



MetroDenverEDC



2023 INDUSTRY CLUSTER STUDY

# HEALTHCARE & WELLNESS

METRODENVER.ORG

## ABOUT



Metro Denver EDC

The Metro Denver Economic Development Corporation (Metro Denver EDC) is the nation's first regional economic development entity, bringing together the entire nine-county Metro Denver and Northern Colorado region to promote and support the mutual growth of our region's talent and businesses, while also recruiting new talent and new business to join us living a prosperous and elevated life.

Metro Denver is a region on the rise, fueled by the passion of changemakers and boundary breakers that are in it for the long haul. With a culture that's always moving forward, the companies that call this community home are poised to make a real impact - one that goes beyond their own four walls - as we work together to build the best possible future for our region.

As part of the Metro Denver EDC brain trust, our 250+ investors get unmatched access to the decisions, directions and collaboration opportunities that are transforming the landscape of our economy, region and communities.

Join us to make your voice heard, collaborate with the region's top business executives, and be part of leading the changes you want to see happen.



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## 2023 INDUSTRY CLUSTER SCAN

# HEALTHCARE & WELLNESS

By The Numbers

## INDUSTRY SNAPSHOT US NUMBERS IN PARENTHESIS



**COMPANIES:** 38,930

**AVERAGE WAGE:** \$56,240

**EMPLOYMENT CONCENTRATION RANKING:** 25

**Direct Employment:** 246,850

**Direct Employment Concentration (2022):** 11.9% (12.4%)

**5-Year Employment Growth (2017 - 2022):** 10.9% (3.4%)

**1-Year Employment Growth (2022):** 1.7% (1.7%)

# INDUSTRY OVERVIEW

The nine-county Metro Denver and Northern Colorado region is a global healthcare and wellness leader, with support from top-tier healthcare and research institutions, a highly trained workforce, and an innovative climate. The 578-acre University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus and Fitzsimons Innovation Campus is the largest academic health center in the Rocky Mountain region, and Children's Hospital Colorado is one of the nation's best children's hospitals. The region is also a world-renowned fitness destination and is home to one of the healthiest populations in the nation. Denver ranked ninth among the top 100 fittest cities in the U.S., according to the ACSM American Fitness Index, and also ranked ninth in Wallethub's 2023 Best Cities for an active lifestyle. Fort Collins (No. 9) and Boulder (No. 11) ranked among SmartAsset's top 10 most fitness-friendly cities. Douglas County ranked No. 3 and Broomfield ranked No. 9 in the nation in the U.S. News & World Report rankings of the healthiest communities in the nation. U.S. News & World Report also ranked Boulder No. 4 among the "2022-23 Best Places to Live." Further, Denver is one of just two U.S. cities to receive top accolades in a CityHealth assessment of the nation's healthiest cities, based on an assessment that ties city policies and environments to physical and mental health.

The Healthcare and Wellness cluster is the region's largest in terms of employment, representing almost one in every nine jobs. Over the past five years, more than 24,200 workers and 11,050 companies were added. Nearly 80% of cluster employment is healthcare-related, while about 20% is wellness-related.

After falling 3.9% in 2020 and being greatly impacted by the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, employment in the cluster rebounded 2.5% in 2021 but remained below pre-pandemic levels. As of 2022, employment in the cluster surpassed pre-pandemic levels, with over-the-year growth of 1.7%.

Nevertheless, the COVID-19 pandemic has had a lasting impact on the cluster's workforce, including many healthcare workers permanently leaving the industry due to factors including retirement and burnout. Healthcare workers across the region have had to continually endure long work hours, supply chain disruptions, workforce shortages, and repeated waves of patients seeking treatment. Further strain was put on hospitals and hospital workers in the fall and winter of 2022 as rising flu, COVID-19, and RSV hospitalizations hit at the same time, filling hospital beds, particularly for pediatric care.

Demand for services and workers in the Healthcare and Wellness cluster is expected to continue increasing due to the region's growing and aging population, the changing health insurance landscape, and ongoing treatment for chronic conditions. By 2050, the region's population ages 65 and older is projected to double to 1.1 million. Residents in the state also tend to live longer compared to other states, ranking among the top states with the highest life expectancy.

According to a study of the healthcare labor market by Mercer, Colorado's workforce has a shortage of about 3,000 nurses, a deficit that is expected to increase to more than 10,000 by 2026. Further, the state's shortage of low wage healthcare workers (including medical assistants, home health aides, and nursing assistants) is expected to reach 54,000 by 2026. Hospital systems, educational institutions, and policy makers are finding new ways to increase the workforce pipeline, including the creation of new educational programs, partnerships between companies and institutions, and new policies to remove barriers to entry for new healthcare workers.

