



GARFIELD COUNTY

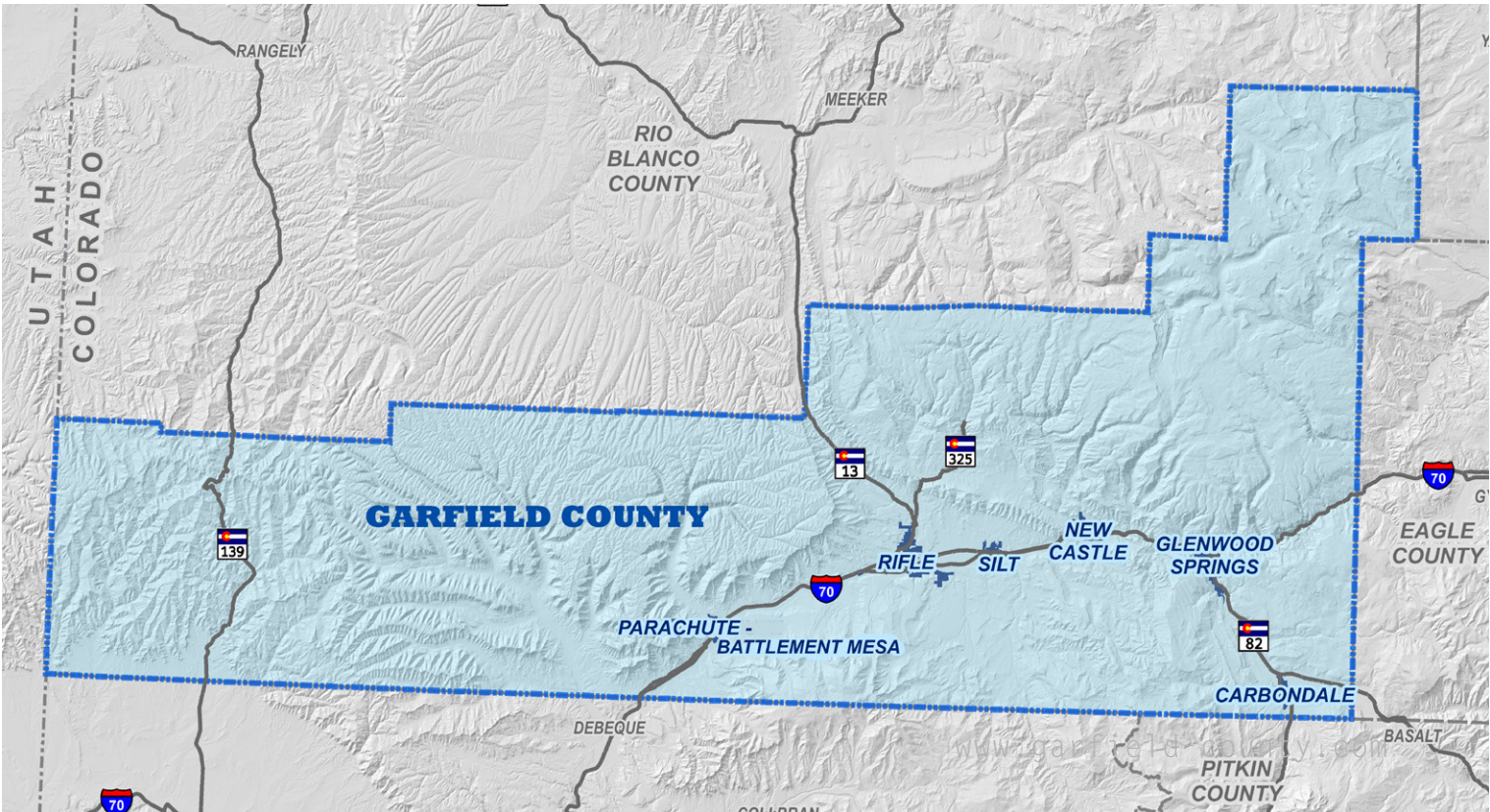
COLORADO

GARFIELD COUNTY

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Introduction.....	5
2. Physical Characteristics	6
3. Climate	8
4. History of Garfield County	8
5. Population	10
6. Communities	15
7. Transportation	28
8. Housing and Real Estate	34
9. Education.....	36
10. Telecommunications.....	39
11. Economic Activity	40
12. Labor Force, Jobs and Income	46
13. Healthcare	58
14. Senior Living	60
15. Recreation and Leisure	62
16. Cultural Events.....	80

Figure 1: Map of Garfield County



WELCOME



NEW ENERGY IN THE WILD WEST

GARFIELD COUNTY



Garfield County is one of the largest counties in Colorado, incorporating nearly 3,000 square miles on the western boundary of the state. The county has more than doubled in population since 1985, and is projected to double in size again by 2040. With this continual population increase and growth pressure comes many transitions within each of the six incorporated communities, as well as changes seen at a countywide level.

With a county that is rapidly changing, it is important to track its physical, social and economic factors, in order to give a general indication of where the county has been, as well as where it will likely go. Information of this nature can be helpful, not only for county and municipal governments, but also for those thinking of starting a business, relocating to the area, or for residents curious about the baseline information about where they live.

Incorporated on February 10, 1883, Garfield County, Colorado, is named after the 20th President of the United States, James A. Garfield. Born in Ohio on November 19, 1831, James Garfield is a very appropriate namesake for a county as diverse as this. Diverse in his background, interests and profession, some part of his life is likely to inspire everyone.

"The last of the log
cabin presidents"
— Candice Millard

PRESIDENT JAMES Garfield



According to author Candice Millard (*Destiny of the Republic*, New York, Doubleday, 2011), James Garfield is the last of the "log cabin" presidents. He lost his father at the age of two, and was raised by his mother, Eliza, and his older brother, Thomas. Both of them very early recognized James as gifted, and encouraged his education.

After some adventures working on the Erie and Ohio Canal, Garfield enrolled in Ohio at Western Reserve Eclectic Institute (a.k.a. Hiram College), where he worked his way through school as a janitor, carpenter, and then an assistant professor. He graduated from Williams College. He ultimately returned to Western Reserve to serve as president of the college.

Garfield was a family man and a farmer; he married his wife, Lucretia, with whom he had seven children. He also was a lay preacher and a lawyer, who argued successfully before the United States Supreme Court.

Garfield was an abolitionist and fought on the side of the Union in the Civil War, including the battles of Middle Creek, Shiloh, and Chickamauga, among others. He served with the 42nd Ohio Volunteer Infantry and ultimately attained the rank of Brigadier General.

As a public servant and politician, Garfield served one term as a state senator in Ohio, nine terms in Congress as a U.S. Representative, and was elected to the U.S. Senate at the time he was elected President of the United States in 1880.

Garfield served as president from March 4, 1881, to September 19, 1881, about 200 days. He was shot by Charles Guiteau on July 1, 1881 and died 81 days later from medical complications.

As husband and father, farmer and carpenter, minister and lawyer, abolitionist and soldier, and public servant, educator, and president, James Garfield certainly offers something for everyone in his namesake: Garfield County, Colorado.

Garfield County is situated approximately 150 miles west of Denver, and 330 miles southeast of Salt Lake City, Utah. The county is bisected by a 70-mile stretch of Interstate 70, which parallels the Colorado River. The western portion of the county is a sparsely populated, high desert plateau, while the eastern side includes the western foothills of the Rocky Mountains and most of the county's 58,000 residents. Garfield County covers 2,958 square miles, or 1,893,120 acres.

Approximately 60 percent of all Garfield County lands are federally managed by either the Bureau of Land Management (615,973 acres), the U.S. Forest Service (515,865 acres) or the Bureau of Reclamation (2,335 acres).

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Garfield County and its neighbors; Rio Blanco County to the north; Mesa County to the south; and Pitkin County to the southeast, form an integrated economic region. Mesa, Rio Blanco and Garfield counties share a common reliance on natural resource extraction, tourism and ranching. Mesa County's Grand Junction, the largest community in the region, is a shopping, health care and services destination for many residents of western Colorado, as well as for multiple Utah communities to the west.

Pitkin County, and the resort towns of Aspen and Snowmass Village, adjoin Garfield County on its southeastern boundary. During the winter, the only automobile access to these resorts is through the communities of Glenwood Springs and Carbondale along Highway 82, through the Roaring Fork Valley.

As a result, many residents who work in Pitkin County reside within Garfield County.

Across the county's diverse mountain and desert topography, the climate is generally determined by elevation and aspect. Like any mountain climate, occasional seasonal extremes occur, but they are moderated by a majority of consistently pleasant weather. In the western and lower reaches of the county, where summer highs can hit 100 degrees, mild winters are often conducive to longer golf seasons than surrounding areas. In the high country at Ski Sunlight, or on the lofty plateaus of the Flat Tops, subzero temperatures and deep winter snowpacks yield in summer to cool breezes, lush wildflower meadows and perennial streams. The sun in the county delivers intense rays year-round, through clean, clear mountain air.

CLIMATE

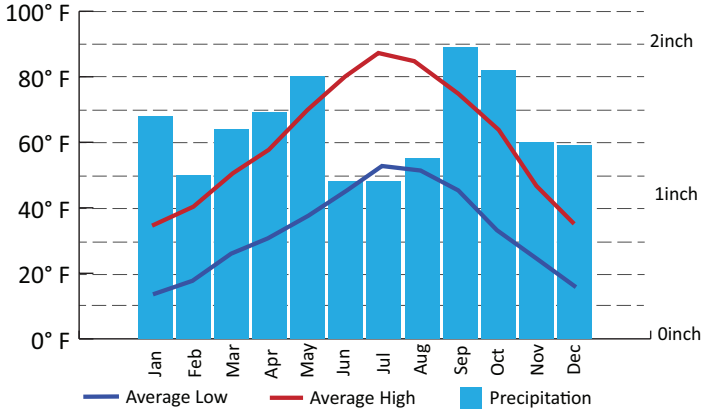


Figure 2: Glenwood Springs Climate Chart
Source: U.S. Climate Data

During the day, the temperature can change quickly, which makes it advisable to be prepared for sudden weather variations. This is true particularly at higher elevations, where storms may arrive quickly. It is not unheard of to have measurable snowfalls above 11,000 feet during any summer month. Conversely, January thaws can make mid-winter feel like spring.

A sunshine index for Glenwood Springs shows the city is sunny 71 percent of the time. Average temperatures in January are in the low-to-mid 20s; while July temperatures are in the low-to-mid 70s. Annual average precipitation is about 18 inches, keeping things green in spring and summer, and covering areas of the county in snow during the winter months.

Garfield County was founded on February 10, 1883, eight years after Colorado statehood, and named in honor of President James A. Garfield.

HISTORY

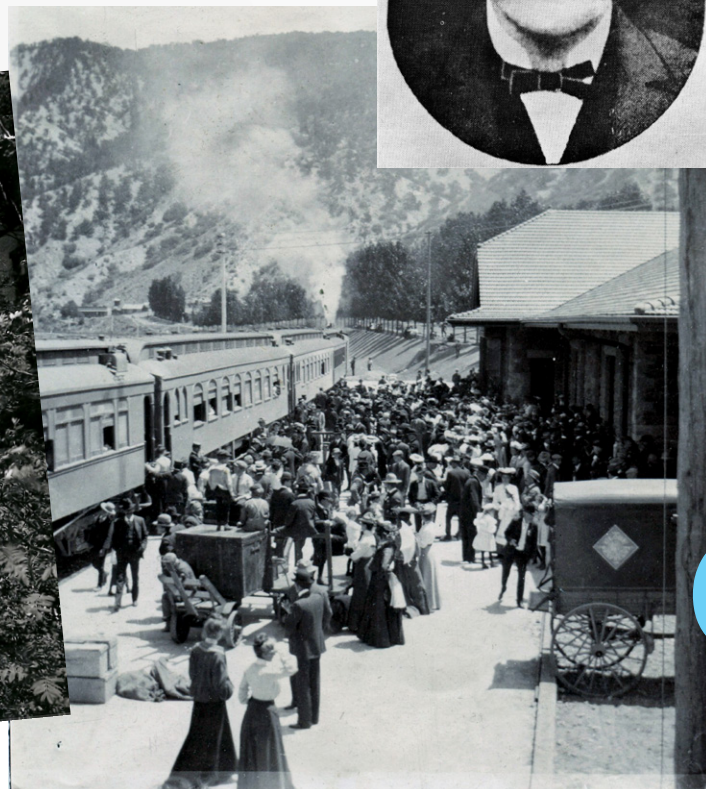
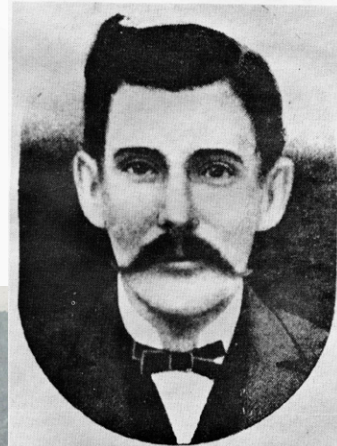
The oldest known human habitation in Garfield County was on Battlement Mesa, where an Indian pit house was discovered that dates back approximately 3,000 years. Along the Colorado River, and especially along the Roaring Fork River, was the land of the Tabogauche Utes, who enjoyed 7,000 square miles of prime hunting ground and the healing waters of the Glenwood Hot Springs. The first white men who visited Garfield County were two Spanish Franciscan Friars, Silvestre Escalante and Francisco Dominguez, who came to Colorado in 1776. The predominate nationalities that settled in Garfield County were German, Irish and English.

Prospectors from Leadville reported carbonate deposits in the area as early as 1870. Several parties entered the territory and built Fort Defiance, 3.5 miles east of today's Yampah Spa and vapor caves. Another camp was made on the Flat Tops named Carbonate City, which later became the first county seat of Garfield County. It was re-incorporated again in 2015. Carbonate City is now an abandoned mining camp, and has no permanent residents. In August of 1883, by resolution of the county commissioners, Glenwood Springs was named as the county seat. The first election

was held November 6, 1883.

Glenwood Springs, originally called Defiance, is located at the confluence of the Roaring Fork and Colorado rivers. In 1887, the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad extended tracks through Glenwood Canyon and into Glenwood Springs, serving Aspen and surrounding mining towns, and connecting Garfield County with Denver and other eastern cities. Railroad service remains important economically to the local economy.

The Glenwood Hot Springs Pool was constructed in 1887, and remains a nationally recognized spa and recreation center. The hot springs and pool have been a major visitor attraction for over 120 years. Glenwood Springs and surrounding areas have entertained the likes of President Theodore Roosevelt, who dubbed the Hotel Colorado as the "White House of the West." The White River National Forest, the most visited national forest in the nation, is headquartered in Glenwood Springs. This forest, which is home to seven of the nation's largest and most recognized ski resorts, was formally instituted in 1905, and continues to be a major force influencing the local economy and defining urbanization patterns.



