

COLORADO



For more information about COLORADO, click here: <http://www.colorado.gov/>

MAJOR CITIES:

Central Colorado	Denver, Colorado Springs, Boulder
North Colorado	Fort Collins, Sterling
West Colorado	Grand Junction

COLORADO – CLIMATE

The climate of Colorado is more complex than states outside of the Mountain States region. Unlike most other states, southern Colorado is not always warmer than northern Colorado. Most of Colorado is made up of mountains, foothills, high plains, and desert lands. Mountains and surrounding valleys greatly affect local climate.

As a general rule, with an increase in elevation comes a decrease in temperature and an increase in precipitation. Northeast, east, and southeast Colorado are mostly the high plains, while Northern Colorado is a mix of high plains, foothills, and mountains. Northwest and west Colorado are predominantly mountainous, with some desert lands mixed in. Southwest and southern Colorado are a complex mixture of desert and mountain areas.

Eastern Plains: Center-pivot irrigation of wheat growing in Yuma County

The climate of the Eastern Plains is low humidity and moderate precipitation. The area is known for its abundant sunshine and cool, clear nights, which give this area a great average diurnal temperature range. The difference between the highs of the days and the lows of the nights can be considerable as warmth dissipates to the space during clear nights, the heat radiation not being trapped by clouds.

In summer, this area can have many days above 95°F (35°C) and often 100°F (38°C).^[18] On the plains, the winter lows usually range from 25 to -10°F (-4 to -23°C). About 75% of the precipitation falls within the growing season, from April to September, but this area is very prone to droughts. Most of the precipitation comes from thunderstorms, which can be severe, and from major snowstorms that occur in the winter and early spring. Otherwise, winters tend to be mostly dry and cold.^[19]

In much of the region, March is the snowiest month. April and May are normally the rainiest months, while April is the wettest month overall. The average July temperature is 55°F (13°C) in the morning and 90°F (32°C) in the afternoon.

West of the plains and foothills

West of the plains and foothills, the weather of Colorado is much less uniform. Even places a few miles apart can experience entirely different weather depending on the topography of the area. Most valleys have a semi-arid climate, which becomes an alpine climate at higher elevations. Humid microclimates also exist in some areas. Generally, the wettest season in western Colorado is winter while June is the driest month.

The mountains have mild summers with many days of high temperatures between 60 and 85°F (16 and 29°C), although thunderstorms can cause sudden but brief drops in temperature. The western slope has high summer temperatures similar to those found on the plains, while the winters tend to be slightly cooler due to the lack of warming winds common to the plains and Front Range. Other areas in the west have their own unique climate.

Extreme weather

Snow highlights the rugged mountains, as well as the urban and agricultural landscapes of the Colorado plains.

Extreme weather changes are common in Colorado, although the majority of extreme weather occurs in the least populated areas of the state. Thunderstorms are common east of the Continental Divide in the spring and summer, yet are usually brief. Hail is a common sight in the mountains east of the divide and in the northwest part of the state. The Eastern Plains have had some of the biggest hail storms in North America. The Eastern Plains are part of the extreme western portion of Tornado Alley. The plains are also susceptible to occasional floods, which are caused both by thunderstorms and by the rapid melting of snow in the mountains during warm weather.

Much of Colorado is a very dry state averaging only 17 in (430 mm) of precipitation per year statewide and rarely experiences a time when some portion of the state is not in some degree of drought.^[22] The lack of precipitation contributes to the severity of wildfires in the state. However, some of the mountainous regions of Colorado receive a huge amount of moisture from winter snowfalls. The spring melts of these snows often cause great waterflows in the Yampa River, the Colorado River, the Rio Grande, the Arkansas River, Cherry Creek, the North Platte River, and the South Platte River.

(°F) (°C)												
Monthly normal high and low temperatures for various Colorado cities ^[25]	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
City												
Alamosa	35/-2 2/-19	40/6 4/-14	51/17 11/-8	60/24 16/-4	70/33 21/1	79/41 26/5	83/47 28/8	80/46 27/8	73/37 23/3	62/25 17/-4	47/12 8/-11	36/1 2/-17
Colorado Springs	43/18 6/-8	45/20 7/-7	52/26 11/-3	60/33 16/1	69/43 21/6	79/51 26/11	85/57 29/14	82/56 28/13	75/47 24/8	63/36 17/2	51/25 11/-4	42/18 6/-8
Denver	44/19 7/-7	46/21 8/-6	54/27 12/-3	61/35 16/2	71/44 21/7	82/53 28/12	89/59 32/15	86/58 30/14	78/49 26/9	65/37 18/3	52/26 11/-3	43/18 6/-8
Grand Junction	38/18 3/-8	46/25 8/-4	57/32 14/0	66/39 19/4	76/48 24/9	88/57 31/14	94/64 34/18	90/62 32/17	81/53 27/12	67/41 19/5	51/29 11/-2	39/19 4/-7
Pueblo	47/14 8/-10	51/18 11/-8	60/26 16/-3	68/34 20/1	77/44 25/7	88/53 31/12	93/59 34/15	90/58 32/14	82/48 28/9	70/34 21/1	57/23 14/-5	46/14 8/-10

