

Springs at a Glance

FORM OF GOVERNMENT

Council-Mayor:

Nine-member Council (three Council members elected at-large, and six elected by district), and a popularly elected Mayor as the City's chief executive.

DEMOGRAPHICS

Population: 457,912 (2015 est.)

College Population¹: 40,211 (2014)

Median Age²: 34.6 (2013)

Median Household Income¹: \$53,747 (2013)

Unemployment Rate³: 5.1% (Nov 2014)

Ethnicity²:

- White (80.7%)
- Hispanic American/Latino (16.3%)
- Black/African American (6.5%)
- American Indian/Alaska Native (0.8%)
- Asian (2.8%)
- Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander (0.3%)
- Other (4.3%)
- Two or more races (4.8%)

Average # of Days of Sunshine⁴: 305

Average Annual Precipitation⁵: 16.2 inches

Serious Crimes per Thousand Population:

46 per 1,000 (Year 2013) compared to 2013 national average of 48 for cities with a population of 250,000-499,999; crimes include murder, sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, and auto theft

Elevation: 6,035 feet

LAND USE

Area in Square Miles: 195 (2014)

Street Lane Miles: 5,636 (2014)

Parkland Acres⁶: 17,266 (2014)

ECONOMICS

Sales Tax Rate:

City (2.5%); County (1.23%); State (2.9%); Pikes Peak Rural Transportation Authority (1.0%)

City Property Tax Rate:

4.279 mills (2014 mill rate levied for taxes payable in 2015)

Median Sales Price of Existing Home⁷:

\$225,000 (Dec 2014)

Property Taxes Paid on a \$212,000 House in School District 11:

\$1,078 total, City share is \$77 (for taxes payable in 2015)

Key Industries¹:

- Aerospace/Defense/Homeland Security
- Clean Technology
- Customer Support/Financial Services/Back Office
- Data Storage, Software IT
- Healthcare
- Higher Education
- Manufacturing
- Medical Innovation & Technology
- National Nonprofits
- Sports & Sports Related Organizations

COMMUNITY

Major Attractions:

- Cave of the Winds
- Cheyenne Mountain Zoo
- Garden of the Gods
- Pikes Peak – America's Mountain
- Pro Rodeo Hall of Fame & American Cowboy Museum
- Sky Sox Minor League Baseball
- United States Air Force Academy
- United States Olympic Committee Headquarters and Training Center

Sources:

¹ Colorado Springs Regional Business Alliance Just the Facts (www.coloradospringsbusinessalliance.com)

² American FactFinder (2014). Hispanics may be of any race, so also are included in applicable race categories

³ United States Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics

⁴ National Weather Service Weather Forecast Office, 30-year average (2012)

⁵ Climate-Zone.com/climate/united-states/Colorado/colorado-springs/

⁶ This includes the combined number of parks, open spaces, trails, cemeteries, golf courses, SIMDs, ROWs, and median acreage the City owns and/or manages

⁷ Pikes Peak Association of REALTORS (www.ppar.com/statisticssummary)

Community Profile

History



General William Jackson Palmer founded Colorado Springs in 1871, envisioning a resort community always in view of Colorado's famous Pikes Peak. Within seven years, the Antlers Hotel was built; and by 1918, the renowned Broadmoor Hotel was constructed.

Beginning in the late 1800s, Colorado Springs became a natural health destination for tuberculosis patients because of the nearly 300 days of sunshine a year, natural mineral springs, and dry mountain air.

Throughout its history, Colorado Springs has been a popular tourist destination due to its surrounding natural beauty and magnificent climate. Some of the more visited sightseeing attractions in and around Colorado Springs include Garden of the Gods, Pikes Peak – America's Mountain, United States Olympic Headquarters and Training Center, Cheyenne Mountain Zoo, United States Air Force Academy, and The Broadmoor Hotel.