GARFIELD COUNTY

COLORADO

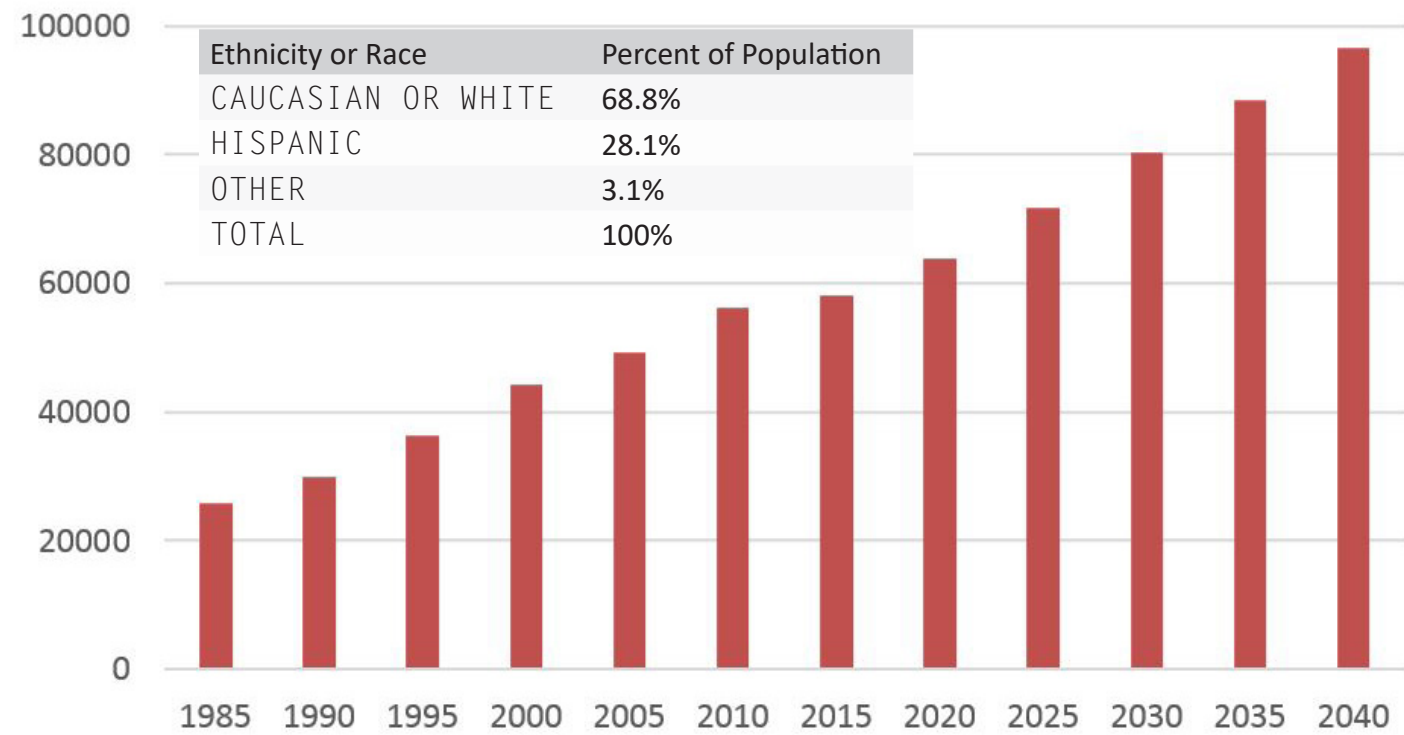
POPULATION

U.S. Census numbers indicate that 59,118 people resided in Garfield County in 2017. Garfield is the 12th most populated county of Colorado’s 64 counties. Garfield County has experienced a steady increase in population over the past few decades, with more rapid growth of 2.7 percent occurring between 2004 and 2009. That growth was largely the result of a burgeoning natural gas extraction industry, but also due to an ongoing expansion of tourism, second home development, health care, and regional services. During this period, there was a significant in-migration of new workers and families, which fueled housing development, retail expansion, and rapid wage growth. At times during this period, Garfield County experienced shortages of labor and a rapidly appreciating housing market.

In 2008, an abundance of new natural gas reserves were uncovered elsewhere around the country and the value of natural gas began a national decline. The Great Recession also cut spending on travel, tourism, and second home development, with predictable declines in all measures of local economic activity.

Due to the recession, population declined slightly between 2009 and 2011, and has been increasing modestly since 2012 at rate of 0.9 percent. Forecasts

Figure 3: Population growth and ethnicity
Source: State Demography Office



project that the population of Garfield County will resume more rapid growth in 2020, and will continue at a pace in excess of two percent over the next 20 years, reaching a projected doubling of population by 2040.

Garfield County has five municipalities that stretch along the Colorado River and the Interstate 70 corridor, and one municipality, Carbondale, that is situated along State Highway 133 and the Roaring Fork River. In 2015, Garfield County also recognized the Town of Carbonate as an incorporated town located in the heart of the Flat Tops Wilderness Area; this town, however, has no permanent residents. Glenwood Springs remains the largest community in the county. In the period from 1990 to 2010, the Town of Rifle, which is about 25 miles west of Glenwood Springs, absorbed the majority share of the county’s new growth, largely because of Rifle’s proximity to the most active natural gas development areas. Population in unincorporated areas, as a percent of total county residents, shrank from 57 percent of all county residents in 1990 to 39 percent in 2016. Each municipality has experienced different rates of growth, with New Castle and Silt having the largest percentage of growth in population over the past 10 years.

The County grew at an average annual percent change of 0.74 percent between 2010 and 2017.

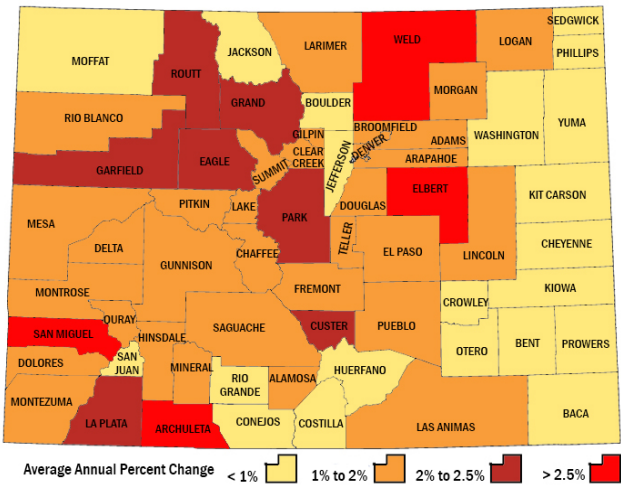


Figure 4: Population Growth Colorado (2010-2040)
Source: Colorado Division of Local Government

ETHNIC DIVERSITY

Like much of western Colorado, Garfield County has a largely Caucasian population, with a significant Hispanic minority population, which grew rapidly during the mid-2000’s energy boom. The county’s proportion of Hispanic and Anglo populations mirrors that of the state as a whole, with almost 30 percent of the population of Hispanic ethnicity. The state’s ethnic diversity is projected to continue to increase over the next 25 years, with the majority of that growth being in the Hispanic population, especially in the population under 25 years.

MIGRATION

The county historically has seen a large out-migration of high school graduates or similarly aged youth, followed by a large influx of adults between the ages of 30 and 35. The in-migration is presumed to be strong due to the high quality of life and amenities that exist within the county for young families, and early career opportunities. The county also experiences a steady out-migration trend relative to age, with the most significant figures happening after retirement age. During the recent recession, the county also had a significant out-migration of some of the workforce. Starting in 2015, the county had an increasing net positive migration.



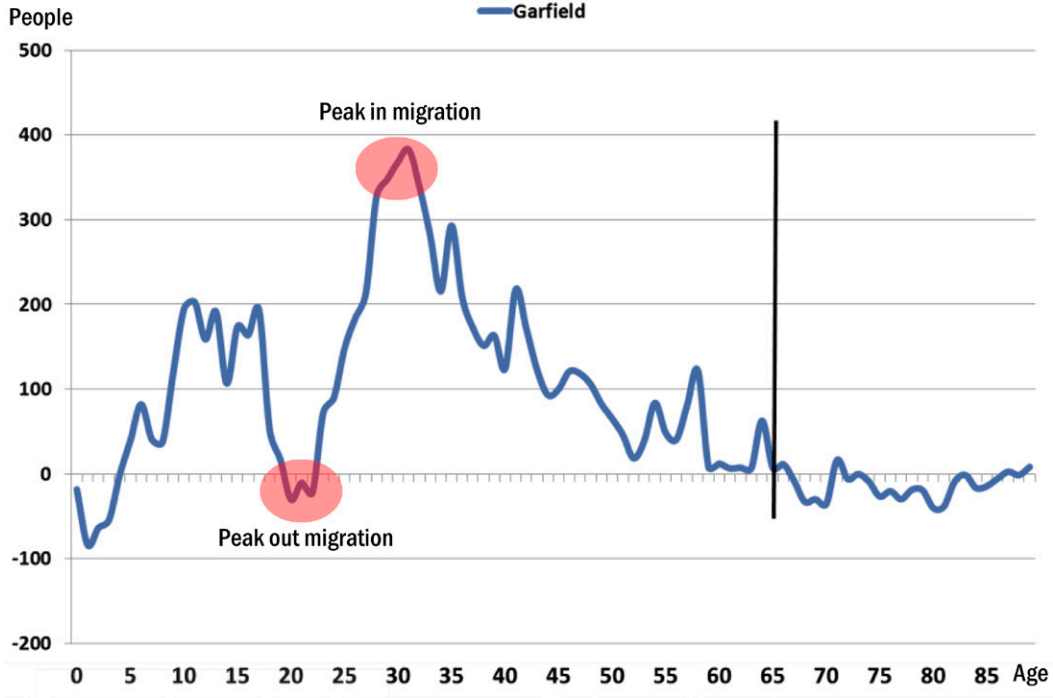


Figure 6: County Migration by Age: 2000 to 2010
Source: Colorado State Demography Office and U.S. Census Bureau

Figure 7: Colorado Population by Race/Ethnicity
Source: Department of Local Affairs, State Demography Office.

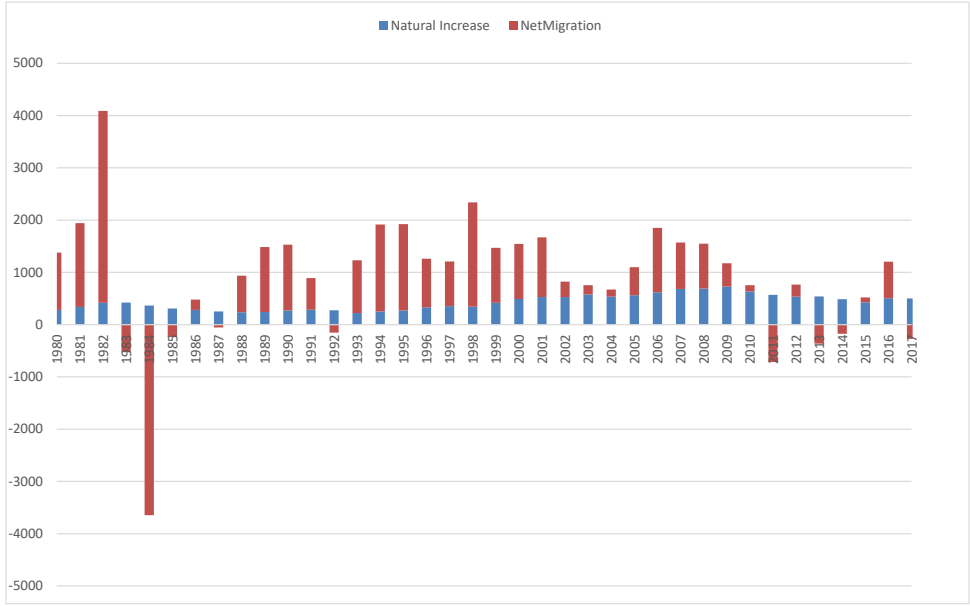
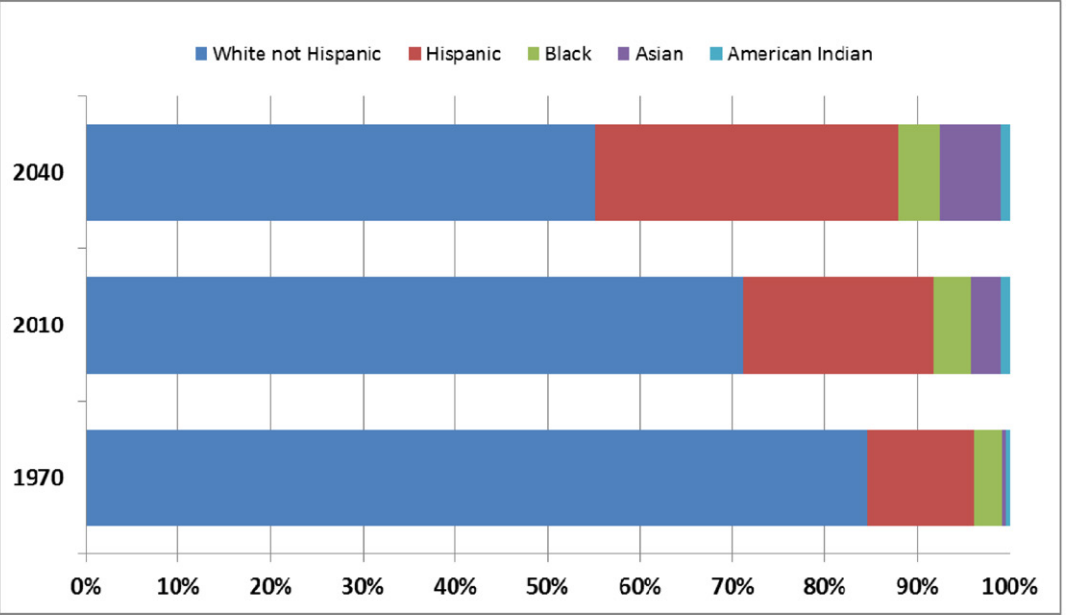


Figure 5: Garfield County Components of Population Change
Source: Colorado Department of Local Affairs, State Demography Office





COMMUNITIES IN GARFIELD COUNTY

Colorado is the 4th happiest state in the United States, accordingly to [wallethub.com](https://www.wallethub.com). This fact is usually of no surprise to people that live, work, and play within Garfield County, which offers a diversity of amenities, jobs and other lifestyle choices that attract and retain different people to each community. There are seven municipalities within Garfield County. In order of incorporation, the jurisdictions include Glenwood Springs, Carbondale, New Castle, Rifle, Parachute, Silt, and Carbonate. In addition, Battlement Mesa, a large unincorporated community, sits adjacent to the Town of Parachute, while Carbonate has no permanent residents.

CARBONDALE COLORADO

Founded in 1888, the Town of Carbondale sits at the base of Mount Sopris, near the confluence of the Crystal and Roaring Fork rivers. Touted as one of the “Top 12 Towns” in the “50 Next Great Places to Live and Play” by National Geographic Adventure magazine, and as one of the 50 Best Places to Live/Most Active Towns by Men’s Journal magazine, Carbondale is a great base camp for recreation enthusiasts. Living at the foot of the magnificent 12,953-foot Mt. Sopris, there is plenty to do, including biking, hiking, “Gold Medal” fly-fishing, kayaking, and world-class skateboarding. In winter, excellent snow for cross-country skiing can be found at Spring Gulch, and beautiful snowmobiling and snowshoeing trails are accessible in all directions. World famous downhill skiing and snowboarding is 30 miles away in Aspen and Snowmass, or 15 miles away at Sunlight Mountain Resort near Glenwood Springs.

At an altitude of 6,181 feet, the Carbondale area is characterized by an average of 295 days of sunshine, low humidity, cold but mild winters, and comfortable summers. The Carbondale area often avoids storms that inundate surrounding mountains, creating its reputation as the “banana belt” of the Roaring Fork and Crystal River valleys.

Through all the economic cycles of booms and busts, Carbondale has developed, and continues to promote, a sense of community that is unmatched when compared to other communities experiencing heightened rates of change. This sense of community has manifested itself in the promotion of an artist’s enclave, public radio, community gatherings and events, and a tolerance for accepting a wide range of economic, social, and philosophical viewpoints into the community fabric. The Carbondale Council on Arts and Humanities, KDNK Community

Access Radio, Mountain Fair, Mount Sopris Nordic Council, Potato Day Celebration, and the Festival Las Americas are all examples of its vibrant community connection.

town of carbondale
carbondaletown.org
chamber of commerce
carbondaletown.com
economic development
carbondaletown.org



GLENWOOD SPRINGS COLORADO

The county seat, Glenwood Springs, is located 160 miles west of Denver, on a beautiful route over mountain passes and through Glenwood Canyon. Glenwood Springs is situated at the intersection of Interstate 70 and State Highway 82. Glenwood Springs is 90 miles east of Grand Junction and 50 miles west of Vail, along I-70. Glenwood Springs is located 40 miles north of Aspen on State Highway 82.

With a temperate climate, healthy lifestyle, vibrant arts scene, great schools, a local college, world class medical facilities, excellent shopping, and attractions as big as the great outdoors, Glenwood Springs is an ideal place to live, work, play, and raise a family.

