



Economic Overview

Kiowa County, Colorado



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Demographic Profile

The population in Kiowa County, Colorado was 1,449 per American Community Survey data for 2014-2018.

The region has a civilian labor force of 693 with a participation rate of 64.0%. Of individuals 25 to 64 in Kiowa County, Colorado, 24.8% have a bachelor's degree or higher which compares with 32.9% in the nation.

The median household income in Kiowa County, Colorado is \$39,784 and the median house value is \$80,100.

Summary¹

Demographics	Percent			Value		
	Kiowa County, Colorado	Colorado	USA	Kiowa County, Colorado	Colorado	USA
Population (ACS)	—	—	—	1,449	5,531,141	322,903,030
Male	51.8%	50.3%	49.2%	750	2,780,831	158,984,190
Female	48.2%	49.7%	50.8%	699	2,750,310	163,918,840
Median Age ²	—	—	—	40.4	36.6	37.9
Under 18 Years	28.8%	22.8%	22.8%	417	1,259,819	73,553,240
18 to 24 Years	5.6%	9.5%	9.6%	81	522,730	30,903,719
25 to 34 Years	11.5%	15.4%	13.8%	167	849,157	44,567,976
35 to 44 Years	8.1%	13.5%	12.6%	117	749,277	40,763,210
45 to 54 Years	10.8%	12.9%	13.2%	156	715,354	42,589,573
55 to 64 Years	15.6%	12.6%	12.8%	226	694,166	41,286,731
65 to 74 Years	8.7%	8.2%	8.8%	126	455,831	28,535,419
75 Years, and Over	11.0%	5.1%	6.4%	159	284,807	20,703,162
Race: White	92.0%	84.2%	72.7%	1,333	4,655,584	234,904,818
Race: Black or African American	1.2%	4.1%	12.7%	17	227,938	40,916,113
Race: American Indian and Alaska Native	0.0%	1.0%	0.8%	0	54,483	2,699,073
Race: Asian	0.0%	3.1%	5.4%	0	172,695	17,574,550
Race: Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.1%	0.2%	0	8,296	582,718
Race: Some Other Race	0.3%	3.9%	4.9%	5	214,817	15,789,961
Race: Two or More Races	6.5%	3.6%	3.2%	94	197,328	10,435,797
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	5.4%	21.4%	17.8%	78	1,184,794	57,517,935
Population Growth						
Population (Pop Estimates) ⁴	—	—	—	1,406	5,758,736	328,239,523
Population Annual Average Growth ⁴	0.2%	1.5%	0.7%	3	78,654	2,146,799
People per Square Mile	—	—	—	0.8	55.6	92.9
Economic						
Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 16 years and over) ⁵	64.0%	68.1%	63.2%	693	2,978,700	162,248,196
Prime-Age Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 25-54) ⁵	81.6%	84.4%	81.8%	359	1,936,056	104,136,254
Armed Forces Labor Force ⁵	0.0%	0.8%	0.4%	0	33,612	1,028,133
Veterans, Age 18-64 ⁵	4.1%	6.1%	4.7%	31	213,265	9,398,789
Veterans Labor Force Participation Rate and Size, Age 18-64 ⁵	83.9%	78.5%	76.3%	26	167,453	7,168,168
Median Household Income ^{2,5}	—	—	—	\$39,784	\$68,811	\$60,293
Per Capita Income ⁵	—	—	—	\$24,012	\$36,415	\$32,621
Mean Commute Time (minutes) ⁵	—	—	—	14.3	25.5	26.6
Commute via Public Transportation ⁵	0.5%	3.1%	5.0%	3	86,516	7,602,145
Educational Attainment, Age 25-64						
No High School Diploma	3.9%	8.3%	11.2%	26	250,952	18,885,967
High School Graduate	32.0%	20.7%	25.8%	213	622,010	43,699,272
Some College, No Degree	29.1%	21.2%	21.0%	194	637,528	35,525,113
Associate's Degree	10.2%	8.9%	9.1%	68	266,896	15,389,737