The nine-county region is comprised of two principal areas, Metro Denver and Northern Colorado. Metro Denver consists of Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Denver, Douglas, and Jefferson counties. Northern Colorado consists of Larimer and Weld counties.

# CLUSTER DEFINITION

The Metro Denver and Northern Colorado region is comprised of Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Denver, Douglas, Jefferson, Larimer, and Weld counties. The Healthcare & Wellness cluster includes the practices generally related to human health such as hospitals, specialty care centers, and outpatient services. Companies focused on nursing care, assisted living, and long-term care and businesses that provide services for individuals, families, and the elderly are also included. The wellness component of the cluster encompasses fitness equipment, recreation facilities, and wellness service providers. Companies that manufacture ophthalmic goods, sports and athletic equipment, and outerwear are also a part of Healthcare & Wellness cluster. Finally, the cluster includes government agencies engaged in the planning, administration, and coordination of public health programs and services. The Healthcare & Wellness cluster consists of 52, six-digit North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) codes. This definition allows for a comparative analysis of the Metro Denver and Northern Colorado region's cluster relative to other metropolitan regions across the nation.

# CLUSTER JOB TRENDS

- » Employment in the region's Healthcare & Wellness cluster rose 1.7% in 2022, compared with a 1.7% increase nationwide.
- » Over the past five years, the Healthcare & Wellness cluster posted 10.9% growth, more than three times faster than the U.S. growth rate of 3.4%.
- » Healthcare & Wellness is the largest cluster in the region with nearly 246,850 workers in 38,930 companies.
- » The number of cluster companies rose 39.6% over the past five years or by 11,050 additional firms.
- » Payroll in the cluster was the highest among all clusters/subclusters, totaling nearly \$14 billion.
- » Nine out of 10 Healthcare & Wellness cluster companies employ fewer than 10 people.