Glenwood Springs has small town charm and big city amenities. It has been heralded by the likes of Sunset Magazine, the Travel Channel and USA Today as one of America’s best small towns; one of the best places to retire or to start a business; and as the “most fun town in America.” Originally inhabited by nomadic Ute Indian tribes, early settlers 125 years ago saw the potential for the natural bubbling hot springs to make Glenwood Springs a world class resort. The arrival of the railroads in 1887 brought the first trainloads of tourists. The addition of the Vapor Caves, Hotel Colorado, and Fairy Caves provided a total package for the well-heeled traveler. The local economy is not only fueled by tourism, but also by coal mining, farming and ranching, education, health care, commerce, and outdoor recreation. Because of its location, Glenwood Springs is the county seat, home of the administrative offices of Colorado Mountain College and the prestigious Valley View Hospital, and the retail trade center for the northern portion of the Western Slope of Colorado.

Glenwood Springs provides activity options for the entire family, such as hiking, biking, rafting, camping, sky diving, paragliding, hunting, and fishing. Glenwood Springs has an extensive trail system alongside its beautiful rivers. There are also trails in Glenwood Canyon, just east of Glenwood Springs, including the very popular and scenic trail to Hanging Lake, or along Grizzly or No Name creeks. The confluence of the Roaring Fork and Colorado rivers is adjacent to downtown Glenwood Springs. One of the most popular activities in Glenwood Springs is fly-fishing. Anglers can choose from designated Gold Medal waters on the Roaring Fork and Frying Pan rivers, or to



fish the productive waters of the Colorado and Crystal rivers, as well as many lakes and ponds in the region.

city of glenwood springs
ci.glenwood-springs.co.us
chamber resort association
glenwoodchamber.com





town of new castle
newcastlecolorado.org
 chamber of commerce
newcastlechamber.org
 economic development
rifleadc.com



New Castle, Colorado, named after the English coal mining town Newcastle upon Tyne, was incorporated in 1888. The mountains surrounding the town, rich with coal, were the impetus for New Castle's development into a bustling mining community. After disastrous methane explosions in 1896, 1913, and 1918, the population diminished to just a few hundred people. Coal-fed fires still burn inside the Grand Hogback range bordering the town today.

Shortly after celebrating its centennial, New Castle started growing rapidly, and was identified in the 2000 census as Colorado's seventh fastest growing community. Along with strong residential population growth, the town has experienced significant commercial development, including a grocery store, bank, health club, and excellent restaurants. In 2004, an 18-hole golf course designed by award-winning golf course architect James Engh, opened for public play.

Located on the Western Slope of the Rocky Mountains, 173 miles west of Denver, this town of now 4,500 residents sits at 5,550 feet elevation. The town is bordered on the north by 7,000 acres of Bureau of Land Management lands and 20,000 acres of White River National Forest lands. South of town are 11,000 acres of protected State Wildlife Area properties.

A large deer and elk population, as well as black bears and mountain lions, inhabit these

mountainous terrains.

The Colorado River flows through town, presenting wonderful opportunities for trout fishing, whitewater rafting and kayaking, and wildlife viewing. World-class alpine and cross-country skiing and snowboarding, big-game hunting, boating, snowmobiling, wilderness hiking and camping, mountain biking, all are in New Castle's backyard.

New Castle offers one of the best public school opportunities in the state. Constructed in 1997 for grades K through 4, the Kathryn Senor Elementary School has received high-performance marks from the Colorado Department of Education. Riverside Middle School provides an excellent learning environment for students in grades 5 through 8. Coal Ridge High School, located between New Castle and its neighboring community of Silt to the west, opened in 2005. In 2006, voters approved a bond issue for the Garfield Re-2 School District, funding the construction of a new middle school (grades 5 - 8), and the conversion of Riverside to Elk Creek Elementary School, which was named a National Blue Ribbon School in 2014.

Schools, parks, outdoor recreation, safe neighborhoods, and a busy library make New Castle a great place to raise a family.





The Town of Silt is a close-knit community located on Interstate 70, approximately 67 miles east of Grand Junction, Colorado, and 21 miles to the west of Glenwood Springs, Colorado. For the last 40 years, the town has been a bedroom community to the towns of Vail, Snowmass Village, and Aspen, Colorado, all within an easy hour drive from Silt. Historically, the town has been an agricultural and mining area, with hard-working families

SILT COLORADO

that support their community in the fields of construction, recreation, ranching, tourism, and oil and gas development. The climate is mild and comfortable through all seasons, and the heavy snowfall that occurs in in nearby mountain communities traditionally does not fall in Silt. The surrounding area boasts hunting, fishing, hiking, snowshoeing, skiing, snowmobiling, rafting, biking, boating, and horseback riding throughout the year. For these recreational opportunities, Silt is frequented by some of the travelers who are also visiting neighboring communities.

It is with great pride that the town offers an opportunity for business establishments to locate in this diverse community. Not only does Silt have a robust potential workforce, but the citizens and community value the concept of living, shopping, and working locally.



town of silt
townofsilt.org
economic development
rifleedc.com

Rifle is where the Old West meets the New West. Rich with western heritage and history, many downtown businesses are located in historic buildings dating back to the 1900s. Situated on Interstate 70, Rifle is conveniently located an hour to Aspen, three hours to Denver, and just over two hours to Moab, Utah. Because of its distance from heavily populated areas, Rifle is unspoiled, offering a retreat from crowds, noise, and pollution.

Located at the edge of the Colorado River and at the foot of the majestic Roan Plateau, Rifle, Colorado is a sportsmen’s paradise. Outdoor Life Magazine ranked Rifle as number 17 of 200 towns as the best place for an outdoor sportsman. With close proximity to the White River National Forest and mountains and mesas in every direction, world-class rock climbing, whitewater rafting, fishing, hunting, golfing, hiking, biking, snowmobiling, and other outdoor opportunities are endless. Rifle is an affordable outdoors lifestyle town with a vibrant community feel, and has access to everything that is great about Colorado.

At an elevation of 5,345 feet, the climate in Rifle is mild and moderate in both winter and summer, allowing for year-round recreation. Though Rifle has a small town feel, it has modern and urban-quality amenities, such as the Ute Theater and Events Center, Brenden Theatres, city parks, amphitheaters, restaurants, excellent hospital facilities, and a historic downtown.

RIFLE COLORADO

city of rifle

rifleco.org

chamber of commerce

riflechamber.com

economic development

rifleedc.com



PARACHUTE/BATLEMENT MESA COLORADO

The Town of Parachute is a small community of approximately 1,100 people, located on Interstate 70 halfway between Grand Junction and Glenwood Springs, Colorado. The town is adjoined to the unincorporated community of Battlement Mesa just across the river. Although legally separated, both communities act as one and support each other in a variety of endeavors.

After enjoying the booms and surviving the busts, Parachute/Battlement Mesa has grown into a thriving community of quiet residential neighborhoods with supporting businesses and services. It has ample commercial property available to support new businesses and welcomes any inquiries. The communities consist of an abundance of professionally trained people.

Parachute/Battlement Mesa is located at the confluence of the Colorado River and Parachute Creek, both of which are popular waterways for fishing. Hunting and other outdoor recreational opportunities abound.

The area boasts three parks that are maintained by the Town of Parachute: Beasley Park, a pocket park in downtown with a gazebo; Parachute Rest Area Park, with playgrounds and a large lawn space to play; and Cottonwood Park, an eight-acre park, in which special events are held, and the community gathers to enjoy outdoor amenities. The Parachute Battlement Mesa Recreation District maintains a recreation center and is developing a large park in Battlement Mesa.

Parachute staff provides police protection, maintenance of roadways, its water treatment system, and administrative service support for citizens. Fire services are provided through Grand Valley Fire Protection District, parks and recreation services by the Battlement Mesa/Parachute Parks and Recreation District.

Battlement Mesa is governed by Battlement Mesa Service Association (BMSA), a Colorado non-profit corporation which is a self-governing homeowner's association.

All owners of property within the BMSA service pay an annual assessment to maintain the common areas for the benefit of community members. Though BMSA provides numerous services to its members, the BMSA does not have any employees as it contracts for its services. The BMSA is comprised of a 14-member board of directors, whom manage the affairs of the community.

town of parachute
colorado.gov/parachutecolorado
battlement mesa
battlementmesacolorado.com
chamber of commerce
battlementmesacolorado.com/
chamber-commerce
economic development
rifleadc.com



TRANSPORTATION

INTERSTATES AND ROADS

Garfield County is situated with convenient state highway and interstate access. Three major highways run through or alongside communities in the Colorado River Valley, including Interstate 70, and State Highways 13 and 6. State Highway 82 provides efficient access through the Roaring Fork Valley to the neighboring communities of Carbondale, Basalt, Snowmass, and Aspen to the south. State Highway 133 provides access south and west to Mesa, Gunnison, and Delta counties.

In addition to having one of the nation’s main interstate corridors bisect the region, western Garfield County also has U.S. Route 6, which supports I-70 as a frontage

road. Highway 6 connects many towns to the interstate in western Colorado. U.S. Route 6 also spans vast sections of land from western Utah to eastern Nebraska.

Highway 13 is another highway option for local communities, providing a main north/south arterial for Rifle. Highway 13 has a central interchange south of Rifle, which connects with Interstate 70. The route crosses the Colorado River and intersects with U.S. Route 6. Running north to south, Highway 13 connects to the United States’ second-longest interstate, Interstate-80, providing easy access.

I - 70



COMMERCIAL AIRLINES

Grand Junction (GJT)	Eagle/Vail (EGE)	Aspen-Pitkin County (ASE)
AMERICAN AIRLINES	AMERICAN AIRLINES	AMERICAN AIRLINES
DELTA	DELTA	DELTA
UNITED	UNITED	UNITED
ALLEGiant AIR		



AIRPORTS

Multiple commercial airports within close proximity to Garfield County offer service for business and tourism travelers, although Garfield County does not have a commercial airport. These airports include the Grand Junction airport (GJT), Eagle/Vail airport (EGE) and Aspen-Pitkin Airport (ASE). Denver International Airport (DEN) is also accessible with a three-hour drive.

Rifle-Garfield County Airport

Garfield County is home to a general aviation airport, Rifle-Garfield County Airport (RIL). The airport is located in Rifle, Colorado. Because of its location in a mild climate zone, winter flights are rarely a problem. This makes the airport a preferred choice to nearby mountain and resort airports, where winter storm closures often inhibit air travel. Rifle-Garfield County Airport is only 27 miles from Glenwood Springs, 46 miles from Eagle, 61 miles from Aspen, 65 miles from Grand Junction, and 88 miles from Vail.

Rifle-Garfield County Airport is highly suitable for private aircraft, designated in Colorado as a preferred General Aviation Mountain Business Jet Airport. Open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and has no noise restrictions. As a General Aviation airport, commercial airport security regulations do not apply. Rifle is also Special Traffic Management Procedures friendly.

In 2010, Rifle Garfield County Airport underwent infrastructure improvements of \$47 million. Recent upgrades included nine developed hangar parcels, an asphalt overlay for the ramp, a new aircraft parking ramp and more. Design standards include a 7,000-foot long, 100-foot wide seamless runway, paved in continuous uniformity to avoid jolts for landing aircraft. The runway and full parallel taxiway are designed for heavy aircraft traffic, up to 134,500 pounds gross landing weight, making the Rifle Garfield County Airport suitable for a wide range of aircraft.

Glenwood Springs Airport

Glenwood Springs also has a small municipal airport (GWS) accessible to private aircraft.

TRANSPORTATION

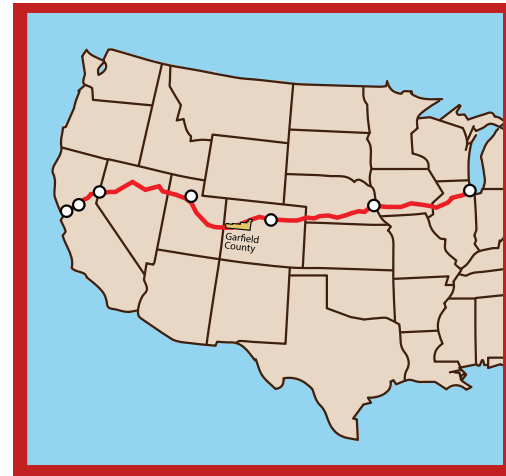
TRAINS

Amtrak has year-round daily arrival and departures into Glenwood Springs from more than 500 destinations throughout the West and Midwest. The California Zephyr travels from Chicago to San Francisco for passengers wanting to utilize a safe and historic means of transportation.

The historic Union Pacific Railroad dates back to 1867 in Colorado. Union Pacific operates a major network of east-west and north-south lines that carry freight to all parts of Union Pacific's 23-state system, a large portion of such running directly through the Garfield County communities in the Colorado River Valley. Major commodities handled by Union Pacific in Colorado are grain, coal, automobiles, and consumer and

manufactured goods. In recent years, Union Pacific's capital investment in Colorado was more than \$120 million.

Figure 8: Amtrak California Zephyr Route
Source: <http://www.amtrak.com>



There are a variety of bus services available in and around Garfield County. The predominate service is provided by the Roaring Fork Transportation Authority (RFTA), which provides frequent commuter bus service between Rifle and Aspen, Colorado.

BUSES

Named the "Best Mass Transit System in North America" by Mass Transit Magazine, and awarded other top state and national transportation honors, including "Large Transit Agency of the Year" by the Colorado Association of Transit Agencies, RFTA allows for both ease and availability for much of western Garfield County's workforce, as well as tourists to be mobile. Traversing the Roaring Fork and Colorado River valleys, RFTA carried 4.84 million passengers in 2014 and jumped to 5.12 million passengers in 2016 – a 5.5 percent increase in two years. Also in 2015, RFTA opened its new Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) service between Glenwood Springs and Aspen. Named VelociRFTA, it is the first rural bus rapid transit system in the country. RFTA reflects the region's commitment to sustainability in the use of Biodiesel, Compressed Natural Gas, and ethanol fuels.

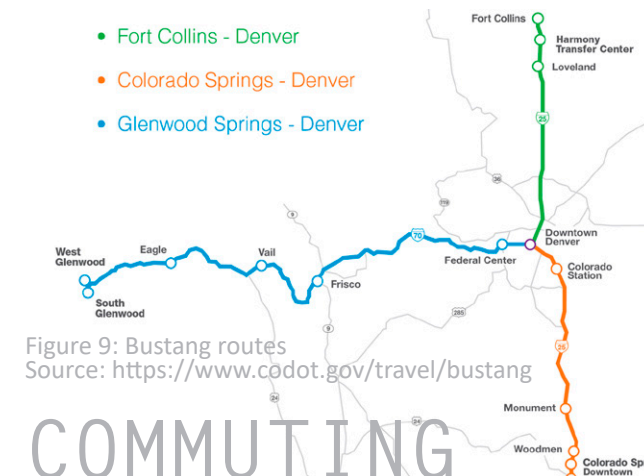


Figure 9: Bustang routes
Source: <https://www.codot.gov/travel/bustang>

COMMUTING

The commute time for employees within Garfield County is an important measure of the quality of life. Since 2004, the average commute distance and time have decreased. In Rifle, for example, the average commute decreased dramatically from 24 miles to 14 miles; a reflection of the fact that more residents are working in Rifle.

Also of note, is the trend for trips within the county and surrounding region to be alternative modes of transportation. The region, on a yearly average in 2014, drives 14 percent less frequently for trips, while healthy transportation choices, like walking and biking, exceed national averages.

Augmenting RFTA's services, the city of Glenwood Springs provides affordable and frequent bus service; the town of Carbondale offers a circulator bus system; and Garfield County provides bus service called "The Traveler" throughout the county for senior citizens and individuals with disabilities, which may prevent them from using their own transportation or accessing transportation available to the general public.

Other bus services includes the Colorado Department of Transportation's (CDOT) Bustang, Greyhound Lines and the private operator Colorado Mountain Express. Greyhound Lines, the largest intercity bus service across the United States, Canada, and Mexico, also provides bus service to and from Glenwood Springs.

In 2015, CDOT began operating daily bus service, called the Bustang, between Glenwood Springs and Denver's Union Station making additional stops in Eagle, Vail, and Frisco. Colorado Mountain Express (CME) is a private shuttle company in the Roaring Fork Valley that has been providing transportation services for over 30 years. CME provides airport transportation to multiple Colorado ski resorts as well as to Eagle/Vail airport and Denver International Airport.