Summary¹

	Percent			Value		
	Kiowa County, Colorado	Colorado	USA	Kiowa County, Colorado	Colorado	USA
Bachelor's Degree	18.3%	26.4%	20.8%	122	794,725	35,261,652
Postgraduate Degree	6.5%	14.5%	12.1%	43	435,843	20,445,749
Housing						
Total Housing Units	—	—	—	785	2,352,202	136,384,292
Median House Value (of owner-occupied units) ²	—	—	—	\$80,100	\$313,600	\$204,900
Homeowner Vacancy	3.0%	1.2%	1.7%	14	16,072	1,304,850
Rental Vacancy	9.7%	4.9%	6.0%	17	38,412	2,822,053
Renter-Occupied Housing Units (% of Occupied Units)	25.3%	35.1%	36.2%	150	742,242	43,285,318
Occupied Housing Units with No Vehicle Available (% of Occupied Units) ⁵	4.9%	5.2%	8.7%	29	108,846	10,424,934
Social						
Poverty Level (of all people) ⁵	11.3%	10.9%	14.1%	160	590,504	44,257,979
Households Receiving Food Stamps/SNAP	14.3%	8.0%	12.2%	85	168,243	14,635,287
Enrolled in Grade 12 (% of total population)	0.6%	1.3%	1.4%	8	72,553	4,442,295
Disconnected Youth ^{3,5}	0.0%	2.7%	2.6%	0	7,602	438,452
Children in Single Parent Families (% of all children) ⁵	26.1%	27.9%	34.3%	97	336,728	23,973,249
Uninsured	5.9%	8.1%	9.4%	84	441,850	29,752,767
With a Disability, Age 18-64 ⁵	10.7%	8.7%	10.3%	80	300,316	20,240,504
With a Disability, Age 18-64, Labor Force Participation Rate and Size ⁵	47.5%	49.5%	41.6%	38	148,528	8,421,018
Foreign Born	0.5%	9.8%	13.5%	7	542,977	43,539,499
Speak English Less Than Very Well (population 5 yrs and over)	1.1%	5.9%	8.5%	14	306,745	25,647,781

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

1. American Community Survey 2014-2018, unless noted otherwise

2. Median values for certain aggregate regions (such as MSAs) may be estimated as the weighted averages of the median values from the composing counties.

3. Disconnected Youth are 16-19 year olds who are (1) not in school, (2) not high school graduates, and (3) either unemployed or not in the labor force.

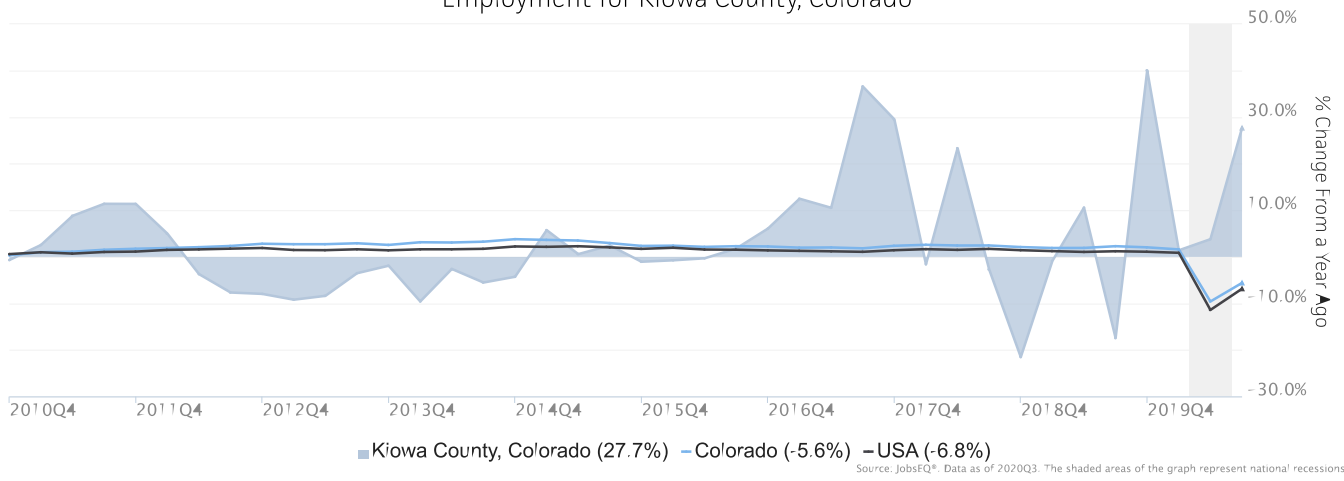
4. Census 2019, annual average growth rate since 2009

5. See Rio Arriba errata note in the Data Dictionary.

Employment Trends

As of 2020Q3, total employment for Kiowa County, Colorado was 991 (based on a four-quarter moving average). Over the year ending 2020Q3, employment increased 27.7% in the region.

