

Springs at a Glance

Form of Government

Council-Mayor:

Nine-member Council (three Councilmembers elected at large, and six elected by district), and a popularly elected Mayor as the City's chief executive.

Demographics

Population: 497,331 (2024 est.)

Median Age¹: 36

Median Household Income¹: \$79,014 (2022 est.)

Unemployment Rate³: 3.3% (Dec 2023)

Ethnicity⁸: (2022 est.)

- White (69.7%)
- Hispanic American/Latino (18.7%)
- Black/African American (6.2%)
- American Indian/Alaska Native (1.7%)
- Asian (3.2%)
- Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander (0.3%)
- Other race (5.1%)
- Two or more races (13.8%)

Average # of Days of Sunshine: 300

Annual Precipitation⁴: 25.48 inches (2023)

Serious Crimes per Thousand Population⁷: 37.8 per 1,000 for Jan. - Sept. 2023 for Colorado Springs (includes violent crime, murder, sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, auto theft, and arson).

Land Use

Elevation: 6,035 feet

Area in Square Miles⁹: 202.45

Street Lane Miles⁹: 6,456 (2023)

Parkland Acres⁵: 20,486 (2023)

Sources:

1. US Census Data (<https://data.census.gov>). 2022 ACS 1 - year estimates and QuickFacts
2. LMI Gateway, Colorado Department of Labor and Employment (<https://www.colmigateway.com>) QCEW El Paso County Q1 2023
3. LMI Gateway, Colorado Department of Labor and Employment (<https://www.colmigateway.com>) Unemployment rate reflects Colorado Springs MSA, seasonally adjusted figure.
4. Data provided by NOAA from 1949-2022 (<http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/cagcity/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/manages.
6. Pikes Peak Association of Realtors (<https://ppar.com/Documents/stats/MarketTrends/Prices.jpg>)
7. FBI Crime in the United States Data (<https://cde.ucr.cjis.gov/LATEST/webapp/#>)
8. US Census Data (<https://data.census.gov>). 2022 ACS 1 - year estimates) Hispanics may be of any race, so also are included in applicable race categories;
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:

3.579 mills (2023 mill rate levied for taxes payable in 2024; includes temporary mill levy credit of 0.70 mills)

Median Sales Price of Existing Home⁶:

\$450,000 (Dec 2023)

Property Taxes Paid on a house with market value of \$450,000 in School District 11:

\$1,652 total, City share is \$108 (for taxes payable in 2024)

Key Industries (listed in order of the number of employees)²:

- Healthcare and Social Assistance
- Accommodation and Food Services
- Professional and Technical Services
- Retail Trade
- Educational Services
- Construction
- Administrative and Waste Services
- 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
- United States Air Force Academy
- United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee (USOPC) Headquarters and Training Center
- US Olympic & Paralympic Museum
- Weidner Field/Switchbacks Football Club

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.

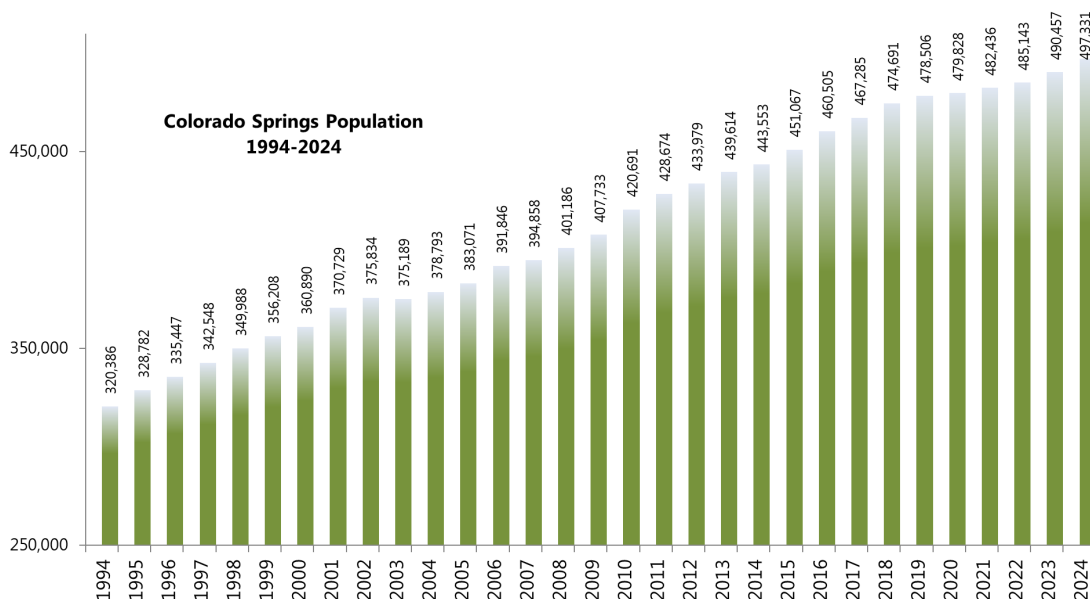
Beginning in the late 1800s, Colorado Springs became a natural health destination for tuberculosis patients because of the nearly 300 days of sunshine a year, natural mineral springs, and dry mountain air.

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, Training Center and Museum, 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 202 square miles and a 2024 estimated population of 497,331, 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 56.89% from 1994 to the estimated 2024 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, higher education, and tourism.

Area military installations are a significant factor in the local economy, constituting over 27% of all employment. Five major military installations are in the surrounding area: Fort Carson Army Base, Schriever and Peterson Space Force Bases, Cheyenne Mountain Space Force Station, and the United States Air Force Academy.

The spectacular climate makes Colorado Springs a desirable location for software development, semiconductor manufacturing, data centers, and telecommunications.

Major Private Sector Employers by Employee Count (Excluding School Districts)
Amazon
The Broadmoor
Childrens Hospital of Colorado, Colorado Springs
Penrose St. Francis Health Services/Centura Health
UCHealth Southern Colorado Region

Source: Colorado Springs Chamber & EDC - Colorado Springs MSA (May 2023)

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 trade 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 2022, 4% of Colorado Springs residents 25 and older have at least a Bachelors degree. The national average is 33.7%.

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

Source: Colorado Springs Chamber & EDC (September 2023)