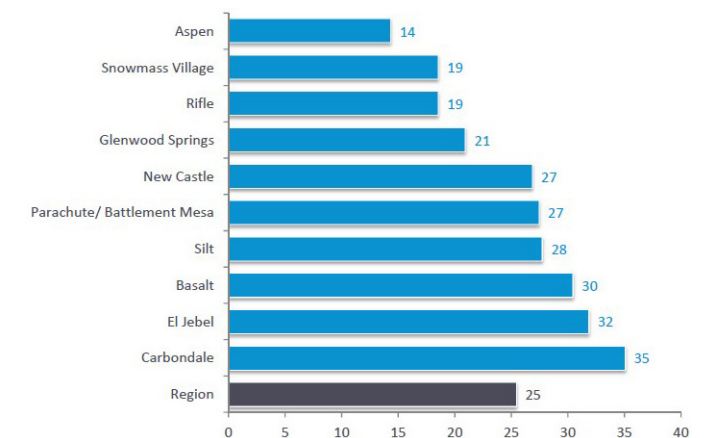


Figure 10: Average commute duration
Source: Source: 2015 RFTA Travel Patterns Study

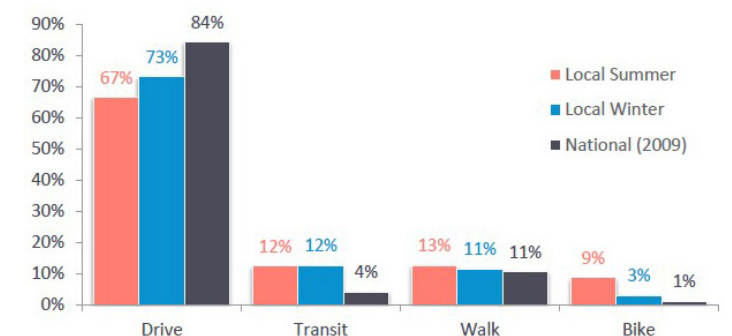


Figure 11: Form of transportation by season
Source: Source: 2015 RFTA Travel Patterns Study

Dirt and paved trails abound in Garfield County. There are nearly endless miles of singletrack for biking and running, and plentiful hiking, horseback riding, and motorized trails.

Two renowned trails in the area include the Glenwood Canyon and Rio Grande trails. The Glenwood Canyon bike and pedestrian trail sits adjacent to the interstate, but feels like a world away. This stretch of canyon has been described by many as one of the most scenic stretches of highway in the world, and it is best observed from the trail. The trail follows the curves of the Colorado River on a 16.2 mile route that is an unparalleled experience.

The Roaring Fork Valley's Rio Grande Trail is a 42-mile continuous paved surface multi-use trail protected from vehicular traffic, except at intersections. This trail serves as a bicycle commuter corridor and major recreation route between Glenwood Springs and Aspen.

TRAILS



HOUSING

Based on the 2013-2017 ACS 5-year estimates, there were 23,735 housing units in the county. The county has low vacancy rates for housing, with a rate of 6.0 percent. Of the total county population, 33.9 percent are renters, and 66.1 percent of the county own their homes.

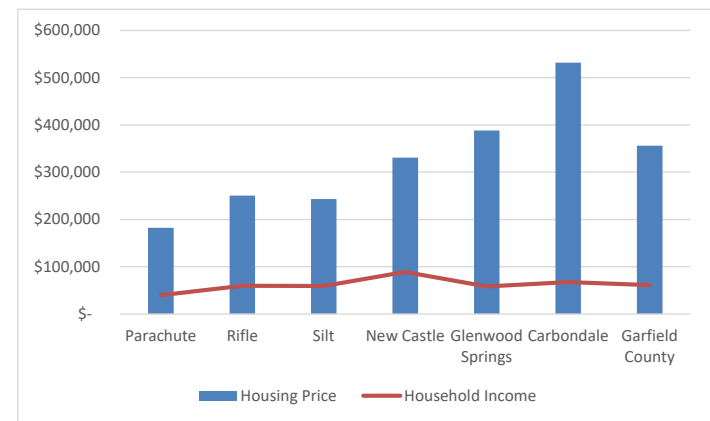


Figure 12: Median Housing Price per Area
Source: www.citydata.com

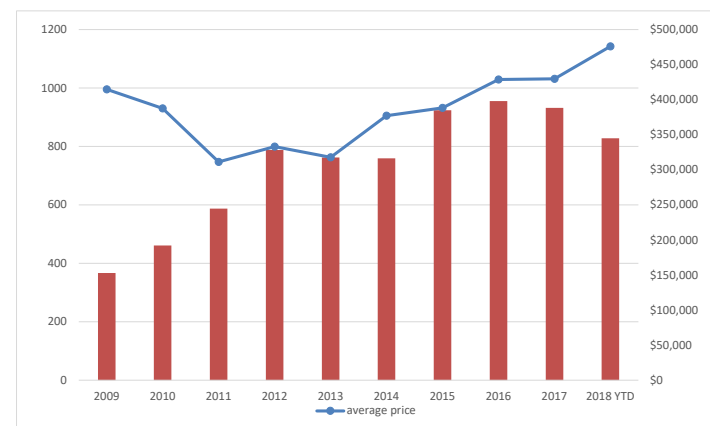


Figure 13: Home Sales
Source: Land Title Colorado Mountain Resorts Market Analysis

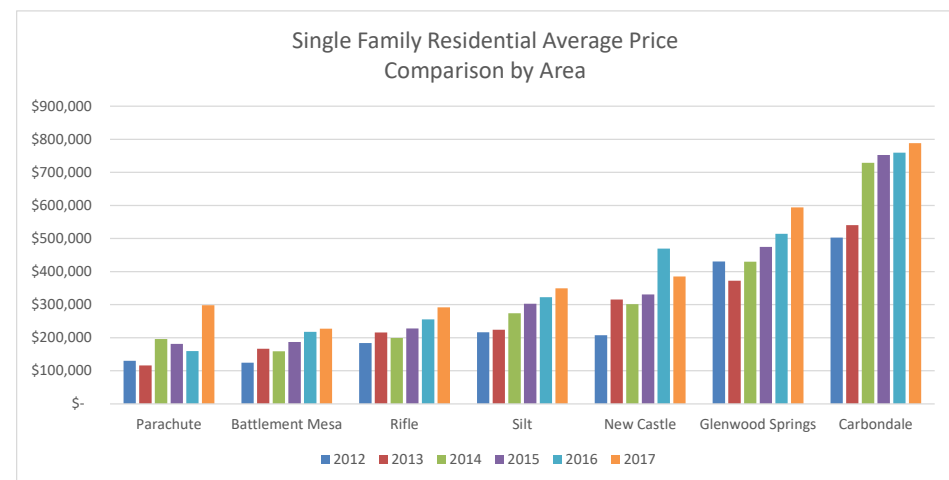


Figure 14: Single Family Residential Average Price Comparison by Area
Source: Land Title Guarantee Company, Market Analysis

REAL ESTATE

Housing prices vary throughout the county, however all but one community, (Parachute) has median housing prices higher than the state median housing price. The average median housing price for the county was \$355,880 in 2016, (www.city-data.com). The average price for a single family home is estimated by Land Title Guarantee Company to have increased from \$388,233 in 2015 to \$429,755 in 2017, a 10.7 percent change over two years. Median rent price in October 2018 was estimated at \$1,900 according to Zillow.com.

The county’s housing stock is comprised largely of single family homes, which, in part, explains the high property values, compared with statewide figures. In addition, Carbondale and Glenwood Springs are significantly influenced by second home ownership, which explains the far higher median home values.

Housing values grew rapidly during the energy expansion from 2002 to 2008, concurrent with national trends. Both activity and prices have declined from their 2008 high, but have shown improvement since late 2011.

According to the monthly transactions report for Garfield County (prepared by Land Title Guarantee Company of Glenwood Springs), gross sales volume was up 5.6 percent between 2016 and 2017. Total dollars from countywide sales for 2017 was \$701,676,045, a 16.7 percent increase.

According to the 2010 U.S. Census, Garfield County as a whole did not experience the dramatic decline in values witnessed in many areas around the country during the Great Recession. County housing values grew about 30 percent between 2000 and 2010 and remain notably above the current statewide median home value.

In 2010, the Town of Parachute had the greatest disparity between the growth rates of local income and growth in household value. However, since 2014, both Carbondale’s and Glenwood Springs’ home prices increased dramatically in comparison to the median income.

Housing values in all areas of the county, particularly in the Roaring Fork Valley, continue to appreciate rapidly, and at a far greater pace than incomes, which continues to negatively impact the affordability of homes. As such, the county has over 45 percent of its homeowners paying more than 30 percent of their income on housing. To assist with affordability issues, some large employers such as RFTA and Valley View Hospital have chosen to provide employee housing programs. In addition, several communities including Rifle, Glenwood Springs, and Carbondale, as well as

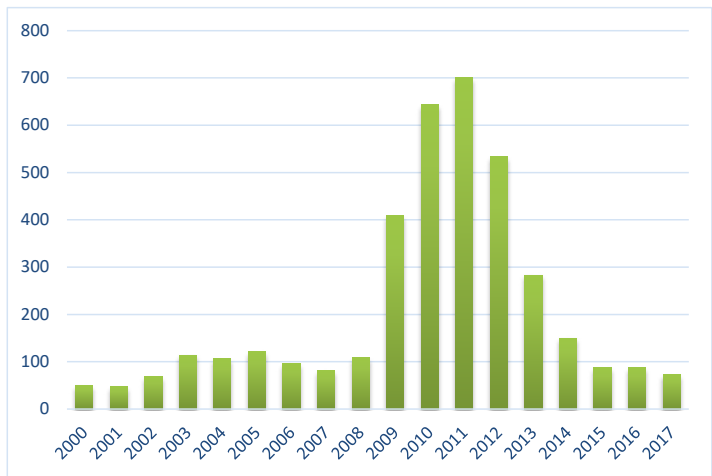


Figure 16: Foreclosure Filings
Source: Garfield County Public Trustee 2017

Garfield County, have inclusionary zoning policies that, through development, create a stock of affordable housing available to qualified participants.

Similar to national markets, a spike in home foreclosures was one consequence of the Great Recession. As the housing market recovers, the nation and Colorado are experiencing a drop in the number of foreclosures. In 2012, the number of foreclosures dropped in the county for the first time since 2007, with a significant decrease of 23 percent from a high of 701. Foreclosures have continued to drop in recent years, with 2016 and 2017 only recording 87 and 73 foreclosures respectively, thus bringing the foreclosure rate on par with pre-recession filings.

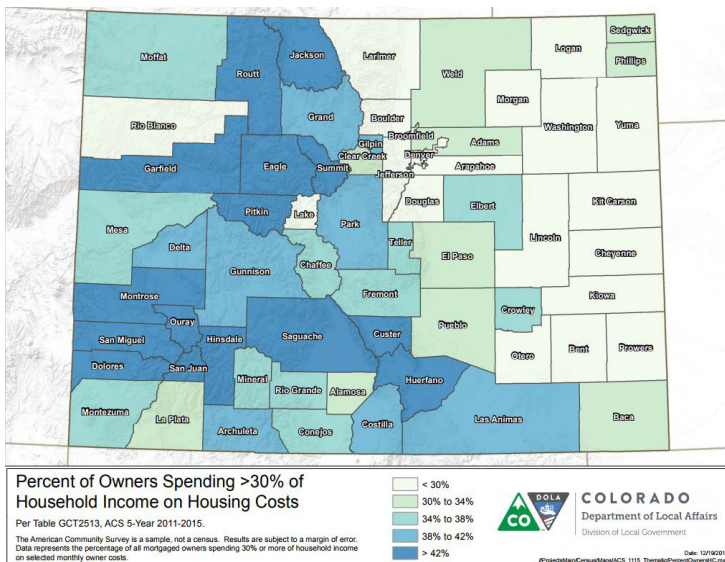


Figure 15: Percent of Households with mortgagees paying more than 30 percent of their income on housing
Source: American Community Survey, map created by Colorado State Demography Office 2015

EDUCATION

disproportionate number of Boettcher and Daniels scholars, both prestigious scholarship foundations recognizing unique scholastic and civic aptitude.

Though slightly behind the state average for a rural area, Garfield County has a high educational attainment in its population over 25 years of age. Over 61 percent of the county residents over 25 years of age have some post-secondary schooling, and 37 percent have earned an advanced degree. In total, the number of pupils attending public schools in Garfield County grew by 20 percent between 2000 and 2010 - this is faster than state population growth (11 percent), but slower than overall county population growth. The Garfield Re-2 and Garfield 16 school districts, which cover the areas including Parachute, Rifle, New Castle, and Silt, have added the largest number of pupils, and grew most rapidly during this period. Following the decline in enrollment starting in 2008, and bottoming out in 2011, school enrollment has since grown to exceed the prerecession peak.

K-12 EDUCATION

Three public school districts serve school-age children in Garfield County. These districts are funded by local and state taxes. The Roaring Fork School District Re-1 includes public schools in Glenwood Springs, Carbondale and Basalt. The district educates close to 5,000 students, and includes four elementary schools, three middle schools, and three traditional high schools, as well as three smaller schools: the alternative Bridges High School and K-8 Two Rivers Community School, both in Glenwood Springs, and the K-8 Carbondale Community School. The Re-1 District oversaw a series of school construction projects and building renovations after district voters approved an \$86 million bond issue in 2004. The voters again approved a \$122 million bond issue in 2015 for significant capital improvements to 13 schools, and facilities, and \$10 million for teacher and staff housing.

Garfield County School District Re-2 serves families in New Castle, Silt and Rifle. The district oversees six elementary schools, including the Graham Mesa Elementary in Rifle, which opened for the 2009-10 school year, plus two middle schools and two high schools. Several new and expanded school facilities were built over the past several years, thanks to a \$74.9

Educational opportunities abound in Garfield County, with a variety of public, charter and private schools serving students from kindergarten through four-year college and graduate degree programs. Over time, schools within the county have generated a

million bond issue approved by Re-2 voters in 2006. In addition, district voters approved a \$1.6 million mill levy override intended for increased pay to help retain teachers and staff.

Garfield County School District 16 was founded in the early 1900s to govern all of the small rural schools in and around Parachute. Grand Valley High School was named a Gold School of Opportunity in 2015, making it one of five schools nationally to receive the designation. Schools that actively and equitably promote the success of all students earn this honor. In 2006, District 16 voters approved a \$35 million bond issue for new school facilities.

Founded in 1953, the Colorado Rocky Mountain School in Carbondale began as a summer session-only college prep school. Today, the school (grades 9-12) offers scholastic programming, with an emphasis on community service work and wilderness experiences, as well as on campus housing. Students work on the campus ranch, which produces an annual hay crop and gardens. Opening enrollment is limited to 165, 10 percent of which are international students.

POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

Colorado Mountain College (CMC) is one of Garfield County's greatest educational assets. CMC has been ranked number 17 of 800 community colleges for graduation and transfer rates. The college was named the third-most affordable public, four-year degree program in the country by the U.S. Department of Education. Originally organized as a two-year special community college district, today CMC serves a six-county region and has begun offering four-year degrees. Community sites are located in Glenwood Springs, Carbondale, and Rifle. Spring Valley Campus, one of CMC's three residential campuses, is located just seven miles south of Glenwood Springs.

In 2011, CMC started offering four-year degrees, and today offers five bachelor degree programs, including Sustainable Studies (BASS), Business Administration (BSBA), Nursing (BSN), Applied Science in Leadership and Management (BAS), and Elementary Education

(Interdisciplinary Studies) (BAIS). While the college continues to build its four-year programs, CMC's strengths are its more than 50 associate's degree programs, including nursing, photography and veterinary technology, as well as occupational certificates in emergency medical technology, culinary arts, and real estate. Community enrichment classes run the gamut, from kayaking to Chinese language, ballroom dancing to book writing. Science and liberal arts associate degrees are often used as stepping-stones for transfer to other four-year colleges and universities.

