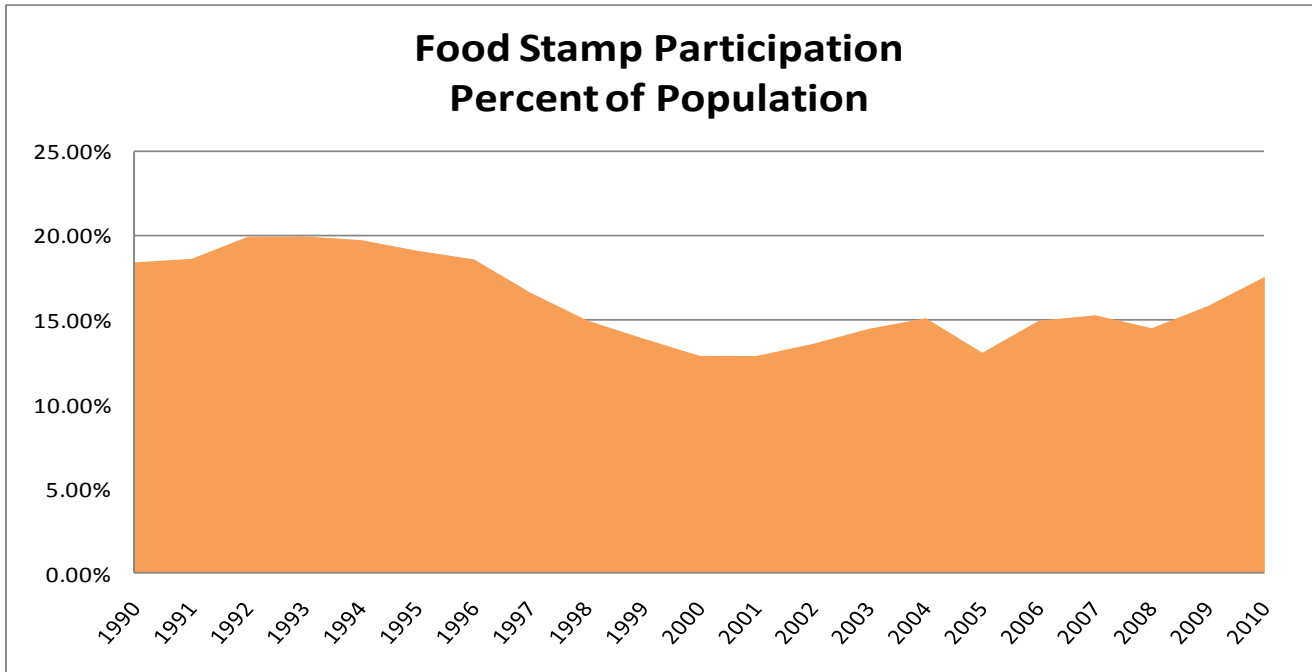
Poverty



US Census-Data for 1996 is not available
5/16/11

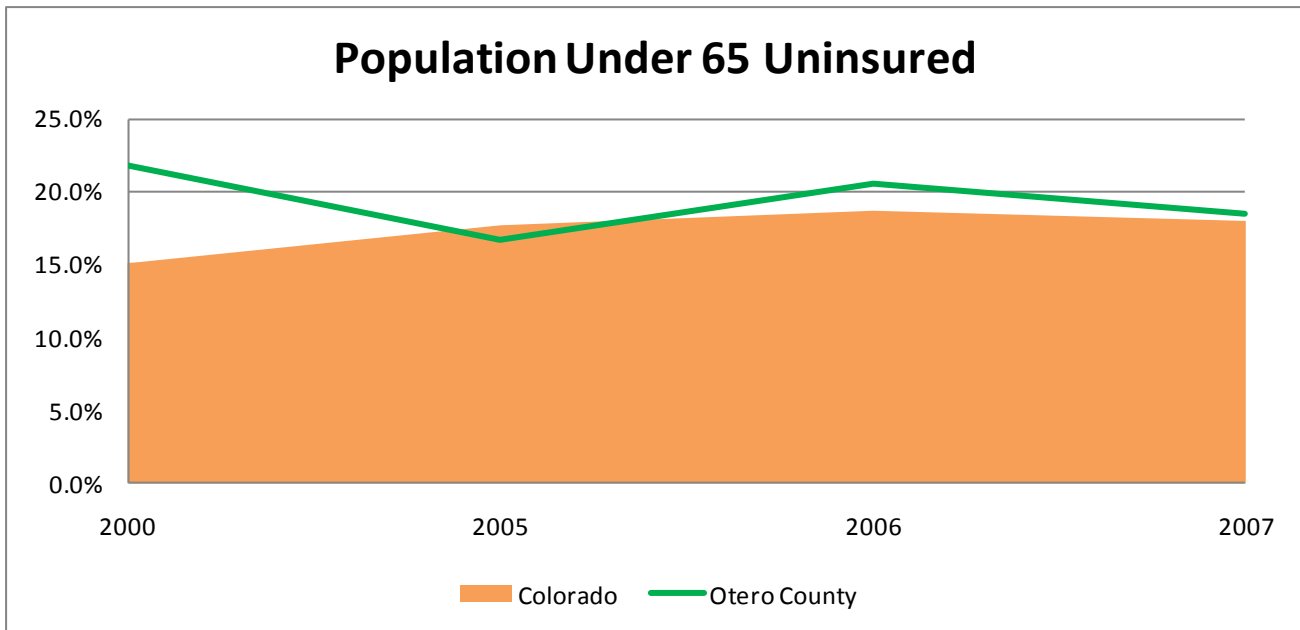
Otero County Socioeconomic Statistics

Poverty



USDA
9/24/2010

Uninsured Under 65



<http://www.census.gov//did/www/sahie/data/index.html>
8/2/2010

Life Expectancy

Average Life Expectancy: 77.1

<http://communityhealth.hhs.gov>
3/8/2010

Otero County Socioeconomic Statistics

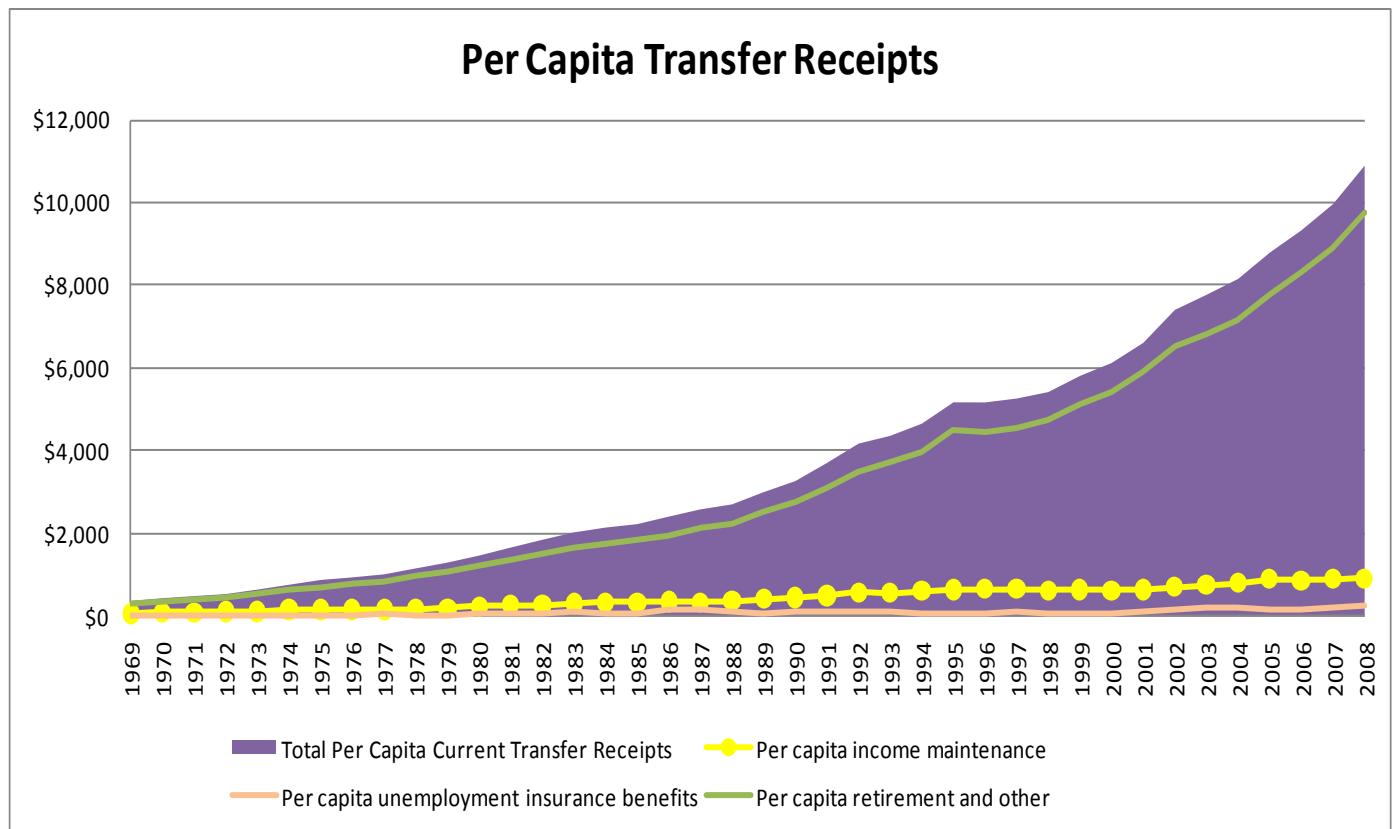
County Federal Payments

As of June, 2009

Program	Payment Type	Payment
Price Support	Loans Made	\$1,176,016.76
Prompt Pay	Interest Penalty	\$363.80
Noninsured Assistance Program	Regular	\$277,517.00
Noninsured Assistance Program	Loss Adjustor	\$1,651.09
Crop Disaster Assistance Program	Crop Disaster Program with Appropriation	\$31,167.00
Conservation Reserve	Conservation Reserve Annual Payment	\$62,967.00
Price Support	Loan Deficiency Payment	\$3,063.27
Direct & Counter Cyclicalpym	Direct Payments	\$888,439.00
Total		\$2,441,184.92