Employment for Kiowa County, Colorado

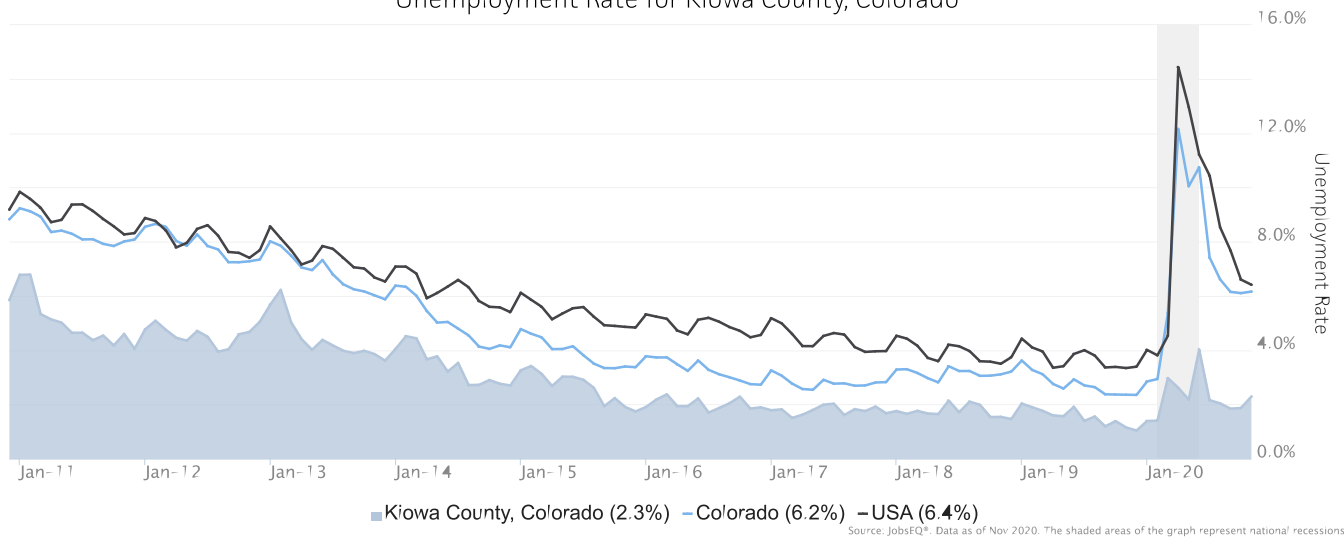


Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q2 with preliminary estimates updated to 2020Q3.

Unemployment Rate

The unemployment rate for Kiowa County, Colorado was 2.3% as of November 2020. The regional unemployment rate was lower than the national rate of 6.4%. One year earlier, in November 2019, the unemployment rate in Kiowa County, Colorado was 1.2%.

Unemployment Rate for Kiowa County, Colorado

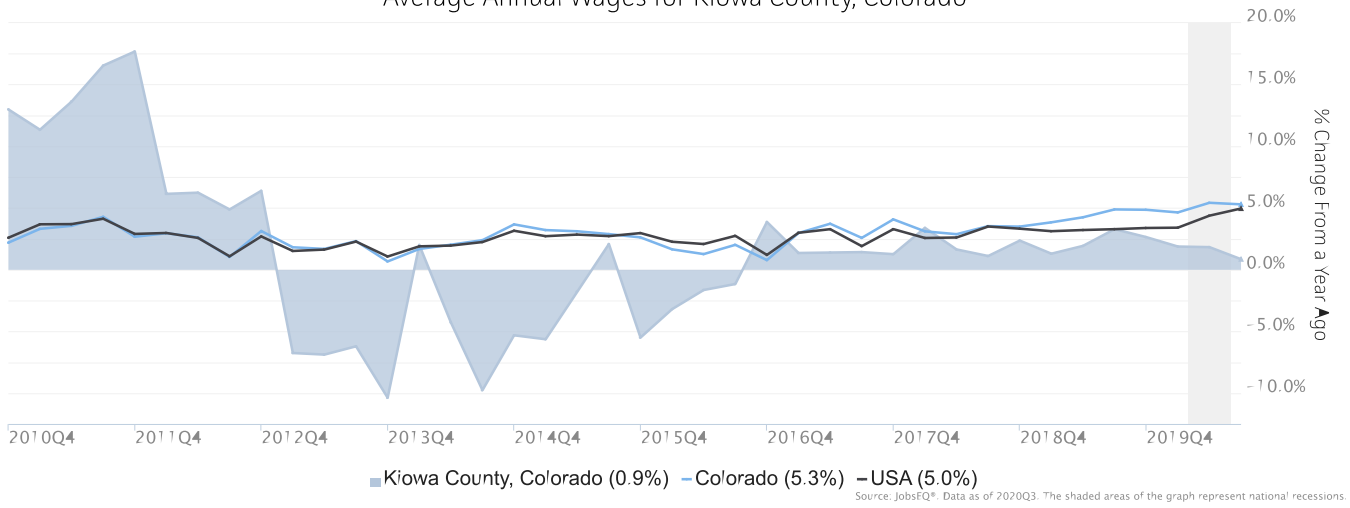


Unemployment rate data are from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and updated through November 2020.

Wage Trends

The average worker in Kiowa County, Colorado earned annual wages of \$43,306 as of 2020Q3. Average annual wages per worker increased 0.9% in the region over the preceding four quarters. For comparison purposes, annual average wages were \$60,042 in the nation as of 2020Q3.

Average Annual Wages for Kiowa County, Colorado



Annual average wages per worker data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q2 with preliminary estimates updated to 2020Q3.

Cost of Living Index

The Cost of Living Index estimates the relative price levels for consumer goods and services. When applied to wages and salaries, the result is a measure of relative purchasing power. The cost of living is 15.1% lower in Kiowa County, Colorado than the U.S. average.