In addition to CMC, Garfield County's Department of Human Services has been instrumental in partnering with the University of Denver to bring a master's degree program in social work to Garfield County, in order to fill a shortage of mental health therapists in the area. This program began offering graduate-level courses and master's degrees in 2014.

Figure 17: Educational Attainment: Population 25+ (2017)
Source: <http://factfinder.census.gov>

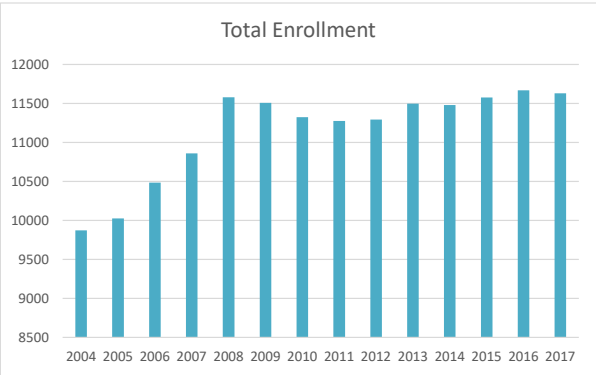
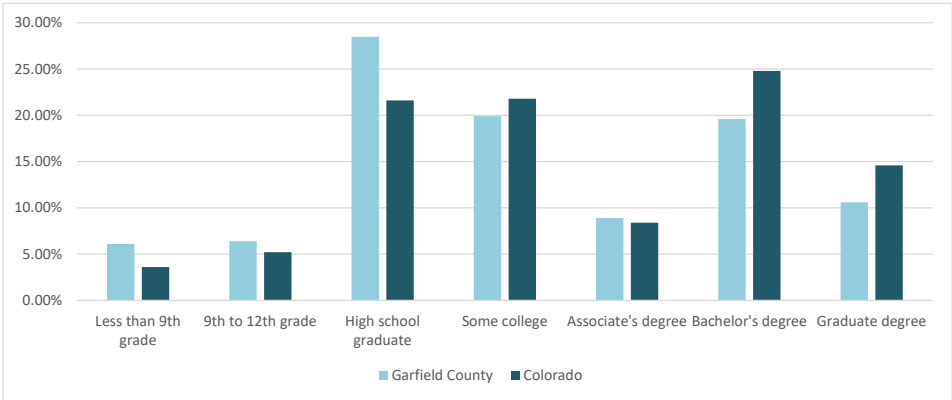


Figure 18: Public School District Enrollment
Source: Colorado Department of Education, 2004-2017 PK-12





LIBRARIES

The Garfield County Public Library District marks its 80th anniversary in 2018, with the continued tradition of providing high-quality customer service, passionate promotion of books, technology and literacy, and broad community engagement through partnerships, initiatives, and events. The district is comprised of six new state-of-the-art library buildings, has 37 full and 26 part-time staff members, and is funded through a quarter-cent sales tax and one mill of property tax.

Consistent with a strategic plan that was established in 2007, the district completed new libraries in Parachute and Rifle in 2010; celebrated grand openings of new libraries in New Castle and Silt in 2012; and in 2013 finished the last two new libraries in Carbondale and Glenwood Springs. In 2013, the district lent more than 675,000 items and hosted almost 1,400 events.

Garfield County's libraries serve as key community gathering places. Public computers and wireless access offer a comfortable environment in which to work, study, stay up with current events, or keep in touch with friends. Meeting rooms are a popular destination for civic groups, non-profits, and organizations of all

kinds. All of the county libraries offer study rooms that double as office space, tutoring classrooms, or just a quiet place to contemplate or meet friends.

Library programming is designed to meet the needs of users of all ages. For young children, the libraries offered more than 600 story times, which saw over 10,000 attendees in 2013. The early literacy skills that children learn in storytime help them translate words to images, develop their brains, and nurture the cognitive, emotional and social skills they need to develop the habits of life-long learners. School-age children and teens have many opportunities at the libraries to participate and advance their skills in a safe environment. Adult programs and classes include technology training, skills development, and computer literacy. In 2013, the district also included discussion opportunities for books and films, a Civil War series, and the America's Music series. Additionally, the libraries offer a summer reading program, which consists of activities for children, teens, and adults. A new record was set in 2013 for the number of participants.

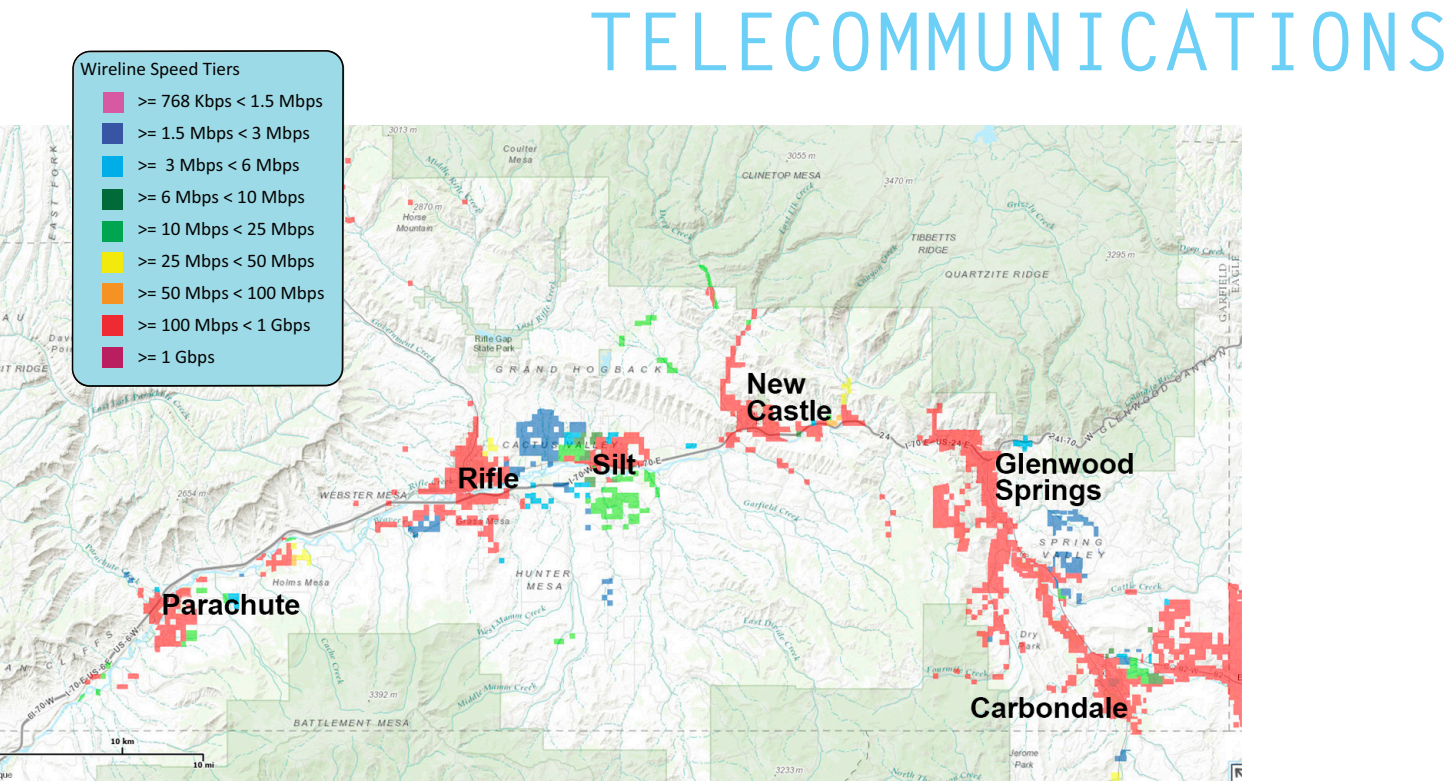
The fiber optic telecommunications infrastructure, and primary demand for broadband services in Garfield County are concentrated along the I-70 and Highway 82 corridors. Broadband services are primarily located in community anchor institutions located in the municipalities.

Private internet providers exist throughout Garfield County, offering cable, fiber, and wireless service. The most reliable internet connection for business use in the city of Glenwood Springs is the Community Broadband Network. This fiber-optic service is a highly dependable, affordable, business-class internet solution. Available enterprise services include speeds as fast as one gigabyte per second; private network connections; and priority bandwidth. The town of Carbondale and the city of Rifle offer fiber-optic connections throughout their communities. Community anchor institutions, as well as local providers of broadband, can be found by using the state's website <http://maps.co.gov/coloradobroadband/>.

Garfield County and its member municipalities were participants in a joint, mini-region broadband study with Mesa County. The goal was to assess the existing broadband infrastructure, and to work with private and public stakeholders, to provide abundant, reliable, redundant, and affordable broadband services to community anchor institutions, citizens, businesses and visitors. This plan addresses the design and implementation of middle-mile broadband throughout Garfield and Mesa counties.

The study was completed in 2016, and addresses the launch of public-private partnerships, such as Open Access Network approaches, and help to leverage resources of both private providers and local governments to improve broadband access. <https://www.garfield-county.com/communications/broadband.aspx>.

Figure 19: Garfield County area Broadband Mapping
Source: Colorado Office of Information Technology



GARFIELD COUNTY

COLORADO

ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

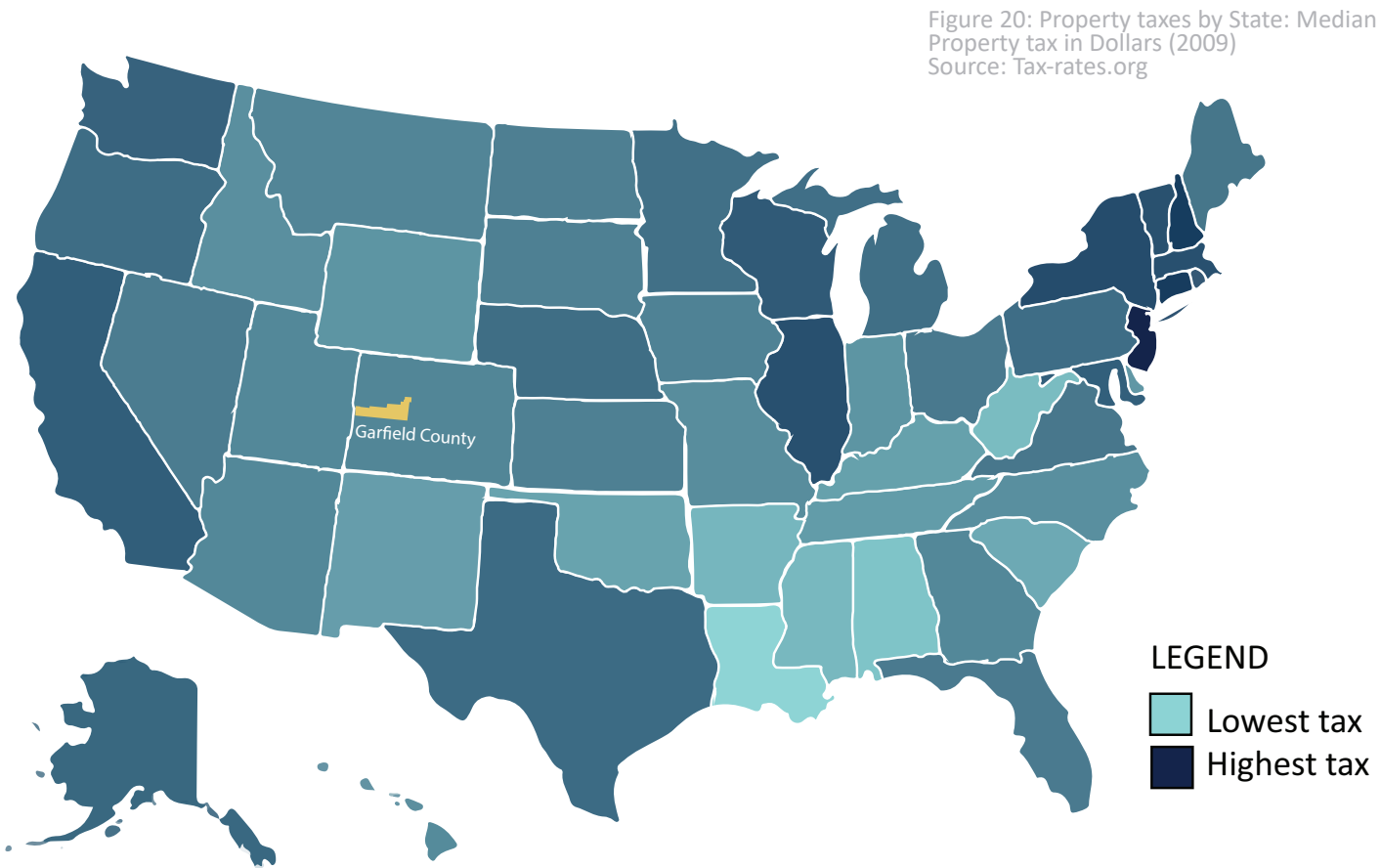
Today, the foundations of Garfield County’s economy remain very similar to the economic foundations that shaped this area well over 100 years ago: natural resource development, agriculture, regional services, and tourism. The county is notable for its concentration of population and development in the area’s two major river valleys, and the counter-balancing of large expanses of public lands, and lightly populated arid plateaus in the remainder of the county.

Garfield County, particularly the area between Rifle and Parachute, has many producing natural gas wells and large shale gas deposits. Emerging natural gas production technologies, coupled with rising gas prices, produced a notable energy boom between 2002 and 2009, and natural gas production continues to be a major contributor of the Garfield County economy.

Tourism has long been a staple of the Garfield County

economy, including the hot springs attractions in Glenwood Springs; outdoor recreation; overnight accommodations associated with I-70; and a strong hunting and fishing services industry. In recent years, the tourism/second home industry in nearby Pitkin and Eagle counties stimulated significant construction, services employment, and residential housing development in Garfield County, particularly in the Carbondale and Glenwood Springs area. Over the past decade, increasing numbers of retirees have relocated to the area for its relatively mild climate, high quality of life, world-class health care, recreation opportunities, and expansive open space.

Though there are similarities between cities and towns when it comes to economic activity and a community’s economic development approach, each municipality also has its differences.



TAXATION

According to taxfoundation.org, Colorado ranks 16th in the overall index for its business tax climate. This evaluates the state’s corporate tax, individual income tax, sales tax, unemployment insurance tax and property tax, as part of the Tax Climate Index. Coincidentally, the state also ranks 35th in the state and local tax collection per capita.

The property tax rate is set and collected by the county. By state law, commercial and industrial property is assessed at 29 percent of market value. The median property tax in Garfield County, Colorado, is \$1,276 per year for a home worth the median value of \$341,600. Garfield County collects, on average, 0.37 percent of a property’s assessed fair market value as property tax. Garfield County is ranked in the top one third (1,052nd of the 3,143) of counties in the United States, in order of the median amount of property taxes collected. The average yearly property tax paid by Garfield County residents’ amounts to about 1.71 percent of their yearly incomes. Garfield County is ranked 1,758th of the 3,143 counties for property taxes as a percentage of median income (tax-rate.org).

Colorado also has a Senior Property Tax Exemption. State voters passed this exemption for senior citizens in the November 2000 election (also known as Referendum A). The law provides that 50 percent of the first \$200,000 of actual value for a qualifying

senior citizen’s primary residence shall be exempt from property taxation. In order to qualify for the exemption the senior must 1) have reached age 65 as of January 1, 2015; 2) have occupied the property for 10 years prior to January 1, 2015; and, 3) have filed an application for the exemption.

Colorado has a state sales tax of 2.9 percent. In addition to this sales tax, each county and local government also have its own sales tax. According to the state’s constitution, any increase in sales taxes must be approved by the voters. For Garfield County, the residents have adopted a one percent sales tax and some areas of the county also have a transportation tax which partially funds the Roaring Fork Transportation Authority. This tax is set at one percent, and is in addition to the local sales tax rates. Sales tax collection is an important indicator of a municipality’s fiscal health, as it is often upwards of 50 percent of a municipality’s annual budget.