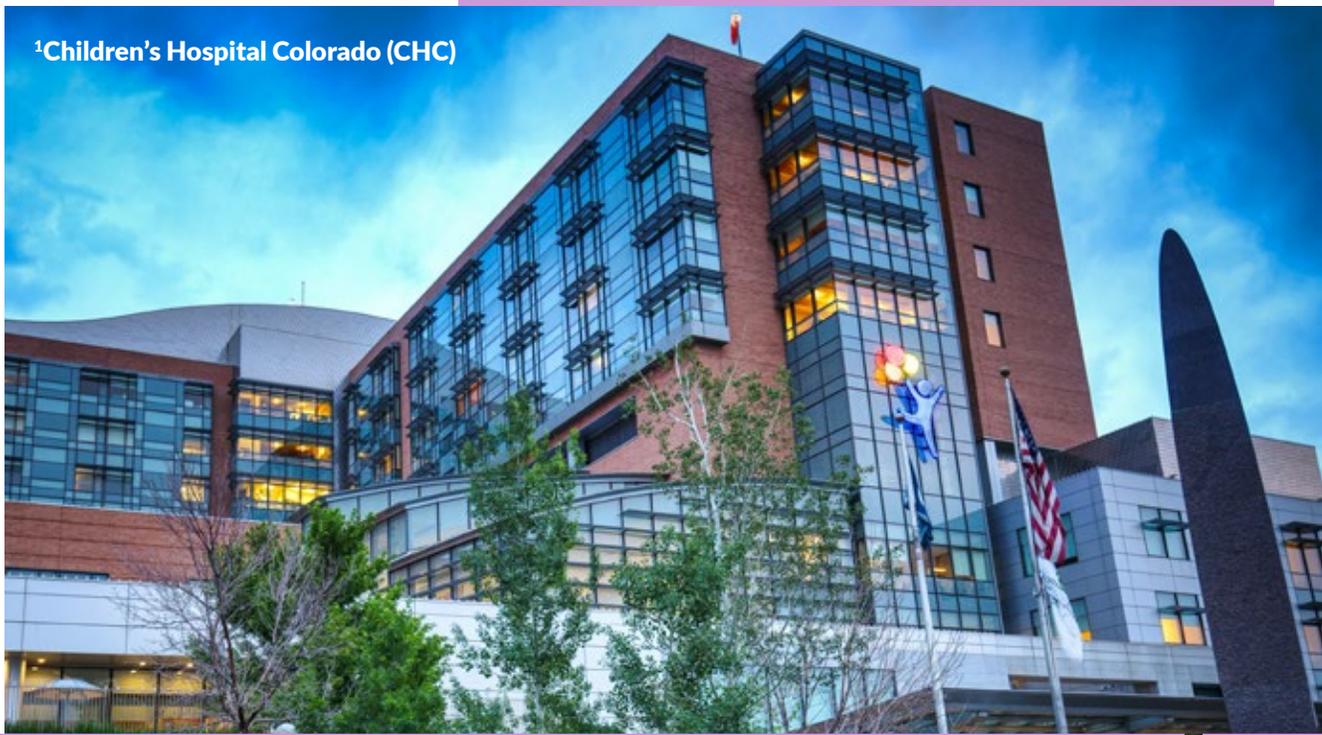




## NOTABLE RANKINGS

- » **UCHealth University of Colorado Hospital** in Aurora was named the best hospital in Colorado in the U.S. News and World Report “2022-23 Best Hospitals Ranking”. The Aurora hospital ranked first for the 11th straight year, followed by **UCHealth Medical Center of the Rockies** in Loveland and **SCL Health Saint Joseph Hospital** in Denver. In total, 12 Colorado hospitals met the standards to appear in the annual list.
- » **Children’s Hospital Colorado (CHC)**<sup>1</sup> ranked No. 7 in nation and No. 1 in the Rocky Mountain Region in the “2022-23 Best Children’s Hospitals.” CHC placed in the top 10 for five specialties and in the top 25 for the remaining five specialties (U.S. News & World Report).
- » Three Denver-area hospitals, **SCL Health Saint Joseph Hospital** in Denver, **UCHealth University of Colorado Hospital** in Aurora, and **SCL Health Lutheran Medical Center** in Wheat Ridge were named among the best in maternity care in 2022 (U.S. News & World Report).
- » **UCHealth Poudre Valley Hospital** in Fort Collins was named as one of the nation’s top 100 major teaching hospitals for the 16th year in Merative’s “100 Top Hospitals 2022”. Also named were **Rose Medical Center** (5th year), UCHealth University of Colorado Hospital (8th year), and **Swedish Medical Center** (4th year).
- » Colorado ranked among the top 10 states with the highest percentages of hospitals scoring an “A” in the “2022 Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grades”.

<sup>1</sup>Children’s Hospital Colorado (CHC)



# MAJOR INDUSTRY INVESTMENTS, EXPANSIONS & MILESTONES

## Construction Projects

- » **Kaiser Permanente** plans to spend \$70 million to renovate and expand its Denver-area facilities over the next several years, including the creation of a new medical office building in Parker. The 22,500-square-foot facility will be built on 6.5 acres at the northeast intersection of Parker and Hess roads, and will replace their existing medical office in Parker. The new facility will be 30% larger than the existing offices and will increase the number of exam rooms from 12 to 20. Construction is expected to begin in 2024, with a targeted opening in the summer of 2025.
- » **Kaiser Permanente** currently has a \$60 million project in progress at its Franklin and Skyline medical offices in downtown Denver. Additionally Kaiser is planning a total of \$100 million in capital improvement projects to go to eight of the 30 medical offices across the Front Range.
- » **UCHealth Medical Center of the Rockies** in Loveland will expand its number of patient beds by more than 50% with the construction of a new tower. The 271,000-square-foot expansion will raise the number of beds to 319. With this addition – as well as other planned regional expansions – the hospital group will also be expanding its workforce by 1,200 to 1,400 people.
- » **Centura Health** broke ground on a \$151 million, 133,000-square-foot expansion at **St. Anthony North Hospital** that will add a total of 237 beds. The new five-story building will include a cancer center as well as a medical surgical unit with 30 beds, an intensive care unit with 26 beds, and space for an additional 60 medical surgical beds. The first phase of the project is expected to be completed by fall 2024.
- » GM Development has submitted plans to overhaul the former **Veterans Affairs Hospital** campus in Denver's Hale neighborhood. The Denver-based real estate firm outlined two options for the space, both totaling more than 1 million square feet. One option plans for 1.3 million square feet of space that would include retail, office, and potentially hotel space. The second option calls for 1 million square feet of new construction along with repurposing the main hospital building.
- » The **UCHealth University of Colorado Hospital** is building an 11-story tower with 103 new beds and a parking garage.