Farm Service Administration
10/29/2009

Personal Transfer Receipts



Bureau of Economic Analysis
www.bea.gov
9/16/2010

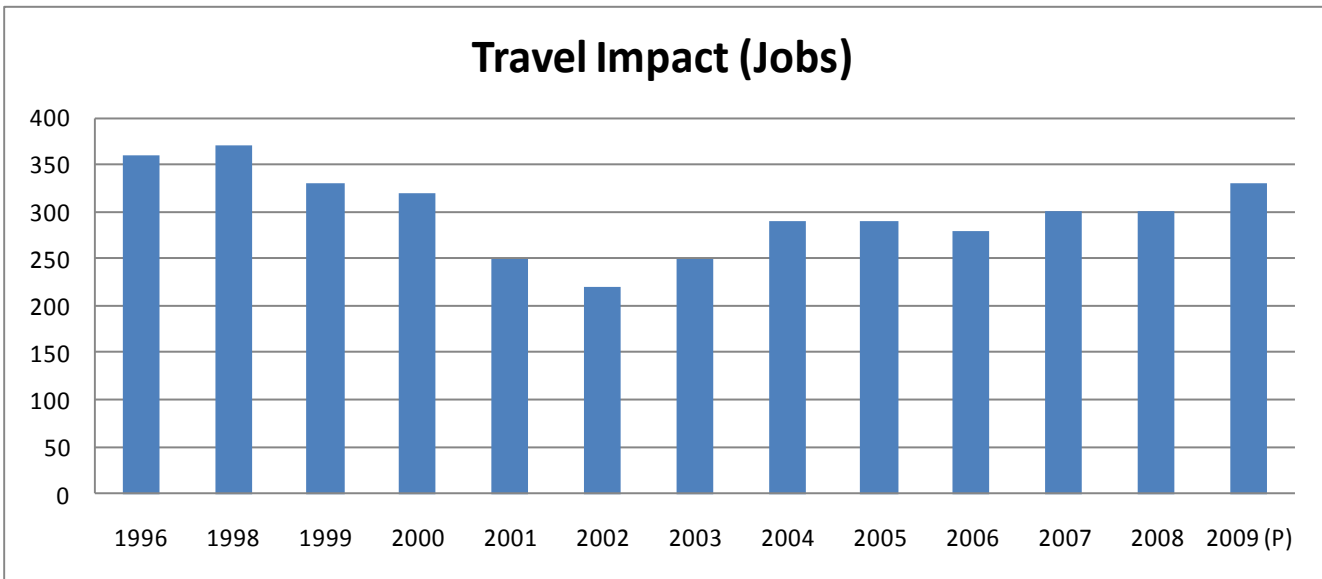
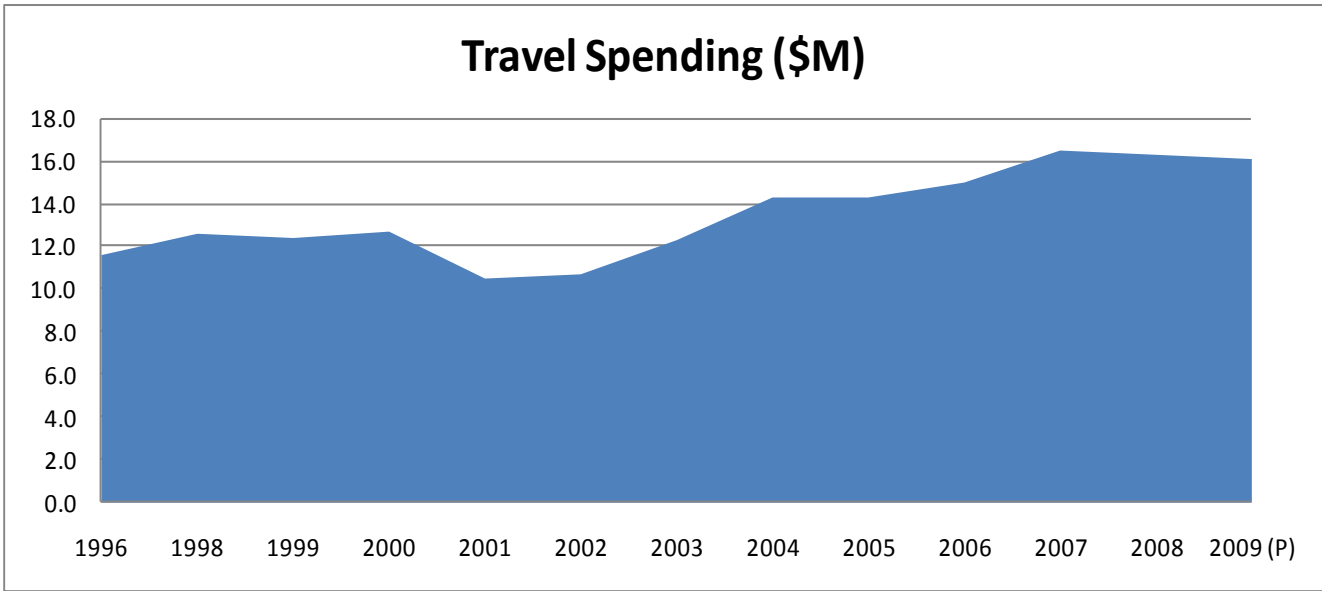
Otero County Socioeconomic Statistics

Travel Impact

	1996	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009 (P)
Travel Spending (\$M)	11.6	12.6	12.4	12.7	10.5	10.7	12.3	14.3	14.3	15.0	16.5	16.3	16.1
Earnings (\$M)	3.5	3.9	3.7	3.8	3.1	3.2	3.6	4.1	4.1	4.2	4.6	4.6	5.1
Employment (Jobs)	360	370	330	320	250	220	250	290	290	280	300	300	330
Local Taxes (\$M)	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4
State Taxes (\$M)	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5

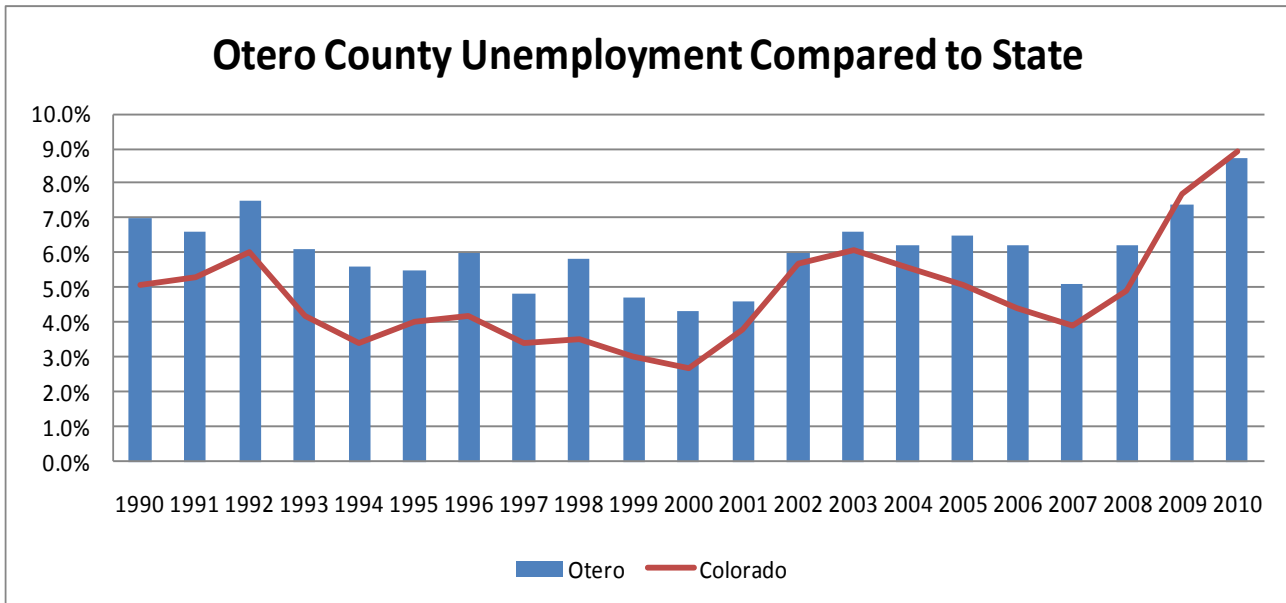
Dean Runyan Associates
<http://www.deanrunyan.com>
 8/10/2010

P= Preliminary



Labor Force

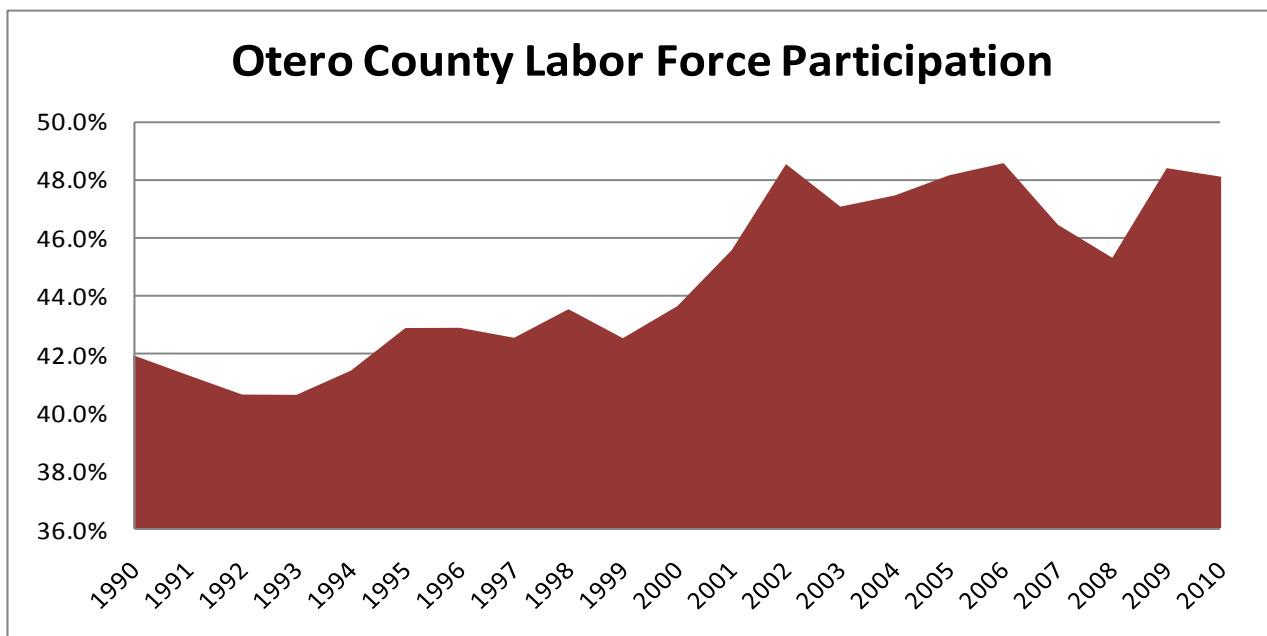
Otero County's unemployment rate has historically been higher than Colorado. Colorado's 2010 unemployment rate was 8.7%, while Otero County was 8.7%; the highest unemployment rate in over two decades



Colorado Workforce/LMI Gateway
<http://lmi.gateway.coworkforce.com>
 3/17/11

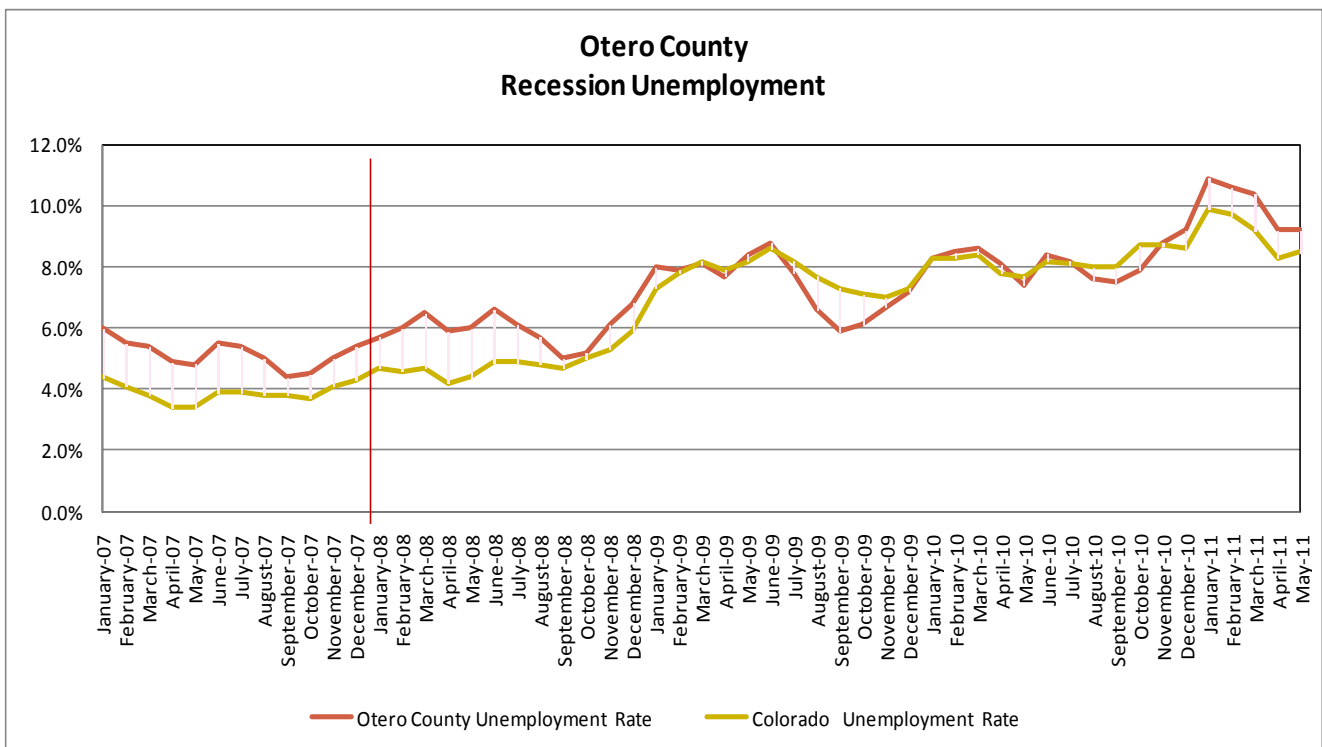
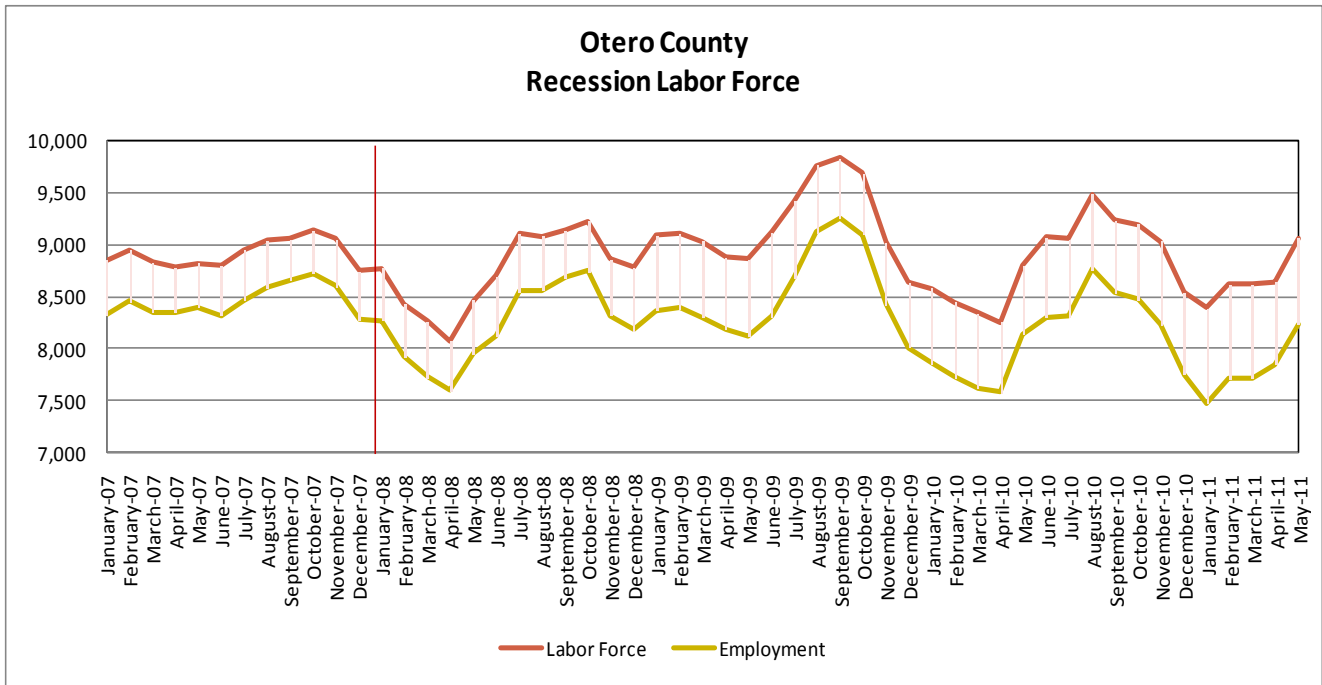
Labor Force Participation Rate