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

Click on this site for more cultural activity ideas:

<http://www.colorado.com/colorado-history-heritage?gclid=Cl-vjtvI0b4CFc1QOgodkR8AXA>

- **Colorado History & Heritage**

Some of the best things to do on a Colorado vacation revolve around its ancient and historic past. Once roamed by might dinosaurs, then formed by native people, westward exploration and expansion, Colorado historic sites and landmarks are waiting to be discovered.

- **Ancient Colorado History**

Stand in the footsteps of Colorado's oldest residents — the dinosaurs! Dig sites, museums and other family attractions offer access to fossils. At Dinosaur National Monument, Dinosaur Ridge and Picketwire Canyonlands, you can walk the same paths Colorado's prehistoric dinosaurs. At the Denver Museum of Nature & Science, the Dinosaur Journey Museum and the Rocky Mountain Dinosaur Resource Center, explore interactive exhibits about Colorado dinosaurs and learn about other creatures from Colorado's history.

Visitors can experience Colorado's earliest human residents, the Ancestral Puebloans, at Mesa Verde National Park, Hovenweep National Monument and the Anasazi Heritage Center. Colorado's history is full of rich American Indian heritage that can be experienced at galleries and festivals across the state, in addition to history museums and sites such as the Ute Indian Museum, Koshare Indian Museum and along the Trail of the Ancients Scenic and Historic Byway.

- **Wild West History in Colorado**

The exploration of the West and life on the frontier can be seen at numerous historic forts, including Bent’s Old Fort, Fort Garland and Fort Uncompahgre. Along the Frontier Pathways Scenic and Historic Byway, travelers can experience living on the new frontier and the views that rewarded the settlers as they arrived at the base of the mountains.

The 19th-century mining boom drew many people to Colorado with a hope of striking it rich. Today, travelers can experience a mining train trip 3,000 feet into the Bachelor Syracuse Mine in southwest Colorado and see the prosperous, historic main streets of mining towns such as Breckenridge, Leadville and Central City.

- **More History Attractions**

From cliff dwellings to historic railroads, ghost towns to [scenic byways](#), [museums](#) and more — you’ll find many ways to experience our distinctive history and character, as well as plenty Colorado vacation ideas.

GROCERY SHOPPING

City Market Publix Super Market Whole Foods Market	Kroger Albertsons Safeway Supermarkets
--	--

Click on this site for more grocery stores in Colorado:

<https://www.google.com/search?q=supermarkets+in+the+state+of+colorado> or
<http://supermarketpage.com/state/CO/>

SHOPPING

	Aspen Grove	Littleton, CO (Denver Area)	49 stores
	Belmar	Lakewood, CO (Denver Area)	97 stores
	Chapel Hills Mall	Colorado Springs, CO (Colo Springs Area)	106 stores
	Cherry Creek	Denver, CO (Denver Area)	163 stores
	Colorado Mills	Lakewood, CO (Denver Area)	176 stores
	Denver West Village	Lakewood, CO (Denver Area)	30 stores
	FlatIron Crossing	Broomfield, CO (Denver Area)	213 stores
	Foothills Mall	Fort Collins, CO (Fort Collins area)	50 stores
	Front Range Village	Fort Collins, CO (Fort Collins area)	74 stores
	Greeley Mall	Greeley, CO (Fort Collins area)	64 stores
	Mesa Mall	Grand Junction, CO (Western CO)	105 stores
	Northfield Stapleton	Denver, CO (Denver Area)	85 stores
	Outlets at Castle Rock	Castle Rock, CO (Denver Area)	104 stores
	Outlets at Silverthorne	Silverthorne, CO (Denver Area)	44 stores
	Park Meadows	Lone Tree, CO (Denver Area)	190 stores
	Pueblo Mall	Pueblo, CO (Colo Springs Area)	65 stores

	Southlands	Aurora, CO (Denver Area)	140 stores
	Southwest Plaza	Littleton, CO (Denver Area)	100 stores
	Tabor Center	Denver, CO (Denver Area)	17 stores
	The Orchard Town Center	Westminster, CO (Denver Area)	99 stores
	The Outlets at Loveland	Loveland, CO (Fort Collins area)	25 stores
	The Promenade Shops at Briargate	Colorado Springs, CO (Colorado Springs Area)	53 stores
	The Promenade Shops at Centerra	Loveland, CO (Fort Collins area)	76 stores
	The Streets at SouthGlenn	Centennial, CO (Denver Area)	54 stores