- » Evergreen Devco, Inc. completed an 8,000-square-foot **UCHealth** medical office building at the Nine Mile Corner mixed-use project in Erie.
- » The **City and County of Denver** is planning to build a brand-new 45,000-square-foot recreation center in Denver's Westwood neighborhood. Construction is planned to begin during the first quarter of 2024, with an early 2026 opening for the general public. Construction costs for the new center are expected to be \$20.5 million.
- » **Movement Climbing, Yoga, & Fitness**, a climbing company with climbing and fitness gyms across the country, is opening its sixth Colorado location in Centennial. The company plans to hire between 80 and 120 team members when the new location opens in 2024.

## NOTABLE AWARDS & DESIGNATIONS

- » **UCHealth Medical Center of the Rockies** received a state Level 1 trauma designation, making it the only hospital north of Denver to receive that designation. MCR is one of six Level 1 trauma centers in Colorado, joining four Metro Denver facilities and one Colorado Springs hospital. Level 1 trauma centers can treat severe and complex injuries and are required to have around-the-clock coverage in several specialties.
- » Larimer County Economic and Workforce Development recognized **Banner Health** as an outstanding employer for its contribution to youth development. Banner participated in Governor Polis's Summer Job Hunt program and offers an internship program as well as an externship and apprenticeships to help develop health care professionals in Northern Colorado.
- » **Sky Ridge Medical Center** in Lone Tree and **Swedish Medical Center** in Englewood, which are both part of the HealthOne hospital system, received the 2022 Patient Safety Excellence Award from Healthgrades, a Denver-based platform to connect consumers with health care providers. The award indicates how well a hospital prevents infections, medical errors, and complications based on 14 serious but preventable patient safety events. Both hospitals won the award in 2020 and 2021 as well.

## Headquarter Relocations and Company Expansions

- » **ViewRay Inc.**, a company that designs, manufactures, and markets a radiation therapy system, moved its headquarters from Cleveland to Denver. The company first opened a Denver office in 2019 with plans to employ 270 people in Metro Denver within eight years. The company also announced plans to establish a manufacturing facility in Aurora in 2023.
- » **Virta Health**, a San Francisco-based health technology company that specializes in treating type 2 diabetes without drugs, chose Denver as the site of its new headquarters. The company employs 450 people, including 100 who already work in Denver. Virta Health plans to create as many as 1,000 new jobs with the move of its headquarters, including engineers, researchers, sales and account managers, clinicians, and administrative roles.
- » **Medtronic** plans to spin off its patient-monitoring and respiratory intervention businesses into a new company. The two businesses account for \$2.2 billion in annual revenue, or about 7% of Medtronic's total revenue, and about 8,000 employees.
- » **CenterWell Home Health, Humana Inc.'s** rebranded home health initiative, is expanding into Colorado and 13 other states. CenterWell Home Health is formed out of **Kindred at Home**, which Humana acquired in August 2021.
- » Two of Colorado's largest health care systems, **UCHealth** and **Intermountain Healthcare**, are joining forces to form a clinically integrated network. This partnership will ultimately allow the two systems to treat patients from either network and coordinate their care. The venture will bring 700 primary care physicians and hundreds of clinics and hospitals together to share information and resources, expanding the number of patients in Colorado who can be seen by either network to 300,000.



## Funding Awards

- » Colorado researchers received record-breaking funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) for the second year in a row. Researchers received more than \$525 million in grants, up \$21 million from 2021, ranking Colorado No. 19 among the states in terms of NIH funding in 2022. **University of Colorado Denver** and **University of Colorado's Anschutz Medical Campus** received nearly 62% of all funds distributed.
- » Denver-based **DispatchHealth** raised \$332 million in funding, bringing the total amount raised since its founding in 2013 to \$733 million. DispatchHealth is a tech-enabled health company that sends caretakers to patients' homes to provide at-home care equal to what they would get in a urgent care or emergency room. This latest infusion of capital will allow the company to build a technology platform capable of onboarding and triaging patients, as well as managing the logistics required to deliver care and ensure that providers have the correct resources and equipment. It will also allow DispatchHealth providers to coordinate treatment with other parts of the health care system.
- » Denver-headquartered **Everside Health Group** reached unicorn status with a valuation of just over \$1 billion after its most recent capital raise. The organization, formerly known as **Paladina Health**, raised \$164 million, which it plans to use to build more health care centers, invest in technology, and continue its mergers and acquisitions strategy. The company, founded in 2010, specializes in a direct primary health care model, in which employers can pay a flat rate to give employees 24/7 access to physicians at clinics at or near their workplace. Everside has 1,500 employees in total, including 122 in Colorado.