This ratio indicates the degree to which a population is working or actively seeking employment. A low rate might indicate a reliance on other forms of income or a significant number of discouraged workers. A higher rate may indicate a tight labor market. As of June, 2010 the Colorado rate was 68.3% and the National rate as of July, 2010 was 64.6%. Otero County's rate as of December, 2010 was 48.1%.



Labor Force

The charts below represent the monthly labor force data beginning January, 2007. The recession began in December, 2007 and is reflected by the solid red line; the recession ended June, 2009. The gap between the data represents the unemployed.



Labor Force

Wages by Sector

Average Annual Wages

Industry	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Natural Resources & Mining	\$20,594	\$21,999	\$23,768	\$27,553	\$29,734
Construction	\$24,837	\$26,446	\$27,667	\$32,974	\$29,078
Manufacturing	\$28,800	\$30,448	\$32,310	\$35,331	\$33,815
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	\$22,482	\$23,108	\$24,444	\$25,774	\$24,669
Information	\$27,181	\$29,602	\$29,687	\$29,296	\$29,948
Financial Activities	\$31,897	\$31,866	\$35,036	\$39,766	\$34,063
Professional & Business Services	\$20,925	\$22,242	\$23,709	\$23,845	\$21,581
Education & Health Services	\$26,164	\$27,249	\$27,927	\$29,628	\$30,854
Leisure & Hospitality	\$10,003	\$10,355	\$10,526	\$10,862	\$11,196
Other Services	\$17,866	\$16,977	\$19,013	\$20,234	\$19,447
Public Administration	\$25,345	\$25,958	\$26,267	\$26,721	\$27,770

Bureau of Labor Statistics
www.bls.gov
1/12/2011

*ND= Non Disclosable-Data does not meet BLS or State Agency disclosure standards.

Average Weekly Wages

Industry	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting	\$395	\$423	\$458	\$525	\$567
Utilities	\$765	\$861	\$941	\$962	\$904
Construction	\$517	\$544	\$567	\$658	\$612
Manufacturing	\$554	\$586	\$622	\$680	\$650
Wholesale Trades	\$401	\$423	\$485	\$501	\$472
Retail Trade	\$400	\$394	\$399	\$417	\$401
Transportation and Warehousing	\$528	\$571	\$609	\$651	\$644
Information	\$521	\$583	\$571	\$565	\$575
Finance and Insurance	\$708	\$677	\$742	\$855	\$722
Real Estate and Rentals and Leasing	\$398	\$425	\$460	\$468	\$466
Professional & Technical Services	\$442	\$427	\$468	\$489	\$479
Administrative and Waste Services	\$314	\$434	\$440	\$416	\$375
Educational Services	\$470	\$483	\$496	\$514	\$527
Health Care and Social Services	\$506	\$526	\$539	\$571	\$594
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	\$320	\$434	\$448	\$428	\$379
Accommodation and Food Services	\$195	\$200	\$203	\$210	\$218
Other Services, Ex. Public Admin	\$343	\$325	\$366	\$388	\$375
Public Administration	\$576	\$586	\$591	\$616	\$638

Colorado Work Force/ LMI Gateway
http://lmigateway.coworkforce.com
1/12/2011

Labor Force

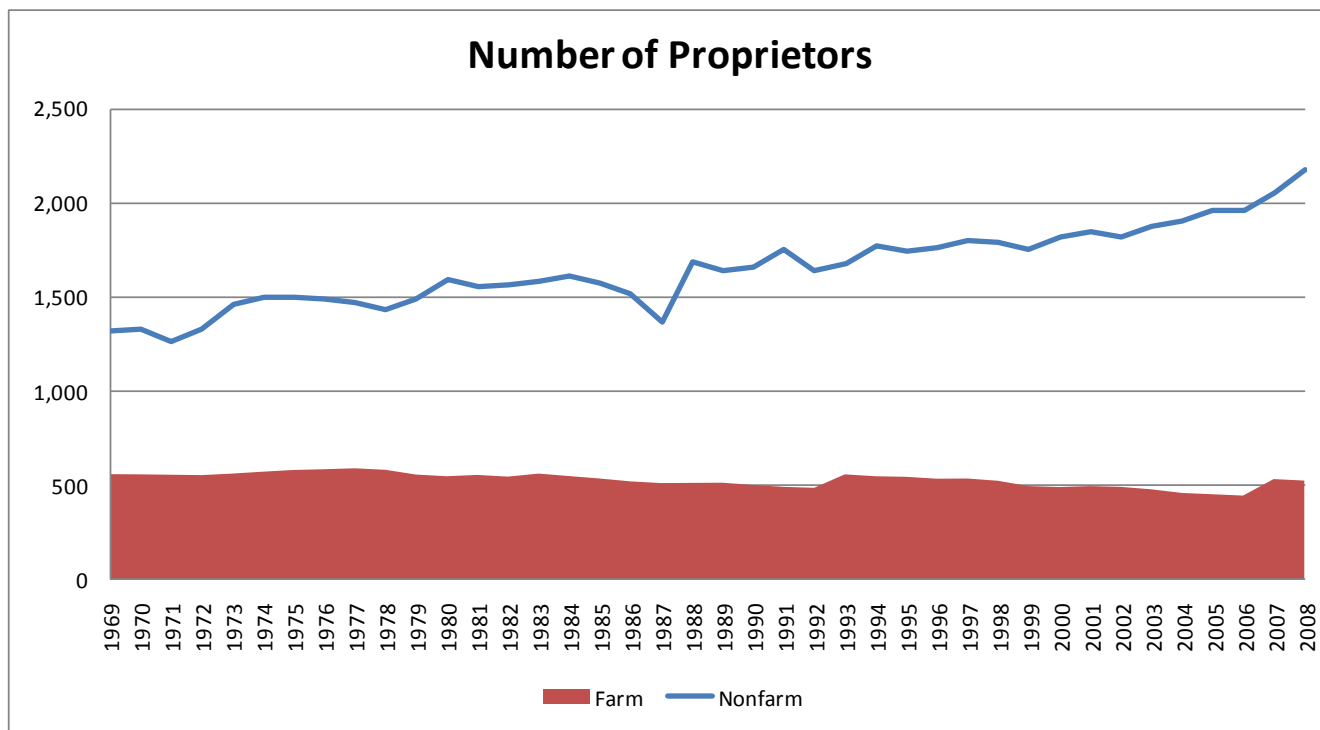
Employment by Sector

Industry	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Agriculture	627	566	606	585	593	596	562	578	611
Mining	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	3	3	3	N/A	N/A
Utilities	80	77	74	75	71	73	66	75	85
Construction	N/A	317	277	291	N/A	294	330	291	272
Manufacturing	566	543	565	624	552	455	442	485	488
Wholesale trade	453	453	452	408	390	394	351	351	316
Retail Trade	1,079	1,071	1,020	1,014	N/A	960	948	919	901
Transportation and warehousing	N/A	345	346	369	317	306	326	307	290
Information	169	146	N/A	N/A	N/A	114	104	111	107
Finance activities	255	297	295	269	231	244	256	253	237
Real estate	166	144	150	151	149	141	141	129	126
Professional and business services	185	183	180	191	198	N/A	197	194	190
Management of companies and enterprise	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	11	12	N/A	N/A
Admin and waste	102	107	102	N/A	118	N/A	107	N/A	234
Education	N/A	17	20	23	N/A	N/A	N/A	23	N/A
Health Services	1,444	1,508	1,489	1,483	1,514	1,519	1,487	1,439	1,439
Arts	61	48	58	62	77	60	49	64	81
Accommodation and food	600	595	595	602	614	608	596	564	546
Other services, except public administration	504	516	525	528	529	503	467	489	467
Government	2,062	2,104	2,091	2,043	2,040	1,975	1,943	1,924	1,946

Department of Local Affairs
http://www.dola.state.co.us/demog_webapps/jobs_sector_naics
 1/10/2011

