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County Data Book

Welfare Section

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Colorado
State
University
Knowledge to Go Places

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INTRODUCTION

The Welfare Section of the County Data Book contains data, information and trends regarding a variety of welfare issues in Colorado, its counties and where possible, comparisons are made to U.S. averages. The analysis of welfare data helps to identify notable trend as well as to address other substantive welfare issues affecting the state.

Access to data has dramatically changed over the last five years and now many agencies post their data on the Internet. Most agencies update their databases several times a year so we have decided to include the most requested data here and reference web sites for other data sets. These websites are listed at the end of each section. The topics covered in this section are listed in the *Table of Contents* and tables of data are detailed in the *List of Tables*

Colorado's Welfare

Evaluating and monitoring Colorado's "Welfare" involves tracking changes in a series of variables that are thought to impact or influence the "Well Being" of society. Most often we think of public assistance programs such as food stamps and *Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)* when the word *Welfare* is mentioned. However, public assistance is only one aspect of welfare and eligibility depends on a series of variables. Income is the variable most often linked to welfare through "poverty", a minimum required income. Income depends on employment and unemployment rates. Housing, food, and childcare affordability influence what can be purchased with that income.

Nearly six years after the enactment of federal welfare reform, welfare rolls have fallen dramatically, however trends in other assistance programs like food stamps and school lunch are mixed. The growth in numbers of working-poor, have policy analysts and makers renewing efforts to address the challenges facing all low-income families.

Although linked to the economy, there are also a series of "social" variables that are also used to evaluate the well-being of society. The economic prosperity of the second half of the 1990s indirectly had a positive impact on many aspects of society but improvement is still needed. For example, child abuse and neglect rates are down by about 20% from the high in 1993-94 (however, in 1999, there were still 7,000 victims of abuse or neglect). Total juvenile and adult crime rates are down however the juvenile violent crime rates are up. Substance abuse rates are down for "traditional" drugs but there is an increase in "club drug" and juvenile drug abuse rates.

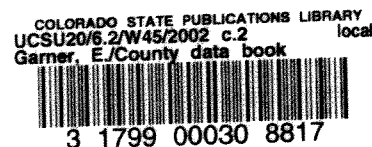


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1 Income and Poverty

This chapter of the *Welfare* report is divided into four major topics, with sub-topics discussed where needed. The topics are:

- Poverty Measure Definitions (Guidelines and Thresholds)
- Income and Poverty Estimate Surveys
 - *Decennial Census*
 - *Current Population Survey (CPS)*
 - *Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP)*
- National-State-County Income Comparisons
 - Sources of Income
 - Overall Transfer Payments
 - Income Maintenance
 - Unemployment Benefits
- Unemployment Rates and Numbers

The determination of an individual's poverty status is based solely on the individual's income and family size. Income in turn is, to a large degree, dependent on available employment. People who live below the "poverty level" are less likely to reap the benefits of society. In general, those living below the poverty line are less educated, less healthy, and enjoy a lower level of well-being.

Poverty Measures

Poverty data is gathered primarily by two agencies:

- The *United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)*, which determines the poverty guidelines for families.
- The *United States Census Bureau*, which gathers data in the decennial census, the *Current Population Survey (CPS)*, and the *Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP)*.

There are two slightly different versions of the federal poverty measure:

- The poverty guidelines
- The poverty threshold

Both of these measures are updated annually for price changes using the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U). The complete report can be viewed at:

<http://www.bls.gov/news.release/cpi.toc.htm>.

The **poverty guidelines** represent one version of the federal poverty measures. They are issued each year in the *Federal Register* and are administered by the *U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)*. The guidelines are a simplification of the poverty thresholds (discussed later) and are used for administrative purposes in determining financial eligibility for certain federal programs. One prominent reason for using the guidelines is timing. The poverty threshold measures for a given year are not available until the summer of the following year. If the threshold data were to be used, then the agencies that determine eligibility for programs would be using outdated (two-year lag) information. **There is no universal administrative definition of "income"** provided because the programs that use the poverty guidelines are very sensitive to the specific needs and purposes of that program. To determine, for example, whether or not taxes, college scholarships, or other particular types of income should be counted as "income" in determining eligibility for a specific program, one must consult the office or organization administering the program in question. The poverty guidelines set by *HHS* are listed in **Table 1**.

Table 1: The 2001 Health and Human Services Poverty Guidelines – Annual Family Income

Size of Family Unit	48 Contiguous States and D.C.	Alaska	Hawaii
1	\$ 8,590	\$10,730	\$9,890
2	\$11,610	\$14,510	\$13,360
3	\$14,630	\$18,290	\$16,830
4	\$17,650	\$22,070	\$20,300
5	\$20,670	\$25,850	\$23,770
6	\$23,690	\$28,630	\$27,240
7	\$26,710	\$33,410	\$30,710
8	\$29,730	\$37,190	\$34,180
Each additional person, add	\$3,020	\$3,780	\$3,470

Source: "The 2001 HHS Poverty Guidelines", U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2001

Programs using the guidelines (or percentage multiples of the guidelines — for instance, 125 percent or 185 percent of the guidelines) in determining eligibility include: *Head Start*, the *Food Stamp Program*, the *National School Lunch Program*, the *Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program*, and the *Children's Health Insurance Program*. Note that in general, cash public assistance programs (*Aid to Families with Dependent Children* and its block grant successor *Temporary Assistance for Needy Families*, and *Supplemental Security Income*) do NOT use the poverty guidelines in determining eligibility. The Earned Income Tax Credit program also does NOT use the poverty guidelines to determine eligibility.

The **poverty thresholds** are the original version of the federal poverty measure and are used in addition to the poverty guidelines. The *Census Bureau* updates them each year, but as was mentioned earlier, the data is not available for eighteen months after the year investigated. The thresholds are mostly used for statistical purposes like estimating the number of Americans in poverty each year. All official poverty population figures are calculated using the poverty thresholds, not the guidelines.

The *U.S. Census Bureau* uses a set of money income thresholds that vary by family size and composition to determine who is poor. If a family's total income is less than that family's threshold, then that family, and every individual in it, is considered poor. For example, in 2000, the threshold for a family of four (with two related children under the age of eighteen) was **\$17,463**. The threshold level for each sector and for each year dating back to 1980 can be found at: <http://www.census.gov/hhes/poverty/threshld.html>.

The poverty thresholds do not vary geographically, but they are updated annually for inflation using the Consumer Price Index (CPI-U). Unlike poverty guidelines, the official poverty definition counts money income before taxes and does not include capital gains and noncash benefits (such as public housing, Medicaid, and food stamps). Poverty is not defined for people in military barracks, institutional group quarters, or for unrelated individuals under age 15 (such as foster children). They are excluded from the poverty universe—that is, they are considered neither as "poor" nor as "nonpoor".

Income and Poverty Estimates:

Although used by many governmental and private organizations, the *United States Census Bureau* generates poverty estimates. Within the *Census Bureau* there are three separate surveys used to gather data on income (and therefore poverty) related issues. Those surveys are:

- *Decennial Census*
- *Current Population Surveys (CPS)*
- *Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP)*

Each of these surveys is important, however, they use different methods to reach their conclusions. This portion of the document will explain the role of the individual surveys in developing a comprehensive picture on income and poverty in the United States, as well as present the data from these methods.

Decennial Census:

The *United States Bureau of the Census* conducts the census of population and housing, called the decennial census, in years ending in 0 (zero). Although one of the original purposes of the census was for reapportionment of the *U.S. House of Representatives* (Article I of the Constitution), the data gathered by the census is now used for a variety of purposes. One of those purposes is to establish poverty definitions for use in policymaking. The decennial census is now the primary tool used for estimating poverty. The latest decennial census conducted in the United States is *Census 2000*.

Much of the *Census 2000* income and poverty data for Colorado was made available in June 2002. This data is available at the state, county, municipality, and block groups. From the income data, the number of people in poverty can be determined using the previously mentioned poverty measurement definitions. The values are for 1989 and 1999 because the Census occurs in April and survey questions refer to income from the previous year.

The 1999 distribution of household income by county in Colorado is shown in **Table 2**. The data shows that there is a great deal of disparity between counties. Compared to the rest of the counties in Colorado, Costilla County has a larger percentage of its population in the lowest two income groups (less than \$10,000 and between \$10,000 and \$15,000). Douglas County has the smallest percentage of its population in all categories **below \$50,000** and has a larger percentage of its population in three of the five categories above \$50,000. **Over 30%** of the counties have more than **twenty percent** of the households in the lowest two income groups. The disparities among the counties are not as large as they appear because incomes have not been adjusted for local costs of living. Costs, especially housing, are lower outside the metro and resort areas which typically report the lower incomes.

On a positive note, more counties (**45%**) have the largest share of their households in the **\$50,000 to \$75,000** income range than any other range (**See Chart 1**). However, more counties report the largest share of their households in the 5 income ranges **less than \$50,000 than above \$50,000**. **Chart 1** also shows that from 1989 to 1999 incomes have increased and there are fewer households in the poorest income groups. The low unemployment rates of the late 1990s contributed greatly to the increase in incomes. 1989 incomes are also shown in constant 1999 dollars in order to make the comparison to 1999 more realistic. Even after adjusting for inflation, there are fewer low income households in 1999 than in 1989. Although incomes have increased, true wealth is not reflected in these figures. Incomes reported do not include savings, investments, or equity in homes. If these values were included, many of the households over \$50,000 would shift further right.

Table 2: Income Distribution by County in Colorado in 1999

County	Under \$10,000	\$10,000 –15,000	\$15,000 – 20,000	\$25,000 – 35,000	\$35,000 –50,000	\$50,000 – 75,000	\$75,000– 100,000	\$100,000- 150,000	\$150,000- 200,000	Over \$200,000
Adams	5.7%	4.1%	10.3%	13.7%	19.1%	24.8%	12.4%	7.3%	1.5%	1.2%
Alamosa	16.0%	9.7%	16.5%	15.4%	16.2%	15.3%	4.4%	5.1%	0.5%	0.8%
Arapahoe	4.5%	3.4%	8.8%	11.9%	17.1%	22.6%	13.8%	11.0%	3.1%	3.9%
Archuleta	10.1%	6.1%	14.1%	14.4%	21.0%	18.3%	7.7%	4.1%	1.6%	2.6%
Baca	16.8%	11.3%	17.6%	15.9%	19.6%	11.0%	5.0%	1.5%	0.6%	0.7%
Bent	15.5%	10.1%	17.3%	17.0%	16.9%	15.7%	3.5%	2.3%	0.6%	0.8%
Boulder	6.6%	4.2%	8.9%	10.5%	14.0%	20.5%	13.6%	13.3%	4.4%	4.0%
Chaffee	11.1%	7.3%	16.8%	15.5%	18.7%	16.0%	7.5%	4.2%	1.7%	1.3%
Cheyenne	11.3%	8.4%	15.0%	12.6%	20.4%	20.2%	5.0%	5.5%	0.7%	0.9%
Clear Creek	5.2%	4.0%	9.5%	11.7%	18.0%	21.3%	12.7%	11.3%	3.6%	2.7%
Conejos	19.5%	12.2%	18.8%	16.0%	13.0%	12.4%	4.4%	2.9%	0.4%	0.4%
Costilla	25.5%	13.3%	21.5%	15.2%	12.4%	8.6%	1.6%	1.4%	0.3%	0.3%
Crowley	15.3%	12.2%	19.3%	19.5%	14.2%	11.3%	5.2%	1.1%	0.6%	1.4%
Custer	12.1%	7.4%	15.3%	15.6%	17.5%	17.0%	6.9%	5.4%	1.3%	1.3%
Delta	10.3%	7.7%	19.4%	15.6%	18.5%	17.0%	6.4%	3.4%	0.8%	0.8%
Denver	10.1%	6.3%	13.2%	14.3%	17.2%	18.3%	9.1%	7.0%	2.1%	2.5%
Dolores	17.1%	7.4%	15.1%	14.7%	18.8%	17.8%	5.4%	1.8%	0.9%	1.1%
Douglas	1.6%	1.4%	3.1%	4.9%	9.8%	21.9%	20.5%	22.3%	7.5%	7.0%
Eagle	3.2%	2.3%	6.6%	9.0%	14.8%	24.4%	16.0%	13.6%	4.0%	6.0%
Elbert	2.7%	2.0%	7.3%	8.5%	15.7%	24.9%	17.8%	14.9%	3.0%	3.1%
El Paso	6.0%	4.4%	11.8%	13.0%	18.3%	22.3%	12.0%	8.2%	2.2%	1.8%
Fremont	10.7%	8.1%	16.4%	15.8%	18.7%	18.5%	7.4%	3.3%	0.6%	0.5%
Garfield	5.5%	4.7%	10.9%	12.7%	19.2%	23.7%	12.5%	7.2%	1.9%	1.7%
Gilpin	3.7%	4.5%	10.3%	8.1%	21.0%	25.3%	14.6%	8.8%	2.9%	0.8%
Grand	5.7%	4.1%	9.2%	12.9%	20.1%	24.2%	11.2%	7.4%	2.5%	2.5%
Gunnison	9.4%	6.4%	15.1%	15.8%	17.3%	19.1%	8.0%	5.2%	1.5%	2.2%
Hinsdale	7.0%	8.1%	9.5%	21.0%	22.4%	19.6%	2.2%	3.1%	3.4%	3.6%
Huerfano	15.7%	12.9%	19.7%	14.4%	15.9%	13.3%	3.6%	2.7%	0.6%	1.0%
Jackson	10.6%	8.4%	17.4%	18.1%	16.8%	17.4%	6.7%	2.5%	1.6%	0.3%
Jefferson	3.9%	3.3%	8.0%	10.6%	16.2%	23.6%	15.4%	12.6%	3.6%	2.9%
Kiowa	11.1%	10.8%	19.1%	18.3%	16.0%	13.9%	3.5%	5.6%	0.2%	1.4%
Kit Carson	10.7%	8.6%	18.4%	14.6%	16.6%	18.4%	6.6%	3.8%	1.4%	0.8%
Lake	7.6%	6.8%	12.6%	16.8%	23.1%	20.5%	5.9%	4.1%	1.1%	1.5%
La Plata	8.8%	6.5%	14.9%	13.3%	16.5%	19.0%	10.2%	6.4%	2.2%	2.3%
Larimer	6.2%	5.3%	11.4%	11.6%	16.8%	22.2%	12.7%	9.2%	2.5%	2.2%
Las Animas	17.1%	10.4%	17.6%	16.2%	15.6%	14.6%	4.2%	2.7%	0.7%	1.0%
Lincoln	10.8%	8.2%	15.8%	19.6%	17.2%	17.0%	5.7%	4.2%	0.8%	0.8%
Logan	12.0%	8.1%	18.2%	14.7%	17.5%	18.5%	5.9%	3.2%	0.9%	1.0%
Mesa	8.9%	8.2%	15.4%	16.1%	18.7%	18.4%	7.2%	4.3%	1.4%	1.4%
Mineral	8.9%	7.1%	17.3%	17.1%	21.5%	15.0%	7.9%	3.1%	0.3%	1.8%
Moffat	7.8%	5.5%	12.3%	15.4%	20.6%	23.7%	11.9%	2.1%	0.2%	0.5%
Montezuma	12.3%	8.6%	16.8%	16.5%	17.7%	16.7%	5.6%	3.7%	1.1%	1.0%
Montrose	9.8%	9.0%	15.9%	15.1%	20.5%	17.2%	7.4%	3.5%	0.9%	0.7%
Morgan	10.4%	6.3%	16.9%	17.2%	19.6%	18.8%	5.8%	3.5%	0.8%	0.9%
Otero	14.5%	10.1%	18.9%	14.2%	17.1%	15.9%	4.8%	3.5%	0.4%	0.5%
Ouray	7.3%	5.3%	14.2%	13.3%	17.6%	21.8%	8.4%	6.5%	2.5%	3.0%
Park	4.5%	3.8%	9.0%	10.8%	18.3%	26.6%	14.3%	9.5%	1.5%	1.8%
Phillips	10.0%	7.6%	19.1%	16.1%	20.2%	17.6%	4.0%	2.9%	1.9%	0.6%
Pitkin	4.0%	3.2%	8.2%	9.8%	16.2%	22.5%	13.0%	10.4%	3.7%	9.0%
Prowers	13.2%	7.9%	18.7%	18.4%	18.6%	14.4%	4.8%	2.9%	0.3%	0.8%
Pueblo	12.0%	8.4%	17.0%	15.5%	17.1%	16.9%	7.2%	3.7%	0.9%	1.2%
Rio Blanco	7.8%	7.8%	14.2%	16.5%	18.1%	24.0%	7.5%	3.2%	0.4%	0.6%
Rio Grande	13.2%	10.1%	15.4%	16.6%	18.7%	16.4%	4.9%	2.2%	0.9%	1.6%
Routt	3.9%	4.2%	9.6%	9.9%	18.0%	23.9%	14.7%	10.4%	2.3%	3.2%
Saguache	17.8%	10.8%	20.2%	17.7%	14.4%	11.5%	4.5%	2.5%	0.2%	0.5%
San Juan	17.5%	8.9%	15.2%	22.3%	11.5%	19.0%	1.1%	3.3%	1.1%	0.0%
San Miguel	7.6%	4.5%	10.2%	11.7%	16.7%	20.2%	11.3%	8.7%	2.2%	6.9%
Sedgwick	10.1%	10.0%	22.7%	18.9%	17.9%	12.7%	3.5%	2.6%	0.3%	1.1%
Summit	3.3%	3.4%	8.4%	10.3%	17.4%	23.4%	13.9%	12.3%	3.9%	3.6%
Teller	3.7%	3.2%	11.2%	12.9%	18.7%	23.2%	14.2%	9.2%	2.1%	1.5%
Washington	8.5%	9.1%	17.0%	19.8%	18.8%	14.6%	6.1%	3.3%	1.5%	1.3%
Weld	8.5%	6.0%	13.1%	13.0%	17.9%	21.3%	10.6%	6.3%	1.5%	1.7%
Yuma	12.4%	6.9%	16.8%	16.4%	17.7%	18.8%	6.4%	3.1%	0.7%	0.9%
Colorado	6.9%	5.0%	11.2%	12.6%	17.0%	21.2%	11.9%	9.1%	2.6%	2.6%

Source: United States Bureau of the Census – Census 2000

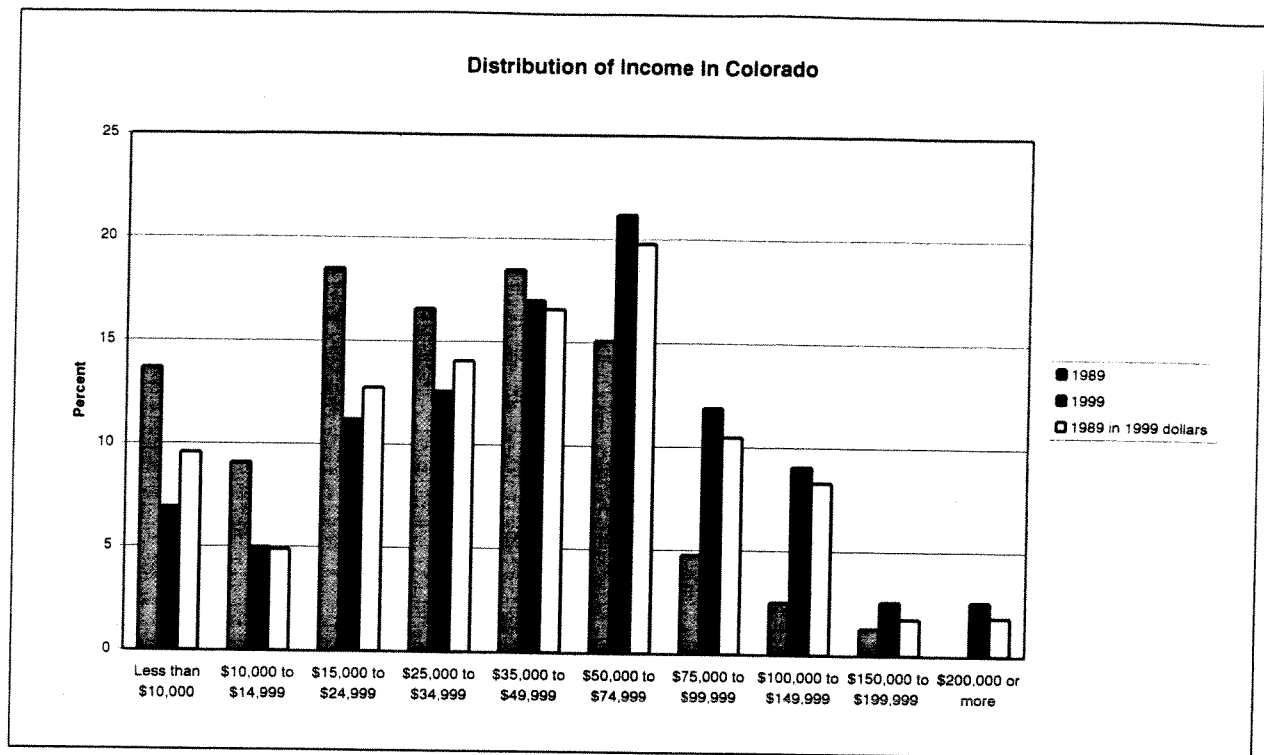


Table 3 presents different income measures for Colorado and its counties. The median household income ranges from a high of **\$82,929** in Douglas County to a low of **\$19,531** in Costilla with the state median household income being **\$47,203**. Between 1989 and 1999 the state median household income **increase by 57%**. During the same time period, the local consumer price index **increased by 43%**. Median family and per capita income follow the pattern set by the median household income. In comparing the median male and female salaries in Colorado, women earn **76% of what men earn (\$29,300 vs \$38,400)**. Within the counties the median salary range for men is **about \$40,000** where with women its only **about \$22,000**.

Table 4 presents the numbers and percent of families and individuals living below the poverty line in Colorado and in the United States. Although the number of people living in poverty rose over the decade, the percent living in poverty fell in every category examined for both Colorado and the U.S. The web site for *Census 2000* is: <http://www.census.gov/main/www/cen2000.html>.

Tables 5 and 6 provide the statistics on the percentage of people and families in each Colorado county that lived in poverty in 1999. **Table 5** (page 8) presents the data on the percentage of individuals (under different family circumstances) in each county that are below the poverty line. With the exception of poverty among children under the age of 5, Costilla County had over a quarter (**26.8 percent**) of its population living in poverty in 1999. Douglas County had the lowest percentage (**2.1 percent**) of individuals in Colorado reporting that they lived below the poverty line.

Table 3: Income Measures for Colorado 1999

County	Median Household Income	Mean Earnings	Mean Social Security Income	Mean Public Assistance Income	Mean Retirement Income	Mean Family Income	Per Capita Income	Median Earnings (Males)	Median Earnings (Females)
Adams	\$47,323	\$55,310	\$11,017	\$2,430	\$15,678	\$52,517	\$19,944	\$36,499	\$28,053
Alamosa	\$29,447	\$38,253	\$9,334	\$2,292	\$18,738	\$38,389	\$15,037	\$27,733	\$22,806
Arapahoe	\$53,570	\$68,084	\$11,786	\$2,758	\$19,925	\$63,875	\$28,147	\$41,601	\$31,612
Archuleta	\$37,901	\$44,006	\$10,684	\$1,601	\$27,687	\$43,259	\$21,683	\$29,521	\$21,851
Baca	\$28,099	\$32,544	\$10,707	\$2,341	\$14,965	\$34,018	\$15,068	\$23,169	\$18,292
Bent	\$28,125	\$35,429	\$9,123	\$2,231	\$13,701	\$34,096	\$13,567	\$22,755	\$24,261
Boulder	\$55,861	\$68,743	\$11,336	\$2,442	\$22,383	\$70,572	\$28,976	\$48,047	\$32,207
Chaffee	\$34,368	\$40,844	\$10,595	\$1,978	\$18,058	\$42,043	\$19,430	\$30,770	\$22,219
Cheyenne	\$37,054	\$42,285	\$10,516	\$1,388	\$12,680	\$44,394	\$17,850	\$32,250	\$19,286
Clear Creek	\$50,997	\$61,728	\$11,522	\$1,816	\$20,289	\$61,400	\$28,160	\$41,667	\$30,757
Conejos	\$24,744	\$35,186	\$9,083	\$2,078	\$13,689	\$29,066	\$12,050	\$26,351	\$20,200
Costilla	\$19,531	\$26,773	\$8,230	\$2,438	\$14,184	\$25,509	\$10,748	\$22,390	\$16,121
Crowley	\$26,803	\$39,195	\$8,835	\$2,271	\$22,067	\$32,162	\$12,836	\$20,812	\$21,920
Custer	\$34,731	\$41,067	\$11,549	\$1,447	\$16,881	\$41,198	\$19,817	\$32,460	\$20,868
Delta	\$32,785	\$39,274	\$11,141	\$1,482	\$18,281	\$37,748	\$17,152	\$31,348	\$19,916
Denver	\$39,500	\$53,787	\$10,735	\$2,758	\$18,728	\$48,195	\$24,101	\$34,232	\$30,768
Dolores	\$32,196	\$41,323	\$9,930	\$3,275	\$12,500	\$38,000	\$17,106	\$30,972	\$20,385
Douglas	\$82,929	\$95,200	\$12,177	\$3,642	\$24,644	\$88,482	\$34,848	\$60,729	\$38,965
Eagle	\$62,682	\$79,393	\$10,166	\$1,361	\$20,995	\$68,226	\$32,011	\$37,603	\$30,579
El Paso	\$46,844	\$54,282	\$10,375	\$2,282	\$20,295	\$53,995	\$22,005	\$35,940	\$26,252
Elbert	\$62,480	\$69,545	\$10,519	\$4,908	\$17,469	\$66,740	\$24,960	\$45,329	\$29,767
Fremont	\$34,150	\$41,003	\$10,251	\$1,828	\$16,275	\$42,303	\$17,420	\$30,428	\$23,112
Garfield	\$47,016	\$54,590	\$11,160	\$3,688	\$17,407	\$53,840	\$21,341	\$37,554	\$27,280
Gilpin	\$51,942	\$57,704	\$10,550	\$2,474	\$18,581	\$61,859	\$26,148	\$38,560	\$30,820
Grand	\$47,759	\$54,505	\$10,918	\$1,492	\$23,130	\$55,217	\$25,198	\$34,861	\$26,445
Gunnison	\$36,916	\$43,315	\$10,296	\$1,383	\$22,991	\$51,950	\$21,407	\$30,885	\$25,000
Hinsdale	\$37,279	\$41,375	\$10,862	\$1,217	\$23,033	\$42,159	\$22,360	\$26,210	\$23,750
Huerfano	\$25,775	\$37,173	\$8,944	\$1,855	\$14,133	\$32,664	\$15,242	\$24,209	\$21,048
Jackson	\$31,821	\$39,417	\$10,079	\$387	\$16,617	\$37,361	\$17,826	\$26,250	\$18,417
Jefferson	\$57,339	\$68,583	\$11,763	\$2,713	\$20,657	\$67,310	\$28,066	\$45,306	\$32,372
Kiowa	\$30,494	\$39,009	\$10,516	\$908	\$12,861	\$35,536	\$16,382	\$26,136	\$18,897
Kit Carson	\$33,152	\$42,428	\$10,758	\$3,369	\$12,216	\$41,867	\$16,964	\$28,700	\$19,978
La Plata	\$40,159	\$48,059	\$10,380	\$2,165	\$21,941	\$50,446	\$21,534	\$32,486	\$24,666
Lake	\$37,691	\$43,969	\$11,276	\$2,599	\$12,888	\$41,652	\$18,524	\$30,977	\$24,415
Larimer	\$48,655	\$57,319	\$11,201	\$2,509	\$21,764	\$58,866	\$23,689	\$40,829	\$27,859
Las Animas	\$28,273	\$36,186	\$9,157	\$2,199	\$24,337	\$34,072	\$16,829	\$27,182	\$20,891
Lincoln	\$31,914	\$38,747	\$10,533	\$2,884	\$16,567	\$39,738	\$15,510	\$25,742	\$22,188
Logan	\$32,724	\$40,542	\$10,894	\$1,015	\$12,441	\$42,241	\$16,721	\$28,155	\$21,110
Mesa	\$35,864	\$44,992	\$11,465	\$2,059	\$16,417	\$43,009	\$18,715	\$32,316	\$22,374
Mineral	\$34,844	\$48,715	\$11,221	\$1,170	\$19,817	\$40,833	\$24,475	\$28,750	\$19,375
Moffat	\$41,528	\$48,029	\$10,735	\$1,276	\$10,941	\$45,511	\$18,540	\$37,288	\$22,080
Montezuma	\$32,083	\$40,343	\$9,996	\$1,997	\$16,943	\$38,071	\$17,003	\$30,666	\$21,181
Montrose	\$35,234	\$41,248	\$10,791	\$2,106	\$16,658	\$40,849	\$17,158	\$29,945	\$21,423
Morgan	\$34,568	\$41,611	\$10,916	\$2,668	\$16,595	\$39,102	\$15,492	\$27,361	\$21,524
Otero	\$29,738	\$37,892	\$10,257	\$2,020	\$13,666	\$35,906	\$15,113	\$26,996	\$21,001
Ouray	\$42,019	\$52,304	\$11,321	\$1,989	\$29,231	\$49,776	\$24,335	\$35,141	\$26,176
Park	\$51,899	\$57,902	\$11,817	\$2,309	\$22,055	\$57,025	\$25,019	\$41,480	\$27,807
Phillips	\$32,177	\$38,844	\$10,410	\$1,425	\$11,885	\$38,144	\$16,394	\$30,095	\$18,682
Pitkin	\$59,375	\$70,604	\$13,005	\$2,241	\$27,545	\$75,048	\$40,811	\$40,672	\$33,896
Prowers	\$29,935	\$37,392	\$10,406	\$2,408	\$11,013	\$34,202	\$14,150	\$24,971	\$20,526
Pueblo	\$32,775	\$43,938	\$10,457	\$1,889	\$16,958	\$40,130	\$17,163	\$31,514	\$22,967
Rio Blanco	\$37,711	\$42,864	\$10,774	\$1,369	\$16,236	\$44,425	\$17,344	\$38,125	\$19,940
Rio Grande	\$31,836	\$40,886	\$10,184	\$2,016	\$12,987	\$36,809	\$15,650	\$30,432	\$23,005
Routt	\$53,612	\$60,876	\$11,108	\$4,452	\$17,923	\$61,927	\$28,792	\$36,997	\$26,576
Saguache	\$25,495	\$31,671	\$9,477	\$2,239	\$15,884	\$29,405	\$13,121	\$25,158	\$18,862
San Juan	\$30,764	\$29,377	\$6,929	\$825	\$29,353	\$40,000	\$17,584	\$30,588	\$19,545
San Miguel	\$48,514	\$63,513	\$10,560	\$1,739	\$27,421	\$60,417	\$35,329	\$35,922	\$30,278
Sedgwick	\$28,278	\$32,810	\$11,718	\$2,153	\$19,220	\$33,953	\$16,125	\$25,463	\$16,392
Summit	\$56,587	\$64,906	\$12,173	\$1,602	\$31,589	\$66,914	\$28,676	\$33,741	\$27,017
Teller	\$50,165	\$56,130	\$11,059	\$3,342	\$18,776	\$57,071	\$23,412	\$37,194	\$26,934
Washington	\$32,431	\$40,419	\$11,408	\$2,207	\$17,920	\$37,287	\$17,788	\$26,225	\$21,558
Weld	\$42,321	\$52,367	\$10,796	\$2,288	\$17,127	\$49,569	\$18,957	\$35,037	\$25,757
Yuma	\$33,169	\$39,529	\$9,606	\$1,603	\$16,536	\$39,814	\$16,005	\$26,124	\$18,578
Colorado	\$47,203	\$59,313	\$10,995	\$2,420	\$19,342	\$55,883	\$24,049	\$38,446	\$29,324

Source: United States Bureau of the Census - Census 2000

Table 4: Poverty Numbers and Percent for Selected Groups in Colorado and the United States (1990 and 2000)

		Colorado				United States			
		1989		1999		1989		1999	
		# Below Poverty Level	% Below Poverty Level	# Below Poverty Level	% Below Poverty Level	# Below Poverty Level	% Below Poverty Level	# Below Poverty Level	% Below Poverty Level
Families		73,715	8.6	67,614	6.2	6,487,515	10.0	6,620,945	9.2
	Children < 18	59,396	12.9	54,061	9.2	4,992,845	14.9	5,155,866	13.6
	Children < 5	32,570	16.5	28,693	12.2	2,613,626	18.3	2,562,263	17.0
Single Female		36,245	29.9	31,283	20.6	3,230,201	31.1	3,315,916	26.5
	Children < 18	33,445	38.8	28,478	26.1	2,866,941	42.3	2,940,459	34.3
	Children < 5	17,519	57.2	14,217	38.9	1,452,618	57.4	1,401,493	46.4
Individuals		375,214	11.7	388,952	9.3	31,742,864	13.1	33,899,812	12.4
	Age 18 +	245,649	10.4	267,338	8.6	20,313,948	11.3	22,152,954	10.9
	65 +	34,258	11.0	29,661	7.4	3,780,585	12.8	3,287,774	9.9
	Children < 18	126,181	15.0	115,626	10.8	11,161,836	17.9	11,386,031	16.1
	Age 5-17	81,787	13.7	78,587	10	7,544,737	17.0	7,974,006	15.4
	Unrelated child 15+	126,518	22.2	156,428	18.8	8,873,475	24.2	10,721,935	22.7

Source: United States Bureau of the Census, Census 2000

Conejos County, with a drop of **10.9%**, had the largest decline in the percentage of the population living below the poverty line (a change from **33.9% to 23.0%**) from 1989 to 1999. Only five counties (Eagle, Lake, Summit, Jackson, and San Juan) experienced an increase in the number of residents living in poverty. San Juan County, moving from **12.9% to 20.9%** (an increase of **8.0%**), had the largest increase in Colorado. Colorado, as a whole, had a drop of **2.4%** (from **11.7% to 9.3%**) in the number of individuals living below the poverty line from 1989 to 1999.

Table 6 (page9) examines poverty as it applies to families (all families and those households headed by a female with no husband present). As expected, Costilla County (**21.3%**) has the greatest percentage of families below the poverty line. Costilla also has the highest percentage (**58.5%**) of “female-headed” households living in poverty, while being at the top (or near the top) for every family poverty sub-group presented in the table. Consistent with the observations on individuals in **Table 5**, Gilpin (**1.0 percent**) and Douglas (**1.6 percent**) counties had the lowest percentages of all families living in poverty in 1999. Gilpin County also had the smallest percentage of “female-headed” households (**2.8 percent**) living in poverty.

From 1989-1999, Conejos County had the largest percentage drop in all families living in poverty (a decline of **11.2%**), while San Juan County experienced the largest increase (up **4.4%**). The largest number drop of families in poverty was in Denver (**down 1,627**) and the largest number increase was Arapahoe (**up 666**). These statistics mirror the changes in individuals living in poverty seen in **Table 5**. For families headed by a single female (no husband present), Hinsdale County had the largest percentage decline, from **83.3% (10 families)** in 1989 to **15.0% (3 families)** in 1999. The largest percent increase (**34.2%**) occurred in San Juan (**15.8% to 50.0%** in 1999). For most of these counties, the large percentage change is due to a small population base. Hinsdale’s population is 790. Colorado experienced a decrease in both total number of families living below the poverty line (down **2.4% or 6,100 families**) and female-headed families living in poverty (down **9.3% or 4,962 families**) during the decade.

Table 5: Percent of Individuals in Poverty by Selected Characteristics by County in Colorado in 1989 and 1999

County	Percent of Total Population		Age 18 and Over		Age 65 and Over		Related Children Under Age 18		Related Children Under Age 5	
	1989	1999	1989	1999	1989	1999	1989	1999	1989	1999
Adams	10.4%	8.9%	8.8%	7.9%	10.5%	7.3%	14.1%	10.9%	12.3%	10.5%
Alamosa	24.8%	21.3%	21.8%	18.8%	15.8%	13.9%	30.5%	27.4%	20.4%	26.5%
Arapahoe	5.9%	5.8%	5.2%	5.2%	5.9%	5.1%	7.5%	7.0%	7.2%	6.4%
Archuleta	16.9%	11.7%	14.2%	11.2%	13.0%	6.6%	23.0%	13.0%	20.3%	13.3%
Baca	19.0%	16.9%	18.4%	15.3%	20.0%	13.3%	21.1%	21.6%	9.3%	18.6%
Bent	20.4%	19.5%	17.9%	16.5%	18.7%	13.0%	25.8%	27.4%	24.8%	26.4%
Boulder	11.0%	9.5%	11.4%	9.9%	8.7%	5.9%	9.1%	7.6%	7.5%	6.9%
Chaffee	14.3%	11.7%	12.9%	10.2%	9.8%	10.2%	18.3%	17.3%	21.2%	16.0%
Cheyenne	11.6%	11.1%	10.7%	10.2%	12.5%	10.9%	13.4%	12.9%	2.6%	12.8%
Clear Creek	9.5%	5.4%	8.9%	4.9%	10.3%	5.6%	11.1%	6.8%	11.8%	6.1%
Conejos	33.9%	23.0%	29.7%	20.4%	23.2%	17.3%	41.4%	28.2%	29.7%	28.7%
Costilla	34.6%	26.8%	28.3%	24.9%	21.1%	23.3%	50.2%	32.4%	36.7%	32.8%
Crowley	23.8%	18.5%	20.5%	16.4%	18.7%	13.5%	32.4%	23.6%	30.0%	21.5%
Custer	18.4%	13.3%	16.4%	11.2%	16.2%	12.6%	24.4%	20.1%	24.8%	23.0%
Delta	17.8%	12.1%	15.7%	11.0%	14.7%	9.6%	24.1%	15.0%	18.4%	13.6%
Denver	17.1%	14.3%	14.3%	12.5%	12.7%	9.7%	27.2%	20.3%	23.3%	20.1%
Dolores	14.5%	13.1%	15.2%	13.9%	18.6%	18.3%	12.5%	9.8%	10.8%	10.8%
Douglas	3.2%	2.1%	2.8%	2.1%	5.1%	3.7%	3.6%	1.9%	2.1%	1.8%
Eagle	7.5%	7.8%	7.3%	7.8%	9.6%	7.6%	8.0%	6.8%	3.2%	5.5%
Elbert	6.9%	4.0%	6.9%	3.4%	11.9%	4.5%	6.7%	4.6%	5.5%	4.5%
El Paso	10.4%	8.0%	8.8%	7.1%	8.1%	6.9%	14.1%	10.0%	11.9%	9.2%
Fremont	16.1%	11.7%	14.8%	10.4%	16.3%	7.4%	18.9%	14.8%	20.9%	14.2%
Garfield	9.3%	7.5%	8.7%	7.0%	14.1%	5.5%	10.5%	8.1%	9.3%	7.2%
Gilpin	10.6%	4.0%	9.9%	4.3%	12.3%	6.1%	11.7%	1.4%	10.2%	0.7%
Grand	9.3%	7.3%	9.8%	7.0%	12.6%	6.1%	7.4%	7.9%	3.7%	8.3%
Gunnison	16.2%	15.0%	17.1%	16.1%	4.7%	7.2%	11.7%	9.4%	5.8%	7.3%
Hinsdale	13.9%	7.2%	13.9%	9.0%	10.2%	2.2%	13.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Huerfano	25.7%	18.0%	22.1%	16.2%	20.0%	11.9%	35.9%	23.7%	25.2%	19.9%
Jackson	10.0%	14.0%	10.0%	11.0%	11.0%	9.0%	10.1%	22.5%	11.1%	23.1%
Jefferson	5.8%	5.2%	5.2%	4.8%	6.2%	5.1%	7.1%	5.8%	6.4%	5.3%
Kiowa	13.8%	12.2%	15.0%	12.3%	24.2%	13.8%	10.7%	11.5%	6.6%	9.3%
Kit Carson	15.2%	12.1%	13.8%	10.2%	21.5%	11.1%	17.8%	16.6%	9.9%	16.1%
Lake	12.3%	12.9%	10.7%	11.9%	18.4%	6.3%	16.4%	15.6%	10.6%	14.0%
La Plata	15.7%	11.7%	15.2%	12.3%	14.4%	7.7%	16.5%	9.3%	14.3%	8.6%
Larimer	12.0%	9.2%	12.4%	9.9%	9.5%	4.4%	10.4%	6.8%	7.6%	6.0%
Las Animas	26.2%	17.3%	23.6%	16.4%	24.5%	17.2%	33.4%	20.0%	34.5%	19.9%
Lincoln	17.9%	11.7%	15.4%	10.6%	18.6%	11.5%	24.8%	14.4%	20.6%	13.7%
Logan	14.9%	12.2%	13.4%	11.6%	16.3%	10.9%	18.5%	13.4%	11.4%	13.0%
Mesa	15.1%	10.2%	13.1%	9.6%	11.5%	8.1%	20.1%	11.5%	15.9%	9.7%
Mineral	13.1%	10.2%	12.5%	8.1%	7.1%	10.6%	15.2%	18.7%	9.8%	22.5%
Moffat	11.1%	8.3%	9.8%	8.3%	15.4%	9.3%	12.9%	8.3%	15.0%	5.3%
Montezuma	20.2%	16.4%	17.4%	13.6%	18.7%	14.4%	26.5%	23.2%	22.3%	20.5%
Montrose	14.2%	12.6%	12.5%	10.7%	14.2%	9.8%	18.6%	16.5%	11.9%	14.5%
Morgan	16.0%	12.4%	13.9%	10.9%	15.3%	9.5%	20.5%	15.3%	19.6%	14.0%
Otero	23.9%	18.8%	19.9%	16.0%	18.1%	11.8%	33.3%	25.9%	30.5%	24.8%
Ouray	9.6%	7.2%	8.6%	7.0%	7.4%	2.9%	12.5%	8.0%	7.1%	7.0%
Park	9.4%	5.6%	8.3%	5.4%	9.6%	5.7%	11.8%	5.6%	10.1%	4.9%
Phillips	14.1%	11.6%	12.8%	10.3%	16.4%	7.2%	17.0%	14.7%	10.3%	15.4%
Pitkin	6.3%	6.2%	6.6%	6.5%	4.7%	5.6%	3.7%	4.4%	2.5%	3.7%
Prowers	21.0%	19.5%	17.9%	15.9%	19.3%	13.9%	27.3%	27.1%	25.4%	24.2%
Pueblo	20.2%	14.9%	16.8%	12.9%	13.6%	8.7%	29.3%	19.7%	30.2%	18.2%
Rio Blanco	13.6%	9.6%	12.2%	8.7%	20.8%	10.4%	16.5%	11.6%	17.0%	10.6%
Rio Grande	23.8%	14.5%	20.2%	12.8%	21.0%	11.2%	31.8%	18.4%	25.8%	18.5%
Routt	9.8%	6.1%	9.5%	6.2%	12.2%	7.7%	10.4%	5.2%	4.5%	5.5%
Saguache	30.6%	22.6%	25.1%	20.4%	20.2%	12.5%	42.4%	27.6%	26.0%	23.7%
San Juan	12.9%	20.9%	12.1%	18.9%	12.1%	7.1%	14.8%	29.4%	13.2%	34.6%
San Miguel	11.4%	10.4%	11.2%	10.0%	14.6%	8.0%	11.9%	11.1%	6.9%	11.5%
Sedgwick	11.5%	10.0%	10.0%	8.8%	8.2%	4.2%	16.0%	13.7%	12.7%	13.4%
Summit	7.8%	9.0%	8.0%	9.8%	11.3%	3.4%	6.5%	4.3%	3.3%	2.7%
Teller	10.1%	5.4%	9.5%	4.6%	11.0%	4.2%	11.1%	6.9%	7.8%	7.2%
Washington	15.7%	11.4%	13.2%	9.5%	11.7%	9.4%	22.2%	16.3%	5.8%	14.5%
Weld	15.4%	12.5%	13.8%	11.5%	12.4%	8.5%	18.9%	14.6%	15.5%	13.5%
Yuma	13.3%	12.9%	12.6%	11.6%	14.2%	10.7%	15.0%	15.5%	3.5%	13.3%
Colorado	11.7%	9.3%	10.4%	8.6%	11.0%	7.4%	15.0%	10.8%	12.6%	10.0%

*High and low percentages are highlighted

Source: United States Bureau of the Census, Census 2000

Table 6: Percent of Families in Poverty and Percent of Households Headed by Single Females in Poverty by County in 1989 and 1999

County	Family						Females					
	% of Families		With Children Under Age 18		With Children Under Age 5		No Husband Present		With Children Under Age 18		With Children Under Age 5	
	1989	1999	1989	1999	1989	1999	1989	1999	1989	1999	1989	1999
Adams	8.8%	6.5%	12.5%	9.2%	15.3%	11.0%	29.7%	18.0%	37.9%	22.7%	54.8%	29.4%
Alamosa	20.1%	15.6%	27.7%	23.5%	34.8%	29.7%	52.2%	44.1%	60.4%	49.3%	71.9%	64.7%
Arapahoe	4.4%	4.2%	6.7%	6.2%	8.6%	8.7%	17.2%	12.9%	22.6%	16.8%	39.8%	26.6%
Archuleta	13.5%	9.0%	20.5%	14.9%	27.6%	12.1%	48.8%	30.0%	54.7%	36.3%	70.5%	29.3%
Baca	14.9%	12.9%	20.7%	20.1%	23.9%	23.8%	34.5%	30.5%	55.6%	42.9%	47.4%	51.4%
Bent	15.4%	16.6%	24.3%	24.5%	37.6%	26.0%	40.0%	39.8%	70.0%	50.5%	88.9%	44.8%
Boulder	5.6%	4.6%	8.5%	6.5%	10.4%	9.6%	22.7%	17.9%	29.4%	21.8%	46.5%	41.7%
Chaffee	11.4%	7.4%	20.1%	14.7%	29.5%	20.5%	45.8%	31.9%	63.2%	38.5%	98.1%	52.7%
Cheyenne	9.0%	8.7%	11.4%	11.8%	16.0%	15.5%	16.1%	26.7%	20.8%	41.4%	20.0%	50.0%
Clear Creek	6.1%	3.0%	9.6%	5.8%	12.0%	7.8%	35.9%	13.2%	43.6%	15.5%	85.1%	52.8%
Conejos	29.8%	18.6%	40.1%	26.7%	44.8%	27.1%	52.8%	45.5%	64.9%	52.0%	88.1%	58.2%
Costilla	27.5%	21.3%	41.3%	29.1%	52.1%	30.6%	55.4%	58.5%	75.7%	70.4%	85.0%	78.9%
Crowley	19.8%	15.2%	29.9%	22.2%	46.9%	28.1%	55.6%	40.4%	71.6%	57.1%	93.8%	96.2%
Custer	13.7%	9.8%	20.8%	15.9%	29.3%	10.1%	46.0%	41.8%	73.1%	45.6%	100.0%	61.5%
Delta	13.5%	8.5%	21.7%	13.5%	27.6%	17.8%	48.2%	26.6%	58.8%	33.1%	75.7%	49.7%
Denver	13.1%	10.6%	22.0%	16.6%	26.8%	19.6%	34.1%	25.3%	46.0%	32.6%	59.6%	42.0%
Dolores	11.5%	10.2%	13.4%	9.0%	15.1%	12.0%	31.6%	18.9%	60.0%	26.1%	50.0%	53.3%
Douglas	2.3%	1.6%	3.4%	1.9%	3.7%	1.9%	16.1%	6.9%	21.8%	8.1%	43.5%	16.5%
Eagle	4.9%	3.9%	7.0%	5.5%	6.4%	8.5%	20.3%	10.8%	26.5%	11.9%	29.8%	31.6%
Elbert	5.7%	2.5%	5.6%	3.7%	9.0%	4.9%	19.6%	13.7%	20.5%	18.6%	64.5%	33.3%
El Paso	8.1%	5.7%	12.5%	8.6%	16.4%	11.4%	33.2%	22.3%	41.8%	28.3%	60.7%	42.1%
Fremont	12.2%	8.3%	18.5%	14.7%	27.3%	20.6%	34.3%	24.8%	48.1%	31.9%	72.5%	49.6%
Garfield	7.3%	4.6%	9.3%	7.5%	12.2%	9.7%	27.5%	14.6%	35.0%	17.5%	50.4%	26.8%
Gilpin	7.1%	1.0%	9.5%	1.0%	13.4%	3.0%	23.5%	2.8%	31.3%	3.3%	75.0%	13.6%
Grand	4.8%	5.4%	6.3%	8.2%	8.2%	8.5%	16.1%	28.9%	18.6%	36.4%	24.3%	48.3%
Gunnison	6.5%	6.0%	9.8%	8.7%	8.1%	14.9%	26.8%	16.9%	34.9%	23.3%	54.8%	64.3%
Hinsdale	10.6%	4.5%	20.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	83.3%	15.0%	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Huerfano	20.4%	14.1%	31.6%	23.6%	39.8%	33.4%	48.1%	29.6%	64.9%	37.8%	68.9%	51.5%
Jackson	9.0%	10.3%	10.5%	15.9%	16.2%	19.7%	44.8%	39.5%	47.8%	43.3%	77.8%	53.8%
Jefferson	4.1%	3.4%	6.3%	5.1%	8.4%	6.9%	17.8%	13.3%	24.6%	17.3%	44.4%	28.5%
Kiowa	11.7%	9.6%	9.7%	11.3%	12.7%	19.4%	29.6%	27.9%	32.0%	30.3%	0.0%	50.0%
Kit Carson	10.7%	9.4%	11.3%	14.7%	12.0%	23.4%	21.2%	36.5%	27.8%	45.2%	47.2%	80.4%
Lake	8.4%	9.5%	14.3%	12.4%	16.2%	19.7%	38.0%	20.9%	49.0%	24.9%	100.0%	31.7%
La Plata	10.3%	6.7%	14.3%	9.1%	18.5%	12.0%	33.0%	21.3%	37.0%	24.8%	56.9%	34.8%
Larimer	6.6%	4.3%	9.7%	6.1%	12.7%	8.3%	26.5%	19.2%	33.2%	24.1%	55.6%	39.7%
Las Animas	20.7%	14.0%	28.9%	20.4%	40.3%	24.6%	42.7%	33.5%	63.6%	41.2%	88.3%	59.2%
Lincoln	12.8%	8.1%	17.8%	11.5%	23.4%	14.7%	35.0%	17.7%	43.3%	23.2%	64.5%	39.0%
Logan	10.4%	9.0%	15.7%	13.5%	18.5%	14.0%	41.9%	37.7%	48.5%	46.2%	70.5%	53.2%
Mesa	11.4%	7.0%	17.5%	11.0%	21.3%	16.8%	36.7%	27.3%	46.8%	33.6%	61.4%	50.6%
Mineral	10.4%	9.3%	16.4%	12.6%	18.2%	9.4%	66.7%	39.1%	100.0%	77.8%	100.0%	100.0%
Moffat	9.0%	6.9%	11.1%	9.1%	16.0%	18.6%	46.2%	24.0%	54.4%	28.6%	86.2%	60.0%
Montezuma	16.1%	13.1%	22.8%	20.0%	28.4%	29.6%	45.2%	36.6%	55.2%	47.6%	71.2%	61.1%
Montrose	11.0%	8.9%	17.0%	13.4%	22.1%	21.5%	37.0%	19.1%	45.5%	27.1%	61.6%	48.3%
Morgan	12.4%	8.5%	17.9%	11.9%	24.9%	16.3%	47.7%	25.2%	57.5%	31.3%	78.8%	42.2%
Otero	19.6%	14.2%	30.3%	22.4%	37.1%	26.6%	53.5%	41.5%	63.7%	50.9%	76.0%	70.1%
Ouray	4.8%	6.0%	8.9%	9.5%	14.1%	12.7%	4.3%	16.5%	6.1%	24.6%	14.3%	50.0%
Park	6.7%	3.4%	10.2%	4.6%	11.0%	5.4%	49.1%	15.1%	52.2%	18.7%	59.5%	44.1%
Phillips	11.0%	8.8%	17.1%	12.4%	26.5%	7.7%	42.2%	34.0%	50.7%	35.5%	89.5%	15.0%
Pitkin	2.9%	3.0%	3.4%	4.2%	4.4%	6.2%	8.5%	5.6%	13.8%	4.7%	27.3%	19.0%
Prowers	16.9%	14.5%	23.9%	22.0%	29.5%	29.4%	50.2%	35.1%	58.2%	46.7%	89.3%	65.8%
Pueblo	16.7%	11.2%	26.1%	17.5%	34.9%	21.9%	46.9%	30.2%	59.9%	40.0%	74.2%	52.2%
Rio Blanco	10.1%	6.7%	14.7%	10.2%	20.2%	13.7%	41.3%	32.4%	46.4%	41.7%	92.5%	56.3%
Rio Grande	19.2%	11.3%	27.8%	16.6%	37.7%	18.4%	43.4%	43.0%	53.1%	48.8%	78.0%	80.8%
Routt	7.3%	2.8%	9.4%	4.3%	13.0%	5.7%	23.5%	15.0%	27.2%	19.6%	31.5%	35.6%
Saguache	24.5%	18.7%	36.6%	26.2%	46.2%	39.3%	54.4%	35.7%	66.9%	40.3%	88.9%	68.5%
San Juan	9.1%	13.5%	6.5%	24.3%	2.7%	5.6%	15.8%	50.0%	33.3%	62.5%	0.0%	33.3%
San Miguel	9.7%	6.6%	13.3%	9.2%	10.9%	10.8%	40.4%	20.7%	47.5%	19.9%	58.3%	27.8%
Sedgwick	7.4%	7.8%	12.5%	14.7%	18.0%	17.5%	29.8%	36.9%	43.8%	55.8%	53.8%	66.7%
Summit	3.9%	3.1%	5.5%	4.6%	5.2%	7.3%	18.9%	3.6%	21.9%	4.5%	38.1%	10.1%
Teller	8.6%	3.4%	9.3%	4.7%	10.4%	5.5%	30.9%	16.1%	41.0%	14.5%	86.5%	9.9%
Washington	11.0%	8.6%	18.5%	13.5%	25.7%	17.1%	32.0%	23.5%	41.6%	35.6%	35.7%	68.2%
Weld	10.6%	8.0%	15.6%	11.9%	20.0%	16.3%	40.1%	24.9%	49.6%	32.0%	68.0%	48.3%
Yuma	10.7%	8.8%	15.7%	12.7%	15.0%	20.7%	41.7%	32.8%	52.5%	38.4%	50.0%	32.9%
Colorado	8.6%	6.2%	12.9%	9.2%	16.5%	12.2%	29.9%	20.6%	38.8%	26.1%	57.2%	38.9%

* High and low percentages are highlighted

Source: United States Bureau of the Census, Census 2000

Current Population Survey:

Due to its larger sample size, the decennial census is assumed to be the most accurate of measurements. However, since the decennial census is conducted only once a decade, the data may become dated and make intercensal estimates necessary. In order to provide the intercensal estimates, the *Current Population Survey (CPS)* was developed. The *CPS* is a sample survey of approximately 50,000 households nationwide and is a joint publication of the *Bureaus of Census and Labor Statistics*. Using the decennial census as a basis, the *CPS* is the primary intercensal source of information on the labor force characteristics of the U.S. population. Due to the different sample size, the *Decennial Census* and the *CPS* will produce different results. The *CPS* web site can be found at <http://www.bls.census.gov/cps/cpsbasic.htm>. The September 2001 *CPS*¹ report can be found at <http://www.census.gov/prod/2001pubs/p60-214.pdf>. General statistical highlights of this report for the United States are below followed by more detailed information for adults and children.

Highlights of the September 2001 CPS:

- The poverty rate in 2000 dropped to **11.3 percent**, down half a percentage point from 1999. About **31.1 million** people were poor in 2000, **1.1 million** fewer than in 1999.
- Poverty rates declined in the Northeast and West in 2000, to **10.3 percent** and **11.9 percent**, down from **10.9 percent** and **12.6 percent**, respectively, in 1999. The poverty rate did not change significantly for those in the South or Midwest.
- Blacks (**22.1 percent**) and female-householder families (**24.7 percent**) had their lowest measured poverty rates in 2000. Poverty rates fell for Hispanics (from **22.8 percent** to **21.2 percent**) between 1999 and 2000.
- The poverty rate for people under 18 years old dropped to **16.2 percent** in 2000 (down from **16.9 percent** in 1999). For people 65 years and over, the rate fell from **10.5 percent** in 1998 to **10.2 percent** in 2000.
- While Blacks remained disproportionately poor, the difference in poverty rates between Blacks and White non-Hispanics narrowed since the most recent poverty rate peak. In 1993, the Black poverty rate was **23.2 percentage** points higher than that for White non-Hispanics; by 2000 this difference had fallen to **14.6 percentage** points.

Table 7 data are provided by the *CPS* and shows the number and percentage of individuals living in poverty by family structure from 1996-2000. For each of the categories the percentage of individuals living below the poverty level has fallen. The overall poverty rate in 2000 was the lowest in 21 years (since 1979).