Cost of Living Information

	Annual Average Salary	Cost of Living Index	
		(Base US)	US Purchasing Power
Kiowa County, Colorado	\$43,306	84.9	\$50,987
Colorado	\$62,614	108.2	\$57,885
USA	\$60,042	100.0	\$60,042

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

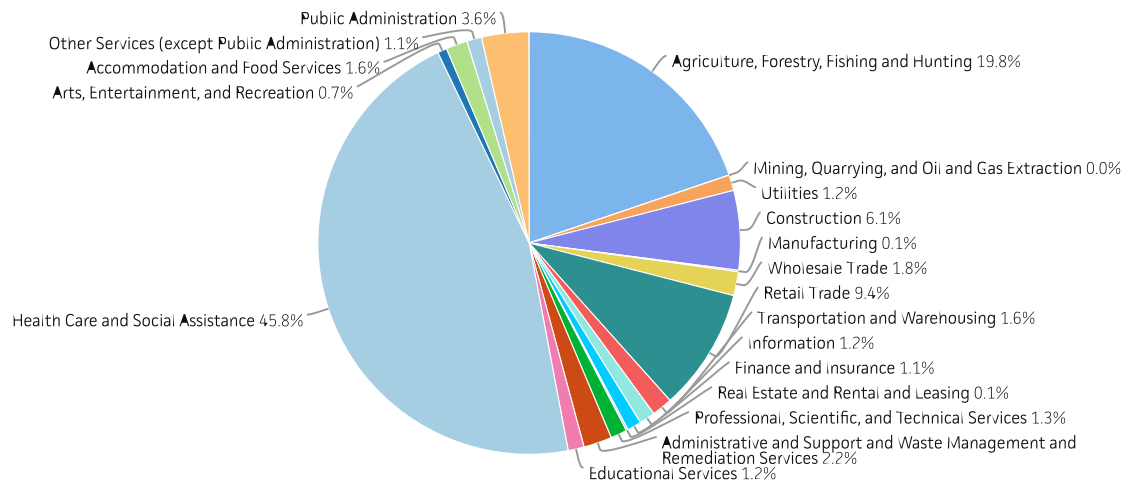
Data as of 2020Q3

Cost of Living per C2ER, data as of 2020q1, imputed by Chmura where necessary.

Industry Snapshot

The largest sector in Kiowa County, Colorado is Health Care and Social Assistance, employing 454 workers. The next largest sectors in the region are Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (196 workers) and Retail Trade (93). High location quotients (LQs) indicate sectors in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The sectors with the largest LQs in the region are Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (LQ = 14.47), Health Care and Social Assistance (3.11), and Utilities (2.24).

Total Workers for Kiowa County, Colorado by industry



Source: JobsEQ®, Data as of 2020Q3

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q2 with preliminary estimates updated to 2020Q3.

Sectors in Kiowa County, Colorado with the highest average wages per worker are Finance and Insurance (\$92,395), Manufacturing (\$76,404), and Utilities (\$66,681). Regional sectors with the best job growth (or most moderate job losses) over the last 5 years are Health Care and Social Assistance (+243 jobs), Retail Trade (+49), and Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (+10).

Over the next 2 years, employment in Kiowa County, Colorado is projected to contract by 5 jobs. The fastest growing sector in the region is expected to be Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation with a +1.0% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Health Care and Social Assistance (+2 jobs), Construction (0), and Public Administration (0).

NAICS	Industry	Empl	Current	5-Year History			2-Year Forecast				
			Avg Ann Wages	LQ	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
62	Health Care and Social Assistance	454	\$43,312	3.11	243	16.6%	88	42	44	2	0.2%
11	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	196	\$52,157	14.47	10	1.1%	39	18	24	-3	-0.8%
44	Retail Trade	93	\$22,703	0.91	49	16.2%	23	11	14	-2	-0.9%
23	Construction	60	\$30,539	1.04	-4	-1.2%	12	4	8	0	0.1%
92	Public Administration	36	\$39,882	0.74	7	4.2%	6	3	4	0	-0.5%
56	Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	21	\$28,318	0.34	10	13.6%	5	2	3	0	0.0%
42	Wholesale Trade	18	\$21,434	0.48	-5	-4.6%	3	1	2	0	-1.4%
48	Transportation and Warehousing	16	\$40,560	0.33	-2	-1.8%	3	1	2	0	-1.5%
72	Accommodation and Food Services	16	\$22,747	0.20	-10	-9.1%	5	2	3	0	0.0%
22	Utilities	12	\$66,681	2.24	-3	-4.4%	2	1	1	0	-1.3%
51	Information	12	\$28,634	0.60	6	16.6%	2	1	1	0	-0.3%
54	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	12	\$45,880	0.18	6	13.2%	2	1	1	0	-0.6%
61	Educational Services	12	\$37,677	0.15	5	10.9%	2	1	1	0	-0.7%
52	Finance and Insurance	11	\$92,395	0.26	-9	-11.7%	2	1	1	0	-0.6%
81	Other Services (except Public Administration)	11	\$18,167	0.26	-3	-4.6%	2	1	1	0	-0.5%
71	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	7	\$43,688	0.42	-2	-5.7%	2	1	1	0	1.0%
31	Manufacturing	1	\$76,404	0.01	0	-1.1%	0	0	0	0	-1.3%
53	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	1	\$36,146	0.08	0	0.9%	0	0	0	0	-0.8%
21	Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	0	n/a	0.00	-16	n/a	0	0	0	0	-1.1%
Total - All Industries		991	\$43,306	1.00	283	7.0%	211	92	123	-5	-0.2%