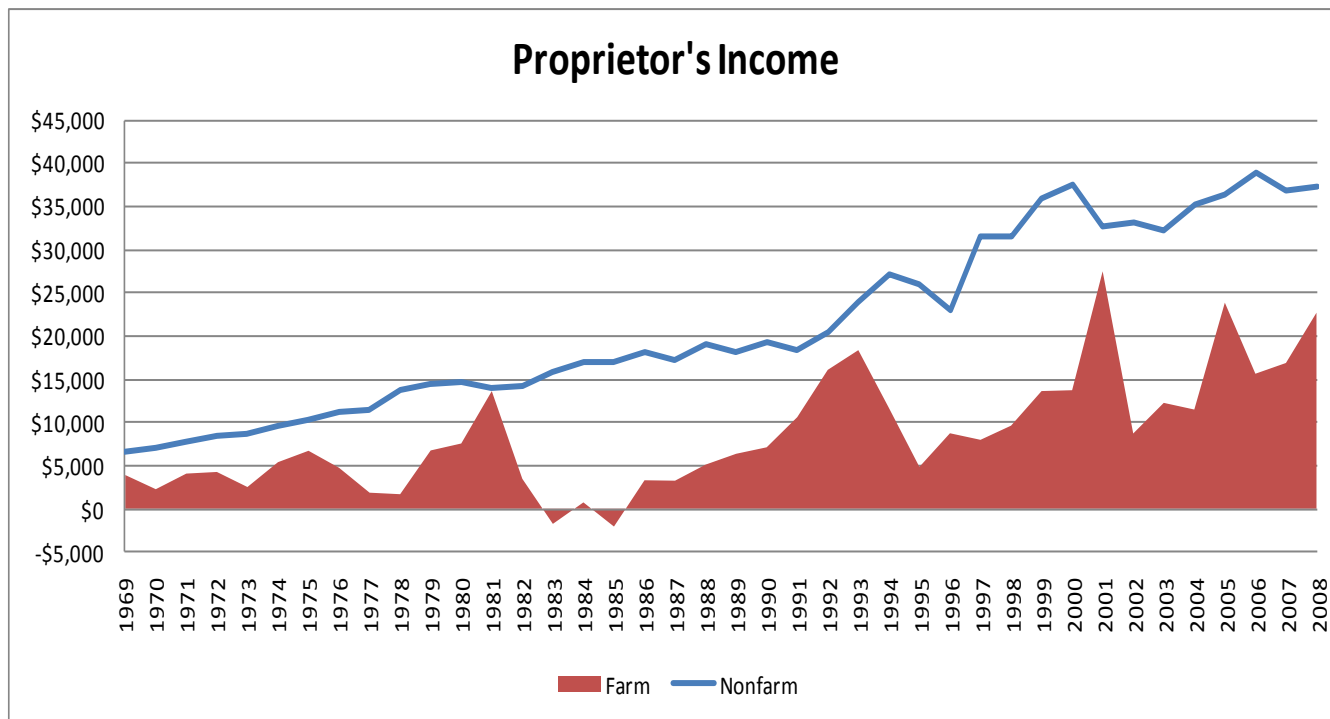
Labor Force

Proprietors



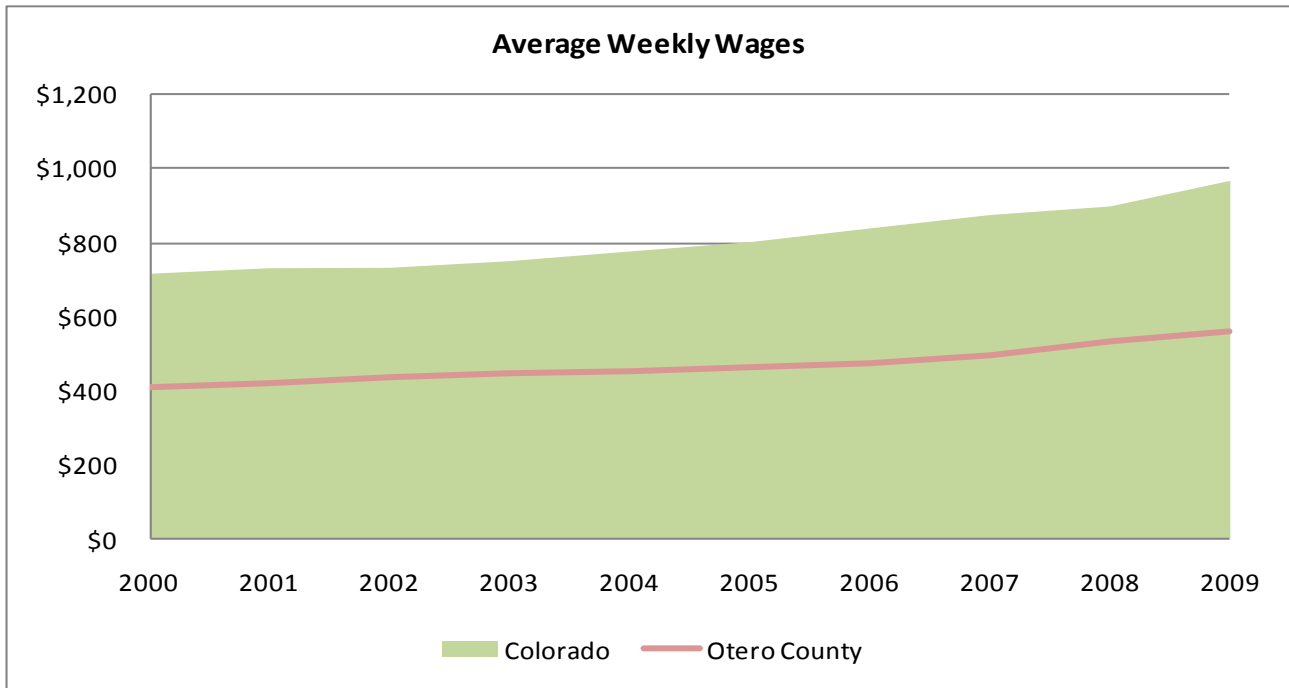
Bureau of Economic Analysis
9/16/2010

Proprietor's Income



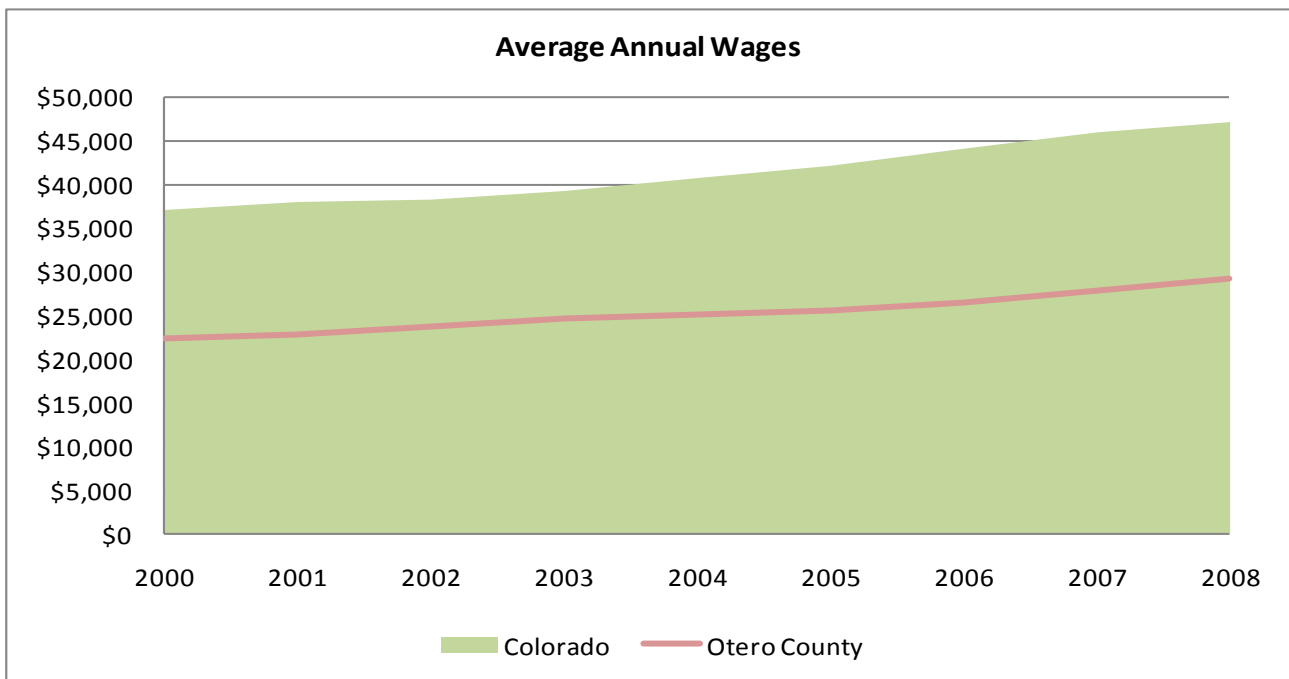
Income and Wages

Average Weekly Wages



<http://imgateway.coworkforce.com>
Colorado Workforce LMI
1/11/2011

Average Annual Wages



Bureau of Economic Analysis
<http://www.bea.gov>

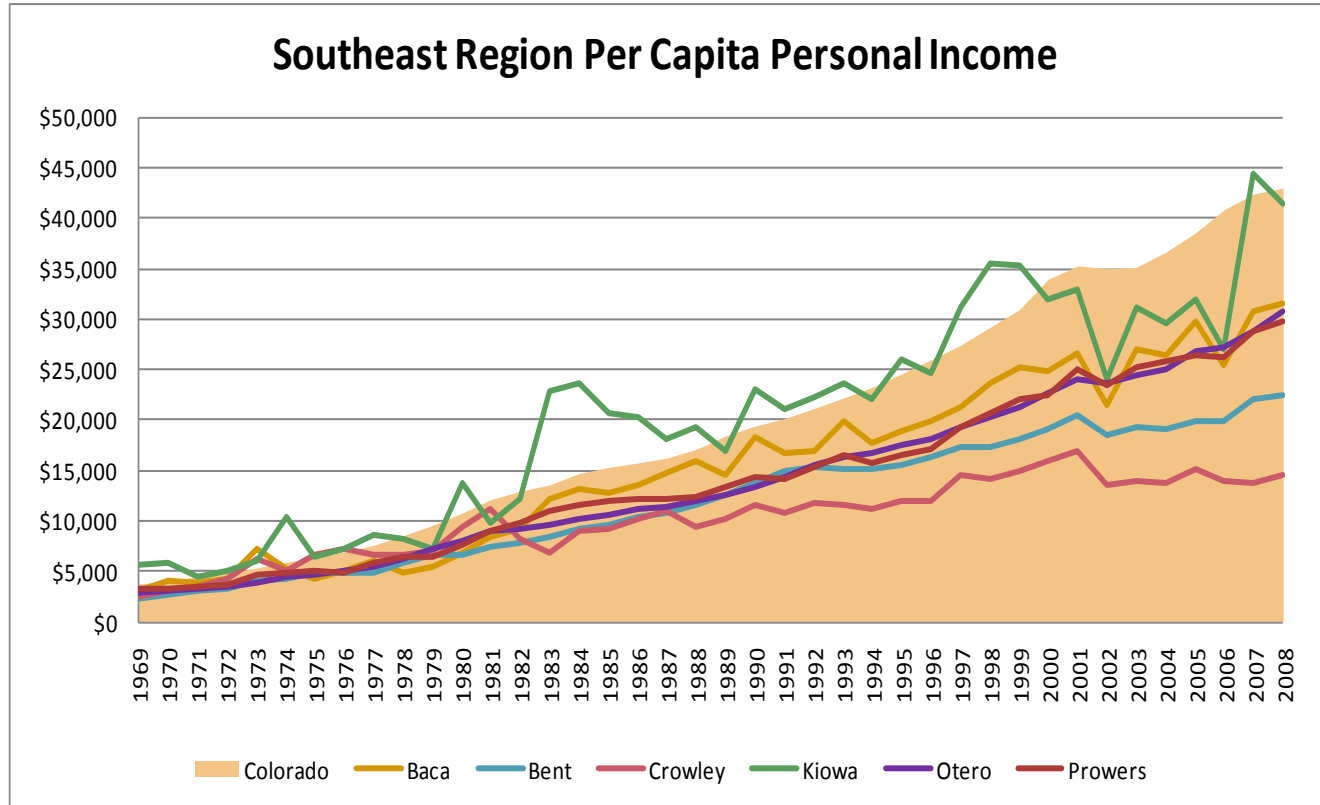
Income and Wages

Median Household Income

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Otero County	\$29,939	\$28,869	\$28,528	\$29,317	\$30,298	\$32,866	\$33,310	\$31,996	\$33,234	\$30,373
Colorado	\$47,505	\$48,483	\$48,060	\$49,248	\$50,105	\$50,841	\$52,265	\$55,517	\$57,184	\$55,735

<http://www.census.gov-SAIPE>
1/11/2011

Per Capita Personal Income

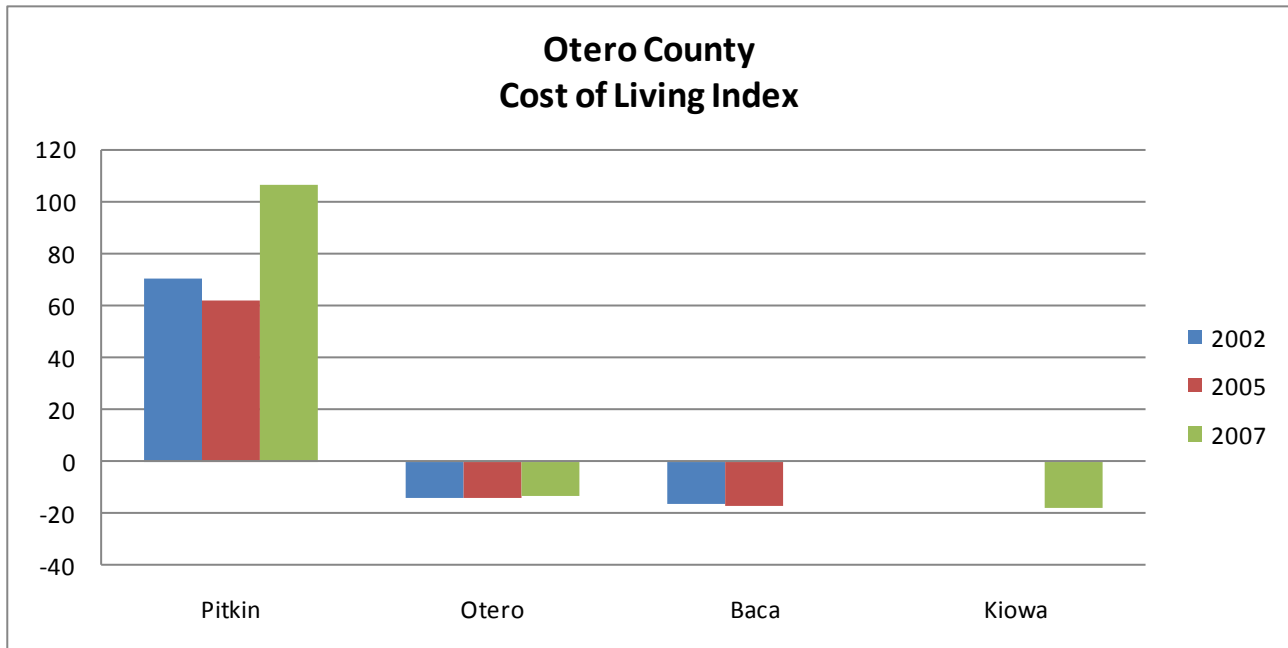


Bureau of Economic Analysis
www.bea.gov
1/11/2011

The per capita income for Otero County is 28% below the State average. Per capita income for Otero County in 2008 was \$30,842 compared to the State average of \$43,021.