Table 7: Number and Percentage of Individuals Living in Poverty in the United States (in Thousands of Individuals)

	All People			All Families			Families without Husband			Unrelated Persons		
	Total	Number	%	Total	Number	%	Total	Number	%	Total	Number	%
2000	275,917	31,139	11.3	229,476	22,088	9.6	37,428	10,436	27.9	45,120	8,530	18.9
1999	273,493	32,258	11.8	228,633	23,396	10.2	38,223	11,607	30.4	43,432	8,305	19.1
1998	271,059	34,476	12.7	227,229	25,370	11.2	39,000	12,907	33.1	42,539	8,478	19.9
1997	268,480	35,574	13.3	225,369	26,217	11.6	38,412	13,494	35.1	41,672	8,687	20.8
1996	266,218	36,529	13.7	223,955	27,376	12.2	38,584	13,796	35.8	40,727	8,452	20.8

Source: Current Population Survey – Department of Labor and the US Census Bureau

When comparing the *CPS* to the *Census 2000*, the *CPS* understated the percentage of all people living in poverty by **1.1 percent (12.4% and 11.3%)** and the percentage of unrelated persons living in poverty by **3.8 percent (22.7% and 18.9%)**. However, the *CPS* overstated the percentage of all families below the poverty line (**9.2% and 9.6%**) and the percentage of families without husbands (**26.5% and 27.9%**)

¹ "Current Population Survey", U.S Census Bureau, September 2001

Adults in Poverty:

According to the *Current Population Survey* from the *US Census Bureau*, people age 18 to 64 in the United States had a poverty rate of **9.4 percent** in 2000, down **2.0 percent** from their 1995 rate (**11.4 percent**). People age 65 and over had a poverty rate of **10.2 percent** in 2000, continuing a steady decline from the mid-1960s when **over 1 out of every 4** over the age of 65 and were living in poverty. People of ages 18 to 24 had nearly a **3 percent** drop in their poverty rate—from **17.3 percent** in 1999 to **14.4 percent** in 2000. This drop was larger than for any other age group. **Table 8** presents this historical data for the United States from 1966-2000 for ages 18-65 and over 65. For additional data back to 1959 and for other racial/ethnic age characteristics see web site at <http://www.census.gov/hhes/poverty/histpov/hstpov3.html>. For all historical poverty tables see web site <http://www.census.gov/hhes/poverty/histpov/perindex.html>.

Table 8: Adult Poverty Levels in the United States by Age in Number (Measured in Thousands) and Percent

	18 to 64 years			65 years and over		
	Total	Number in Poverty	Percent	Total	Number in Poverty	Percent
2000	171,009	16,143	9.4	32,978	3,359	10.2
1995	161,508	18,442	11.4	31,658	3,318	10.5
1990	153,502	16,496	10.7	30,093	3,658	12.2
1985	146,396	16,598	11.3	27,322	3,456	12.6
1980	137,428	13,858	10.1	24,686	3,871	15.7
1975	124,122	11,456	9.2	21,662	3,317	15.3
1970	113,554	10,187	9.0	19,470	4,793	24.6
1966	105,241	11,007	10.5	17,929	5,114	28.5

Source: US Census Bureau Historical Poverty Tables, Current Population Survey

Children in Poverty:

According to the *CPS*, for the third consecutive year, people under age 18 in the United States experienced a poverty rate decrease, from **16.9 percent** in 1999 to **16.2 percent** in 2000. Although children in married-couple families showed no change in poverty (**8.2 percent** were poor in 2000), the poverty rate fell for children living in families with a female householder and no husband present, from **41.9 percent** in 1999 to **39.8 percent** in 2000, which was still about **five times** the rate for their counterparts in married-couple families. Despite the decrease in their poverty rate, people under 18 have a higher poverty rate than those in any other age group

The *National Center for Children in Poverty (NCCP)* at *Columbia University's Mailman Center for Public Policy* presents additional data about children in poverty. The *NCCP* reported that the United States' child poverty rate is substantially higher—often **two-to-three times** higher—than that of most other major Western industrialized nations. For example, the U.S. child poverty rate in 2001 at **20.3%**, lagged significantly behind Sweden (**2.4%**), Germany (**8.7%**), Spain (**12.4%**), and the United Kingdom (**16.2%**).

Using data from the *U.S. Census Bureau, March Current Population Surveys*, 1976-2001, the *NCCP* published the "Child Poverty Fact Sheet"² and "Map and Track 2000"³, which reported the following highlights:

- **Fifteen percent** of children in Colorado under the age of six are living in poverty. This compares to **23.1 percent** of children in the United States.
- **36.6 percent** of Colorado children are considered low income (below 200% of the federal poverty level). Overall, for the United States, **46.0 percent** of children are low income.
- **Four percent** of children in Colorado have at least one working parent and still remain in poverty. In the United States, **7.1 percent** of children with at least one parent live in poverty.
- **56.1 percent** of low income young children in Colorado have parents who are employed full or part time, while **51.5 percent** of low income young children in the United States have parents who are employed full or part time.
- **7 percent** of America's children live in extreme poverty (**8 percent** of U.S. children under age six), in families with incomes below 50 percent of the poverty line. (In 1999, the extreme poverty line was **\$6,145** for a family of three.)

More detailed data for Colorado child poverty rates from the "Map and Track 2000" can be found at <http://cpmcnet.columbia.edu/dept/nccp/state/mt00co.html>.

Additional data on child poverty in the United States and Colorado is provided by the *Urban Institute's National Survey of American Families (NSAF)*, and can be found at web site <http://newfederalism.urban.org/nsaf/family-wellbeing.html>.

Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates:

The *U.S. Census Bureau* also estimates poverty data on a county basis between census years using a statistical model. From this estimation model, the *Census Bureau* produces the *Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates*. Documentation concerning the model overall estimation comparisons can be found through the *Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE)* at web site <http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/saipe/documentation.html>.

The *SAIPE* provides estimates on the following topics:

- The number and percentage of people of all ages living in poverty
- The number and percentage of people under the age of 18 living in poverty
- The number and percentage of related children (ages 5-17) in families living in poverty
- The median household income
- The number and percentage of people under age 5 living in poverty (national data only)

No data is presented here, as the *Census 2000* results are a more recent and comprehensive survey.

² "Child Poverty Fact Sheet", National Center for Children in Poverty, March 2002.

³ "Map and Track 2000", National Center for Children in Poverty, December 2000.

National-State-County Income Comparisons:

Income levels are used for several benchmarks. Income however, is not just what is brought home in a paycheck. Total personal income (TPI) includes the earnings (wage and salary disbursements, other labor income, and proprietors' income); dividends, interest, and rent; and transfer payments. In Colorado in 2000, earnings were **73.9 percent** of TPI (compared with **70.4 percent** in 1990); dividends, interest, and rent were **17.7 percent** (compared with **20.0 percent** in 1990); and transfer payments were **8.4 percent** (compared with **9.5 percent** in 1990). From 1990 to 2000, earnings increased on average **8.5 percent** each year; dividends, interest, and rent increased on average **6.7 percent**; and transfer payments increased on average **6.7 percent**.

As might be expected with a lower percentage of the population below the poverty level, Colorado's per capita income (income that would be divided equally among all people in a population - man, woman, and child) is significantly higher than the per capita income level for the United States.

Table 9 presents data from the *Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) Regional Accounts Data*⁴ that shows that in 1980 Colorado's per capita income level was **106.1%** of the US total. By 2000, that percentage had grown to **110.2%** (a slight decrease from the high in 1999 of **110.5%**) of the national per capita income, meaning that the average income of a Colorado resident was more than **ten-percent** that of the average United States citizen.

Table 9: Per Capita Income and Percent of United States Per Capita Income

	1980		1985		1990		1995		2000	
	Income	Percent	Income	Percent	Income	Percent	Income	Percent	Income	Percent
United States	10,183	100.0	14,705	100.0	19,584	100.0	23,562	100.0	29,451	100.0
Colorado	10,809	106.1	15,416	104.8	19,703	100.6	24,865	105.5	32,464	110.2

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis Regional Accounts Data

Table 10 presents the per capita income of each county in Colorado as measured in constant 2000 dollars. Pitkin County had the highest per capita income in Colorado (and the second highest nationally) in 2000 at **\$68,761**. This was **233.3%** above the national average. Second to Pitkin was Arapahoe County with a 2000 per capita income of **\$44,081**. However, it needs to be pointed out that only 14 out of Colorado's 63 counties are at or above the national average in per capita income. These 14 counties are mainly urban, Front Range counties or they lie in the resort areas in the state. Saguache County, at **50.0%** of the national average, has the lowest per capita income (**\$14,738**) of any Colorado county and less than $\frac{1}{4}$ of Pitkin's per capita income. For each year, Pitkin County has the highest per capita income and, until 2000, Conejos County has the lowest per capita income. Between 1980 and 2000, Rio Blanco experienced the largest decline in real income (**\$6,197**), while Pitkin County had the largest real income increase at **\$31,133** during the time period. As a single entity, the per capita income (in 2000 dollars) for Colorado residents has risen from **\$23,056** in 1980 to **\$32,434** in 2000. Complete county and MSA data from 1969-2000 are available at www.bea.doc.gov/bea/regional/reis. The data at this web site are not adjusted for inflation.

⁴ "Regional Accounts Data", Bureau of Economic Analysis, 2000.

Table 10: Colorado County Per Capita Income (In constant 2000 dollars)

County	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000
Adams	20,833	21,399	22,903	22,953	25,124
Alamosa	18,193	16,812	19,991	19,744	21,232
Arapahoe	28,934	29,683	34,868	36,306	44,081
Archuleta	19,162	17,620	18,498	17,880	18,214
Baca	15,094	20,473	27,310	21,944	23,126
Bent	14,420	15,537	20,700	17,987	16,984
Boulder	25,590	26,836	31,627	34,048	39,347
Chaffee	20,447	18,146	18,990	19,911	21,221
Cheyenne	20,002	29,912	27,601	29,340	24,322
Clear Creek	27,410	23,799	26,039	26,640	33,916
Conejos	10,880	11,621	13,922	14,792	15,089
Costilla	13,837	16,717	16,751	17,659	17,778
Crowley	20,767	14,682	17,230	16,654	15,698
Custer	21,639	17,884	21,281	20,146	21,310
Delta	16,885	16,167	18,354	18,505	19,590
Denver	27,869	28,987	33,716	36,381	40,203
Dolores	19,398	21,208	20,202	19,919	19,221
Douglas	31,124	36,108	35,407	34,982	35,452
Eagle	28,921	26,918	31,793	35,795	34,997
Elbert	22,692	24,998	25,021	23,849	28,463
El Paso	20,825	23,451	25,346	25,338	28,804
Fremont	17,446	17,027	17,687	17,337	18,111
Garfield	22,547	21,272	24,091	24,139	25,748
Gilpin	23,646	21,892	23,201	28,665	29,799
Grand	23,235	21,437	24,376	25,754	24,195
Gunnison	16,539	17,735	19,522	21,012	21,556
Hinsdale	16,546	19,685	25,485	25,549	22,381
Huerfano	15,333	14,538	16,304	17,936	17,659
Jackson	20,183	18,042	19,983	18,777	20,612
Jefferson	26,982	28,669	30,413	31,241	36,442
Kiowa	30,696	33,671	33,842	29,154	34,270
Kit Carson	18,189	24,582	28,208	25,123	24,373
Lake	24,748	18,599	21,180	22,679	22,105
La Plata	19,415	19,515	22,992	25,403	26,517
Larimer	20,659	21,566	25,199	26,152	29,178
Las Animas	17,633	15,323	17,412	18,373	18,928
Lincoln	22,908	23,216	23,763	20,189	18,198
Logan	20,002	20,128	25,331	24,634	24,942
Mesa	21,623	19,581	21,989	22,526	24,693
Mineral	26,385	16,087	23,238	22,002	20,880
Moffat	20,309	19,150	22,894	23,522	21,485
Montezuma	18,261	16,935	20,214	20,694	21,234
Montrose	16,826	16,852	20,590	21,647	21,122
Morgan	19,274	18,991	23,627	21,989	21,806
Otero	17,794	17,207	19,862	20,198	22,003
Ouray	20,075	21,320	24,141	23,741	24,124
Park	21,107	21,819	24,761	23,324	26,414
Phillips	19,230	20,018	27,044	19,924	24,958
Pitkin	37,628	37,989	45,777	51,102	68,761
Prowers	16,683	19,556	22,154	21,095	23,355
Pueblo	19,400	18,268	20,467	21,692	22,174
Rio Blanco	32,236	22,522	22,252	22,274	26,039
Rio Grande	23,321	20,660	22,206	21,225	20,326
Routt	28,273	25,288	30,185	29,907	31,810
Saguache	17,360	17,146	17,612	15,137	14,738
San Juan	19,227	14,374	23,899	21,441	22,828
San Miguel	15,231	18,936	27,737	31,512	30,476
Sedgwick	18,732	20,618	25,207	23,476	24,134
Summit	27,677	27,824	32,254	34,317	34,136
Teller	20,445	23,288	24,640	25,746	27,212
Washington	25,304	26,135	28,189	24,835	20,433
Weld	18,579	19,122	22,348	21,583	22,539
Yuma	21,664	22,909	32,054	19,975	23,256
COLORADO	23,839	24,804	28,053	28,950	32,434

The highest and lowest values for each year are highlighted.

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis Regional Accounts Data

Transfer Payments:

Transfer payments are unearned income consisting largely of supplemental security income payments, family assistance, general assistance payments, food stamp payments, and other assistance payments, including emergency assistance. According to the *Bureau of Economic Analysis*, in 2000, Colorado received the second lowest amount of per capita transfer payments of any state in the nation.

The largest portion of the transfer payments comes from retirement benefits. Due mostly to Colorado's relatively young population, state residents receive lower per capita transfer payment benefits. **Table 11** provides the comparison between Colorado and the United States for *Transfer Payments*. All values are in constant 2000 dollars. As the U.S. population has become older and the "baby boomers" have begun reaching retirement age the amount of per capita income from transfer payments grew for both the United States and Colorado from 1980-1995. In 1980, the average U.S. per capita payment was **\$2,715**, while the per capita Colorado payment was **\$2,003**, creating a difference of **\$712** in payments. By 1999, the difference had grown to **\$1,020** (average income supplement of **\$3,775** versus **\$2,755**). After a decline in per capita benefits from 1995 to 1999, there was an increase in 2000 for the United States. In Colorado, the decline in payments continued through 2000. The difference between per capita benefits paid to Americans overall and that paid to Coloradans was just **\$50 (\$3,802 versus \$2,753)** in 2000. All values are measured in constant 2000 dollars.

Table 11: Per Capita Transfer Payments (in constant 2000 dollars)

	1980	1985	1990	1995	1999	2000
United States	2,715	2,847	3,393	3,924	3,775	3,803
Colorado	2,003	2,112	2,677	3,073	2,755	2,753
Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis Regional Accounts Data						

Table 12 presents county level per capita transfer payments in constant 2000 dollars. In Colorado, there were six counties that received more than **\$5,000** in annual per capita transfer payments in 2000. Otero and Costilla counties received the largest per capita payments in 2000 at **\$6,191** and **\$5,794**, respectively. At the other end of the spectrum, the counties that receive the lowest levels of transfer payments are the Front Range and resort, higher-income counties. There were six counties in Colorado that had per capita payouts of less than **\$1,500** in 2000. The two counties that receive the lowest per capita amount of transfer payments in 2000 were Eagle County (**\$845**) and Summit County (**\$945**). Eagle and Summit are "wealthy" counties that do not receive much in government retirement payments (mostly private retirement funds). These two counties also have a smaller percentage of their population over the age of 65. Eagle County has the smallest percentage in the state (**3.0%**) and Summit County had the second smallest percentage of the population older than 65 (**3.3%**). For Colorado in 2000, the per capita amount of transfer payments has remained fairly constant reaching **\$2,753** (in 2000 dollars).

Table 12: Colorado County Per Capita Transfer Payments (In constant 2000 dollars)

County	1985	1990	1995	2000
Adams	2,138	2,799	3,123	2,668
Alamosa	2,752	3,389	4,049	4,003
Arapahoe	1,256	1,893	2,226	2,096
Archuleta	2,258	2,983	2,890	2,656
Baca	2,849	3,528	4,451	4,374
Bent	2,958	3,733	4,584	4,096
Boulder	1,605	2,035	2,215	1,972
Chaffee	3,062	3,601	4,097	3,819
Chevyenne	2,712	2,927	3,973	3,972
Clear Creek	1,338	1,789	2,168	2,034
Conejos	3,083	3,850	4,943	5,019
Costilla	3,306	4,203	5,618	5,794
Crowley	3,715	3,422	4,443	3,449
Custer	2,379	3,296	3,390	3,352
Delta	3,227	4,375	4,808	4,512
Denver	3,175	3,987	4,697	3,923
Dolores	3,220	3,591	4,364	4,280
Douglas	1,042	1,225	1,287	1,040
Eagle	989	1,103	1,133	845
Elbert	1,528	1,845	1,868	1,715
El Paso	1,863	2,401	2,751	2,661
Fremont	3,426	3,917	3,846	3,513
Garfield	2,239	2,315	2,555	2,094
Gilpin	1,201	1,510	1,787	1,671
Grand	1,372	1,957	2,311	1,828
Gunnison	1,460	1,857	1,901	1,743
Hinsdale	1,588	2,390	2,637	2,090
Huerfano	3,881	4,745	6,258	5,214
Jackson	1,997	2,285	3,118	3,107
Jefferson	1,327	1,919	2,306	2,215
Kiowa	2,697	3,325	4,259	4,039
Kit Carson	2,575	2,980	3,708	3,274
Lake	1,882	2,257	2,690	2,181
La Plata	2,064	2,467	2,676	2,485
Larimer	1,845	2,322	2,591	2,383
Las Animas	4,275	4,954	6,030	5,745
Lincoln	2,751	3,295	3,277	2,972
Logan	2,543	3,355	3,930	3,479
Mesa	2,658	3,427	3,976	3,838
Mineral	1,526	2,579	3,408	3,037
Moffat	1,706	2,185	2,886	2,732
Montezuma	2,268	3,020	3,523	3,526
Montrose	2,695	3,188	3,650	3,434
Morgan	2,509	3,073	3,583	3,236
Otero	3,549	4,654	6,030	6,191
Ouray	2,465	2,819	2,649	2,537
Park	1,581	1,903	1,947	1,762
Phillips	3,330	3,918	4,093	3,848
Pitkin	944	1,170	1,437	1,443
Prowers	2,606	3,272	4,342	4,025
Pueblo	3,664	4,539	5,928	5,576
Rio Blanco	1,704	2,171	2,804	3,049
Rio Grande	2,905	3,458	4,410	4,300
Routt	1,328	1,544	1,628	1,432
Saguache	3,021	3,262	3,285	3,106
San Juan	2,779	2,006	3,294	3,251
San Miguel	1,449	1,381	1,472	1,253
Sedgwick	3,648	4,474	5,466	4,938
Summit	671	1,002	1,093	945
Teller	1,794	2,118	2,154	2,194
Washington	2,395	3,200	3,934	3,672
Weld	2,156	2,648	3,078	2,664
Yuma	2,297	2,930	3,607	3,407
COLORADO	2,099	2,679	3,074	2,753

The highest and lowest county per capita transfer payment incomes are highlighted.

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis Regional Accounts Data

The income maintenance component of transfer payments is most directly related to the welfare of the population because it includes programs such as *TANF*. The pattern of benefits for the United States and Colorado has been the similar since 1980. From 1980 to 1985 there was a decrease in per capita benefits from **\$333** to **\$300** in the U.S. (as measured in constant 2000 dollars). In Colorado, the decline was from **\$211** to **\$182**. From 1985-1995 there was a gradual increase in per capita

benefits for both entities, peaking in 1995 (**\$445** for all Americans and **\$279** for Coloradoans). By 2000 the benefits had declined to **\$378** for the United States overall and **\$230** in Colorado. This decrease was mainly due to both a strong economy and “welfare” reform. Colorado ranked as the **seventh lowest** per capita recipient of income maintenance payments in 1999. **Table 13** presents the trends in maintenance income for both the United States and Colorado from 1980 to 2000.

Table 13: Per Capita Income Maintenance (in constant 2000 dollars)

	1980	1985	1990	1995	1999	2000
United States	333	300	362	445	387	378
Colorado	211	182	239	279	233	230

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis Regional Accounts Data

Table 14 (next page) provides per capita income maintenance for each county in Colorado from 1985 to 2000 (in constant 2000 dollars) and county-level per capita unemployment benefits are in **Table 15** on page 17.

Conejos and Costilla counties both receive over **\$1,000** in per capita income maintenance during 2000. *All values are in constant 2000 dollars.* Both of these counties are among Colorado’s lowest in per capita income (Conejos has the **second** lowest income and Costilla has the **sixth** lowest level of income). Costilla received the highest amount at **\$1,388** and Conejos second at **\$1,106** per capita income maintenance. Douglas County has the lowest level of income maintenance in Colorado at **\$25.38**. Summit County at **\$39.71** is the only other county that receives per capita income support of less than **\$50**. Overall, Colorado has seen a decrease in the per county maintenance income from **\$270.35** in 1995 to **\$230.18** in 2000.

Colorado is also the **fifth lowest** recipient of per capita unemployment benefits, which is another component of transfer payments. Both Colorado and the United States have shown a decrease in per capita unemployment payments since 1980 (in constant 2000 dollars), with both hitting their minimum benefit amount in 2000 (**\$74** for the United States and **\$35** for Colorado). The unemployment benefits for the United States rose in 2001 (figures unavailable at this time) due to a worsening economic environment. The increase was felt even harder in Colorado as unemployment grew at a faster rate than any other state (except Oregon). **Table 16** presents the comparison between the United States and Colorado for the years 1980-2000.

Table 16: Per Capita Unemployment Insurance Benefits (in constant 2000 dollars)

	1980	1985	1990	1995	1999	2000
United States	181	107	104	97	77	74
Colorado	80	92	70	58	38	35

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis Regional Accounts Data

Table 14: Colorado County Per Capita Income Maintenance (in constant 2000 dollars)

County	1985	1990	1995	2000
Adams	176.97	267.39	302.90	212.61
Alamosa	494.02	584.97	627.67	662.90
Arapahoe	55.27	116.07	143.92	128.39
Archuleta	206.64	327.33	261.87	223.28
Baca	191.66	288.13	433.61	537.30
Bent	345.85	488.41	593.51	523.34
Boulder	64.11	116.28	140.51	129.18
Chaffee	294.33	221.39	255.62	219.37
Cheyenne	139.04	157.45	245.93	299.42
Clear Creek	106.91	125.74	106.16	114.03
Conejos	798.69	825.40	925.98	1,106.07
Costilla	895.27	1130.19	1308.32	1,388.48
Crowley	494.15	461.66	637.13	596.05
Custer	317.49	303.05	313.12	300.03
Delta	316.07	337.67	346.60	361.54
Denver	313.28	451.14	541.83	435.23
Dolores	318.88	319.38	366.22	440.35
Douglas	20.29	35.04	35.10	25.38
Eagle	49.47	44.21	60.95	50.24
Elbert	84.75	83.39	100.71	91.28
El Paso	145.48	226.53	265.72	239.58
Fremont	269.02	317.09	317.36	302.50
Garfield	109.17	141.85	177.42	128.11
Gilpin	99.24	146.24	110.98	127.60
Grand	52.75	80.49	114.21	103.28
Gunnison	112.04	127.12	132.49	127.62
Hinsdale	(L)	(L)	142.78	106.33
Huerfano	519.38	679.59	746.94	664.84
Jackson	89.08	105.41	188.03	252.38
Jefferson	51.61	100.25	113.62	116.32
Kiowa	142.02	218.21	352.87	490.14
Kit Carson	160.07	217.14	311.56	332.42
Lake	156.71	79.38	103.63	116.10
La Plata	163.18	186.42	193.70	182.90
Larimer	113.63	152.42	168.19	141.51
Las Animas	568.90	656.20	711.30	698.89
Lincoln	173.26	234.75	243.60	237.56
Logan	154.31	238.63	311.54	377.63
Mesa	234.46	308.65	310.04	264.74
Mineral	123.89	216.55	233.93	282.79
Moffat	141.08	175.79	229.84	232.63
Montezuma	224.41	342.98	329.79	359.30
Montrose	207.13	244.12	254.94	273.96
Morgan	206.46	276.71	288.55	272.64
Otero	499.63	617.77	719.47	731.92
Ouray	147.80	106.14	159.80	155.26
Park	70.01	87.92	137.64	113.96
Phillips	143.64	190.78	260.15	284.82
Pitkin	21.96	28.21	60.94	63.74
Prowers	321.26	371.38	486.28	453.91
Pueblo	481.60	555.03	625.85	544.31
Rio Blanco	104.96	109.55	161.68	198.30
Rio Grande	445.35	510.54	653.41	703.94
Routt	68.39	66.89	81.75	76.08
Saguache	618.70	684.07	706.31	676.69
San Juan	202.53	112.24	409.83	374.55
San Miguel	213.79	112.34	122.94	111.92
Sedgwick	207.60	184.66	291.53	279.58
Summit	21.39	41.17	34.35	39.71
Teller	116.78	167.82	171.16	194.50
Washington	155.13	171.28	311.01	350.79
Weld	201.47	260.57	295.14	215.24
Yuma	137.65	169.26	279.52	336.55
COLORADO	175.11	238.97	270.35	230.18

The highest and lowest county per capita income maintenance in 1999 are highlighted.

Note: (L) means that the values are less than \$50,000 (total benefits).

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis Regional Accounts Data

Table 15: Colorado County Per Capita Unemployment Compensation (in constant 2000 dollars)

County	1985	1990	1995	2000
Adams	106.13	88.46	61.01	35.37
Alamosa	119.80	79.87	72.75	54.72
Arapahoe	61.72	61.36	51.38	31.42
Archuleta	146.73	111.82	97.73	69.31
Baca	114.30	31.91	43.93	43.83
Bent	87.70	64.45	57.99	49.18
Boulder	86.59	67.89	58.58	33.78
Chaffee	117.19	103.79	63.58	35.59
Cheyenne	49.04	(L)	56.12	51.10
Clear Creek	71.16	64.81	65.41	41.62
Conejos	171.57	88.42	67.94	56.55
Costilla	163.67	73.50	76.09	49.14
Crowley	66.94	43.46	36.37	30.08
Custer	144.27	54.49	54.66	36.25
Delta	110.88	91.02	71.86	42.79
Denver	90.27	90.30	76.11	41.91
Dolores	90.75	76.21	118.97	117.68
Douglas	43.74	33.77	24.62	12.73
Eagle	114.37	74.32	65.87	35.79
Elbert	109.92	91.95	92.65	60.24
El Paso	80.88	80.12	51.53	34.97
Fremont	110.64	75.32	58.35	31.49
Garfield	138.70	87.21	83.52	47.52
Gilpin	97.15	38.28	43.63	24.81
Grand	55.29	64.67	64.40	41.39
Gunnison	83.81	61.94	56.30	34.32
Hinsdale	(L)	(L)	(L)	(L)
Huerfano	141.83	75.12	70.26	48.97
Jackson	130.10	81.28	196.69	81.80
Jefferson	71.76	57.54	47.52	28.17
Kiowa	43.54	(L)	(L)	(L)
Kit Carson	58.15	25.43	56.64	35.20
Lake	100.47	78.90	64.97	45.19
La Plata	114.42	62.20	50.77	37.21
Larimer	85.87	62.40	49.23	35.75
Las Animas	101.78	78.11	52.36	46.43
Lincoln	34.73	34.22	27.64	11.50
Logan	72.68	46.40	44.89	35.26
Mesa	160.79	69.13	62.40	41.53
Mineral	144.37	(L)	108.30	(L)
Moffat	159.17	73.84	76.50	49.45
Montezuma	218.14	88.96	82.81	58.41
Montrose	179.27	127.60	102.79	74.48
Morgan	125.98	62.34	52.73	35.55
Otero	107.16	127.67	72.64	79.56
Ouray	302.61	399.43	122.01	106.36
Park	95.14	53.41	59.65	29.33
Phillips	52.14	48.09	48.89	55.80
Pitkin	126.25	89.35	77.45	38.06
Prowers	85.59	77.66	59.11	39.08
Pueblo	105.01	70.57	55.35	37.94
Rio Blanco	64.54	49.43	75.03	32.58
Rio Grande	136.19	102.43	83.37	55.26
Routt	143.97	81.07	79.13	40.38
Saguache	199.12	115.40	95.58	62.53
San Juan	988.32	135.73	199.29	152.33
San Miguel	131.34	100.36	104.13	66.12
Sedgwick	133.71	39.62	66.89	44.05
Summit	57.38	55.18	43.77	24.63
Teller	103.22	63.48	72.49	37.07
Washington	85.22	45.35	64.12	42.63
Weld	102.99	63.09	51.01	32.38
Yuma	37.31	34.64	31.22	38.31
Colorado	91.21	72.67	57.67	35.47

Note: (L) means that the values are less than \$50,000 (total benefits). The highest and lowest county per capita unemployment benefits values are highlighted.

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis Regional Accounts Data

In Colorado, there are three counties (San Juan, Dolores, and San Juan) that receive **more than \$100** in unemployment insurance benefits on a per capita basis in 2000. San Juan received the most in 2000 at **\$152 per capita**. Alternatively, there were counties that receive **less than \$20** in per capita unemployment benefits. Those counties are Lincoln and Douglas, which receive **\$11.50** and **\$12.73**, respectively. The Colorado average per capita unemployment insurance payments dropped from **\$88.21** in 1985 to a low of **\$35.47** in 2000. *All values are adjusted for inflation (valued in 2000 constant dollars).*

Complete county and MSA income and support data from 1969-1999 are available at www.bea.doc.gov/bea/regional/reis.

Unemployment:

Colorado's unemployment rate from 1997-2001 (**Table 17** below) has been significantly lower than the nation as a whole. The trend is consistent with the pattern for all of the 1990s. For 2001, Colorado's unemployment rate was **1.1%** below the national average (**3.7%** versus **4.8%**). This gave the state the **tenth lowest** rate in the nation in 2001, compared to the **sixth lowest rate** in 2000. However, after the economic slowdown at the end of 2000 and through 2001, Colorado's unemployment rate is growing at a faster rate than all other states, except for Oregon. By February of 2002, the unemployment rate in Colorado was **5.7%**, giving the state the **15th** highest rate. The February 2002 rate of **5.7%** has occurred just thirteen months after the state's record low rate of **2.7%** in January 2001.

The reasons for the rapid increase in the state's unemployment rate are varied⁵.

- A pre-Y2K inventory build-up in the manufacturing and computer sectors was followed by a decrease in the demand for goods. This has in turn lead to layoffs.
- The Colorado economy was among the major benefactors of the growth in the "high tech" and related industries. When the "dot-coms" faltered, the Colorado economy was among the hardest hit.
- Colorado is more reliant than most states on tourism. When the September 11th events occurred, the problems already being seen in the air travel and tourism industries were worsened. The negative effect also impacted other Colorado industries that are reliant on air transportation for the shipment of raw and finished products.

Throughout the state, the economic slowdown of 2001 had varying impacts. Losses in employment were most significantly felt along the Front Range and in metropolitan areas. The largest job losses were in high tech, construction, and telecommunications. Counties on the Eastern Plains were among the least affected and have some of the lowest unemployment rates in Colorado. **Table 18** on page 21 provides the county specific unemployment rates.

Table 17: Unemployment Rates for the United States and Colorado, 1997-2001

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002*
Colorado	3.3	3.8	2.9	2.7	3.7	5.48
United States	4.8	4.5	4.2	4.0	4.8	5.72
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics						
* Average of first 5 months of 2002						

⁵ Garner, Elizabeth, "What Has Happened to Colorado's Economy and Employment?", Family and Youth Institute Brief, March 2002.

Table 18: Colorado County Average Annual Unemployment by Number and Rate

	1990		1995		2000		2001	
	Total	Rate	Total	Rate	Total	Rate	Total	Rate
Adams	8,042	5.6	6,828	4.1	4,773	2.6	7,005	3.8
Alamosa	479	7.1	501	6.4	398	5.0	447	5.6
Arapahoe	8,297	3.7	8,617	3.3	5,763	2.0	9,111	3.2
Archuleta	135	5.0	172	4.8	170	3.5	204	4.3
Baca	38	1.9	56	2.6	57	2.6	87	4.5
Bent	68	3.3	69	3.0	73	3.6	87	4.5
Boulder	6,274	4.7	6,623	4.1	4,425	2.4	6,679	3.5
Chaffee	391	6.7	292	4.1	186	2.4	210	2.8
Cheyenne	15	3.2	38	2.9	34	2.9	28	2.3
Clear Creek	222	4.3	151	3.0	151	3.0	178	3.8
Conejos	317	6.8	243	147	243	6.8	289	7.9
Costilla	147	10.4	180	11.5	124	9.2	124	9.4
Crowley	45	3.9	47	3.8	57	4.4	55	4.5
Custer	40	4.5	64	4.2	53	2.9	67	3.5
Delta	589	6.9	610	6.1	404	3.8	440	4.1
Denver	13,790	5.5	13,345	4.9	8,468	3.0	12,443	4.5
Dolores	31	4.6	57	9.0	64	9.3	46	7.1
Douglas	1,084	3.1	1,416	2.4	1,282	1.4	2,650	2.8
Eagle	441	3.5	568	3.3	441	2.2	585	2.8
Elbert	218	4.0	367	4.2	321	2.5	380	2.8
El Paso	13,294	7.0	10,746	4.6	8,312	3.2	11,727	4.4
Fremont	819	6.3	885	5.5	538	3.1	688	3.9
Garfield	671	4.0	828	4.1	582	2.5	598	2.5
Gilpin	58	2.4	85	2.5	63	2.0	92	3.1
Grand	131	3.0	166	3.1	148	2.5	184	3.1
Gunnison	432	7.2	495	6.4	360	4.5	375	4.8
Hinsdale	9	2.2	10	1.7	11	1.6	19	2.7
Huerfano	199	7.9	218	6.9	182	5.1	190	5.7
Jackson	25	2.8	66	7.3	28	3.3	41	4.6
Jefferson	9,620	3.8	9,466	3.2	6,174	2.0	9,284	3.0
Kiowa	20	2.5	20	2.3	19	2.5	19	2.5
Kit Carson	40	3.1	103	3.1	70	2.1	69	2.0
Lake	170	6.0	156	5.1	143	4.6	148	4.7
La Plata	1,009	5.8	1,080	4.7	917	3.8	898	3.7
Larimer	4,988	4.8	5,007	3.9	4,240	3.0	5,154	3.5
Las Animas	445	8.1	337	5.3	285	4.2	286	4.4
Lincoln	59	2.7	63	2.5	29	1.1	41	1.6
Logan	299	3.4	332	3.4	305	3.0	330	3.3
Mesa	2,618	5.9	2,973	5.5	2,176	3.7	2,285	4.0
Mineral	20	6.7	34	8.7	12	2.6	10	2.4
Moffat	332	5.6	403	6.0	288	4.8	293	4.9
Montezuma	667	7.2	791	7.0	615	5.3	533	5.0
Montrose	728	6.2	860	5.9	687	4.7	749	4.9
Morgan	451	4.4	461	3.6	349	2.9	328	2.7
Otero	597	7.0	492	5.5	451	5.2	403	5.0
Ouray	119	9.7	85	5.1	49	2.7	58	3.2
Park	168	3.7	306	4.1	204	2.4	258	3.1
Phillips	27	1.6	31	1.6	38	1.9	46	2.3
Pitkin	422	5.2	431	4.8	230	2.6	296	3.3
Prowers	333	5.4	280	4.4	194	2.9	188	3.1
Pueblo	3,715	7.1	3,420	6.0	2,513	4.3	2,997	5.1
Rio Blanco	132	4.2	241	7.1	96	3.1	75	2.4
Rio Grande	489	9.7	454	8.8	340	7.1	368	7.9
Routt	342	4.1	433	4.3	260	2.4	255	2.2
Saguache	264	11.7	283	10.7	201	7.6	213	8.3
San Juan	37	7.9	45	16.3	34	12.5	45	16.2
San Miguel	122	5.0	186	4.0	158	3.6	178	3.8
Sedgwick	22	1.7	42	3.4	29	2.5	33	3.0
Summit	290	3.6	333	3.0	257	2.0	346	2.7
Teller	332	4.4	588	4.6	350	2.6	389	2.9
Washington	44	2.0	68	2.9	48	2.2	52	2.4
Weld	3,755	5.6	3,722	4.7	2,908	3.4	3,577	4.1
Yuma	84	2.1	85	2.0	114	2.7	91	2.1

Source: Colorado Department of Labor and Employment - <http://www.coworkforce.com/lmi/ali/lfpage.asp>

Note: Highest and lowest rates each year are highlighted

R1: Resources for Income and Poverty

Web Site	Level of Data Available	Comments
http://aspe.os.dhhs.gov/poverty/01poverty.htm	National	The 2001 HHS Poverty Guidelines
http://www.bls.gov/data/	National	Bureau of Labor Statistics Data
http://www.bls.census.gov/cps/cpsbasic.htm	National	Current Population Survey Basic Monthly Survey
http://www.census.gov/statab/ranks/rank10.txt	National	Census Bureau Data Unemployment State Rankings
http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/oss/CWP/index2.html	National	Colorado Works Evaluation Reports
http://www.bls.gov/news.release/cpi.toc.htm	National	Consumer Price Index data
http://www.bls.census.gov/cps/cpsmain.htm	National/ Regional/State	Current Population Survey Homepage
http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/poverty.html	National/ Regional/State	Census Bureau Reports on Poverty
http://www.bls.census.gov/cps/pub/pubpov.htm	National/ Regional/State	Current Population Study – Poverty Publications
http://www.census.gov/prod/2001pubs/p60-214.pdf	National/ Regional/State	“Poverty in the United States: 2000”
http://newfederalism.urban.org/nsaf/family-wellbeing.html	National/State	National Survey of American Families: – Family Economic Well-Being
http://cpmcnet.columbia.edu/dept/nccp/state/mt00co.html	National/State	National Center for Children in Poverty Fact Sheet on Colorado
http://cpmcnet.columbia.edu/dept/nccp/ycpf.html	National/State	National Center for Children in Poverty Fact Sheet
http://www.urban.org/content/Research/NewFederalism/NSAF/Snapshots/Snapshots.htm	National/State	National Survey of American Families, 1999 Snapshots of America's Families II, Urban Institute
http://www.census.gov/main/www/cen2000.html	National/State/ Local	2000 Census Gateway to data
http://www.colorado.edu/libraries/govpubs/colomb/cpimenu.htm	National/State	“Colorado by the Numbers: Consumer Price Index and Cost of Living”
http://www.bea.doc.gov/bea/regional/reis/	National/State/ County	Bureau of Economic Analysis Regional Accounts Data – Local Area Personal Income
http://www.dola.state.co.us/demog/employ2.cfm	State	Colorado Demographers Office - DOLA
http://www.coworkforce.com/	State	Colorado Department of Labor and Employment Homepage
http://www.coworkforce.com/lmi/ali/lfpag.asp	State	Colorado Department of Labor and Employment Labor Market Information
http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/saipe/stcty/estimate.html	County	Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE) Homepage
http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/saipe/stcty/estimate.html	County	Interactive County Level Poverty Data – SAIPE

2 Public Assistance Programs

This section covers some of the public assistance programs available in the United States and Colorado. The three main programs discussed in this chapter are:

- *Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)*
- *Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LEAP)*
- *Food Stamps*

Due to reforms in the welfare system and the improving economy during the 1990s, the number and percentage of benefit recipients in these and other programs declined by substantial amounts. Data is just beginning to reflect the economic downturn of the early 2000s. Data is presented to the county level for *TANF* and for *Food Stamps*. All other data is available to the state level.

A program of importance, but not mentioned in this chapter, is the *Free and Reduced Lunch and Breakfast* program. Details and data for the program can be found in the **Food Stability** chapter of this document.

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF):

Located in the *United States Department of Health and Human Services (Administration for Children and Families Division)*, the *Office of Family Assistance (OFA)* oversees the *TANF* program. The *TANF* program was created by the *Welfare Reform Law of 1996* as a replacement for what was then commonly known as welfare - *Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC)* and the *Job Opportunities and Basic Skills Training (JOBS)* programs. *TANF* provides assistance and work opportunities to needy families by granting states the federal funds and wide flexibility to develop and implement their own welfare programs. For more information on the program go to web site for *The Administration for Children and Families (ACF)* at the *United States Department of Health and Human Services* at <http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/news/welfare>. Articles on present and proposed *TANF* policy issues can be found through the *Welfare Information Network* at web site <http://www.welfareinfo.org>.

In the third annual report to Congress on *TANF*¹, the *ACF* states that since the enactment of welfare reform (*TANF*) the caseload has fallen **49 percent**, with **73.2 percent** of the decline occurring since August 1996. The number of recipients peaked in FY 1994 when there were **14.2 million** individuals (**5.5%** of the population) receiving “welfare” benefits in the United States. By December of 1999 (not shown here), the number of cases had fallen to **6.3 million** (a decline of **56 percent** in the six years). The *ACF* reports that this is the smallest percentage of the US population on “welfare” since 1965. **Table 19** highlights the decline by presenting the number and percentage of recipients receiving *AFDC/TANF* benefits since FY 1992.

Table 19: The Number and Percent of Welfare Recipients in the United States

Fiscal Years	Estimated U.S. Population (in Thousands)	AFDC/TANF Recipients	Percent of U.S. Population
1992	254,462	13,625,342	5.4
1993	257,379	14,142,710	5.5
1994	259,935	14,225,651	5.5
1995	262,392	13,660,192	5.2
1996	264,827	12,644,915	4.8
1997	267,346	10,823,002	4.0
1998	269,845	8,778,815	3.3
1999	272,286	7,187,753	2.6

Source: The Administration for Children and Families

¹ “Third Annual Report to Congress on TANF”, Administration for Children and Families, US Department of Health and Human Services” August 2000.

The total *TANF* expenditures (federal and state) for FY 1999 were **\$22.6 billion**, the same as in 1998. In FY 1999 the total spending on cash assistance was **\$13.4 billion** compared to **\$14.6 billion** in FY 1998.

An essential part of *TANF* is the requirement of employment or employment training for many situations. In the report to Congress, the *ACF* reports that this requirement has helped increase the percentage of recipients who were employed to **33%** in FY 1999. This represents a major increase from FY 1992, when only **7%** of those receiving benefits were employed. Total spending on work activities increased **17%** over the **\$1.5 billion** spent in FY 1998. Based on the data from 46 states, more than **1.3 million** adults on welfare went to work between October 1, 1997, and September 30, 1998. Retention rates were also promising: **80 percent** of those who had jobs were still working in the subsequent three-month period. The states also reported an average earnings increase of **23 percent** for current and former welfare recipients from **\$2,088** in the first quarter of employment to **\$2,571** in the third quarter. A further indication of increased employment for recipients is the increased need for childcare support. In FY 1998 states spent **\$1.259 billion** of federal and state funds on childcare, while in FY 1999 they spent **\$1.98 billion**. To see the report in its entirety see web site <http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/opre/director.htm>

The *Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (PRWORA)* established mandatory work requirements and minimum annual work participation rate standards for states operating a *TANF* program. The states were subject to these minimum participation rate requirements beginning July 1997 or six months after the state implementation of the *TANF* program. The *PRWORA* established separate minimum participation rates each year for all families and two-parent families. The minimum work participation rate standards for FY 2000 are 40 percent for the all families rate and 90 percent for two-parent families rate. For FY2000, the national average “all family” work participation was **34.0%** (a decline from the 1999 rate of **38.3%**). For Colorado, the “all family” rate was **36.6%**. The “two parent” rate for the United States was **48.9%** and for Colorado the rate was **46.9%**. To see additional results and individual state reports on participation rates, see web site <http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/opre/particip/index.htm#participation>.

In 2000, the *US Department of Health and Human Services* published an additional report on the status of *TANF* recipients. Some highlights of the report, “*Characteristics and Financial Circumstances of TANF Recipients: Fiscal Year 1999*”², are presented below:

Highlights of the National Report:

- Of *TANF* families, **98 percent** received cash and cash equivalents assistance with the monthly average amount of **\$357** under State *TANF* programs.
- Of these *TANF* families, **81 percent** received *Food Stamp* assistance, which is consistent with previous levels.
- *TANF* recipient children averaged about **7.8 years** of age.
- **Twelve percent** of recipient children were under 2 years of age, while **38 percent** were under 6 years old. Only **8 percent** of the children were 16 years of age or older.
- Most recipient children were children of the head of the household in *TANF* families, and only **7 percent** were grandchildren of the head of the household.
- Of *TANF* recipient children in child-only cases, **66 percent** lived with a parent and **22 percent** with a grandparent that did not themselves receive assistance.

² “*Characteristics and Financial Circumstances of TANF Recipients: Fiscal Year 1999*”, US Department of Health and Human Services, 2000.

For the complete report on the national *TANF* program see web site
<http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/opre/characteristics/fy99/analysis.htm#summary>.

Updated national and state data, data analysis, and reports can be found at web site
<http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/opre/tanfindex.htm>.

Colorado Works Program:

The *Colorado Department of Human Services* administers the *TANF* program for the state. The program, entitled *Colorado Works*, operates through a block grant from the *U.S. Department of Human Services*. Through the block grant arrangement the federal government provides funds to the Colorado. The state (*Colorado Department of Human Services*) then divides and dispenses those funds to the county departments responsible for carrying out the local *TANF* provisions. Under federal rules, *Colorado Works* recipients may not receive *TANF* funded assistance for more than five years (60 months) over their lifetime. However, states can continue to use federal *TANF* funds to provide assistance beyond the lifetime limit for up to **20 percent** of their caseload by granting hardship exemptions. Colorado plans to exempt families in which a parent or child is disabled, families with children who live with a non-parent and who are at risk of out-of-home placement, and victims of domestic violence. The state can also opt to use non-federal *TANF* funds to continue to serve families in excess of the **20 percent** exemption limit.

Policymakers and advocates have expressed concern that given the rapid decline in welfare caseloads, those remaining on aid would increasingly be "hard-to-serve" recipients who have been on aid for long periods of time. Contrary to these expectations, in 2000, the *Colorado State Auditor* found evidence that the *Colorado Works* program is in fact becoming less comprised of long-term recipients. In "Evaluation of Colorado Works Program"³, the *Auditor* reported that the proportion of adults that had been receiving welfare benefits for five or more years on either *AFDC* or *Colorado Works* declined from **37 percent** of the *Colorado Works* caseload in June 1998 to **28 percent** in June 2000. This decline indicates long-term recipients have been leaving *Colorado Works* at rates comparable to short-term recipients. Nonetheless, **over 1 in 4** adults on the caseload are at risk of reaching the lifetime limit for receipt of *TANF* assistance within the next two or three years.

Further Highlights of the State Report:

- In the first three years of *Colorado Works*, one-parent cases, which make up the majority of the caseload, decreased to approximately **30 percent** of the previous caseload (from **21,053** in July 1997 to **6,270** in June 2000). During the same period, two-parent and child-only caseload levels also decreased from **740** in July 1997 to **383** in June 2000 (a decline of **48%**). Child-only cases, which do not include an eligible caretaker, fell by **23 percent** (from **6,105** in July 1997 to **4,700** in June 2000).
- Overall, only two states registered percentage caseload declines larger than Colorado's **51 percent** decline.
- Expenditures for the *Colorado Works Program* in State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2000 totaled **\$131 million**.
- Spending for cash assistance and supportive services to *Colorado Works* recipients accounted for **57 percent** of total expenditures, or **\$74.3 million**. An additional **34 percent** of total expenditures were spent on administrative costs associated with program operation and overhead and information systems costs amounted to **9 percent** of total expenditures.
- In June 2000, the typical adult *Colorado Works* recipient was a single mother, **30** years old, with one or two children.

³ "Evaluation of Colorado Works Program", Office of Colorado State Auditor, 2000.

- **Half** of all adult recipients were white, another **30 percent** were Hispanic, and about **15 percent** were African-American.
- **Ten percent** of adult recipients were pregnant. In contrast to the experience of other states, the characteristics of Colorado's *TANF* population have not measurably changed since the inception of *Colorado Works*.

Table 20 presents the rate of *TANF* cases per 1,000 people in Colorado and the sixty-three Colorado counties for 1996-2000. For Colorado as a whole, there has been a drop of **5.88 cases per 1,000** population from 1996-2000. Pueblo County observed a decrease of **17.53 cases per 1,000** population from 1996 to 2000. Costilla County, with a decline of **15.07 per 1,000** population, also experienced a large decrease in caseload activity. Three counties experienced small increases in their caseloads from 1996 to 2000. Those three counties were Dolores (**0.01 per 1,000** population), Gilpin (**0.15 per 1,000** population), and Mineral (**2.39 per 1,000** population).

For 2000, Costilla County had the largest caseload in Colorado with **13.43 cases per 1,000** population. Conejos and Crowley counties were the only other counties with caseloads greater than **10 per 1,000 population** during 2000. Hinsdale County reported no cases in 2000. Two counties (La Plata and Pitkin) reported fewer than **0.10 cases per 1,000** population during 2000.

Table 21 presents county level data on the total amount of *TANF* benefits for the years 1996-2000. During that time period, Weld County experienced the largest decline in *TANF* benefits (**147% decline**), while Logan County had the largest increase in benefits (**74.82% increase**). As expected, in 2000, Denver County received the greatest amount of benefits (**\$44,878,000**). Colorado received **\$152,719,000** in benefits in 2000. This was an overall drop of **7.07%** from 1996.

For the complete evaluation report on the *Colorado Works* program see web site <http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/oss/CWP/index2.html>.

For additional information on the Colorado *TANF* program go to the *Colorado Department of Human Services Office of Self Sufficiency* web site at <http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/oss/tanfplan.html> and the *Colorado Works Program* at http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/oea/rules_and_regs/tanfrule.html.

Table 20: Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) Caseload (Rate per 1,000 population)

County	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	Rate Change: 1996 to 2000
Colorado	8.60	6.76	4.59	3.31	2.72	-5.88
Adams	11.93	8.56	4.47	2.68	2.24	-9.69
Alamosa	17.59	15.98	9.91	7.78	7.08	-10.5
Arapahoe	5.65	4.40	2.79	1.99	1.67	-3.98
Archuleta	5.21	2.93	2.19	3.44	2.89	-2.31
Baca	7.76	5.24	5.49	4.61	3.96	-3.79
Bent	16.03	11.86	6.12	6.57	4.34	-11.69
Boulder	3.44	2.70	1.93	1.63	1.36	-2.08
Chaffee	5.57	3.44	3.53	2.26	1.49	-4.07
Cheyenne	5.52	1.67	2.03	1.66	1.67	-3.85
Clear Creek	1.85	1.92	1.11	0.76	0.76	-1.1
Conejos	19.05	19.41	16.26	13.46	11.93	-7.12
Costilla	28.50	26.86	20.63	14.86	13.43	-15.07
Crowley	18.70	18.81	12.85	9.27	10.86	-7.84
Custer	7.77	7.14	4.75	5.28	2.72	-5.05
Delta	8.16	6.66	5.52	3.87	3.52	-4.64
Denver	18.06	14.13	9.63	6.59	5.49	-12.57
Dolores	3.61	2.32	4.39	3.73	3.63	0.01
Douglas	0.98	0.79	0.44	0.25	0.17	-0.8
Eagle	0.60	0.65	0.15	0.25	0.25	-0.35
El Paso	8.31	6.41	5.54	4.22	3.62	4.69
Elbert	2.41	1.72	1.66	0.80	0.78	1.63
Fremont	10.14	9.25	6.49	5.10	4.22	-5.92
Garfield	4.94	3.40	2.05	1.99	2.16	-2.78
Gilpin	2.12	1.48	1.87	2.19	2.27	0.15
Grand	1.89	1.32	0.89	0.67	1.20	-0.69
Gunnison	2.57	1.87	1.05	1.25	0.57	-2
Hinsdale	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.33	0.00	0
Huerfano	16.06	15.79	12.20	8.89	6.67	-9.39
Jackson	2.89	1.69	1.68	1.66	1.09	-1.79
Jefferson	4.00	3.06	2.19	1.88	1.45	-2.55
Kiowa	5.14	3.93	1.69	1.12	1.70	-3.44
Kit Carson	3.42	2.95	2.37	1.56	1.03	-2.39
La Plata	0.58	0.27	0.10	0.30	0.07	-0.51
Lake	15.52	11.08	12.83	8.70	7.84	-7.68
Larimer	5.33	4.23	2.63	1.97	1.53	-3.8
Las Animas	18.51	15.07	12.76	9.00	6.83	-11.68
Lincoln	4.80	2.60	1.81	1.49	0.90	-3.9
Logan	8.48	5.90	5.41	3.30	3.10	-5.38
Mesa	11.20	7.15	5.31	3.88	2.96	-8.25
Mineral	3.02	5.89	5.75	1.39	5.41	2.39
Moffat	8.02	7.22	6.23	4.89	2.47	-5.55
Montezuma	7.91	7.84	6.36	5.27	5.00	-2.91
Montrose	6.39	6.45	4.95	4.51	2.96	-3.43
Morgan	9.12	7.98	5.13	5.03	4.69	-4.43
Otero	18.60	15.01	11.18	9.92	7.83	-10.76
Ouray	1.89	2.14	0.89	0.85	0.81	-1.07
Park	3.40	2.30	0.83	0.98	0.56	-2.84
Phillips	2.20	1.50	0.86	0.65	0.65	-1.55
Pitkin	0.21	0.28	0.07	0.00	0.07	-0.14
Prowers	12.81	12.07	6.86	6.02	6.44	-6.38
Pueblo	21.86	18.95	11.11	6.46	4.33	-17.53
Rio Blanco	4.45	2.81	1.96	1.83	0.99	-3.47
Rio Grande	17.56	16.95	14.58	11.87	8.57	-8.99
Routt	0.89	0.75	0.40	0.16	0.16	-0.72
Saguache	19.00	14.21	8.93	7.73	7.79	-11.21
San Juan	3.57	3.60	1.86	3.71	1.87	-1.71
San Miguel	1.84	1.44	1.00	0.67	0.48	-1.36
Sedgwick	3.75	2.57	1.12	0.74	0.73	-3.02
Summit	0.44	0.21	0.21	0.34	0.43	-0.02
Teller	3.48	2.61	2.71	2.30	1.91	-1.57
Washington	2.25	1.86	1.68	1.72	1.73	-0.52
Weld	9.28	7.26	3.44	2.53	2.40	-6.88
Yuma	4.14	2.70	1.95	2.15	2.05	-2.09

Source: Colorado Department of Human Services

Table 21: Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) Benefits Collected, 1996-2000 (in \$1000)

County	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	Change 1996-2000
Colorado	163,523	162,714	124,280	114,961	152,719	-7.07%
Adams	18,631	16,440	7,562	6,995	9,292	-100.51%
Alamosa	1,332	1,606	1,134	1,049	1,393	4.38%
Arapahoe	13,844	14,133	9,520	8,807	11,700	-18.32%
Archuleta	123	(L)	52	(L)	64	-92.19%
Baca	126	132	112	103	137	8.03%
Bent	437	392	215	199	265	-64.91%
Boulder	3,860	3,246	2,981	2,758	3,663	-5.38%
Chaffee	230	258	180	166	221	-4.07%
Cheyenne	57	(L)	(L)	(L)	(L)	*
Clear Creek	(L)	95	(L)	(L)	60	*
Conejos	822	1,144	1,352	1,250	1,661	50.51%
Costilla	481	573	507	469	623	22.79%
Crowley	470	692	711	658	874	46.22%
Custer	110	137	131	121	161	31.68%
Delta	613	702	575	532	707	13.30%
Denver	48,478	47,737	36,519	33,781	44,878	-8.02%
Dolores	(L)	(L)	(L)	(L)	54	*
Douglas	541	570	308	285	378	-43.12%
Eagle	74	100	(L)	(L)	(L)	*
El Paso	21,487	22,764	22,513	20,824	27,665	22.33%
Elbert	183	159	188	174	231	20.78%
Fremont	1,804	2,223	1,630	1,507	2,002	9.89%
Garfield	621	410	248	229	305	-103.61%
Gilpin	(L)	(L)	57	53	70	*
Grand	53	(L)	(L)	(L)	(L)	*
Gunnison	104	98	114	106	141	26.24%
Hinsdale	(L)	(L)	(L)	(L)	(L)	*
Huerfano	354	710	665	615	817	56.67%
Jackson	(L)	(L)	(L)	(L)	60	*
Jefferson	7,780	7,702	8,714	8,061	10,709	27.35%
Kiowa	(L)	(L)	(L)	(L)	(L)	*
Kit Carson	122	152	125	116	154	20.78%
La Plata	395	74	379	350	465	15.05%
Lake	103	(L)	0	0	0	*
Larimer	5,177	4,965	3,412	3,156	4,192	-23.50%
Las Animas	1,342	1,459	1,292	1,195	1,587	15.44%
Lincoln	103	91	71	66	87	-18.39%
Logan	575	564	1,858	1,719	2,284	74.82%
Mesa	4,793	3,621	2,668	2,468	3,278	-46.22%
Mineral	(L)	(L)	(L)	(L)	(L)	*
Moffat	446	512	458	423	563	20.78%
Montezuma	849	944	973	900	1,195	28.95%
Montrose	798	1,093	861	797	1,058	24.57%
Morgan	868	913	665	615	817	-6.24%
Otero	1,667	1,635	1,259	1,165	1,547	-7.76%
Ouray	(L)	(L)	(L)	(L)	(L)	*
Park	175	217	(L)	(L)	(L)	*
Phillips	(L)	(L)	(L)	(L)	(L)	*
Pitkin	(L)	(L)	(L)	(L)	(L)	*
Prowers	681	672	262	242	321	-112.15%
Pueblo	13,591	14,732	8,317	7,693	10,220	-32.98%
Rio Blanco	174	159	128	118	157	-10.83%
Rio Grande	962	1,236	1,493	1,381	1,835	47.57%
Routt	(L)	(L)	0	0	0	*
Saguache	557	515	471	436	579	3.80%
San Juan	(L)	(L)	(L)	(L)	(L)	*
San Miguel	(L)	(L)	(L)	(L)	(L)	*
Sedgwick	(L)	(L)	0	0	0	*
Summit	(L)	(L)	82	76	100	*
Teller	393	489	798	739	981	59.94%
Washington	(L)	(L)	57	53	70	*
Weld	6,642	6,115	2,188	2,024	2,689	-147.01%
Yuma	81	64	84	78	104	22.12%

*Data for 1996 and/or 2000 not available or no value was recorded in 2000
(L) means less than \$50,000 reported in the year, but value was included in total
Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis Regional Accounts Data

Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LEAP):

LEAP was created by the Colorado Legislature in 1989 and is administered by the *Colorado Department of Human Services*. The *Colorado Commission on Low-Income Energy Assistance* was charged to seek out new sources of funding for energy assistance and to establish a mechanism to collect and distribute these resources. That mechanism is the *Colorado Energy Assistance Foundation (CEAF)*. The funds raised by *CEAF* provide energy assistance through a variety of channels. For those facing a difficult winter of heating bills, *CEAF* supplements *LEAP*. For those in immediate crisis and whom *LEAP* cannot reach, *CEAF* funds numerous nonprofit organizations. "Keeping Coloradoans Afloat on the Sea of Home Energy"⁴, a 2001 report by *CEAF*, details the status of low-income energy consumers in Colorado. The full report can be viewed at <http://www.ceaf.org/StateReport.htm>. Some of the highlights of the report follow:

- In 2000-2001, **335,000** households were eligible for *LEAP*, of which **76,000** homes were recipients of assistance. An additional **6,000** were provided assistance through *CEAF*. In total, this represents approximately **five percent** of Colorado's population.
- Over **\$56 million in energy assistance** was available to recipients in 2000-2001.
- Families with children under five years of age were **26 percent** of the energy assistance recipients in 2000-2001. **Seventy-eight percent** of these households lived in rental housing. **Thirteen percent** of their household income is used for energy costs.
- Elderly households made up **26 percent** of those using energy assistance programs in 2000-2001. **Forty-eight percent** of these households lived in rental housing. **Nineteen percent** of their household income is used for energy costs.
- Homes with persons with disabilities made up **29 percent** of those using energy assistance programs in 2000-2001. **Forty-eight percent** of these households lived in rental housing. **Sixteen percent** of their household income is used for energy costs.
- On average, **one-third** of all *LEAP* participants do not request assistance in the following year. **Sixty-five percent** of these one-time recipients are families with children under the age of five.
- Of the households receiving energy assistance five or more consecutive years, **39%** are elderly and another **28%** are families with disabilities.