## Healthcare Technology

- » **BioIntelliSense Inc.**, a golden-based health technology company, launched the commercial availability of a new wearable device that allows for remote patient monitoring. The medical-grade BioButton Rechargeable device allows for continuous remote monitoring of more than 20 vital signs and biometrics and has a charge that can last up to 30 days. The company announced that the BioButton will be worn by astronauts during a five-day mission flown by SpaceX in 2023, as part of the larger Polaris Dawn mission to research human health in space and improve future space travel.
- » **SOBRsafe**, a Denver-based technology firm, released a wearable alcohol-detection sensor and has partnered with North-Star Care rehabilitation center that has already purchased 1,150 wristbands. The wristbands read blood-alcohol levels and report them to the center for interventions. SOBRsafe currently employs 20 people in its Denver headquarters.
- » Following five years of research and development, Denver prosthetic startup, **Xtremity** is funneling millions of dollars into commercializing its new socket technology. The company has certified 300 practitioners in about 30 states to use its device.
- » Broomfield-based medical tech startup **Alio Inc.** raised \$18 million to commercialize its remote patient monitoring technology. The wearable sensor called the SmartPatch monitors patients with end-state kidney disease who are undergoing dialysis. CB Insights, a market research and business analytics firm named Alio as one of the 150 most promising digital health companies of 2022.
- » **Nymbi Science**, a startup that provides digital balance training for older adults, raised \$12 million in a Series B financing round. The Denver-based company will be using the funds to launch two new product lines and will add to its current staff of about 30 people.

## Educational Programs

- » **The University of Colorado Boulder** will soon have a formal degree program to train doctors to practice in space. The joint program between CU's aerospace engineering school and its school of medicine plans to recruit students to get a joint MD/MS in aerospace engineering with a focus in biospace aeronautics. The students will train as doctors, and then spend time learning engineering.
- » **The University of Northern Colorado** in Fort Collins is pursuing the creation of an osteopathic medical college that plans to accept its first class of 150 students in the fall of 2025.
- » Senate Bill 3 was signed into law in 2022, which allows community colleges to offer Bachelor of Science degrees in nursing to students who have completed certificate programs allowing them to be a licensed professional nurse. This bill expands on a 2018 law that permitted such colleges to offer bachelor's degrees in a field specifically for students who already have an associate degree.



# HEALTHCARE & WELLNESS ECONOMIC PROFILE

9-County Rankings, 2022<sup>2</sup>

## Healthcare & Wellness Summary

Healthcare & wellness direct employment rank	12 <sup>th</sup> (Down one position from 2021)
Healthcare & wellness employment concentration rank	25 <sup>th</sup> (Up five positions from 2021)

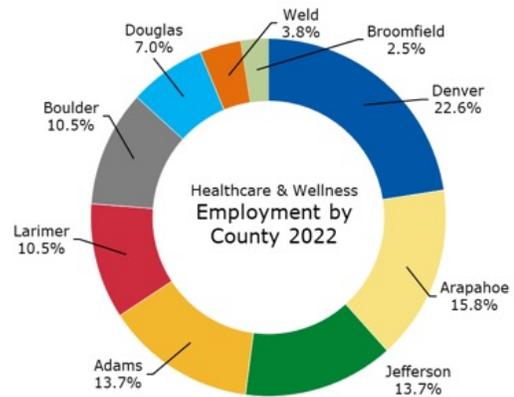




### Healthcare & Wellness Employment & Company Profile, 2022

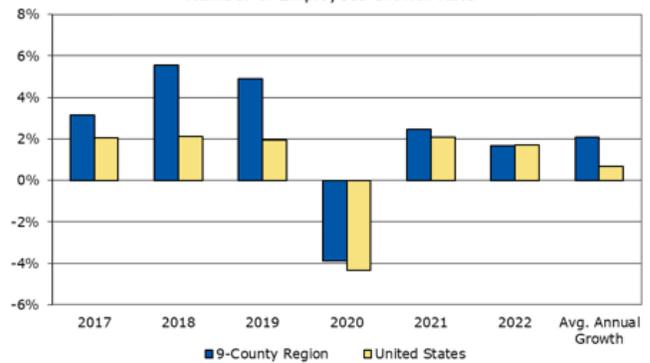
	9-County Region	USA
Direct employment, 2022	246,850	18,643,680
Number of direct companies, 2022	38,930	1,667,080
One-year direct employment growth, 2021-2022	1.7%	1.7%
Five-year direct employment growth, 2017-2022	10.9%	3.4%
Avg. annual direct employment growth, 2017-2022	2.1%	0.7%
Direct employment concentration	11.9%	12.4%
% of companies with <10 employees	91.1%	88.9%

Sources: Dun & Bradstreet, Inc., Hoover's Online Database; Market Analysis Profile, 2017-2022; Development Research Partners.