Click here for more information on shopping:

<http://www.mallseeker.com/coloradomalls.aspx>

PHARMACIES

Walgreens
 CVS Pharmacy
 Target
 Kroger
 Rite Aid
 Wal-Mart

Click here for locating other pharmacies in Colorado:

<http://www.yellowpages.com/colorado/pharmacies?g=colorado&q=pharmacies>

POST OFFICES/SHIPPING



Click here for more information:

<http://www.postofficehours.net/state/CO.html>



Click here for more information:

<http://local.fedex.com/search/Colorado/>



Click here for more information:

https://www.ups.com/dropoff?loc=en_US

TIME ZONES

Colorado Time Zone – Colorado Current Local Time - Daylight Saving Time

Colorado is in MDT (Mountain Daylight Time) Zone

Click here for more information:

<https://www.timeanddate.com/time/zone/usa/colorado>

COST OF LIVING IN COLORADO

Cost of Living Score

\$ \$ \$ \$ \$

The cost of living score is calculated based on accumulating the cost of food, transportation, health services, rent, utilities, taxes, and miscellaneous.

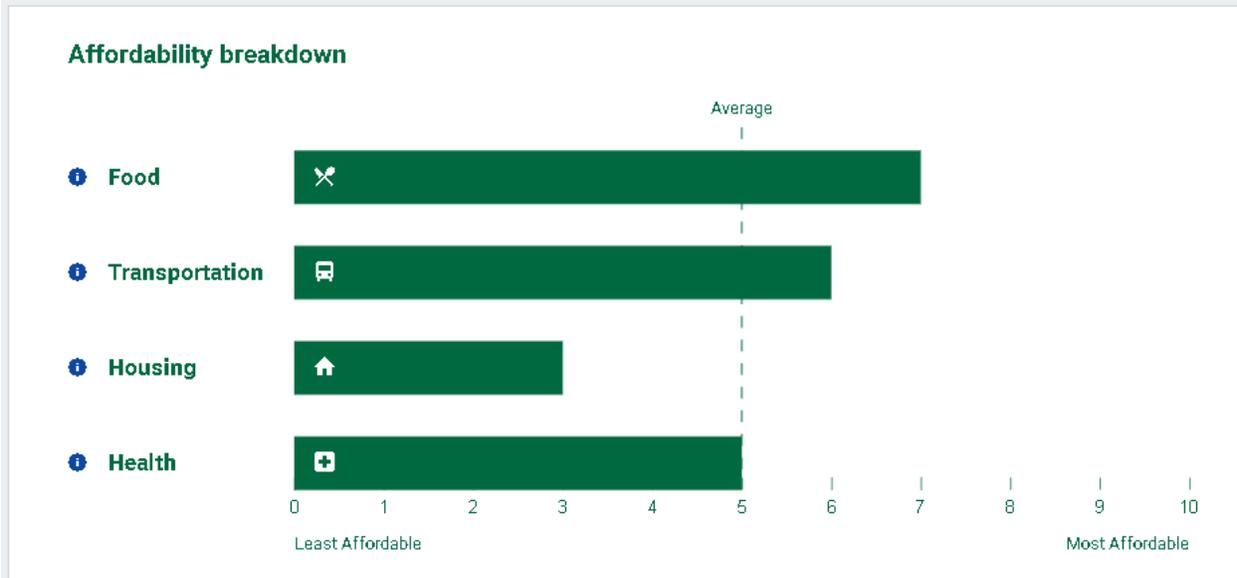
Average Salary

\$56,166 (USD) Yearly

\$27 (USD) Hourly

[Calculate your salary based on job title, location and experience](#)

↑ **9%**
 Higher than national average



Click here for more information:

<https://www.eriery.com/cost-of-living/united-states/colorado>

MINIMUM WAGE

State	2020 Minimum Wage	2020 Tipped Wage
CO	\$12.00	\$8.98

Click here for more information:

<https://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/minimum-wage/state#co>

<https://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/state/minimum-wage/tipped#Colorado>

WORKERS' COMPENSATION

Click here for more information:

<https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdle/dwc>

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

Denver:	RTD (Regional Transportation District) CDOT (Colorado Dept. of Transportation Commuter Rail)
Colorado Springs:	Springs Transit
Westminster:	NMCS (North Metro Community Services)
Littleton:	ACTS (Arapahoe County Transportation Services)

Click here for more information:

<https://www.apta.com/research-technical-resources/public-transportation-links/>