Food Stamps:

The *USDA Food and Nutrition Assistance* programs work individually and in concert to provide a nutrition safety net for children and low-income adults. They are a major component of the Federal safety net.

In fiscal 1999, the *USDA* reported that **\$33 billion** was spent on food assistance programs (including *Food Stamps*). According to the *Office of Management and Budget*, this amount was nearly double the **\$17 billion** spent on *Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)* and was also nearly one-fifth (**17.8 percent**) of the **\$185 billion** devoted in total assistance to food, *TANF*, *Supplemental Security Income* (**\$27 billion**), and *Medicaid* (**\$108 billion**).

Forty-seven percent of eligible *Colorado Works* early "leavers" reported using food stamps, which is higher than the national participation rate of **40 percent**. However, nearly **60 percent** of early "leavers" found it difficult to afford food after leaving aid.

The *USDA's Office of Analysis and Evaluation* released "Characteristics of Food Stamp Households: Fiscal Year 2000"⁵, based on an analysis of food stamp quality control data in the United States. For the

⁴ "Keeping Coloradoans Afloat on the Sea of Home Energy", Colorado Energy Assistance Foundation, November, 2001

⁵ "Characteristics of Food Stamp Households: Fiscal Year 1999", US Department of Agriculture, 1999.

full report, see website

http://www.frac.org/html/federal_food_programs/programs/fspcharacteristics.html.

The following is a summary of some of the key findings of the report.

- Over half (**51.3 percent**) of all food stamp participants are children; **38.7 percent** are non-elderly adults, **10.0 percent** are elderly. Over **87%** of food stamp benefits go to households with children.
- Approximately one-third (**32.5 percent**) of all children receiving food stamps are age four or under; **67.5 percent** of children receiving food stamps are school-age
- Among adult participants, **70.7 percent** are women (up from **57.2 percent** in 1999).
- **Forty percent** of food stamp participants are white; **35.8 percent** are African-American; **18.5 percent** are Hispanic.
- Of all food stamp households, **53.9 percent** contain children (down from **55.7 percent** in 1999). Over **21 percent** of food stamp households contain an elderly person (up from **20 percent** in 1999) and **27.5 percent** contain a disabled person (up from **26.5%**).
- The average food stamp household has **2.3 persons**; households with children average **3.4 persons**.
- Nearly ninety percent (**88.8 %**) of food stamp households have income below the poverty line.
- Over one-third (**33.4 percent**) of all food stamp households have income below half the poverty line. This is a decrease from **35.2 percent** in 1999.
- The average gross income of food stamp households is **\$620/ month** (up from **\$603/month** in the previous year).

From July 1997 through December of 2002, the food stamp programs in Colorado have served between **150,000 and 190,000** authorized individuals and **65,000 and 80,000** authorized households each month. Table 22 (next page) presents data on the number of individuals and households receiving food stamps from FY 1998 through FY 2001. Douglas County had the fewest number of recipients per 1,000 population, while Costilla County had the largest number of recipients per 1,000 population for each year during the time period (1998-2001). In 2001, Douglas County averaged only **0.8 recipients per 1,000** population, a decline from the FY 1998 value of **2.9 recipients per 1,000** population. The largest percentage increase occurred in Jackson County, where the number of recipients per 1,000 population increased from **20.8 per 1,000** in FY 1998 to **46.1 per 1,000** in FY 2001. Overall, from 1998 through the first part of 2002, Douglas County had a decline of **169.03%** and Jackson County experienced an increase of **109.09%** in the number of recipients. During the first part of FY 2002, four counties (Adams, Denver, El Paso, and Pueblo) averaged **over 10,000** authorized individuals receiving food stamps. These four counties accounted for **52.6 percent** of the monthly average of all individual recipients during the first part of FY 2002. Just three counties (Denver, El Paso, and Pueblo) had **over 5,000** households receiving food stamp benefits, accounting for **46.2%** of the monthly number of authorized households receiving food stamps. In Colorado, the number of monthly recipients declined from a high of **189,555** in FY 1998 to a low of **149,343** in the first part of FY 2002 (a decline of **26.93%**).

Table 23 provides the average monthly payments to authorized individual and household food stamp recipients for all Colorado counties from FY 1998 through the first six months of FY 2002. The amount of the per individual benefits paid is based on the cost of living in each county. In FY 2002, there were three counties (Park, San Juan, and Park) where the average authorized individual received **over \$80** in food stamp benefits. Of these three counties, Summit County recipients required the greatest amount of food stamp benefits at **\$89.16**. On the other hand, residents of Washington (**\$44.89**), Baca (**\$49.39**), and Kiowa (**\$49.88**) counties all received less than **\$50** in per capita food stamp benefits. For Colorado overall, the monthly allocation has fallen from **\$70.97** per individual and **\$237.87** per family in FY 1998 to **\$68.96** per individual and **\$152.43** per household in the first half of FY 2002. Rates are not available for FY 2002 as county populations for the year are unavailable at the time of the printing.

Table 22: Average Rate (per 1,000 residents) of Monthly Food Stamp Recipients in Colorado Counties (FY 1998-FY 2001)

County	FY 1998	FY 1999	FY2000	FY 2001	FY 1998- FY 2002
Adams	46.4	40.1	32.1	29.8	-49.10%
Alamosa	141.1	135.9	129.7	126.2	-12.43%
Arapahoe	26.4	23.5	21.0	20.1	-28.10%
Archuleta	41.7	42.0	43.1	38.6	0.79%
Baca	59.6	61.2	55.6	52.8	-7.57%
Bent	116.1	106.7	108.9	107.0	-12.62%
Boulder	24.7	23.1	19.9	17.3	-29.20%
Chaffee	46.8	41.0	36.8	33.0	-57.02%
Cheyenne	27.7	32.9	35.9	33.4	21.54%
Clear Creek	33.7	20.9	21.5	19.9	-67.40%
Conejos	198.4	182.7	169.4	162.3	-14.45%
Costilla	289.5	243.0	227.4	223.1	-31.25%
Crowley	149.8	126.5	114.7	105.9	-0.47%
Custer	58.3	55.3	47.4	39.5	-18.59%
Delta	72.4	67.0	64.2	61.8	-17.06%
Denver	86.1	76.8	69.0	62.0	-31.07%
Dolores	58.3	53.0	57.5	66.1	9.71%
Douglas	2.9	1.5	0.9	0.8	-169.03%
Eagle	4.9	4.2	3.4	4.3	1.09%
Elbert	15.3	13.8	12.7	11.7	-20.72%
El Paso	45.2	41.8	37.8	35.6	-15.48%
Fremont	60.8	58.7	46.6	39.8	-44.83%
Garfield	27.8	23.8	24.3	23.6	-17.06%
Gilpin	8.7	16.5	17.9	18.1	102.70%
Grand	6.0	13.3	12.2	12.1	105.80%
Gunnison	19.8	26.5	21.1	21.6	7.86%
Hinsdale	100.5	---	---	---	---
Huerfano	108.7	118.7	101.4	98.7	-12.35%
Jackson	20.8	61.9	50.7	46.1	109.09%
Jefferson	15.9	16.7	14.7	13.8	-13.68%
Kiowa	48.1	45.3	37.0	45.3	-33.90%
Kit Carson	36.5	31.0	29.5	31.0	-24.67%
Lake	18.8	19.0	23.0	22.3	-5.87%
La Plata	36.4	35.4	32.8	32.5	17.69%
Larimer	29.0	26.7	23.7	22.9	-18.68%
Las Animas	136.2	114.6	92.1	87.1	-53.21%
Lincoln	35.9	36.4	34.5	31.8	-14.66%
Logan	59.9	57.9	48.2	43.9	-36.56%
Mesa	63.2	60.3	56.2	56.5	-13.99%
Mineral	33.7	48.4	42.1	43.2	42.31%
Moffat	63.6	58.0	49.5	47.7	-34.71%
Montezuma	96.8	93.1	82.2	75.2	-30.06%
Montrose	53.2	51.8	46.5	44.5	-21.85%
Morgan	58.2	51.4	47.1	46.0	-28.14%
Otero	154.7	143.3	129.1	126.9	-19.64%
Ouray	13.9	16.3	15.0	13.8	4.17%
Park	18.8	13.4	10.2	10.5	-89.23%
Phillips	28.0	30.1	25.4	31.7	19.53%
Pitkin	3.1	2.8	2.3	2.0	-70.37%
Prowers	117.1	107.6	104.1	98.2	-12.87%
Pueblo	116.2	115.4	103.9	99.3	-12.46%
Rio Blanco	17.0	24.8	25.1	23.1	9.43%
Rio Grande	177.7	169.8	150.1	142.6	-18.61%
Routt	14.2	13.0	12.0	9.4	-35.38%
Saguache	199.7	170.3	167.7	139.8	-22.65%
San Juan	90.1	91.6	100.4	75.0	2.00%
San Miguel	17.0	18.7	17.9	12.4	-11.11%
Sedgwick	56.3	45.6	39.7	32.8	-46.60%
Summit	6.0	6.6	5.9	5.7	2.34%
Teller	33.7	28.5	23.2	23.9	-58.00%
Washington	27.9	29.3	27.0	20.5	-9.92%
Weld	41.2	34.8	---	28.1	-39.17%
Yuma	31.9	35.4	81.7	38.2	25.24%
COLORADO	46.2	41.8	35.9	34.5	-26.93%

The highest and lowest county values are highlighted.

Source: Colorado Department of Human Services

Table 23: Average Monthly Food Stamp Benefits Received (in \$) to Individuals and Households in Colorado Counties (FY 1998-FY 2002)

County	FY 1998		FY 1999		FY2000		FY 2001		FY 2002 (July-Dec)	
	Individual	Household	Individual	Household	Individual	Household	Individual	Household	Individual	Household
Adams	68.92	255.62	70.60	183.22	71.52	178.56	71.93	179.69	70.82	171.58
Alamosa	67.80	227.73	67.54	155.50	67.04	150.51	68.27	151.57	63.38	145.02
Arapahoe	76.26	260.65	74.07	174.33	72.59	165.10	75.39	168.48	73.20	164.61
Archuleta	59.18	192.60	64.65	156.36	64.58	157.04	64.74	158.03	62.77	150.64
Baca	58.92	179.10	55.79	133.44	56.48	126.58	56.85	128.15	49.39	110.68
Bent	62.00	220.61	62.23	156.74	61.32	143.46	65.59	147.04	60.61	137.19
Boulder	67.98	198.99	66.98	133.51	65.32	126.56	65.76	125.54	64.60	123.99
Chaffee	66.23	199.53	59.78	122.96	58.81	121.14	60.70	122.04	56.94	108.95
Cheyenne	39.17	108.13	45.03	95.25	54.30	114.67	56.54	123.43	58.48	132.00
Clear Creek	70.91	230.05	65.93	140.91	67.44	140.00	72.11	140.46	66.88	131.59
Conejos	59.57	209.82	58.03	142.01	59.44	144.53	60.65	146.00	60.75	148.62
Costilla	55.02	168.91	54.58	110.43	54.61	111.22	56.33	114.25	52.62	107.60
Crowley	58.13	201.77	55.38	136.52	56.38	135.62	57.65	135.62	56.55	136.37
Custer	75.48	269.67	65.82	165.71	69.71	165.02	72.01	158.12	75.94	166.86
Delta	63.13	218.66	63.28	148.51	64.84	146.45	66.26	151.16	64.28	139.40
Denver	73.80	231.46	72.36	155.20	72.06	151.89	73.15	150.47	71.67	148.37
Dolores	61.50	189.93	54.38	111.47	60.03	130.58	69.02	169.38	61.25	157.30
Douglas	64.30	237.15	71.85	128.29	70.89	110.81	--	--	71.37	99.66
Eagle	92.07	296.10	72.09	152.89	67.09	144.00	74.29	173.01	73.38	168.49
Elbert	70.41	266.31	69.20	180.45	71.52	180.15	72.13	184.31	67.09	167.03
El Paso	73.66	257.34	72.44	174.98	73.30	174.77	74.57	176.85	72.88	172.52
Fremont	71.81	225.38	64.11	148.13	63.13	142.64	62.03	138.57	59.31	133.77
Garfield	73.14	230.64	73.07	161.01	74.12	163.93	75.75	165.58	72.50	153.96
Gilpin	87.17	247.62	88.06	187.00	77.71	168.12	71.95	151.10	69.39	136.95
Grand	68.57	195.87	65.64	155.27	65.39	161.88	74.60	186.20	69.01	178.16
Gunnison	69.40	241.25	69.15	142.95	72.97	131.77	77.70	142.67	74.59	133.03
Hinsdale	56.52	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Huerfano	21.06	63.62	58.26	129.92	61.88	127.77	59.62	128.49	54.64	115.57
Jackson	71.56	267.28	66.20	173.43	74.63	161.06	61.29	147.15	54.35	125.00
Jefferson	87.35	239.93	72.98	162.50	71.89	157.74	72.83	157.94	70.86	151.97
Kiowa	57.89	261.22	54.46	146.70	61.19	141.73	46.58	123.89	49.88	117.72
Kit Carson	55.19	183.86	53.25	128.39	51.53	128.66	56.91	141.45	54.03	131.88
Lake	68.59	245.77	64.96	162.04	68.20	162.69	69.13	179.06	66.99	172.97
La Plata	68.94	222.85	66.56	149.92	66.68	147.73	70.42	158.21	64.36	144.92
Larimer	71.28	238.92	71.30	164.47	71.38	163.14	72.24	165.34	71.69	164.21
Las Animas	59.53	192.32	59.45	129.08	63.44	123.42	59.68	119.90	57.49	113.62
Lincoln	53.72	176.99	53.76	119.49	52.86	124.82	58.41	134.21	52.09	121.34
Logan	59.18	199.09	57.81	135.62	56.95	126.76	59.25	125.15	59.09	124.11
Mesa	58.80	188.40	65.18	143.59	65.00	142.11	68.00	148.44	65.25	140.18
Mineral	82.63	258.26	73.01	149.21	63.78	119.42	64.05	145.51	64.30	132.17
Moffat	64.53	197.48	63.41	139.64	66.41	135.63	62.31	127.85	60.68	124.88
Montezuma	70.37	277.93	68.57	191.18	66.63	179.56	67.29	174.23	66.20	172.00
Montrose	62.34	236.56	64.08	168.35	67.12	158.76	69.74	159.58	64.92	147.08
Morgan	62.43	236.90	61.89	156.99	63.25	153.98	63.95	157.78	60.08	145.63
Otero	56.91	200.66	57.36	137.39	58.61	136.25	59.92	136.43	60.94	140.59
Ouray	79.11	218.60	68.99	127.59	72.85	130.82	77.19	134.35	64.52	115.21
Park	76.15	259.38	73.06	157.89	76.44	154.46	80.54	150.76	80.45	149.41
Phillips	49.03	159.50	49.88	111.78	49.30	98.39	54.06	125.26	54.28	123.96
Pitkin	78.22	150.98	79.09	104.62	82.51	105.90	83.65	106.63	76.15	89.39
Prowers	57.80	205.52	56.88	137.47	58.48	140.46	60.77	145.20	60.52	145.48
Pueblo	76.29	255.34	68.90	158.37	70.14	159.58	71.87	159.58	70.67	156.86
Rio Blanco	75.94	211.85	67.09	169.18	65.11	167.62	68.33	177.88	70.97	187.09
Rio Grande	69.01	249.06	66.77	168.56	66.88	160.26	67.82	158.39	67.25	158.20
Routt	63.02	187.26	60.58	132.48	63.86	125.43	65.92	122.95	62.55	116.16
Saguache	61.69	213.13	64.27	154.46	64.55	147.71	64.07	142.09	62.36	130.34
San Juan	80.56	256.71	79.58	179.36	82.32	185.21	86.99	162.94	85.18	170.35
San Miguel	67.23	201.30	74.20	155.18	79.94	165.47	71.15	133.93	77.57	150.57
Sedgwick	51.99	163.00	58.31	122.83	54.71	112.34	50.60	93.95	53.43	105.83
Summit	72.99	224.70	73.70	163.22	80.41	167.73	86.29	196.68	89.16	185.40
Teller	70.44	256.19	68.81	164.72	70.55	157.94	73.18	168.01	70.58	157.31
Washington	51.74	202.44	54.74	145.44	53.58	143.26	52.72	119.87	44.89	106.93
Weld	66.40	251.61	64.24	163.08	64.55	166.27	67.26	168.89	63.33	156.77
Yuma	53.34	182.27	54.00	136.02	60.43	146.77	59.66	133.11	53.21	124.17
COLORADO	70.97	237.87	69.26	159.08	79.12	171.88	70.67	156.68	68.96	152.43

The highest and lowest county values are highlighted.
Source: Colorado Department of Human Services

R2: Resources for Public Assistance

Web Site	Level of Data Available	Comments
http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/news/welfare/	National	United States Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Children and Families
http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/opre/characteristics/fy99/analysis.htm#summary	National	National <i>TANF</i> report
http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/opre/tanfindex.htm	National	<i>TANF</i> data analysis and reports
http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/opre/director.htm	National	<i>Third Annual TANF</i> Report to Congress
http://www.fns.usda.gov/fncs/	National	<i>USDA Food and Nutrition Assistance</i>
http://www.fns.usda.gov/oane/MENU/Published/FSP/FILES/Participation/99char.pdf	National	"Characteristics of Food Stamp Households: Fiscal Year 1999"
http://www.frac.org/html/federal_food_programs/programs/fspcharacteristics.html	National	National Food Stamp data
http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/opre/characteristics/fy99/analysis.htm	National	<i>Characteristics and Financial Circumstances of TANF Recipients: Fiscal Year 1999</i>
http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/tb1898	National	"Measuring the Well-Being of the Poor: Demographics of Low-Income Households"
http://www.clasp.org/pubs/TANF/At_What_Price_anaylsis.htm	National	"At What Price?: A Cost Analysis of the Administration's Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Work Participation Proposal" – Center for Law and Social Policy
http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/opre/particip/index.htm#participation	National/State	<i>TANF</i> Program Participation
http://www.childrensdefense.org	National/State	<i>Children's Defense Program</i> report - Food Stamps data
http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/oss/tanfplan.html	State	Colorado Department of Human Services, Office of Self Sufficiency report on <i>TANF</i> for Colorado
http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/oea/rules_and_regs/tanfrule.html	State	<i>Colorado Works Program TANF</i> rules and regulations
http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/oss/CWP/index2.html	State	<i>Colorado Works</i> evaluation report
http://www.ceaf.org/StateReport.htm	State	"Keeping Coloradoans Afloat on the Sea of Home Energy"
http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/	State	Colorado Department of Human Services
http://www.bea.doc.gov/bea/regional/reis	State/County	Bureau of Economic Analysis Regional Accounts Data for State and Counties

3 Food Affordability

Food in America is affordable. According to the *American Farm Bureau Foundation*, in just 40 days (January 1 – February 9), the *average* American will earn enough income to pay for his or her family's entire food supply for the year. However, this is not true for all individuals in the country. Food affordability is a significant source of concern for many people living in the United States and Colorado.

The “Food Affordability” section includes:

- The degree to which food cost is a factor in people’s lives (including food budgets)
- Programs available to relieve the affordability problem. The three highlighted programs are all sponsored and maintained by the *United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)*.
 - *Child and Adult Care Food Program (CAAF)*
 - *National School Lunch and National School Breakfast Programs*
 - *Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)*.

Food Cost:

In 1999, fewer adults and children lived in families that reported problems affording food than did so in 1997. This information comes from research presented by the *National Survey of American Families (NSAF)* in the “1999 Snapshots of America's Families II”¹. The survey found that the largest declines in food-related concerns—about **4 percentage** points—occurred among children in low-income families. Still, food concerns were common among low-income Americans, with **4 out of 10** adults and **half** of all children living in families that either worried about or had difficulties paying for food. In comparison, about **1 out of 10 adults** in families with incomes above 200 percent of poverty reported problems affording food.

Table 24 shows that in Colorado, low income adults experienced a drop of **6.1 percent** in the number of individuals concerned about affording food, but in the families 200% above the poverty income level there was an increase of **two percent** in those worried about affording food in the previous 12-month period. For all incomes, the percent of adults that were concerned about affording food dropped from **21.8 percent** to **19.0 percent** in the two-year time frame. Persons 200% below poverty are those that earn half of the poverty wage guideline, while those that are 200% above poverty make double the poverty wage guideline. For a family of four in the contiguous 48 states the poverty guideline is \$17,650.

Table 24: Adults (%) That Worried about or Experienced Difficulty Affording Food in the Previous 12 Months, by Income, 1997-1999

	200% below poverty		200% above poverty		All Incomes	
	1999	1997	1999	1997	1999	1997
	39.6	45.7	13.9	11.9	19.0	21.8
United States	43.0	45.9	12.3	13.3	20.6	22.8
Source: National Survey of American Families: 1999 Snapshots of America's Families II, Urban Institute, 2000 *Confidence interval is ten percent						

¹ “National Survey of American Families, 1999 Snapshots of America's Families II”, Urban Institute, 2000

In line with the affordability and cost requirements, each month the *United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)* publishes the average food budgets for individuals and families of different sizes in the United States. The categories of expenditure for the food budget are the Thrifty Food Plan, the Low-Cost Food Plan, the Moderate-Cost Food Plan, and the Liberal Food Plan. The assumption is that all meals and snacks are purchased at stores and prepared at home. For specific foods and quantities of foods in the Thrifty Food Plan, see *Thrifty Food Plan, 1999, Executive Summary, CNPP-7A*; for specific foods and quantities of foods in the Low-Cost, Moderate-Cost, and Liberal Plans, see *Family Economics Review, No. 2 (1983)*. The Thrifty Food Plan is based on 1989-91 data and the other three food plans are based on 1977-78 data; all four plans are updated to current dollars using the *Consumer Price Index* for specific food items. **Tables 25-27** present the weekly budgets for each plan by age, gender, and family size. To view the monthly budgets since May 1996, see web site <http://www.usda.gov/cnpp/using3.htm>.

Table 25: Weekly Food Budgets for Children (both genders) – April 2002

Ages	Thrifty	Low Cost	Moderate Cost	Liberal
1	\$16.70	\$20.50	\$24.10	\$29.10
2	\$16.70	\$20.50	\$24.10	\$29.10
3-5	\$18.20	\$22.50	\$27.80	\$33.30
6-8	\$22.70	\$29.90	\$37.30	\$43.40
9-11	\$26.80	\$34.00	\$43.50	\$50.20

Source: US Department of Agriculture

Table 26: Weekly Food Budgets for Individuals (by gender) – April 2002

Males	Ages	Thrifty	Low Cost	Moderate Cost	Liberal
	12-14	\$27.80	\$38.40	\$47.60	\$56.00
	15-19	\$28.80	\$39.70	\$49.40	\$57.00
	20-50	\$30.70	\$39.60	\$49.30	\$59.70
	51+	\$27.80	\$37.70	\$46.30	\$55.60
Females					
	12-19	\$27.80	\$33.10	\$40.20	\$48.60
	20-50	\$27.70	\$34.60	\$42.20	\$54.20
	51+	\$27.20	\$33.70	\$41.70	\$49.80
	12-19	\$27.80	\$33.10	\$40.20	\$48.60

Source: US Department of Agriculture

Table 27: Weekly Food Budgets for Families (by size) – April 2002

Family of 2	Ages	Thrifty	Low Cost	Moderate Cost	Liberal
	20-50	\$64.20	\$81.60	\$100.70	\$125.30
	51+	\$60.50	\$78.50	\$96.80	\$115.90
Family of 4*					
	2 and 3-5	\$93.30	\$117.20	\$143.40	\$176.30
	6-8 and 9-11	\$107.90	\$138.10	\$172.30	\$207.50

*Ages given in family of 4 are for children in the family. The age of the adults are 20-50 years of age

Source: US Department of Agriculture

Using the poverty income guidelines calculated by the *United States Department of Human Services* and discussed in the **Income and Poverty** portion of this **Welfare** document, it is possible to calculate the percentage of income spent on food purchases for the two family sizes mentioned in **Table 27** above. **Table 28** presents these calculations. According to the poverty guidelines, a family of two living in the 48 contiguous states would be considered below the poverty line if the family income failed to reach **\$11,610 annually (\$223.27 weekly)**. For a family of four, the poverty income level is **\$17,650 annually (\$339.42 weekly)**. For both sizes of family, over a **quarter** of the family income goes toward food. This leaves very little for shelter, transportation, or other necessities.

Table 28: Percentage of Income that Families at Poverty Level Spend on Food For Various Budgets-April 2002

Family of 2	Ages	Thrifty	Low Cost	Moderate Cost	Liberal
	20-50	28.75%	36.55%	45.10%	56.12%
	51+	27.10%	35.16%	43.36%	51.91%
Family of 4*					
	2 and 3-5	27.49%	34.53%	42.25%	51.94%
	6-8 and 9-11	31.79%	40.69%	50.76%	61.13%

*Ages given in family of 4 are for children in the family. The age of the adults are 20-50 years of age
Source: US Department of Agriculture

Programs:

There are a number of food assistance programs available to individuals in need throughout Colorado and the United States. Three of the most important are:

- The *Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)*
- The *National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs*
- The *Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)*

Another important food program (not mentioned here) is the food stamp program. Details and available data on this program can be found in the **Public Assistance** chapter of this document.

Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP):

The *US Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service* administers *CACFP* through grants to the states. *CACFP* provides nutritious meals and snacks to infants, young children, and impaired adults who receive day care. This program also offers after school snacks in sites that meet eligibility requirements. Eligible public or private nonprofit child care centers, outside-school-hours care centers, *Head Start* programs, and other institutions which are licensed or approved to provide day care services may participate in *CACFP*, independently or as sponsored centers. For FY 2001, there were **38,728** Colorado participants and **2,716,097** U.S. participants in *CACFP* on a daily basis. There were estimated to be **24,660,637** meals served in Colorado and **1,680,693,893** meals provided in the United States overall by *CACFP* during FY 2001. **Table 29** presents the data on the average daily attendance in Colorado and the United States and **Table 30** provides the statistics on the total number of meals served for FY 1997-2001 for Colorado and the U.S.

Table 29: Average Daily Number of Participants in CACFP from FY 1997-Fy 2001 for Colorado and the US

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001*
Colorado	39,978	42,686	43,444	40,303	38,728
United States	2,471,627	2,600,561	2,670,338	2,735,116	2,716,097
Source: US Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service					
*2001 data is preliminary and subject to adjustment					

Table 30: Annual Number of Meals Served by CACFP from FY 1997-Fy 2001 for Colorado and the US

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001*
Colorado	27,147,276	27,114,657	27,451,308	26,252,692	24,660,637
United States	1,571,611,527	1,601,640,901	1,638,345,601	1,670,984,411	1,680,693,893
Source: US Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service					
*2001 data is preliminary and subject to adjustment					

For further information on CACFP see web site

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/Care/CACFP/cacfphome.htm>.

National School Lunch Program:

Congress created the *National School Lunch Program (NSLP)* in 1946 as a "measure of national security, to safeguard the health and well being of the Nation's children." It provides the opportunity for children across the United States to receive at least one healthful meal every school day.

The *NSLP* provides per meal cash reimbursements as an entitlement to schools to provide nutritious meals to children. This means that all eligible schools may participate, and all children attending those schools may participate. The *National School Lunch Program* provides school children with one-third or more of their Recommended Dietary Allowance (RDA) for key nutrients. *USDA* research indicates that children who participate in *School Lunch* have superior nutritional intakes compared to those who do not.

Household income is used to determine whether a child will pay a substantial part of the cost for their lunch or will receive a reduced-price or free meal. To receive a reduced-price meal, household income must be below 185 percent of the federal poverty level. For free meals, household income must fall below 130 percent of poverty. In order to arrive at the qualifying level of income, one would multiply the poverty guideline income for a given family size by 185% (for reduced price meal) or 130% (for a free meal). The poverty guideline incomes can be found in the **Income and Poverty** portion of this **Welfare** section. As an example, in order to qualify for a free meal a family of four in the United States in 2001 would need to earn no more than \$22,945. This value is arrived at by multiplying the poverty guideline income (\$17,650) times 1.3 (130 percent). The income level required for a reduced price meal in 2001 would be between \$17,651 and \$32,653. Usually, parents apply to the school in order for their children to receive a free or reduced-price lunch. The same application covers both lunch and breakfast. However, children in food stamp households or *TANF* assistance units are categorically eligible for free meals.

Table 31 shows that although on occasion (as between 2000 and 2001) there is a small drop in the percentage of free and reduced meals served from the previous year, overall the program has grown over the years. The increase in the free and reduced price lunch program, along with significant

increases in participation in the food stamp program, is contrary much of the decline in *TANF* participation.

Table 31: National Participation in the School Lunch Program by Number and Percent (1970-2001)

	Free Meals Served Daily (in Millions)	Reduced Price Meals Served Daily (in Millions)	Full Price Meals Served Daily (in Millions)	Total Lunches Served Daily (in Millions)	Total Lunches Served Annually (in Millions)	Free or Reduced Price Meals Served (%) of Total
1970	4.6	**	17.8	22.4	3,565.10	20.7
1975	9.4	0.6	14.9	24.9	4,063.00	40.3
1980	10	1.9	14.7	26.6	4,387.00	45.1
1985	9.9	1.6	12.1	23.6	3,890.10	49.1
1990	9.9	1.7	12.6	24.1	4,009.10	48.3
1995	12.5	1.9	11.3	25.7	4,253.40	56.4
2000	13.0	2.5	11.8	27.2	4,574.90	57.1
2001 *	12.9	2.6	12.0	27.5	4,583.80	56.9

Source: US Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service

* 2001 data is preliminary and subject to adjustment

** In 1970, reduced value lunches were included in the statistics with free lunches

The US Department of Agriculture reports that in FY 2001 over **95,000** schools participated in the *National School Lunch Program*. In FY 2001, **43.3 percent (321,516 children)** of the total public school membership in Colorado participated in the *School Lunch Program* at some time, while nationally, **40.1 percent** of the total U.S. enrollment (**27.5 million children**) participated during the same year. Additionally, **57,466 Colorado children (7.7% of total)** and **7.8 million U.S. children (11.4%)** participated in the *School Breakfast Program* in FY 2001. In FY 2000, Congress appropriated **\$27.2 billion** for the *National School Lunch Program*. **Tables 32 and 33** present the total school lunch participation and the total number of meals served in a school year for Colorado and the United States. **Tables 34 and 35** provide the same information for the *School Breakfast Program*. To view the free meal and reduced price meal participation numbers (and rates) by school district and school, see web site http://www.cde.state.co.us/index_nutrition.htm.

Table 32: Daily Participation in the School Lunch Program from FY 1997-Fy 2001 for Colorado and the US

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001*
Colorado	310,958	314,459	318,809	320,778	321,516
United States	26,341,186	26,597,751	26,946,327	27,239,082	27,502,083

Source: US Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service

*2001 data is preliminary and subject to adjustment

Table 33: Meals Served in the School Lunch Program from FY 1997-Fy 2001 for Colorado and the US

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001*
Colorado	50,507,553	50,969,022	51,650,304	52,158,550	52,511,542
United States	4,408,979,420	4,424,910,927	4,513,168,336	4,574,906,134	4,583,829,434

Source: US Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service

*2001 data is preliminary and subject to adjustment

Table 34: Daily Participation in the School Breakfast Program from FY1997-Fy2001 for Colorado and the US

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001*
Colorado	48,795	51,221	53,959	55,516	57,466
United States	6,921,614	7,142,051	7,370,834	7,553,843	7,784,821
Source: US Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service					
*2001 data is preliminary and subject to adjustment					

Table 35: Meals Served in the School Breakfast Program from FY 1997-Fy 2001 for Colorado and the US

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001*
Colorado	8,193,126	8,555,493	9,016,313	9,365,560	9,729,163
United States	1,191,215,572	1,221,022,586	1,267,568,874	1,303,399,447	1,333,296,187
Source: US Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service					
*2001 data is preliminary and subject to adjustment					

Table 36 (next page) provides county-level free and reduced price school lunch statistics in Colorado from 1998-200 for pre-kindergarten (PK) through grade 12. For each year (except 1998), Pitkin and Douglas counties had the smallest percentage of their students eligible for free or reduced priced lunches – neither county exceeded **2.4%** during the time period. At the other end of the spectrum, for each year, over **70%** of students in Saguache and Costilla counties were eligible for the free and reduced price lunch programs. Costilla County had the largest percentage eligible each year. Overall, Colorado experienced a high of **27.9%** in 1999, falling to **26.9%** by 2000, but then increasing back to **27.5%** in 2001. For additional information and statistics by school district, contact the *Colorado Department of Education*.

Special Supplemental Nutrition Program For Women, Infants And Children (WIC):

WIC was established by Congress as a pilot program in 1972 and authorized as a national program in 1974. WIC is a federally funded preventive nutrition program that provides nutritious foods, nutrition education, and access to health care to low-income pregnant women, new mothers, and infants and children at nutritional risk.

Eligibility for WIC is based on the following four criteria: participants must be a pregnant, postpartum, or breast-feeding woman, an infant (under 1), or a child under the age of five. The participant's household income must be below **185 percent of the poverty** line. WIC participants must be certified by a health professional to be at nutritional risk, which can include problems such as: inadequate diet; abnormal weight gain during pregnancy; a history of high-risk pregnancy; child growth problems such as stunting, underweight, or anemia; and homelessness or migrancy. In addition, any individual at nutritional risk that receives benefits from the *Food Stamp Program*, *AFDC* or *Medicaid*, or is a member of a family in which a pregnant woman or infant receives Medicaid benefits, is deemed automatically eligible to meet the WIC income test.

Table 36: County Level Numbers of Students Enrolled in School (PK-Grade 12) and the Percent Eligible for Free and Reduced Price Lunches

COUNTY	1998		1999		2000		2001	
	TOTAL STUDENTS	PERCENT ELIGIBLE	TOTAL STUDENTS	PERCENT ELIGIBLE	TOTAL STUDENTS	PERCENT ELIGIBLE	TOTAL STUDENTS	PERCENT ELIGIBLE
ADAMS	57,067	29.4%	56,989	30.4%	60,663	30.1%	63,340	30.5%
ALAMOSA	2,824	53.0%	2,729	55.7%	2,760	53.8%	2,770	54.2%
ARAPAHOE	92,849	18.8%	92,580	19.7%	96,485	19.5%	99,386	20.0%
ARCHULETA	1,552	34.8%	1,525	37.2%	1,558	35.6%	1,565	32.8%
BACA	908	42.4%	805	44.3%	918	40.3%	969	44.1%
BENT	1,035	57.6%	955	60.2%	974	56.5%	935	54.0%
BOULDER	45,277	14.6%	44,980	14.7%	47,128	14.2%	48,699	14.4%
CHAFFEE	2,199	25.5%	2,254	27.4%	2,270	26.3%	2,219	26.1%
CHEYENNE	463	22.9%	426	24.6%	472	25.0%	419	27.4%
CLEAR CREEK	1,438	21.3%	1,335	19.1%	1,327	19.4%	1,285	19.5%
CONEJOS	2,014	63.8%	1,948	65.0%	1,959	59.0%	1,903	66.0%
COSTILLA	670	82.7%	624	76.3%	631	79.1%	619	76.7%
CROWLEY	616	62.8%	637	60.8%	610	60.0%	594	58.2%
CUSTER	423	28.8%	398	28.6%	471	25.1%	473	23.3%
DELTA	4,665	43.3%	4,595	43.2%	4,799	39.1%	5,002	40.2%
DENVER	68,790	62.0%	66,785	62.7%	70,847	59.9%	72,361	61.6%
DOLORES	344	30.2%	328	34.1%	332	29.8%	340	33.8%
DOUGLAS	29,847	2.4%	32,222	2.2%	34,918	1.8%	38,054	1.9%
EAGLE	4,344	18.8%	4,444	25.2%	4,649	20.1%	4,912	21.4%
ELBERT	3,592	24.7%	3,741	10.6%	4,028	8.3%	4,211	10.7%
EL PASO	89,117	9.2%	89,609	24.4%	94,012	22.8%	96,381	23.9%
FREMONT	6,609	32.3%	6,496	35.8%	6,468	33.8%	6,636	35.6%
GARFIELD	9,146	20.3%	8,892	20.3%	9,472	21.7%	9,549	22.2%
GILPIN	384	13.8%	387	12.4%	444	8.8%	466	8.2%
GRAND	1,793	15.1%	1,803	14.9%	1,892	14.4%	1,902	14.7%
GUNNISON	1,672	10.3%	1,671	10.2%	1,684	11.6%	1,658	13.3%
HINSDALE	66	0.0%	56	16.1%	63	17.5%	83	18.1%
HUERFANO	1,217	52.5%	1,082	51.8%	1,125	49.3%	1,141	50.3%
JACKSON	306	40.2%	309	36.9%	304	33.6%	301	28.6%
JEFFERSON	88,654	14.8%	87,504	14.5%	87,703	13.7%	88,460	14.4%
KIOWA	394	39.3%	332	29.2%	362	36.7%	318	39.3%
KIT CARSON	1,727	34.2%	1,637	31.9%	1,682	39.5%	1,668	39.6%
LAKE	1,331	24.4%	1,221	50.0%	1,278	46.4%	1,301	44.4%
LA PLATA	6,977	45.3%	6,910	24.4%	7,101	24.3%	6,749	25.3%
LARIMER	38,683	18.7%	38,865	18.2%	40,172	17.4%	40,611	17.6%
LAS ANIMAS	2,351	57.6%	2,372	62.1%	2,374	54.4%	2,378	54.0%
LINCOLN	1,053	29.8%	986	32.3%	1,001	30.2%	984	25.8%
LOGAN	3,401	34.8%	3,365	36.7%	4,213	33.2%	3,513	35.6%
MESA	468	23.5%	19,688	35.8%	19,688	36.0%	20,766	36.4%
MINERAL	158	25.9%	144	22.2%	163	23.3%	155	21.9%
MOFFAT	2,697	20.4%	2,496	22.3%	2,575	21.7%	2,548	22.4%
MONTEZUMA	4,702	43.8%	4,552	43.1%	4,621	42.7%	4,534	42.0%
MONTROSE	5,882	36.8%	5,704	37.5%	5,845	38.0%	6,008	37.9%
MORGAN	5,518	44.6%	5,351	46.2%	5,506	48.9%	5,748	47.7%
OTERO	4,259	54.6%	4,046	55.2%	3,978	54.9%	3,984	53.6%
OURAY	559	14.8%	539	17.8%	574	16.7%	566	17.8%
PARK	2,209	16.7%	2,080	14.3%	2,224	12.5%	2,206	14.1%
PHILLIPS	965	27.2%	939	30.1%	966	30.3%	990	29.9%
PITKIN	1,289	1.2%	1,266	2.1%	1,236	1.1%	1,411	0.8%
PROWERS	2,958	48.9%	2,902	48.3%	2,941	49.7%	2,864	52.7%
PUEBLO	24,245	46.4%	23,875	46.8%	24,858	46.3%	25,292	47.5%
RIO BLANCO	1,497	22.3%	1,340	23.4%	1,330	20.1%	1,256	19.3%
RIO GRANDE	2,588	48.5%	2,516	50.6%	2,528	48.3%	2,530	49.9%
ROUTT	2,962	11.0%	2,890	9.2%	2,890	8.1%	2,839	9.2%
SAGUACHE	1,115	74.5%	1,067	74.5%	1,087	74.8%	1,027	74.5%
SAN JUAN	86	11.6%	84	42.9%	79	46.8%	77	53.2%
SAN MIGUEL	817	14.8%	804	13.3%	832	11.8%	873	15.3%
SEDGWICK	495	44.0%	476	43.9%	481	44.3%	464	40.5%
SUMMIT	2,526	9.8%	2,566	12.6%	2,748	12.9%	2,770	11.4%
TELLER	3,886	14.3%	3,736	12.8%	4,040	12.9%	4,005	15.7%
WASHINGTON	1,022	42.4%	981	40.5%	991	35.7%	959	38.7%
WELD	28,203	39.5%	28,795	40.5%	30,411	38.6%	31,331	38.7%
YUMA	2,089	39.5%	1,945	43.3%	1,955	41.1%	1,961	40.2%
COLORADO	678,993	27.6%	695,252	27.9%	724,508	26.9%	742,145	27.5%

* High and low annual percentages are highlighted
Source: Colorado Department of Education

The monthly *WIC* food package is a prescribed combination of targeted foods for the purpose of improving the nutritional quality of participants' diets. The supplemental foods provided by *WIC* are specifically tailored to the special dietary needs of program participants. In FY 2001, *WIC* services for over **7.3 million** pregnant women, infants, and children nationally. The *WIC* program is not an entitlement program. Congress determines federal funding annually. The *WIC* program cost **\$4.15 billion** in FY 2001.

The average benefit for all US participants in FY 2001 is estimated at **\$34.31** (in constant 2000 dollars). In Colorado, the average benefit was **\$30.85** (in constant 2000 dollars). **Table 37** presents the numbers of participants, the costs of maintaining the program, and the average monthly benefit per participant from 1975-2001 in the United States.

Table 37: National Participation and Costs in the WIC Program (in constant 2000 dollars)

	Total Participation (in Thousands)	Program Costs (in Millions of Dollars)			Average Monthly Benefit per Person (in Dollars)
		Food	NSA	Total	
1975	344	274.05	45.02	319.07	66.39
1980	1,914	1,287.94	309.80	1,604.58	56.07
1985	3,138	1,918.67	473.40	2,394.79	50.96
1990	4,517	2,329.31	681.19	3,019.89	42.97
1995	6,894	2,929.32	1,053.30	4,005.79	35.40
2000	7,192	2,852.20	1,102.60	3,971.10	33.05
2001*	7,306	2,962.58	1,098.08	4,090.80	33.80

Source: US Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service
 * 2001 data is preliminary and subject to adjustment
 ** NSA = Nutrition Services and Administrative costs. Nutrition Services includes nutrition education, preventative and coordination services (such as health care), and promotion of breastfeeding and immunization.

Table 38 (next page) provides the data on *WIC* program participation from FY1997 through FY 2001 for both Colorado and the United States as a whole. During these years (FY 1997-FY2000) there was a net decline in participation of **3.4%** (**2,536** participants) in Colorado and **1.36%** (**101,289** participants) in the United States. The decline is even more significant when changes in population are considered. Using population estimates from the *U.S. Census Bureau* in 1997 **one out of every 53.9 individuals** in Colorado participated in the *WIC* program. By 2000, the number had decreased to **one out of every 59.9 individuals** (**one out of every 31.7** children under five and *all* women). For the United States, in 1997 **one out of every 36.8 people** participated. In 2000, **one out of every 38.5** were participants (**one out of every 21.0** children under five and *all* women). Of those participating in *WIC*, there are almost **twice** as many children between the ages of 1 and 5 years participating, as there are women and infants. *Colorado WIC* operates approximately **125** clinics throughout the state that provide *WIC* services.

Table 38: Participation by Individuals in the WIC Program from FY 1997-FY 2001 for Colorado and the US

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001*
Colorado	74,539	74,517	74,648	71,835	72,003
United States	7,406,866	7,367,397	7,311,206	7,192,300	7,305,577

Source: US Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service

*2001 data is preliminary and subject to adjustment

** The Colorado data includes participation numbers from the Ute Mountain Indian Reservation. In 2001, there were 121 recipients.

Table 39 provides the data on the monthly average number of women, infants, and children in Colorado participating in the *WIC* program from FY 1986 through FY 2002. The data shows an increase in the average number of participants in the program from 1986-1996, followed by a leveling off through FY 1999. After a decline in participation in FY 2000, *WIC* participation has once again begun to rise in Colorado, peaking at **75,577** monthly program participants in the first part of FY 2002. The largest single year increase in participation occurred between 1993 and 1994, when there were **12,921** new people receiving *WIC* benefits. 1993 was also the year when Colorado's population grew the fastest. Overall, from 1986-2002, there was an increase of **42,138** participants (**126%**). However, when examining the impact of population on the number of cases from 1986-2002, we find a slightly different story. The fewest number of cases and the fewest number of cases per 10,000 Colorado residents (**33,439** and **10.3 per 10,000**, respectively) occurred in 1986. However, the most cases occurred in the first half of FY 2002 (**75,577**), while the greatest number of cases per 10,000 Coloradoans happened in FY 1994 (**19.3 per 10,000**). Overall, the number of cases per 10,000 individuals rose from 1986-1994, and then gradually fell (except during FY 1996) through FY 2001. There was an increase in the first half of FY 2002

The distribution of recipients has changed since 1986, with an increase in the percentage of women (up **5.2%**) and infants (up **7.8%**) receiving benefits and a decrease of children (down **12.9%**) receiving benefits during the time period.

Table 39: Monthly Average Number and Percentage of WIC Cases by Category in Colorado (FY 1986 - FY 2002)

	A. Women		Infants		Children		Total	
	Number of Cases	Percentage of Cases	Number of Cases	Percentage of Cases	Number of Cases	Percentage of Cases	Number of Cases	Cases Per 10,000
FY 86	7,039	21.0%	6,770	20.2%	19,630	58.7%	33,439	10.3
FY 87	6,960	19.0%	8,360	22.9%	21,224	58.1%	36,544	11.2
FY 88	7,534	18.5%	9,242	22.7%	23,902	58.8%	40,678	12.5
FY 89	8,605	18.9%	10,476	23.1%	26,389	58.1%	45,440	13.9
FY 90	9,658	20.2%	11,266	23.6%	26,892	56.2%	47,816	14.5
FY 91	10,617	23.0%	11,812	25.5%	23,821	51.5%	46,250	13.7
FY 92	12,326	23.8%	13,101	25.3%	26,397	50.9%	51,824	14.8
FY 93	13,487	22.9%	13,884	23.6%	31,406	53.4%	58,777	16.3
FY 94	18,011	25.1%	17,582	24.5%	36,105	50.4%	71,698	19.3
FY 95*	18,435	26.2%	14,706	20.9%	37,258	52.9%	70,399	18.4
FY 96*	18,727	25.4%	18,540	25.1%	36,497	49.5%	73,764	18.8
FY 97*	18,736	25.1%	18,927	25.4%	36,876	49.5%	74,539	18.5
FY 98	18,495	24.8%	19,541	26.2%	36,481	49.0%	74,517	18.1
FY 99	19,087	25.6%	20,222	27.1%	35,339	47.3%	74,648	17.7
FY 00	18,687	26.0%	20,390	28.4%	32,758	45.6%	71,835	16.7
FY 01	18,711	26.0%	20,454	28.4%	32,837	45.6%	72,003	16.3
YTD 02	19,783	26.2%	21,155	28.0%	34,639	45.8%	75,577	16.8

* Figures for FY 95, FY96, and FY97 are estimates.

Source: Colorado Department of Human Services

Table 40 (page 11) provides the “county-level” data on the average number of voucherred *WIC* participants in Colorado for 1990-2001. During that time, Park County had the largest percentage decrease in participation (**44.58%** decline), declining from **191** people receiving benefits in 1990 to **106** voucherred participants in 2001. Garfield County experienced an increase from **169** participants in 1990 to **1,050** participants in 2001 (an increase of **521.92%**). Broomfield County did not exist prior to 2002 and has no reported data until March 2002, when there were **11** participants. This information is not included in the table. Differences in data between **Tables 39** and **40** are the result of different methodologies and data being gathered at separate times. Explanations on the group titles in the table are required and can be seen after **Table 40** on page 11.

R3: Resources for Food Affordability

Web Site	Level of Data Available	Comments
http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/Lunch/	National	<i>National School Lunch Program</i> data
http://www.fns.usda.gov/wic/	National	National <i>Women, Infants And Children (WIC)</i> Homepage
http://www.fns.usda.gov/pd/wisummary.htm	National	National <i>Women, Infants And Children (WIC)</i> data
http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/foodreview/septdec00/FRsept00.pdf	National	“The 1990’s: A Dynamic Decade for the U.S. Food System” – Data on food costs
http://www.ers.usda.gov/briefing/CPIFoodAndExpenditures/index.htm	National	Data on food CPI, prices, and expenditures
http://www.usda.gov/cnpp/using3.htm	National	USDA: Cost of Food at Home data
http://www.fns.usda.gov/fns/	National/State	USDA Food and Nutrition Homepage
http://newfederalism.urban.org/nsaf/family-wellbeing.html	National/State	“National Survey of American Families: 1999 Snapshots of America's Families II”, Urban Institute
http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/Care/CACFP/cacfp/home.htm	National/State	Child and Adult Food Care Program (CAFCP) homepage
http://www.usda.gov/cnpp	National/State	USDA Center for Nutrition and Policy Promotion Homepage
http://www.usda.gov/cnpp/using3.htm	National/State	Official USDA Food Plans: Cost of Food at Home at Four Levels
http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/Care/CACFP/cacfp/home.htm	State	<i>Child and Adult Care Food Program</i>
http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/ps/ns/wic/wicsites.pdf	State	List of <i>WIC</i> offices around the state
http://www.cde.state.co.us	State/County/School District	Colorado Department of Education
http://www.cde.state.co.us/index_nutrition.htm	School District	Lunch and breakfast (free and reduced price) programs by school and school district

Table 40: Vouchered Participation by County Group (1990-2001)

COUNTY GROUP	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1998	2000	2001
ALAMOSA	398	344	371	371	361	364	366	388	399
BACA	203	184	185	180	201	200	189	164	157
BENT	282	261	311	314	297	342	319	268	270
BOULDER	2,947	2,730	2,833	3,278	3,660	3,561	4,027	3,585	4,094
CLEAR CREEK	120	112	132	135	144	135	141	111	100
DELTA	503	479	582	621	644	606	631	544	595
DENVER	2,034	2,374	3,239	3,634	3,975	4,572	4,601	4,587	4,213
DOLORES	52	51	57	62	56	59	37	39	42
EAGLE	168	170	261	350	440	472	647	772	754
EL PASO	8,069	8,259	8,842	10,662	12,733	13,060	13,209	12,990	13,063
GARFIELD	169	202	298	300	436	622	895	866	1,050
GRAND	114	93	115	113	127	129	140	119	120
GUNNISON	172	181	212	225	240	237	206	196	230
JACKSON	54	49	53	65	58	40	49	33	45
JEFFCO	3,166	3,341	3,624	4,410	5,363	5,669	6,332	6,051	6,138
KIT CARSON	340	331	367	389	391	388	399	369	363
LARIMER	2,406	2,250	2,455	2,661	3,065	3,134	3,162	2,965	2,996
LAS ANIMAS	759	663	781	835	876	837	743	660	690
LINCOLN	117	107	114	127	130	134	163	168	164
MESA	249	311	385	493	566	559	1,151	1,104	1,153
MONTEZUMA	451	423	534	548	595	656	688	610	643
MONTROSE	630	616	766	850	957	1,035	1,243	1,111	1,258
NECHD	1,775	1,749	2,093	2,244	2,509	2,601	2,805	2,414	2,355
NWCO VNS	363	328	361	376	433	448	436	373	399
OTERO	1,021	944	987	1,017	1,222	1,305	1,144	1,076	1,126
OURAY	47	39	45	45	36	40	30	16	28
PARK	191	202	209	209	178	156	119	106	106
PITKIN	30	33	51	60	74	79	74	45	64
PROWERS	586	407	481	611	742	779	734	641	631
PUEBLO	5,942	5,321	5,726	5,962	6,115	5,910	6,271	4,998	5,099
RIO BLANCO	88	75	101	118	130	146	135	112	118
SAGUACHE	262	271	274	243	257	233	214	180	177
SAN JUAN BASIN	726	732	889	941	965	906	998	784	809
SAN MIGUEL	75	62	67	60	62	59	63	59	73
SUMMIT	105	102	154	162	177	199	139	158	221
TELLER	236	196	209	229	350	444	355	292	277
TRI-COUNTY	10,597	9,866	10,853	12,295	15,114	15,966	17,593	18,343	19,663
UAACOG	1,308	1,284	1,427	1,479	1,727	1,739	1,727	1,594	1,681
VALLEY WIDE	650	666	813	914	1,052	1,139	1,242	1,194	1,217
WELD	367	442	621	918	1,169	1,427	1,508	1,374	1,548
COLORADO	47,772	46,250	51,878	58,506	67,627	70,387	74,925	71,459	74,129

Data for 1990-1995 is Fiscal Year data

Data for 1998 and 2000 is calendar year data (January-December)

Data for 2001 runs from April 2001 – March 2002

Source: Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

NECHD is the abbreviation for Northeast Colorado Health Department and consists of Logan, Morgan, Phillips, Sedgwick, Washington, and Yuma Counties.

TRI-COUNTY consists of Adams, Arapahoe, Douglas, and Elbert Counties.

NWCO VNS is the abbreviation for Northwest Colorado Visiting Nurses Association and consists of Moffat and Routt Counties.

UAACOG is the abbreviation for Upper Arkansas Area Council of Governments and consists of Chaffee, Custer, Fremont, and Lake Counties.

VALLEY WIDE is a non-profit community health center that provides *WIC* services in Alamosa, Conejos, Costilla, Mineral, Rio Grande, and Saguache Counties.

SAN JUAN BASIN consists of Archuleta, La Plata, and San Juan Counties.

LAS ANIMAS serves Las Animas and Huerfano Counties.

4 Housing Affordability

In 2000, **13.7 million** American households (**14 percent** of the total number of families) spent more than half of their income on housing or live in sub-standard conditions.¹ According to the *National Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC)*, in 2000 the national median housing wage, based on each county's housing wage for a two bedroom unit at the *Fair Market Rent (FMR)* weighted by Census 2000 population figures, was **\$13.87** an hour, more than twice the federal minimum wage of \$5.15 per hour. This means that on average, there must be more than two full-time minimum wage workers in a household in order for the household to afford a two bedroom housing unit at the *Fair Market Rent*. For Colorado, the median housing wage was **\$15.23** per hour in 2000, meaning that it would take almost three full-time minimum wage jobs to be able to afford a two bedroom residence.