Cost of Living

The chart below compares the County's Cost of Living Index with the High (Pitkin) and the Low (Baca and Kiowa).



Colorado State University
12/27/10

Housing

Household Type	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Average Household Size	2.49	2.49	2.49	2.49	2.49	2.49	2.49	2.49	2.49	2.50	2.38
Household Population (July)	19,743	19,346	19,080	19,133	19,038	18,856	18,689	18,442	18,368	18,369	18,398
Housing Vacancy Rate	10.13	12.44	13.98	13.97	14.82	15.81	16.71	17.98	18.63	18.89	13.80
Total Households	7,920	7,761	7,655	7,675	7,636	7,566	7,497	7,400	7,371	7,360	7,729
Total Housing Units	8,813	8,864	8,899	8,921	8,965	8,987	9,001	9,022	9,059	9,074	8,969
Vacant Housing Units	893	1,103	1,244	1,246	1,329	1,421	1,504	1,622	1,688	1,714	1,240

<http://www.dola.state.co.us>

11/9/2010

2010 data from - <http://factfinder2.census.gov>

7/28/2011

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Net Building Permits	42	36	22	45	22	14	22	39	6	3	3

US Census

7/28/2011

Rent	Total	Percent
Less than \$200	312	13.2
\$200 to \$299	340	14.4
\$300 to \$499	969	41.1
\$500 to \$749	434	18.4
\$750 to \$999	40	1.7
\$1,000 to \$1,499	18	0.8
\$1,500 or more	4	0.2
No cash rent	243	10.3

2000 Census Data

<http://factfinder.census.gov>

2/4/2010

Value	Total	Percent
Less than \$50,000	1,299	30.2
\$50,000 to \$99,999	2,268	52.7
\$100,000 to \$149,999	540	12.5
\$150,000 to \$199,999	122	2.8
\$200,000 to \$299,999	74	1.7

2000 Census Data

<http://factfinder.census.gov>

2/4/2010

Foreclosure

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	1st Qtr. 2011
Filings	125	124	95	95	120	30
Sales	97	38	63	42	62	16

<http://www.dola.state.co.us/cdh/researchers/index.htm#foreclosure>

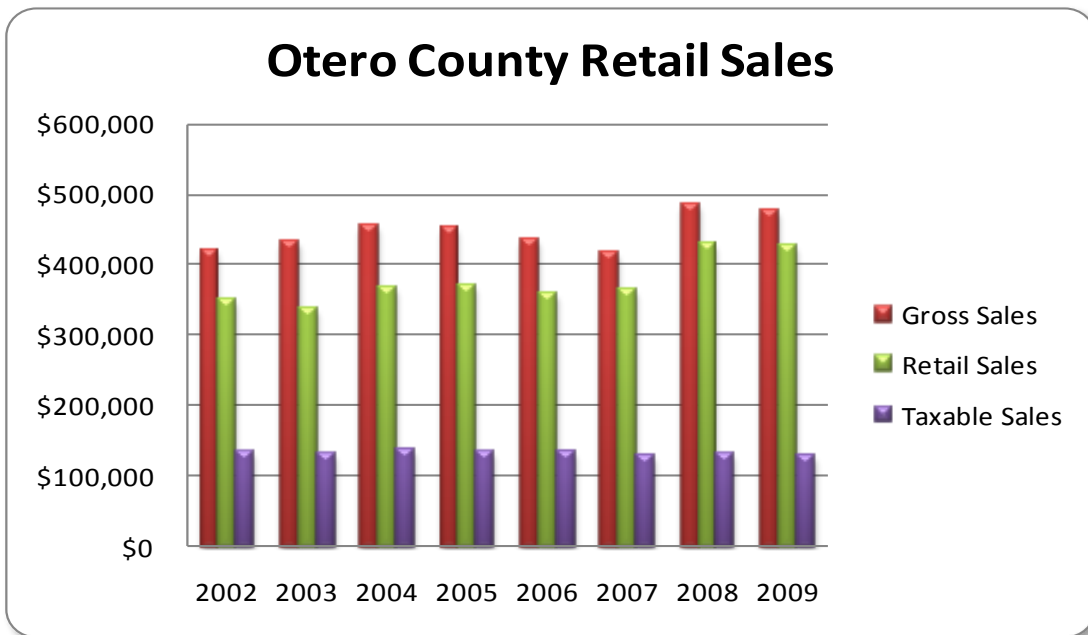
7/28/2011

Retail Sales

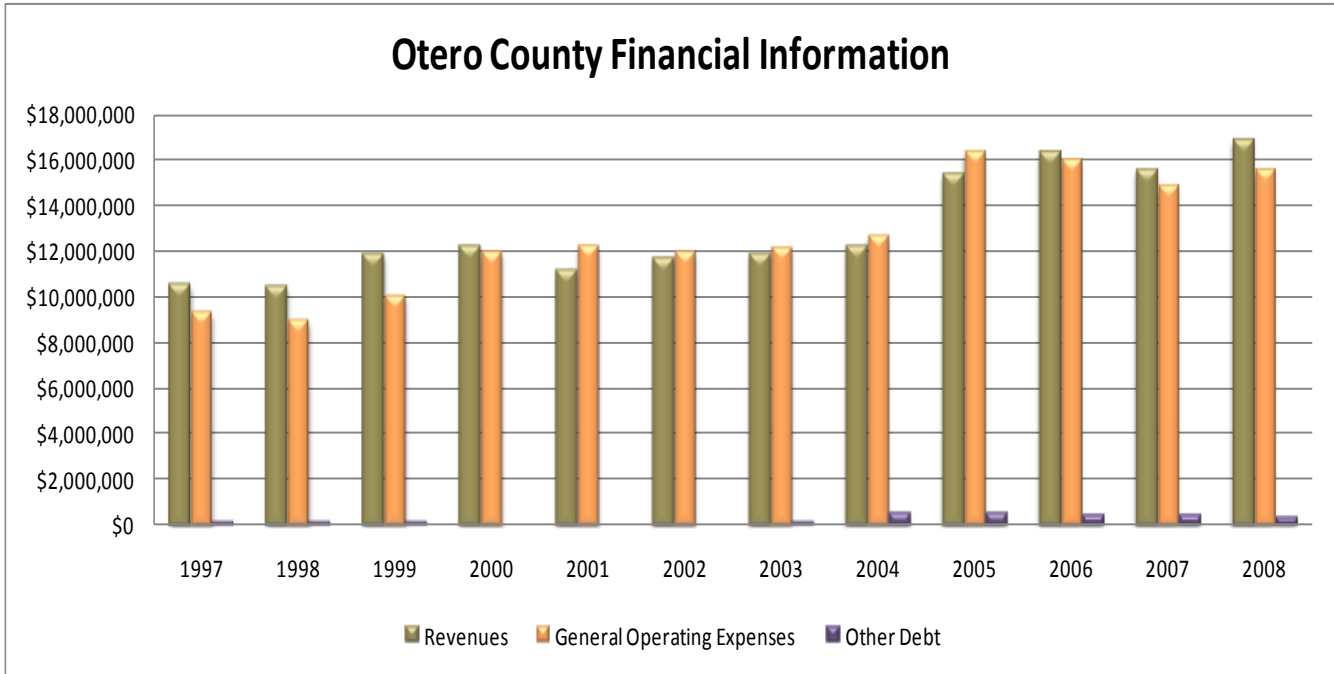
In thousands of dollars

Year	Number of Returns	Gross Sales	Retail Sales	Taxable Sales	Net Tax
2002	7,874	\$420,835	\$348,645	\$133,683	\$3,748
2003	8,234	\$432,226	\$338,262	\$130,820	\$3,688
2004	8,667	\$456,264	\$366,580	\$136,991	\$3,880
2005	8,619	\$453,345	\$369,075	\$133,668	\$3,767
2006	8,923	\$436,547	\$357,487	\$134,481	\$3,771
2007	8,849	\$417,600	\$363,746	\$129,735	\$3,636
2008	8,492	\$484,854	\$429,982	\$130,848	\$3,668
2009	8,595	\$476,289	\$425,162	\$128,895	\$3,648

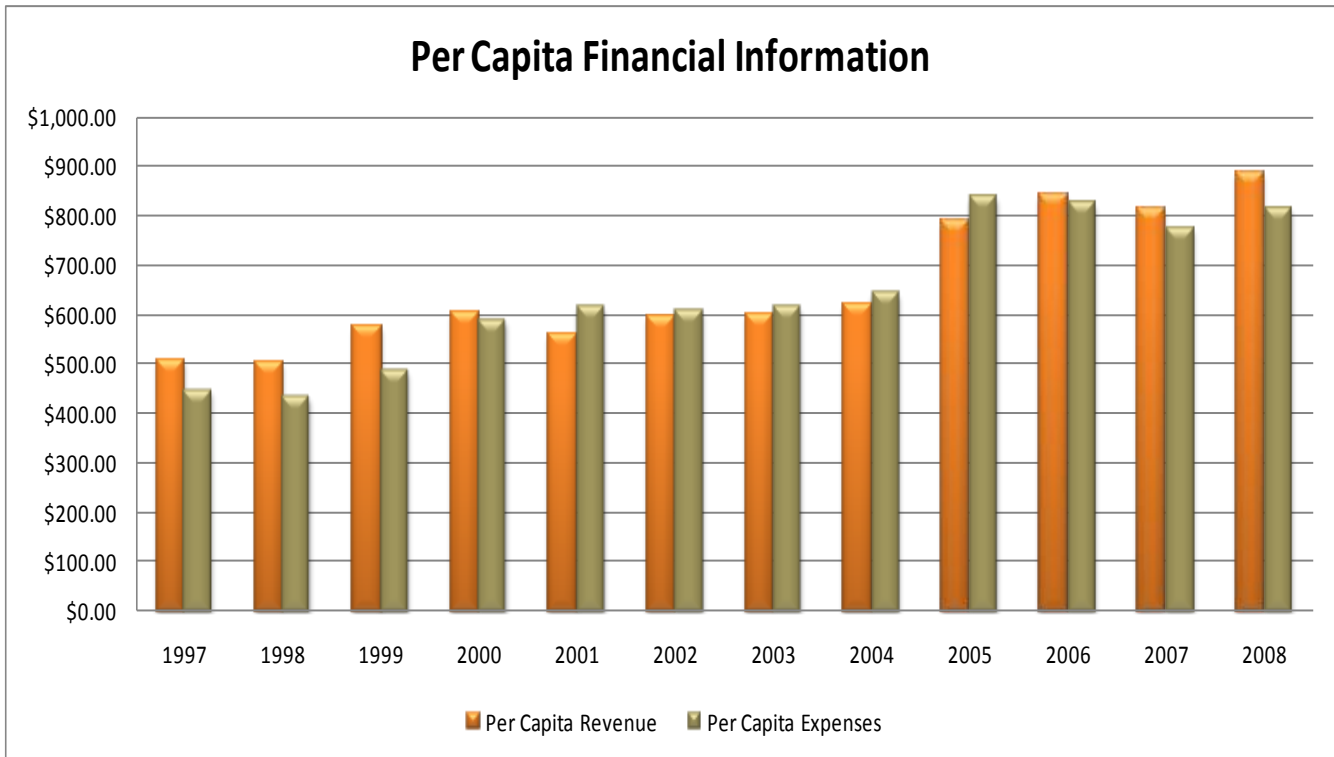
Dept. of Revenue
<http://www.colorado.gov>
 7/8/2010



Otero County Financial Information



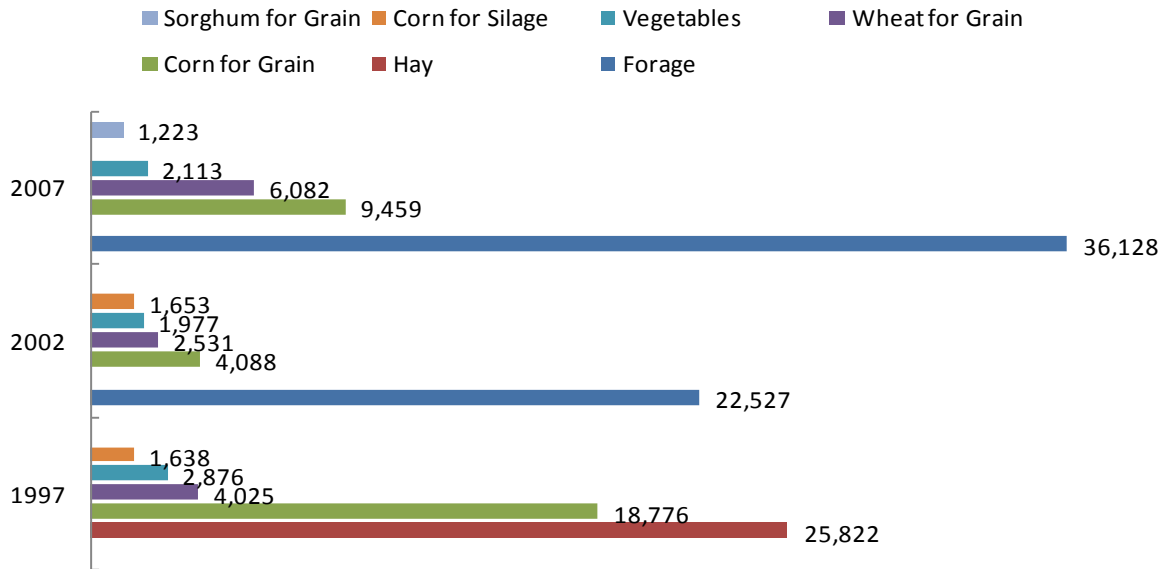
Colorado Division of Local Government
<http://www.dola.state.co.us/cedis.html>
 10/19/2010



Agriculture

In 2007, Otero County had 624,123 acres of agricultural land. There are 569 farms, with an average of 1,097 acres. According to the 2007 Agricultural Census, Otero County's largest crop harvested is Forage for Grain and top livestock is Cattle and Calves.