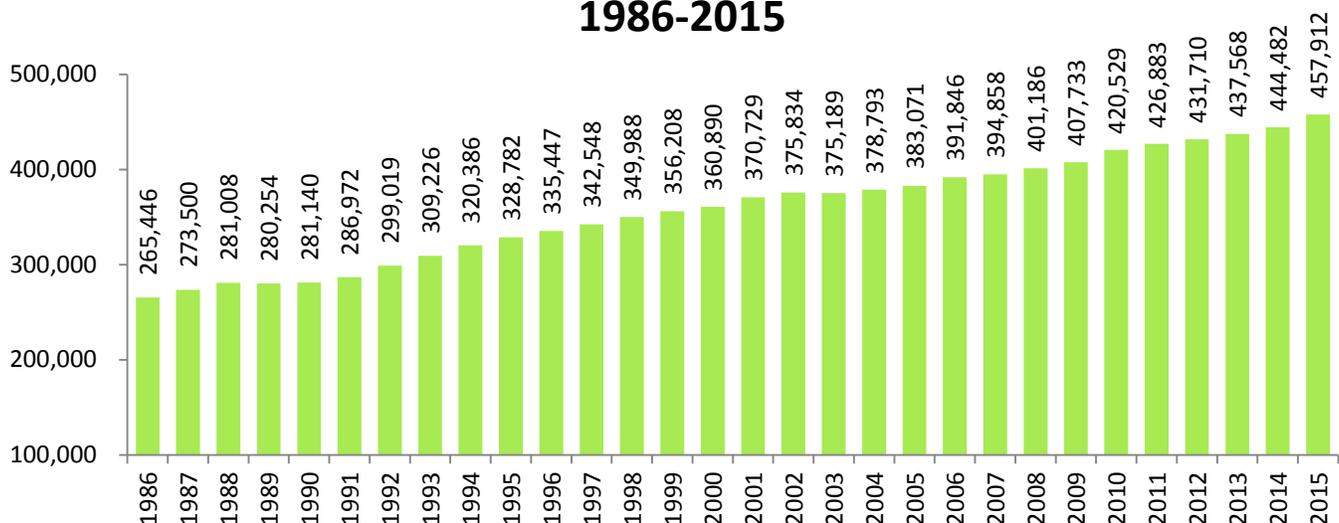
Population

Colorado Springs is located at the foot of Pikes Peak, 70 miles south of Denver. With a land area of 194.87 square miles and a 2015 estimated population of 457,912, Colorado Springs is the State's largest city in terms of area and second only to Denver in population.

The population of Colorado Springs has grown dramatically since the 1980s, increasing 72.5% from 1986 to the estimated 2015 population.



Colorado Springs Population 1986-2015



Local Economy

The economic base has become quite diversified with a mix of military installations, defense contracting, healthcare, software development, semiconductor manufacturing, telecommunications, data centers, religious and nonprofit associations, and tourism.

Area military installations are a significant factor in the local economy, constituting over 20% of all employment. Five major military installations are in the city: Fort Carson, Schriever and Peterson Air Force Bases, Cheyenne Mountain Air Station, and the United States Air Force Academy.

The spectacular climate makes it a choice location for software development, semiconductor manufacturing, data centers, and telecommunications. The Insurance industry is the second largest employer in the City.

Top Ten Private Sector Employers (Excluding School Districts)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lockheed Martin Corporation • Progressive Insurance Company • The Broadmoor Hotel • United Services Automobile Association (USAA) • Verizon Business • Atmel Corporation • Northrop Grumman Corporation • Compassion International • Colorado College • Intelligent Software Solutions, Inc.

Source: Colorado Springs Regional Business Alliance (June 2014)

Education

There are nine public school districts serving Colorado Springs with over 100 public elementary, middle, junior, and senior high schools. There are also more than 50 private, parochial, and charter schools.

In addition, Colorado Springs has more than 50 vocational and two-year schools, colleges, and universities. Below is a list of the City's largest colleges and universities.

Largest Post-Secondary Schools in the City	
School	Students
1. Pikes Peak Community College	14,741
2. University of Colorado at Colorado Springs	9,321
3. United States Air Force Academy	4,528
4. Colorado Technical University	2,947
5. Colorado College	2,008
6. Regis University	1,900
7. Nazarene Bible College	909
8. University of Phoenix	727
9. Intellitec College	569
10. Everest College	500

Source: Colorado Springs Regional Business Alliance (June 2014)

Government Finance Officers Association Award



GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

Distinguished Budget Presentation Award

PRESENTED TO

**City of Colorado Springs
Colorado**

For the Fiscal Year Beginning

January 1, 2014

Executive Director

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) presented an award of Distinguished Budget Presentation to the City of Colorado Springs, Colorado, for its annual budget for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2014. In order to receive this award, a governmental unit must publish a budget document that meets program criteria as a policy document, as an operations guide, as a financial plan, and as a communications device.

The award is valid for a period of one year only. We believe our current budget continues to conform to program requirements and we are submitting it to GFOA to determine its eligibility for another award.