The **Housing Affordability** portion of the **Welfare** section emphasizes the impact of wages (income) versus housing costs in determining the affordability of housing at the national, state, and county levels. Most of the discussion will center on highlights from two wage/housing cost studies and a *Housing Affordability Index* analysis.

Other areas of consideration include:

- Difficulties in meeting housing obligations
- Affordable housing programs
 - Deep Subsidy rental programs
 - Section 8 Homeownership programs

The majority of the data and information comes from the following sources:

- *Colorado Department of Local Affairs (Division of Housing)*
- *Colorado Housing Finance Authority (CHFA)*
- *National Association of Home Builders (NAHB)*
- *National Association of Realtors (NAR)*
- *National Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC)*
- *United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)*

Other resources of interest are referenced in the "Resources for Housing Affordability" part of the report.

Wages and Housing Costs:

The *National Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC)* and the *Colorado Housing and Finance Authority* each produce reports on "wages versus the cost of housing" in determining housing affordability in Colorado. The emphasis of the *NLIHC* report is on the *Fair Market Rent* for communities in the state and the hourly wage necessary to afford a *Fair Market Rent* residence in these communities. The *Colorado Housing and Finance Authority* document discusses the wages by industry and how many full time wage earners in each industry are needed to afford a residence in Colorado.

¹ "Housing Facts, Figures, and Trends 2001", National Association of Home Builders, June 2001.

For Colorado, the *National Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC)* reports that the state ranks **9th out of the fifty** states and the District of Columbia for least affordable housing² (1 is the least affordable).

Highlights of the *NLIHC* report on Colorado are:

- In Colorado, an extremely low income household (earning \$18,030, 30% of the Area Median Income of \$60,100) can afford monthly rent of no more than **\$451**, while the *Fair Market Rent (FMR)* for a two bedroom unit is **\$792**.
- A minimum wage earner (earning \$5.15 per hour) can afford monthly rent of no more than **\$268**.
- An SSI recipient (receiving **\$512 monthly**) can afford monthly rent of no more than **\$154**, while the *FMR* for a one-bedroom unit is **\$605**.
- In Colorado, a worker earning the Minimum Wage (\$5.15 per hour) must work **118 hours per week** in order to afford a two-bedroom unit at the area's *FMR*.
- In Colorado, **42%** of renter households use more than **30%** of their income for rent.
- The *Housing Wage* in Colorado is **\$15.23**. This is the amount a worker would have to earn per hour in order to be able to work 40 hours per week and afford a two-bedroom unit at the area's *Fair Market* rent. This is **296%** of the present minimum wage (\$5.15 per hour). Between 2000 and 2001 the two-bedroom housing wage increased by **23.38%**.
- Between 1990 and 2000, Colorado saw an increase of **12.03%** in the number of renter households in the state. This mirrors the overall population growth rate for Colorado during the decade.
- Douglas County saw the largest percentage increase in the amount of rental units at **139.38%** (from **3,088 to 7,392** units) during the 1990s. San Juan County saw the largest percentage decrease in household rental units at **-20.91%** (down to **87 units from 110** units). Pueblo County experienced an increase of **6.74%** (from **15,111** units to **16,130** units).
- In 2000, Denver County had the largest number of household rental units with **113,696** units and San Juan County had the fewest rental units with **87**.

The *NLIHC* also provides data on the income levels necessary to be able to afford rental residences in the sixty-three Colorado counties. **Table 41** (next page) provides the hourly wage needed to afford the *Fair Market Rents (FMR)* for various sized properties in Colorado. In general, the wages need to be higher in the mountain resort and Denver metropolitan area while the lowest wages necessary to be able to afford housing are in the southern and rural areas of the state. For each house size, San Miguel County (highlighted) had the highest wage requirement necessary to be able to afford the *Fair Market Rent* for housing in the area. Several counties had the lowest *FMR* requirement.

For additional detailed data on housing affordability by county and metropolitan area in Colorado, see web site http://www.nlihc.org/cgi-bin/or2001.pl?getstate=on&getcounty=on&county=_all&state=CO

² "Out of Reach 2001: America's Growing Wage-Rent Disparity", National Low Income Housing Coalition, 2000.

Table 41: Hourly Wages Needed to Afford Fair Market Rental Homes

	Zero Bedrooms	One Bedroom	Two Bedrooms	Three Bedrooms	Four Bedrooms
Adams County *	\$10.79	\$12.90	\$17.17	\$23.81	\$28.12
Alamosa County	\$7.71	\$8.02	\$10.00	\$13.50	\$16.10
Arapahoe County *	\$10.79	\$12.90	\$17.17	\$23.81	\$28.12
Archuleta County	\$9.23	\$10.10	\$11.94	\$16.13	\$19.17
Baca County	\$7.71	\$8.02	\$10.00	\$13.50	\$16.10
Bent County	\$7.71	\$8.02	\$10.00	\$13.50	\$16.10
Boulder County	\$11.38	\$13.62	\$17.48	\$24.35	\$28.69
Chaffee County	\$7.71	\$8.02	\$10.00	\$13.50	\$16.10
Cheyenne County	\$7.71	\$8.02	\$10.00	\$13.50	\$16.10
Clear Creek County	\$7.71	\$9.00	\$10.17	\$14.17	\$16.71
Conejos County	\$7.71	\$8.02	\$10.00	\$13.50	\$16.10
Costilla County	\$7.71	\$8.02	\$10.00	\$13.50	\$16.10
Crowley County	\$7.71	\$8.02	\$10.00	\$13.50	\$16.10
Custer County	\$7.71	\$8.02	\$10.00	\$13.50	\$16.10
Delta County	\$7.71	\$8.02	\$10.00	\$13.50	\$16.10
Denver County *	\$10.79	\$12.90	\$17.17	\$23.81	\$28.12
Dolores County	\$7.71	\$8.02	\$10.00	\$13.50	\$16.10
Douglas County *	\$10.79	\$12.90	\$17.17	\$23.81	\$28.12
Eagle County	\$10.38	\$11.31	\$15.10	\$21.00	\$24.75
Elbert County	\$8.54	\$9.44	\$10.81	\$13.50	\$17.71
El Paso County	\$8.98	\$9.65	\$12.85	\$17.90	\$21.15
Fremont County	\$7.71	\$8.02	\$10.00	\$13.50	\$16.10
Garfield County	\$8.96	\$9.60	\$12.13	\$15.17	\$19.87
Gilpin County	\$7.71	\$10.27	\$13.04	\$17.21	\$19.04
Grand County	\$9.17	\$9.25	\$11.71	\$14.65	\$17.75
Gunnison County	\$7.71	\$8.02	\$10.00	\$13.50	\$16.10
Hinsdale County	\$7.71	\$8.17	\$10.00	\$13.50	\$16.10
Huerfano County	\$7.71	\$8.02	\$10.00	\$13.50	\$16.10
Jackson County	\$7.71	\$8.02	\$10.00	\$13.50	\$16.10
Jefferson County *	\$10.79	\$12.90	\$17.17	\$23.81	\$28.12
Kiowa County	\$7.71	\$8.02	\$10.00	\$13.50	\$16.10
Kit Carson County	\$7.71	\$8.02	\$10.00	\$13.50	\$16.10
Lake County	\$7.71	\$8.02	\$10.00	\$13.50	\$16.10
La Plata County	\$10.08	\$11.15	\$14.69	\$20.48	\$24.15
Larimer County	\$8.88	\$10.96	\$13.52	\$18.81	\$22.19
Las Animas County	\$7.71	\$8.25	\$10.00	\$13.50	\$16.10
Lincoln County	\$7.71	\$8.02	\$10.00	\$13.50	\$16.10
Logan County	\$7.71	\$8.02	\$10.00	\$13.50	\$16.10
Mesa County	\$8.15	\$8.48	\$10.60	\$14.29	\$17.02
Mineral County	\$7.71	\$8.02	\$10.00	\$13.50	\$16.10
Moffat County	\$7.71	\$8.02	\$10.00	\$13.50	\$16.10
Montezuma County	\$7.71	\$8.02	\$10.00	\$13.50	\$16.10
Montrose County	\$7.71	\$8.02	\$10.12	\$14.04	\$16.54
Morgan County	\$7.71	\$8.02	\$10.00	\$13.50	\$16.10
Otero County	\$7.71	\$8.02	\$10.00	\$13.50	\$16.10
Ouray County	\$7.71	\$8.02	\$10.12	\$13.50	\$16.38
Park County	\$7.71	\$8.56	\$11.13	\$15.44	\$17.58
Phillips County	\$7.71	\$8.02	\$10.00	\$13.50	\$16.10
Pitkin County	\$11.58	\$15.85	\$21.12	\$27.85	\$31.65
Prowers County	\$7.71	\$8.02	\$10.00	\$13.50	\$16.10
Pueblo County	\$8.60	\$8.92	\$11.13	\$15.00	\$17.88
Rio Blanco County	\$7.71	\$8.02	\$10.00	\$13.50	\$16.10
Rio Grande County	\$7.71	\$8.02	\$10.00	\$13.50	\$16.10
Routt County	\$7.71	\$9.33	\$12.33	\$17.13	\$20.21
Saguache County	\$7.71	\$8.02	\$10.00	\$13.50	\$16.10
San Juan County	\$7.71	\$8.02	\$10.00	\$13.50	\$16.10
San Miguel County	\$14.19	\$20.52	\$22.56	\$28.15	\$36.35
Sedgwick County	\$7.71	\$8.02	\$10.00	\$13.50	\$16.10
Summit County	\$9.94	\$11.90	\$15.27	\$21.23	\$26.13
Teller County	\$7.71	\$9.15	\$12.19	\$16.94	\$17.10
Washington County	\$7.71	\$8.02	\$10.00	\$13.50	\$16.10
Weld County	\$9.54	\$10.54	\$13.27	\$18.40	\$21.77
Yuma County	\$7.71	\$8.02	\$10.00	\$13.50	\$16.10
COLORADO	\$10.01	\$11.64	\$15.23	\$21.04	\$24.89

*Indicates Denver Metropolitan Area County

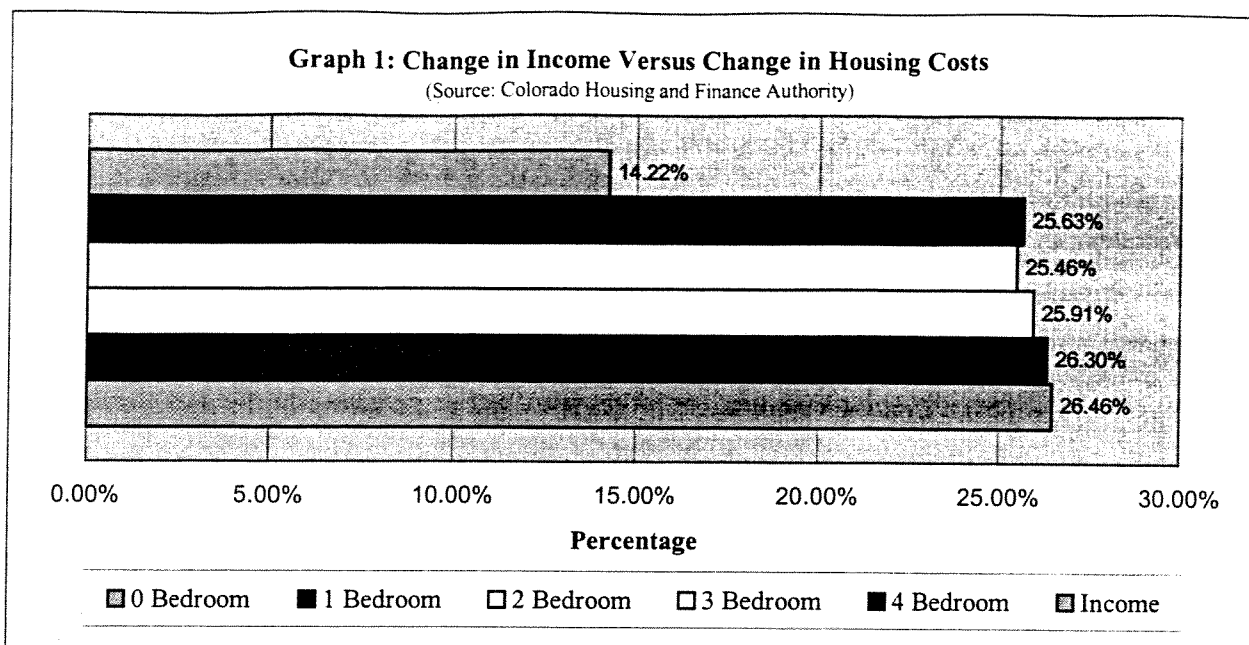
*Source: "Out of Reach 2001: America's Growing Wage-Rent Disparity". National Low Income Housing Association, 2001.

The *Colorado Housing and Finance Authority* produced the second affordability document. In "Colorado's Status of Housing 2001"³, analysis is provided on the increasing disparity in Colorado between the growth in wages and the greater growth in housing costs as a method of determining affordability. Using 1999 Colorado average wages the *Authority* reached the following conclusions:

- For all Colorado industries, it would take an average of **1.94** wage earners to be able to afford a \$190,600 home, at an 8.0% interest rate, on a 30-year mortgage.
- Retail would take the largest number of jobs (**3.66** wage earners) and mining would take the fewest number of jobs (**0.99** wage earners) to purchase the \$190,600 house. However, the mining industry is the only industry in Colorado that has seen a loss of jobs since 1990.
- For all Colorado industries, it would take an average of **1.06** wage earners to be able to rent a 2-bedroom apartment (average payment of \$851 without utilities).
- It takes **1.98** wage earners in retail and **0.58** mining jobs to be able to afford this payment.
- A recent survey by the *Chicago Title Insurance Co.* found that "the number of two-income, first-time homebuyers rose from **75%** of the market in 1998 to **93.8%** in 1999." (Denver Business Journal, 2/17/00)
- The median household income in Colorado rose **3.8%** from 1998 to 1999, to **\$47,987**, the **sixth** highest in the United States. This rate of increase is still lower than the rate of increase in the cost of housing. Housing prices increased from 1990-1999 by more than **90%**.
- Of the counties surveyed (Boulder, Denver, El Paso, Larimer, Mesa, Prowers, Pueblo, and Summit) The greatest increases **in housing costs were** found in Summit County (**150%**) and Denver County (**149%**), while the increases in wages in these two counties were **54%** and **50%**, respectively. These two counties also had the largest difference between housing cost increases and wage increases.
- The smallest increases in housing prices occurred in Pueblo County (**73%**) and Boulder County (**91%**). The income increases were **35%** in Pueblo County and **74%** in Boulder County. The disparity between the growth in housing costs and the growth in wages was smallest in these two counties.

Graph 1 (next page) provides a graphical representation of changes in the costs of various sized residences (as determined by the number of bedrooms) versus changes in income from 1998 through 2001 in Colorado. While the costs of rental housing grew by over **twenty-five percent** for all sized residences during the time period, the average family income in Colorado grew by less than **fifteen percent (14.22%)**.

³ "Colorado's Status of Housing 2001", Colorado Housing and Finance Authority, Spring 2001.



Housing Affordability Index:

Housing affordability is a measure of the ability of families to be able to afford housing. The main index presented in this document is the *Housing Affordability Index (HAI)*, published by the *National Association of Home Builders (NAHB)*. This index is based primarily on three variables: (1) median price of a single-family home, (2) median family income, and (3) the current mortgage interest rate. The use of median values allows the index to be interpreted as an indication of whether 50 percent of the households in a particular area are able to afford housing under the specified criteria. The index numbers found in this study are the ratios of the median household incomes and the qualifying incomes for each particular area. The qualifying incomes are calculated to meet the monthly principle and interest payments needed to buy a median priced house in that specific area. Housing is defined as affordable if at least 50 percent of the households can afford the mortgage payment on the median priced house sold during a given year. An affordability index of 1.0 or more meets this definition of affordability.

Table 42 (next page) presents the affordability rankings for various communities around the United States (both national and regional rankings). The San Francisco, California metropolitan area is the least affordable area in the nation and the Rockford, Illinois area is the most affordable area in the country. The Denver metropolitan area ranked as the **45th least** affordable community in the nation (ranking **136th** out of **181**) during the fourth quarter of 2001. Boulder ranked **129th**, Colorado Springs ranked **132nd**, Fort Collins ranked **141st**, and Pueblo ranked **138th** nationally.

Colorado is part of the west region. Out of the **50** communities in the west region, Denver ranked **18th**, Boulder ranked **14th**, Colorado Springs ranked **16th**, Fort Collins ranked **22nd**, and Pueblo ranked **20th** in affordability. The San Francisco, California area is the least housing affordable area in the west region, while the Anchorage, Alaska area is the most affordable area (Phoenix, AZ is the second most affordable).

To view the complete rankings see web site
http://www.nahb.com/facts/hoi/2001_Q4/complete_alpha.htm.

Table 42: National and Regional Housing Affordability Indices

Metro Area	National Ranking	Regional Ranking
Rockford, IL MSA+	1	1
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island, IA-IL MSA+	2	2
Springfield, IL MSA*	3	3
Champaign-Urbana, IL MSA*	4	4
Peoria-Pekin, IL MSA+	5	5
Elkhart-Goshen, IN MSA*	6	6
Syracuse, NY MSA+	7	1
Dayton-Springfield, OH MSA+	8	7
Mansfield, OH MSA*	9	8
INDIANAPOLIS, IN MSA	10	9
KANSAS CITY, MO-KS MSA	13	10
Hamilton-Middletown, OH PMSA+	20	12
CINCINNATI, OH-KY-IN PMSA	30	16
Daytona Beach, FL MSA+	40	16
WASHINGTON, DC-MD-VA-WV PMSA	40	16
FORT WORTH-ARLINGTON, TX PMSA	49	21
JACKSONVILLE, FL MSA	49	21
ATLANTA, GA MSA	59	25
Richmond-Petersburg, VA MSA+	59	25
COLUMBUS, OH MSA	69	27
Tulsa, OK MSA+	69	31
CHARLOTTE-GASTONIA-ROCK HILL, NC-SC MSA	80	38
New London-Norwich, CT-RI MSA+	90	16
FORT LAUDERDALE, FL PMSA	100	49
PITTSBURGH, PA MSA	110	20
Kalamazoo-Battle Creek, MI MSA+	120	33
Boulder-Longmont, CO PMSA+	129	14
SEATTLE-BELLEVUE-EVERETT, WA PMSA	129	14
NEWARK, NJ PMSA	131	26
Colorado Springs, CO MSA+	132	16
Provo-Orem, UT MSA+	133	17
Galveston-Texas City, TX PMSA*	134	58
MIAMI, FL PMSA	135	59
DENVER, CO PMSA	136	18
Redding, CA MSA*	137	19
Pueblo, CO MSA*	138	20
Danbury, CT PMSA*	139	27
Fresno, CA MSA+	139	21
Fort Collins-Loveland, CO MSA*	141	22
Flagstaff, AZ-UT MSA*	150	28
New Bedford, MA PMSA*	160	31
LOS ANGELES-LONG BEACH, CA PMSA	161	35
Stockton-Lodi, CA MSA+	170	40
Medford-Ashland, OR MSA*	171	41
OAKLAND, CA PMSA	172	42
Portsmouth-Rochester, NH-ME PMSA*	173	36
SAN DIEGO, CA MSA	174	43
SAN JOSE, CA PMSA	175	44
Vallejo-Fairfield-Napa, CA PMSA+	176	45
San Luis Obispo-Atascadero-Paso Robles, CA MSA*	177	46
Santa Rosa, CA PMSA+	178	47
Santa Cruz-Watsonville, CA PMSA*	179	48
Salinas, CA MSA+	180	49
SAN FRANCISCO, CA PMSA	181	50

* Denotes population below 250,000;
+ Denotes population of 250,000 to 1 million;
Capital letters denotes population over 1 million.
Source: National Association of Home Builders

Housing Obligation Concerns:

In addition to the data collected by *NAHB* and *NLIHC*, the *Urban Institute* in its “National Survey of American Families: A Snapshot of America’s Families II”⁴ asked adults whether they had been unable to pay their mortgage, rent, or utility bills at any time during the previous 12 months. More than **one in five** low-income non-elderly adults reported some housing affordability problems in 1999, the same proportion as in 1997. Housing affordability was an issue particularly for low-income single parents—nearly **one in three** reported problems.

The data reflects the interactions between two forces affected by the strong economy: Higher incomes generally increased families’ purchasing power, but stronger housing demand increased housing prices and rents in many areas. The *NSAF* results suggest that these two forces offset each other.

Regardless of financial status, the number of parents present in a household affects the degree of concern about the ability to afford housing expenses. **Table 43** shows that for both Colorado and the United States, between 1997 and 1999, only two parent families with incomes at least 200% above the poverty level reported decreased concern for meeting housing obligations. This may reflect the fact that housing costs have increased at a more rapid rate than wages, which makes it especially difficult for lower income and single parents to afford housing.

Table 43: Adults (%) with Problems Paying Their Mortgage, Rent, or Utility Bills in the Previous 12 Months, by Income and Parental Status, 1997-1999

	200% below poverty		200% above poverty		200% below poverty		200% above poverty	
	1999 Single parents	1997 Single parents	1999 Single parents	1997 Single parents	1999 Two parents	1997 Two parents	1999 Two parents	1997 Two parents
Colorado	31.4	28.3	13.4	11.2	22.8	22.0	7.1	7.7
United States	31.8	31.6	16.1	16.4	25.3	25.8	7.8	8.0
Source: National Survey of American Families, 1999 Snapshots of America’s Families II, Urban Institute, 2000								

Table 44 shows that when the numbers of parents in a family is not considered, the percentage of Coloradans having problems meeting housing costs was less than the percentage in the United States overall. The table also shows that for all incomes in the United States, the percentage of adults reporting problems paying their mortgage, rent, or utility bills in the previous twelve-month period remained the same at **11.4 percent**, while there was a **1.4 percent** drop (9.0% to 7.6%) for all Colorado residents during the same time period.

Table 44: All Adults (%) with Problems Paying Their Mortgage, Rent, or Utility Bills in the Previous 12 Months, 1997-1999 (Regardless of Parental Status)

	200% below poverty		200% above poverty		All Incomes	
	1999	1997	1999	1997	1999	1997
Colorado	17.1	18.7	5.0	5.6	7.6	9.0
United States	23.1	22.6	7.1	6.7	11.4	11.4
Source: National Survey of American Families, 1999 Snapshots of America’s Families II, Urban Institute, 2000						

⁴ “National Survey of American Families: 1999 Snapshots of America’s Families II”, Urban Institute, 2000

To see the full report see the *Housing Affordability* segment at web site
<http://www.urban.org/content/Research/NewFederalism/NSAF/Snapshots/1999Results/FamilyEconomicWellBeing/FamilyEcon.htm>

Programs:

There are six main programs in Colorado that are designed to aid in housing assistance for lower income families. The name and description of these programs follow below. For detailed information on these programs contact the *Colorado Division of Housing*.

- *Section 8 Rental and Homeownership Programs*
 - Funds Family Based, Department of Health and Human Services, and Colorado Division of Housing projects.
- *Project Based Public Housing*
- *Rural Development 515 Projects*
- *FHA Subsidized (Sections 236, 202, and 221 projects)*

Table 45 (next page) provides the data on the number of units subsidized through each program in each Colorado county in 2001.

R4: Resources for Housing Affordability

Web Site	Level of Data Available	Comments
http://www.huduser.org/periodicals/cityscape/vol5num2/dolbeare.pdf	National	Housing Affordability: Challenge and Context Housing Affordability: Challenge and Context
http://www.realtor.org/rodesign.nsf/pages/homepage?opendocument	National	National Association of Realtors Homepage
http://www.nahb.com/housing_issues/fft2001.pdf	National	National Association of Homebuilders "Housing Facts, Figures, and Trends 2001"
http://www.nlihc.org/oor2001/index.htm	National	"Out of Reach 2000: America's Growing Wage-Rent Disparity", National Low Income Housing Coalition
http://newfederalism.urban.org/nsaf/	National/State	National Survey of American Families, 1999 Snapshots of America's Families II, Urban Institute
http://www.nlihc.org/index.html	National/State	National Low Income Housing Coalition homepage
http://www.nlihc.org/cgi-bin/oor2001.pl?getstate=on&getcounty=on&county=_all&state=CO	State	Housing affordability by county and metropolitan area
http://www.dola.state.co.us/doh/Publications.htm	State	Colorado Division of Housing Publications
http://www.dola.state.co.us/doh/Documents/HousingColo01.pdf	State	"Housing Colorado: The Challenge for a Growing State" – Data on housing affordability and available affordability assistance programs
http://www.dola.state.co.us/doh/Documents/CostofHousing2001.pdf	State	Estimated costs of housing in Colorado by county and by square footage
http://www.dlg.oem2.state.co.us/Doh/Documents/CostEst/CostEstimate.htm	State	Housing Cost Estimates by County
http://www.colohfa.org/	State	Colorado Housing and Finance Authority homepage
http://www.colohfa.org/pdf/nr_statushousing.pdf	State	"Colorado's Status of Housing"
http://www.dola.state.co.us/Doh/Documents/CostofHousing2001.pdf	State/County	Cost of Housing in Colorado Counties
http://www.dola.state.co.us/Doh/Documents/What%20Is%20Affordable.pdf	State/County	"What is Affordable Housing in Your Area", Colorado Division of Housing
http://www.huduser.org/datasets/il/fmr02/prts801_02.pdf	County	Section 8 County Level Housing Income Limits

Table 45: Colorado County Housing Subsidy Programs in 2001

State and County	FHA Subsidized (236, 202, & 221)	Public Housing (Project Based)	Section 8 (Family Based)	Rural Development 515 Projects	Department of HHS – Sec 8. Shelter & Care	Colorado Division of Housing – Sec8
Adams	1,279	322	1,965	86	149	84
Alamosa	0	199	0	76	33	73
Arapahoe	1,420	0	504	11	234	40
Archuleta	80	0	59	29	3	0
Baca	50	0	0	18	0	0
Bent	18	0	124	38	3	0
Boulder	807	462	1,766	24	354	0
Chaffee	40	50	0	43	2	75
Cheyenne	10	25	0	10	0	0
Clear Creek	0	0	0	0	0	10
Conejos	26	74	0	39	2	12
Costilla	0	57	0	44	0	0
Crowley	28	0	0	31	2	25
Custer	0	0	0	14	0	10
Delta	40	75	226	47	6	0
Denver	6,130	3,913	5,025	16	534	482
Dolores	0	0	0	0	0	0
Douglas	103	0	0	33	4	38
Eagle	73	0	0	24	6	10
Elbert	0	0	0	0	0	10
El Paso	915	747	2,425	30	220	37
Fremont	145	0	0	168	42	160
Garfield	176	0	392	107	15	0
Gilpin	0	0	0	0	1	0
Grand	20	0	0	23	0	40
Gunnison	28	0	0	0	1	40
Hinsdale	0	0	0	0	0	0
Huerfano	4	129	0	40	2	45
Jackson	0	0	0	0	0	5
Jefferson	1,332	527	3,553	0	231	0
Kiowa	10	0	0	10	1	0
Kit Carson	66	31	0	12	5	15
Lake	111	0	0	0	0	20
La Plata	165	0	0	116	62	87
Larimer	588	276	1,107	103	234	25
Las Animas	126	216	83	105	2	0
Lincoln	20	40	0	36	2	35
Logan	111	110	0	34	12	92
Mesa	928	30	769	18	59	15
Mineral	0	0	0	0	0	0
Moffat	256	0	0	0	7	25
Montezuma	138	31	262	89	10	0
Montrose	250	0	178	131	43	90
Morgan	118	116	0	121	20	108
Otero	263	86	198	95	8	26
Ouray	0	0	0	0	0	0
Park	0	0	0	0	0	4
Phillips	12	52	0	10	0	5
Pitkin	0	0	0	0	0	16
Prowers	148	46	59	119	10	67
Pueblo	723	901	1,528	18	171	52
Rio Blanco	36	0	0	23	0	0
Rio Grande	85	0	0	240	1	35
Routt	14	0	0	240	1	35
Saguache	22	30	25	177	0	15
San Juan	0	0	0	0	0	5
San Miguel	7	0	0	0	1	50
Sedgwick	0	52	0	16	0	5
Summit	0	0	0	25	0	35
Teller	0	0	0	25	0	15
Washington	20	0	0	39	1	5
Weld	1,031	176	870	345	124	30
Yuma	20	91	0	0	1	21
COLORADO	17,992	8,864	21,118	3,098	2,619	2,129

Source: Colorado Division of Housing, Department of Local Affairs

5 Homelessness

According to the *Stewart B McKinney Homeless Assistance Act of 1987*, a person is considered homeless if they:

- Lack a fixed, regular, and adequate night-time residence
- Have a primary nighttime residence that is:
 - a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary living accommodations (including welfare hotels, congregate shelters, and transitional housing for the mentally ill)
 - an institution that provides a temporary residence for individuals intended to be institutionalized (imprisoned personnel for any reason are not considered homeless)
 - a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.

This chapter of the document has three main topics of discussion. Those topics are:

- The methodology used and the difficulty of counting the homeless population.
- The population and demographic results of the homeless population surveys in Colorado, Metropolitan Denver, and the United States.
- The social (family and school environments), health, and income status of the homeless.

The *National Coalition for the Homeless (NCH)*, states that two national trends have contributed to an increase in homelessness in the last two decades. Those trends are a lack of affordable rental housing and an increase in poverty. When financial resources are limited individuals are often forced to make a choice among the necessities - housing, food, childcare, health care, and education. Because the cost of rent absorbs a high proportion of income, a permanent residence is often abandoned in favor of other expenses. For those at risk for homelessness, certain additional factors may contribute to or exacerbate the reality of their situation. Some of these factors include lack of affordable health care, domestic violence, mental illness, and addiction to substances. The latter two of these factors are of particular interest to those who aim to develop effective policies and programs for the prevention and treatment of substance abuse and mental illness in homeless populations.

Counting the Homeless:

Counting the homeless is a complicated undertaking. As a result of methodological and financial constraints, most studies are limited to counting people who are literally homeless - that is, in shelters or on the streets. In order to get a complete count, the homeless need to be counted several times of day and the counts need to occur in multiple locations. As a result, some individuals may be counted more than once, making it necessary, but difficult to eliminate duplication. A larger problem though is that many homeless individuals will be missed during the count, and therefore produce an underestimation of the population. Furthermore, not all shelters and other organizations will wish to help and this may result in a portion of the population being missed.

One reason the assumption of underestimation can be made is that in cities nationwide, the number of homeless greatly exceeds the number of available shelters or beds (*U.S. Conferences of Mayors, 1998; National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty, 1999*). In addition, there are few or no shelters in rural areas with significant populations of homeless. The result is people are forced to live with family or relatives, essentially homeless, but not literally, and typically not counted.

In addition to finding the homeless, there are problems that occur with the methodology of the count. One method counts all the people that are homeless on a given day or week. This method is called the "point-in-time" count. Another method counts the number of people that are homeless for a given period of time, or the "period prevalence" counts. Both of these methods have disadvantages.

The "point-in-time" counts only count those that are homeless at a given time, not accurately identifying those that are homeless intermittently. This method tends to underestimate the number of temporarily homeless, and overestimate the number of people who are chronically homeless, especially those with mental illness or substance abuse problems. The "period prevalence" counts tend to give higher estimates of homeless.

From 1998 to the most recent count in 2001, the total number of homeless persons in the Denver metropolitan area has increased by **67%** with an increase of **25.8%** in one year between 2000 and 2001 (**7,689** in 2000 to **9,670** in 2001). This information comes from the *Colorado Department of Human Services*, which has published an annual point in time survey on homelessness in the Denver metropolitan area since 1998. The survey, "Homelessness in the Denver Metropolitan Area: The Changing Face of Homelessness", is the basis for the Colorado data presented here. This portion of the **Welfare** section will use the survey results to present data on the general condition of the homeless, including family status, ethnicity, mental status, substance abuse, health issues, and sources of income. The educational rights of homeless children are also briefly discussed with references given to where to find additional information for those that need it.

The approach to presenting the national data on homelessness is in much the same manner, as is done with the Colorado and Denver area data. The data provided covers general characteristics, family environment, shelter needs, and food needs. The national data comes from the *United States Department of Health and Human Services*, the *National Alliance to End Hunger*, and *U.S. Conference of Mayors*.

Colorado:

On March 27, 2000, the *United States Census Bureau* conducted a point-in-time survey of the emergency and transitional housing population in the United States and each state. **Table 46** presents data comparing the number of people in transitional and emergency shelters in Colorado and in the United States for 1990 and 2000. In both cases, the number of people in shelters has fallen from the 1990 figure (by **10.6%** in Colorado and by **4.4%** nationally). Compared to the national numbers, the percentage of individuals living in shelters in Colorado fell by **0.1%** (from **1.4%** to **1.3%**)

Table 46: The Homeless Population and the Percent of the Population in the United States and Colorado, 1990 and 2000

	1990		2000	
	Homeless Population	Percent Of National Total	Homeless Population	Percent Of National Total
United States	178,638	100.0	170,706	100.0
Colorado	2,554	1.4	2,281	1.3

Source: United States Census Bureau, Census 2000

Table 47 displays the breakdown by gender and age of the homeless population in the United States and Colorado in 2000. Only **16.9 percent** of the population in emergency and transitional housing in Colorado is under 18 years of age, compared to **25.7%** of the population in the United States. Nationally, **61.4 percent** of the “homeless” population is male, while in Colorado it is **69.7 percent**.

Table 47: Population in Shelters by Gender and Age in the United States and Colorado on March 27, 2000

	Total			Male			Female		
	Population	Under 18	18 and Over	Population	Under 18	18 and Over	Population	Under 18	18 and Over
United States	170,706	43,887	126,819	104,879	22,465	82,414	55,827	21,422	44,405
Colorado	2,281	385	1,896	1,589	213	1,376	692	172	520

Source: United States Census Bureau, Census 2000

Table 48 presents the data on the number of sheltered people (by age) living in selected metropolitan areas (and cities) in Colorado on March 27, 2000. The metropolitan areas house **90.7 percent** of Colorado’s population that live in emergency and transitional facilities (**2,069 out of 2,281** people). The Denver-Boulder-Greeley MSA houses **81.4%** of the individuals housed in the metropolitan areas (**73.9%** of Colorado’s total sheltered population). The city of Arvada houses **29.4%** of Colorado’s “under 18” sheltered population (**113 out of 385** people). A major reason for the concentration of the homeless population in the metropolitan areas is that it is these “metro” areas that have the shelters. For example, even though there may be people in need of shelter in the town of Evans, the town may not have adequate housing for of the population. Therefore, some of the homeless may go to Greeley or Denver for temporary or emergency shelter.

Table 48: Numbers of Sheltered Individuals by Age and Location

Metropolitan Area	City	All Ages	Under 18	18 and Over
Colorado Springs MSA		212	25	187
	Colorado Springs	203	23	180
Denver-Boulder-Greeley MSA		1,685	296	1,387
	Arvada	211	113	98
	Denver	1,144	84	1,060
Fort Collins-Loveland MSA		172	17	155
	Fort Collins	163	13	150

Source: United States Census Bureau, Census 2000

Metropolitan Denver:

The Metropolitan Denver Homeless Initiative and the Colorado Department of Human Services published "Homelessness in the Denver Metropolitan Area Fall Point Time Study". This study, released in October 2001, documented the condition of homelessness in the metropolitan area at a particular point in time (September 19, 2000). It needs to be noted that two local shelters chose not to participate in the survey and one shelter that provides services in the winter was not open at the time the survey was conducted. However, the general conclusion of those performing this survey was that there has been a continuing trend showing an increase in the number of homeless persons in the Denver metropolitan area over the past ten years. The data collection method used for this study combines the "person based" and "place-based" format. The results of this survey are significantly different from the *Census 2000* survey. This is due mainly to differences in the data collection method, a different survey time (taken in the fall when temperatures are colder), and the transitional nature of the population surveyed. Some of the data highlights from the report follow.

Highlights of the Metropolitan Homelessness Report:

General Characteristics:

- A total of **9,670** persons in the metropolitan area were counted on October 23, 2001.
- Of the total homeless persons counted **3,024** were single adults, **2,728** were adults in families, over one-third were **3,522** -- were children in families, and **396** were single youth on their own.
- On October 23, 2001, **5,565** persons who completed a survey or **62.7%** of the population surveyed had a need for emergency shelter and services.
- A total of **3,058** persons who completed a survey or **34.5%** of the population surveyed are participants in homeless transitional housing programs or treatment programs.
- Homelessness among children in families continues to be one of the fastest growing segments of the homeless population in the Denver metropolitan area. The 2001 study shows an increase of **28.3%** in the number of children from **2,745** in September of 2000 to **3,522** in October of 2001 with an overall increase of **82%** from the number of children (**1,931**) counted in June of 1998.
- The number of homeless families increased **48.5%** from **1,212** in 2000 to **1,800** in 2001 with an overall increase of **94%** in the number of homeless families (**928**) counted in 1998.
- Homelessness among single adults increased by **11%** from **2,722** in September of 2000 to **3,024** in October of 2001 with an overall increase of **20%** from the number of adults (**2,514**) counted in 1998.
- The number of homeless youth increased **39.4%** from **284** in 2000 to **396** in 2001 with an overall increase of **101%** from the number of youth (**197**) counted in 1998.
- Military veterans made up approximately **21%** of adult single individuals and approximately **24%** of adult single homeless males. Total veteran status for all individuals completing a survey was approximately **14.7%**. The total number of homeless veterans completing a survey was **596**. Nationally, it is believed that homeless veterans comprise up to **40%** of the single male homeless population.

Ethnicity:

- Although Blacks make up only **4%** of the Denver area population, they represent **22%** of the homeless population.
- **55%** of the homeless population in the metro area is white (**83%** of the general population).
- **7%** of the homeless population is American Indian, while the remaining **15%** of the homeless consists of the “other” racial/ethnic groups.

Mental Illness and Substance Abuse:

- A total of **20.8 %** of all adult homeless persons completing a survey reported having received treatment for serious mental illness.
- The percentage of adult single individuals reporting having received treatment for serious mental illness was **27.2%** and **11.7%** for adult persons in families.
- Mental illness is a significant problem among homeless single women with self-reporting for this population at **35.1%**. However, homeless providers estimate that mental illness among single homeless women is actually much higher in the **50-70%** range.
- A total of **17.4%** of all adult homeless persons completing a survey reported having received treatment or services for some type of substance abuse problem.
- The percentage of adult single individuals reporting having received treatment for substance abuse was **22.3%** and **10.2%** for adult persons in families.
- More persons reported abuse of alcohol than who reported abuse of other types of drugs. It should be noted that **30.5%** of single individuals and **12.8%** of family primaries reported that alcohol and substance abuse was a major contributing factor to their homelessness.

Health Issues:

- The percentage of the individuals that fill out the survey (the primary) that reported being treated for Tuberculosis was **1.1%**, with most cases occurring among single individuals at **1.6%**. Only **0.3%** for primaries in families. The total number of cases reported was **55**.
- The total number of persons reporting having treatment for HIV/AIDS related diseases was **135** or approximately **1.5%** of the total population surveyed. The total number of individuals reporting having received treatment was **124 (2.6%)** of the primaries. The largest percentage was among single individuals at **3.6%**.
- The total number of persons indicating that they had received services for a physical/medical condition was **1,070** at **12.1%** of all persons surveyed. The percent of persons reporting needing medical treatment or services was **16.7%**.

Income Sources:

- **32.1%** (**37.4%** of families and **29.3%** of singles) receives employment income.
- **11.6%** of homeless receive funds from family and/or friends. **5.3%** beg for money, **2.4%** sell blood or plasma, and **0.8%** are involved in prostitution.
- **20.9%** of the homeless population receives food stamps (**39.6%** of all families).
- **6.1%** of the homeless population receives social security benefits (**8.1%** of singles). **11.5%** receives additional SSI assistance.

- Less than **one percent** receives pension benefits.
- **1.3%** of the homeless population receives unemployment benefits.
- **30.9%** of families receive *TANF* benefits.

To view the complete report see

<http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/ohr/shhp/PDF%20FILES/01%20Final%20Report.pdf>.

Homeless children in Colorado are guaranteed the right to attend school. They may attend either the school that they previously attended or another one of their choosing. A brochure titled "Education Rights of Homeless Children" can be seen at

http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeprevention/download/pdf/pi_homeless_brochure.pdf. A list of the state funded programs for the education of homeless children is found at site

http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeprevention/download/pdf/mckinney_funded_projects.pdf.

United States:

According to the *National Alliance to End Homelessness* there are **750,000** Americans who are homeless on any given night. Over the course of a year, as many as **2 million** people experience homelessness for some period of time. On September 21, 2001 The *United States Census Bureau* conducted a point-in-time survey to determine the homeless population living in group quarters in the United States. The census included the number of individuals living in shelters and those living in "other non-institutional living quarters". Those living in these types of quarters include foster home residents, "unwed mothers", and residents of other temporary "communal homes". The shelter population was **178,638** and there were **592,096** living in "other non-institutional" quarters.

To assess the status of hunger and homelessness in America's cities during 2001, the *U.S. Conference of Mayors* surveyed 27 major cities whose mayors were members of its *Task Force on Hunger and Homelessness*.¹ Some of the highlights of the report follow.

Highlights of the Task Force Report:

General Characteristics:

- The homeless population is estimated to be **50 percent** African-American, **35 percent** white, **12 percent** Hispanic, **2 percent** Native American and **1 percent** Asian.
- An average of **22 percent** of homeless people in the cities are considered mentally ill; **34 percent** are substance abusers; **20 percent** are employed; and **11 percent** are veterans.
- People remain homeless an average of **6 months** in the survey cities. **Fifty-four percent** of the cities reported that the lengths of time people are homeless increased during the last year.
- Lack of affordable housing leads the list of causes of homelessness identified by the city officials. Other causes cited, in order of frequency, include low paying jobs, substance abuse and the lack of needed services, mental illness and the lack of needed services, domestic violence, poverty, and changes and cuts in public assistance.

¹ "A Status Report on Hunger and Homelessness in America's Cities 2001", The US Conference of Mayors", 2001.

Family Environment:

- Officials estimate that, on average, single men comprise **40 percent** of the homeless population, families with children **40 percent**, single women **14 percent** and unaccompanied minors **four percent**.
- In **52 percent** of the cities, families may have to break up in order to be sheltered.
- In **22 percent** of the cities, families may have to spend their daytime hours outside of the shelter they use at night.
- In 1998, the states reported **615,336** school-aged (K-12) children as homeless.
- **Ten percent** of homeless children (grades K-12) were *not enrolled* in school during their homelessness.
- **45 percent** of homeless children and youth (grades K-12) were *not attending* school on a regular basis during their homelessness.

Shelter Needs:

- During the past year requests for emergency shelter increased in the survey cities by an average of **23 percent**, with **93 percent** of the cities registering an increase. Requests for shelter by homeless families alone increased by **19 percent**, with **92 percent** of the cities reporting an increase.
- During the past year requests for emergency shelter increased in the survey cities by an average of **13 percent**, with **81 percent** of the cities registering an increase. Requests for shelter by homeless families alone increased by **22 percent**, with **73 percent** of the cities reporting an increase.
- An average of **37 percent** of the requests for emergency shelter by homeless people overall and **52 percent** of the requests by homeless families alone are estimated to have gone unmet during the last year. In **52 percent** of the cities, emergency shelters may have to turn away homeless families due to lack of resources; in **44 percent** they may also have to turn away other homeless people.

Food Needs:

- On average, **14 percent** of the requests for emergency food assistance are estimated to have gone unmet during the last year. For families alone, **14 percent** of the requests for assistance are estimated to have gone unmet. In **33 percent** of the cities, emergency food assistance facilities may have to turn away people in need due to lack of resources.
- **Fifty-four percent** of the people requesting emergency food assistance were members of families -- children and their parents. **Thirty-seven percent** of the adults requesting food assistance were employed.
- The overall level of resources available to emergency food assistance facilities increased by **12 percent** during the last year. **Thirty-three percent** of the survey cities reported that emergency food assistance facilities are able to provide an adequate quantity of food. In **85 percent** of the cities emergency food assistance facilities have had to decrease the number of bags of food provided and/or the number of times people can receive food. Of these cities, **33 percent** have had to increase the limit on food provided. **Fifty-two percent** of the survey cities reported that the food provided is nutritionally balanced.

To view the download the summary or full report, please use the following link:
http://usmayors.org/uscm/news/press_releases/documents/hunger_121101.asp.

R13: Resources for Homelessness

Web Site	Level of Data Available	Comments
http://www.endhomelessness.org/	National	National Alliance to End Homelessness Homepage
http://www.endhomelessness.org/back/index.htm/	National	National Alliance to End Homelessness "Background and Statistics" Page
http://www.usmayors.org/uscm/news/press_releases/documents/hunger_release.htm	National	Conference of Mayor's Report on Homelessness
http://www.nlchp.org/	National	National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty Homepage
http://www.nationalhomeless.org/	National	National Coalition for the Homeless Homepage
http://www.census.gov/population/www/cen2000/phc-t12.html	National/State/County	Population in Emergency and Transitional Shelters - Census 2000 data on the homeless population
http://www.census.gov/prod/2001pubs/censr01-2.pdf	National/State/County	"Emergency and Temporary Shelter Population: 2000" – Census 2000 Special Report
http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeprevention/download/pdf/pi_homeless_brochure.pdf	State	Brochure on the educational rights for children in Colorado
http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeprevention/download/pdf/mckinney_funded_projects.pdf	State	List of state funded programs for homeless child education
http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/ohr/shhp/Homeless/Microsoft%20Word%20-%20Final%20Report.pdf	Local	"Homelessness in the Denver Metropolitan Area: Fall Point in Time Study, September 19, 2000"
http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeprevention/pihomeless.htm	Local	Education for Homeless Children and Youth
http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/ohr/shhp/PowerPoint/Research Slides.ppt	Local	Faces of Homelessness Metropolitan Denver 1998
http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/oss/aas/ccc.html	Local	Colorado Coordinating Council on Housing and the Homeless
http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/ohr/shhp/Homeless/HomelessInformation.html	Local	Information on Homeless in Colorado – "2001 Point in Time Survey"

6 Family Environment

It is often difficult to quantify what makes for a healthy family environment. While there exists some accepted criteria for determining the quality of family life, many of the indicators used for such evaluations are open to interpretation. Not only may the data be subjective, but often the groups and organizations presenting the data have their own ideas as to what makes for a proper environment. The purpose of this chapter in the **Welfare** section is to present some of the indicators used to evaluate a healthy family environment and to act as a guide in locating data. Many of the variables used as indicators are readily available through secondary data sources like “family structure” through the US Census Bureau. Others are more difficult to find like “parental involvement” which is collected through small surveys. The topic of Family Structure is more thoroughly presented since it has not been covered in other sections of the **County Data Book**. The other topics primarily contain links to other sections or organizations. In addition, the Child Well Being Chapter of this Welfare Section contains several resources that could be used for this Family Environment Chapter.

The indicators presented are organized by topic. These indicators are those most often cited, however, they are not exhaustive. General topic area include

- *Family Structure*
- *Health*
- *Education*
- *Economics*
- *Violence*
- *Other Resources*

Family Structure:

Marriage, Divorce, and Births:

In general, the marriage rate in Colorado is consistent with the rate for the nation, but the state has a higher rate of divorce than does the nation as a whole. **Table 49** provides data on marriage and divorce rates over time. The rate of marriage applications received per 1,000 in the state increased from **8.3** in 1998 to **8.6** in 1999. In Colorado, the divorce rate increased from **4.8 per 1,000** in 1998 to **4.9 per 1,000** in 1999. In the United States, the rate was **4.2 per 1,000** in 1998 and **4.6 per 1,000** in 1999. **Table 50** contains data from the Census 2000 on marital status by county. It supports the results from **Table 49** showing a higher percent of those 15 and older are divorced in Colorado than the US average. As shown in **Table 50**, throughout the state, marital status varies tremendously. The lowest percent of divorced individuals over 15 was **7.1%** in Douglas County, followed by several counties on the Eastern Plains. The highest percent was in San Juan at **19.1%**. The highest percent of those older than 15 that were married was in Douglas County at **73%** compared to the lowest in Denver at **43%**. Those individuals 15 and older who had never been married tended to concentrate in the resort and mountain communities as well as Denver with a high of **43%** in Summit County. Fremont County had the lowest percentage of never married individuals aged 15 and above with **14.3%**.

Table 49: Marriages and Divorces – Number and Rate per 1,000 in Colorado and the United States

	1996		1997		1998		1999	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Colorado Marriages	34,457	8.9	34,883	8.8	34,824	8.3	35,670	8.6
Colorado Divorces	NA		NA		19,537	4.8	20,188	4.9
US Marriages	2,344,000	8.8	2,384,000	8.9	2,269,000	8.3	2,392,000	8.7
US Divorces	1,150,000	4.3	1,163,000	4.3	1,171,000	4.2	1,201,000	4.6
Sources: Colorado Vital Statistics 2000 – CO Dept. of Health and Environment, Statistical Abstract of the United States, 1999 and US Census Bureau - Census 2000								

Table 50: Marital Status of Population 15 and Over by County, Colorado, and United States

County	Population 15 and Older	Never Married	Now Married	Separated	Widowed	Divorced
Adams	275,583	25.8%	56.1%	2.1%	4.3%	11.6%
Alamosa	11,574	29.3%	54.2%	1.6%	4.5%	10.4%
Arapahoe	380,507	26.7%	55.4%	1.6%	4.3%	12.0%
Archuleta	7,885	18.3%	63.4%	1.8%	4.1%	12.4%
Baca	3,653	17.1%	63.0%	1.7%	9.1%	9.1%
Bent	4,855	18.2%	63.0%	1.9%	8.3%	8.6%
Boulder	235,422	32.9%	52.1%	1.2%	3.7%	10.1%
Chaffee	13,707	17.3%	64.0%	2.0%	6.7%	10.0%
Cheyenne	1,726	21.2%	64.8%	0.5%	6.3%	7.3%
Clear Creek	7,630	22.0%	59.3%	1.5%	2.6%	14.5%
Conejos	6,210	26.0%	55.0%	1.6%	7.7%	9.7%
Costilla	2,922	24.8%	56.0%	2.0%	8.4%	8.8%
Crowley	4,682	20.4%	58.8%	4.7%	7.3%	8.9%
Custer	2,861	14.6%	70.0%	1.1%	5.0%	9.3%
Delta	22,427	15.1%	64.2%	1.2%	8.1%	11.5%
Denver	451,498	35.9%	43.2%	2.3%	5.8%	12.7%
Dolores	1,521	18.9%	60.8%	1.9%	6.9%	11.5%
Douglas	127,775	17.0%	73.3%	0.7%	1.9%	7.1%
Eagle	33,334	37.4%	51.0%	1.1%	1.1%	9.4%
Elbert	397,694	24.6%	58.3%	1.8%	4.4%	10.9%
El Paso	15,032	18.3%	70.0%	1.2%	2.4%	8.0%
Fremont	38,399	14.3%	66.5%	2.1%	7.8%	9.4%
Garfield	33,930	22.4%	59.2%	1.6%	3.9%	12.9%
Gilpin	3,928	22.3%	59.8%	1.8%	3.7%	12.4%
Grand	10,254	28.7%	57.4%	1.4%	2.4%	10.1%
Gunnison	11,908	42.4%	45.7%	1.1%	3.2%	7.6%
Hinsdale	660	17.4%	65.6%	0.9%	1.5%	14.5%
Huerfano	6,580	19.2%	57.3%	2.8%	8.6%	12.1%
Jackson	1,269	18.9%	61.0%	2.3%	6.7%	11.1%
Jefferson	417,520	24.6%	58.2%	1.2%	4.4%	11.7%
Kiowa	1,305	21.1%	60.5%	1.1%	8.4%	8.8%
Kit Carson	6,280	17.1%	63.5%	2.5%	8.4%	8.4%
Lake	36,018	30.7%	52.1%	1.3%	4.2%	11.7%
La Plata	6,050	30.7%	54.8%	1.8%	3.9%	8.7%
Larimer	202,513	30.3%	55.0%	1.0%	4.2%	9.6%
Las Animas	12,171	24.6%	52.7%	1.5%	9.4%	11.8%
Lincoln	4,920	15.3%	65.9%	1.5%	8.0%	9.2%
Logan	16,379	20.7%	62.0%	1.4%	7.1%	8.8%
Mesa	92,577	21.8%	58.8%	1.4%	6.6%	11.4%
Mineral	688	17.0%	66.4%	0.6%	5.8%	10.2%
Moffat	10,159	20.4%	60.9%	1.9%	4.8%	12.0%
Montezuma	18,407	19.7%	59.1%	1.9%	6.8%	12.6%
Montrose	26,138	18.4%	60.8%	1.1%	7.8%	11.9%
Morgan	20,237	20.3%	61.8%	1.6%	6.4%	9.9%
Otero	15,893	22.0%	57.7%	1.8%	8.4%	10.1%
Ouray	3,045	17.8%	65.7%	0.9%	4.1%	11.4%
Park	11,698	19.5%	66.4%	0.7%	2.7%	10.7%
Phillips	3,479	16.7%	64.5%	1.3%	10.3%	7.2%
Pitkin	12,833	39.3%	44.4%	1.5%	1.8%	12.9%
Prowers	10,879	20.9%	62.6%	1.2%	6.1%	9.1%
Pueblo	111,673	24.3%	54.0%	2.1%	7.8%	11.8%
Rio Blanco	4,741	22.4%	61.7%	1.5%	4.3%	10.1%
Rio Grande	9,562	19.9%	61.7%	1.6%	6.4%	10.4%
Routt	16,067	33.1%	52.9%	1.2%	2.9%	10.0%
Saguache	4,561	23.3%	55.9%	2.5%	5.6%	12.7%
San Juan	481	22.7%	52.4%	2.1%	3.7%	19.1%
San Miguel	5,628	41.1%	44.5%	2.2%	1.9%	10.4%
Sedgwick	2,243	17.7%	65.3%	1.0%	7.7%	8.2%
Summit	20,077	43.4%	45.7%	0.9%	1.3%	8.8%
Teller	16,272	17.9%	66.2%	1.6%	3.2%	11.1%
Washington	3,891	19.5%	64.1%	1.0%	7.3%	8.1%
Weld	137,931	26.3%	58.6%	1.6%	4.5%	9.1%
Yuma	7,627	19.3%	63.4%	1.3%	8.5%	7.5%
Colorado	3,385,369	27.0%	55.6%	1.6%	4.7%	11.0%
United States	221,148,671	27.1%	54.4%	2.2%	6.6%	9.7%

Highest and lowest percentage for each category is highlighted.

Source: United States Census Bureau, Census 2000

Additional Data:

Marriage rates by county - see "Colorado Vital Statistics" published by the *Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE)* at web site <http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/stats.asp>. County level data for divorce is not available.

Birth data for Colorado and the counties- see "Colorado Vital Statistics" at web site <http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/stats.asp>. Among the data available are birthrates among teens and single parents, low weight births, and parental education level of attainment at time of birth. This information can also be found in the **Health** and **Education** sections of this **County Data Book**.

Household Composition:

Table 51 presents data on household composition for Colorado, its counties, and the U.S. in 2000. According to the *Census Bureau*, in Colorado, **65.4 percent (1,084,488)** of the households (housing units) were family (householder with one or more related people living in same household) households. This is **2.7 percentage points** less than in U. S. rate of **68.1%**. The percent of households with married couples were almost the same **51.8% in Colorado and 51.7%** for the U.S. Similarly, **32.8 percent** of both Colorado and the U. S. households were families with children of their own under 18.

Despite having the greatest number of households, Denver has the 3rd smallest percentage of its household population living as families (**49.9%**) and smallest percentage as married couples (**34.7%**). Elbert County, has the greatest proportion of households that are "families" (**83.5%**) and "married couples" (**75.1%**), while Douglas County was only **2 percentage points** behind Elbert in both categories. Only **46.8%** of the Pitkin County households are living as a family. In general, the resort areas and Denver have a smaller percentage of their population residing as a family.

Pueblo County has the largest percentage of households that are female-headed families (no husband) at **13.3%** and Summit County has the smallest proportion of female-headed households (**4.4%**).

Of the **60,924** households in Douglas County, **47.2%** have children younger than 18 years old. This is the largest proportion of any of the counties in Colorado. At the other end of the spectrum, in Mineral County, only **22.3%** of the households have children under the age of 18.