Top Crops Harvested in Acres



www.agcensus.usda.gov
10/1/2009

Out of sixty four counties in Colorado, Otero County was ranked eighth in vegetables.

Top Livestock Inventory-Quantity



Out of sixty four counties in Colorado, Otero County ranked second in Goats, seventh in Cattle and Calves and eighth in Bees.

Taxes

Colorado sales and use tax is 2.9%. Otero County sales and use tax is 1%. Otero County does not have a lodging tax.

2010 Property Tax Revenues

County	Valuation	Levy	Revenue
General Fund	\$124,184,371	13.794	\$1,712,999
Road & Bridge		4.154	\$515,862
Social Services		3.500	\$434,645
Self Insurance		0.500	\$62,092
Cities and Towns			
La Junta	\$36,599,935	3.104	\$113,606
Rocky Ford	\$12,715,302	20.876	\$265,445
Manzanola	\$813,313	26.990	\$21,951
Fowler	\$4,232,646	15.388	\$65,132
Cheraw	\$481,704	25.136	\$12,108
Swink	\$2,386,221	34.392	\$82,067
Fire Districts			
Fowler	\$10,335,004	4.057	\$42,014
La Junta	\$65,029,374	2.350	\$152,819
Manzanola	\$4,800,678	5.130	\$24,627
Rocky Ford	\$29,096,639	2.750	\$80,016
Other Districts			
NLI Cons Dist	\$2,381,123	0.831	\$1,979
NLI San	\$1,474,272	1.781	\$2,626
SE Water Cons Dist	\$111,919,608	0.947	\$105,988
Crooked Arroyo	\$7,326,211	0.141	\$1,033
LAVWCD	\$90,107,543	1.502	\$135,341

2010 Property Tax Revenues

School Districts			
La Junta R-1	\$58,801,239		
General Fund		24.417	\$1,435,750
Bond		10.801	\$635,112
Refund/Abate		0.020	\$1,176
Rocky Ford R-2	\$29,349,777		
General Fund		25.924	\$760,864
Refund/Abate		0.389	\$11,417
Manzanola 3JT	\$5,978,312		
General Fund		21.729	\$129,903
Refund/Abate		0.009	\$54
Fowler R4J	\$10,900,607		
General Fund		27.139	\$295,832
Bond		10.250	\$111,731
Cheraw #31	\$4,206,838		
General Fund		27.000	\$113,585
Refund/Abate		0.215	\$904
Swink #33	\$14,947,598		
General Fund		21.997	\$328,802
Bond		13.132	\$196,292
Mill Override		1.081	\$16,158

Depart. Of Local Affairs
8/3/2011

Education

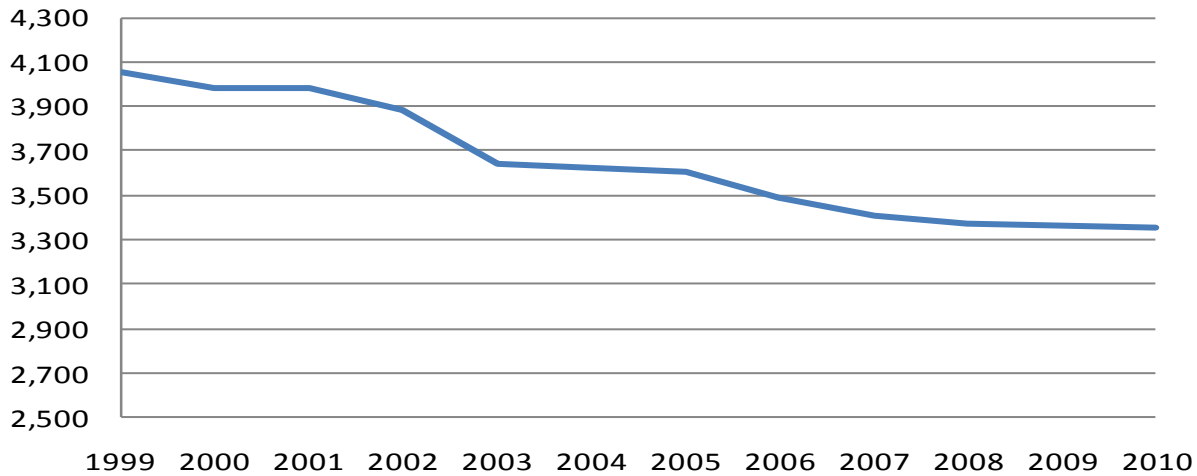
Enrollment

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
East Otero RE-1	1,749	1,775	1,816	1,820	1,633	1,584	1,575	1,458	1,382	1,354	1,318	1,309
Fowler R-4J	392	362	369	358	356	380	375	396	388	408	402	421
Manzanola 3J	275	254	224	195	193	204	210	211	219	169	177	173
Rocky Ford R-2	1,063	1,003	961	885	837	843	851	840	850	859	878	862
Swink 33	348	357	386	386	396	390	373	382	369	374	378	374
Cheraw	229	227	228	236	227	220	218	198	197	208	210	219
Total	4,056	3,978	3,984	3,880	3,642	3,621	3,602	3,485	3,405	3,372	3,363	3,358

Number of Graduates

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
East Otero RE-1	115	112	128	139	113	105	110	94	108	106	93
Fowler R-4J	35	21	30	22	26	30	25	25	28	22	24
Manzanola 3J	23	18	11	16	20	11	12	12	11	14	13
Rocky Ford R-2	48	47	51	37	38	37	49	40	51	38	39
Swink 33	28	22	23	38	25	28	35	30	19	23	30
Cheraw 31	21	15	17	22	17	14	9	16	17	11	12
Total	270	235	260	274	239	225	240	217	234	214	211

Otero County School Enrollment



www.cde.state.co.us
5/27/11

Education

Graduation Rate

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
East Otero RE-1	75.7	81.2	76.6	80.8	79.6	77.8	75.9	74.6	83.1	89.1	81.6
Fowler R-4J	92.1	91.3	88.2	91.7	96.3	83.3	83.3	92.6	84.8	88.0	85.7
Manzanola 3J	76.7	85.7	100.0	88.9	90.9	100.0	85.7	75.0	84.6	77.8	76.5
Rocky Ford R-2	80.0	74.6	73.9	77.1	67.9	75.5	70.0	65.6	71.8	59.4	69.6
Swink 33	96.6	84.6	95.8	100.0	92.6	96.6	97.2	96.8	95.0	100.0	96.8
Cheraw	87.5	88.2	94.4	91.7	100.0	100.0	75.0	100.0	89.5	100.0	92.3

Drop Out Rate

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
East Otero RE-1	3.1	3.1	3.3	3.0	2.1	1.0	0.7	1.3	1.1	1.3	1.9
Fowler R-4J	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	4.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5
Manzanola 3J	0.0	0.0	1.1	1.0	2.8	0.9	2.5	2.3	3.8	3.2	0.0
Rocky Ford R-2	3.1	2.5	3.1	4.2	3.7	1.8	3.5	3.5	3.6	1.6	2.2
Swink 33	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.5	0.5	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Cheraw	1.6	2.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

www.cde.state.co.us
5/27/2011

Crime

Offense	2005	2006	2007	2009
Arson	1	1	0	0
Assault	2	29	24	39
Burglary	19	21	12	16
Disorderly Conduct	2	1	0	2
Drug Violations	0	0	0	2
DUI	4	9	3	7
Forgery	0	0	0	0
Fraud	0	0	0	1
Larceny/Theft	10	57	38	39
Motor Vehicle Theft	0	12	4	3
Murder/Manslaughter	0	0	0	0
Non-Violent Family Offenses	1	0	0	2
Other Offenses	11	24	19	26
Rape	3	1	1	1
Robbery	1	0	1	0
Sex Offenses	0	0	0	0
Stolen Property	0	0	0	2
Vandalism	0	0	0	8
Weapons	0	0	0	1

2008 Data is not available

Colorado Bureau of Investigation

http://cbi.state.co.us/dr/docs_reports.asp

7/2/2010

Hospital

Arkansas Valley Regional Medical Center

1100 Carson Avenue

La Junta, CO 81050

Phone: 719-384-5412

Website: www.avrmc.org

Medicare Provider ID: 60036

Total Staffed Beds: 179

	2009	2010
Patient Revenue:	\$61,736,067	\$66,224,831
Total Discharges:	2,164	1,970
Total Patient Days:	41,019	39,269

