



At (or near) the top of nearly everyone's list. Metro Denver Rankings

Business Climate

- Colorado received an "A" for both business vitality and development capacity in the "2007 Development Report Card for the State"
-Corporation for Enterprise Development, 2007
- Colorado ranks first in the nation for competitiveness of existing businesses
-Corporation for Enterprise Development, 2007
- Colorado ranks first in the nation for financial resources
-Corporation for Enterprise Development, 2007
- Among states that levy a corporate income tax, Colorado's rate of 4.63% is the nation's second lowest
-The Tax Foundation, 2007
- Colorado ranks third highest for venture capital investment
-Corporation for Enterprise Development, 2007
- Colorado ranks third in creating new companies
-Corporation for Enterprise Development, 2007
- Colorado is the fifth-top state for business
-CNBC, 2008
- At almost three times the national average, Colorado ranks fourth for high-tech export concentration
-AeA, 2008
- Colorado ranks fourth in the nation for venture capital investments comprising worker earnings
-Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, Information Technology and Innovation Foundation, 2007

Workforce

- Colorado ranks first in top-scoring students in ACT and SAT tests
-NCHEMS Information Center, 2007

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**DENVER
METRO
CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE**



Workforce (cont.)

- The Boulder-Longmont area ranks first in the U.S. for scientists & engineers as a percent of the workforce
-*National Science Board, 2007*
- Colorado ranks second in the nation for entrepreneurial energy
-*Corporation for Enterprise Development, 2007*
- Colorado ranks third in the State Technology and Science Index
-*Milken Institute, 2007*
- Colorado is the third-most highly educated state
-*U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2006*
- Colorado ranks third in tech worker concentration
-*AeA, 2008*
- Colorado is a national leader for producing scientific talent, ranking fifth for science & engineering graduate students
-*National Science Foundation*

Health & Wellness

- Denver has the highest rates of health club membership in the nation with 25.1% of residents enrolled
-*2007 Health Club Industry Review*
- Colorado is the nation's thinnest state
-*Trust for America's Health, 2008*
- Colorado residents rank second for participation in physical activities and fill the fifth fewest drug prescriptions per capita
-*State Health Facts, 2007*
- Colorado ranks third lowest for heart disease and diabetes and fifth lowest for cancer incidence
-*Kaiser Family Foundation's State Health Facts, 2007*
- With its abundant recreational opportunities, Denver is the fourth fittest U.S. city
- *Men's Fitness magazine*
- Denver ranks in the top five cities for walkability
-*Brookings Institute, 2007*
- Denver ranks in the top five cities in America for its "Urban Life"
-*Men's Journal, 2007*
- Denver is a 'Best City' for its philosophy of eating smart, being fit, and living well
-*Cooking Light, 2007*
- Boulder is among the top five "Healthiest Places"
-*Men's Journal, 2007*
- "Colorado On the Move" demonstrated that citizens can stop weight gain by balancing energy expenditure and calorie consumption
-*America On the Move, 2007*





Infrastructure

- Denver International Airport is the fifth busiest U.S. airport and is 10th busiest in the world
-Federal Aviation Administration, 2008
- Initial daily ridership on the new Southeast Light Rail (built under T-REX) is just over 62,000 people, nearly double the original estimate
-Regional Transportation District, 2008
- FasTracks is the largest simultaneous construction of a mass transit system in U.S. history
- Up to 50 transit-oriented developments are planned along eight different light rail and commuter rail lines extending in all directions from the downtown core, making every corner of the region accessible to workers, residents, and visitors
- When fully developed, the 578-acre, \$4.3 billion Fitzsimons Life Science District and adjacent Anschutz Medical Campus will employ more than 30,000 life science workers
- Denver is the largest U.S. city with one-bounce satellite uplink capability for real-time connections to six out of seven continents in one business day

Sustainability

- Denver is a Best Workplace for Commuters Region
-Environmental Protection Agency, 2007
- Xcel Energy is the No. 1 wind power provider in the nation
-American Wind Energy Association, 2007
- Denver's tap water is the cleanest in the country
-Men's Health, 2007
- Denver ranked the ninth greenest U.S. city in a national report card of the 50 largest cities for urban sustainability
-Sustainlane.com, 2007
- Colorado State University is building the world's largest university-owned wind facility to power its entire campus
-Colorado State University, 2008
- Colorado ranks fourth in the U.S. for renewable energy and energy research employment
-Development Research Partners
- The National Renewable Energy Laboratory in Golden is the nation's primary laboratory for renewable energy and energy efficiency R&D
- The Signature Center in Lakewood is the largest speculative LEED Platinum project in the U.S.
-Aardex, LLC, 2007
- The new Museum of Contemporary Art/Denver is actively seeking a LEED Gold certification – the first such museum in the country to earn the distinction
-Museum of Contemporary Art, 2008
- The Department of Energy's National Renewable Energy Laboratory's new Research Support Facility will be one of the "greenest" buildings ever constructed
-NREL, 2008





Regionalism

- Over \$40 million is distributed annually to 300 arts and culture organizations in Metro Denver
-Scientific and Cultural Facilities District
- Culture in Metro Denver had a \$1.426 billion economic impact in 2006
-Colorado Business Committee for the Arts
- The economic vitality of Denver's creative sector, or Creative Vitality Index (CVI), is almost three times greater than the national average
-Denver Office of Cultural Affairs
- Denver is the seventh-best U.S. sports city for factors like fan fervor, stadiums, and championship teams
-Sporting News, 2007
- Metro Denver has eight professional sports teams
-Metro Denver Sports Commission
- In 2009, Denver will be the first North American city to host SportAccord, an international gathering of over 1,200 sports decision makers
-Metro Denver Sports Commission
- Metro Denver's successful regional economic development has been studied by U.S. cities like Albuquerque, Austin, Phoenix, Oklahoma City, San Diego, San Jose, St. Paul, and Milwaukee
-Metro Denver Economic Development Corporation