For additional family composition data see the *Census 2000* web site at:
<http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/BasicFactsServlet> or
<http://www.dola.state.co.us/demog/Census2k.htm>

Table 51: Household Composition for Colorado Counties

County	Total Households	% Family Households	% With Children < 18	% Married Couple	% Female Headed
Adams	128,156	71.9	37.8	53.8	12.1
Alamosa	5,467	66.8	35.3	50.5	11.7
Arapahoe	190,909	65.9	34.9	51.2	10.6
Archuleta	3,980	72.2	31.6	59.8	8.2
Baca	1,905	66.6	28.4	56.8	7.5
Bent	2,003	69.3	32.5	53.5	11.4
Boulder	114,680	60.0	30.7	48.9	7.7
Chaffee	6,584	66.3	25.2	56.7	6.8
Cheyenne	880	68.5	34.1	59.3	5.7
Clear Creek	4,019	64.9	28.2	54.6	6.9
Conejos	2,980	74.2	38.5	56.3	12.7
Costilla	1,503	68.5	28.5	52.6	11.3
Crowley	1,358	70.5	34.5	55.1	11
Custer	1,480	72.8	25.5	64.6	5.4
Delta	11,058	71.8	29.0	60.3	7.9
Denver	239,235	49.9	23.2	34.7	10.8
Dolores	785	69.0	24.5	57.7	8.5
Douglas	60,924	81.8	47.2	73.8	5.7
Eagle	15,148	59.5	32.7	50.0	5.6
Elbert	6,770	83.5	42.8	75.1	5.7
El Paso	192,409	69.6	36.7	55.6	10.2
Fremont	15,232	68.9	30.0	56.3	9.2
Garfield	16,229	69.5	37.2	57.6	7.8
Gilpin	2,043	61.9	26.9	53.0	5.7
Grand	5,075	63.4	28.1	54.7	5.2
Gunnison	5,649	52.5	24.1	44.2	5.4
Hinsdale	359	68.8	23.4	61.0	4.7
Huerfano	3,082	62.3	25.0	48.4	10.4
Jackson	661	67.0	29.2	54.9	7.9
Jefferson	206,067	68.2	33.4	55.1	9.1
Kiowa	665	68.0	28.9	57.6	6.6
Kit Carson	2,990	69.6	33.6	59.4	6.3
Lake	2,977	64.3	33.9	50.7	8.4
La Plata	17,342	62.8	29.6	49.9	8.7
Larimer	97,164	65.0	31.7	53.6	7.9
Las Animas	6,173	66.3	28.8	49.9	11.6
Lincoln	2,058	67.5	33.7	55.3	8.4
Logan	7,551	67.1	31.9	54.8	8.6
Mesa	45,823	68.9	31.4	55.3	9.8
Mineral	377	66.6	22.3	57.0	5.8
Moffat	4,983	71.8	38.2	58.7	8.2
Montezuma	9,201	70.8	33.3	56.4	10.6
Montrose	13,043	71.4	32.5	59.0	8.7
Morgan	9,539	73.1	37.9	59.7	9
Otero	7,920	69.1	32.2	52.7	12
Ouray	1,576	71.3	28.6	61.4	6.5
Park	5,894	71.6	30.2	64.1	4.4
Phillips	1,781	69.6	32.9	61.2	5.6
Pitkin	6,807	46.8	21.1	38.7	5.3
Prowers	5,307	70.2	37.4	54.6	10.9
Pueblo	54,579	68.4	31.5	50.1	13.3
Rio Blanco	2,306	71.4	35.6	60.1	7.8
Rio Grande	4,701	72.7	35.1	57.8	11.2
Routt	7,953	60.1	31.1	50.6	5.8
Saguache	2,300	67.7	33.4	52.7	11
San Juan	269	58.7	23.8	43.9	8.9
San Miguel	3,015	47.2	22.8	38.3	5.4
Sedgwick	1,165	68.9	26.4	59.1	6.6
Summit	9,120	52.3	24.0	44.0	4.4
Teller	7,993	74.1	33.6	64.2	6.6
Washington	1,989	70.8	31.3	60.7	6.4
Weid	63,247	71.5	37.2	57.6	9.4
Yuma	3,800	69.6	33.3	59.6	6.8
Colorado	1,658,238	65.4	32.8	51.8	9.6
U.S.	105,480,101	68.1	32.8	51.7	12.2

Source: US Census Bureau – Census 2000

Indicators

Health:

- Physical and Mental Disabilities – see the Disability chapter of this **Welfare Section**
- HIV/AIDS cases – see the **Health Section** of **County Data Book** or web site <http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/stats.asp>.
- Unemployment resulting from chronic illness – see the Disability chapter of this **Welfare Section**
- Low Birth Weight - see the **Health Section** of the **County Data Book** or web site <http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/stats.asp>.
- Infant Mortality - see the **Health Section** of the **County Data Book** or web site <http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/stats.asp>.
- Child Death Rate – see the **Child Well Being and Maltreatment** chapter of this **Welfare Section** or web site <http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/stats.asp>.

Education

- Educational Attainment – see the **Education Section** of the **County Data Book** or web site <http://www.dola.state.co.us/demog/Census/SummaryFile3/SF3Subjects.htm>.
- Dropout Rates – see the **Education Section** of the **County Data Book** or web site http://www.cde.state.co.us/index_stats.htm.

Economics

- Unemployment – see the **Income and Poverty** chapter of this **Welfare Section**
- Poverty - see the **Income and Poverty** chapter of this **Welfare Section**
- Affordable Housing – see the **Housing Affordability** chapter of this **Welfare Section**
- Children with all Parents in Labor Force – see the **Child Well Being and Maltreatment** chapter of this **Welfare Section**
- Health Care Coverage – see the **Health Section** of the **County Data Book**

Violence:

- Domestic Violence – see the **Crime** chapter of this **Welfare Section**
- Child Abuse – see the **Child Well Being and Maltreatment** chapter of this **Welfare Section**
- Drug Crimes – see the **Crime** chapter of this **Welfare Section**
- Offenses by Youth – see the **Crime** chapter of this **Welfare Section**

Other Resources:

Two of the many organizations that monitor indicators for family and child well-being are the *Urban Institute* and the *Annie E. Casey Foundation*. Both organizations have research, compilations of data, and information on the status of families and children.

The *Urban Institute*, through “Assessing the New Federalism” research project <http://www.urban.org/Content/Research/NewFederalism/AboutANF/AboutANF.htm> has conducted surveys called the *National Survey of American Families (NSAF)* to collect more information on family environment. From the data gathered in the survey, the *Urban Institute* published the “1999 Snapshots of America’s Families II”¹. A list of child well-being indicators

¹ National Survey of America’s Families, “Snapshots of America’s Families II”, Urban League, 2000.

covered in the *NSAF* study and highlights of the study are presented below. Due to its small sample size, county level indicators are not available.

The *NSAF* study focused on the following indicators of a healthy family environment:

- Family structure
- The frequency that parents read or tell stories to their young children (age 0-5)
- The frequency with which parents take their young children on outings (for children ages 0 to 5)
- Parental involvement in volunteering (for children ages 0 to 17)
- Parental attendance at religious services (for children ages 0 to 17)
- Level of parental aggravation (for children ages 0 to 17)
 - A parent who reports frequently feeling frustrated and stressed by the experience of caring for his or her child is defined as having a high level of parental aggravation.
- Symptoms of poor parental mental health (for children ages 0 to 17)
 - Poor parental mental health is defined as when the parents are clinically depressed or report symptoms of depression

Highlights of the NSAF study, "1999 Snapshots of America's Families II":

- The percent of children being read to fewer than three days a week fell from **13.7 percent** in 1997 to **12.0 percent** in 1999. Throughout the United States in 1999, **18 percent** of children ages 1 through 5—about the same percentage as in 1997—lived with parents who read or told stories to them on fewer than three days per week.
- In Colorado, the percent of children who are read to infrequently is twice as high in lower income families as in higher income families (**18.9% to 8.1%**).
- In the United States, **twenty-two percent** of low-income children were taken on outings infrequently, compared with **12 percent** of higher-income children.
- **11.6 percent** of Colorado children, age 5 and younger, were infrequently (two or three times a month or fewer) taken on outings such as to the park, the grocery store, a church, or a playground. **16 percent** of all American children age 5 and younger were infrequently taken on such outings.
- In 1999, **40.7 percent** of the parents of all children in Colorado volunteered at least a few times per month. This is a decrease from **41.2 percent** in 1997. For the United States, **38 percent** of children under age 18 lived with a parent who volunteered at least a few times a month, the same percentage as in 1997.
- **30 percent** of low-income children in the United States had a parent who volunteered regularly, compared with **43 percent** of higher-income children. In Colorado, **33 percent** of low-income children had a parent who volunteered regularly, compared with **44 percent** of higher-income children.
- In 1999, **53 percent** of children from low-income families and **57 percent** of higher-income families with children attended religious services at least a few times a month. The percentages are **54 percent** among low-income children and **62 percent** among higher-income children in the United States.
- In 1999, **8.8 percent** of children lived in families that reported at least one parent that experienced a high degree of aggravation. In 1997, the percentage of children living in this situation was **6.4 percent** (an increase of **2.4%** during the time). Nationwide in 1999, **10 percent** of children under age 18 lived with a parent who felt highly aggravated.

- Low-income children were more than twice as likely as other children to live with a highly aggravated parent – **14.4 versus 6.2 percent** in Colorado and **14.0 versus 7.0 percent** in the United States.
- For Colorado, **12.6 percent** of all children under the age of 18 are in families with a parent reporting symptoms of poor mental health. In 1997, this rate was **13.1 percent** (a decrease of **0.5%** during the two year period). **Sixteen percent** of all American children under 18 had a parent who reported symptoms of poor mental health in 1999.

The survey results on family environment can be found through web site
<http://newfederalism.urban.org/nsaf/family-envIRON.html>

To view the entire *NSAF* report, see web site
http://newfederalism.urban.org/nsaf/snapshots_index.html.

The *Annie E. Casey Foundation* is a private charitable organization dedicated to helping build better futures for disadvantaged children in the United States. They collect data and information on the well-being and family environment of children and publish the results annually in "Kids Count". The publication provides:

- Profiles that give detailed information about a single state or the nation as a whole.
- Graphs that allow individuals to view state indicators graphed over time.
- Maps that provide color-coded mapping of the U.S. based on KIDS COUNT data
- Rankings that allow one to view all 50 states, ranked according to an indicator.
- Raw data that gives one the opportunity to download all of the KIDS COUNT data as delimited files.

The publication also lists the state contacts around the country. In 2001, the contact in Colorado was the *Colorado Children's Campaign*. It is located at web site www.coloradokids.org.

"Kids Count 2001" is available on-line at web site <http://www.aecf.org/kidscount/kc2001>.

Other publications from the *Annie E Casey Foundation* include "Children at Risk: State Trends 1990-2000" and "KIDS COUNT Census Data Online". Both of these are available online and are based on the Census 2000 data.

R6: Resources for Family Environment

Web Site	Level of Data Available	Comments
http://www.os.dhhs.gov/	National	US Department of Health and Human Services
http://www.census.gov/prod/2001pubs/p20-537.pdf	National/State	Current Population Survey
http://newfederalism.urban.org/nsaf/snapshots_index.html	National/State	National Survey of American Families: 1999 Snapshots of America's Families II: 1999 Results
http://newfederalism.urban.org/nsaf/family-environ.html	National/State	National Survey of American Families: 1999 Snapshots of America's Families II: Family Environment Results
http://www.urban.org/	National/State	Urban Institute
http://www.childrensdefense.org/	National/State	Children's Defense Fund Homepage
http://www.dola.state.co.us/demog/Census/SummaryFile3/SF3Subjects.htm	National/State/ County	Census 2000 data - Family Composition
http://www.aecf.org/	National/State	Annie E Casey Foundation Homepage
http://www.aecf.org/kidscount/kc2001/	National/State	Kids Count 2001 data
http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/cdphehom.asp	State/County	Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/	State	Colorado Department of Human Services
http://www.cde.state.co.us/index_home.htm	State	Colorado Department of Education
http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/cyf/cwelfare/cwweb.html	State	Colorado Division of Child Welfare Services
http://www.dola.state.co.us/demog/Census/SummaryFile3/SF3Subjects.htm	State/County	Household composition data at county level

7 Child Well-Being and Maltreatment

In 2000, there were **1,100,365** children under the age of 18 (**25.6%** of the total population) living in Colorado and **72,293,812** children in the United States (**25.7%**). In Colorado, during State Fiscal Year 1999, there were approximately **52,603** children and **35,681** families that made use of the *Child Welfare Services* at the *Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS)*. The majority of the children served (**68.96%**) were served for reasons of child abuse and neglect.

This chapter of the *Welfare* section will include the following topics:

- A listing of several child well being indicators, including the sources of data used and summaries by the agencies that create and monitor these indicators
- Foster care and adoption data and information
- Child maltreatment data and information

Child Welfare Services at *CDHS* operate through the county *Departments of Social Services* and together they are responsible for the enforcement of the child welfare laws in the state. The *CDHS* is also responsible for the administration of the foster care and adoption services for Colorado. Data provided by the *CDHS* to the *U.S. Department of Health and Human Services* is published in "Child Welfare Outcomes Annual Report 1999 Annual Report"¹. This report, along with data from the *National Center on Child Abuse and Neglect Information (NCCANI)*, and the *Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS)* provides most of the information in the *Foster Care and Adoption* portion of the this document.

Child Well-Being:

Many organizations attempt to monitor child well-being (physical, mental, economic) on both national and state levels by following a set of indicators. The following is a list of some of the indicators, as well as quick references for finding more information.

- School performance – see the *Education Section* of the **County Data Book** and the *Colorado Department of Education* at <http://www.cde.state.co.us>.
- Child health standards (including health care, birth weights and immunization) – See the *Health Section* of the **County Data Book** and the *Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment* at <http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/stats.asp>.
- Income and poverty levels – see the chapter on Income and Poverty in this *Welfare Section*
- Parental employment status – see the new "labor force status" from *Census 2000* at <http://www.dola.state.co.us/demog/Census/SummaryFile3/SF3Subjects.htm>.
- Reliance on government support programs – see the Public Assistance chapter of this *Welfare Section*
- Child care availability– see the Child Care chapter of this *Welfare Section*
- Physical and mental abuse levels – see the Child Maltreatment sub-section at the end of this chapter.
- Substance abuse and crime rates – see the Crime chapter of this *Welfare Section*
- Sexual attitudes – see the Sexual Behavior chapter of this *Welfare Section*

¹ "Child Welfare Outcomes 1999: Annual Report", US Department of Health and Human Services, 2001.

Some of the organizations that monitor these indicators include:

- *United States Department of Health and Human Services*
- *Division of Child Welfare Services, Colorado Department of Human Services*
- *Children's Defense Fund (CDF)*
- *Annie E Casey Foundation*
- *Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE)*
- *Urban Institute*

To provide more detail, we have included summaries from the *Children's Defense Fund*, the *Annie E Casey Foundation*, and the *Colorado Department of Public Health*.

Children's Defense Fund:

The *CDF* maintains and publishes statistics and information on the well being of children in Colorado and throughout the United States. The most recent publication is "2001 Children in the States: Colorado"², and highlights of the report (with some comparisons to United States) follow.

Highlights of the Children's Defense Fund Report:

- **6,989** children were reported abused or neglected in 1999 in Colorado. This rate of **6.6 per 1,000** children is significantly below the national rate of **11.8 per 1,000** victims (**826,162** children). (Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Child Maltreatment 1999)
- There were **48.7** births to teen mothers (15-19) for every 1,000 births to the general population in Colorado during 1998. **51.1 per 1,000** births in the U.S. were born to teenage mothers. (Source: National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics Report 48, no. 11, "Deaths: Final Data for 1998")
- **8.6 percent** of Colorado babies were born at low birthweight (State ranked 9th for most low birth weight babies). In the United States, **7.6 percent** of babies born were of low birth weight. (Source: National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics Report 48, no. 11, "Deaths: Final Data for 1998")
- In Colorado, **6.7 infants per 1,000 births** died during the first year of life (State ranked 36th in infant mortality (1 is highest)). The infant mortality for the nation was **7.2 infants per 1,000 births**. (Source: National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics Report 48, no. 11, "Deaths: Final Data for 1998")
- There were **63** total firearms deaths (**24** suicides, **34** homicides, **3** accidents, and **2** of unknown intent) to children and teens in 1999. During the same time period, there were **3,385** deaths by firearm to teens and children in the United States. Of these, **1,078** were suicides, **1,990** were homicides, **214** were accidents, and **103** were incidences of unknown intent. (Source: National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics)
- In Colorado, **63.2 percent** of mothers with children under 6 and **78.9 percent** of mothers with children ages 6 – 17 were in the labor force in 1990. For the United States, **59.7 percent** of mothers with children under 6 and **75 percent** of mothers with children ages 6 – 17 were in the labor force in 1990. (Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, "1990 Census of Population and Housing, STF4.")

² "2001 Children in the States: Colorado", Children's Defense Fund, 2001.

- In 1999, only **11 percent** of Colorado's children eligible for childcare assistance under federal law receive help. **9,333** children were served by Head Start in 2000. Nationally, only **12 percent** of children eligible for childcare assistance under federal law receive help and **761,853** children were served by Head Start. (Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, "New Statistics Show Only Small Percentage of Eligible Families Receive Child Care Help")
- In Colorado in 1997, minority youth was made up **28 percent** of the juvenile population, but **56 percent** of youth committed to public juvenile detention centers. In the United States, the proportion of minorities in the juvenile population was **34 percent**, but the proportion of minority juveniles committed to public juvenile detention centers was **67 percent**. (Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Juvenile Offenders and Victims, 1999 National Report (September 1999), p. 194)
- The high school completion rate for Colorado from 1997-1999 was **83.3 percent**, while the completion rate for the nation was **85.5 percent**. (Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, "Dropout Rates in the United States: 1999")
- Between August 1996 and June 2000, the welfare caseload in Colorado dropped **71.1 percent** from **95,788** to **27,699** persons. In the United States, between August 1996 and June 2000, the welfare caseload dropped **53 percent** from **12,241,489** to **5,677,443** persons. (Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Family Assistance)

Annie E. Casey Foundation:

A second organization that monitors the well-being of children is the *Annie E. Casey Foundation*. Concentrating on indicators of "risk" for children, the "foundation" provided the 1990 and 2000 data in **Table 52** for Colorado and the United States. In all cases but two, Colorado has a lower percentage of children experiencing the "risk" indicator than do children in the United States overall. "Children Who Have Difficulty Speaking English (Ages 5-17)" is one of the indicators where Colorado has a higher percentage of children at "risk". This is understandable as Colorado has a larger Latino/Hispanic population than does the nation as a whole (**17.1%** and **12.5%**, respectively), with many being new arrivals.

Table 52: Indicators of Child Well Being in 1990 and 2000 (Measured in Percent)

	Colorado		United States	
	1990	2000	1990	2000
Children Living in Poverty	15	10	18	17
Children Living with Single Parents	15	25	24	30
Children Living in Family Where No Parent Has Full Time Year Round Job	26	26	29	28
Children Living with a Household Head Who is a High School Dropout	14	15	22	19
Children Living in a Low Income Working Family	19	17	19	22
Children Living in Household without a Telephone	5	1	8	4
Children Living in Household without a Vehicle	4	2	9	7
Children Who Have Difficulty Speaking English (Ages 5-17)	3	6	5	4
Teens That are High School Dropouts (16-19)	10	12	12	11
Teens Not Attending School and Not Working (16-19)	9	7	10	9

Highlighted percentages show increases from 1990 to 2000.

Source: "Children at Risk: State Trends 1990-2000", Annie E. Casey Foundation

Another indicator of child welfare used by some organizations (the *Annie E. Casey Foundation* among them) is the percentage of children under the age of six that have all parents in the labor force (both parents if from a two-parent household or one parent if the child is in a single parent household). This statistic can be perceived in two ways. The positive manner in which to perceive it is that by having all parents employed the possibility of the children living in poverty is lessened. The other approach is to see all parents working as a negative, where a parent is not at home in the early years of childhood development. Only the data (no judgments) are presented in this document.

Table 53 (next page) presents the county level data on children under the age of six with all parents in the labor force. In Colorado, **58.9 percent** of all children under the age of six have all parents employed in 2000. In three counties (Gilpin, Bent, and Hinsdale) over **seventy percent** of all children under the age of six have all parents working. Gilpin County has the greatest percentage in the state at **76.3%** of children 5 and under with all parents employed. Custer County, at **37.4%**, is the only county in the state where less than **forty percent** of all children under the age of six do not have all parents working.

Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE):

The *CDPHE* monitors the health related well-being indicators in Colorado. An important sign of improving well-being of children is to observe the decreasing death rates in children. **Table 54** presents the number and death rates (per 100,000 children) for selected causes (and total deaths) in Colorado from 1990-2000.

The rate of deaths in Colorado for individuals under the age of 20 declined by **27.7%** from 1990 through 2000 (rate decline from **86.7 per 100,000** to **62.7 per 100,000**). With the exception of homicides by firearm, for every cause listed in **Table 53**, the rate of death is lower in 2000 than in 1990. Suicides by firearm have tended to decline as a percentage of all suicides during the decade, reaching its lowest percentage (**38.3%**) in 2000. There is no discernible trend for homicides by firearm, as the rate varied during the decade. The lowest rate of homicides by firearm occurred in 1990, but the second lowest rate happened in 2000. Overall, the total number of deaths by firearms in 2000 (intentional, unintentional, and undetermined cause) was **38** (the lowest level in the decade and down from **51** in 1990).

Table 54: Rate of Deaths (per 100,000) in Colorado by Cause for People Under 20 Years of Age (1990-1999)

	Motor Vehicle		Suicide (All)		Suicide (Firearm)		Homicide (All)		Homicide (Firearm)		Deaths by All Causes	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
1990	114	11.8	44	4.6	33	3.4	40	3.0	10	1.0	836	86.7
1991	103	10.5	45	4.6	30	3.0	44	4.5	22	2.2	828	84.1
1992	118	11.6	58	5.7	29	2.9	48	4.7	30	3.0	829	81.8
1993	125	12.0	50	4.8	28	2.7	45	4.3	28	2.7	849	81.4
1994	133	12.4	51	4.8	34	3.2	45	4.2	26	2.4	779	72.7
1995	141	12.8	43	3.9	26	2.4	40	3.6	27	2.5	735	66.9
1996	139	12.4	42	3.7	23	2.1	39	3.5	15	1.3	751	67.0
1997	110	9.6	51	4.5	30	2.6	46	4.0	22	1.9	776	67.7
1998	113	9.6	49	4.2	26	2.2	58	4.9	29	2.5	798	68.0
1999	109	9.1	45	3.7	24	2.0	50	4.2	34	2.8	823	68.4
2000	114	9.3	47	3.8	18	1.5	29	2.4	17	1.4	771	62.7

Source: Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Colorado Vital Statistics

Table 53: Number of Children Under 6 and the Number and Percentage of Children Under 6 with All Parents Working, by County in 2000

County	Total Number of Children Under 6 Years of Age	Number of Children Under 6 with All Parents in Labor Force	% of Children Under 6 with All Parents in Labor Force
Adams	33,892	19,945	58.8%
Alamosa	1,142	760	66.5%
Arapahoe	38,731	23,862	61.6%
Archuleta	663	422	63.7%
Baca	302	178	58.9%
Bent	382	272	71.2%
Boulder	20,549	11,510	56.0%
Chaffee	859	532	61.9%
Cheyenne	170	93	54.7%
Clear Creek	621	376	60.5%
Conejos	739	390	52.8%
Costilla	236	96	40.7%
Crowley	269	149	55.4%
Custer	222	83	37.4%
Delta	1,981	1,027	51.8%
Denver	40,989	22,378	54.6%
Dolores	112	70	62.5%
Douglas	20,140	11,528	57.2%
Eagle	3,233	1,915	59.2%
Elbert	1,513	802	53.0%
El Paso	45,213	26,892	59.5%
Fremont	2,523	1,616	64.1%
Garfield	3,763	2,024	53.8%
Gilpin	304	232	76.3%
Grand	741	507	68.4%
Gunnison	771	471	61.1%
Hinsdale	55	39	70.9%
Huerfano	423	265	62.6%
Jackson	112	68	60.7%
Jefferson	38,985	23,967	61.5%
Kiowa	117	59	50.4%
Kit Carson	598	343	57.4%
Lake	685	357	52.1%
La Plata	2,711	1,675	61.8%
Larimer	17,533	10,489	59.8%
Las Animas	983	584	59.4%
Lincoln	367	230	62.7%
Logan	1,366	891	65.2%
Mesa	8,269	4,929	59.6%
Mineral	38	20	52.6%
Moffat	937	555	59.2%
Montezuma	1,980	1,216	61.4%
Montrose	2,650	1,523	57.5%
Morgan	2,677	1,465	54.7%
Otero	1,546	963	62.3%
Ouray	240	118	49.2%
Park	974	566	58.1%
Phillips	361	238	65.9%
Pitkin	666	366	55.0%
Prowers	1,326	569	42.9%
Pueblo	10,526	6,655	63.2%
Rio Blanco	401	245	61.1%
Rio Grande	977	591	60.5%
Routt	1,273	881	69.2%
Saguache	457	224	49.0%
San Juan	26	18	69.2%
San Miguel	353	245	69.4%
Sedgwick	172	104	60.5%
Summit	1,261	820	65.0%
Teller	1,422	735	51.7%
Washington	376	253	67.3%
Weld	15,878	9,236	58.2%
Yuma	772	464	60.1%
Colorado	339,553	200,096	58.9%

Source: United States Census Bureau – Census 2000

Foster Care and Adoption:

Foster Care:

According to the *United States Department of Health and Human Services*, there were **7,639** children under the age of 18 in foster care in Colorado in 1999 (down from **7,951** in 1998). This was **0.69%** of all children in the state. In 2000, there were **2,632** licensed childcare centers in Colorado, compared to **2,291** centers in 1997, while the number of regulated family childcare or group homes in Colorado was **6,287**.

According to the *US Department of Health and Human Services (Administration for Children and Families)*, Colorado spent a total of **\$42.548 million** on foster care services in 1999, of which over half (**\$25.584 million**) went for administration and placement services. However, the per capita cost of foster care varies with age. **Table 55** provides the different monthly payments per child in Colorado by age for selected years since 1987.

Table 55: Monthly Payments (in dollars) per Child for Foster Care by Age in Selected Years in Colorado

	1987	1991	1994	1998
Age 2	235	296	319	361
Age 9	266	296	319	361
Age 16	318	352	379	430

Source: US Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families

The National Center on Child Abuse and Neglect Information (NCCANI), using data gathered from a variety of governmental agencies, published "Foster Care National Statistics"³ in April 2001. This publication provides the most recent national statistics for children in foster care, and also provides some earlier data so that we can estimate trends in foster care caseloads and services. For this document, foster care is defined as "... 24-hour substitute care for children placed away from their parents or guardians and for whom the State agency has placement and care responsibility," whether or not the placement is licensed or payments are made. According to *NCCANI*, in September 1999, **five percent** of American children (**556,000**) were in foster care, with **36 percent** White Non-Hispanic, **42 percent** Black Non-Hispanic, and **15 percent** Hispanic. It is estimated that **1.5 percent** of children who were maltreated in 1999 were maltreated by "substitute care providers" which includes foster parents, residential care providers, and childcare providers. This translates to an estimated **12,390** children out of an estimated **826,000** maltreated children in 1999. To view the complete fact sheet on this national data, see web site <http://www.calib.com/nccanch/pubs/factsheets/foster.cfm>.

For Colorado, the *United States Department of Health and Human Services* collects data on foster care in the individual states from the various state reporting agencies. In Colorado, the *Colorado Department of Human Services* gathers the data. Data and information on foster care in Colorado (and comparisons to U.S. totals) in 1999 follow.

³ "Foster Care National Statistics", National Center on Child Abuse and Neglect Information, The Administration for Children and Families, US Department of Health and Human Services, April 2001.

Highlights of the Report on Foster Care in Colorado for 1999:

- Of the **7,639** children in foster care, **51.0%** were White non-Hispanic, **15.9%** were African American, and **26.0%** were Hispanic.
- The median age of children in foster care was **11.92** years of age.
- **34%** of the children between the ages of 11 and 15, while **22%** were between 6 and 10 years old and **20%** between 16 and 18 years old. **Nineteen percent** were between 1 and 5 and **4 percent** was under 1 year of age.
- **Sixty percent** of children were in foster homes, **twenty percent** were in group homes (institutions), and **ten percent** were with relatives. In the United States, **48 percent** of the **568,000** children in foster care were in family foster homes, **26 percent** were with relatives, **17 percent** were in group homes or institutions.
- **Sixty-nine percent** of children were discharged from the system to be reunited with parent(s), **seven percent** were adopted, **six percent** were released to non-parental relatives, and **five percent** were emancipated. Of the **122,000** children who exited foster in the first half of FY 1999 in the United States, **59 percent** were reunified, **16 percent** were adopted, **12 percent** went to a legal guardian or a relative, and **8 percent** were emancipated.
- In Colorado, the average amount of time spent in foster care was **21.2 months**, compared to the national average of **33.3 months**.
- **Sixty-three percent** of children have 1-2 placements, **22%** are placed 3-4 times, **8%** are placed 5-6 times, and **7%** are placed seven or more times.
- In 1999, the rate of recidivism was approximately **20%**, compared to about **18.5%** in 1998.
- In Colorado, **59 percent** of the children in foster care had goals of reunification, **16 percent** had goals of adoption, **6 percent** had goals of guardianship or custody to a relative, **6 percent** had goals of emancipation, **11 percent** had goals of long term foster care, and **one percent** had not yet had a permanency goal established. For the United States, **42 percent** of the children in foster care had goals of reunification, **19 percent** had goals of adoption, **8 percent** had goals of guardianship or custody to a relative, **5 percent** had goals of emancipation, **7 percent** had goals of long term foster care, and **19 percent** had not yet had a permanency goal established.

Colorado maintains a variety of foster care programs for children with special needs in hopes of eventual adoption. The *Division of Child Care* in the *Department of Human Services* administers three of these programs. Those administering "Program Area 4" (PA4) are responsible for youths in conflict – children with significant behavioral problems. "PA5" is for children that have come from abused and/or neglected environments and "PA6" is for those in need of specialized services (i.e. those with some form of disability). Individuals adopting children from the "PA6" group are eligible to receive subsidies. In 1999, the average subsidy received was **\$3,462 per child** in Colorado and **\$4,316 per child** for the United States. "PA4" and "PA5" adoptees are not eligible for the support. **Table 56** (next page) presents the percentage of children in each program by county in 2000. El Paso County had the highest percentage of youths in each program (PA4, PA5, and PA6). **Table 57** (page 10) presents the total number of children in the combined programs for 1997-2000 by county.

Adoption:

According to the *National Adoption Information Clearinghouse* there is **no** current public or private attempt to collect comprehensive national data on adoption. Throughout the past 50 years, there have been sporadic attempts to push for the gathering of complete information, but there is **no ongoing effort at this time**. However, with the passage of the "Adoption and Safe Families Act of 1997", there has been a renewed effort to improve the data available about adoption. Under the *Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS)*, states are required to collect case-specific data on all children in foster care for whom the state child welfare agency has responsibility for placement, care or supervision. Further, states are required to collect data on all adopted children who were placed by the state child welfare agency or by private agencies under contract with the public child welfare agency. States are encouraged to report other adoptions that are finalized in the state. *AFCARS* is run by the *United States Department of Health and Human Services*. For more information about *AFCARS*, see the *Children's Bureau, Administration for Children and Families Website* at <http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/cb/dis/afcars/index.html>.

Most new statistical information about adoption and related areas is being gathered and analyzed by private organizations, through private surveys and research. Such organizations include the *Alan Guttmacher Institute*, *ChildTrends*, *American Public Human Services Administration (APHSA)*, and the *Child Welfare Research Center at the University of California, Berkeley*. Some information is provided through the analysis of extensive governmental surveys not focused on adoption, such as the *National Survey of Family Growth*, the *National Survey of Families and Households*, and the *National Health Interview Survey*. These surveys give current, reliable statistical information on areas such as the numbers of families adopting or considering adopting and profiles of adoptive families.

AFCARS publishes periodic reports on foster care and public agency adoption in the United States and the individual states. It needs to be noted that these numbers cover only adoptions through public agencies. There are other (private) adoption groups/agencies for which the details of adoptions are not available. The Colorado public agency data that follows (on page 11) comes from the *AFCARS* report.

Table 56: Percentage of Children (Age 18 and Under) Participating in the PA4, PA5, and PA6 Program by County in 2000

County	PA4	PA5	PA6	TOTAL
Adams	0.3%	1.3%	0.6%	2.2%
Alamosa	0.6%	4.1%	0.7%	5.5%
Arapahoe	0.4%	0.9%	0.6%	1.8%
Archuleta	0.1%	2.1%	0.4%	2.6%
Baca	0.3%	2.1%	1.4%	3.7%
Bent	0.2%	1.9%	1.5%	3.6%
Boulder	0.3%	1.2%	0.4%	2.0%
Chaffee	0.1%	1.8%	0.3%	2.2%
Cheyenne	0.0%	1.2%	0.3%	1.6%
Clear Creek	0.3%	1.9%	0.7%	2.9%
Conejos	0.2%	1.4%	0.2%	1.8%
Costilla	0.2%	2.9%	0.1%	3.4%
Crowley	0.2%	0.8%	0.1%	1.2%
Custer	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.8%
Delta	0.4%	1.0%	0.4%	1.7%
Denver	0.6%	2.1%	1.4%	4.1%
Dolores	0.2%	2.2%	0.2%	2.7%
Douglas	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%
Eagle	0.1%	0.5%	0.1%	0.8%
El Paso	9.7%	29.0%	19.5%	58.2%
Elbert	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Fremont	0.6%	2.3%	0.8%	3.7%
Garfield	0.4%	1.2%	0.6%	2.1%
Gilpin	0.4%	2.5%	0.6%	3.5%
Grand	0.1%	1.3%	0.6%	1.9%
Gunnison/Hinsdale	0.3%	1.2%	0.4%	1.8%
Huerfano	0.4%	2.2%	0.2%	2.9%
Jackson	0.5%	3.2%	0.5%	4.2%
Jefferson	0.2%	0.7%	0.4%	1.3%
Kiowa	0.2%	1.2%	0.7%	2.1%
Kit Carson	0.2%	0.9%	0.3%	1.4%
La Plata	1.0%	6.1%	2.0%	9.1%
Lake	0.0%	0.5%	0.1%	0.6%
Larimer	0.3%	0.9%	0.5%	1.7%
Las Animas	0.4%	1.5%	0.5%	2.5%
Lincoln	0.5%	2.5%	1.2%	4.3%
Logan	0.4%	2.1%	0.5%	3.0%
Mesa	0.3%	1.4%	0.8%	2.6%
Moffat	0.6%	1.9%	0.4%	2.9%
Montezuma	0.3%	1.7%	0.4%	2.4%
Montrose	0.6%	2.0%	0.8%	3.4%
Morgan	0.4%	3.2%	0.4%	3.9%
Otero	0.4%	1.1%	0.4%	2.0%
Ouray	0.4%	1.0%	0.0%	1.2%
Park	0.4%	1.2%	0.2%	1.7%
Phillips	0.5%	1.0%	0.0%	1.5%
Pitkin	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%	0.3%
Prowers	0.4%	1.7%	0.6%	2.6%
Pueblo	0.6%	1.8%	1.4%	3.8%
Rio Blanco	0.6%	0.8%	0.5%	1.9%
Rio Grande/Mineral	0.2%	1.0%	0.3%	1.4%
Routt	0.3%	1.4%	0.8%	2.5%
Saguache	0.3%	1.1%	0.3%	1.7%
San Juan	2.7%	2.7%	0.0%	4.5%
San Miguel	0.3%	0.9%	0.2%	1.3%
Sedgwick	0.0%	1.0%	1.4%	2.4%
Summit	0.1%	0.7%	0.1%	0.9%
Teller	0.4%	2.4%	0.2%	3.1%
Washington	0.3%	3.0%	0.7%	3.9%
Weld	0.4%	0.8%	0.6%	1.7%
Yuma	0.1%	2.8%	0.7%	3.6%
Colorado	0.4%	1.2%	0.7%	2.2%

Source: Colorado Department of Human Services

Table 57: Number of Children Under the Age of 18 in the Combined PA4, PA5, and PA6 Programs by County (1997-2000)

County	1997	1998	1999	2000
Adams	2,207	2,134	2,199	2,322
Alamosa	150	162	193	223
Arapahoe	2,101	2,267	2,409	2,402
Archuleta	60	59	63	66
Baca	38	28	37	41
Bent	62	62	53	51
Boulder	1,188	1,215	1,207	1,311
Chaffee	43	57	73	69
Cheyenne	18	11	10	10
Clear Creek	71	75	65	61
Conejos	48	44	36	49
Costilla	19	23	20	31
Crowley	22	17	21	12
Custer	9	6	5	6
Delta	92	90	105	115
Denver	5,001	5,156	4,967	4,984
Dolores	5	9	7	11
Douglas	92	98	123	123
Eagle	78	61	64	74
El Paso	3,008	3,017	3,246	3,492
Elbert	21	25	21	28
Fremont	262	291	334	352
Garfield	233	236	250	252
Gilpin	28	28	30	35
Grand	46	49	45	52
Gunnison/Hinsdale	39	30	39	47
Huerfano	53	48	51	47
Jackson	13	14	17	17
Jefferson	1,441	1,541	1,649	1,746
Kiowa	14	13	11	9
Kit Carson	38	28	35	29
La Plata	174	187	207	192
Lake	101	88	81	62
Larimer	887	881	938	1,032
Las Animas	143	118	92	91
Lincoln	64	64	58	62
Logan	108	126	137	151
Mesa	700	685	738	748
Moffat	117	117	108	110
Montezuma	100	125	159	158
Montrose	292	290	319	307
Morgan	306	288	294	325
Otero	114	106	114	107
Ouray	10	11	12	10
Park	46	49	45	59
Phillips	15	7	7	18
Pitkin	15	18	10	7
Prowers	112	124	104	114
Pueblo	1,230	1,258	1,317	1,371
Rio Blanco	53	37	39	30
Rio Grande/Mineral	59	58	45	49
Routt	71	79	76	112
Saguache	39	40	39	29
San Juan	7	7	3	5
San Miguel	11	11	13	15
Sedgwick	20	14	15	15
Summit	61	51	55	37
Teller	154	162	159	164
Washington	54	56	52	51
Weld	882	880	867	879
Yuma	86	90	93	101
Colorado	22,530	22,914	23,578	24,479

Source: Colorado Department of Human Services

Highlights of the 1999 Colorado Report from AFCARS and the US Department of Health and Human Services:

- From October 1, 1998 through September 30, 1999, Colorado had **713** children adopted.
- **49 percent** of those adopted were male and **51%** were female.
- Although **66%** of Colorado's child population is White Non-Hispanic, they comprise only **50.9%** of children awaiting adoption from state administrated facilities, while **21.3%** of potential adoptees were African American and **23.8%** were Hispanic.
- **Sixty percent** of the completed adoptions were White Non-Hispanic, **14%** were African Americans, and **23%** were Hispanic.
- **Forty-five percent** of those adopted were between the ages of 1 and 5, while an additional **thirty-three percent** were between 6 and 10 years of age.
- The average age at adoption was **6.6** years of age.
- The average time from termination of parental rights to adoption finalization was **15.3 months**.
- In **30 percent** of the cases, the adoption was finalized in 1-5 months and an additional **20 percent** had adoption finalized in 6-11 months.

Table 58 provides data on the number of adoptions from the Colorado public child welfare agency (*Department of Human Services*) and from all public welfare agencies in the United States for FY 1995 – FY 1999. For both Colorado and the U.S. the numbers of adoptions out of public agencies has risen each year. In FY 2000, **711** children were legally adopted through the public child welfare agency in Colorado.

Table 58: Adoptions from Public Welfare Agencies in Colorado and the United States (FY1995-FY1999)

	FY 1995	FY 1996	FY 1997	FY 1998	FY 1999
Colorado	338	454	458	575	713
United States	25,693	27,761	31,030	36,673	46,072

Source: US Department of Health and Human Services

The information below is highlights from the "Interim FY 1999 Estimates as of June 2001" (the latest available national data).

National Highlights from the Interim FY 1999 AFCARS Report:

- On September 30, 1999 there were **127,000** children awaiting adoption.
- Of the **127,000** children, **66,388 (52%)** were male and **60,612 (48%)** were female.
- **42% (53,791 children)** were Black Non-Hispanic, **32% (40,799 children)** were White Non-Hispanic, and **15% (19,108 children)** were Hispanic.
- The average age when a waiting child was removed from the care of a parent or caregiver was **4.3** years of age.
- The average age of a waiting child on September 30, 1999 was **7.9** years of age.
- On average, the waiting children have been in continuous foster care for **44** months.
- In FY 1999, there were **46,000** children adopted from public foster care.
- Of those adopted from public foster care, **22,951 (50%)** were male and **23,049 (50%)** were female.
- **45 percent** of those adopted were Black Non-Hispanic, **38 percent** were White Non-Hispanic, and **15 percent** were Hispanic.

- As of September 30, 1999, **58%** of waiting children were in non-relative foster family homes.
- **64,000** children awaiting adoption had had the parental rights revoked for all living relatives, with **21 months** being the average amount of time since rights were revoked.
- On average, it took **16 months** from the time of parental rights revocation until a child was adopted.
- **Sixty-six percent** of those adopting were married couples and **thirty-one percent** were single females.

In Colorado, the *Adoption Exchange* maintains a list of children eligible for adoption, provides information on the adoption process, and provides general information on state and national adoption agencies. A list of children eligible for adoption in Colorado can be seen at web site <http://www.adoptex.org/ProfilesAvailable.asp?StateCode=CO>. The site lists the name, special interests, ethnicity, and date of birth. A list of waiting children from Missouri, Nevada, New Mexico, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming can be found through the *Adoption Exchange* web site <http://www.adoptex.org/profiles.asp>.

Child Maltreatment:

In 2000, there were an estimated **879,000** victims of maltreatment nationwide. This statistic comes from the *National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS)*. These data are collected and published annually by the *United States Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Families and Children (ACF)*. The most recent report brings together responses from the states to the *2000 National Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting System*. The 1999 rate of victimization in the United States, **11.8 per 1,000** children, decreased from the 1998 rate of **12.6**. However, the rate increased in 2000 to **12.2 per 1,000** children. In Colorado, the rate was significantly lower at **5.1 reported incidences per 1,000** children under the age of 18 in 1999. For the United States, over **three-fifths** of all victims (**63%**) suffered neglect, while almost **one-fifth (19%)** suffered physical abuse and **10 percent** were sexually abused. **Eight percent** were psychologically maltreated.

Rates of many types of maltreatment were similar for male and female children (**11.2 and 12.8 per 1,000** children, respectively), but the sexual abuse rate for female children (**1.7 for every 1,000 female children** in the population) was higher than the sexual abuse rate for male children (**0.4 male children per 1,000**).

Three-fifths (**60.0%**) of perpetrators in the U.S. were female. Female perpetrators were typically younger than their male counterparts. The average age of female perpetrators was **31 years** of age and for males the average age was **34**.

More than **80 percent** of victims (**84%**) were abused by a parent or parents. Mothers acting alone were responsible for **47 percent** of neglect victims and **32 percent** of physical abuse victims. Non-relatives, fathers acting alone, and other relatives were responsible for **29 percent**, **22 percent**, and **19 percent**, respectively, of sexual abuse victims. Additional highlights of the report are presented on the next page.

Highlights of the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System Report for the United States:

Reporting and Investigation Results:

- In 2000, **three million** referrals concerning the welfare of approximately **five million** children were made to *Child Protective Service (CPS)* agencies throughout the United States. Of these, approximately **two-thirds (62%)** were transferred for investigation or assessment and **one-third (38%)** were screened out with no further investigation.
- More than half of child abuse and neglect reports (**56%**) were received from professionals. Nonprofessionals, including family and community members, submitted the remaining **44 percent** of reports.
- Most states have established time standards for initiating the investigation of reports. The average response time to initiate investigating reports was **63.8 hours**.
- The average annual workload of CPS investigation and assessment workers was **72** investigations.
- Slightly less than one-third of investigations (**32%**) resulted in a disposition of either substantiated or indicated child maltreatment. The remaining investigations resulted in a finding that the maltreatment did not occur, the child was not at risk of maltreatment, or there was insufficient information to make a determination.
- The average time from the start of investigation to provision of service was **47.4 days**.
- Nationally, **55.8 percent** of child victims (an **estimated 461,000**) received post-investigative services, and an additional **14.2 percent** of children with unsubstantiated reports (an **estimated 217,000**) also received services.
- About one-fifth (**21.2%**) of victims had received family preservation services within the previous 5 years, while more than 5 percent (**5.1% of victims**) had been reunited with their families in the previous five years.

Victimization:

- The highest victimization rates were for the 0-3 age group (**15.7 maltreatments per 1,000 children** of this age in the population), and rates declined as age increased. The rate of victimization for children ages 16 and 17 was **5.7 victims per 1,000 children**.
- More than half of all victims were **White (51%)**, while a quarter (**25%**) were African American and **15 percent** were Hispanic.
- Children who had been victimized prior to 1999 were almost **three times** more likely to experience recurrence during the 6 months following their first victimization in 1999 than children without a prior history of victimization.

Fatalities:

- An estimated **1,200 children** died of abuse and neglect in 2000, a rate of approximately **1.71 deaths per 100,000 children** in the general population.
- Slightly more than 2 percent (**2.1%**) of all fatalities occurred while the victim was in foster care.
- Children younger than a year old accounted for **42.6 percent** of the fatalities, and **86.1 percent** were younger than 6 years of age in 2000.
- Maltreatment deaths were more often associated with neglect (**38.2%**) than with any other type of abuse.

- Slightly more than one-tenth (**12.5%**) of the families of child fatalities had received family preservation services in the 5 years prior to the deaths, while only **2.7 percent** of the child fatality victims had been returned to the care of their families prior to their deaths.

Highlights of the Report on Colorado:

- In 1999, **28,774** children were reported as abused or neglected and referred for investigation in Colorado, a rate of **27 per 1,000** children, representing a **53% decrease** from 1998.
- The state reported **6,989** substantiated victims (a rate of **6.6 per 1,000** children), representing a **.3% decrease** from 1998, with **2,407 (34.4%)** receiving services.
- Of every 1,000 children, **4.6** were neglected, **1.8** were physically abused, and **1.0** were sexually abused.
- In 1999, **32** children died as a result of abuse or neglect
- There were **15,693** unsubstantiated claims, with **13.5 percent** of them receiving services.
- There were **682** children removed from their homes. This represented **9.3 percent** of the children with substantiated abuse claims.
- There were **15,693** children with unsubstantiated dispositions, with **1.1%** removed from the home.
- **Twenty-four percent** of the victims received family preservation services in the past five years.
- On September 30, 1999, **7,639** children in Colorado lived apart from their families in out-of-home care, compared with **7,859** children on September 30, 1998.
- In 1999, **22.8%** of the children living apart from their families were age 5 or younger, and **20.3%** were 16 or older.

The full report can be viewed at

<http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/cb/publications/cm99/cm99.pdf>.

A significant number of youths are the victims of sexual assaults. The *Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network (RAINN)* presented the following data based on the "2000 National Crime Victimization Survey"⁴ from the *US Department of Justice*.

Highlights of the RAINN Report:

- About **44%** of rape victims are under age 18. Three out of every twenty victims (**15%**) are under age 12.
- **Seven percent** of girls in grades five to eight and **twelve percent** of girls in grades nine through twelve said they had been sexually abused.
- **Three percent** of boys in grades five through eight and **five percent** of boys in grades nine through twelve said they had been sexually abused.
- **93%** of juvenile sexual assault victims knew their attacker; **34.2%** were family members and **58.7%** acquaintances. Only **seven percent** of the perpetrators were strangers to the victim.
- In 1995, local child protective service agencies identified **126,000** children who were victims of either substantiated or indicated sexual abuse; of these, **75%** were girls. Nearly **30%** of child victims were between the ages of 4 and 7.

⁴ "2000 National Crime Victimization Survey", Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network, 2000.

R7: Child Well-Being and Maltreatment

Web Site	Level of Data Available	Comments
http://www.rainn.org/statistics.html#kids	National	RAINN report on child sexual abuse
http://www.calib.com/nccanch/	National	National Clearinghouse on Child Abuse and Neglect Information
http://www.childrensdefense.org/states/profile-co.pdf	National/State	"2000 Colorado Profile" data – Children's Defense Fund
http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/ccb/	National/State	State to state child care comparisons
http://www.aecf.org/cgi-bin/kconline.cgi?KC_QUERY_TYPE=QUERY_PROFILES&STATE=CO	National/State	"KidsCount 2000" Annie E Casey Foundation
http://www.childrensfoundation.net/	National/State	The Children's Foundation Homepage
http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/cb/publications/cm99/cm99.pdf	National/State	Child maltreatment statistics from 1999
http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/cb/publications/cwo99/outcomes.pdf	National/State	Child Welfare Outcomes Annual Report: 1999
http://ericece.org/	National/State	Educational Resources Information Center
http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/cb/dis/adoptchild.pdf	National/State	Adoption numbers for Colorado and US from public welfare agencies
http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/cb/publications/afcars/june2001.pdf	National/State	AFCARS adoption and foster care national statistics
http://www.childwelfare.com/index.htm	National/State	Gateway to several sources of data and information on child welfare
http://www.childwelfare.com/kids/States/Profiles/Colorado/colorado.htm	State	Child welfare profile and statistics on Colorado
http://www.kidsandguns.org/study/states_deaths.asp?Colorado	State	Firearm death data for children
http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/	State	Colorado Department of Human Services Homepage
http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/cyf/ccare/index.html	State	Childcare Division of the Colorado Department of Human Services
http://nccic.org/statepro/colorado.html	State	Demographic information on children in Colorado
http://nccic.org/	State	National Child Care Information Center homepage
http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/cyf/ccare/index.html	State	Childcare Division of the Colorado Department of Human Services
http://www.adoptex.org/	State	The Adoption Exchange
http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/childcare/cccap.htm	State/Local	Colorado Child Care Assistance program (CCCAP)
http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/childcare/eligibil.htm	State/Local	Child care assistance levels from CCCAP

8 Child Care

As in the rest of the United States, Coloradoans have come to depend to a great degree on the availability of good and safe childcare facilities. According to *The Children's Foundation (as reported by the Division of Child Care of the Colorado Department of Human Services)*, in 2000, Colorado had **2,632** licensed daycare centers and **5,372** licensed family childcare homes. The child care facilities must maintain a staff-children ratio of no *greater* than **5:1** up through the age of eighteen months up to a ratio of **15:1** at age 5. Group sizes can range from a high of **10** through age eighteen months to **30** by age five. A list of childcare facilities can be found by contacting the *Colorado Department of Human Services, Colorado Division of Child Care* at (303) 866-5958 or through the county health departments.

This portion of the **Welfare** section of the **County Data Book** includes data and information on the following topics:

- Child care by family structure (national data only)
- The types of child care facilities available and the numbers of children in those facilities
- The staffing of child care facilities and the wages paid to child care workers
- The costs of child care for families

The majority of the information and data for the state portion of the report comes from the *Colorado Department of Human Services*, the *Children's Defense Fund*, the *Annie E. Casey Foundation*, and the *Center for Child Care Workforce*. The national data comes from publications by the *Urban Institute* ("*Who's Caring for Our Youngest Children? Child Care Patterns of Infants and Toddlers*" and "*Child Care Expenses of America's Families*"), the *United States Department of Health and Human Services (Administration for Children and Families)* and the *Center for Child Care Workforce* ("*Then and Now*" and "*Worthy Work, Unlivable Wages: The National Child Care Staffing Study, 1988-1997*"). Other relevant sources of information can be found in the resources section at the end of the section.

Family Structure:

According to reports by the *Urban Institute*, young children of single parents spend significantly more time in non-parental care than young children of two-parent families. On average, infants and toddlers of single parents spend **34 hours** a week in non-parental care, and children of two parents spend **23 hours**. Moreover, **60 percent** of the young children of single parents are in care full-time, compared with only **34 percent** of children of two-parent families.

The *Urban Institute* also reports that child care expenses for single-parent families may be an especially critical issue. Single-parent families usually have only one potential earner and, therefore, lower average incomes. In addition, single-parent families do not have the option of avoiding paid child care by having one parent work when the other is at home and without a second earner, single parents are less likely to be able to work only when their children are in school.

Single parents are in the minority among all working families with children, composing **26.6 percent** of that group, according to the *National Survey of American Families (NSAF)* data. However, they represent the majority of families who rely on cash aid (**78.1 percent**) of the current *Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)* caseload and **61.4 percent** of former *TANF* recipients.

Twenty-four percent of children of low-income two-parent families are in care full-time, compared with **37 percent** of children of higher-income two-parent families. Similarly, the average number of hours in non-parental care for children in two-parent families is **17 hours** for families below 200 percent of the *Federal Poverty Level (FPL)* and **25 hours** for those above 200 percent of *FPL*.

The number of non-parental arrangements does not differ by family structure. About **one-third** of infants and toddlers in both single-parent (**34 percent**) and two-parent (**34 percent**) families are in two or more non-parental arrangements. The number of arrangements used by two-parent families does differ, though, depending on income. Only **27 percent** of young children in low-income two-parent families are in multiple arrangements, compared with **36 percent** of children from higher-income two-parent families. This finding is consistent with the higher reliance on parent care in the low-income two-parent families, where these families are less likely to rely on additional non-parental care arrangements.

The younger a child, the more often they are to be cared for by family members in smaller, home-based settings. However, as children reach the toddler stage, employed parents begin to use more formal settings, such as centers, for their children. **Fifteen percent** of children under age 1 are in center care, compared with **23 percent** of children age 1 and **27 percent** of children age 2. The percentages of young children in family child care increase with age as well, with **13 percent** of children under age 1 and **21 percent** of 2-year-olds in this arrangement. Conversely, relative and nanny/baby-sitter care are more common among younger children. Relatives care for **thirty-two percent** of children under one year of age, **27 percent** of 1-year-olds, and **23 percent** of 2-year-olds. Care by a parent while the mother is working is more common for children under 1, compared with children age 2. Thus, many children begin life in the care of family members but appear to transition into more formal arrangements as they grow older.

As young children get older, they spend more hours in non-parental care. The percentage of children in full-time care (35 hours or more each week) jumps from **32 percent** for children under 1 to **43 percent** of 2-year-olds. As infants and toddlers get older and are cared for in more formal settings and for longer hours, they also are placed in more arrangements. Specifically, **28 percent** of children under 1, compared with **38 percent** of 2-year-olds, spent time in two or more non-parental arrangements.

Facility Types and Usage:

Table 59 (next page) presents the data on the total number of licensed child care facilities in each Colorado county and the number of spaces available for children in those facilities as of June 1, 1999. Four counties, El Paso (**1,456**), Jefferson (**1,304**), Arapahoe (**1,156**), and Denver (**1,007**), all have more than 1,000 licensed child care facilities. These facility numbers include all state licensed homes, but not private “informal” in-home facilities. **Table 60** provides data on the number of state licensed child care facilities in Colorado and the number of spaces available in those facilities. The totals are for all state licensed facility types (not just day care facilities). Along with the day care facilities, this would include organizations such as summer camps. In total, there are **182,376** spaces available for **1,224,668** children under the age of 20 in Colorado (a ratio of approximately **one space for every seven children**).