	Local Sales Tax	Transportation Tax	County Sales Tax	State Sales Tax	Total Sales Tax	Percentage of general fund budget (est.)
CARBONDALE	3.5%	1%	1%	2.9%	8.4%	55%
GLENWOOD SPRINGS	3.7%	1%	1%	2.9%	8.6%	41.8%
NEW CASTLE	3.5%	1%	1%	2.9%	8.4%	37.5%
SILT	3%	-	1%	2.9%	6.9%	36.9%
RIFLE	4.25%	-	1%	2.9%	8.15%	51.9%
PARACHUTE	3.75%	-	1%	2.9%	7.65%	49.9%

SALES TAX

GARFIELD COUNTY

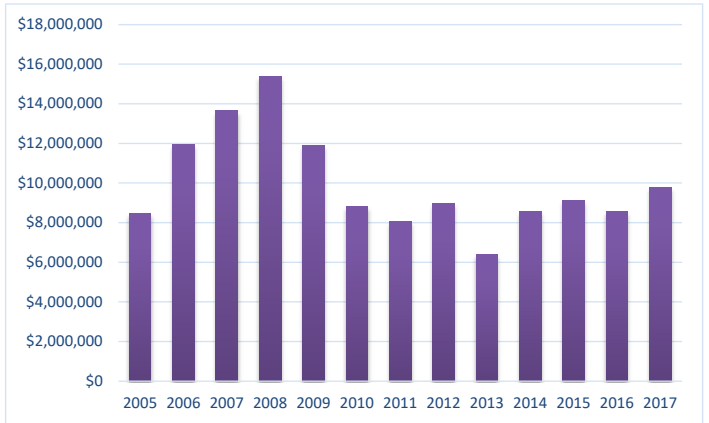


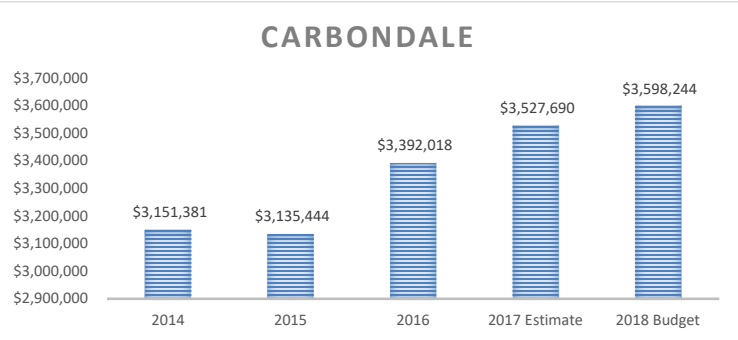
Figure 21: Countywide Sales Tax Collections

Sales tax collection on a countywide basis has been recovering since the low in 2011, caused by the Great Recession. The overall sales tax numbers for the years between 2011 and 2014 are skewed (and are low) due to state-required refunds for over-collection of certain taxes by the state. Even with the county providing annual refunds, sales tax revenues have largely recovered and exceed collections in 2005. Another tax the state collects is the gasoline excise tax. This tax is set at 22 cents per gallon as of January 1, 2016, which places it as the 37th lowest gas tax in the country.



CARBONDALE

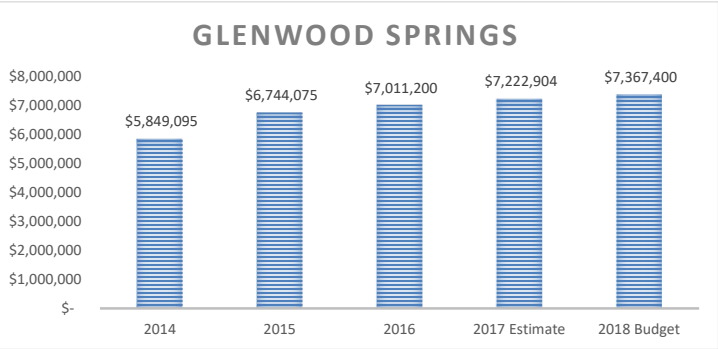
If one is interested in starting a business or relocating a business to Carbondale, the Carbondale Chamber of Commerce is an excellent resource. The chamber conducts visioning sessions with the Business Development Committee to explore options, opportunities, and have access to business mentors and resources.



GLENWOOD SPRINGS

The economic outlook is good in Glenwood Springs. The 2015 – 2017 comparison shows unemployment dropping from 6.2 to 5.5 percent. Sales tax collections continue to increase and were up over six percent from 2015 to 2017. Of particular interest is the sales tax collection by area of the city, which shows increases in most areas, and especially in west Glenwood Springs, where a number of automobile dealerships are located. SIC code sales tax collections also note an increase in automotive sales, as well as dining. A number of new restaurants have opened downtown and the Downtown Development Authority has helped build two parking structures, complete new alley and street improvements, and has other downtown improvement projects in the design phase.

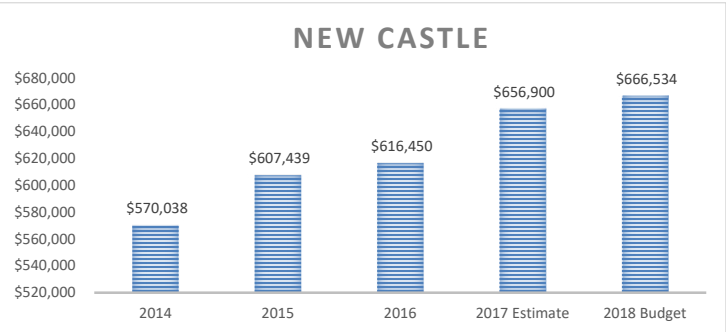
Glenwood Springs is a resort community of nearly 10,000 people that entertains more than 1.5 million tourists per year. There is a sales tax rebate program for retailers who make building improvements. Accommodations tax was up a healthy 15 percent in 2013 over 2014, and the city has exceeded pre-recession accommodation tax collections (2008).



NEW CASTLE

New Castle has three commercial zones: Historic Main Street, the I-70 interchange, and the industrial zone south of the Colorado River. There are also mixed use zones in Castle Valley Ranch and Lakota Canyon Ranch. There are construction sites available in each of these zones.

The town offers mountain living, with a wide range of housing options and year-round outdoor recreation opportunities. The town is especially proud of its 12 popular restaurants. Sales tax receipts from its restaurants increased nearly six percent in 2014. Lakota Canyon Ranch and Golf Club is home to an award-winning golf course. Easy access to Interstate 70 and the Rifle Garfield County Airport, as well as a diverse job force, make New Castle attractive to light industry and retail investors. The town has a record of proactive support for business, including downtown improvements (streetscaping, public art, outdoor dining) and a new pedestrian bridge and trails which provide access to I-70 interchange businesses. The town staff and councilors are ready to discuss opportunities with developers and entrepreneurs. A range of incentives are available for qualifying businesses.



PARACHUTE/ BATTLEMENT MESA

Five thousand friendly folks call Parachute/Battlement Mesa community their home. They live in quiet, established neighborhoods, lively retirement communities, and well-planned multi-family developments. With a combination of rich history, modern amenities, and room to grow, the area offers the best of western Colorado. The town of Parachute and the adjoining unincorporated community of Battlement Mesa act as one, and are prime for business development – featuring interstate and railway accessibility, a skilled workforce, ample available land, and a healthy pro-growth sentiment.

(continued)

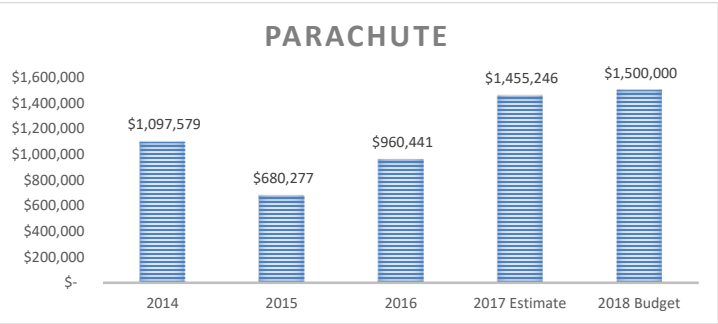
PARACHUTE/ BATLEMENT MESA

(continued)

This community is one of the fastest-growing on Colorado’s Western Slope, and has ample available sites ready for residential and commercial developments in a variety of sizes. There are several commercial centers that offer storefront and office units. With multiple motels, an RV park, modular homes, and apartments, the community also has room for its workforce and, in regard to median home price is the most affordable area within Garfield County.

The community serves as the gateway to the natural gas rich fields of the Piceance Basin. Oil shale abounds in the cliffs north of town, where research and exploration on its production potential continues today. After enjoying the booms and surviving the busts, Parachute has grown into a thriving community of quiet residential neighborhoods with supporting businesses and services. It is serviced by two railroads. Access to the railroads and the interstate make this community a prime place to conduct business. Both Parachute and Battlement Mesa have ample commercial property available to support new business opportunities and professionally trained workforce. In a forthcoming comprehensive plan update, the town will identify annexation opportunities that will provide even more space to expand and do business.

The town is open for business, and as its motto states, it is “A Safe Place to Land.” Many economic development incentives are available and can be tailored to individual needs.



RIFLE

Rifle’s unique character has been shaped by a ranching and mining past. Rifle straddles the Colorado River, and lies at the foot of the dramatic Roan Plateau; a geographic formation containing some of the world’s largest deposits of natural gas and oil shale. This unique regional economic center is building on its diverse place-based assets. Downtown Rifle offers typical western, small-town atmosphere, with antique shops, dining, and historic museums. Residents appreciate that Rifle is much more than quaint; it is a complete living and working town that offers a unique way of life. Rifle is a regional economic center, and an ideal environment to draw ideas, intellectual capital, and investments to the region.

Rifle proudly embraces stewardship of its part of the river and watershed. As a gateway to Rifle’s historic downtown, the Colorado River also adds greatly to the quality of life for those who call this place home.

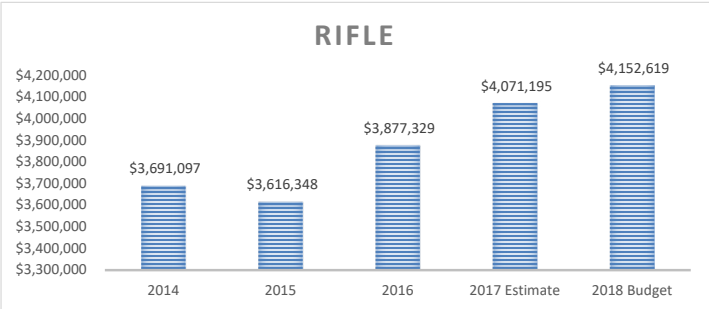
The city of Rifle offers several forms of assistance and incentives to businesses and industries that meet the city’s economic development goals. The city council may approve incentives, such as fee waivers, infrastructure assistance, sales tax rebates, or other forms of financial assistance. City staff is dedicated to finding creative methods to make projects pencil out for developers and staff works closely with the Rifle Regional Economic Development Corporation (RREDC) to collaborate with the business community.

The city has many private lots available for commercial and industrial development. The city owns several downtown opportunity sites to partner with developers to bring retail, restaurant, office, and housing near downtown amenities, such as the seven-plex Brenden Theater. In addition, the city of Rifle has developed the “Energy Innovation Center,” with approximately 35 acres of industrial pad sites available for long-term lease with infrastructure already installed, and an additional 100 acres that the city intends to extend services to in the future. The city of Rifle seeks to attract energy-related employers to the site, including businesses related to natural gas, oil, solar, or biofuels.

As a western river town and a healthy energy village, Rifle, Colorado is primed for energy independence and

economic stability. Rifle is a unique western community that is embracing the energy of its place – including tremendous opportunities to grow, add jobs, and declare energy independence with off-grid technology. This community aims to sustain not only its balanced local economy, but also the historic downtown, classic mining and ranching history, the Colorado river, recreational and tourism assets, and its idyllic quality of life.

Today, Rifle is investing in alternative strategies to ensure a long-term, balanced and diverse economy that can supply reliable energy, innovation, and employment to the region and for a healthy cross-section of businesses. By actively committing to a forward-thinking strategy of renewable sources and distributed energy, Rifle is becoming a tech and energy showcase community. Rifle has embraced the idea of providing for robust and diverse energy alternatives.



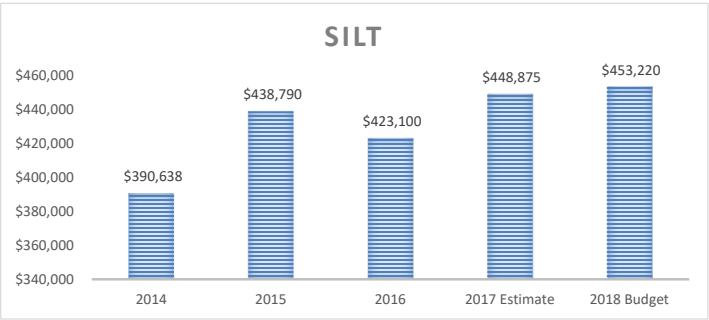
SILT

The town of Silt offers an opportunity for business establishments to locate in this diverse community. The town has many properties in the newly improved downtown core, adjacent to Interstate 70, along State Highway 6, or in one of the many commercial developments along the Colorado River that have stunning views. It is not uncommon to see bald eagles, great blue herons, deer, elk, foxes, coyotes, and hawks in the breathtaking landscape that is western Garfield County. Each entrance to the town has been planned commercially, and the entire town offers great visibility for passing motorists. The town has sites between 5,000 square feet to over 85 acres of usable commercial

ground in numerous commercial areas, with all the necessary utilities, and can be easily subdivided and/or zoned to suit any business needs. The town has partnered with the Colorado Department of Transportation to complete major improvements to the state highways, in order to accommodate any and all commercial uses proposed. Silt has at its disposal two feasibility studies regarding retail development that may provide commercial developers the demographic information they need to open and conduct business in Silt.

Not only does the town have a robust potential workforce, but the citizens’ community values greatly support the concept of living, shopping and working locally. The town of Silt is prepared to offer sales tax incentives or tax increment financing in order to entice commercial growth within town limits. The Silt Urban Renewal Authority is poised to present infrastructure cost reductions to potential commercial developers. Commercial landowners have indicated that they will be very competitive in offering their properties for sale or lease, and the town’s pro-business staff and board of trustees will ensure that the development process goes as smoothly as possible.

The town has completed \$1.4 million worth of Main Street improvements, including a wide sidewalk, landscaping, street furniture and street lighting. These improvements highlight the existing businesses in the downtown core, and attract new businesses to invest, by reducing the initial costs of development. In 2015, the Camp Colorado River Recreational Vehicle Park opened, with 67 spaces and a beautiful lodge on the edge of the Colorado River. The town is also extremely committed to walkability, boasting over four miles of trails in town.



Labor Force Jobs Income

LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT

Garfield County has seen strong job growth and historically low unemployment rates over the past decade. However, with gas drilling reductions, in combination with reduced tourism and second home development, the county’s employment outlook began to change drastically in 2008. There was a significant reduction in both jobs and the available labor force (approximately 14 percent over a two-year period) and the unemployment rate spiked, reaching a peak of 11.7 percent in March 2010. Since then, there has been a steady drop in unemployment, and as of 2017, Garfield County’s unemployment rate was 3.1 percent, which is significantly below the national rate at 4.6 percent. Today, there is an estimated civilian labor force of 32,291 people in the county. (Source: naco.org).

