

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: 498,879 (2021 est.)

Elevation: 6,035 feet

Median Age¹: 35.0

Median Household Income¹: \$72,633 (2019)

Unemployment Rate³: 6.9% (Jul 2020)

Ethnicity⁸: (2019 est.)

- White (78.3%)
- Hispanic American/Latino (17.7%)
- Black/African American (6.2%)
- American Indian/Alaska Native (0.7%)
- Asian (3.0%)
- Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander (0.3%)
- Two or more races (6.0%)

Average # of Days of Sunshine: 300

Average Annual Precipitation⁴: 15.92 inches

Serious Crimes per Thousand Population⁷:

19.8 per 1,000 for the period of Jan.-June, 2018-2019 for Colorado Springs (includes murder, sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, auto theft, and arson).

Land Use

Area in Square Miles⁸: 195 (2010 Census)

Street Lane Miles⁹: 6,185 (2020)

Parkland Acres⁵: 18,356 (2020)

Sources:

¹ US Census Data (<https://data.census.gov>). Hispanics may be of any race, so also are included in applicable race categories

² LMI Gateway, Colorado Department of Labor and Employment (<https://www.colmigateway.com>)

³ United States Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics (<https://data.bls.gov/cgi-bin/dsrv>)

⁴ Data provided by NOAA from 1949-2019 (<http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/cag/city/time-series>)

⁵ Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department. This includes the combined number of parks, open spaces, trails, cemeteries, golf courses, SIMDs, ROWs, and median acreage the City owns and/or manages

⁶ Pikes Peak Association of Realtors (<https://ppar.com/Documents/stats/MarketTrends/Prices>)

⁷ FBI Crime in the United States Data (<https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2019/preliminary-report>)

⁸ U.S. Census Bureau Quick Facts, Colorado Springs (www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/coloradospringscitycolorado/)

⁹ City of Colorado Springs, CarteGraph

Economics

Sales Tax Rate:

City (3.07%); County (1.23%); State (2.9%); Pikes Peak Rural Transportation Authority (1.0%)

City Property Tax Rate:

4.279 mills (2019 mill rate levied for taxes payable in 2020)

Median Sales Price of Existing Home⁶:

\$377,000 (July 2020)

Property Taxes Paid on a house with market value of \$377,000 in School District 11:

\$1,835 total, City share is \$116 (for taxes payable in 2020)

Key Industries (listed in order of the number of employees in Colorado Springs MSA)²: (Q1 2020)

- Healthcare and Social Assistance
- Accommodation and Food Services
- Retail Trade
- Educational Services
- Professional and Technical Services
- Administrative and Waste Services
- Construction
- Public Administration
- Finance and Insurance
- Manufacturing

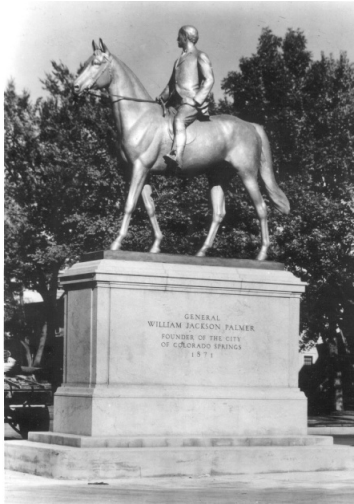
Community

Major Attractions:

- Cave of the Winds
- Cheyenne Mountain Zoo
- Garden of the Gods
- Pikes Peak – America's Mountain
- Pioneers Museum
- Pro Rodeo Hall of Fame & American Cowboy Museum
- Switchbacks Football Club
- United States Air Force Academy
- United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee (USOPC) Headquarters and Training Center
- US Olympic & Paralympic Museum

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.