Table 59: Total Facilities and Available Spaces by Child Classification by County (June 1, 1999)

County	Total Facilities	Infants	Toddlers	Over 2.5 Years	Residential Male	Residential Female	Residential Both
Adams	697	266	668	12,836	26	5	498
Alamosa	40	34	51	756	2	0	8
Arapahoe	1,156	580	1,914	24,151	46	179	749
Archuleta	23	5	4	298	0	0	10
Baca	21	4	4	214	0	0	4
Bent	6	8	19	115	0	0	4
Boulder	537	362	976	14,958	29	21	0
Chaffee	51	0	0	1,444	0	0	22
Cheyenne	8	0	0	68	0	0	2
Clear Creek	27	15	22	601	0	0	47
Conejos	9	0	0	81	0	0	8
Costilla	4	0	0	27	0	0	4
Crowley	7	16	22	102	0	0	8
Custer	9	0	0	316	0	0	6
Delta	65	10	15	1,038	20	0	10
Denver	1,007	730	1,679	21,586	237	98	1,678
Dolores	3	0	0	27	0	0	0
Douglas	386	102	407	7,967	59	3	117
Eagle	66	66	136	1,618	0	0	24
El Paso	1,456	428	1,155	18,721	112	59	1,563
Elbert	54	0	13	1,404	0	0	36
Fremont	115	10	12	959	16	0	103
Garfield	111	5	48	1,220	0	0	94
Gilpin	10	10	20	351	0	0	4
Grand	33	19	28	888	0	0	6
Gunnison	35	0	15	475	0	0	4
Hinsdale	3	0	3	155	0	0	0
Huerfano	19	0	10	476	34	0	20
Jackson	2	0	0	27	0	0	0
Jefferson	1,304	491	1,929	27,658	169	21	714
Kiowa	9	0	0	97	0	0	8
Kit Carson	26	0	0	220	0	0	4
La Plata	105	47	100	2,255	4	12	38
Lake	11	10	30	264	8	0	8
Larimer	743	212	637	11,913	14	7	406
Las Animas	20	0	30	637	0	0	10
Lincoln	22	5	5	253	0	0	15
Logan	70	20	23	757	0	1	26
Mesa	436	66	205	4,419	41	11	358
Mineral	2	0	10	30	0	0	0
Moffat	27	0	0	262	0	0	28
Montezuma	44	16	27	1,248	0	0	30
Montrose	99	19	19	767	0	0	58
Morgan	74	10	10	738	198	11	31
Otero	52	57	100	676	13	8	28
Ouray	11	0	0	335	0	0	0
Park	55	0	0	1,762	0	0	56
Phillips	11	5	10	123	0	0	0
Pitkin	27	72	124	791	0	0	45
Prowers	38	23	31	555	0	0	30
Pueblo	574	77	223	4,293	94	25	24
Rio Blanco	17	0	0	239	0	0	7
Rio Grande	27	7	24	422	0	0	8
Routt	54	20	40	1,316	1	0	13
Saguache	7	0	0	136	0	0	4
San Juan	1	0	0	6	0	0	0
San Miguel	14	12	28	536	0	0	2
Sedgwick	12	0	0	100	0	0	0
Summit	65	51	117	1,366	0	0	46
Teller	74	10	29	2,496	3	1	96
Washington	16	5	9	146	0	0	2
Weld	548	187	387	6,308	22	0	55
Yuma	32	0	0	381	0	0	0
Colorado	10,587	4,092	11,368	186,384	1,148	462	7,179

Source: Colorado Division of Child Care Services

Table 60: Number of State Licensed Facility Types and Available Spaces in the Facilities by Child Classification (June 1, 1999)

Facility Type	# Of Facilities	Spaces Available by Child Classification					
		Infants	Toddlers	Over 2.5 Years*	Residential Males	Residential Females	Both
Child Placement Agency	102	0	0	0	0	0	0
Child Placement Foster Home	1,784	0	0	0	154	85	5,655
Child Placement Group Center	17	0	0	0	69	39	48
Child Placement Group Home	13	0	0	0	43	9	54
Day Care Center	1,192	4,092	11,368	67,985	0	0	0
Day Care Home	5,590	0	0	0	100	90	1,823
Day Treatment Center	65	0	0	0	100	90	1,823
Family Foster Home	6	0	0	0	0	0	8
Infant Toddler Home	87	0	0	319	0	0	0
Large Day Care Home	104	0	0	1,093	0	0	0
Pre-School	574	0	0	16,733	0	0	0
Resident Camp	127	0	0	16,586	0	0	0
Resident Child Care Center	108	0	0	0	324	108	562
Residential Treatment Center	9	0	0	0	80	85	169
School Age Child Care Center	772	0	0	52,149	0	0	0
Secure Residential Treatment Center	8	0	0	0	283	0	0
Specialized Group Center	6	0	0	0	12	8	22
Specialized Group Home	23	0	0	0	83	38	87
State Totals	10,587	4,092	11,368	154,865	1,248	552	10,251

* "Over 2.5 Years" is for all children over the age of 2.5.

Source: Colorado Division of Child Care Services

Staffing and Wages:

In "Financing Child Care"¹, the *Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation* reports that more than **sixty percent** of all mothers that have children under the age of six are in need of child care for at least part of the work week. The expansion in the number of mothers in the workforce and, as an extension, the increased number of children that need outside the home care has led to an increase in the demand for child care operations. However, the supply of a stable, well trained workforce in the child care industry has not kept pace with the demand for the services and has therefore created a shortage of workers. Most individuals in the child care profession believe that the major reasons for the shortage are:

- Increased opportunities for women (the traditional child care workers) in fields that have been male dominated have decreased the available supply of employees in child care, and
- The low pay in the child care industry has discouraged new workers from entering the profession and has driven employees already in the profession out to better paying opportunities.

According to the *Center for the Child Care Workforce (CCCW)*, a Washington-based day-care workers' advocacy group, staff turnover averaged nearly **one-third** at child-care centers in the United States last year. The *CCCW* attributes this to a large degree on near-poverty wages that have remained stagnant for a decade. In 1988, the *CCCW* studied 230 day-care providers and found that most care was barely adequate. It also found that centers providing better care were paying workers more and had lower turnover.

¹ "Financing Child Care", Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, Winter 2002.

The problems in keeping an experienced staff has come despite significant increases in the public funding for child care. For example, Colorado instituted a voluntary "check off" for child care on state income tax returns in 1996 that was expected to garner between **\$250,000** and **\$500,000** annually (**\$273,000** was collected in 2001). Colorado also encouraged contributions to child care in the state's "enterprise zone" law. The enterprise zone law created a state income tax credit to encourage taxpayers to make contributions to assist enterprise zones in implementing their economic development plans and to promote child care in enterprise zones. On a local level, voters in the city of Aspen enacted a provision to add **.45 percent** to the local sales tax and dedicate this portion for the purposes of affordable housing and child care.

Both "for profit" and "nonprofit" groups have received this additional public funding. In 1998, the CCCW in "Worthy Work, Unlivable Wages: The National Child Care Staffing Study, 1988-1997"² reported that in the nine year time period (1988-1997), independent for-profit centers received **10 percent** more income from public funds, for-profit chains received **17 percent** more, and nonprofits received **4 percent** more public funding. The report also stated that despite these funding increases wages remained stagnant.

Highlights of the 1998 CCCW Report:

- The lowest-paid day-care assistants earned about **\$6 an hour** in 1997 -- only a penny more an hour than they did in 1988. Child-care assistants do not have primary responsibility for children in classroom settings.
- The lowest-paid day-care teachers earned about **\$7.50 an hour** (**12 cents** more than 1988) and **\$13,125 per year** in 1998. The highest-paid teachers earned **\$10.85 an hour**, **\$1.32** more than in 1988. The teachers have primary responsibility for children in classrooms.
- Most child-care workers, therefore, earn on average little more than the **\$12,803** poverty level wage for a family of three.
- On average, centers lost **31 percent** of their staff from 1996-1997, according to the study, which showed that only **32 percent** of day-care instructors were in their center for five years or more.
- Many empty slots are now being filled by welfare recipients as a result of the recent push to empty the rolls in many states. The study found that **35 percent** of centers now employ welfare recipients. But since **fewer than half** of centers provided on-site training for welfare recipients and since wages were so low, such jobs were an unlikely route out of poverty.

In a second report by the *Center for the Child Care Workforce*, "Then and Now: Changes in Staffing, 1994-2000"³, found that the wages and non-wage compensation were insufficient to maintain the necessary levels of staffing. This study of northern California day care centers used data gathered at three different times between 1994 and 2000. Although the report derived its data from California day care facilities, the results represent the general beliefs in the industry. Selected highlights of the report are presented on below. To see the complete highlights view web site <http://www.ccw.org/t&nhighlights.pdf>.

² "Worthy Work, Unlivable Wages: The National Child Care Staffing Study, 1988-1997", Center for the Child Care Workforce, 1998.

³ Whitebrook, Marcy, L. Sakai, E. Gerber, and C. Howes, "Then and Now: Changes in Child Care Staffing, 1994-2000", Center for the Child Care Workforce, April 29, 2001.

Highlights from “Then and Now: Changes in Staffing, 1994-2000”:

- **Three-quarters (76 percent)** of all teaching staff employed in the centers in 1996, and **82 percent** of those working in the programs in 1994, were no longer on the job in 2000.
- Average turn over rates between 1999 and 2000 were **30 percent** for all teaching staff. Over half the centers reporting turn over in the last year (**56 percent**) had not succeeded at replacing all the staff they had lost.
- Wages for the majority of teaching staff positions, when adjusted for inflation, have decreased (**six percent** for teachers and **two percent** for assistants). The small number of teaching staff who remained on the job between 1996 and 2000 experienced only a **two percent** wage increase after adjusting for changes in the cost of living.
- **Forty percent** of the participating centers in 1996 had a new director in 2000 and **two-thirds** of centers that lost a director reported having two or more directors in the last four years. Between 1994 and 2000, **51 percent** of the centers had new directors.
- Among all teaching staff, newcomers had completed fewer years of education and formal early childhood training than had those they replaced. Nearly **half** of those who left had completed a bachelor’s degree, compared to only **one-third** of new teachers.

As in the rest of the United States, wages and benefits for Colorado child care workers fall significantly below the wages and benefits for individuals in other areas of employment. In 2001, the *Colorado Office of Resource and Referral Agencies (CORRA)* published “Who Is Watching Our Kids: A profile of the Colorado Child Care Workforce in the year 2000”.⁴ Among the findings, the report states that, “child care providers nationwide make **70 percent** of what most secretaries make. They earn **half** as much as licensed practical nurses and **one-third** the salary of flight attendants. A bachelor’s degree prepared center director with ten years of experience averages **\$26,187** annually in Colorado, while her assistant director receives **\$20,508**. A child care teacher with an associate degree and three to ten years of experience earns **\$18,117**. Providers who have child care businesses in their homes average **\$6.79 per hour...**”. Table 61 provides the average wages earned by position and location in Colorado in 2000.

Table 61: Child Care Wages in Colorado by Location

Position	Front Range		Metro Denver		Resort Area		Rural Area	
	Ave Low Wage	Aver High Wage	Ave Low Wage	Aver High Wage	Ave Low Wage	Aver High Wage	Ave Low Wage	Aver High Wage
Teacher	\$7.37/hr	\$9.31/hr	\$8.11/hr	\$10.99/hr	\$7.90/hr	\$10.87/hr	\$7.30/hr	\$8.80/hr
Assistant	\$6.18/hr	\$7.22/hr	\$6.79/hr	\$8.20/hr	\$7.14/hr	\$10.87/hr	\$6.03/hr	\$7.29/hr
Director*	\$22,880	\$29,640	\$24,502	\$31,554	\$21,736	\$36,130	\$22,048	\$26,374

* Director salaries are an annual salary. All other salaries are hourly wages.
Source: “Who Is Watching Our Kids: A profile of the Colorado Child Care Workforce in the year 2000”, Colorado Office of Resource and Referral Agencies (CORRA)

Benefits in the profession also lag well behind those in other industries in Colorado. According to the *CORRA* report, **seventy-four percent** of full-time providers and **29 percent** of part-time providers receive health care coverage. This compares to **85 percent** health coverage for all individuals statewide, despite employment status. To view the entire report, see web site www.welfareinfo.org/childcarework.asp.

⁴ “Who Is Watching Our Kids: A profile of the Colorado Child Care Workforce in the year 2000”, Colorado Office of Resource and Referral Agencies, 2001.

Costs:

According to *NSAF* data, single-parent families in 1997 were slightly more likely to pay for child care than two-parent families in the United States. However, the difference is not large: **52 percent** of single-parent families paid for care, compared with **47 percent** of two-parent families. Two-parent families have more opportunities to rely solely on parental care, but they also have greater resources with which to pay for care, so they may have less need to arrange unpaid care.

Table 62 provides data on the average daily rates for child care in the different community types (urban, rural, and resort). In most cases, the costs for child care centers are higher in urban areas (higher for 3-4 year olds in resort areas). Rural areas have the lowest child care costs for all ages in child care centers. In child care homes, resort areas have the highest daily charge for children of kindergarten age and younger. For children older than kindergarten ages, urban facilities are the most expensive (or tied for most expensive). In general, rural areas have the least expensive child care for younger children. For children in school, the resort area has the least expensive child care.

Table 63 (next page) presents the data on the costs of child care for each county in Colorado in 1999. The costs for child care in the state vary greatly from a weekly average per child cost of **\$45** in Costilla County to **\$176** in Pitkin County. As expected, Front Range and resort counties have higher costs for child care, while the rural, southern counties have lower child care costs. However, as a percentage of per capita income, there does not appear to be a correlation between income levels and per cent of income dedicated to child care. As an example, residents of Archuleta County (a lower-income county) have the highest percentage of their incomes dedicated to child care costs with **25.20%**. However, another low-income county, Costilla County has only **12.82%** of their income committed to child care. Denver County residents, despite having the fourth highest per capita income in the state, spend the second least amount of their income on child care costs (**12.85%**) in Colorado. Parents in Douglas County (**7th** highest per capita income) spend the **\$6,600** annually on child care – **24th** most expensive as a proportion of income in Colorado.

Table 62: Child Care Provider Daily Rate by Facility, Age of Child, and Location (2001)

Facility Type	Location	Infant	Toddler	3-4 Years	Kinder-garten	School Age			
						Out of School	Before and After School	Before School	After School
Child Care Centers									
	Urban	\$33.00	\$31.00	\$27.00	26.00	\$27.00	\$24.00	\$14.00	\$15.00
	Rural	\$20.00	\$19.00	\$17.00	17.00	\$17.00	\$14.00	\$8.00	\$8.00
	Resort	\$34.00	\$34.00	\$31.00	26.00	\$25.00	\$18.00	\$8.00	\$12.00
Child Care Homes									
	Urban	\$29.00	\$28.00	\$26.00	25.00	\$25.00	\$23.00	\$13.00	\$13.00
	Rural	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$18.00	17.00	\$19.00	\$16.00	\$11.00	\$13.00
	Resort	\$30.00	\$30.00	\$27.00	26.00	\$24.00	\$17.00	\$9.00	\$10.00

Source: Colorado Division of Child Care and Colorado Office of Resource and Referral Agencies (CORRA)

Table 63: Colorado County Costs for Child Care and Percent of Per Capita Income Necessary to Meet Child Care Costs (1999)

County	Per Capita Income (\$)	Average Weekly Cost (\$) Per Child	Average Annual Cost (\$) Per Child	Percent of Per Capita Income Spent Per Child for Child Care
Adams	24,670	87	4,333	17.56
Alamosa	21,108	74	3,700	17.53
Arapahoe	40,177	113	5,667	14.11
Archuleta	17,458	88	4,400	25.20
Baca	28,550	78	3,912	13.70
Bent	17,017	53	2,655	15.60
Boulder	37,523	130	6,502	17.33
Chaffee	20,474	84	4,215	20.59
Cheyenne *	30,122	80	4,019	13.34
Clear Creek	31,049	108	5,400	17.39
Conejos	14,943	65	3,225	21.58
Costilla	17,555	45	2,250	12.82
Crowley	20,989	70	3,500	16.68
Custer *	18,970	75	3,771	19.88
Delta	18,591	76	3,813	20.51
Denver	40,856	105	5,250	12.85
Dolores	19,534	73	3,650	18.69
Douglas	35,451	132	6,600	18.62
Eagle	39,304	124	6,218	15.82
El Paso	25,759	96	4,780	18.56
Elbert	27,255	93	4,642	17.03
Fremont	17,595	73	3,660	20.80
Garfield	25,233	97	4,874	19.32
Gilpin	28,945	102	4,100	14.16
Grand	26,610	92	4,575	17.19
Gunnison	22,958	90	4,500	19.60
Hinsdale	22,342	112	5,600	25.06
Huerfano	19,406	78	3,883	20.01
Jackson	19,503	90	4,500	23.07
Jefferson	35,042	104	5,200	14.84
Kiowa	34,822	90	4,500	12.92
Kit Carson	28,261	74	3,696	13.08
Lake	25,185	92	4,617	17.27
La Plata	26,878	87	4,350	17.18
Larimer	28,386	95	4,736	16.68
Las Animas	18,548	77	3,844	20.72
Lincoln	19,537	77	3,863	19.77
Logan	27,711	75	3,733	13.47
Mesa	23,557	83	4,140	17.57
Mineral *	23,099	88	4,400	19.05
Moffat	21,515	90	4,500	20.92
Montezuma	21,254	74	3,683	17.33
Montrose	20,960	78	3,906	18.64
Morgan	23,216	79	3,958	17.05
Otero	20,962	55	2,738	13.06
Ouray	23,900	100	5,015	20.98
Park	23,761	100	4,975	20.94
Phillips	25,081	75	3,750	14.95
Pitkin	65,573	176	8,818	13.45
Prowers	25,046	64	3,225	12.88
Pueblo	21,924	88	4,419	20.16
Rio Blanco	24,280	90	4,500	18.53
Rio Grande	22,861	64	3,200	14.00
Routt	33,258	107	5,333	16.04
Saguache	15,885	79	3,950	24.87
San Juan *	22,625	96	4,816	21.29
San Miguel	34,427	140	7,000	20.33
Sedgwick	27,439	88	4,406	16.06
Summit	37,603	126	6,300	16.75
Teller	25,122	90	4,500	17.91
Washington	27,566	75	3,746	13.59
Weld	22,852	81	4,028	17.63
Yuma	24,507	63	3,154	12.87

*Denotes value estimated from similar surrounding counties

** These figures represent costs without subsidies

Source: Colorado Division of Child Care and the Colorado Office of Resource and Referral Agencies (CORRA)

The *Colorado Child Care Assistance Program (CCCAP)* provides financial assistance to low-income families that are working, searching for employment or in training, and families that are enrolled in the *Colorado Works Program* and need child care services to support their efforts toward self-sufficiency. Between July 1, 2000 and June 30, 2001 **53,081** children and **28,850** families received childcare aid from CCCAP. Of these families, **91.2%** were single parent homes and **46.7%** of the families had income that fell below the poverty line. Colorado allows the individual counties to determine eligibility for CCCAP aid. Requirements can be found at web site <http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/childcare/eligibil.htm>.

Other Studies:

In July 2002, the *U.S. Census Bureau* through their *Current Population Reports* released "Who's Minding the Kids? Child Care Arrangements: Spring 1997". The document is an investigation of childcare arrangements, hours spent in childcare, after school (enrichment) activities, weekly childcare expenditures and historical trends in the United States. The data are from the spring 1997 *Survey of Income and Program Participation* and the document can be found on line at: <http://www.census.gov/prod/2002pubs/p70-86.pdf>.

Highlights from "Who's Minding the Kids? Child Care Arrangements: Spring 1997" include:

- Grandparents were the leading child-care providers for preschoolers who were in some type of child-care arrangement in 1997. Among the nation's **19.6 million** preschoolers, grandparents took care of **21 percent**, the report said.
- About **17 percent** of pre-school children were cared for by their father (while their mother was employed or in school); **12 percent** were in day-care centers; **9 percent** were cared for by other relatives; **7 percent** were cared for by a family day-care provider in their home; and **6 percent** received care in nursery schools or preschools.
- More than **one-third** of preschoolers (7.2 million) had no regular child-care arrangement and were presumably under maternal care.
- Only **15 percent** of grandparents were paid for taking care of their preschool-age grandchildren, with **payments averaging \$40 per week**. On the other hand, day-care centers received **twice that amount, averaging \$83 per week**.
- In 1997, **466,000** preschoolers received help from the government to pay for childcare.
- Preschoolers living in poverty were more likely to receive help from the government to pay for childcare (**9%**) than those living just above the poverty line (**5%**).
- Preschoolers whose mothers were attending school were more than twice as likely to receive assistance to pay for child care from the government as those of employed mothers (**16% vs. 7%**).
- Non-Hispanic White and Asian and Pacific Islander preschoolers were more likely to be cared for by their fathers than by their grandparents. The reverse occurred for African American preschoolers. No statistical differences were found between the proportions of Hispanic children cared for by their grandparents and those cared for by their fathers.

- Poor families with an employed mother who paid for childcare spent roughly **three times** as much of their budget on it than families who were not poor (**20% versus 7%**).
- Grade-school children of employed mothers were less likely to be in a paid arrangement than preschoolers (**41% versus 57%**). When grade-school children were in such an arrangement, the average cost per week was lower than for preschoolers (**\$42 versus \$70**), but the price per hour was higher (**\$2.82 versus \$2.22**).

Another report, "Weld County Childcare and Youth Supervision Needs Assessment Survey"¹, was conducted in 1999 on **386 individuals** in families with children less than eighteen years of age in Weld County, Colorado. Selected highlights of the survey follow.

Highlights of the Weld County Childcare Survey:

- For children under the age of six, **35.7%** of parents used either licensed childcare giver or a childcare center.
- The average cost of childcare cited for children under the age of six in Weld County was **\$17.40** per day.
- **Seventy-seven percent** of urban families reported having difficulty finding affordable childcare for children five and under. For rural families, **52.9%** reported these difficulties.
- **Nineteen percent** of respondents gave cost as a reason for not using licensed childcare or child centers for those with children under six. For those with children between 6 and 12 years of age, **35.0%** gave cost as a reason for not using childcare or licensed childcare facilities.
- **Nine percent** of parents with children less than six and **21%** with children between the ages of six and twelve gave up jobs because of difficulties finding appropriate childcare. For individuals with children between 13 and 17 years of age, **17%** gave up a job because of difficulty finding childcare.
- For children between six and twelve years of age, **34.3%** of families cited lack of available childcare near home or work as a problem, **33.6%** cited transportation problems, and **32.8%** cited a lack of recreational (social activities) as reasons for difficulty in finding available childcare.
- **29.3%** of families with children between six and twelve reported difficulty finding childcare near home or work during the summer.
- For children between the ages of 13 and 17, **three-quarters** of parents responded that the children were old enough to be without supervision.
- The most frequently cited teen supervision difficulty in both urban (**39.7%**) and rural (**35.6%**) areas was the lack of summer programs near work or home.

To view the complete report on childcare in Weld County, contact the *Weld County Board of Commissioners, Dr. Robbyn Wacker or Dr. Carol Gosselink at the University of Northern Colorado College of Health and Human Services.*

¹ Wacker, R. and Gosselink, C., 1999. "Weld County Childcare and Youth Supervision Needs Assessment Survey", University of Northern Colorado College of Health and Human Services.

"A Profile of School-Age Care Programs"², a third study, was given to school age care staff in North Carolina. The survey was conducted by the *North Carolina State University Cooperative Extension* and provides data on child demographics, staff education levels, staff work experience, staff salaries, and child/staff ratios in North Carolina. Data are also provided on the types of programs in operation (i.e. year round, food provided, transportation provided). To view the complete article, see web site <http://www.joe.org/joe/2000december/a1.html>.

R8: Resources for Child Care

Web Site	Level of Data Available	Comments
http://www.ccw.org/	National	Center for the Child Care Workforce
http://www.ccw.org/t&nhighlights.pdf	National	"Then and Now" Highlights – Publication on Child Care Wages
http://www.ccw.org/pubs/studies.html#national_childcare	National	"Worthy Work, Unlivable Wages: The National Child Care Staffing Study, 1988-1997"
http://www.emkf.org/pdf/financing_childcare_news.pdf	National	"Financing Child Care" –Report by the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation
http://newfederalism.urban.org/html/op40/occa40.html#nat	National	"Child Care Expenses of America's Families" – Urban Institute
http://newfederalism.urban.org/html/op42/occa42.html#struc	National	Data on child care arrangements for younger children
http://www.census.gov/prod/2002pubs/p70-86.pdf	National	Who's Minding the Kids? Report from the Census Bureau Current Population Report
http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/ccb/	National/State	State to state child care comparisons
http://www.childrensdefense.org/states/profile-co.pdf	National/State	"2000 Colorado Profile" statistics on children in Colorado (State Comparisons)
http://www.aecf.org/cgi-bin/kconline.cgi?KC_QUERY_TYPE=QUERY_PROFILES&STATE=CO	National/State	"KidsCount 2000" Annie E Casey Foundation
http://www.joe.org/joe/2000december/a1.html	State	Survey of North Carolina school age care facilities
http://nccic.org/	State	National Child Care Information Center homepage
http://www.ccw.org/pubs/2002Compendium.pdf	State	Child care wages in Colorado
www.welfareinfo.org/childcarework.asp	State	"Who is watching Our Kids: A profile of the Colorado Child Care Workforce in the year 2000.
http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/childcare/cccap.htm	State/Local	Colorado Child Care Assistance program (CCCAP)
http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/childcare/eligibil.htm	State/Local	Child care assistance levels from CCCAP
http://www.corra.org/	State/County	Colorado Office of Resource and Referral Agencies – Information on child care

² Vandenbergh, B and Locklear, E., December 2000. Journal of Extension Volume 38, Number 6.

9 Sexual Behavior

In the United States in 1999, half (49.9%) of all high school students reported having had sexual intercourse during their lifetime. The *Centers for Disease Control* reports that this is a decline from 54.1% in 1991, but an increase from the 1997 rate of 48.4%. This part of the Welfare section presents data on general sexual attitudes, teen pregnancy, abortion, and sexually transmitted diseases (including HIV and AIDS). The data has been mostly acquired from the *Centers for Disease Control (CDC)* and the *National Campaign to Prevent Teenage Pregnancy (NCPTP)*. Additional resources can be found at the end of the **Sexual Behavior** portion of the report.

In 1999, as part of the *Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System*, the *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention* conducted a national school-based *Youth Risk Behavior Survey* that resulted in 15,349 questionnaires completed by students in 144 schools. To see the complete survey, see website <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/ss4905a1.htm>.

Highlights of the Youth Risk Behavior Survey for the United States:

Sexual Activity:

- 49.9% of students had had sexual intercourse during their lifetime.
- Black students (71.2%) and Hispanic students (54.1%) were more likely than white students (45.1%) to have had sexual intercourse.
- Nationwide, 8.8% of students had ever been forced to have sexual intercourse when they did not wish. Female students (12.5%) were significantly more likely than male students (5.2%) to have been forced to have sexual intercourse.
- 8.3% of students had initiated sexual intercourse before 13 years of age.
- Male students (9.4%) were significantly more likely than female students (4.5%) to have initiated sexual intercourse before 13 years of age.
- Black male students (29.9%) were significantly more likely than Hispanic and white male students (14.2% and 7.5%, respectively) to have initiated sexual intercourse before age 13 years.
- 16.2% of students had had sexual intercourse with four or more sex partners during their lifetime.
- 36.3% of students had experienced sexual intercourse during the 3 months preceding the survey (i.e., currently sexually active). Overall, black students (53.0%) were significantly more likely than Hispanic and white students (36.3% and 33.0%, respectively) to be currently sexually active. This significant racial/ethnic difference was identified for both female and male students.
- Among students who had experienced sexual intercourse during their lifetime, 27.3% of students had been abstinent during the 3 months preceding the survey (i.e., currently abstinent).
- Male students (30.5%) were significantly more likely than female students (23.9%) to report current abstinence.

Birth Control:

- Among currently sexually active students, **58.0%** reported that either they or their partner had used a condom during last sexual intercourse.
- Among currently sexually active students, **16.2%** reported that either they or their partner had used birth control pills before last sexual intercourse.
- Female students (**20.4%**) were significantly more likely than male students (**11.8%**) to report birth control pill use.

Alcohol and Sexual Activity:

- Among students who were currently sexually active, **24.8%** had used alcohol or drugs at last sexual intercourse.
- Male students (**31.2%**) were significantly more likely than female students (**18.5%**) to have used alcohol or drugs at last sexual intercourse.
- White students (**27.4%**) were significantly more likely than Hispanic students (**22.5%**) and black students (**18.1%**) to have used alcohol or drugs at last sexual intercourse.

Pregnancy:

- **6.3%** of students reported that they had been pregnant or had gotten someone else pregnant.
- Female students (**7.6%**) were significantly more likely to have been pregnant than male students (**5.0%**) were to have gotten someone else pregnant.
- Black students (**13.4%**) were significantly more likely than Hispanic students (**6.4%**) and white students (**4.3%**) to have been pregnant or to have gotten someone else pregnant.

HIV and AIDS:

- **90.6%** of students had been taught about HIV/AIDS in school.
- White students (**92.2%**) were more likely than Hispanic students (**84.1%**) to have received HIV education in school.
- **62.8%** of students had talked about HIV/AIDS with parents or other adult family members. (1997 survey)
- Female students (**67.4%**) were significantly more likely than male students (**59.1%**) to have talked about HIV/AIDS with parents or other adult family members. (1997 survey)
- Black students (**72.7%**) were significantly more likely than white students (**62.0%**) and Hispanic students (**60.5%**) to have talked about HIV/AIDS with parents or other adult family members. (1997 survey)

Teen Pregnancy:

According to the *Centers for Disease Control (CDC)*, teenaged mothers in 1999 are more prone to live in poverty and fail to graduate from high school. About **1 million** teenagers become pregnant each year; **95%** of those pregnancies are unintended, and almost **one-third** end in abortions. Babies born to teenaged mothers are more likely to be of low birth weight and have more health problems throughout life.

From 1990-1995, the United Nations reported in "The Industrial World"¹, the United States had the highest rate of births among teens aged 15-19 in the developed world. The United States had

¹ "The Industrial World", UNICEF, 1996

an average teen birth rate of **62 per 1,000** during the time, while Japan had the lowest rate (**6 births per 1,000** teens). Overall, the European Union's rate was **15 per 1,000** teenaged females.

The *National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy (NCPTP)*² reports that between 1991-2000, the U.S. birth rate for teens aged 15-19 declined **21.9 percent** to **48.5 births per 1,000** teen girls in 2000, after reaching its highest point in two decades (**62.1 births per 1000** teen girls aged 15-19 in 1991). While this trend is encouraging, the U.S. teen birth rate remains notably higher than the rates in other industrialized democracies.

Colorado has consistently had lower rates of teen pregnancy than the United States as a whole. The *NCPTP* has compiled statistics (last updated in February 2002) on teen pregnancies in the United States and for each state. Highlights of this report on the United States and Colorado follow. The full fact sheet information and other pertinent fact sheets can be viewed at web site <http://www.teenpregnancy.org/>.

Highlights for the United States from the NCPTP Report:

- **Four in 10** young women in the United States become pregnant at least once before they reach the age of 20—nearly one million a year. **Eight in ten** of these pregnancies are unintended and **79 percent** are to unmarried teens.
- The teen birth rate has declined slowly but steadily from 1991 to 1998 with an overall decline of **18 percent** for those aged 15 to 19 and preliminary data for 1999 show a **20 percent** decline between 1991-99. These recent declines reverse the 24-percent rise in the teenage birth rate from 1986 to 1991.
- The largest decline since 1991 by race was for black women. The birth rate for black teens aged 15 to 19 fell **26 percent** between 1991 and 1998. Hispanic teen birth rates declined **13 percent** between 1994 and 1998.
- However, the rates of both Hispanics and Blacks remain higher than for other groups, with Hispanic teens now having the highest teenage birth rates.
- Close to **four in ten** girls who had first intercourse at 13 or 14 report it was either non-voluntary or unwanted.
- Teen mothers are less likely to complete high school, (only **one-third** receive diplomas) and are more likely to end up on welfare (nearly **eighty percent** of unmarried teen mothers).
- The children of teenage mothers have lower birth weights, are more likely to perform poorly in school, and are at a greater risk of abuse and neglect.
- The sons of teen mothers are **13 percent** more likely to end up in prison while teen daughters are **22 percent** more likely to become teen mothers themselves.
- The primary reason that teenage girls who have never had intercourse give for abstaining from sex is that having sex would be against their religious or moral values. Teenagers who have strong emotional attachments to their parents are much less likely to become sexually active at an early age.
- Most people say teens should remain abstinent but should have access to contraception. **Ninety-five percent** of adults in the United States—and **85 percent** of teenagers—think it important that school-aged children and teenagers be given a strong message from society

² The data provided by the National Campaign to Prevent Teenage Pregnancies was compiled from a variety of sources and can be viewed at web site <http://www.teenpregnancy.org/resources/data/national.asp>

that they should abstain from sex until they are out of high school. Almost **60 percent** of adults also think that sexually active teenagers should have access to contraception.

- Contraceptive use among sexually active teens has increased but remains inconsistent. Three-quarters of teens use some method of contraception (usually a condom) the first time they have sex. A sexually active teen that does not use contraception has a **90 percent** chance of pregnancy within one year.
- Parents rate high among many teens as trustworthy and preferred information sources on birth control. **One in two** teens say they "trust" their parents most for reliable and complete information about birth control, with only **12 percent** saying they trust a friend most.
- Teens who have been raised by both parents (biological or adoptive) from birth have lower probabilities of having sex than teens who grew up in any other family situation. At age 16, **22 percent** of girls from intact families and **44 percent** of other girls have had sex at least once. Similarly, teens from intact, two-parent families are less likely to give birth in their teens than girls from other family backgrounds.

Highlights for Colorado from the NCPTP Report:

- Since 1970, Colorado has been consistently below the national average for teen pregnancies. In 1997, Colorado had the **11th** smallest percentage of teen births to unmarried women in the nation with **73 percent**. This compared to a **78 percent** national average.
- In 1999, there were **7,246 births** to teens between the ages of fifteen and nineteen, or a rate of **48.1 births per 1,000** females in the age group.
- The highest rate (**141.8 per 1,000 females**) occurred in the "White/Hispanic" population. For all "teen" age groups (10-19 years of age), the birth rate in 1999 was **65.6 births per 1,000 females**.
- The pattern of higher teen birth rates occurring in the "White/Hispanic" population group continued overall and in each of the more narrowly defined teen age groups – 10 to 14, 15-17, and 18-19.

Induced Terminations of Pregnancy (Abortion):

According to the *Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment*, in 1999 there were a total of **5,017** induced terminations (abortions) in Colorado. This continues a downward trend from 1990 when there were **12,679** abortions performed in Colorado. Of the 1999 total, there were **4,246** terminations (**4.0 per 1,000** women between the ages of 10 and 45) performed on Colorado residents and **752** terminations performed on non-residents. Almost **seventy-eight** percent of the terminations were to unmarried individuals. This figure is down from **81.5 percent** in 1998. White non-Hispanic women had the largest number of induced pregnancy terminations with **3,245** (**74.6%** of all abortions). There were **561** abortions (**12.9%**) by Hispanic women and **243** terminations (**5.6%**) by Black women. **Table 64** provides the statistics on pregnancy terminations by race/ethnicity.

Table 64: Number and Percent of Abortions by Race/Ethnicity in Colorado (1990-1999)

	Race/Ethnicity											
	Total Terminations		White Non-Hispanic		White Hispanic		Black		Other		Not Stated	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
1990	12,679	100	6,745	76.4	1,021	11.6	700	7.9	362	4.1	3,851	30.4
1995	9,384	100	5,163	72.9	1,023	14.5	492	7.0	401	5.7	2,305	24.6
1996	9,710	100	5,553	72.5	1,121	14.6	559	7.3	423	5.5	2,054	21.2
1997	9,183	100	5,717	73.2	1,112	14.2	568	7.3	410	5.3	1,376	15.0
1998	7,493	100	4,845	73.5	1,038	15.7	366	5.5	347	5.3	897	12.0
1999	5,017	100	3,245	74.6	561	12.9	243	5.6	299	6.9	669	13.3

Source: 1999 Colorado Vital Statistics, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE)

In 1999, **95.1 percent** of abortions were performed in clinics, while **4.3 percent** were performed in hospitals. **Table 65** presents the data on the facility type where abortions were performed from 1990-1999.

Table 65: Number of Abortions Performed by Facility (1990-1999)

Facility Type	1990		1995		1996		1997		1998		1999	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Clinic	11,267	88.9	8,726	93.3	9,135	95.4	8,706	96.7	7,208	96.2	4,765	95.1
Hospital	690	5.4	352	3.8	339	3.5	250	2.8	237	3.2	216	4.3
Doctor's Office	722	5.7	274	2.9	104	1.1	48	0.5	48	0.6	29	0.6
Not Stated	*	*	32	0.3	132	1.4	179	1.9	*	*	7	0.1

* Not Stated

Source: 1999 Colorado Vital Statistics, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE)

Table 66 provides information on the number of abortions performed by the age of women in Colorado from 1990-1999. In each year the greatest number of pregnancy terminations were performed on women between the ages of 20 and 24. **Table 67** presents the county-level number of abortions in Colorado by age group. Additional information on abortions can be found at the *Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment* and in "Colorado Vital Statistics"³.

Table 66: Number and Percentage of Abortions Performed by Age of Patient (1990-1999)

Age	1990		1995		1996		1997		1998		1999	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
< 15	62	0.5	57	0.6	78	0.8	59	0.6	58	0.8	29	0.6
15-17	1,282	10.2	1,002	10.7	955	9.9	952	10.4	724	9.7	487	9.8
18-19	1,731	13.8	1,105	11.8	1,252	13.0	1,178	12.9	998	13.3	644	12.9
20-24	3,867	30.7	2,930	31.4	2,905	30.1	2,825	30.8	2,368	31.6	1,574	31.5
25-29	2,646	21.0	1,899	20.3	2,006	20.8	1,876	20.5	1,494	20.0	969	19.4
30-34	1,809	14.4	1,299	13.9	1,286	13.3	1,184	12.9	969	13.0	662	13.3
35-39	945	7.5	806	8.6	879	9.1	818	8.9	640	8.6	455	9.1
40-44	226	1.8	228	2.4	271	2.8	256	2.8	222	3.0	157	3.1
45+	11	0.1	15	0.2	10	0.1	15	0.2	10	0.1	17	0.3
Not Stated	100	0.8	43	0.5	68	0.7	20	0.2	11	0.1	23	0.5

* Fewer than three reported cases

Percentages do not equal 100% due to rounding.

Source: 1999 Colorado Vital Statistics, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE)

³ "Colorado Vital Statistics 1999", Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, 2001.

Table 67: Number of Abortions by County of Residence in Colorado (1999)

State and County	Total	Under 15	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45+
Adams	150	3	41	36	29	25	13	3	*
Alamosa	14	*	*	5	3	3	*	*	*
Arapahoe	159	*	34	43	32	22	20	6	*
Archuleta	14	*	4	*	*	3	3	*	*
Baca	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Bent	6	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Boulder	545	*	94	187	124	61	54	20	3
Chaffee	9	*	*	*	3	*	*	*	*
Cheyenne	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Clear Creek	4	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Conejos	3	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Costilla	3	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Crowley	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Custer	3	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Delta	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Denver	388	4	67	104	89	78	29	11	5
Dolores	4	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Douglas	56	*	13	11	7	12	12	*	*
Eagle	13	*	*	*	6	*	*	*	*
Elbert	6	*	*	*	*	*	3	*	*
El Paso	1,009	5	238	334	209	123	72	28	*
Fremont	36	*	10	9	7	3	5	*	*
Garfield	8	*	*	*	*	*	3	*	*
Gilpin	5	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Grand	14	*	*	4	6	*	*	*	*
Gunnison	8	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Hinsdale	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Huerfano	9	*	5	*	*	*	*	*	*
Jackson	5	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Jefferson	241	*	74	57	37	35	23	12	*
Kiowa	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Kit Carson	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Lake	6	*	3	*	*	*	*	*	*
La Plata	143	*	23	63	25	10	15	5	*
Larimer	600	3	122	241	80	77	53	18	6
Las Animas	18	*	4	8	3	*	*	*	*
Lincoln	6	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Logan	13	*	8	*	*	*	*	*	*
Mesa	6	*	*	*	3	*	*	*	*
Mineral	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Moffat	5	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Montezuma	39	*	10	8	5	11	4	*	*
Montrose	7	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Morgan	21	*	4	10	3	*	4	*	*
Otero	20	*	*	10	7	*	*	*	*
Ouray	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Park	10	*	4	*	*	*	*	*	*
Phillips	3	*	*	5	*	*	*	*	*
Pitkin	3	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Prowers	13	*	3	3	*	*	3	3	*
Pueblo	196	*	49	68	44	22	9	3	*
Rio Blanco	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Rio Grande	5	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Routt	35	*	9	7	8	6	5	*	*
Saguache	4	*	*	*	*	*	3	*	*
San Juan	9	*	*	*	5	*	*	*	*
San Miguel	18	*	*	3	5	7	*	*	*
Sedgwick	5	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Summit	10	*	*	*	6	*	*	*	*
Teller	39	*	10	7	6	7	6	*	*
Washington	3	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Weld	265	*	70	98	50	26	14	4	*
Yuma	10	*	5	4	*	*	*	*	*
COLORADO	4,246	26	937	1,367	827	561	376	129	23

* Fewer than 3 reported cases

Source: 1999 Colorado Vital Statistics, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE)

Nationally, in 1997, *The Centers for Disease Control* conducted a survey on abortion in the United States. The survey is presented in *Abortion Surveillance-United States 1997*. The highlights of that survey follow below. The entire report may be accessed at http://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/drh/pdf/mmwr_ss/ss4911.pdf.

- From 1990 through 1995, the number of abortions in the United States declined each year. In 1996, the number increased slightly, but in 1997, the number of abortions in the United States declined to its lowest level since 1978.
- The ratio of legal abortions in 1997 was **306 per 1,000** live births, the lowest rate since 1975.
- The rate of legal abortions for women in the reproductive years (15-44) was **20 per 1,000** women. This rate has remained stable since 1995.
- Women who obtained abortions were more likely to be young (25 years or younger), white, and unmarried. As in previous years, approximately **20%** of all abortions were obtained by adolescents (women aged 19 years and younger). Approximately half the women who had an abortion were obtaining an abortion for the first time.
- More than half of all abortions for which gestational age was reported were performed at 8 weeks of pregnancy or less, **88%** were performed in the first trimester, and **18%** were performed at the earliest weeks of gestation (≤ 6 weeks).

Table 68 provides additional data on legal abortions in the United States and Colorado in 1997. In both entities there was a higher percentage of abortions performed in the 20-24 age group than any other group.

Table 68: Reported legal abortions in percent, by age group of women who obtained abortions Colorado and the United States, 1997

	<15	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	>40	Unknown
Colorado	0.6	23.2	30.8	20.4	12.9	8.9	3.0	0.2
United States	0.7	19.2	31.5	23.3	13.9	8.2	2.6	0.6

Source: Centers for Disease Control, "Abortion Surveillance-United States", 1997

Additional data on abortions and pregnancy terminations in the United States are published by the *Alan Guttmacher Institute (AGI)*. The *AGI* is a pro-choice non-profit advocacy organization focused on sexual and reproductive health research, policy analysis and public education. The *AGI* website can be found at <http://www.agi-usa.org/sections/abortion.html>.

Sexually Transmitted Diseases:

Sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) impose a welfare cost to society in numerous ways. Over the last few years, the trend for most STDs in Colorado and nationally has been downward. Data compiled by *Centers for Disease Control* and the *Disease Control and Environmental Epidemiology Division of the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment* are presented in the *Health Section* of the *County Data Book*.⁴

⁴ County Data Book, Colorado State University Cooperative Extension County Information Service, 2001.

R9: Resources for Sexual Behavior

Web Site	Level of Data Available	Comments
http://www.unicef.org/pon96/inbirth.htm	International	"The Industrial World", UNICEF statistics on teen births worldwide
http://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/drh/pdf/mmwr_ss/ss4911.pdf	National	CDC "Abortion Surveillance – 1997"
http://www.hhs.gov/topics/teenpreg.html	National	US Department of Health and Human Services Teen Pregnancy Publications
http://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/dash/yrbs/trend.htm	National	CDC Fact Sheet: Youth Risk Behavior Trends
ftp://ftp.cdc.gov/pub/Publications/mmwr/ss/ss4905.pdf	National	CDC Report: "Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance --- United States, 1999"
http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/ss4905a1.htm	National	CDC: Summary "Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance --- United States, 1999"
http://www.agi-usa.org/sections/abortion.html	National	Alan Guttmacher Institute data on induced pregnancy terminations
http://www.teenpregnancy.org/factstats.htm	National/State	National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy Fact Sheets
http://www.teenpregnancy.org/	National/State	National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy (NCPTP) Homepage
http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/hs/pubs.asp#vital_statistics	State	Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) Vital Statistics
TEXT ONLY – COLORADO VITAL STATISTICS: 1999	County	County level abortion data

10 Developmental and Learning Disabilities

According to the 2001 *U. S. Census Bureau* study on Americans with disabilities¹, **52.6 million** people (**19.7 percent** of the population) had some level of disability and **33.0 million (12.3 percent)** of the population) had at least one severe disability. Additionally, **3.8 percent** of the population (**10.1 million** individuals) required the assistance of at least one other person in performing one or more normal daily tasks. In **80 percent** of the cases, the assistance giver was a relative.

The *Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990* defines disabilities as “a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities”. These disabilities can be classified as either “not severe” or “severe”. In the “not severe” form of each disability, an individual has difficulty performing tasks that are considered normal daily physical, mental, or learning functions. For a disability to be considered “severe”, a person would not be able to accomplish these tasks without the aid of additional equipment or another person.

This portion of the **Welfare** section is divided into three parts.

- General Characteristics, including discussions on:
 - Age
 - Ethnicity
 - Income and Employment
- Data and programs specifically applicable to the developmentally disabled
- Data and programs specifically applicable to the learning disabled.

According to the *U.S. Census Bureau*, developmental disabilities can be manifest as:

- Seeing, hearing, or speaking deficiencies
- Trouble walking or using stairs (including use of a wheelchair, cane, crutches, or walker)
- Difficulty performing selected physical tasks (lifting or carrying 10 pounds or grasping objects)
- Difficulty performing *activities of daily living (ADL)* such as getting out of bed, taking a bath, feeding themselves, dressing themselves, and using the toilet.
- Difficulty performing *instrumental activities of daily living (IADL)*. These tasks include going outside, taking medicine, preparing meals, paying bills, using the telephone, and doing light housework.

These developmental disabilities can be classified as either “severe” or “not severe”.

Learning disabilities are neurological disorders that interfere with a person's ability to store, process, or produce information, and create a "gap" between one's ability and performance. Individuals with learning disabilities are generally of average or above average intelligence. Learning disabilities can affect one's ability to read, write, speak, or compute math, and can impede social skills. Learning disabilities can affect one or more areas of development. Individuals with learning disabilities can have marked difficulties on certain types of tasks while excelling at others. Sometimes overlooked as "hidden handicaps", learning disabilities are often not easily recognized, accepted or considered serious once detected. Learning disabilities affect children and

¹ “Americans With Disabilities”, Household Economic Study P70-73, US Census Bureau, February 2001.

adults. The impact of the disability ranges from relatively mild to severe. Learning disabilities often run in families.

In most cases, the data will be presented for both Colorado and the United States.

The data and information contained in the “General Characteristics” portion of this chapter include both “developmental disabilities” and “learning disabilities”.

The majority of the data used for Colorado and the United States comes from the *United States Bureau of the Census*, which provides data on disabilities from three primary sources: the *Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP)*, the *decennial census of population* (Census 2000), and the *Current Population Survey (CPS)*.

- The *SIPP*, a national household survey that began in 1984, featured a design in which a panel of households entered the survey at the beginning of each calendar year and were interviewed at four-month intervals over a period of two years or more. The major drawback to the *SIPP* as a disability data source is the relatively small sample size of the survey. In general, the *SIPP* cannot provide reliable estimates below the regional level. Persons interested in state and local estimates generally use the decennial census as their source of information on the disability status of the population. Disability data from the *SIPP* can be found at <http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/disable/dissipp.html>.
- The decennial censuses contain questions about disability status. This is the only source of information that provides estimates below the regional level (i.e. down to census tract). There are two drawbacks to the census data. The first is that new data becomes available only at the beginning of each decade and therefore becomes “dated” quickly. Second, in contrast to the comprehensive data available from the *SIPP*, the decennial census provides data on only a few dimensions of disability.
- The third data set, the *Current Population Survey (CPS)*, identifies persons who are out of the labor force because of a disability and, in each March survey since 1980, identifies persons who have a health problem which “prevents them from working or limits the kind or amount of work they can do. The *CPS* is a national monthly survey of about 50,000 households conducted by the *Bureau of the Census for the Bureau of Labor Statistics*. The main drawback of the *CPS* is that the applicable disability data is available only to the national level. The data is available from the *CPS* from 1995 to present can be found at <http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/disable/disabcps.html>.

Disability data available from all sources at the *Census Bureau* can be found on-line at <http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/disability.html>.

The *Colorado Department of Human Services Division of Developmental Disabilities Services* and the *Colorado Department of Education* supply additional data and information on disabilities in Colorado. Additional data on disabilities in the United States are supplied by the *Disability Statistics Rehabilitation Research Center at the University of California, San Francisco*, the *National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NDIRR)*, and the *National Center for Learning Disabilities*.

General Characteristics:

The “General Characteristics” portion of this document is broken into four topic areas.

- A short synopsis of the *Current Population Report P70-73*, “Americans With Disabilities: 1997”. This gives an overview of the situation in the United States and Colorado in 1997.
- The effects of age on disabilities. Data is presented on national, state, and county levels, with information derived from both *Current Population Report P70-73* and *Census 2000*.
- Ethnicity/race and the disabled. *Current Population Report P70-73* provides the majority of the information for this topic.
- Income and employment data for the disabled. The data comes from both *Census 2000* and the *Current Population Survey* from March 2001.

Current Population Report P70-73:

Current Population Report P70-73, “Americans With Disabilities: 1997”, presented data and information on the status of disabled in the United States and Colorado in 1997. Highlights of the report are printed below. To view the entire report, see web site

<http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/disable/sipp/disab97/asc97.html>.

Highlights for the United States from the “Americans With Disabilities: 1997” Report

- In 1997, **52.6 million** people (**19.7 percent** of the population) in the United States had some level of disability and **33.0 million** (**12.3 percent** of the population) had a severe disability.
- About **10.1 million** individuals (**3.8 percent** of the US population) needed personal assistance with one or more *Activities of Daily Living (ADLs)* or *Instrumental Activities of Daily Living (IADLs)*.
- Among the population in the United States, 15 years old and over, **2.2 million** used a wheelchair. Another **6.4 million** used some other ambulatory aid such as a cane, crutches, or a walker.
- About **7.7 million** Americans 15 years old and over had difficulty seeing the words and letters in ordinary newspaper print; of them, **1.8 million** were unable to see.
- The poverty rate among the US population 25 to 64 years old with no disability was **8.3 percent**; it was **27.9 percent** for those with a severe disability. Among those 45 to 54 years old, **22.6 percent** had some form of disability, **13.9 percent** had a severe disability, and **3.6 percent** needed personal assistance. For those 65 to 69 years old, the comparable estimates were **44.9 percent**, **30.7 percent**, and **8.1 percent**. For those 80 years old and over, the estimates were **73.6 percent**, **57.6 percent**, and **34.9 percent**, respectively.
- Women made up the majority of the individuals with disabilities: **28.3 million** women compared with **24.3 million** men.
- Among those with a severe disability in the United States, **18.2 million** were women and **14.8 million** were men, and among those who needed personal assistance, **5.9 million** were women and **4.1 million** were men.
- For all ages, the prevalence of severe disability (when compared to non-severe disabilities) was **8.5 percent** for Asians and Pacific Islanders, **9.7 percent** for Hispanics, **12.2 percent** for non-Hispanic Whites, and **15.7 percent** for Blacks.

Highlights for Colorado from the “Americans With Disabilities: 1997” Report:²

- Colorado provided comprehensive services to **99.42 persons** with developmental disabilities **per 100,000 citizens** in 1998, compared to a **national ratio of 119.56**.
- The ratio of Colorado residents provided comprehensive services has declined steadily since 1990, falling further behind the national averages.
- Overall, Colorado does not have a smaller demand for comprehensive services, but the state is meeting a smaller proportion of the identified need. This is resulting in higher waiting lists than is seen in other states.

Age:

The likelihood of having a disability increases with age. According to the *Census Bureau’s Current Population Report P70-73*, among those 45 to 54 years old in the United States, in 1997, **22.6 percent** reported some form of disability, **13.9 percent** had a severe disability, and **3.6 percent** needed personal assistance. For those 65 to 69 years old, the comparable estimates were **44.9 percent**, **30.7 percent**, and **8.1 percent**.

The *United States Census Bureau* released the initial *Census 2000* data on persons with disabilities in Colorado in June 2002. Although not as detailed at this stage as the *Current Population Surveys*, the *Census 2000* data involved far greater numbers of individuals in the survey. **Table 69** presents the *Census 2000* disabled population data (by age) for Colorado and the United States in 1990 and 2000. As an example as to how to interpret the table, note that in Colorado in 1990 there were **765,570** people between the ages of 5 and 20 years old (representing **100%** of Coloradoans in that age group). Of the **765,570** people in the age group, **23,732** have at least one disability. That represents **3.1%** of the 5-20 year old population in Colorado. The percentage of individuals reporting a disability more than **doubled** for each age group in the ten years between the 1990 census and the 2000 census. The *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)* has increased awareness of opportunities available for those with disabilities and may have led to a lessening of any stigmatism associated with disabilities. In that way the *ADA* may be partially responsible for some of the increase in disabilities reporting.

For each age group, there were a smaller percentage of residents claiming disabilities in Colorado than in the United States. The disparity is greatest among those in the 21-64 year old age group, where the difference was **3.3 percent (15.9% in Colorado versus 19.2% in the U.S.**

Table 69: Disabled Population in Colorado and the United States by Age in 1990 and 2000

		Colorado				United States			
		1990		2000		1990		2000	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Population									
5-20 Years		765,570	100.0	977,264	100.0	51,255,274	100.0	64,689,357	100.0
	With a Disability	23,732	3.1	72,623	7.4	18,451,90	3.6	5,214,334	8.1
Population									
21-64 Years		2,134,254	100.0	2,550,417	100.0	157,323,922	100.0	159,131,544	100.0
	With a Disability	167,224	7.8	406,742	15.9	12,826,449	8.2	30,553,796	19.2
Population									
Over 65		311,442	100.0	398,664	100.0	29,563,511	100.0	33,346,626	100.0
	With a Disability	53,242	17.1	159,289	40.0	5,943,441	20.1	13,978,118	41.9

Source: United States Bureau of the Census, Census 2000

² “AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES: 1997”, Centers For Disease Control, 1997.

The decennial census (*Census 2000*) also provides data on disabilities by age in Colorado counties. The data for each county in 2000 is presented in **Table 70a** on the next page. Data for 1990 is presented in **Table 70b** on page 7. For both tables, the highlighted values are for the counties with the highest or lowest percentage of the population reporting a disability in each age group. *When comparison between the two tables is performed, care must be taken, as the age groups are different.*

In the 5-20 year old age group in **Table 70a**, only six counties reported more than **ten percent** of the population with disabilities. Those counties are Denver at **10.1%**, Costilla at **10.4%**, Bent at **10.4%**, Kiowa at **10.6%**, Clear Creek at **11.0%**, and Logan at **11.4%**.

In the 21-64 year old age bracket (**Table 70a**), only four counties – Gunnison (**7.5%**), San Miguel (**7.6%**), Douglas (**7.9%**), and Routt (**8.9%**) had less than **ten percent** of the population reporting some form of disability. **Table 70b** provides the same type of data for people in the 16-64 age bracket in 1990. In 1990, **44** out of the **63** counties reported less than **ten percent** of the population with some form of disabilities.

In the “over 65” age group, only three counties (Pitkin, Summit, and Hinsdale) had fewer than **20 percent** of the population with at least one disability, while five counties (Alamosa, Rio Grande, Conejos, Dolores, and Costilla) had over **50 percent** with a disability. In 1990, the same three counties (Pitkin, Summit, and Hinsdale) reported fewer than **20 percent** of the population with at least one disability, while no county reported over **50 percent of the population** with a disability.

Another facet to consider is the severity of the disability. **Table 71** is from data provided by the *Census Bureau (Current Population Survey P70-73)* and it presents national data on the number and percentage of people in each age group that have some form of disability, severe disability, and those that need assistance. Over half (**54.5%**) of all people over 65 have some form of disability, with **30.7 percent** having at least one severe disability and **one in six people (16.7%)** in need of assistance. This is almost three times the number of those between 55 and 64 years old, where only **5.9 percent** need assistance.