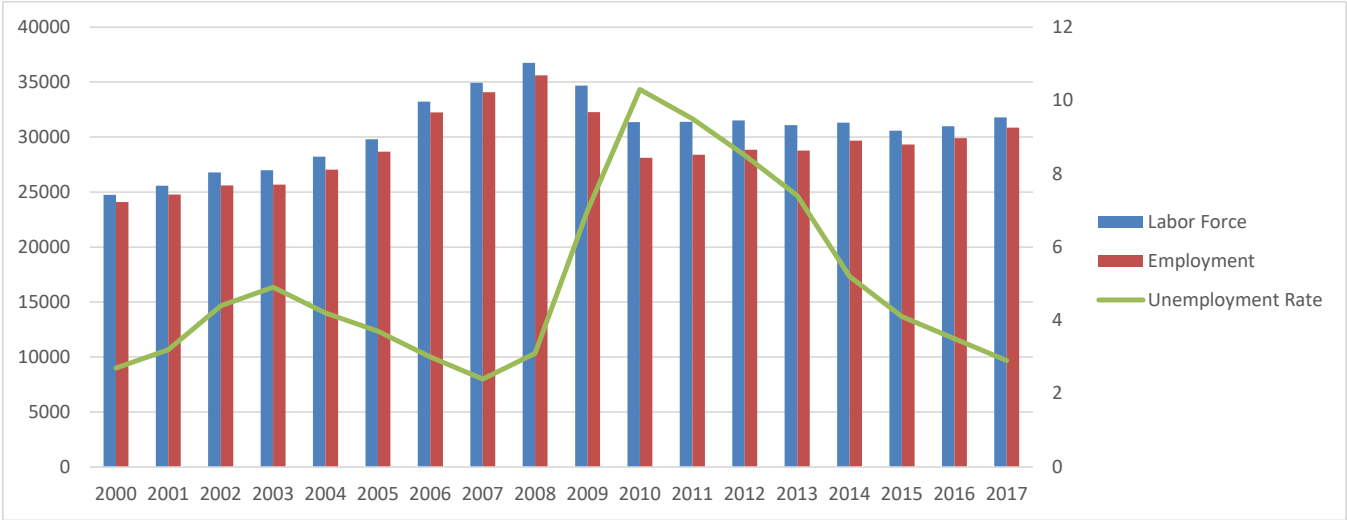


Figure 22: Labor, Employment and Unemployment Rate
Source: Colorado Department of Labor and Employment (CDLE)

At the end of 2015, the estimated average annual wage in Garfield County was \$50,556, up from \$44,408 in 2014, and remains consistent at 86 percent of the Colorado average, according to the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment (www.colmigateway.com).

Steady growth in per-capita personal incomes took place until 2008, peaking at \$41,890. In 2009, per-capita personal income for the county declined by 11.5 percent, followed by another drop of three percent in 2010. Moderate but steady growth as returned to per-capita income since 2011.

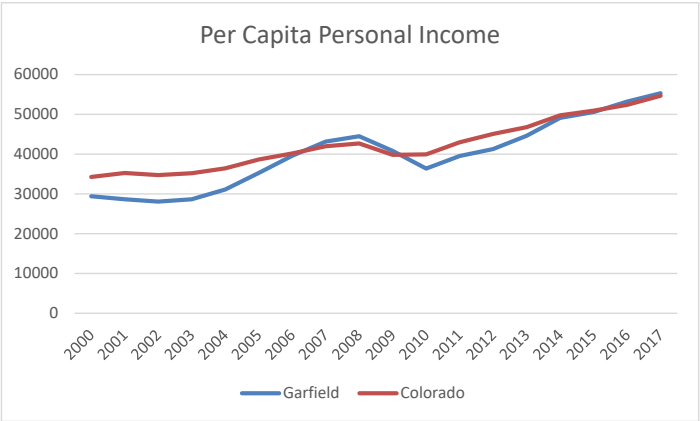


Figure 23: Garfield County Per Capita Personal Income
Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis

WAGES AND INCOME

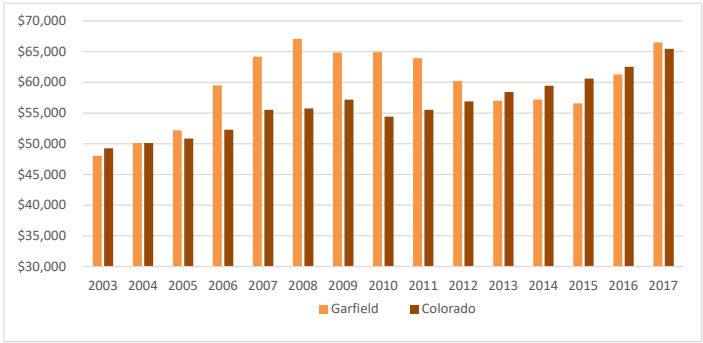


Figure 24: Median Household Income Colorado and Garfield County
Source: American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau

Between 2000-2010, median household income grew significantly. In 2000, county median household income was slightly below the statewide average. By 2010, every community in Garfield County, with the exception of Parachute and Glenwood Springs, reported median household income in excess of the statewide average. In 2010, the median household income of Garfield County was \$64,902 (U.S. Census Bureau), which is higher than the state median of \$54,411 and the national median of \$50,046. Subsequently, the median household income of Garfield County dropped to \$57,022 in 2013, but increased to \$66,503 in 2017.

JOBS AND MAJOR EMPLOYERS

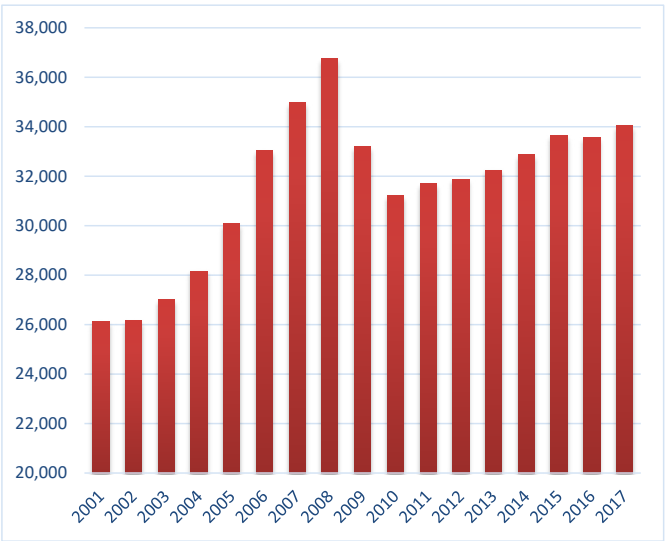


Figure 25: Total Jobs in Garfield County from 2001-2017
Source: Colorado Department of Local Affairs

Between 2003 and 2008, Garfield County experienced strong employment growth, increasing by 10,500 jobs, or about five percent per year. Since the recession ended in 2011, the county has been steadily adding jobs by approximately 1.1 percent per year through 2016.

During this same period, there was a significant shift in employment patterns. The largest increase in employment share by category occurred in the mining and natural resources industry, which includes oil and gas production activities. It should also be noted that

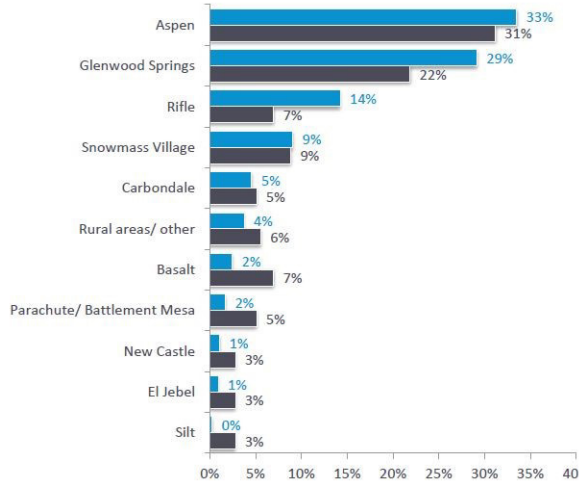


Figure 26: Where the regions workforce works
Black: 2004, Blue: 2014
Source: 2015 RFTA Travel Patterns Study

many natural resource extraction-related jobs occur in other employment categories, such as construction and transportation. The downturn in resort-related real estate construction, beginning in about 2009, had a major impact on Garfield County, which was home to a large share of contractors, fabricators and suppliers that support the second-home industry in both Eagle and Pitkin counties. Since 2010, Garfield County has again seen a rise in the construction industry. At the end of 2016, the construction industry and retail trade were the second- and third-leading employers respectively.

NEW ENERGY IN THE WILD WEST

An emerging trend over the last 10 years has been the concentration of jobs in three primary employment centers within the region. About 75 percent of the region’s 2014 workforce indicated they work in Aspen, Glenwood Springs, or Rifle, an increase from 60 percent in 2004. An additional 14 percent indicated they work

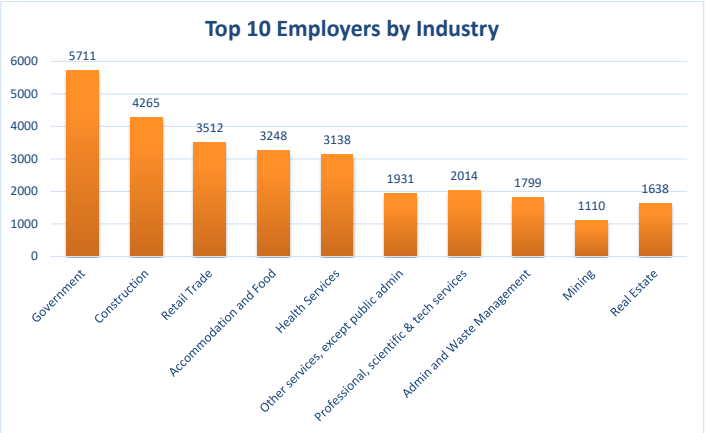


Figure 27: Top 10 Employers by Industry Type (NAICS) 2017
Source: Colorado Department of Local Affairs

in Carbondale or Snowmass Village. While Aspen has been a significant employment center within the region for a number of years, Glenwood Springs and Rifle are also emerging as major regional nodes, a trend that is expected to continue (RFTA Regional Travel Patterns Study 2014).

Employer	Rank	Type of Business	Number of Employees	Percentage of Total
Valley View Hospital	1	Healthcare	859	2.94%
Grand River Health	2	Healthcare	520	1.78%
Grand River Hospital District	3	Healthcare	440	1.51%
Colorado West Regional Mental Health Outpatient	4	Healthcare	350	1.20%
Colorado Mountain College	5	Colleges	300	1.03%
Valley View Hospital Professional Billing Services	6	Healthcare	300	1.03%
Walmart Supercenter	7	Retail	261	0.89%
Schmueser & Assoc Inc.	8	Construction	242	0.83%
Garfield County School District RE-16	9	Schools	198	0.68%
Sunlight Mountain Resort	10	Hotels	165	0.57%
Total employed by principal employers			3,635	12.46%
Employed by other employers			30,863	87.54%
Total employed in Garfield County			34,498	100%

Figure 28: Principal Employers In Garfield County, 2017
Source: Garfield County Finance Department

As of December 2018, there are five active natural gas drilling rigs in Garfield County. The number in Garfield County has continued to decrease over the past several years, and is now among the fewest number of drill rigs in over 20 years.

In addition to the local economy, the natural resources industry also has a significant impact on Garfield County taxes and revenues. In 2014, 72.9 percent of total property tax assessed values were accounted for by the oil and gas industry. In 2017, this had dropped to 50 percent.

Top tax payers in oil and gas industry	2015
WPX ENERGY ROCKY MOUNTAIN, LLC	646,838,480
ENCANA OIL & GAS (USA) INC.	573,779,170
VANGUARD OPERATING LLC	164,624,980
URSA RESOURCES GROUP II LLC	109,423,850
OXY USA WTP LP	91,971,000
CAERUS PICEANCE LLC	67,142,180
ENTERPRISE GAS PROCESSING LLC	59,799,260
BARGATH, INC.	43,267,680
CHEVRON NORTH AMERICA EXPLORATION & PRODUCTION CO	36,655,150
HUNTER RIDGE ENERGY SERVICES, LLC	30,229,010
PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF COLORADO	29,757,300

OIL AND NATURAL GAS INDUSTRY

Natural resource development, specifically natural gas, has had the most dramatic economic influence on Garfield County over the last decade. Garfield County is the leading producer of natural gas in the state, with over 11,000 producing wells. As of 2008, nearly one-third of all mining industry employment for the state of Colorado was located in Garfield, and the neighboring Mesa and Rio Blanco counties. Between 2004 and 2005, Garfield County experienced a rapid increase in its share of statewide mining employees, which then leveled off and modestly declined between 2006 and 2009. The industry slowed dramatically in 2009 as gas prices fell and operators began pulling drilling rigs to pursue emerging gas prospects elsewhere in the U.S.

The natural gas boom, which spurred Garfield County’s economy in the 2000s, was driven in part by a rapid escalation in gas prices. Since 2012, gas prices have been declining, which has had a direct impact on the total natural gas and oil production in the county. Garfield County, however, continues to dominate regional gas production. In 2016, Garfield County produced 1.6 million barrels of oil and 496 billion cubic feet of natural gas. Garfield County’s energy production represents a significant share of the statewide totals. Prices however, continue to be low, with an average for the year of 2017 at \$2.99 per million Btu.

Natural Gas Liquids (NGLs), which are often a byproduct of gas well production, are used to produce lower grade liquid fuels and NGL values typically follow crude oil prices. As the price of natural gas has declined, the value of NGL products have become a more important element of the overall economics of well drilling and production. The price of NGLs mirrors the price of crude oil which, although experiences price fluctuations, currently remains at high levels, and boosting the value of gas production within Garfield County.

Prospects for future growth in northwest Colorado gas drilling have been bolstered by the completion of the \$6.7 billion Rockies Express pipeline, which has alleviated some well-to-market shipping constraints that had previously restricted local natural gas distributions. Although the growth in production has been notable, the decline in drilling activity has become even more pronounced with declining drill rig numbers. More than twenty one percent (21.7%) of Colorado’s drilling permits were for projects located in Garfield County and 87 percent of Colorado’s 53,732 wells are located in six counties as of October 2018 (Source: COGCC).

NEW ENERGY IN THE WILD WEST

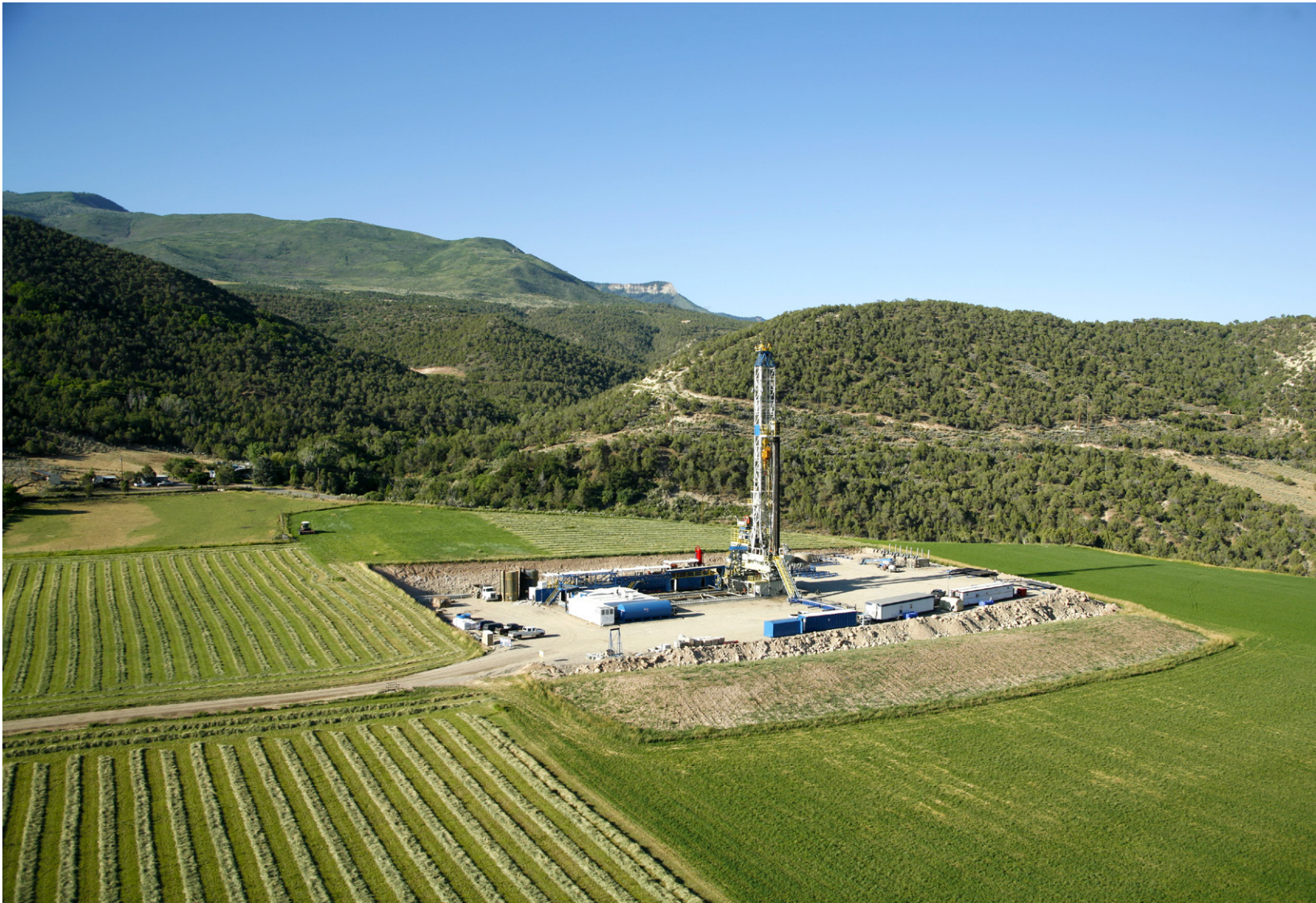




Figure 31: Annual Natural Gas Production: Total Production in Billion Cubic Feet (BCF)
Source: Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission