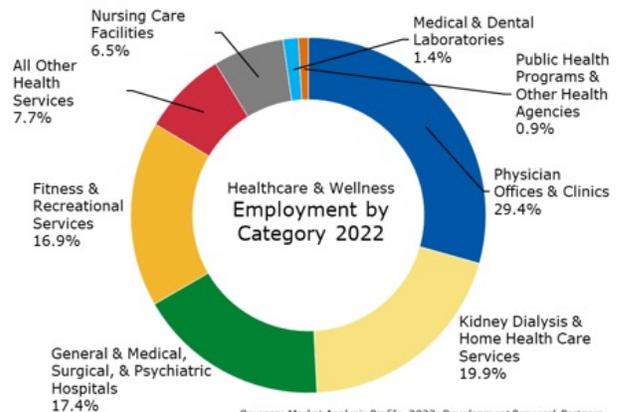


Sources: Market Analysis Profile, 2022; Development Research Partners.

Healthcare & Wellness Number of Employees Growth Rate



Source: Dun & Bradstreet, Inc., Hoover's Online Database; Market Analysis Profile, 2017-2022.



Sources: Market Analysis Profile, 2022; Development Research Partners.

<sup>2</sup> Direct employment rank based on the number of employees in the industry cluster in a region. Employment concentration rank based on the direct cluster employment in a region expressed as a percent of total employment in all industries in the same region. Rankings are for the 50 largest metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs). No multiplier effects are included. 1st = highest for both rankings.

# NINE-COUNTY REGION MAJOR HEALTH SYSTEMS AND FACILITIES

## **University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus and Fitzsimons Innovation Community**

The 578-acre Fitzsimons campus includes the Anschutz Medical Campus and the Fitzsimons Innovation Community. The Campus is the only one in the Rocky Mountain region, and the largest from Chicago to the West Coast. The Campus includes the University of Colorado health professional schools, multiple centers and institutes, and two nationally ranked hospitals, UHealth University of Colorado Hospital and Children's Hospital Colorado (CHC), which treat nearly two million patients each year and contributes \$4.5 billion to Colorado's economy annually.

## **Banner Health**

[www.bannerhealth.com](http://www.bannerhealth.com)

Banner Health is a premier health system in Northern Colorado, providing services to the cities of Berthoud, Eaton, Fort Collins, Greeley, Johnstown, Loveland, Timnath, Wellington, and Windsor. With two major health centers—the North Colorado Medical Center (NCMC) and the McKee Medical Center—Banner Health is one of the largest employers in Northern Colorado and has served the region for over 100 years.

## **Boulder Community Health**

[www.bch.org](http://www.bch.org)

Boulder Community Health (BCH) is one of only two remaining independent, not-for-profit hospitals in Colorado, serving Boulder and surrounding areas for nearly 100 years. BCH provides clinical excellence in heart care, orthopedics, cancer care, surgery, primary care, emergency and trauma, urgent care, stroke care, and neurology.

## **Centura Health**

[www.centura.org](http://www.centura.org)

Centura Health connects Coloradans to care through an integrated network of healthcare staff and physician partners. Major Centura facilities in the nine-county region include Avista Adventist, Castle Rock Adventist, Littleton Adventist, Longmont United, OrthoColorado, Parker Adventist, Porter Adventist, St. Anthony, St. Anthony North Health Campus, and numerous urgent care facilities, neighborhood health centers, surgery centers, Flight For Life Colorado®, and diagnostic imaging centers, among others.

## **Children's Hospital Colorado (CHC)**

[www.childrenscolorado.org](http://www.childrenscolorado.org)

CHC, whose main facility is located on the Anschutz Medical Campus, is the region's premier hospital for children. CHC provides care to more children than any hospital in the

surrounding states through its network of highly trained pediatric specialists. CHC is home to the only Level I pediatric trauma center in a seven-state region and has 16 satellite locations.