Table 71: National Data on the Number and Percentage of People With Various Degrees of Disability (1997)

Age	Population Number (In Thousands)	Level of Severity					
		All Disabilities		Severe		Needs Assistance	
		Number (In Thousands)	Percent	Number (In Thousands)	Percent	Number (In Thousands)	Percent
Under 15	59,606	4,651	7.8	2,256	3.8	224	0.4
15-24	36,897	3,951	10.7	1,942	5.3	372	1.0
25-44	83,887	11,200	13.4	6,793	8.1	1,635	1.9
45-54	33,620	7,585	22.6	4,674	13.9	1,225	3.6
55-64	21,591	7,708	35.7	5,233	24.2	1,280	5.9
65 and Over	32,064	17,480	54.5	12,073	30.7	5,339	16.7
Source: United States Census Bureau, Current Population Survey P70-73							

Table 70a: Total Population and Percent of the Population with Disabilities by Age by Colorado Counties in 2000

County	Population 5 to 20 Yr Olds		Population 21 to 64 Yr Olds		Population 65 Yrs & Over	
	Population	% with Disability	Population	% with Disability	Population	% with Disability
Adams	88,429	8.0%	214,763	19.6%	27,587	44.4%
Alamosa	4,310	6.6%	8,164	18.5%	1,349	50.5%
Arapahoe	113,010	7.5%	296,149	14.5%	40,100	37.6%
Archuleta	2,253	9.1%	5,912	23.1%	1,133	32.8%
Baca	982	5.0%	2,261	20.3%	940	42.1%
Bent	1,288	10.4%	2,654	25.2%	782	49.0%
Boulder	66,267	6.0%	183,894	11.0%	21,710	36.9%
Chaffee	2,935	5.4%	8,572	17.6%	2,679	35.8%
Cheyenne	583	3.4%	1,138	14.6%	340	42.9%
Clear Creek	1,791	11.0%	6,281	15.1%	656	33.5%
Conejos	2,425	6.0%	4,046	23.8%	1,233	52.4%
Costilla	859	10.4%	1,989	31.4%	614	55.9%
Crowley	920	9.7%	1,847	28.2%	517	49.3%
Custer	674	4.6%	2,102	20.7%	525	30.3%
Delta	5,737	5.0%	14,404	18.8%	5,382	46.3%
Denver	104,835	10.1%	346,164	20.3%	60,016	41.7%
Dolores	347	7.8%	1,081	16.7%	322	55.6%
Douglas	41,939	5.4%	109,186	7.9%	6,958	31.5%
Eagle	8,315	7.5%	29,232	10.3%	1,161	30.8%
Elbert	5,407	7.3%	11,984	11.3%	1,169	37.2%
El Paso	122,496	7.1%	284,960	15.6%	42,861	40.7%
Fremont	8,489	9.5%	20,218	20.3%	6,111	44.8%
Garfield	10,301	6.5%	26,098	14.8%	3,483	32.7%
Gilpin	806	6.3%	3,334	11.6%	313	28.1%
Grand	2,402	5.6%	8,322	13.0%	978	32.8%
Gunnison	3,235	9.2%	9,094	7.5%	938	33.3%
Hinsdale	124	4.0%	527	11.2%	91	18.7%
Huerfano	1,442	9.3%	3,940	23.9%	1,222	34.4%
Jackson	350	1.4%	930	13.2%	200	39.0%
Jefferson	118,054	6.5%	322,615	13.6%	48,742	35.5%
Kiowa	388	10.6%	856	18.0%	260	48.5%
Kit Carson	1,894	6.2%	3,991	18.5%	1,124	37.8%
Lake	1,854	7.7%	4,838	18.3%	478	32.8%
La Plata	10,432	6.4%	26,824	12.3%	3,977	39.1%
Larimer	60,017	6.4%	151,713	12.4%	22,955	37.0%
Las Animas	3,527	6.2%	7,994	27.8%	2,675	45.9%
Lincoln	1,311	7.6%	2,609	17.5%	784	43.9%
Logan	4,958	11.4%	9,911	18.9%	2,796	34.7%
Mesa	26,999	8.5%	63,871	21.2%	17,045	40.6%
Mineral	138	6.5%	515	15.7%	141	31.2%
Moffat	3,343	6.5%	7,660	16.9%	1,228	48.3%
Montezuma	5,630	5.9%	13,027	18.0%	3,147	47.0%
Montrose	7,992	7.3%	17,982	19.2%	5,034	42.9%
Morgan	6,939	5.8%	14,238	18.4%	3,221	37.2%
Otero	4,961	7.4%	10,732	26.5%	3,020	47.3%
Ouray	744	4.4%	2,353	13.0%	444	27.9%
Park	2,895	7.2%	9,607	14.3%	1,082	31.0%
Phillips	1,032	4.4%	2,272	17.5%	783	32.6%
Pitkin	2,184	5.8%	11,045	16.2%	997	13.3%
Prowers	3,920	7.9%	7,474	20.4%	1,728	47.7%
Pueblo	32,741	8.8%	75,618	23.4%	20,702	46.6%
Rio Blanco	1,583	6.4%	3,379	13.1%	655	38.9%
Rio Grande	3,075	8.2%	6,630	18.9%	1,683	51.2%
Routt	4,054	6.2%	13,520	8.9%	950	34.8%
Saguache	1,488	6.5%	3,385	23.5%	625	42.2%
San Juan	94	0.0%	396	13.4%	42	26.2%
San Miguel	1,073	4.1%	4,991	7.6%	224	34.8%
Sedgwick	545	8.1%	1,433	20.0%	567	33.0%
Summit	3,728	6.8%	17,751	11.1%	746	17.6%
Teller	4,799	8.8%	12,956	16.0%	1,480	31.4%
Washington	1,143	6.6%	2,560	16.1%	873	42.4%
Weld	48,325	7.8%	101,277	18.7%	15,606	43.8%
Yuma	2,453	6.0%	5,148	18.4%	1,460	40.1%
Colorado	977,264	7.4%	2,550,417	15.9%	398,644	40.0%

Source: United States Census Bureau, Census 2000

Table 70b: Total Population and Percent of the Population with Disabilities by Age by Colorado Counties in 1990

County	Population 16 to 64 Yr Olds		Population 65 Yrs & Over	
	Population	% with Disability	Population	% with Disability
Adams	173,192	8.3%	6,447	33.3%
Alamosa	8,629	6.6%	391	33.2%
Arapahoe	261,910	5.9%	7,675	27.6%
Archuleta	3,287	10.7%	212	34.4%
Baca	2,552	9.8%	396	44.9%
Bent	2,665	12.2%	282	33.8%
Boulder	160,902	5.4%	4,712	29.1%
Chaffee	6,933	11.7%	600	29.6%
Cheyenne	1,344	5.0%	96	28.7%
Clear Creek	5,230	6.5%	177	32.5%
Conejos	4,093	12.1%	480	47.4%
Costilla	1,833	12.2%	185	35.5%
Crowley	1,644	14.8%	244	46.9%
Custer	1,188	14.7%	108	38.0%
Delta	11,529	11.7%	1,596	36.0%
Denver	305,445	9.2%	19,939	32.4%
Dolores	920	11.5%	87	39.5%
Douglas	40,565	6.1%	613	25.5%
Eagle	15,962	4.0%	161	22.7%
Elbert	6,141	6.2%	168	23.0%
El Paso	236,870	9.0%	9,890	32.8%
Fremont	16,438	13.5%	2,057	37.3%
Garfield	19,263	7.3%	744	27.3%
Gilpin	2,183	9.7%	68	30.9%
Grand	5,491	5.3%	125	20.5%
Gunnison	7,691	5.7%	134	21.8%
Hinsdale	327	6.7%	11	18.6%
Huerfano	3,342	9.1%	365	30.6%
Jackson	1,038	3.9%	44	25.6%
Jefferson	296,363	7.0%	9,110	27.7%
Kiowa	918	10.5%	109	35.6%
Kit Carson	4,047	7.1%	291	26.6%
Lake	3,926	7.2%	163	34.1%
La Plata	21,500	7.6%	964	31.5%
Larimer	125,095	6.3%	4,672	27.7%
Las Animas	7,871	10.4%	820	31.4%
Lincoln	2,566	10.2%	330	40.4%
Logan	10,559	9.7%	867	34.4%
Mesa	57,131	10.3%	4,168	33.0%
Mineral	353	9.3%	17	20.2%
Moffat	7,041	7.3%	228	25.8%
Montezuma	11,090	8.9%	964	43.4%
Montrose	14,221	10.2%	1,329	35.2%
Morgan	12,350	7.7%	872	29.1%
Otero	11,346	12.4%	1,332	42.4%
Ouray	1,468	6.6%	95	31.8%
Park	4,888	6.2%	138	26.0%
Phillips	2,344	7.1%	277	34.2%
Pitkin	10,139	3.5%	71	12.9%
Prowers	7,887	8.8%	490	30.4%
Pueblo	74,197	12.7%	5,983	33.9%
Rio Blanco	3,782	6.8%	152	29.0%
Rio Grande	6,268	11.9%	363	26.0%
Routt	10,040	4.1%	199	25.8%
Saguache	2,707	9.9%	248	43.1%
San Juan	519	6.6%	13	39.4%
San Miguel	2,744	4.3%	54	34.2%
Sedgwick	1,494	10.7%	261	44.5%
Summit	10,132	3.2%	48	17.0%
Teller	8,258	7.8%	305	34.6%
Washington	2,783	6.9%	276	33.4%
Weld	84,448	8.0%	4,172	33.1%
Yuma	5,172	8.8%	468	33.1%
Colorado	2,134,254	7.8%	97,856	31.4%

Source: United States Census Bureau, Census 1990

Ethnicity:

Table 72 presents data on the overall number of disabilities by race/ethnicity in the United States. Black Americans have the highest percentage of disabilities (**21.3%**), severe disabilities (**15.7%**), and disabilities where assistance is needed (**4.3%**). White Non-Hispanics have the second largest percentage in each category. Percentages do not sum to 100%, as they represent the proportion of each ethnic/racial group that experiences the given level of disability. As an example, **20.4%** of all White Non-Hispanics have some disability, **12.2%** have a severe disability, and **3.8%** need some form of assistance in order to function effectively in performing daily tasks.

Table 72: National Data on the Number and Percentage of Population With Various Degrees of Disability by Race (1997)

Race/Ethnicity	Total Population (in thousands)	Level of Severity					
		All Disabilities (in thousands)		Severe (in thousands)		Needs Assistance (in thousands)	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
White Non-Hispanic	193,234	39,478	20.4	23,627	12.2	7,413	3.8
Black	34,369	7,338	21.3	5,382	15.7	1,495	4.3
Hispanic	30,086	4,151	13.8	2,906	9.7	820	2.7
Asian/ Pacific Islander	9,159	1,192	13.0	776	8.5	223	2.4

Source: Bureau of the Census Current Population Survey P70-73

Income and Employment:

In June 2002, The *US Census Bureau* presented the available data on employment for those with disabilities in Colorado. **Table 73** presents the number and percentage of the 21-64 year old workforce that has some type of work disability in Colorado and the United States in 1990 and in 2000. The table also displays the number and percentage of the “disabled” that are employed. As an example, in Colorado in 1990, **7.8 percent** of the 21-64 year old age group (**167,224** individuals) reported having a work disability. Of those reporting a disability, **48.4%** were employed. In the decade since the 1990 census, work disabilities increased by **over 100%** in both Colorado and the United States. The percentage of individuals working with the disability increased by **13.5%** in Colorado and **17.3%** in the United States.

Table 73: The Number and Percentage of the 21-64 Year Old Age Group Reporting a Work Disability in 1990 and 2000

		Colorado				United States			
		1990		2000		1990		2000	
		Population 21-64 Years		Population 21-64 Years		Population 21-64 Years		Population 21-64 Years	
		2,134,254	100.0	2,550,417	100.0	157,323,922	100.0	159,131,544	100.0
	With a Work Disability	167,224	7.8	406,742	15.9	12,826,449	8.2	30,553,796	19.2
	Employed	80,936	48.4	251,773	61.9	5,040,794	39.3	17,293,449	56.6

Source: United States Census Bureau, Census 2000

The *Census Bureau* (in *Census 2000*) also released the county level employment data on the 21-64 year old population reporting at least one disability in Colorado. **Table 74a** (next page) presents the data for 2000. **Table 74b** (page 10) presents the data for employment in the counties for 1990 in the 16-64 age group. *When comparison between the two tables is performed, care must be taken as the age groups are different (21-64 and 16-64).*

Table 74a: Total Population and Percent of the Population with Disabilities for Colorado Counties in 2000 (Ages 21-64)

County	Total Population	% with Disability	% Employed	Population With No Disability	% Employed
Adams	214,763	19.6%	61.9%	172,575	80.1%
Alamosa	8,164	18.5%	58.3%	6,654	77.1%
Arapahoe	296,149	14.5%	67.5%	253,227	83.2%
Archuleta	5,912	23.1%	63.4%	4,549	73.8%
Baca	2,261	20.3%	52.4%	1,801	80.8%
Bent	2,654	25.2%	39.9%	1,985	80.2%
Boulder	183,894	11.0%	65.6%	163,694	81.9%
Chaffee	8,572	17.6%	48.8%	7,067	75.1%
Cheyenne	1,138	14.6%	66.9%	972	83.3%
Clear Creek	6,281	15.1%	72.7%	5,335	84.8%
Conejos	4,046	23.8%	44.8%	3,083	73.9%
Costilla	1,989	31.4%	25.8%	1,364	63.4%
Crowley	1,847	28.2%	47.1%	1,327	74.0%
Custer	2,102	20.7%	31.0%	1,667	73.5%
Delta	14,404	18.8%	51.7%	11,692	74.6%
Denver	346,164	20.3%	58.9%	275,858	79.0%
Dolores	1,081	16.7%	42.0%	900	73.3%
Douglas	109,186	7.9%	74.7%	100,577	83.9%
Eagle	29,232	10.3%	75.2%	26,208	83.6%
Elbert	11,984	11.3%	66.3%	10,628	83.3%
El Paso	284,960	15.6%	61.4%	240,370	80.2%
Fremont	20,218	20.3%	46.9%	16,110	78.9%
Garfield	26,098	14.8%	64.0%	22,223	81.7%
Gilpin	3,334	11.6%	65.6%	2,947	90.0%
Grand	8,322	13.0%	75.3%	7,243	83.6%
Gunnison	9,094	7.5%	64.7%	8,408	80.8%
Hinsdale	527	11.2%	72.9%	468	78.0%
Huerfano	3,940	23.9%	38.4%	3,000	72.6%
Jackson	930	13.2%	54.5%	807	80.5%
Jefferson	322,615	13.6%	68.6%	278,809	83.9%
Kiowa	856	18.0%	70.1%	702	77.5%
Kit Carson	3,991	18.5%	69.6%	3,254	82.2%
Lake	4,838	18.3%	65.7%	3,951	77.8%
La Plata	26,824	12.3%	58.9%	23,538	79.4%
Larimer	151,713	12.4%	65.2%	132,909	82.0%
Las Animas	7,994	27.8%	51.2%	5,769	74.9%
Lincoln	2,609	17.5%	57.5%	2,153	85.6%
Logan	9,911	18.9%	56.5%	8,033	83.9%
Mesa	63,871	21.2%	58.2%	50,339	80.1%
Mineral	515	15.7%	53.1%	434	77.2%
Moffat	7,660	16.9%	50.9%	6,366	82.8%
Montezuma	13,027	18.0%	59.7%	10,677	76.9%
Montrose	17,982	19.2%	56.3%	14,537	78.5%
Morgan	14,238	18.4%	61.5%	11,622	76.1%
Otero	10,732	26.5%	44.7%	7,890	77.4%
Ouray	2,353	13.0%	60.3%	2,048	72.7%
Park	9,607	14.3%	60.7%	8,229	79.8%
Phillips	2,272	17.5%	59.3%	1,874	77.9%
Pitkin	11,045	16.2%	87.8%	9,256	82.8%
Prowers	7,474	20.4%	57.0%	5,948	81.8%
Pueblo	75,618	23.4%	46.2%	57,889	77.0%
Rio Blanco	3,379	13.1%	56.1%	2,935	81.4%
Rio Grande	6,630	18.9%	55.4%	5,380	77.0%
Routt	13,520	8.9%	66.5%	12,314	86.8%
Saguache	3,385	23.5%	49.6%	2,588	70.8%
San Juan	396	13.4%	43.4%	343	77.8%
San Miguel	4,991	7.6%	78.9%	4,612	86.6%
Sedgwick	1,433	20.0%	57.8%	1,146	84.6%
Summit	17,751	11.1%	84.0%	15,777	87.5%
Teller	12,956	16.0%	61.6%	10,881	81.5%
Washington	2,560	16.1%	62.3%	2,149	82.8%
Weld	101,277	18.7%	61.2%	82,385	79.4%
Yuma	5,148	18.4%	59.1%	4,199	83.4%
Colorado	2,550,417	15.9%	61.9%	2,143,675	81.2%

* Highest and lowest values are highlighted
Source: United States Census Bureau, Census 2000

Table 74b: Total Population and Percent of the Population with Disabilities for Colorado Counties in 1990 (Ages 16-64)

County	Total Population	% with Disability	% Employed	Population With No Disability	% Employed
Adams	173,192	8.3%	47.7%	158,826	83.7%
Alamosa	8,629	6.6%	45.5%	8,057	76.6%
Arapahoe	261,910	5.9%	55.1%	246,485	84.3%
Archuleta	3,287	10.7%	47.9%	2,936	74.2%
Baca	2,552	9.8%	29.5%	2,301	73.9%
Bent	2,665	12.2%	28.2%	2,339	71.9%
Boulder	160,902	5.4%	59.0%	152,147	81.0%
Chaffee	6,933	11.7%	39.2%	6,125	78.8%
Cheyenne	1,344	5.0%	37.3%	1,277	81.8%
Clear Creek	5,230	6.5%	50.4%	4,891	86.4%
Conejos	4,093	12.1%	31.3%	3,597	71.5%
Costilla	1,833	12.2%	26.9%	1,610	65.8%
Crowley	1,644	14.8%	23.4%	1,400	73.2%
Custer	1,188	14.7%	29.7%	1,013	72.3%
Delta	11,529	11.7%	32.4%	10,181	73.0%
Denver	305,445	9.2%	44.6%	277,485	83.0%
Dolores	920	11.5%	27.4%	814	74.2%
Douglas	40,565	6.1%	64.6%	38,073	84.0%
Eagle	15,962	4.0%	57.3%	15,330	89.3%
Elbert	6,141	6.2%	48.5%	5,762	83.2%
El Paso	236,870	9.0%	48.1%	215,523	79.8%
Fremont	16,438	13.5%	32.6%	14,216	77.5%
Garfield	19,263	7.3%	56.1%	17,852	83.1%
Gilpin	2,183	9.7%	59.9%	1,971	82.3%
Grand	5,491	5.3%	56.1%	5,202	86.9%
Gunnison	7,691	5.7%	52.2%	7,254	76.5%
Hinsdale	327	6.7%	68.2%	305	85.9%
Huerfano	3,342	9.1%	34.9%	3,038	69.2%
Jackson	1,038	3.9%	47.5%	998	78.5%
Jefferson	296,363	7.0%	60.7%	275,629	85.1%
Kiowa	918	10.5%	47.9%	822	80.9%
Kit Carson	4,047	7.1%	46.5%	3,759	81.1%
Lake	3,926	7.2%	51.1%	3,644	83.0%
La Plata	21,500	7.6%	50.7%	19,864	77.2%
Larimer	125,095	6.3%	50.9%	117,256	79.5%
Las Animas	7,871	10.4%	23.1%	7,056	71.2%
Lincoln	2,566	10.2%	44.1%	2,305	82.9%
Logan	10,559	9.7%	51.2%	9,533	82.2%
Mesa	57,131	10.3%	38.3%	51,224	79.0%
Mineral	353	9.3%	45.5%	320	73.4%
Moffat	7,041	7.3%	41.9%	6,526	81.9%
Montezuma	11,090	8.9%	34.0%	10,107	75.5%
Montrose	14,221	10.2%	40.8%	12,768	78.9%
Morgan	12,350	7.7%	40.1%	11,397	82.3%
Otero	11,346	12.4%	29.5%	9,936	77.0%
Ouray	1,468	6.6%	57.7%	1,371	76.7%
Park	4,888	6.2%	60.8%	4,587	75.1%
Phillips	2,344	7.1%	55.7%	2,177	76.3%
Pitkin	10,139	3.5%	68.1%	9,782	86.4%
Prowers	7,887	8.8%	48.4%	7,195	77.7%
Pueblo	74,197	12.7%	31.1%	64,765	74.0%
Rio Blanco	3,782	6.8%	42.9%	3,523	78.0%
Rio Grande	6,268	11.9%	29.8%	5,519	76.1%
Routt	10,040	4.1%	62.1%	9,631	87.4%
Saguache	2,707	9.9%	42.4%	2,438	74.6%
San Juan	519	6.6%	52.9%	485	74.4%
San Miguel	2,744	4.3%	47.5%	2,626	88.3%
Sedgwick	1,494	10.7%	37.5%	1,334	84.6%
Summit	10,132	3.2%	64.6%	9,804	90.8%
Teller	8,258	7.8%	47.3%	7,615	81.6%
Washington	2,783	6.9%	39.8%	2,592	77.4%
Weld	84,448	8.0%	48.1%	77,717	79.6%
Yuma	5,172	8.8%	42.2%	4,715	77.8%
Colorado	2,134,254	7.8%	48.4%	1,967,030	81.8%

*Highest and lowest values are highlighted

Source: United States Census Bureau, Census 1990

In **Table 74a**, Gunnison, at **7.5 percent** of the population has the smallest percentage of the 21-64 year old population with a disability, while Costilla County has the largest percentage (**31.4%**) of the 21-64 year old population reporting a disability. Costilla County also has the smallest percentage of the “disabled” population employed at **25.8%**. Costilla also has the state’s lowest employment rate for non-disabled people at just **63.4%**. Pitkin County has the highest employment rate for persons reporting disabilities at **87.8 percent**. This rate is higher than the county’s “non-disabled” employment rate of **82.8%**.

In 1990 (**Table 74b**), Hinsdale County had the highest percentage of aged 16-64 year old “disabled” individuals in the labor force (**68.2%**), while Las Animas County had the lowest percentage of its disabled population employed (**23.1%**). Las Animas also had the third lowest employment rate for the “non-disabled” population at **71.2%**.

Although the *Census 2000* survey involved a greater sample size, the *Current Population Surveys* covers other important topics at this time, but not on a county level. **Tables 75 - 77** present data on disabilities and employment gathered from the March 2001 survey.

Table 75 presents data on the employment numbers by age for disabled persons in the United States in 2001. As expected, those with disabilities are at a disadvantage when trying to find and maintain employment (either part-time or full time). The unemployment rates for those with some form of disability is **2.5 to 3 times** greater than are the rates for the non-disabled, regardless of age.

Table 75: Labor Force and Employment Data for Disabled and Not Disabled in the United States (2001)

Age	Number Employed (In Thousands)		% in Labor Force		% Employed Full Time		Unemployment Rate	
	With Disability	No Disability	With Disability	No Disability	With Disability	No Disability	With Disability	No Disability
16-24	1,330	33,471	37.5	64.8	14.4	31.6	23.9	10.0
25-34	2,102	35,056	41.7	86.7	25.2	73.4	11.5	4.1
35-44	3,569	40,922	33.6	89.9	21.5	76.8	10.0	3.4
45-54	4,841	33,130	30.9	90.4	20.2	78.9	6.8	2.8

Source: Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey, March 2001

Table 76 provides a recent (1996-2001) historical view on unemployment among the disabled in the United States. For all age ranges, except for the 45-54 group, the unemployment rate for those with disabilities is greater than **10%**. Only the 16-24 group for the non-disabled has a rate greater than **10%**. For greater detail on labor force participation, see the complete survey results at web site <http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/disable/cps/cps201.html>.

Table 76: Unemployment Rate for Disabled and Not Disabled by Age in the United States (2001)

Age	1996		1997		1998		1999		2000		2001	
	Disabled	None	Disabled	None	Disabled	None	Disabled	None	Disabled	None	Disabled	None
16-24	22.2	12.2	19.1	11.9	25.6	10.6	22.5	10.2	17.3	9.9	23.9	10.0
25-34	14.9	5.6	17.9	5.1	18.2	4.8	15.0	4.3	10.4	3.9	11.5	4.1
35-44	12.7	4.3	15.9	4.1	10.9	3.7	10.7	3.0	11.1	3.2	10.0	3.4
45-54	9.4	3.3	8.8	3.0	8.6	2.9	7.1	2.5	6.1	2.3	6.8	2.8

Source: Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey, March 2001

According to the *March 2001 Current Population Survey* in 2001, there were approximately **120 million** employed people between the ages of 21-64 in the United States (**78.2 percent** of the 21-64 aged population). The average earnings of those individuals were **\$30,155**. During the same year, almost **14 million** Americans with disabilities were employed, with an average annual income of **\$23,373**.

Table 77, from the *March 2001 Current Population Survey*, provides comparison data on the wages/earnings between workers with disabilities and those who do not have a disability. For each age group, the earnings for the workers with disabilities are significantly lower than are the wages for the non-disabled. Disabled full-time employees make **70% to 80%** of the earnings of non-disabled full-time workers.

Table 77: United States Earnings Data for Disabled and Not Disabled by Age (2001)

	With Disability				With No Disability			
	All Workers		Full Time Workers		All Workers		Full Time Workers	
	Number Employed (in Thousands)	Mean Earnings (\$)	Number Employed (in Thousands)	Mean Earnings (\$)	Number Employed (in Thousands)	Mean Earnings (\$)	Number Employed (in Thousands)	Mean Earnings (\$)
16-24	665	8,825	121	17,103	23,781	12,262	864	22,288
25-34	1,046	17,840	425	26,668	31,280	32,394	23,193	37,956
35-44	1,469	21,836	582	37,089	37,181	40,512	19,087	46,340
45-54	1,830	23,084	792	35,323	30,271	44,130	24,302	48,500

Source: Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey, March 2001

As mentioned at the beginning of the chapter, the “General Characteristics” portion of the chapter encompasses data and information from both “Developmental Disabilities” and “Learning Disabilities”. The following parts will examine information and data on those two categories independently.

Developmental Disabilities:

As of June 30, 2000 the *Community Services Division of the Colorado Department of Human Services* was providing services to **11,302 individuals** with developmental disabilities. The breakdown of the programs and the numbers of clients served are presented in **Table 78** and **Table 79**. **Table 79** (next page) provides a comparison between Colorado and the United States for the demand for developmental disability services.

Table 78: Number of Consumers by Program (June 2000)

Program	Number Served
Comprehensive Adults	3,070
Adult Supports (Supported Living Services)	3,465
Children's Extensive Supports	141
Early Intervention	1,566
Family Support Services Program (FSSP)	4,017
Total	11,302

Table 79: Demand for Developmental Disability Services in Colorado Compared to the Nation (June 2000)

Category	Colorado	United States
Numbers receiving comprehensive services per 100,000 of population	99.42	119.56
Numbers waiting for comprehensive services per 100,000 of population	48.45	28.31
Numbers seeking (receiving plus waiting) comprehensive services per 100,000 of population	147.87	147.88

Programs:

The **Colorado Developmental Disabilities Services (DDS)** is a division of the *Colorado Department of Human Services* and is tasked with administering the programs for the developmentally disabled. The *DDS* contracts with *Community Centered Boards (CCBs)* to deliver community-based services to persons with developmental disabilities. *CCBs* are private non-profit organizations designated in State statute as the single entry point into the long-term service and support system for persons with developmental disabilities. *Regional Centers (RC)* are also used to house individuals with developmental disabilities. The *DDS* attempts to place as many individuals as possible in the *CCBs* (**94% of all adults**) and use the *RCs* only with the most difficult cases whose needs cannot be met in the community (**6% of all adults**). Information on each *CCB* can be found on the web site maintained by the *Colorado Association of Community Centered Boards*, <http://www.caccb.org/>.

The *Developmental Disability Services* adult waiting list has continued to grow despite new appropriations. Although the exact reasons for this growth is unknown, some of the more probable reasons presented by the *DDS* and the *National Association of State Directors of Developmental Disabilities Services* are:

- Colorado's population growth continues to be one of the highest in the nation.
- Large numbers of developmentally disabled individuals graduate from public school each year and some of them seek *CCB* adult services
- There is more interest in the types and flexibility of *Supported Living Services*.
- Various referral sources have become more aware of the *DDS* services.
- Greater outreach from the *DDS*.
- The parents of the "Baby Boomer" generation developmentally disabled are aging and soon will not be able to continue care for their children.
- The "Baby Boomer echo generation" is starting to transition out of special education.
- There is increased age longevity of persons with developmental disabilities.
- There may be higher expectations for receipt of special services, due to Special Education and American Disabilities Act initiatives.

Colorado Programs and Services:

An array of services and supports is available to meet individual needs of people with developmental disabilities. The major services or supports most frequently utilized and funded by *DDS* can be found at http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/ohr/dds/dds_svcs.html.

Costs³:

Colorado spent an average of **\$2.20** towards all developmentally disabled services **per \$1,000** of total state personal income in 1998 as compared to an average spending level of **\$3.69 for the nation**. This makes Colorado the **45th ranked** state in the nation and the ranking has been getting worse. Colorado was ranked **23rd** in the nation **in 1977**, dropped to **40th** by 1980, to **42nd** by 1993, to **44th** by 1996, and finally to **45th** by 1998.

The above figures represent the most accurate picture of spending versus patient requirements, because it removes the variability resulting from differences in persons served in the community versus institutions. However, since Colorado has a larger proportion of community services relative to institutional services than most states (Colorado ranks **10th with 92%** of its funds directed towards community services), it should come as no surprise that the state looks better when only community spending is considered.

Colorado spent an average of **\$2.02** towards community developmentally disabled services **per \$1,000** of total state personal income in 1998 as compared to an average spending level of **\$2.66 for the nation**. This gives Colorado a **rank of 33rd** in the nation. Here also, Colorado's ranking has declined over the years. In 1977, Colorado ranked **8th** for spending towards community services. Since that time however, Colorado has slipped to **21st** in 1988, to **26th** in 1993, to **30th** in 1996, and finally to the present available ranking of **33rd** in 1998.

Learning Disabilities:

The *National Center for Learning Disabilities (NCLD)* has published a fact sheet on learning disabilities from data collected from a variety of sources. To view the full reports by these sources see the *NCLD* report at <http://www.nclد.org/index.html>. Excerpts from the fact sheet follow.

Highlights of the NCLD Fact Sheet:

- **2.8 million students** are currently receiving special education services for learning disabilities in the U.S.
- **52% of students** receiving special education services through the public schools are identified as having learning disabilities.
- **Approximately 85%** of all individuals with learning disabilities have difficulties in the area of reading.
- **44% of parents** who noticed their child exhibiting signs of problems with learning waited a year or more before acknowledging their child might have a serious problem.
- **35% of children** with learning disabilities drop out of high school. This is twice the rate of students without learning disabilities. Of those who do graduate, less than two percent attend a four-year college, despite the fact that many are above average in intelligence.
- In 1977, there were **18 students** with learning disabilities per special education teacher serving them through the public school system. In 1994, there were **26 students** with learning disabilities per special education teacher.
- Several studies have shown that between **50-60% of adolescents** in treatment for substance abuse have learning disabilities.

³ "Response to Footnote 106 of the FY2001 Appropriations Long Bill: Capacity of the Community Service for Persons with Developmental Disabilities in Colorado", Developmental Disabilities Division, Office of Health and Rehabilitation Services, Colorado DHS, September 15, 2001.

- **Only 14%** of students with learning disabilities (compared to 53% of students in general population) have attended a postsecondary school program within two years of leaving high school.
- While **equal numbers of girls and boys** have been found to have reading disabilities, boys are three times more likely to be evaluated and treated.
- When **eighth graders** (who later completed high school) were asked about their educational aspirations, 17.8% of students with learning disabilities expected to complete some high school or graduate, 35.6% expected to have some postsecondary education, and 46.6% expected a bachelor's degree or higher.
- **196,000 of the 428,000** students with disabilities enrolled at two-year and four-year postsecondary education institutions reported having learning disabilities.

The *Special Education Services Division* of the *Colorado Department of Education* coordinates and administers the educational programs for the learning disabled in the state. The division “handles” all special education needs - from those with severe learning problems to those with lesser degree problems to those who are considered gifted students. The division also works to involve parents and conduct employment training. Through its web page(s) the division also provides “specific disability” information. “Specific disabilities” include “Blindness/low vision”, “Cultural and linguistically diversity”, “Deafblindness”, “Deaf/Hard of hearing/Audiology”, “Perceptual communication disabilities”, “Significant Identifiable Emotional Disorders”, and “Speech Language” categories. Although no data is presented, information on contacts and activities is provided.

The web site for the *Special Education Services Division* can be found at <http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdesped/index.htm>.

R10: Resources for Developmental and Learning Disabilities

Web Site	Level	Comments
http://dsc.ucsf.edu/UCSF/spl.taf?_from=default	National	Disabilities Statistics Center, UCSF
http://www.ed.gov/offices/OSERS/NIDRR/	National	National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR)
http://www.cdc.gov/	National	Centers for Disease Control
http://www.ncld.org/index.html	National	National Center for Learning Disabilities
http://www.census.gov/prod/3/97pubs/cenbr975.pdf	National	Census Brief 97-5 – Data on disabilities and the workforce
http://www.census.gov/prod/2001pubs/p70-73.pdf	National	Household Economic Studies: “Americans with Disabilities” – US Census Bureau
http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/disability.html	National/ State/ Regional	US Census Bureau sources for disability information
http://www.census.gov/census2000/states/co.html	National/ State/Local	Census 2000 Disability Data for Colorado with Comparison to 1990 data
http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/disability/sipp/disab97/asc97.html	National/ State/Local	“Americans with Disabilities: 1997” Current Population Report P70-73
http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/ohr/dds/Footnote_106.PDF	State	“Capacity of the Community Service System for Persons with Developmental Disabilities in Colorado” - Report to Colorado Joint Budget Committee
http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/ohr/dds/dds_svcs.html	State	Developmental Disabilities Services Programs and Services
http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdesped/index.htm	State	Colorado Department of Education Special Education Services
http://www.caccb.org/	State	Colorado Association of Community Centered Boards
http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/	State	Department of Human Services
http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdesped/index.htm	State	Department of Education – Special Education Services Division

11 Crime

The crime portion of the **Welfare** section provides statistics for both adult and juvenile crime in Colorado (at both the state and county level). The section will present data for violent and non-violent (usually property) crimes and arrests over time in the nation, state, and at the county level. The data will be presented for adult, juvenile, and “all age” crimes. There are also statistics presented on the individual crimes that make up the violent and non-violent crimes. Additionally, this section will also cover domestic violence, school safety, hate crimes, and firearm background checks.

There are two main sources for the statistics presented here. One set of data is from the *Uniform Crime Reports (UCR)* Data maintained at the *University of Virginia Fisher Library* (found at <http://fisher.lib.virginia.edu/crime>). This source is used for most county-level data presented here. The second set is from the *Colorado Department of Public Safety, Office of Research and Statistics* and used for most national and statewide data here. This data can be found at <http://www.cdpsweb.state.co.us/ors/stats.htm>. In both cases, the basis for the reports comes from the same national data sources (mostly the *US Bureau of Justice*). However, there may be small differences in the methodology calculations that cause the numbers to be slightly different.

The *UCR* data source is divided into pre-1994 and 1994-1998 data. According to information on the *UCR* website, data from earlier year files should not be compared to data from 1994 and subsequent years because changes in procedures used to adjust for incomplete reporting at the *Originating Agency Identifier (ORI)* or jurisdiction level may be expected to have an impact on aggregates for counties in which some *ORIs* have not reported for all 12 months. However, the new adjustment procedures should result in county-level data that are less sensitive to changes between years in the extent of reporting by *ORIs* within a county and consequently data from 1994 forward should be more useful for longitudinal analysis.

It needs to be emphasized that offenses and arrests are different categories – the number (rates) of offenses will always be higher than the number (rate) of arrests, however the gap between them is getting smaller.

The data shows that in the United States and Colorado the rate of offenses and arrests for violent and property crimes for both all ages have been declining in recent years. **Graph 2** shows that property crime rates peaked in the U.S. and Colorado in the early 1980s and has declined since then. The decline is especially steep in Colorado, which went from a rate of **1,797.5 per 100,000** population (*higher* than the US rate in 1985) to a rate of **19.2 per 100,000** *lower* than the US rate in 1999. After peaking during the 1980s, the Colorado rates are back to near the rates of the late 1960s.

Graph 3 provides a graphical look at violent crimes for both the United States and for Colorado. Whereas property crime rates peaked in the 1980s, violent crime rates hit their apex in the 1990s before beginning to decline. By 1999, the rate of violent crime in Colorado was at its lowest level since the late 1960s (for the US, the rates returned to late 1970s levels). Unlike the property crime rates, the violent crime rate in Colorado was below the US rate in each year except 1972, 1977, and 1978.

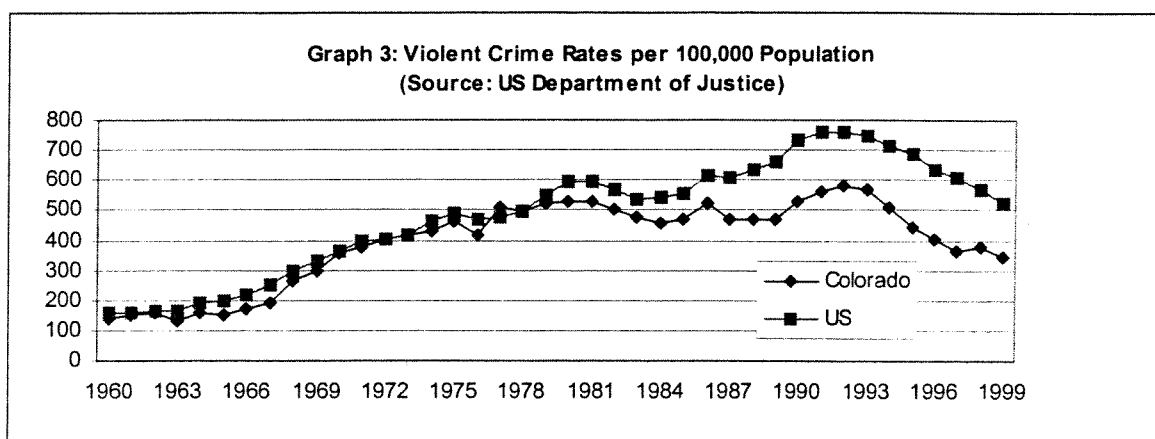
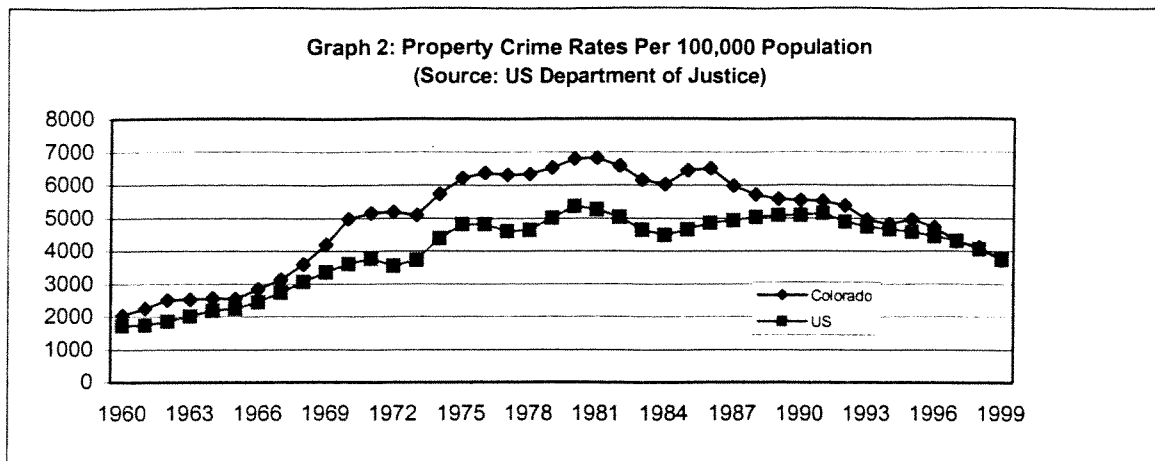


Table 80 presents the *total* number of *adult* arrests in each Colorado county from 1994-1998. Denver County, with **53,860** arrests in 1998 had more than double the total number of arrests as the county with the second largest number of arrests (El Paso County had **26,816** arrests). It needs to be noted that Denver, Jefferson, and El Paso counties are the three largest counties by population in Colorado. The largest arrest rate in 1998 was in Gilpin County at **260.9 arrests per 100,000**. However, from 1994-1998, Gilpin County also experienced the largest decline in arrest rates at **(-117.5)**. Sedgwick County, at a rate of **0.5 arrests per 100,000 adults**, had the lowest adult arrest rate in 1998. The largest increase in adult arrest rates (1994-1998) took place in San Miguel County, where the rate went from **65.8 per 100,000** to **137.3 per 100,000**.

Table 81 presents the statistics on total juvenile arrests for the individual counties during the 1994-1998 period. In 1998, Pueblo County had the highest rate of juvenile crime arrests in the state with **122.7 arrests per 100,000 juveniles** (**4,875 arrests**). Denver County, with **106.7 arrests per 100,000** (**13,948 arrests**), is the only other county with a rate higher than 100 arrests per 100,000 juveniles. Garfield County had the largest rate increase from 1994 to 1998 at **24.4 arrests per 100,000** (**18 arrests per 100,000** in 1994 and **42.4 arrests per 100,000** in 1998). From 1994-1998, the largest rate decrease was reported in Sedgwick County at **-61.8 arrests per 100,000 juveniles**. The second largest decrease occurred in Arapahoe County, where the decline was **-58.8 per 100,000**.

Table 80: Adult Grand Total Arrest Rate per 100,000 Adults by County in Colorado

COUNTY	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
Adams	92.5	71.4	118.3	107.9	95.2
Alamosa	116.1	104.7	164.1	118.5	128.0
Arapahoe	84.8	66.4	90.0	62.0	18.5
Archuleta	22.7	14.4	56.2	64.4	54.5
Baca	50.5	38.9	49.6	7.9	11.0
Bent	41.5	22.6	82.0	40.1	74.0
Boulder	72.0	53.6	59.4	71.9	55.0
Chaffee	51.4	14.1	63.2	36.7	66.7
Cheyenne	21.9	9.0	41.8	34.5	31.1
Clear Creek	108.3	32.0	75.2	78.3	125.8
Conejos	50.5	38.8	118.0	57.0	18.9
Costilla	57.7	18.4	116.0	25.6	0.7
Crowley	20.9	9.7	102.7	22.5	34.9
Custer	60.1	14.0	34.4	26.8	33.5
Delta	26.2	25.5	29.8	27.9	35.1
Denver	127.2	119.0	145.3	135.1	142.3
Dolores	24.6	7.0	18.2	18.6	15.4
Douglas	54.4	9.7	47.7	45.6	43.9
Eagle	160.7	31.8	127.1	100.6	72.0
Elbert	29.2	32.0	54.3	30.9	52.9
El Paso	100.8	45.1	118.1	86.3	79.6
Fremont	68.4	43.8	68.1	72.4	47.9
Garfield	61.4	32.6	92.2	87.7	80.3
Gilpin	378.4	189.1	254.4	285.6	260.9
Grand	89.5	35.1	29.0	19.6	29.5
Gunnison	92.3	60.8	86.2	80.7	120.5
Hinsdale	14.9	6.3	43.5	35.1	25.3
Huerfano	76.5	33.6	132.6	73.6	83.3
Jackson	50.9	21.7	18.6	18.2	12.5
Jefferson	50.8	33.7	42.8	38.5	36.8
Kiowa	73.0	36.7	65.2	15.5	4.1
Kit Carson	35.5	17.6	54.8	47.6	63.6
Lake	65.6	57.4	87.4	53.2	92.1
La Plata	108.9	97.7	82.8	74.8	84.1
Larimer	81.8	74.0	83.9	70.2	74.7
Las Animas	85.7	38.3	75.4	30.2	69.5
Lincoln	97.1	15.8	83.4	58.2	40.2
Logan	85.3	28.8	74.9	84.2	71.4
Mesa	68.4	37.4	60.7	55.3	63.5
Mineral	106.7	23.3	17.0	16.6	32.7
Moffat	96.8	33.6	87.0	70.6	87.2
Montezuma	83.0	17.2	73.5	44.4	62.6
Montrose	66.2	29.2	63.8	34.9	56.1
Morgan	67.8	40.0	114.8	112.1	121.8
Otero	91.4	43.7	101.6	61.5	77.9
Ouray	25.3	0.5	29.9	38.4	12.9
Park	88.5	22.9	58.7	65.5	46.2
Phillips	24.1	13.4	38.3	34.5	30.3
Pitkin	81.8	75.0	68.2	53.9	56.0
Prowers	42.1	15.9	70.0	65.1	100.1
Pueblo	129.2	121.8	133.6	111.2	123.7
Rio Blanco	54.3	8.5	67.8	14.4	41.9
Rio Grande	72.7	35.1	87.6	39.3	70.1
Routt	89.7	37.8	89.0	94.2	65.8
Saguache	90.5	44.9	125.0	99.3	102.4
San Juan	85.8	65.7	54.0	86.0	84.3
San Miguel	65.8	27.7	106.1	48.6	137.3
Sedgwick	66.3	41.1	86.1	24.9	0.5
Summit	164.8	72.4	146.5	121.2	127.2
Teller	147.1	38.5	139.8	127.4	142.5
Washington	16.8	40.3	60.5	9.8	7.7
Weld	86.5	69.5	86.9	89.8	94.5
Yuma	31.1	15.8	43.4	26.4	37.3
COLORADO	4,832.7	2,572.3	5,096.4	3,889.7	4,168.2

Note: Highest and lowest rates are highlighted for each year

Source: Uniform Crime Reports County Data – Geostat: Geospatial and Statistical Data Center

Table 81: Juvenile Grand Total Arrest Rate per 100,000 Juveniles by County in Colorado

COUNTY	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
Adams	75.8	57.7	78.1	61.3	56.9
Alamosa	80.7	79.5	73.5	67.7	61.3
Arapahoe	74.5	54.2	48.6	59.9	15.7
Archuleta	21.1	12.0	23.1	27.5	37.2
Baca	39.9	11.0	13.2	0.8	1.7
Bent	27.4	5.2	26.1	23.0	34.3
Boulder	60.8	43.8	43.8	58.9	33.9
Chaffee	34.7	16.1	47.4	33.5	54.7
Cheyenne	4.0	1.4	10.9	0.0	2.7
Clear Creek	45.6	20.7	12.5	13.3	33.3
Conejos	12.4	18.6	29.8	18.3	9.6
Costilla	19.1	0.0	17.4	0.0	0.0
Crowley	6.4	1.1	25.9	9.7	8.7
Custer	6.2	23.2	14.9	16.8	22.8
Delta	15.2	9.2	11.8	17.7	22.6
Denver	83.4	84.7	24.7	91.2	106.7
Dolores	12.2	2.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
Douglas	32.9	13.8	22.2	19.6	23.9
Eagle	27.5	17.2	32.8	25.6	18.7
Elbert	21.6	20.2	25.0	14.2	15.8
El Paso	74.7	41.2	50.2	65.6	63.8
Fremont	61.4	55.5	64.0	71.1	64.1
Garfield	18.0	22.2	48.2	41.3	42.4
Gilpin	15.2	27.1	17.7	12.7	10.2
Grand	11.1	2.7	3.0	2.9	4.6
Gunnison	8.5	17.9	16.3	19.7	17.4
Hinsdale	0.0	0.0	7.1	40.0	18.9
Huerfano	43.3	16.6	88.8	50.7	34.8
Jackson	11.0	8.9	4.6	0.0	4.5
Jefferson	48.3	34.9	47.0	40.5	39.4
Kiowa	36.0	41.9	37.5	0.0	0.0
Kit Carson	20.2	5.8	20.6	24.0	35.4
Lake	5.6	3.2	30.8	7.5	16.4
La Plata	62.2	46.8	36.2	31.0	38.9
Larimer	49.9	53.6	54.0	47.9	46.4
Las Animas	48.8	21.8	54.2	21.6	50.3
Lincoln	0.0	3.1	4.2	4.9	4.9
Logan	38.9	17.9	33.6	36.0	44.2
Mesa	48.9	41.6	58.5	44.4	51.3
Mineral	0.0	19.6	0.0	12.1	0.0
Moffat	85.0	32.2	65.0	56.6	45.4
Montezuma	23.8	17.7	13.8	13.4	12.0
Montrose	31.3	29.4	43.6	36.4	48.7
Morgan	34.0	24.7	67.8	69.6	49.9
Otero	60.2	41.0	72.9	50.6	54.9
Ouray	13.6	0.0	3.7	22.9	12.9
Park	30.5	20.6	23.6	19.6	21.5
Phillips	14.4	15.7	10.9	22.1	16.7
Pitkin	10.6	10.9	21.6	14.1	14.2
Prowers	28.6	14.9	37.6	41.9	39.6
Pueblo	108.9	109.9	130.8	117.2	122.7
Rio Blanco	22.9	6.3	21.7	12.0	11.8
Rio Grande	40.3	27.7	54.5	24.2	45.4
Routt	19.5	13.3	30.0	30.1	25.7
Saguache	28.6	26.0	52.5	27.6	16.8
San Juan	99.3	13.2	54.1	91.5	93.0
San Miguel	14.4	8.4	27.6	5.7	15.3
Sedgwick	61.8	50.5	57.4	4.4	0.0
Summit	50.3	32.9	61.3	38.0	41.4
Teller	59.1	30.4	52.5	51.8	68.4
Washington	16.0	20.6	27.9	0.7	2.0
Weld	47.9	37.8	47.7	44.7	42.4
Yuma	12.6	3.1	11.9	11.7	8.6
COLORADO	2,217.0	1,561.5	2,248.6	1,939.7	1,957.7

Note: Highest and lowest rates are highlighted for each year

Source: Uniform Crime Reports County Data – Geostat: Geospatial and Statistical Data Center

Violent:

Table 82 and **Graph 4** present data on the rates of adult and juvenile violent arrests in Colorado. The patterns for the rates are very similar, with arrests peaking around 1990 and declining to twenty year lows in 1999 (**197.5 per 100,000** for adults and **134.2 per 100,000 population** for juveniles). The rates for juvenile violent crime are consistently **60-70 percent** of the rates for adult violent crime.

Table 82: Violent Arrests in Colorado Per 100,000 population

YEAR	ADULTS	JUVENILES
1980	214.4	124.2
1985	204.3	134.6
1990	308.0	179.1
1995	222.1	150.0
1999	197.5	134.2

Source: Colorado Department of Public Safety, Office of Research and Statistics

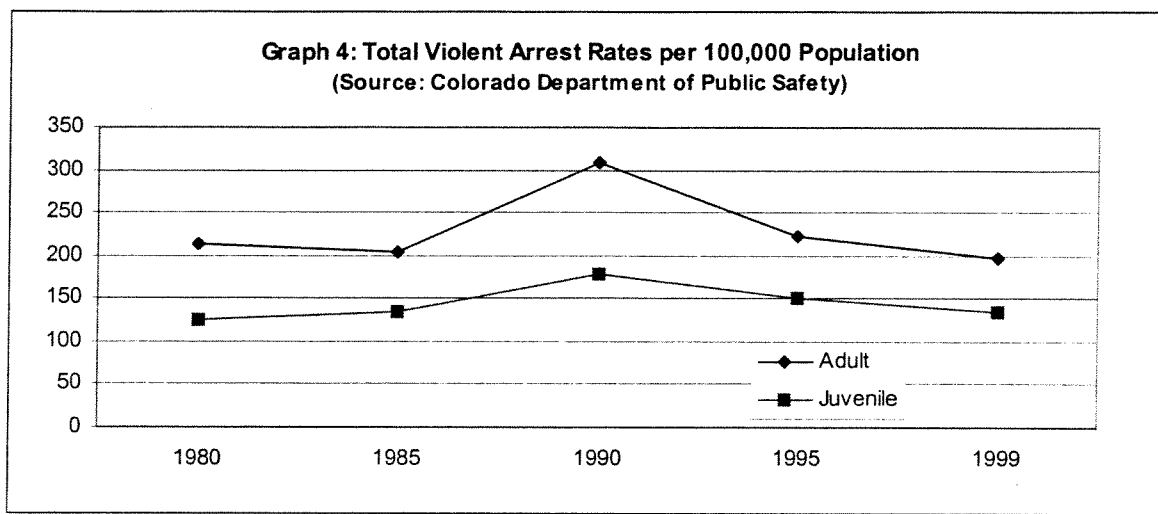


Table 83 shows that when arrests for *the individual categories* of violent crimes are considered; there is some change in the patterns. For adults, the homicides and robbery arrest rate patterns are similar to the overall violent crime rate patterns. However, the forcible rape and aggravated assault patterns are somewhat different, starting with lower rates in the early 1980s, peaking in the early 1990s, and then falling to lower rates again in the late 1990s. Homicide arrests hit their lowest rate of **3.6 per 100,000** people in 1999, while adult robbery arrests reached a minimum at **21.8 per 100,000** people in 1999.

For juveniles committing homicides and forcible rapes, the rates of arrests have increased (and continue to increase) over time. The rates are now at or near the maximum historical for these crimes. The present homicide rate is lower than was seen in the early and mid 1990s, but greater than or equal to every year in the 1980s. Forcible rape arrest rates in the last three years are significantly greater than arrest rates at any other time. The rate in 1997 (not shown here) was **23.9 arrests per 100,000 people** and is more than double any previously recorded rate. Since 1997, the forcible rape rate has declined slightly to **18.7 per 100,000 population**. The robbery rate (**21.8 per 100,000** in 1999) is at its lowest levels since before 1980. The aggravated assault rate (**91.7 per 100,000** in 1999), having peaked in the early 1990s, has dropped to levels not seen since the early 1980s.

In the 1980s, the adult arrest rates for each of these crimes were higher than the juvenile arrest rates. In 1999, the adult arrest rate for homicides and aggravated assaults were still higher than the juvenile arrest rates, but the gap had closed for both crimes. However, for forcible rape and robbery, in 1999 the rates of juvenile arrests were now higher than the rates for the adult arrests (117% for forcible rape and 110% for robbery).

Table 83: Adult and Juvenile Arrest Rates in Colorado for Individual Violent Crimes per 100,000 Population

YEAR	HOMICIDE		FORCIBLE RAPE		ROBBERY		AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	
	Adult	Juvenile	Adult	Juvenile	Adult	Juvenile	Adult	Juvenile
1980	6.2	1.1	18.6	6.9	45.2	37.6	144.5	78.6
1985	6.2	2.0	15.2	8.6	32.8	30.0	150.0	93.9
1990	5.3	2.5	21.7	11.1	26.4	26.9	254.7	138.6
1995	6.1	3.2	15.1	8.0	24.5	28.6	176.3	110.1
1999	3.6	2.0	16.0	18.7	19.9	21.8	158.2	91.7

Source: Colorado Department of Public Safety, Office of Research and Statistics

This section will report Part I crimes (murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, auto theft, and arson). For greater detail (and offense reports) see the interactive data source from the University of Virginia at web site <http://fisher.lib.virginia.edu/crime>.

Table 84 provides the data for Part I adult violent crimes arrests in the individual counties. In 1998, Pueblo County had the highest rate of these crimes in the state with **10.7 arrests per 100,000 adults**. Although the arrest rates were subject to large fluctuations, Bent County had the largest increases (**3.0 per 100,000 adults**) in arrests from 1994 to 1998. The largest decline in arrests occurred in Mineral County, which had a Part I violent crime arrest decline of **4.8 per 100,000 adults** between 1994 and 1998. Denver, with the largest population, also had the greatest number of arrests of any county in Colorado during 1998 with **1,328**. Six counties (Crowley, Hinsdale, Jackson, Morgan, Otero, and Teller) reported no Part I adult violent crimes in 1998.

Table 85 provides data on Part I juvenile violent crime rates by county in Colorado for 1994-1998. In 1998, Pueblo County reported the greatest rate of Part I juvenile violent crime arrests in Colorado at **5.5 arrests per 100,000 juveniles (218 arrests)**. Twenty-five counties reported no Part I juvenile crime arrests during 1998 (most likely due to county law enforcement agencies opting not to report these arrests). The greatest increase in the juvenile violent crime arrest rate between 1994 and 1998 occurred in Chaffee County (**2.3 arrests per 100,000 juveniles**). The largest decrease between 1994 and 1998 was **3.3 arrests per 100,000 juveniles** in Arapahoe County. El Paso County had the most arrests during 1998 with **260**.

