

# Colorado Springs at a Glance

## Form of Government

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### 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

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**Population:** 483,518 (2019 est.)

**Elevation:** 6,035 feet

**Median Age**<sup>2</sup>: 34.6

**Median Household Income**<sup>2</sup>: \$58,158 (2017)

**Unemployment Rate**<sup>3</sup>: 3.9% (Nov 2018)

### Ethnicity

- White (78.2%)
- Hispanic American/Latino (17.6%)
- Black/African American (6.4%)
- American Indian/Alaska Native (0.7%)
- Asian (2.9%)
- Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander (0.3%)
- Other (5.9%)
- Two or more races (5.6%)

**Average # of Days of Sunshine**<sup>1</sup>: 300

**Average Annual Precipitation**<sup>4</sup>: 15.98 inches

### Serious Crimes per Thousand Population

**Serious Crimes per Thousand Population**<sup>7</sup>: 4.35 per 1,000 (Year 2017) compared to 2017 national average of 6.11 for cities with a population of 250,000-499,999; crimes include murder, sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, auto theft.

## Land Use

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**Area in Square Miles**<sup>8</sup>: 195 (2018)

**Street Lane Miles:** 5,849 (2018)

**Parkland Acres**<sup>5</sup>: 17,266 (2018)

## Economics

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### Sales Tax Rate:

City (3.12%); County (1.23%); State (2.9%); Pikes Peak Rural Transportation Authority (1.0%)

### City Property Tax Rate:

4.279 mills (2018 mill rate levied for taxes payable in 2019)

### Median Sales Price of Existing Home

<sup>6</sup>: \$300,855 (December 2018)

### Property Taxes Paid on a house with market value of \$300,855 in School District 11:

\$1,510 total, City share is \$93 (for taxes payable in 2019)

### Key Industries

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

## Community

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### 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
- Switchbacks Football Club
- United States Air Force Academy
- United States Olympic Committee Headquarters and Training Center

Sources:

<sup>1</sup> Colorado Springs Chamber & EDC ([www.coloradospringschamberedc.com/](http://www.coloradospringschamberedc.com/))

<sup>2</sup> American FactFinder (2010). Hispanics may be of any race, so also are included in applicable race categories

<sup>3</sup> United States Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics

<sup>4</sup> Data provided by NOAA from 1948-2018 (<http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/cag/city/time-series>)

<sup>5</sup> This includes the combined number of parks, open spaces, trails, cemeteries, golf courses, SIMDs, ROWs, and median acreage the City owns and/or manages

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

<sup>7</sup> FBI Crime in the United States Data (<https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2017/crime-in-the-u.s.-2017/>)

<sup>8</sup> U.S. Census Bureau Quick Facts, Colorado Springs ([www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/coloradospringscitycolorado/](http://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/coloradospringscitycolorado/))

# 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.

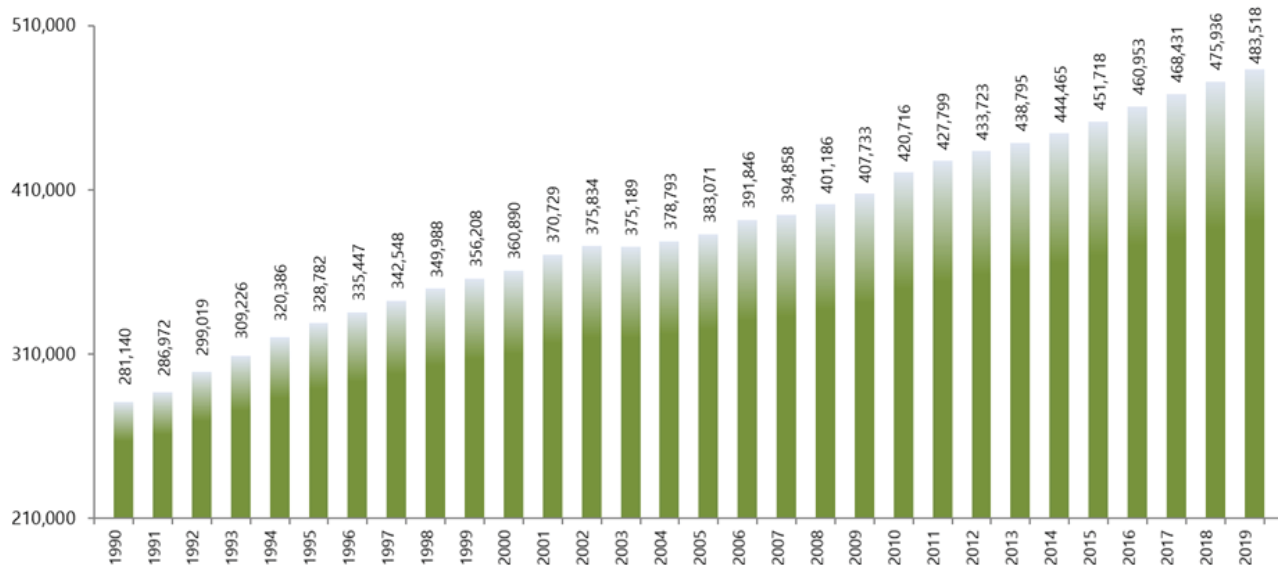
Beginning in the late 1800s, Colorado Springs became a natural health destination for tuberculosis patients because of the nearly 300 days of sunshine a year, natural mineral springs, and dry mountain air.

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 195 square miles and a 2019 estimated population of 483,518, 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 72.02% from 1990 to the estimated 2019 population.



## Local Economy

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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 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 (Excluding School Districts)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• United Services Automobile Association (USAA)</li> <li>• Penrose-St. Francis/Centura Health</li> <li>• The Broadmoor Hotel</li> <li>• Cherwell Software</li> <li>• Luce Research</li> <li>• Western Forge Corporation</li> <li>• Cobham Semiconductor Solutions</li> <li>• Firstsource Solutions Ltd.</li> <li>• Compassion International</li> <li>• Polaris Alpha</li> </ul>

*Source: Colorado Springs Regional Business Alliance (Sept 2018)*

## Education

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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.

On average, Colorado Springs ranks significantly higher in educational attainment compared to the national average. On last reporting, the American Community Survey reports 39.0% of Colorado Springs residents 25 and older have at least a Bachelors degree. The national average is 32.0%.

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

*Source: Colorado Springs Chamber & EDC (Sept 2018)*