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2020Q2 with preliminary estimates updated to 2020Q3. Forecast employment growth uses national projections adapted for regional growth patterns.

Occupation Snapshot

The largest major occupation group in Kiowa County, Colorado is Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations, employing 236 workers. The next-largest occupation groups in the region are Management Occupations (168 workers) and Office and Administrative Support Occupations (94). High location quotients (LQs) indicate occupation groups in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The major groups with the largest LQs in the region are Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations (LQ = 4.79), Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations (4.09), and Management Occupations (2.57).

Occupation groups in Kiowa County, Colorado with the highest average wages per worker are Legal Occupations (\$96,100), Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations (\$78,300), and Architecture and Engineering Occupations (\$74,500). The unemployment rate in the region varied among the major groups from 0.7% among Management Occupations to 6.4% among Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations.

Over the next 2 years, the fastest growing occupation group in Kiowa County, Colorado is expected to be Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations with a +0.8% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations (+1 jobs) and Healthcare Support Occupations (+1). Over the same period, the highest separation demand (occupation demand due to retirements and workers moving from one occupation to another) is expected in Management Occupations (30 jobs) and Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations (26).

Kiowa County, Colorado, 2020Q3¹

SOC	Occupation	Empl	Mean Ann Wages ²	Current			5-Year History			2-Year Forecast				
				LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads ³	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	236	\$69,300	4.09	2	0.9%	0	124	16.0%	27	12	14	1	0.2%
11-0000	Management	168	\$73,200	2.57	1	0.7%	3	-11	-1.2%	26	16	14	-3	-1.0%
43-0000	Office and Administrative Support	94	\$34,900	0.74	2	2.4%	n/a	27	6.9%	19	9	12	-2	-0.9%
41-0000	Sales and Related	76	\$33,200	0.79	2	3.0%	2	30	10.8%	22	10	13	-1	-1.0%
31-0000	Healthcare Support	64	\$29,400	1.45	1	2.3%	n/a	36	17.6%	16	7	8	1	0.6%
37-0000	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	49	\$31,600	1.49	1	3.4%	n/a	20	11.4%	14	5	8	1	0.8%
47-0000	Construction and Extraction	45	\$40,200	0.97	2	4.6%	1	-9	-3.7%	10	3	7	0	0.0%
13-0000	Business and Financial Operations	35	\$61,400	0.64	0	n/a	n/a	7	4.8%	7	2	5	0	-0.1%
53-0000	Transportation and Material Moving	35	\$35,300	0.42	1	3.5%	0	5	2.9%	8	3	5	0	-0.5%
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related	34	\$26,400	0.44	2	6.4%	5	4	2.5%	12	5	7	0	0.5%
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	32	\$34,100	4.79	1	2.5%	0	17	16.6%	10	2	8	0	-0.2%
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	20	\$42,900	0.53	0	n/a	1	2	2.6%	3	1	3	0	-0.6%
21-0000	Community and Social Service	18	\$43,100	1.01	0	n/a	1	7	9.9%	4	1	2	0	0.1%
15-0000	Computer and Mathematical	15	\$65,400	0.51	0	n/a	3	5	8.3%	2	1	2	0	0.1%
25-0000	Educational Instruction and Library	13	\$36,700	0.23	0	n/a	n/a	4	8.1%	2	1	1	0	-0.3%
39-0000	Personal Care and Service	11	\$29,700	0.41	1	5.1%	n/a	2	4.6%	3	1	2	0	0.5%
33-0000	Protective Service	10	\$36,100	0.47	0	n/a	4	4	11.8%	2	1	1	0	-0.3%

Kiowa County, Colorado, 2020Q3¹

SOC	Occupation	Empl	Current				5-Year History			2-Year Forecast				
			Mean Ann Wages ²	LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads ³	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
17-0000	Architecture and Engineering	9	\$74,500	0.50	0	n/a	n/a	3	10.7%	1	0	1	0	-0.4%
51-0000	Production	9	\$36,400	0.15	0	n/a	n/a	1	3.1%	2	1	1	0	-0.7%
19-0000	Life, Physical, and Social Science	8	\$78,300	0.93	0	n/a	n/a	2	7.5%	1	0	1	0	-0.8%
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media	8	\$45,100	0.43	0	n/a	4	1	3.6%	2	1	1	0	-0.4%
23-0000	Legal	3	\$96,100	0.42	0	n/a	n/a	0	-0.8%	0	0	0	0	-0.1%
Total - All Occupations		991	\$51,600	1.00	19	2.0%	24	283	7.0%	195	83	116	-5	-0.2%

Source: [JobsEQ®](https://www.chmuraecon.com/jobseq)

Data as of 2020Q3 unless noted otherwise

Note: Figures may not sum due to rounding.