## **Craig Hospital**

[www.craighospital.org](http://www.craighospital.org)

Craig Hospital in Denver is a world-renowned rehabilitation hospital that exclusively specializes in the neuro-rehabilitation and research of patients with spinal cord injury (SCI) and brain injury (BI). Craig is a not-for-profit, free-standing, national center of excellence that has treated more than 34,500 patients with SCI and BI since 1956.

## **Denver Health**

[www.denverhealth.org](http://www.denverhealth.org)

As a comprehensive, integrated organization providing level one care for all, Denver Health is Colorado's primary safety net institution. Denver Health's Level I trauma center is one of the world's leading trauma centers and has one of the highest survival rates in the nation. Denver Health has served the community for over 160 years.

## **HCA-HealthONE**

[www.healthonecares.com](http://www.healthonecares.com)

HCA-HealthONE® is the region's largest healthcare system with more than 12,000 employees. Major facilities in the region including Centennial Hospital, The Medical Center of Aurora, North Suburban Medical Center, Presbyterian/St. Luke's Medical Center, Rocky Mountain Hospital for Children, Rose Medical Center, Sky Ridge Medical Center, Swedish Medical Center, and Spalding Rehabilitation Hospital work together to provide a higher level of care. Other services include freestanding emergency departments, ambulatory surgery centers, CareNow urgent care centers, occupational medicine clinics, physician practices, medical imaging centers, and AirLife Denver, which provides air and ground critical care transport for both adult and pediatric patients in a 10-state region.

## **Kaiser Permanente Colorado**

[www.kaiserpermanente.org](http://www.kaiserpermanente.org)

Kaiser Permanente Colorado is the state's largest nonprofit health plan serving Colorado residents for more than 50 years. Several Kaiser-affiliated hospitals and nearly 30 medical offices provide care to patients. Major health facilities in the nine-county region include Good Samaritan Medical Center, HealthONE Sky Ridge Medical Center, and Children's Hospital Colorado, among others.



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58

**Designated Trauma Centers**

There are nearly 60 designated trauma centers in the region's hospitals that provide expert care to patients with life-threatening and complex medical conditions 24/7.



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40K

**Employed**

Hospitals are a major employer in the region.



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7.2M

**Visits**

Outpatient visits at regional hospitals.

**National Jewish Health**

[www.nationaljewish.org](http://www.nationaljewish.org)

National Jewish Health is the leading respiratory hospital in the nation. Since 1899, National Jewish Health is the only facility in the world dedicated exclusively to groundbreaking medical research and treatment of patients with respiratory, cardiac, immune, and related disorders. Patients and families come to National Jewish Health from around the world to receive cutting-edge, comprehensive, coordinated care.

**The Rocky Mountain Regional Veterans Affairs (VA)**

**Medical Center**

[www.denver.va.gov](http://www.denver.va.gov)

Located adjacent to the Anschutz Medical Campus is the Rocky Mountain Regional VA Medical Center. The Center serves as the tertiary hospital for VA Eastern Colorado Health Care System. The VA is a 1.2 million square foot campus, spread over 31 acres, providing veterans from the Colorado region private inpatient rooms, new services, and innovative care.

**Intermountain Healthcare (formerly SCL Health)**

[www.sclhealth.org](http://www.sclhealth.org)

Intermountain Healthcare is a Utah-based, not-for-profit system of 33 hospitals. SCL Health, headquartered in Broomfield, merged with Intermountain healthcare in April 2022. SCL Health is a faith-based, nonprofit healthcare organization and provides care through four major hospitals, one home health agency, one hospice center, two mental health centers, 12 outpatient imaging centers, five outpatient procedure centers, and over 70 clinic locations in the region. Major facilities in the region include Good Samaritan Medical Center, Lutheran Medical Center, Platte Valley Medical Center, Saint Joseph Hospital, and St. Mary's Medical Center.

**UCHealth**

[www.uchealth.org](http://www.uchealth.org)

UCHealth provides evidence-based healthcare and wellness services across Colorado and includes the University of Colorado Hospital (UCH), Highlands Ranch Hospital, Greeley Hospital, Poudre Valley Hospital (PVH), Medical Center of the Rockies, Broomfield Hospital, Longs Peak Hospital, and other clinics and outpatient services.

# HEALTHCARE & WELLNESS WORKFORCE PROFILE

- » Since 2000, employment in the Healthcare & Wellness cluster has more than doubled.
- » Colorado ranked seventh among “The Best States to Work as a Nurse,” according to NurseJournal.com.
- » Metro Denver ranked No. 4 in the nation for science, technology, engineering, and mathematics job growth, according to the 2022 STEM Job Growth Index from RCLCO and CapRidge Partners.
- » The CU School of Medicine ranked No. 6 nationally for primary care and No. 27 in research, with the specialties of pediatrics (7th) and family medicine (10th) also ranking high, according to 2023 U.S. News & World Report rankings.