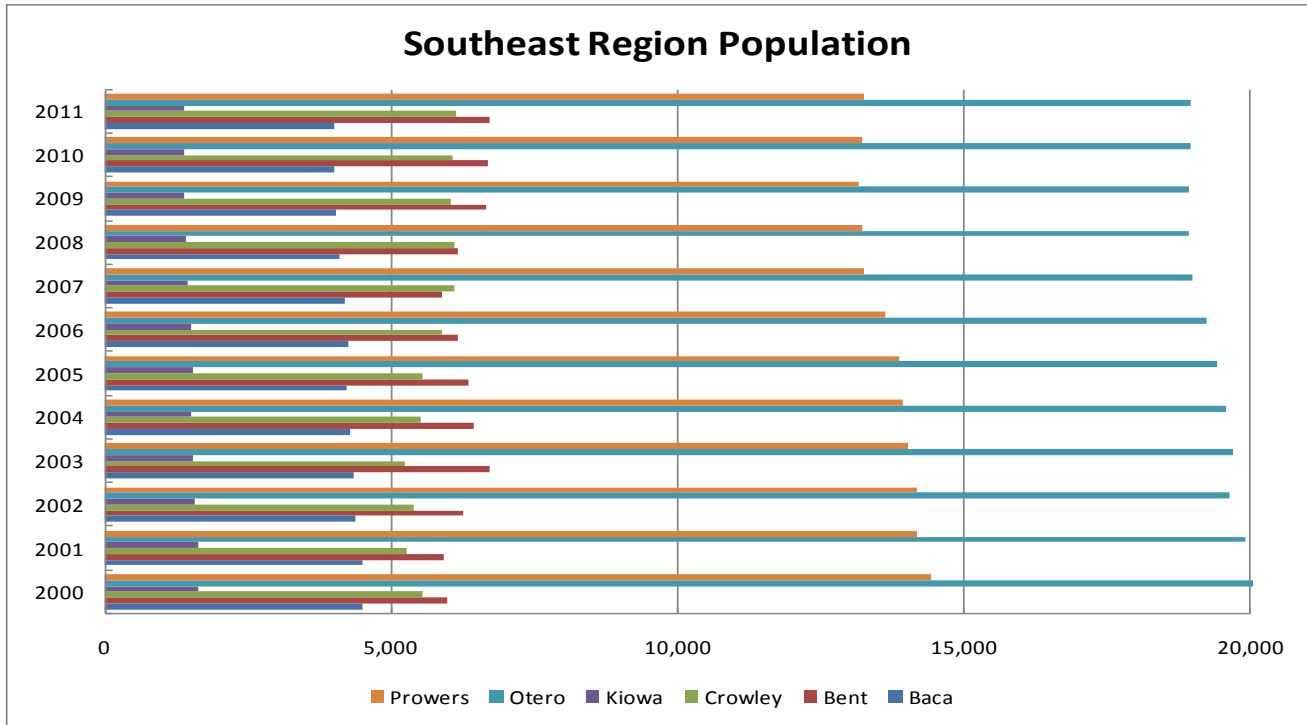
Source: American Hospital Directory

www.ahd.com

6/29/2010

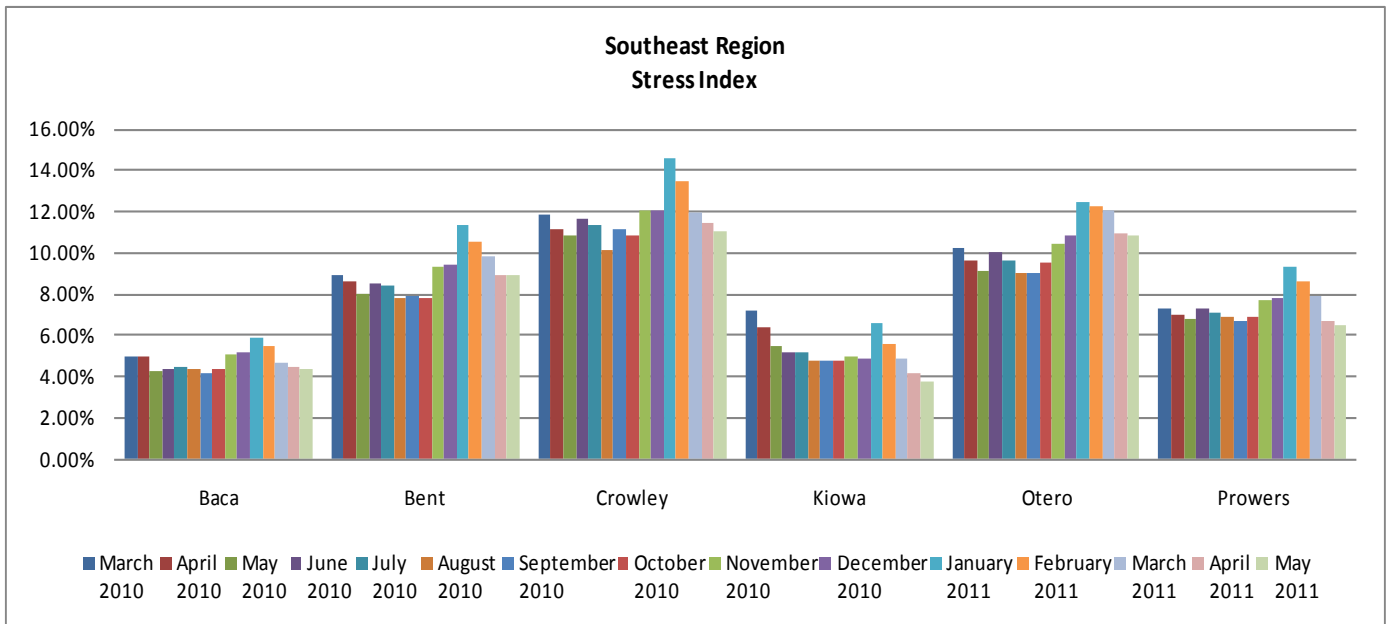
In The Region

Population



State Demography Office-DOLA
http://www.dola.state.co.us/demog_webapps/profile_county
 5/18/2011

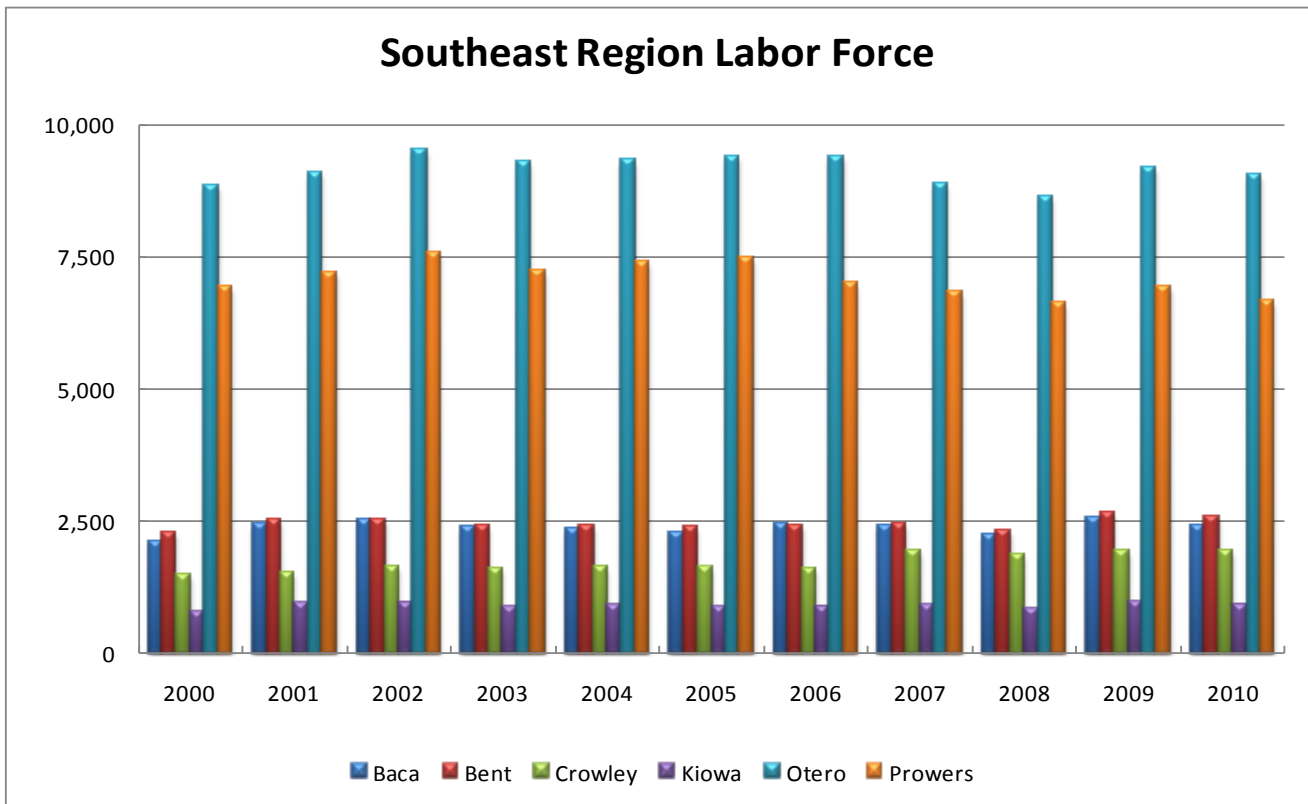
Stress Index



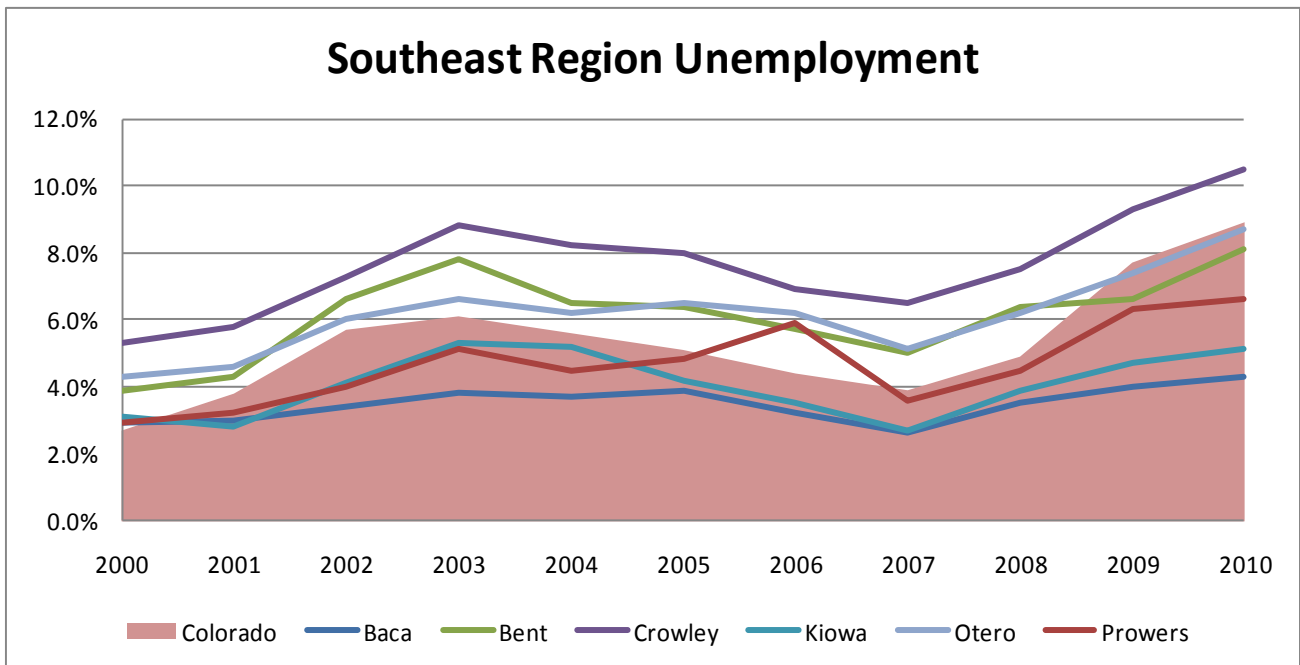
Stress Index Methodology:

The three rates were converted from percentages to decimal values between 0 and 1 before consolidating in the following calculation:
 $[1 - ((1 - \text{unemployment rate}) \times (1 - \text{foreclosure rate}) \times (1 - \text{bankruptcy rate}))] \times 100$
 Associated Press Economic Stress Index
http://hosted.ap.org/specials/interactives/_national/stress_index/
 6/22/2011