1. Data based on a four-quarter moving average unless noted otherwise.

2. Wage data are as of 2019 and represent the average for all Covered Employment

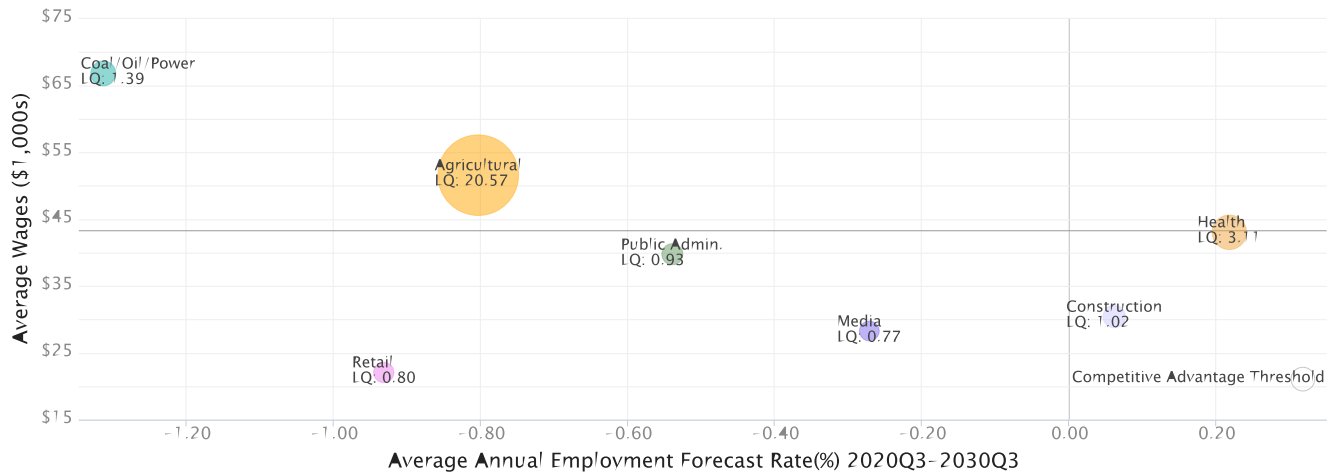
3. Data represent found online ads active within the last thirty days in the selected region; data represents a sampling rather than the complete universe of postings. Ads lacking zip code information but designating a place (city, town, etc.) may be assigned to the zip code with greatest employment in that place for queries in this analytic. Due to alternative county-assignment algorithms, ad counts in this analytic may not match that shown in RTI (nor in the popup window ad list).

Occupation employment data are estimated via industry employment data and the estimated industry/occupation mix. Industry employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and currently updated through 2020Q2, imputed where necessary with preliminary estimates updated to 2020Q3. Wages by occupation are as of 2019 provided by the BLS and imputed where necessary. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

Industry Clusters

A cluster is a geographic concentration of interrelated industries or occupations. The industry cluster in Kiowa County, Colorado with the highest relative concentration is Agricultural with a location quotient of 20.57. This cluster employs 196 workers in the region with an average wage of \$51,588. Employment in the Agricultural cluster is projected to contract in the region about 0.8% per year over the next ten years.

Industry Clusters for Kiowa County, Colorado as of 2020Q3



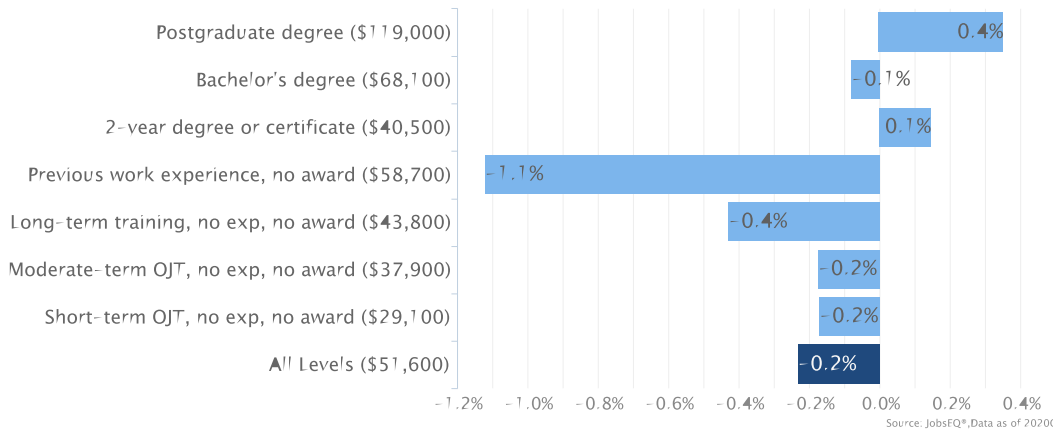
Source: JobsEQ®, Data as of 2020Q3

Location quotient and average wage data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, imputed where necessary, and updated through 2020Q2 with preliminary estimates updated to 2020Q3. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