## Age Distribution

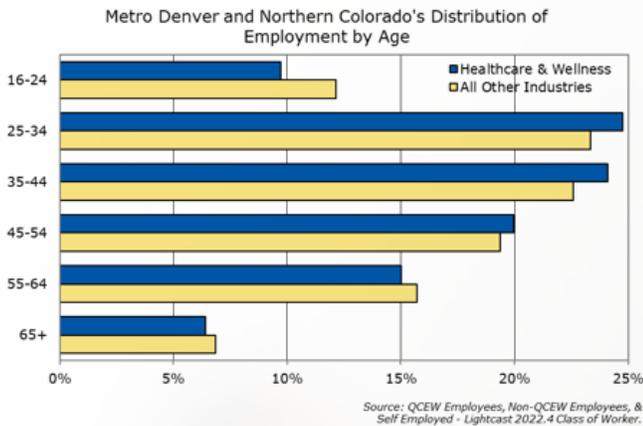
- » Almost half of the workers in the Healthcare and Wellness cluster is concentrated between the ages of 25 to 44 years old.
- » The Healthcare and Wellness cluster has a larger share of workers in the 25 to 44 years old category (48.9%) compared with the same age group across all industries in the region (45.9%).

## Wages

- » The 2021 average annual salary for workers in the Healthcare & Wellness cluster was \$56,240 in the region, compared with \$67,010 nationally.
- » The average starting salary for workers in the Healthcare & Wellness cluster was \$49,400 in the region, compared with \$43,070 across all industries.
- » Total payroll reached nearly \$14 billion in 2021.

## Occupation & Salary Profile

- » The Occupation & Salary Profile below includes the 10 largest cluster occupations. It details the total number of workers employed in that occupation across all industries, the number of available applicants that would like to be working in that occupation, the number of recent graduates that are qualified for that occupation, and the median and sample percentile annual salaries.





### Metro Denver and Northern Colorado Healthcare & Wellness Occupation & Salary Profile, 2022

10 Largest Healthcare & Wellness Occupations in Metro Denver and Northern Colorado	Total Working Across All Industries (2022)	Number of Available Applicants (2022)	Number of Graduates (2021)	Median Salary	10th Percentile Salary	25th Percentile Salary	75th Percentile Salary	90th Percentile Salary
Registered Nurses	38,320	166	4,947	\$78,762	\$60,946	\$74,156	\$96,972	\$102,101
Home Health and Personal Care Aides	35,152	151	833	\$31,475	\$27,272	\$28,492	\$35,358	\$39,245
Nursing Assistants	15,058	354	845	\$36,278	\$29,573	\$31,558	\$37,997	\$39,779
Medical Assistants	7,875	292	1,141	\$39,306	\$34,397	\$37,142	\$46,374	\$49,811
Medical Secretaries and Administrative Assistants	8,230	113	1,124	\$37,823	\$29,107	\$33,576	\$46,074	\$48,600
Receptionists and Information Clerks	12,282	589	352	\$35,640	\$28,422	\$30,023	\$39,065	\$46,022
Dental Assistants	5,946	114	289	\$45,604	\$34,710	\$39,204	\$50,799	\$59,580
Exercise Trainers and Group Fitness Instructors	7,075	47	673	\$45,638	\$27,729	\$31,165	\$61,450	\$79,127
Substance Abuse, Behavioral Disorder, and Mental Health Counselors	7,782	46	2,902	\$50,950	\$35,212	\$39,676	\$73,306	\$95,580
Physical Therapists	4,094	14	150	\$92,593	\$58,880	\$74,218	\$102,637	\$123,190

Notes: The number of available applicants is a point-in-time measurement of the number of people who have registered in Colorado's workforce development system's statewide database, Connecting Colorado, as being able and available to work in a particular occupation. Results should be interpreted with caution since registration in Connecting Colorado is self-reported. In addition, the skills rubric may assign up to four occupation codes for each registrant. Therefore, the number of available applicants could be inflated. Source: Arapahoe/Douglas Works!; QCEW Employees, Non-QCEW Employees, & Self Employed - Lightcast 2022.4 Class of Worker.



**For additional information, contact us:**

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