Labor Force

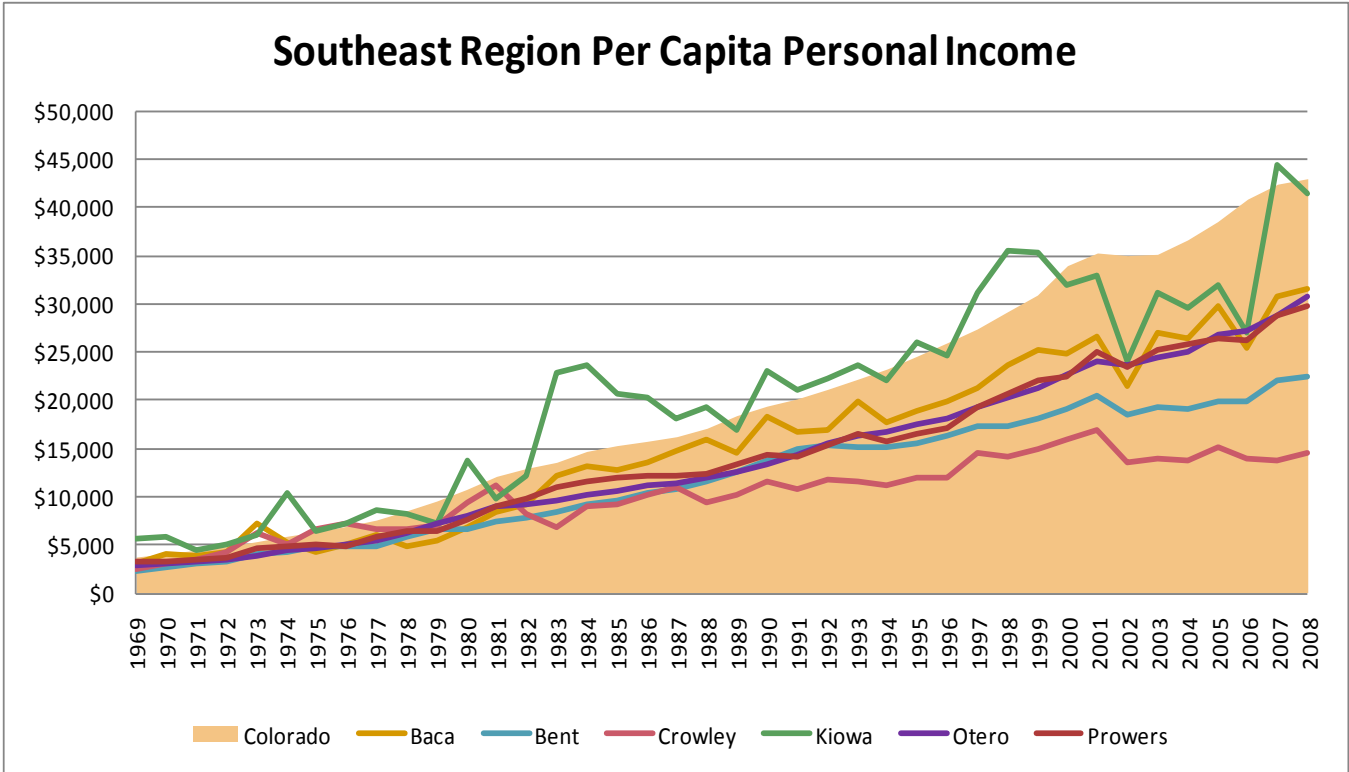


Colorado Workforce/LMI Gateway
<http://lmigateway.coworkforce.com>
 3/18/11



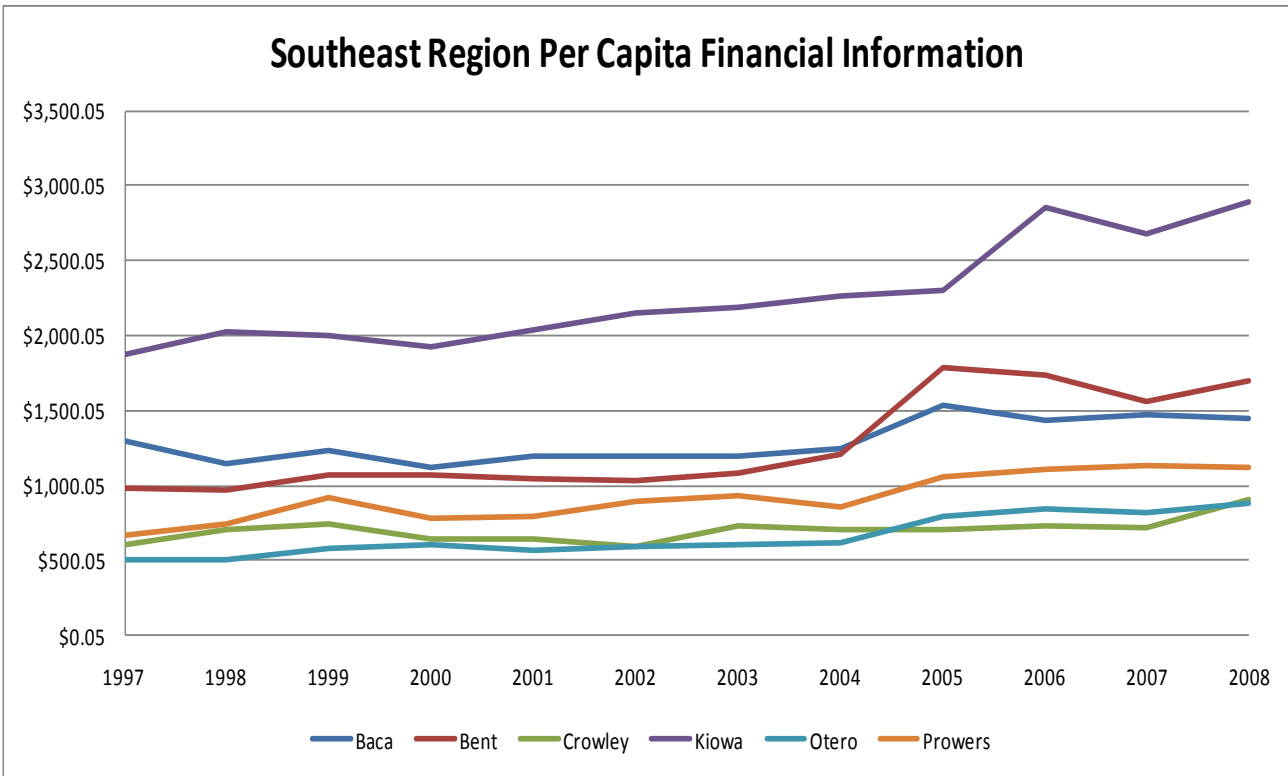
Colorado Workforce/LMI Gateway
<http://lmigateway.coworkforce.com>
 3/18/11

Income



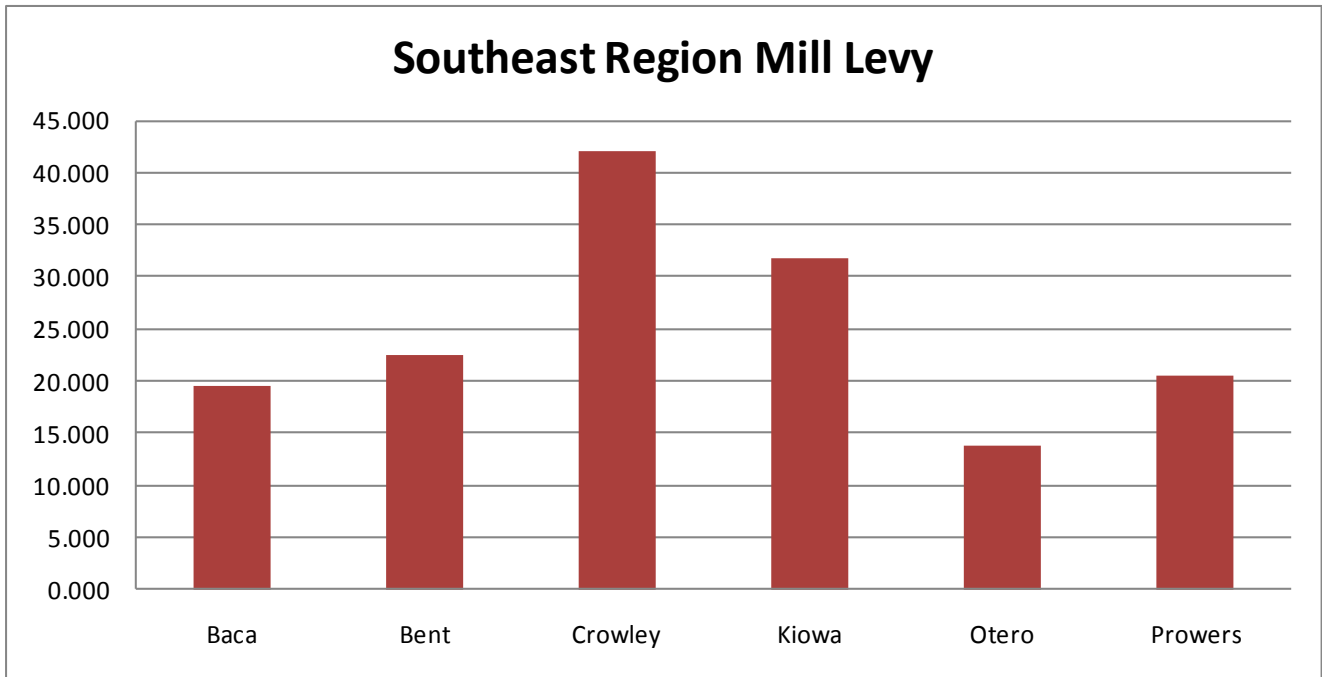
Bureau of Economic Analysis
1/11/2011

General Revenue Income



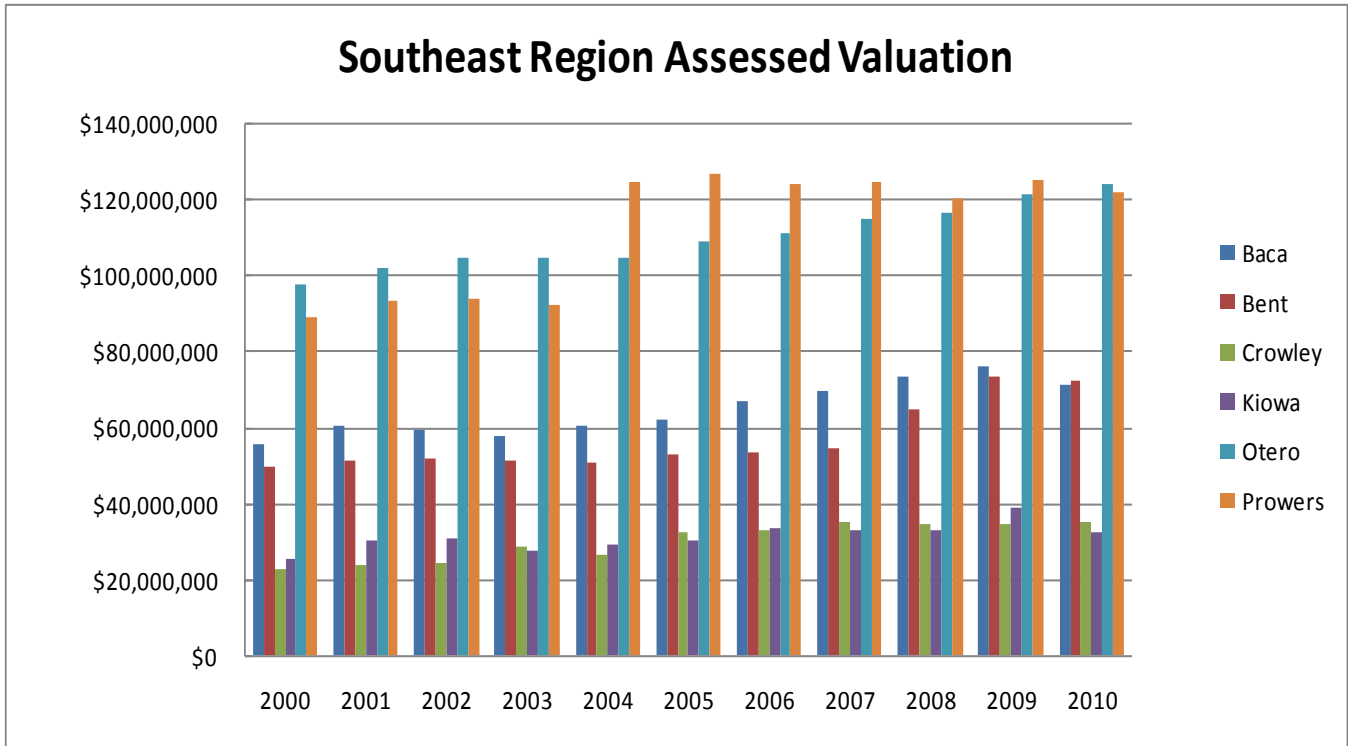
Colorado Division of Local Government
<http://www.dola.state.co.us/cedis.html>
10/19/2010

Mill Levy



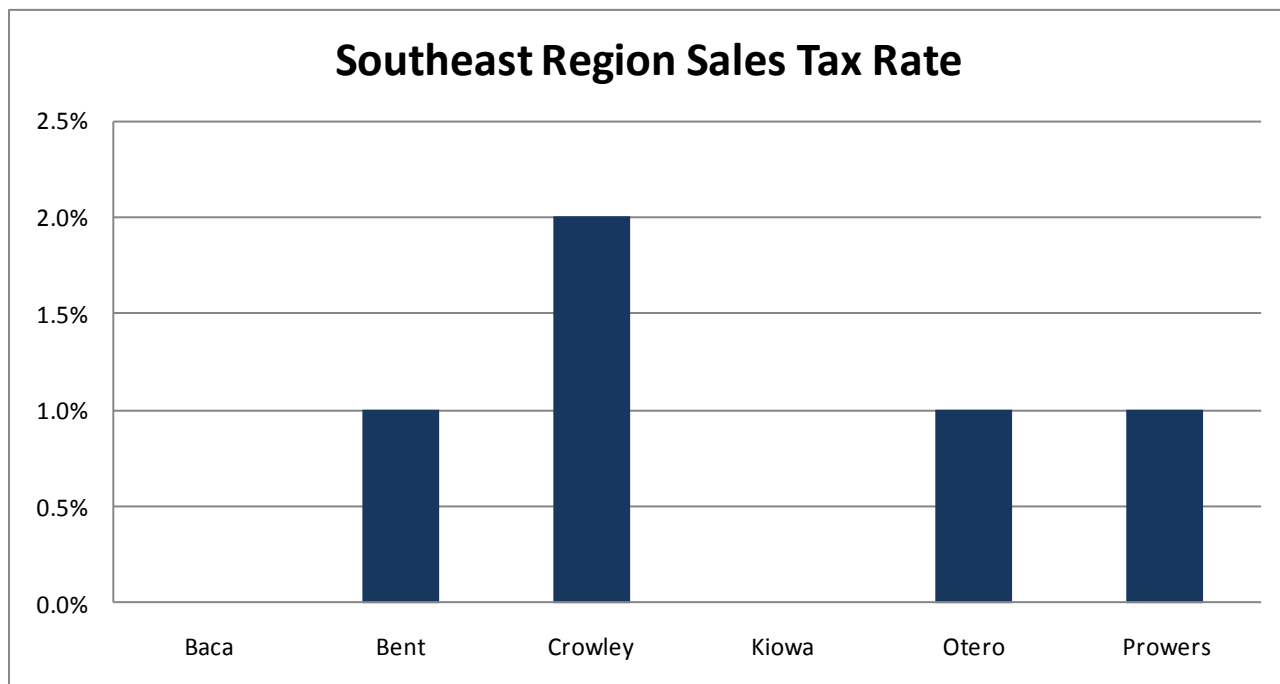
Dept. of Local Affairs
8/3/2011

Assessed Valuation



Dept. of Local Affairs
8/3/2011

Sales Tax Rate



Dept. of Revenue