Education Levels

Expected growth rates for occupations vary by the education and training required. While all employment in Kiowa County, Colorado is projected to contract 0.2% over the next ten years, occupations typically requiring a postgraduate degree are expected to grow 0.4% per year, those requiring a bachelor’s degree are expected to contract 0.1% per year, and occupations typically needing a 2-year degree or certificate are expected to grow 0.1% per year.

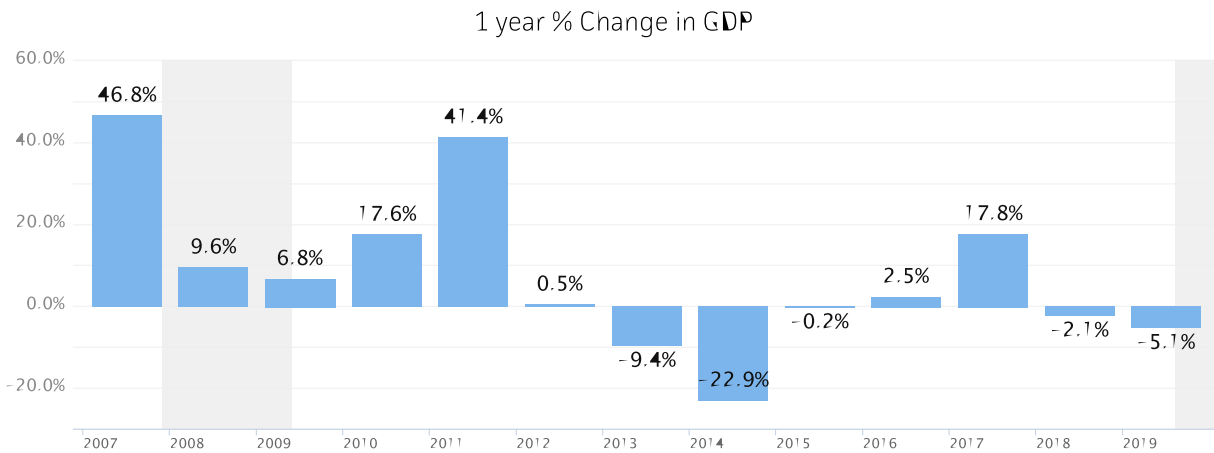
Annual Average Projected Job Growth by Training Required for Kiowa County, Colorado



Employment by occupation data are estimates as of 2020Q3. Education levels of occupations are based on BLS assignments. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