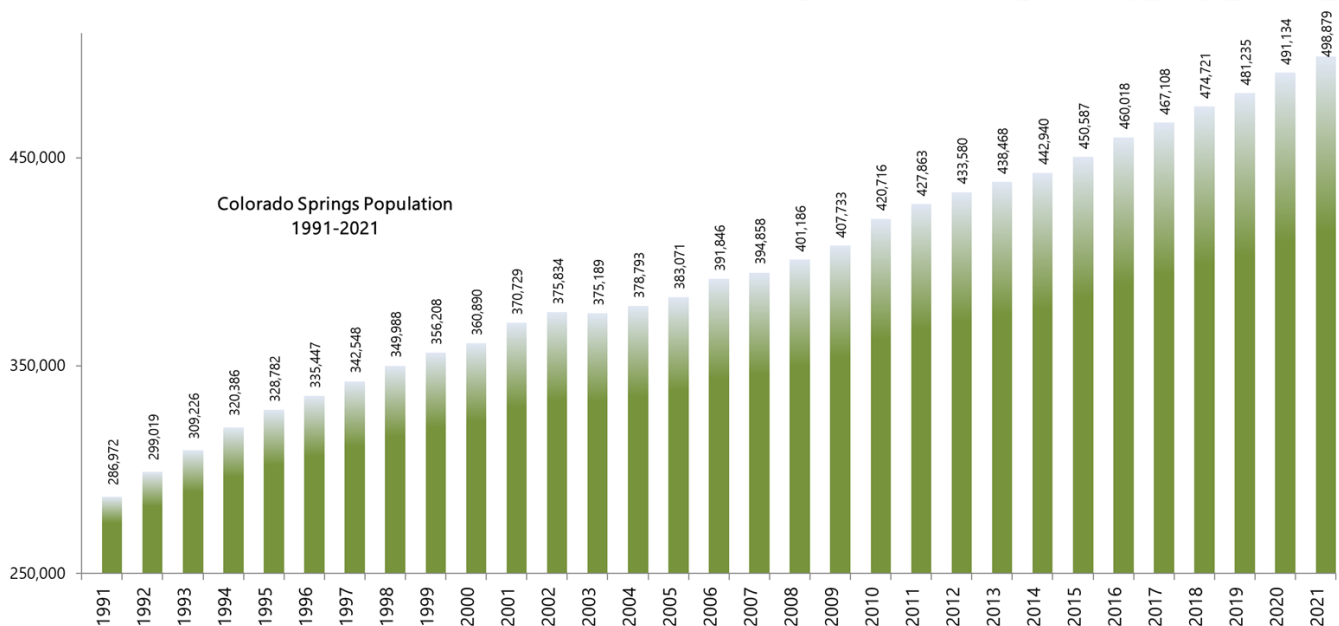
Beginning in the late 1800s, Colorado Springs became a natural health destination for tuberculosis patients because of the nearly 300 days of sunshine a year, natural mineral springs, and dry mountain air.

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 & Paralympic 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 195 square miles and a 2021 estimated population of 498,879, 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 1990s, increasing 73.84% from 1990 to the estimated 2020 population.



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 10% of all employment. Five major military installations are in the surrounding area: Fort Carson, Schriever, 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.

Major Private Sector Employers 1,000-4,999 Estimated Number of Employees (Excluding School Districts)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Broadmoor Hotel • Compassion International • Direct Checks Unlimited • Microchip • Penrose-St. Francis/Centura Health • Regis University • United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee • UC Health-Memorial Hospitals • United Services Automobile Association (USAA)

Source: LMI Gateway-Colorado Department of Labor and Employment

Education

There are nine public school districts serving greater 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.

On average, Colorado Springs ranks significantly higher in educational attainment compared to the national average. On last reporting, the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey reports that in 2018, 40.1% of Colorado Springs residents 25 and older have at least a Bachelors degree. The national average is 32.6%.

Major Post-Secondary Schools
Colorado College
Colorado Christian University
Colorado Online Colleges
Colorado Technical University
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
Pikes Peak Community College
Regis University
United States Air Force Academy
University of Colorado at Colorado Springs
University of Phoenix
Webster University

Source: Colorado Springs Chamber & EDC (Sep 2020)

Government Finance Officers Association Award



Note: As of the printing of this document, the City has not been notified of the 2020 Award

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, 2019. 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.