Table 84: Part I Adult Violent Arrest Rate per 100,000 Adults by County in Colorado

COUNTY	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
Adams	3.5	2.8	2.5	2.7	2.2
Alamosa	3.5	3.2	5.2	3.3	3.2
Arapahoe	5.2	2.4	2.8	1.1	0.6
Archuleta	1.9	0.0	0.2	0.4	0.3
Baca	1.1	1.8	1.5	0.3	2.1
Bent	1.3	14.5	3.9	3.8	4.3
Boulder	1.2	1.3	0.9	1.3	1.4
Chaffee	1.0	1.0	1.2	1.1	1.2
Cheyenne	2.7	4.8	6.4	0.0	1.3
Clear Creek	1.4	1.9	1.1	0.9	2.5
Conejos	1.8	1.6	1.6	1.3	0.4
Costilla	4.2	5.1	1.3	11.0	0.0
Crowley	1.2	1.8	1.2	0.6	0.6
Custer	1.9	1.1	0.0	1.6	0.8
Delta	1.0	0.4	0.9	0.8	0.9
Denver	4.0	3.3	3.8	3.6	3.5
Dolores	2.8	0.9	1.7	0.0	1.5
Douglas	0.6	0.3	0.5	0.8	0.5
Eagle	6.6	3.6	1.5	2.5	1.9
Elbert	1.0	1.3	1.1	0.7	2.4
El Paso	3.0	2.1	3.7	1.6	2.4
Fremont	1.2	0.9	1.1	1.0	0.6
Garfield	1.2	0.8	0.5	1.8	1.6
Gilpin	5.6	5.1	2.3	3.8	1.0
Grand	2.0	2.8	0.6	0.9	0.6
Gunnison	1.0	0.5	0.6	0.3	0.7
Hinsdale	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Huerfano	3.4	2.0	1.7	1.9	1.6
Jackson	1.5	1.6	0.8	0.0	0.0
Jefferson	1.3	1.2	1.0	0.6	0.7
Kiowa	0.8	2.4	2.4	0.0	0.8
Kit Carson	1.1	0.4	0.8	2.2	1.8
Lake	1.5	1.0	1.7	1.4	0.5
La Plata	1.9	1.3	1.9	1.9	1.3
Larimer	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.1	1.3
Las Animas	3.1	3.5	2.6	1.7	3.3
Lincoln	0.9	3.0	3.2	1.9	0.2
Logan	1.1	1.6	0.5	0.9	1.4
Mesa	1.6	1.6	1.1	2.1	1.9
Mineral	6.7	10.6	2.1	0.0	1.9
Moffat	4.3	2.7	1.9	2.0	2.4
Montezuma	1.5	0.9	0.7	0.5	0.8
Montrose	1.4	1.2	2.2	1.0	1.2
Morgan	1.4	0.6	0.8	0.6	0.6
Otero	6.1	4.9	2.7	1.7	1.7
Ouray	1.6	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.4
Park	5.1	3.2	1.3	0.4	0.8
Phillips	1.6	1.6	1.0	1.3	0.3
Pitkin	0.9	1.2	2.0	3.7	3.2
Prowers	2.3	0.3	0.9	0.7	0.9
Pueblo	9.1	9.0	10.3	8.8	10.7
Rio Blanco	0.2	0.7	0.9	1.5	0.4
Rio Grande	3.4	1.5	2.6	1.6	3.4
Routt	1.8	0.8	1.3	1.2	0.5
Saguache	0.3	4.9	9.0	1.9	2.1
San Juan	0.0	2.4	7.0	2.3	0.0
San Miguel	1.8	1.1	2.4	1.3	1.9
Sedgwick	1.4	1.0	1.4	0.5	0.0
Summit	3.5	2.5	1.5	3.1	1.2
Teller	3.8	1.1	1.5	1.1	1.1
Washington	2.4	0.9	1.5	0.6	0.3
Weld	2.0	1.4	1.5	1.2	1.3
Yuma	1.4	0.3	2.4	0.4	0.6
COLORADO	145.2	140.8	126.4	100.3	91.0

Note: Highest and lowest rates are highlighted for each year

Source: Uniform Crime Reports County Data – Geostat: Geospatial and Statistical Data Center

Table 85: Part I Juvenile Violent Arrest Rate per 100,000 Juveniles by County in Colorado

COUNTY	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
Adams	2.4	1.5	1.3	1.5	1.3
Alamosa	1.7	4.8	0.6	1.4	1.9
Arapahoe	3.7	1.3	1.1	0.8	0.4
Archuleta	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0
Baca	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
Bent	0.0	1.3	0.7	0.7	1.2
Boulder	1.0	1.4	1.1	1.2	0.6
Chaffee	0.3	1.2	0.9	0.3	2.6
Cheyenne	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Clear Creek	3.1	0.9	0.4	0.4	0.0
Conejos	0.4	0.7	0.3	0.3	0.3
Costilla	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Crowley	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.2	1.1
Custer	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Delta	0.2	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.3
Denver	0.5	0.1	0.0	0.8	1.8
Dolores	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Douglas	0.2	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.2
Eagle	0.3	0.6	0.3	0.2	0.5
Elbert	0.0	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.2
El Paso	2.8	1.4	1.2	1.2	1.7
Fremont	0.5	1.1	0.7	1.4	1.0
Garfield	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.9
Gilpin	0.0	2.3	1.1	1.1	0.0
Grand	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
Gunnison	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hinsdale	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Huerfano	2.2	0.0	1.6	2.2	0.5
Jackson	0.0	0.0	4.6	0.0	0.0
Jefferson	1.2	0.9	1.0	0.5	0.5
Kiowa	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Kit Carson	0.9	0.0	1.3	0.9	0.4
Lake	0.0	0.5	0.4	0.0	0.0
La Plata	1.2	0.8	0.9	0.4	0.6
Larimer	1.1	1.1	1.2	0.8	1.1
Las Animas	4.8	1.2	3.1	0.5	3.9
Lincoln	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Logan	1.4	0.4	0.5	0.0	1.2
Mesa	1.0	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.2
Mineral	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Moffat	1.3	1.2	1.0	1.7	1.0
Montezuma	0.1	0.6	0.1	0.0	0.0
Montrose	0.6	1.3	0.3	0.1	0.1
Morgan	0.9	0.2	0.6	0.3	0.6
Otero	3.3	1.6	2.4	0.8	1.0
Ouray	0.0	0.0	1.2	0.0	2.3
Park	3.1	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.3
Phillips	0.0	7.9	0.0	0.8	0.8
Pitkin	0.4	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0
Prowers	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Pueblo	5.4	5.1	4.5	4.4	5.5
Rio Blanco	0.5	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0
Rio Grande	2.2	2.7	1.3	2.1	0.8
Routt	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.2
Saguache	0.6	1.7	3.4	0.6	0.0
San Juan	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
San Miguel	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Sedgwick	2.9	1.5	0.0	0.0	0.0
Summit	0.8	1.0	0.5	0.0	0.5
Teller	0.6	1.6	0.9	2.0	0.5
Washington	0.0	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
Weld	0.9	0.7	0.8	1.1	0.9
Yuma	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
COLORADO	58.6	57.5	45.9	37.0	40.1

Note: Highest and lowest non-zero rates are highlighted for each year

Source: Uniform Crime Reports County Data – Geostat: Geospatial and Statistical Data Center

Non-Violent (Property) Crimes:

Table 86 and **Graph 4** present data on the rates of adult and juvenile non-violent (property) arrests in Colorado. The patterns for the rates are very similar, with arrests peaking in the 1980s (**1,035 per 100,000 adults** in 1985 and **2,004.3 per 100,000 juveniles**) and steadily declining to reach their lows in 1999 (**664.4 per 100,000 adults** and **1,213.6 per 100,000 juveniles** for juveniles). Unlike the violent crime arrest rates that showed a higher rate of adults being arrested than juveniles, the non-violent (property) arrest rates are higher for juveniles than they are for adults. The rates for juvenile non-violent arrests have been approximately **two times** higher than the adult arrest rate (**2.05 times as great in 1980 to 1.83 times as great in 1999**).

Table 86: Property (Non-Violent) Arrests in Colorado Per 100,000 population

YEAR	Adult	Juvenile
1980	977.2	2,004.3
1985	1,035.6	1,954.5
1990	948.8	1,834.1
1995	857.1	1,663.1
1999	664.4	1,213.6

Source: Colorado Department of Public Safety, Office of Research and Statistics

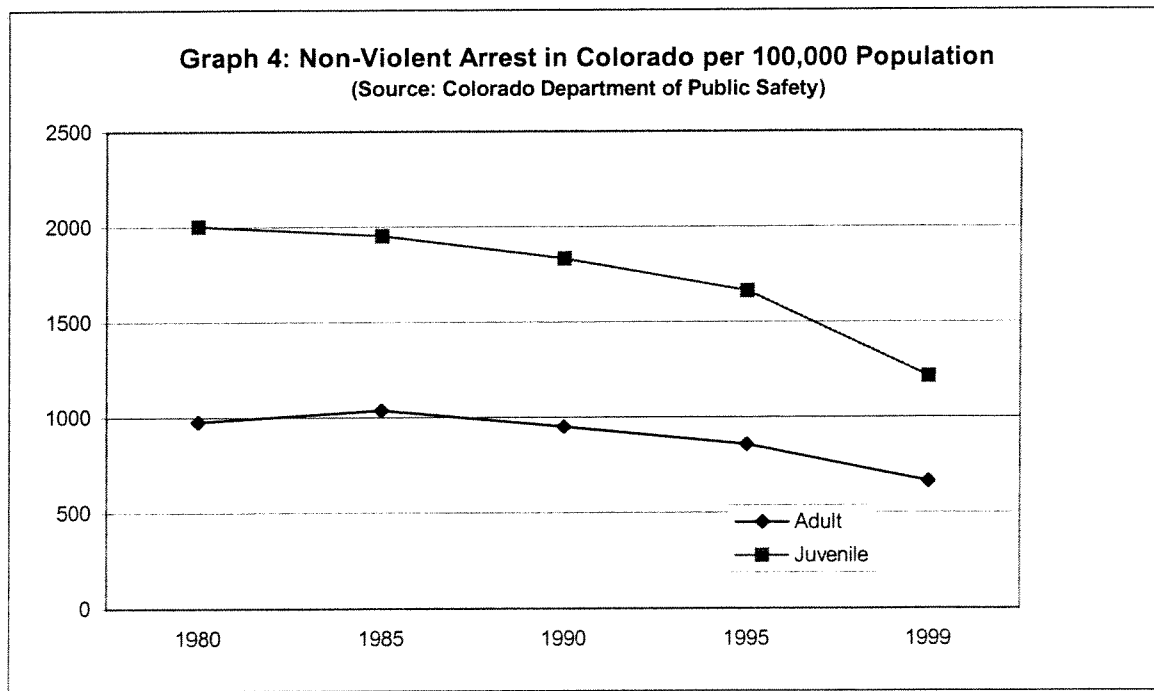


Table 87 shows that in both age groups (adults and juveniles) the arrest rates for burglary, theft, and auto theft all had lower arrest rates in 1999 than they did in 1980. For adults, weapons carrying arrests have also fallen from **118.8 per 100,000** in 1980 to **73.5 per 100,000** in 1999. However, for juveniles, the rate increased from **49.5 to 86.0 per 100,000 juveniles** over the same time period. It should be noted that the weapons carrying arrest rate for juveniles peaked in the mid-1990s (**95.9 per 100,000** in 1995) and has been declining since. Drug arrests have been on a steady rise since 1980 for adults, recording the highest rate in 1999 at **598.1 arrests per 100,000 adults**. For juveniles, the drug related arrest rate fell from **160.0 per 100,000** in 1980 to just **76.4 per 100,000** in 1990. Unfortunately, drug arrests for juveniles in the decade of the 1990s experienced a substantial increase reaching a high of **366.4 arrests per 100,000** in 1999.

As of 1999, adults are now arrested most often for drug crimes, having surpassed theft crime arrests in the last couple of years, while juveniles are most often arrested for theft, which is consistent with past experiences.

Table 87: Adult and Juvenile Arrests in Colorado for Individual Non-Violent Crimes per 100,000 Population

YEAR	BURGLARY		THEFT		AUTO THEFT		WEAPONS CARRYING		DRUG CRIMES	
	Adult	Juvenile	Adult	Juvenile	Adult	Juvenile	Adult	Juvenile	Adult	Juvenile
1980	153.9	434.3	773.7	1,423.2	49.5	146.8	118.8	49.5	222.1	160.0
1985	131.3	337.8	856.0	1,477.4	48.2	139.3	131.2	82.0	274.5	128.7
1990	102.4	239.0	798.1	1,435.9	48.3	159.1	110.7	92.8	276.4	76.4
1995	71.6	166.5	741.5	1,405.2	44.0	91.5	93.3	95.9	344.9	266.9
1999	57.1	122.8	565.9	991.2	41.4	99.7	73.5	86.0	598.1	366.4

Source: Colorado Department of Public Safety, Office of Research and Statistics

Table 88 lists the rate of Part I adult non-violent (property) arrests in each Colorado county during the years 1994-1998. Two counties, Gilpin at **20.2** and San Miguel at **29.4**, had the highest rates of Part I property crime arrests per 100,000 adults in 1998. San Miguel also had a rate increase of **25.5 per 100,000** from 1994 to 1998 - the largest increase in Colorado. The largest decline in property arrests from 1994-1998 was in Kiowa County, where property (non-violent) arrests fell by a rate of **32.4 per 100,000**. As in the other cases, Denver reported the highest number of arrests (**4,948**), while El Paso County, with **3,335** arrests had the second most. Sedgwick, along with Crowley, Hinsdale, Jackson, and Kiowa (all lower population counties) reported no Part I property crime arrests in 1998.

For Part I juvenile property crime arrests from 1994-1998, **Table 89** shows that as with the other measures of juvenile crime arrests, Pueblo County reported the highest rate of juvenile crime arrests during 1998 at **24.8 arrests per 100,000 juveniles (986 arrests)**. San Juan County reported the largest drop in arrests from 1994 to 1998 (from a rate of **26.5 arrests per 100,000 juveniles** in 1994 to **0 arrests per 100,000** in 1998). The largest rate increase occurred in Hinsdale County (**18.9 per 100,000 juveniles**). Again, two of the highest population counties, El Paso and Denver, had the greatest number of arrests in 1998 with **2,393** and **2,352**, respectively. Ten counties reported no Part I juvenile crime arrests in 1998.

Table 88: Part I Adult Non-Violent (Property) Arrest Rate per 100,000 Adults by County in Colorado 1994-1998

COUNTY	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
Adams	10.2	11.1	10.3	8.8	8.5
Alamosa	14.4	20.6	16.5	18.0	10.8
Arapahoe	10.7	9.7	9.3	7.5	2.3
Archuleta	2.4	4.1	4.4	5.1	3.9
Baca	5.7	3.1	4.2	1.2	0.3
Bent	6.1	0.0	3.4	7.1	7.5
Boulder	10.1	8.7	6.7	7.8	5.6
Chaffee	5.1	3.4	4.7	4.5	2.2
Cheyenne	1.1	0.6	1.7	4.5	0.6
Clear Creek	6.3	13.0	3.9	1.9	2.5
Conejos	3.8	5.8	5.3	4.4	1.8
Costilla	0.0	0.9	2.5	1.2	0.4
Crowley	0.3	0.6	2.0	1.7	0.0
Custer	6.2	1.1	2.7	4.8	2.7
Delta	5.0	1.8	2.5	2.9	4.7
Denver	13.9	13.0	13.2	12.3	13.1
Dolores	1.9	0.9	0.9	0.0	0.8
Douglas	2.7	2.0	2.7	6.2	3.8
Eagle	14.9	7.1	10.0	8.6	4.4
Elbert	3.6	3.8	1.7	2.6	4.0
El Paso	14.9	11.3	10.4	8.0	9.9
Fremont	4.0	4.0	4.7	4.4	4.3
Garfield	5.3	6.6	6.7	7.1	6.6
Gilpin	10.8	21.1	15.7	16.7	20.2
Grand	2.3	3.4	0.3	0.8	1.4
Gunnison	9.7	8.4	5.8	5.1	8.1
Hinsdale	5.0	4.2	0.0	6.2	0.0
Huerfano	4.5	3.4	5.9	4.7	2.8
Jackson	3.1	2.4	0.8	2.3	0.0
Jefferson	7.3	6.8	5.9	7.2	4.9
Kiowa	32.4	8.1	4.8	0.0	0.0
Kit Carson	4.8	6.4	7.5	5.1	4.0
Lake	3.5	4.6	6.3	2.2	1.2
La Plata	16.3	12.4	6.2	5.7	6.0
Larimer	7.3	6.4	5.6	6.1	6.1
Las Animas	6.9	4.8	5.2	4.5	5.6
Lincoln	10.3	6.9	6.4	7.8	3.2
Logan	11.0	7.0	6.8	7.0	6.2
Mesa	6.9	8.0	7.1	6.6	6.6
Mineral	4.4	6.4	2.1	4.1	5.8
Moffat	7.9	3.7	4.7	6.5	6.7
Montezuma	6.5	6.2	5.9	4.1	4.7
Montrose	5.7	5.5	6.4	4.4	4.8
Morgan	9.4	7.4	7.8	7.0	6.8
Otero	7.3	10.7	8.6	7.1	5.6
Ouray	3.2	0.0	0.0	1.8	0.4
Park	6.3	2.6	2.3	6.5	3.5
Phillips	2.0	1.3	3.5	4.1	2.9
Pitkin	7.9	8.4	3.8	1.6	2.5
Prowers	5.1	5.0	7.1	7.4	5.2
Pueblo	8.4	9.8	9.0	8.3	8.9
Rio Blanco	3.2	1.1	7.5	1.2	0.4
Rio Grande	5.0	4.2	5.0	4.3	4.7
Routt	7.1	6.6	6.5	8.7	3.8
Saguache	1.5	5.8	5.1	1.4	2.8
San Juan	4.3	14.6	4.7	9.0	9.1
San Miguel	3.9	7.3	4.8	5.9	29.4
Sedgwick	7.2	9.8	12.9	7.5	0.0
Summit	12.0	12.0	16.3	19.5	12.5
Teller	6.8	5.5	5.5	4.3	4.4
Washington	0.0	9.2	6.2	1.4	0.3
Weld	8.6	7.5	7.8	8.3	8.2
Yuma	1.4	1.1	2.0	1.8	1.5
COLORADO	425.8	399.2	366.2	354.8	311.9

Note: Highest and non-zero lowest rates are highlighted for each year

Source: Uniform Crime Reports County Data – Geostat: Geospatial and Statistical Data Center

Table 89: Part I Juvenile Non-Violent (Property) Arrest Rate per 100,000 Juveniles by County in Colorado 1994-1998

COUNTY	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
Adams	18.2	18.9	18.8	15.5	14.0
Alamosa	27.5	32.1	19.3	27.0	12.3
Arapahoe	21.9	15.1	10.6	15.4	3.0
Archuleta	4.6	5.8	6.1	5.7	10.8
Baca	11.9	4.2	3.3	0.0	1.7
Bent	1.3	1.3	2.6	12.5	6.9
Boulder	19.4	18.4	12.3	15.9	8.4
Chaffee	11.1	11.4	16.7	15.4	11.2
Cheyenne	2.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Clear Creek	5.4	10.1	2.7	4.9	3.1
Conejos	3.2	7.4	6.6	4.5	2.4
Costilla	0.0	0.0	1.9	0.0	0.0
Crowley	3.2	0.0	3.2	3.2	0.0
Custer	1.6	13.1	1.4	3.9	1.3
Delta	10.4	3.5	1.0	7.3	7.9
Denver	11.6	11.4	4.0	11.6	18.0
Dolores	0.0	2.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
Douglas	7.1	5.8	3.9	5.9	6.1
Eagle	7.5	10.2	12.7	8.3	4.1
Elbert	11.4	7.7	6.2	2.5	1.4
El Paso	26.9	17.7	11.5	13.9	15.7
Fremont	14.9	13.7	18.8	20.4	16.3
Garfield	5.8	11.6	11.4	12.1	10.4
Gilpin	2.3	18.1	2.2	3.2	3.0
Grand	0.8	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.7
Gunnison	1.9	6.0	4.7	7.0	2.7
Hinsdale	0.0	0.0	0.0	40.0	18.9
Huerfano	7.9	3.9	11.5	4.3	6.0
Jackson	2.2	2.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Jefferson	14.4	13.5	12.6	11.6	8.2
Kiowa	10.0	25.2	10.4	0.0	0.0
Kit Carson	8.1	2.7	4.9	3.1	4.8
Lake	2.0	0.0	10.4	2.9	1.3
La Plata	19.4	14.7	6.4	8.5	11.2
Larimer	16.2	16.0	13.9	14.2	12.8
Las Animas	8.9	10.3	7.7	7.0	7.0
Lincoln	0.0	2.5	0.0	0.0	0.0
Logan	7.4	12.1	8.7	12.0	13.6
Mesa	18.0	20.7	23.9	20.4	16.8
Mineral	0.0	19.6	0.0	0.0	0.0
Moffat	21.8	19.4	11.3	15.3	5.4
Montezuma	9.2	14.7	11.4	11.5	10.1
Montrose	12.8	17.0	19.6	15.2	11.9
Morgan	14.3	14.3	13.7	14.2	11.0
Otero	12.0	14.2	18.1	11.2	8.5
Ouray	4.1	0.0	1.2	8.5	4.7
Park	7.3	7.7	10.5	6.7	3.5
Phillips	2.4	1.6	3.1	8.4	3.8
Pitkin	3.8	6.8	1.1	2.2	3.4
Prowers	12.5	9.6	11.2	17.9	10.1
Pueblo	24.7	26.0	26.4	25.5	24.8
Rio Blanco	2.4	3.4	2.5	3.0	1.5
Rio Grande	8.2	11.0	13.6	10.4	12.4
Routt	6.5	5.2	8.2	8.7	5.6
Saguache	5.5	3.5	10.7	6.8	1.7
San Juan	26.5	13.2	13.5	7.0	0.0
San Miguel	4.2	5.0	6.5	3.2	13.0
Sedgwick	11.8	17.8	17.7	0.0	0.0
Summit	13.3	21.1	22.1	9.3	16.6
Teller	19.4	9.6	11.0	9.4	13.6
Washington	13.3	6.6	6.6	0.0	0.7
Weld	13.1	10.8	11.9	11.4	11.1
Yuma	2.1	0.7	2.7	4.4	2.0
COLORADO	598.3	629.7	546.9	550.3	437.4

Note: Highest and lowest non-zero rates are highlighted for each year

Source: Uniform Crime Reports County Data – Geostat: Geospatial and Statistical Data Center

Domestic Violence:

Domestic violence is a serious, widespread social problem in America. Estimates range from **960,000** incidents of violence against a current or former spouse, boyfriend, or girlfriend per year to **3.9 million** women who are physically abused by their husbands or live-in partners per year. According to a 1999 survey by *The Commonwealth Fund*, **31 percent** of American women report being physically or sexually abused by a husband or boyfriend at some point in their lives.¹

In Colorado, the *Colorado Bureau of Investigation* reported an increase in domestic violence incidences and victims each year from 1997-1999. In 1999, the majority (**76.2%**) of domestic violence victims resulted from simple assaults. **Tables 90 and 91** provide data on the number of domestic violence incidences and the number of victims per type of offense in Colorado.

Table 90: Numbers of Domestic Violence Incidences and Victims in Colorado

	1997	1998	1999
Domestic Violence Incidences (numbers)	6,054	6,641	6,951
Domestic Violence Victims (numbers)	6,179	7,126	7,302
"Colorado Bureau of Investigation Annual Report on Crime", Colorado Bureau of Investigation, 2000.			

Table 91: Number of Domestic Violence Victims per Type of Offense in Colorado (1999)

Homicide	26
Forcible Sex Offenses	144
Robbery	27
Aggravated Assault	755
Simple Assault	5,899
Intimidation - Non-Force	319
Kidnapping	106
Non-Force Sex Offenses	26
TOTAL	7,302
"Colorado Bureau of Investigation Annual Report on Crime", Colorado Bureau of Investigation, 2000.	

As there is often confusion between *simple assault*, *aggravated assault*, and *intimidation* definitions are offered here. A *simple assault* is limited to the use of physical force and results in little or no injury to the victim. In this case there is no intention to do any other injury. *Aggravated assault* is defined as an unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury. Although actual injury is not a requirement this type of assault usually is accompanied by the use of a weapon or by means likely to produce death or great bodily harm. *Intimidation* occurs when one says or does something in such a way that a person of ordinary sensibilities would be fearful of bodily harm.

Table 92 presents the data on county level domestic violence crime arrests for 1994-1998. Jefferson County had the largest number of arrests with **314** in 1998. This represented a **33.1 percent** increase over the number of arrests in 1994 for the county. As with most arrest statistics in Colorado, Arapahoe County had the greatest drop in the number of arrests during the 1994 to 1998 time period with a decrease of **107** arrests. Thirteen of the counties had no reported cases of family violence arrests.

¹ "Health Concerns Across a Woman's Lifespan: The Commonwealth Fund 1998 Survey of Women's Health", The Commonwealth Fund, May 1999.

Table 92: Domestic Violent Crime Arrests by County in Colorado 1994-1998

COUNTY	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
Adams	260	116	285	149	199
Alamosa	33	18	53	29	11
Arapahoe	243	126	179	293	136
Archuleta	1	0	1	2	1
Baca	2	9	8	0	0
Bent	1	0	2	1	7
Boulder	147	91	114	184	102
Chaffee	7	0	11	4	9
Cheyenne	0	0	0	0	0
Clear Creek	8	1	21	17	29
Conejos	3	1	7	7	2
Costilla	0	0	3	0	0
Crowley	0	0	4	0	0
Custer	1	0	0	0	3
Delta	1	0	7	9	13
Denver	186	198	214	230	210
Dolores	0	0	0	0	0
Douglas	16	0	14	16	43
Eagle	10	1	10	5	20
Elbert	6	13	5	1	13
El Paso	297	159	246	298	295
Fremont	17	8	41	65	47
Garfield	16	5	47	50	20
Gilpin	9	5	8	0	12
Grand	1	2	1	1	2
Gunnison	4	1	18	1	11
Hinsdale	0	0	2	1	0
Huerfano	8	4	25	32	57
Jackson	1	0	1	0	0
Jefferson	296	216	242	236	314
Kiowa	1	0	1	0	0
Kit Carson	4	0	3	10	2
Lake	31	22	7	11	13
La Plata	100	57	27	41	38
Larimer	30	25	45	22	56
Las Animas	7	0	5	3	11
Lincoln	0	0	6	0	0
Logan	7	3	15	15	13
Mesa	78	16	38	36	58
Mineral	2	0	0	0	1
Moffat	12	1	6	2	10
Montezuma	3	0	1	0	4
Montrose	0	0	6	2	22
Morgan	2	1	1	5	5
Otero	12	4	27	20	11
Ouray	0	0	4	3	4
Park	3	1	26	36	26
Phillips	1	0	15	4	11
Pitkin	1	1	3	3	6
Prowers	5	2	45	25	17
Pueblo	66	45	49	40	15
Rio Blanco	3	0	1	0	3
Rio Grande	5	4	26	2	23
Routt	2	3	4	8	3
Saguache	2	0	14	4	18
San Juan	3	0	0	0	0
San Miguel	1	0	5	4	5
Sedgwick	1	1	3	0	0
Summit	6	9	4	8	6
Teller	20	2	66	61	97
Washington	0	2	1	0	0
Weld	83	70	99	132	143
Yuma	2	1	1	1	0
COLORADO	2,067	1,244	2,123	2,129	2,177

Note: Highest arrest totals are highlighted for each year

Source: Uniform Crime Reports County Data – Geostat: Geospatial and Statistical Data Center

For more data on domestic violence see the report compiled by the Mecklenburg County, North Carolina Sheriff's Department. The department has gathered national statistics from a variety of sources in the United States. The report can be seen at web site <http://www.co.mecklenburg.nc.us/cosheriff/victimdom.htm>.

School Safety:

The safety of students, teachers, and staff at school is the focus of considerable attention. Violence in such places as Jonesboro, Arkansas and Littleton, Colorado (Columbine High School) have raised the awareness of the problem of school safety at all levels of American society. However, the US Departments of Justice and Education reported in *Indicators of School Crime and Safety, 2001*, that the levels of crime in school are declining and continue to decline, that acts that promote fear and detract from learning are decreasing, and that students feel safer in school than they did a few years ago.

Despite these declining rates, students aged 12-18 were victims of around **2.5 million** crimes of violence or theft at school in 1999. Highlights of the report follow:

- Between 1995 and 1999, the percentage of students who reported being victims of crime at school decreased from **10 percent** to **8 percent**.
- Younger students (ages 12-14) were more likely than older students (ages 15-18) to be victims of crimes at school.
- Between 1995 and 1999, the percentages of students that felt unsafe while at school and while they were traveling to and from school fell from **9 percent** to **5 percent**.
- In 1999, about **13 percent** of students ages 12-18 reported that someone at school had used hate-related words (derogatory terms having to do with race/ethnicity, religion, disability, gender, or sexual orientation) against them. Additionally, about **36 percent** of students saw hate-related graffiti at school.
- Between 1995 and 1999, the percentage of students decreased who reported that street gangs were present at their schools. In 1995, **29 percent** of students reported gangs being present at their schools. By 1999, this percentage had fallen to **17%**.

To view the full report, see web site <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/abstract/iscs01.htm>

Hate Crimes:

Hate crimes are criminal offenses committed against a person or property that is motivated, in whole or in part, by the offender's bias against race, religion, disability, ethnicity/national origin, or sexual orientation.

According to the *Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI)*, since 1996 the number of incidences per year has fluctuated from a high of **146** in 1999 to a low of **98** in 2000. **Fifty percent** of the offenses in 2000 were "intimidation". The other most prevalent offenses were "damage to property" and "assault". Over **25%** of the incidences occur at residences or homes, followed by roadways, then parking lots and garages. In 2000, **fifty percent** of the bias motivation was racial followed by ethnicity at **25%**. The remaining bias motivations were sexual orientation (**15%**) and religion (**10%**). To see the entire report, see web site http://cbi.state.co.us/dr/cic2000/supplemental_reports/hate_crime.htm.

Firearm Background Checks:

In August of 1999, the *Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI)* began maintaining firearm statistics through their Insta-check unit for the *National Instant Background Check System* for the sale of firearms. During 2000 and 2001 there were over **137,000** and **145,000** checks performed, respectively. The number of checks performed is not the same as the number of firearms sold. **Ninety-five percent** of the checks were approved. Those checks that resulted in denial were mostly for previous arrests or convictions. To see more information on the firearms background checks see <http://cbi.state.co.us/ic/index.asp>.

R11: Resources for Crime

Web Site	Level	Comments
http://www.ncjrs.org/html/ojjdp/nationalreport99/toc.html	National	Juvenile Offenders and Victims: 1999 National Report
http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/srsc.pdf	National	Students' Reports of School Crime: 1989 and 1995
http://www.ncjrs.org/html/ojjdp/97_ygs/	National	1997 National Youth Gang Survey
http://www.co.mecklenburg.nc.us/cosheriff/victimdom.htm	National	Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Department Domestic Violence web site
http://www.cmwf.org/programs/women/ksc_whsurvey_332.pdf	National	"Health Concerns Across a Woman's Lifespan: The Commonwealth Fund 1998 Survey of Women's Health"
http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2002113	National	"Indicators for School Crime and Safety: 2001"
http://www.nnedv.org/	National	National Network to End Domestic Violence
http://ojjdp.ncjrs.org/ojstatbb/index.html	National/State	Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) Statistical Briefing
http://ojp.usdoj.gov	National/State	Funding, Training, Programs, Stats, and Research from the US Department of Justice
http://ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/dtd.htm	National/State	United States Department of Justice Crime Data On-line
http://fisher.lib.virginia.edu/crime/	National/State/County	Uniform Crime Reports County Data – Geostat: Geospatial and Statistical Data Center – University of Virginia
http://cbi.state.co.us/dr/cic2000/supplemental_reports/hate_crime.htm	State	Colorado Hate Crime report
http://www.ccadv.org/index.htm	State	Colorado Coalition Against Domestic Violence
http://cbi.state.co.us/ic/index.asp	State	Firearm Background Checks
http://www.cdpsweb.state.co.us/ors/stats.htm	State	Colorado Department of Public Safety, Office of Research and Statistics
http://cbi.state.co.us/dr/cic00/introduction.htm	State	Colorado Bureau of Investigation Annual Report on Crime

12 Substance Abuse

According to the *United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)*¹, drug and alcohol abuse contributes to the death of more than **120,000** Americans and costs more than **\$294 billion** in preventable health care costs, extra law enforcement, auto crashes, crime and lost productivity each year. Health care costs for alcohol abuse were about **twice** that for drug abuse. Since 1980, drug usage in the U. S. has fallen by **50%**.

This section of the Welfare report presents data and information on substance abuse at the national and state level, as well as the costs associated with substance abuse. The data for Colorado was gathered from the *Colorado Department of Human Services*. The United States data was provided through reports issued by the *National Institute on Drug Abuse*, the *National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism*, the *National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University*, and the *Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services (SAMHSA)*.

Denver and Colorado Drug Statistics:

The *Evaluation and Information Services Section (EISS) of the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division (ADAD)* studies and reports on substance use and abuse, and evaluates the effectiveness of treatment and prevention services in Colorado. Two of their recent reports now available are: "Drug Use Trends in Denver and Colorado", and "Alcohol and Drug Use and Abuse in Colorado: A Household Telephone Survey of Adult Colorado Residents". Both reports can be received by contacting the Colorado Department of Human Services at (303) 866-7480. The full "Drug Use Trends in Denver and Colorado" report can also be found at web site [http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/ohr/adad/cewgrpt.html#DRUG ABUSE TRENDS](http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/ohr/adad/cewgrpt.html#DRUG%20ABUSE%20TRENDS).

***Highlights of the "Drug Use Trends in Denver and Colorado"*²:**

Cocaine:

- Denver metro emergency departments report that after declining from **86 to 53 cases per 100,000 population** from 1994 to 1996, cocaine emergencies increased steadily to **87** in 1999, and then declined slightly to **83 per 100,000** in 2000.
- Hospital discharge data showed that cocaine occurrences per 100,000 increased from **60.1** in 1994 to **62.8** in 1999, but then displayed a small increase to **63.5** in 2000.
- In 1994 there were **71** calls to the *Rocky Mountain Poison and Drug Center* concerning cocaine. This dropped to **49** in 1995, remained at about that level through 1999, but increased to **59** in 2000.
- Treatment admission data indicate that cocaine injecting declined from 1995 (**12.4 percent**) through 1998 (**10.6 percent**), but increased slightly to **13.7 percent** through the first half of 2001.
- In 1995, primary cocaine abuse accounted for **31 percent** of all drug abuse treatment admissions compared with **21.3 percent** for the first half of 2001.

¹ "Substance Abuse – A National Challenge: Prevention, Treatment, and Research at HHS", U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, October 4, 2001.

² "Drug Use Trends in Denver and Colorado", Colorado Department of Human Services, Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division", 2001.

- Cocaine treatment admissions for the first half of 2001 remain predominately White (**48.1 percent**) and male (**58 percent**). Hispanic cocaine admissions have increased dramatically from **17.4 percent** in 1995 to nearly **28 percent** in the first half of 2001, while African-American cocaine admissions have been almost cut in half dropping from **39 percent** in 1995 to **21 percent** in the first half of 2001.
- The percentage of those smoking cocaine held constant at **67.2 percent** in 1995 and 1996, but has declined steadily to **56.7 percent** in the first half of 2001.
- Inhalation of cocaine has steadily increased from **17.6 percent** in 1995 to **26.3 percent** in the first half of 2001.
- Of the cocaine users entering treatment, the proportion of users admitted to treatment within 3 years of initial cocaine use has remained relatively level from 1995 (**15.8 percent**) through the first half of 2001 (**14.6 percent**).
- In 1995, **63.2 percent** of cocaine admissions were under thirty-five; this decreased to **47.3 percent** in the first half of 2001. Conversely, cocaine admissions for 35 and over have climbed steadily during the same time period from **36.8 to 52.7 percent**.
- Cocaine deaths in Colorado climbed from 73 in 1993 (**21 per million**) to a peak of 146 in 1999 (**36 per million**). While they declined to 116 in 2000 (**27 per million**), this was still the second highest number of deaths in the eight year time period.

Opiates and Heroin:

- Opiate related deaths in Colorado more than doubled from **81 (23 per million)** in 1993 to **182 (46 per million)** in 1998, but declined somewhat to 142 in 1999 (**35 per million**) and to 147 in 2000 (**34 per million**).
- Among Colorado treatment admissions, the proportion and number of heroin admissions remained fairly stable from 1995 (**15.4 percent**) through the first half of 2000 (**14.5 percent**), with a slight decline to **12.1 percent** in the first half of 2001.
- The proportion of female heroin admissions has remained stable from 1995 (**33.1 percent**) through the first half of 2001 (**31.8 percent**).
- Whites have increased as a percentage of total from **56 percent** in 1995 to **65.7 percent** in the first half of 2001, while Hispanics have decreased (**29.8 percent to 22.4 percent**).
- The 25 and under age group has increased as a percentage of heroin admissions from **10.2 percent** in 1995 to **18.1 percent** in 2000.

Marijuana:

- Data from the *1999 National Household Survey on Drug Abuse* placed Colorado number one among the 50 states in past month marijuana use (**8.1 percent** of the 12 and over population).
- In general, marijuana users have accounted for the largest proportion of all Colorado drug treatment clients since 1995. Marijuana treatment admissions increased from **35.2 percent** in 1995 **40.4 percent** through the first half of 2001.
- Male to female marijuana admission ratios remained at **3 to 1** during the 1995 to 2001 time period.
- Hispanics increased as a percentage of marijuana admissions, from **31.4 percent** in 1995 to **36.3 percent** in 1999. However, they declined back to **31.3 percent** by the first half of 2001. Whites declined from **57.1 percent** to **52.4 percent** of marijuana admissions during

the 1995 to 1999 time period, but increased back to the 1995 level in both 2000 and the first half of 2001.

Methamphetamines:

- Methamphetamine treatment admissions for the first half of 2001 remain predominately White (**87.1 percent**) and male (**54.9 percent**).
- Amphetamine-related calls (street drug category) to the Rocky Mountain Poison and Drug Center had decreased from 1994 (**36 calls**) to 1996 (**16 calls**), but increased sharply in 1997 (**38 calls**). While such calls dropped to **11** in 1998, they rebounded to **291** and **269** in 1999 and 2000, respectively.
- From 1995 to 2001, those 25 and under have remained at about **one-third** of admissions, those 26 to 34 have declined from **39 percent** to **31 percent** of admissions, and those over 35 have increased from about **one-fourth** to **one-third** of methamphetamine admissions.

Table 93 presents a comparison of hospital admissions for the treatment of various drug problems from 1995 to the first half of 2001 in the Denver metropolitan area. Although the patterns of use (as represented by hospital admissions) vary, there appears to have been an overall increase in the use of methamphetamines, marijuana, and other drugs. There seems to be a decrease in the usage of heroin and cocaine since 1995.

Table 93: Percentage of Hospital Admissions by Drug Type (1995-2001)

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001*
Heroin	15.4%	15.1%	13.7%	13.2%	14.3%	14.5%	12.1%
Methamphetamines	11.2%	8.9%	14.9%	13.5%	10.7%	13.0%	14.8%
Cocaine	31.0%	30.6%	27.1%	26.6%	23.6%	21.2%	21.3%
Marijuana	35.2%	38.8%	37.9%	39.8%	43.7%	42.4%	40.4%
Others	7.2%	6.6%	6.4%	6.9%	7.7%	8.9%	11.4%
* 2001 data is through June Source: "PATTERNS AND TRENDS IN DRUG ABUSE: DENVER AND COLORADO", Colorado Department of Human Services, Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division, 2001							

According to "Patterns and Trends in Drug Abuse: Denver and Colorado"³, new users of a drug are defined as those admitted to treatment within 3 years of initial cocaine use. **Table 94** presents the data on the annual percentage of heroin, methamphetamine, cocaine, and marijuana users entering treatment within three years of initial use. The data shows that there has been a decrease in treatment of new users for all drugs, except for heroin, which has remained basically steady. Not shown here is the admittance of new users for "other" drugs. The general decline in admittances for the four drugs identified in **Table 94** means that there has been a growth in the number of admittances for "other" drugs. Other drugs include club drugs (rohypnol (roofies), gamma-hydroxybutyrate (GHB), methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA, or ecstasy), and

³ Mendelson, Bruce, "Patterns and Trends in Drug Abuse: Denver and Colorado", Colorado Department of Human Services, Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division, 2001.

ketamine (Special K)), stimulants, and other opiates (hydrocodone, hydromorphone, codeine, and oxycodone). This major portion of the increase began in 1999 and reached a peak in the first half of 2001.

Table 94: Percentage of New Users Entering Treatment by Drug Type (1995-2001)

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001*
Heroin	14.9%	17.1%	16.6%	19.6%	17.6%	18.6%	14.9%
Methamphetamines	29.6%	25.8%	30.5%	27.3%	20.6%	20.4%	16.2%
Cocaine	15.8%	15.3%	14.0%	15.8%	15.5%	16.5%	14.6%
Marijuana	36.6%	35.8%	33.1%	30.5%	25.4%	28.9%	27.4%
Other	3.1%	6.0%	5.8%	6.8%	20.9%	15.6%	26.9%
* 2001 data is through June Source: "PATTERNS AND TRENDS IN DRUG ABUSE: DENVER AND COLORADO", Colorado Department of Human Services, Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division, 2001							

Table 95 presents the data on the rate (per 100,000 patients) that a specific drug was mentioned when a patient was discharged from a hospital. Every drug listed showed a significant increase in mentions from 1995 through the first six months of 2001.

Table 95: Mentions of Use of Selected Drugs Per 100,000 Hospital Discharges (1995-2001)

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001*
Amphetamines	16.3	19.4	13.9	24.6	20.5	16.9	21.9
Cocaine	60.1	55.3	59.0	57.7	62.8	62.3	63.5
Marijuana	41.9	45.6	45.6	54.4	56.1	54.6	57.1
Narcotic Analgesics	29.8	29.4	19.9	37.5	39.5	40.6	47.7
* 2001 data is through June Source: "PATTERNS AND TRENDS IN DRUG ABUSE: DENVER AND COLORADO", Colorado Department of Human Services, Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division, 2001							

For more information on the work being accomplished at *ADAD*, please see: <http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/ohr/adad/index.html>. Additionally, *ADAD* annually releases a report called "Colorado Prevention-Related Indicators Report" containing county level social indicator data related to substance abuse prevention to help identify problem areas, provide baseline data on which to measure change, identify community needs, set program priorities, and develop strategic plans.

National Drug Statistics:

In 2001, the *Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Office of Applied Studies* released the “2000 National Household Survey on Drug Abuse (NHSDA)”⁴. Since 1971, the NHSDA has been the primary source of information on the prevalence and incidence of illicit drug, alcohol, and tobacco use in the civilian population aged 12 years and older. The data are now based on information obtained from approximately 70,000 persons per year. The report provides national estimates of rates of use, number of users, initiation of use, and other measures related to use of illicit drugs, licit drugs that are used for non-medical purposes, alcohol, cigarettes, and other forms of tobacco by the population aged 12 years and older in 1999 and 2000. The full report can be found at web site <http://www.samhsa.gov/statistics/statistics.html>. Selected findings for the United States are given on the next page.

Illicit Drug Use:

- In 2000, an estimated **14.0 million** Americans were current illicit drug users, meaning they had used an illicit drug during the month prior to interview. This estimate represents **6.3 percent** of the population 12 years old and older.
- As in prior years, men continued to have a higher rate of current illicit drug use than women (**7.7 percent vs. 5.0 percent**) in 2000.
- Among youth aged 12 to 17 in 2000, **9.7 percent** had used an illicit drug within the 30 days prior to interview. This rate is almost identical to the rate for youth in 1999 (**9.8 percent**). Among youths aged 12 to 17 in 2000, the rate of current illicit drug use was similar for boys (**9.8 percent**) and girls (**9.5 percent**).
- Among youths who were heavy drinkers in 2000, **65.5 percent** were also current illicit drug users. Similarly, among youths who smoked cigarettes, the rate of past month illicit drug use was **42.7 percent**, compared with **4.6 percent** for nonsmokers.
- In 2000, an estimated **7.0 million** persons reported driving under the influence of an illicit drug at some time during the year. This figure is **3.1 percent** of the population age 12 and older and is lower than the rate in 1999 (**3.4 percent**).
- The estimated annual number of new marijuana users declined from **2.6 million** in 1996 to about **2.0 million** in 1999.
- The percentage of persons aged 12 and older indicating that it was fairly or very easy to obtain a substance decreased between 1999 and 2000 for marijuana (**56.9 to 54.8 percent**), cocaine (**32.3 to 30.4 percent**), crack (**30.9 to 29.0 percent**), heroin (**20.9 to 19.4 percent**), and LSD (**23.4 to 22.3 percent**).

Alcohol Use:

- Almost half of Americans aged 12 and older reported being current drinkers of alcohol in the 2000 survey (**46.6 percent**). This translates to an estimated **104 million** people. Both the rate of alcohol use and number of drinkers were nearly the same in 2000 as in 1999 (**46.4 percent and 103 million**).
- Heavy drinking was reported by **5.6 percent** of the population (**12.6 million** people) aged 12 and older.

⁴ “2000 National Household Survey on Drug Abuse (NHSDA)”, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Office of Applied Studies, 2000.

- About **9.7 million** persons aged 12 to 20 reported drinking alcohol in the month prior to the survey interview in 2000 (**27.5 percent** of this age group). An estimated **6.6 million (18.7 percent)** were binge drinkers and **2.1 million (6.0 percent)** were heavy drinkers. All of these 2000 rates were similar to rates observed in 1999.
- Binge and heavy use rates for college students were **41.4 percent** and **16.4 percent**, respectively, compared with **35.9 percent** and **12.1 percent**, respectively, for other persons aged 18 to 22.
- **One in ten** Americans aged 12 and older in 2000 (**22.3 million** persons) had driven under the influence of alcohol at least once in the 12 months prior to interview. Between 1999 and 2000, the rate of driving under the influence of alcohol declined from **10.9 percent** to **10.0 percent**, which is a statistically significant difference. Among young adults aged 18 to 25, **19.9 percent** had driven under the influence of alcohol in 2000.

Costs of Substance Abuse:

The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse (NCASA) at Columbia University indicated in a 1998 study that the heaviest burden of substance abuse and addiction on public spending falls on the states and programs of localities that the states support. Of the **two million** prisoners in the United States, more than **1.8 million** are in state and local institutions. *The National Institute on Drug Abuse and the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism* report that in Colorado, the adult drug crimes arrest rate per 100,000 hit a **two-decade high of 598.1** in 1999. The juvenile drug crimes arrest rate per 100,000 has been increasing sharply since 1991 peaking in 1998 at **384.7** and only slightly decreasing to **366.4** in 1999.

States are also responsible for running the Medicaid programs where smoking and alcohol abuse impose heavy burdens in cancer, heart disease and chronic and debilitating respiratory ailments and where drug use is the largest cause of new AIDS cases. States fund and operate child welfare systems--social services, family courts, foster care, and adoption agencies--where at least **70 percent** of the cases of abuse and neglect stem from alcohol- and drug-abusing parents.

Highlights from the NCASA (1998) study for the United States and for Colorado follow:

- On average, each American paid **\$277 per year** in state taxes to support social programs that deal with the burden of substance abuse and addiction, while spending only **\$10 a year** for prevention and treatment.
- In Colorado, the per capita burden was slightly lower than average at **\$217** however, the per capita investment in prevention and treatment was the lowest in the nation at **\$14**.
- The states spend **113 times** as much to clean up the devastation of substance abuse and addiction impacts on children as they do to prevent and treat it. Colorado spends **1,542 times** as much to clean it up as they do on prevention.
- Of the \$620 billion total the states spent, **\$81.3 billion-- 13.1 percent--**was used to deal with substance abuse and addiction. Colorado **ranked 9th** in the country with **12.4%** of state spending related to substance abuse.
- On average, **for every \$100.00** states spend on substance abuse they spend **\$95.80** on the burden of substance abuse to public programs compared to **\$3.70** for prevention, treatment and research (**\$0.50** is spent on regulation and compliance).
- Although the most significant opportunity to reduce the burden of substance abuse on public programs is through targeted and effective prevention programs, Colorado's

proportion spent on the affects of substance abuse compared to prevention and treatment was **\$99.94 vs. \$0.06**.

- The average annual, state per capita spending on prevention, treatment and research is **\$11.09**. Per capita spending in this area ranges from a low of **\$0.14** in Colorado to a high of **\$34.93** in Washington DC.

Another report, "The Costs and Effectiveness of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs in the State of Colorado"⁵ provided the following data on the costs to society:

- Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS) is the leading preventable cause of birth defects and mental retardation in the nation. The total lifetime cost for a Colorado child born with FAS in 1980 was estimated at **\$596,000 (\$1,314,180 in 2000 dollars)**. Nationally, the current lifetime institutional and medical costs for one FAS child are **\$1.4 million**. Colorado's annual cost for Special Education and Juvenile Justice for children with FAS ages 5-18 is **\$20,926,160**. It is estimated that each year in Colorado between 20 and 42 children are born with FAS.
- In 1997 and 1998, respectively, **48.2 and 45.8 per 100,000** males and **17.4 and 16.7 per 100,000** females died of alcohol related causes (e.g., liver disease, alcohol dependence syndrome, etc.) in Colorado.
- In 1997 and 1998, **17.4 and 18.3 per 100,000** males and **6.2 and 8.8 per 100,000** females died of drug related causes in Colorado.
- In 2000 there were **209** people killed in alcohol related vehicle crashes in Colorado.
- In 2000, **41.8%** of adult male arrestees and **41.5%** of adult female arrestees were diagnosed as substance abusive or substance dependent.
- **21.7%** of juvenile female arrestees and **12%** of juvenile male arrestees were diagnosed as substance abusive or substance dependent.
- Arrestees reported **8 times** more marijuana use, **25 times** more cocaine use, **20 times** more stimulant use, and **19 times** more heroin use than their general population counterparts.
- **42%** of arrestees had a lifetime substance abuse/dependence diagnosis, versus **13.6%** of the general population.
- Children of addicts are up to **four times** more likely to develop substance abuse problems than children who do not have a parent who is a substance abuser.
- **\$7** is saved for every dollar spent on alcohol and drug abuse treatment programs. (Source: Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs, State of California, 1994)
- Colorado noted a **67% increase** in employment following treatment.

To view the entire report, see web site

http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/ohr/adad/hewi/costs.htm#_ednref5

⁵ "The Costs and Effectiveness of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs in the State of Colorado", Submitted by the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division of the Colorado Department of Human Services, December, 2001.

State and County Comparisons:

The *National Technical Center for Substance Abuse Needs Assessment*, North Charles Research and Planning Group prepared and released “A Drug and Alcohol Abuse Indicator Chart Book for Colorado” in March, 2001. The chart book provides rankings for Colorado compared to the other states in the United States and rankings among the sixty-three counties in Colorado for three groupings (drugs, alcohol, and substance abuse). The rankings establish an index for each group (called “Drug Need Index”, “Alcohol Need Index”, and “Substance Abuse Need Index”), with a scale of 100 being the highest observed mortality, arrest, and hospital discharge diagnoses combination. The “Substance Abuse Need Index” is a combination of the “Drug Need Index” and the “Alcohol Need Index”. In all cases, the state or county with the most severe drug or alcohol problem is ranked first.

On a national basis, Colorado ranked **second** on the “Substance Abuse Need Index”, with an index score of **86.6** and ranked **fifth** (ranking of **80.5**) for the “Alcohol Need Index”. In each of these cases New Mexico was ranked **first**. Colorado ranked **second** on the “Drug Need Index” rankings.

The three indices also are determined for fifteen regions in Colorado. **Table 96** presents the index values for those regions from 1993-1998. For each index, Elbert County has the lowest (least severe) value. Pueblo County has the highest (most severe) drug need index, while Las Animas has the highest index number for both alcohol need and substance abuse need. County compositions for the regions are on the last page.

Table 96: Drug, Alcohol, and Substance Abuse Need Indices for Colorado Regions (1993-1998)

Region	Drug Need Index	Alcohol Need Index	Substance Abuse Need Index
Alamosa	35.4	54.0	53.1
Boulder	42.6	30.6	33.5
Eagle	46.7	38.3	42.8
El Paso	56.5	38.7	44.5
Elbert	15.5	21.3	21.7
Fremont	51.9	42.4	45.0
Jefferson	76.7	45.4	52.4
La Plata	39.4	59.7	58.1
Larimer	33.9	38.3	39.7
Las Animas	41.7	94.0	90.0
Mesa	48.5	37.8	42.8
Montrose	31.7	39.1	40.1
Morgan	30.3	38.9	39.1
Otero	36.9	50.0	49.3
Pueblo	79.7	81.9	86.7

Regional definitions can be found after on **page 10**.
Source: Center for Substance Abuse Treatment, A Drug and Alcohol Abuse Indicator Chart Book for Colorado

Table 97 presents the county (and state) data for the “Drug Treatment Mean Rate”, “Drug Hospital Discharge Rate”, “Drug Arrest Mean Rate”, and “Alcohol Related Traffic Fatality Rate”. These statistics are some of the indicators used in calculating the “needs indices”. To see the full report, see web site <http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/ohr/adad/Indicator%20Chart%20Book.pdf>.

Table 97: Colorado County Drug and Alcohol Related Rates (Number per 100,000 People)

County	Drug Treatment Mean Rate*	Drug Hospital Discharge Rate*	Drug Arrest Mean Rate**	Alcohol Related Traffic Fatality Rate**
Adams	206	166	463	5.0
Alamosa	661	192	372	5.6
Arapahoe	77	104	424	1.9
Archuleta	69	212	169	17.8
Baca	59	1,229	301	9.1
Bent	341	451	361	7.3
Boulder	220	119	256	3.7
Chaffee	886	77	164	10.9
Cheyenne	104	216	26	0
Clear Creek	44	58	301	22.8
Conejos	179	176	243	17.9
Costilla	402	221	148	34.1
Crowley	96	244	43	28.4
Custer	346	101	266	19.9
Delta	93	156	85	8.6
Denver	523	448	1,213	5.3
Dolores	114	126	96	24.0
Douglas	44	39	155	5.8
Eagle	147	72	414	12.4
Elbert	56	34	180	10.0
El Paso	237	107	500	2.8
Fremont	574	198	220	3.4
Garfield	273	158	367	6.6
Gilpin	45	67	1,712	15.9
Grand	174	92	655	8.5
Gunnison	59	78	379	11.6
Hinsdale	0	0	30	0
Huerfano	432	293	246	24.6
Jackson	63	13	90	38.6
Jefferson	133	110	206	3.4
Kiowa	36	865	121	24.2
Kit Carson	47	70	78	5.6
Lake	168	90	42	6.4
La Plata	246	189	395	13.8
Larimer	108	90	268	4.9
Las Animas	411	254	106	15.3
Lincoln	97	115	64	21.4
Logan	150	36	250	10.1
Mesa	244	285	487	4.3
Mineral	94	157	61	60.6
Moffat	140	92	494	0
Montezuma	182	180	28	13.8
Montrose	93	134	324	7.5
Morgan	236	131	293	3.3
Otero	232	234	131	9.7
Ouray	40	47	141	12.8
Park	85	60	187	13.8
Phillips	126	103	102	0
Pitkin	209	92	271	10.4
Prowers	213	114	144	8.8
Pueblo	346	589	405	7.8
Rio Blanco	113	154	189	6.5
Rio Grande	358	132	146	15.1
Routt	44	40	330	8.3
Saguache	432	111	240	10.6
San Juan	249	178	399	0
San Miguel	88	128	450	23.3
Sedgwick	68	61	153	0
Summit	172	122	769	11.3
Teller	126	87	466	15.1
Washington	82	52	121	8.6
Weld	208	134	188	10.3
Yuma	31	28	89	6.5
COLORADO	227	183	452	5.3

The highest and lowest county percentages are highlighted.

* For years 1993-1997

** For years 1994-1998

Source: "A Drug and Alcohol Abuse Indicator Chart Book for Colorado"

Colorado Region Compositions:

Region	Counties
Alamosa	Alamosa, Conejos, Costilla, Mineral, Rio Grande, Saguache
Boulder	Boulder
Eagle	Eagle, Grand, Jackson, Pitkin, Routt, Summit
El Paso	El Paso, Park, Teller
Elbert	Cheyenne, Elbert, Kit Carson, Lincoln
Fremont	Chaffee, Custer, Fremont, Lake
Jefferson	Adams, Arapahoe, Clear Creek, Denver, Douglas, Gilpin, Jefferson
La Plata	Archuleta, Dolores, La Plata, Montezuma, San Juan
Larimer	Larimer and Weld
Las Animas	Huerfano and Las Animas
Mesa	Garfield, Mesa, Moffatt, Rio Blanco
Montrose	Delta, Gunnison, Hinsdale, Montrose, Ouray, San Miguel
Morgan	Logan, Morgan, Phillips, Sedgwick, Washington, Yuma
Otero	Baca, Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, Otero, Prowers
Pueblo	Pueblo

R12: Resources for Substance Abuse

Web Site	Level of Data Available	Comments
http://www.samhsa.gov/	National	Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Homepage
http://www.drugabusestatistics.samhsa.gov/	National	Drug abuse statistics from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)
http://www.samhsa.gov/oas/srcbk/TOC.htm	National	"Costs of Mental Illness and Substance Abuse" from SAMHSA Statistics Source Book
http://www.samhsa.gov/oas/p0000016.htm	National	SAMHSA report – "National Household Survey on Drug Abuse"
http://www.samhsa.gov/oas/NHSDA/2KHHSfacts.htm	National	Health and Human Services Fact Sheet on Substance Abuse
http://www.nida.nih.gov	National	National Institute on Drug Abuse Homepage
http://www.niaaa.nih.gov	National	National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Homepage
http://www.casacolumbia.org/publications1456/publications_show.htm?doc_id=47	National/State	"Shoveling Up: The Impact of Substance Abuse on State Budgets"
http://www.casacolumbia.org/	National/State	The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University Homepage
http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/ohr/adad/hewi/costs.htm#colorado	National/State	Report to the General Assembly House Committee on Health, Environment, Welfare, and Institutions and Senate Committee
http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/ohr/adad/hewi/costs.htm#_ednref5	National/State	The Costs and Effectiveness of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs in the State of Colorado
http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/ohr/adad/hewi/costs.htm#us	Nation/State	The Costs and Effectiveness of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs in the State of Colorado
http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/ohr/adad/Indicator%20Chart%20Book.pdf	State	"A Drug and Alcohol Abuse Indicator Chart Book for Colorado"
http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/ohr/adad/index.html	State	Alcohol and Drug Abuse (ADAD) homepage
http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/ohr/adad/neweiss.html	State	Evaluation and Information Services Section (EISS) of ADAD Homepage
http://www.cdpsweb.state.co.us/ors/stats.htm	State	Colorado Adult and Juvenile Arrests Statistics
http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/ohr/adad/cewgrpt.html#DRUG ABUSE TRENDS	State/Denver	"Patterns and Trends in Drug Abuse: Denver and Colorado"