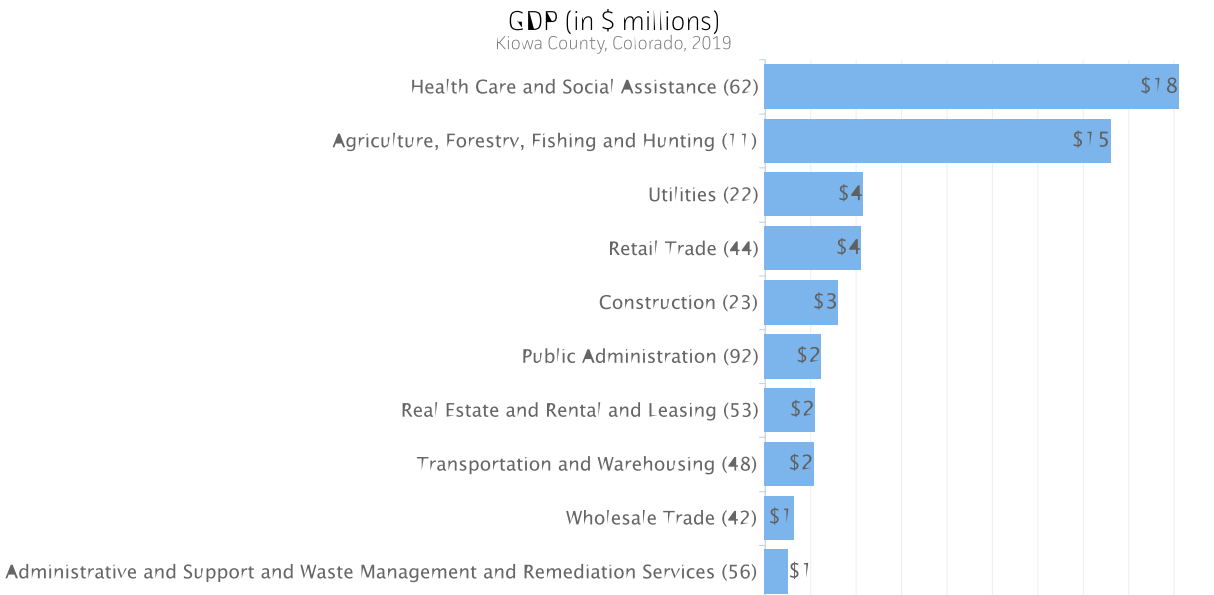
Gross Domestic Product

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the total value of goods and services produced by a region. In 2019, nominal GDP in Kiowa County, Colorado contracted 5.1%. This follows a contraction of 2.1% in 2018. As of 2019, total GDP in Kiowa County, Colorado was \$58,559,000.



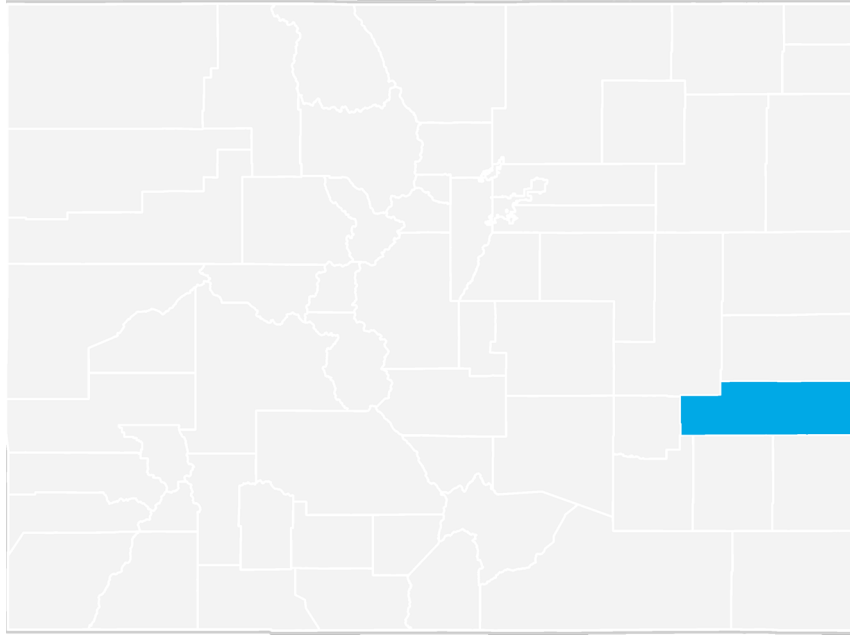
Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2019.

Of the sectors in Kiowa County, Colorado, Health Care and Social Assistance contributed the largest portion of GDP in 2019, \$18,186,000. The next-largest contributions came from Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (\$15,221,000); Utilities (\$4,298,000); and Retail Trade (\$4,214,000).



Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2019.

Kiowa County, Colorado Regional Map



FAQ

What is a location quotient?

A location quotient (LQ) is a measurement of concentration in comparison to the nation. An LQ of 1.00 indicates a region has the same concentration of an industry (or occupation) as the nation. An LQ of 2.00 would mean the region has twice the expected employment compared to the nation and an LQ of 0.50 would mean the region has half the expected employment in comparison to the nation.

What is separation demand?

Separation demand is the number of jobs required due to separations—labor force exits (including retirements) and turnover resulting from workers moving from one occupation into another. Note that separation demand does not include all turnover—it does not include when workers stay in the same occupation but switch employers. The total projected demand for an occupation is the sum of the separation demand and the growth demand (which is the increase or decrease of jobs in an occupation expected due to expansion or contraction of the overall number of jobs in that occupation).

What is a cluster?

A cluster is a geographic concentration of interrelated industries or occupations. If a regional cluster has a location quotient of 1.25 or greater, the region is considered to possess a competitive advantage in that cluster.

What is the difference between industry wages and occupation wages?

Industry wages and occupation wages are estimated via separate data sets, often the time periods being reported do not align, and wages are defined slightly differently in the two systems (for example, certain bonuses are included in the industry wages but not the occupation wages). It is therefore common that estimates of the average industry wages and average occupation wages in a region do not match exactly.

What is NAICS?

The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) is used to classify business establishments according to the type of economic activity. The NAICS Code comprises six levels, from the “all industry” level to the 6-digit level. The first two digits define the top level category, known as the “sector,” which is the level examined in this report.

What is SOC?

The Standard Occupational Classification system (SOC) is used to classify workers into occupational categories. All workers are classified into one of over 804 occupations according to their occupational definition. To facilitate classification, occupations are combined to form 22 major groups, 95 minor groups, and 452 occupation groups. Each occupation group includes detailed occupations requiring similar job duties, skills, education, or experience.

About This Report

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