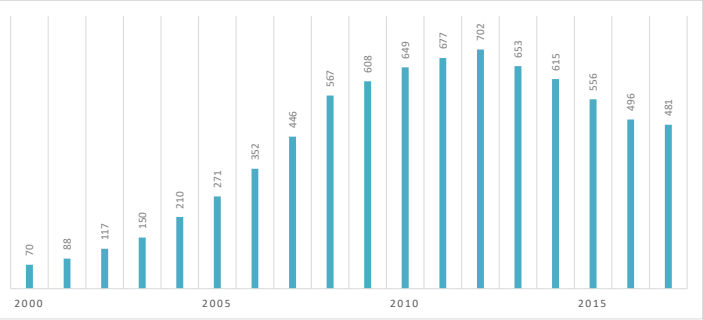


Figure 32: Annual Oil Production: Total Production in Thousand Barrels (MBL)
Source: Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission

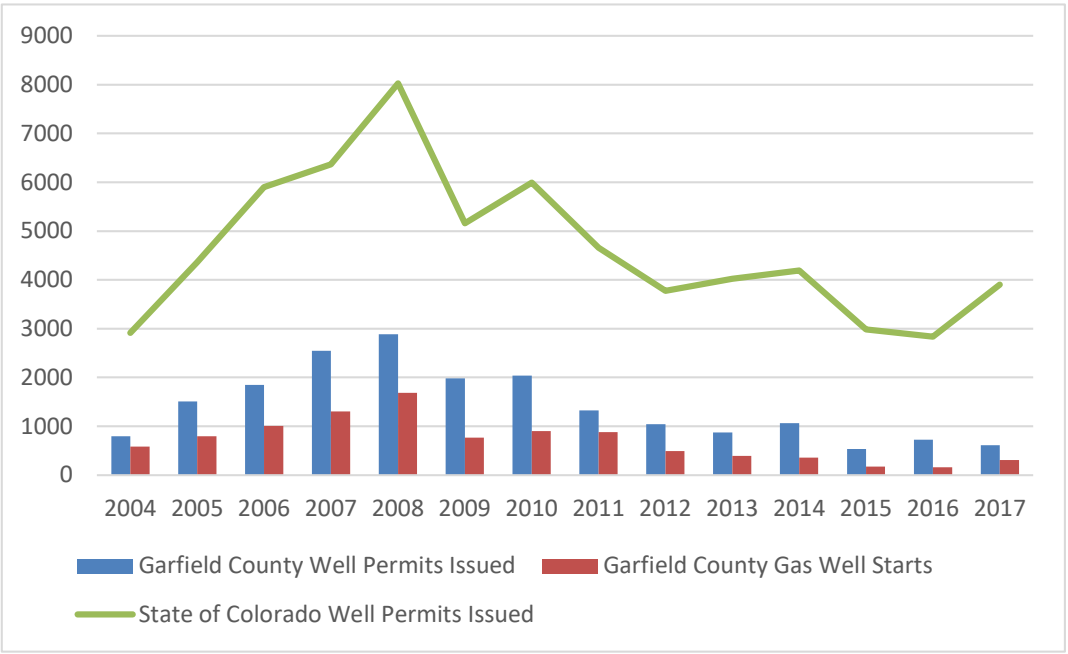
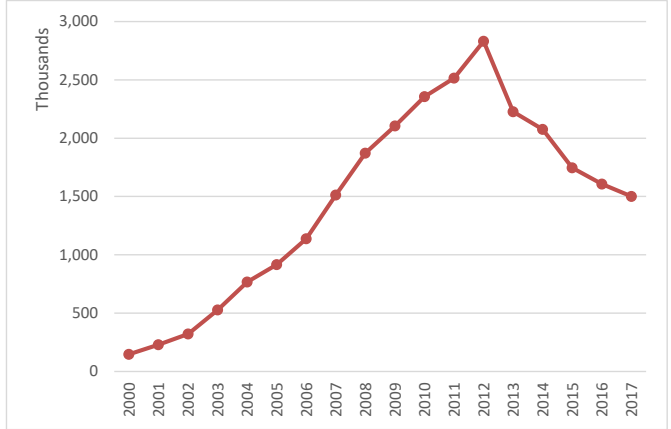


Figure 33: Annual Drilling Permits
Source: Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission

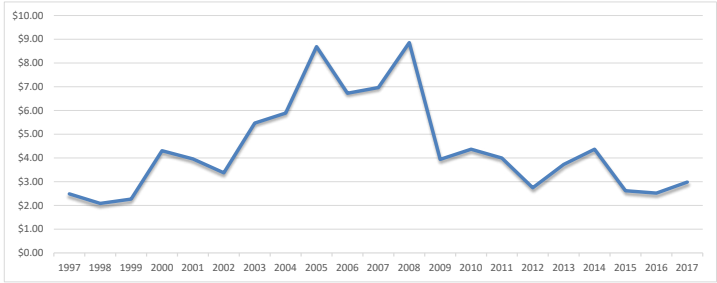


Figure 29: Annual Average Henry Hub Natural Gas Spot Price: Dollars per Million Btu
Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration

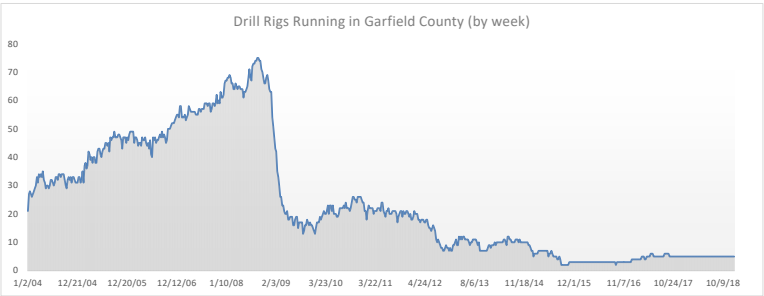


Figure 30: Drill Rig Count by Week
Source: Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission (COGCC)

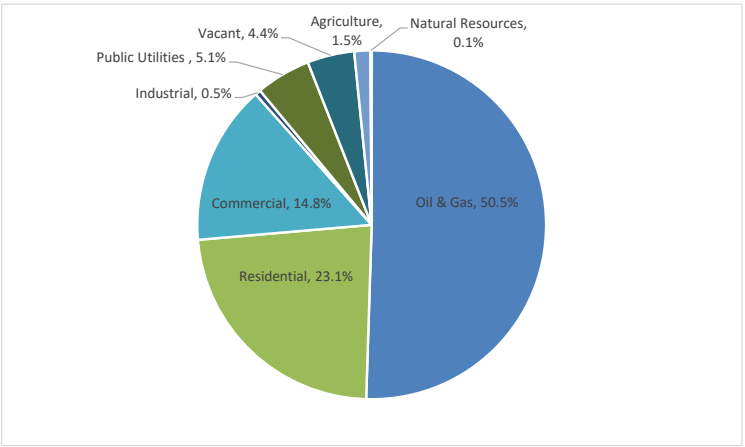


Figure 34: Assessed Value Distribution 2017
Source: Garfield County Assessor

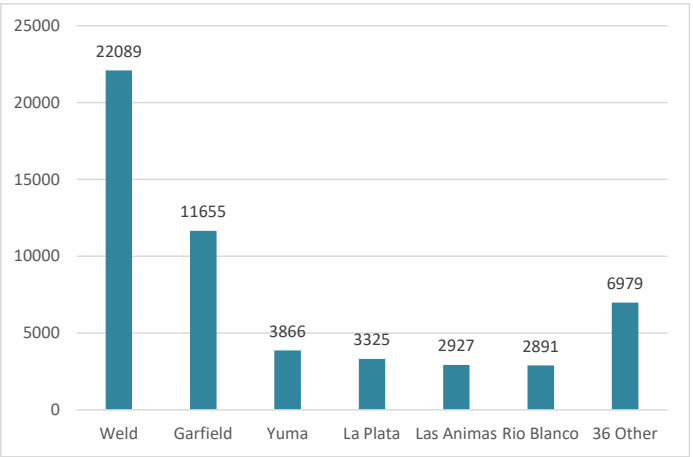


Figure 35: Number of Active Wells by County: 2018
Source: Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission (COGCC)

ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLE ENERGY INDUSTRY



NEW ENERGY IN THE WILD WEST

Through the Garfield Clean Energy partnership, 10 local governments in Garfield County work together to achieve targets for energy efficiency, renewable energy and petroleum independence. Garfield Clean Energy provides programs and services to help households, businesses, and local governments become more energy efficient and reduce energy costs.

From 2010 to 2015, Garfield Clean Energy has helped nearly 700 businesses, households, and government buildings make energy upgrades that are saving more than \$603,000 per year. These projects boosted the local economy with investments of \$7.3 million in materials purchased from retailers and work by 169 contractors.

Garfield Clean Energy works for petroleum independence through the Western Slope Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) Network. The project is building market demand for locally produced natural gas as a transportation fuel.

In 2016, the public CNG fueling station in Parachute was joined by stations in Rifle and Glenwood Springs. The Roaring Fork Transportation Authority (RFTA) uses 24 CNG transit buses to serve routes from Rifle to Aspen.

Garfield County is also a great place for solar energy, with more than 300 days of sunshine per year. It has the first two community solar gardens built on the Western Slope, and all 10 government members of Garfield Clean Energy have solar arrays that offset electric usage. These arrays range from Holy Cross Energy’s (a public utility company) new 1.9 megawatt solar farm near Carbondale, to Parachute’s 3.6 kilowatt solar flowers at the I-70 Rest Area. The city of Rifle leads the way with 3 megawatts of solar capacity, making the city net-zero for electricity use and the nation’s leader in solar power per capita.

Publicly Owned Solar Power Generation	Total Power
Town of Parachute	22.9 kW
City of Rifle	2,775 kW
Town of Silt	261 kW
Town of New Castle	70.5 kW
City of Glenwood Springs	20.5 kW
Town of Carbondale	165 kW
Garfield County	101.2 kW
Colorado Mountain College	102 kW
Roaring Fork Transportation Authority	618 kW
Garfield County Public Library District	132.6 kW
Battlement Mesa Metro District	435 kW
Roaring Fork School District	379 kW

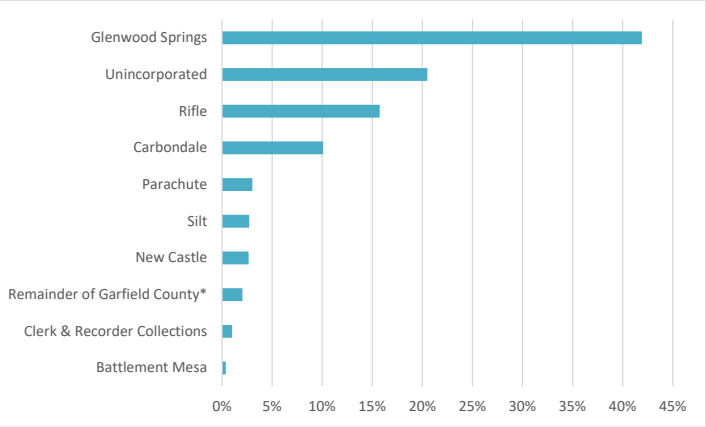
RETAIL AND TOURISM INDUSTRY

In addition to the natural resources industry, retail and tourism are an important part of the Garfield County economy. The previously noted “boom” period (2002 to 2008) is evident in retail sales trends (indicated by sales tax collection), as is the sharp economic decline beginning in 2008. Though some retail recovery was seen in 2011 and 2012, another substantial decrease was seen in 2013. A modest improvement was seen in both 2014 and 2015, followed by a slight decline in 2016. This decline is presumed to be correlated to the reduction of oil and gas operations within the county, as areas west of Glenwood Springs were the only ones to individually experience a decline in sales tax revenues.

It is also noteworthy to document the location of sales. As to be expected, Glenwood Springs and Rifle account for 67 percent of the sales tax income. While the remaining communities and unincorporated areas make up the remaining 33 percent.

Annual sales revenues in Glenwood Springs show positive trends reflecting an increase in retail sales in

the city. Sales tax revenues rose by 15 percent between 2012 and 2016. Countywide, accommodation and food services make up nearly 20 percent of the sales tax collection (up 4 percent since 2015), while retail trade makes up 28 percent of sales tax collection. Wholesale trade collects 5.2 percent of the sales tax, and the new marijuana industry (including liquor) has created a significant increase of revenue from tax collection at 5.7 percent.



*Telecommunication/utility companies with no physical location in Garfield County
Figure 36: Sales tax income (2017)
Source: Garfield County Treasurer



Garfield County is a right-to-farm county. Given their importance to the county, agricultural lands and operations are worthy of recognition and protection. The county has adopted a vision that includes preserving its rural character and agricultural heritage by encouraging the retention of agricultural lands, working farms, and ranches. Ranching, farming,

and all manner of agricultural activities throughout the county continue to help define the county’s history, economy, landscape, lifestyle, and culture. Landowners, residents, and visitors must be prepared to accept the activities, sights, sounds and smells of the county’s agricultural operations as a normal and necessary aspect of living in a region with a strong rural character and a healthy agricultural sector.

AGRICULTURAL



Agriculture accounts for approximately two percent of county employment, and contributes approximately \$22 million to the economy annually. The county has a thriving agricultural community that ranges from a plethora of community gardens, to large commercial farms and greenhouses. Almost every community within Garfield County has community supported agriculture businesses, seasonal farmers markets, and at least one community garden to bring locally grown food to the table.

Garfield County has been home to national events, such as the National Sheep Dog Trials. The trials are held at a large ranch outside of Carbondale, and are a test of a dog’s agility to maneuver sheep in a calm, controlled manner. The trials event is held over six days, and attracts participants and spectators from around the country.

National Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), a department of the United States Department of

Agriculture, is active in the county, and has a field office located in Glenwood Springs. The NRCS partners with local conservation districts to provide support to local ranchers and farmers on topics such as natural resource assessment, conservation planning and ecological science. The county supports agricultural-based programs, such as 4-H and Future Farmers of America, which are an important part of growing up for youth in Garfield County.

It is Colorado’s land – its beauty, clear air, and clean water – that attracts visitors and residents, resulting in strong communities and prosperous economies. Losing this open land is a direct threat to our economy and way of life. Located in Carbondale, the Aspen Valley Land Trust (AVLT) has been working in Garfield County to permanently preserve open lands for agriculture, wildlife, habitat, scenic enjoyment, and recreation. AVLT has successfully conserved over 38,000 acres of important properties throughout the area including several working ranches.

HUMAN SERVICES

The demand for economic security support has progressively increased since 2008. Despite signs of improvement in the economy, the county’s total economic security cases per year have increased 59 percent since 2011. This is due, in part, to new programs being added, such as Employment First in 2015. These cases include, in general, services for cash assistance, medical assistance, food assistance and child care. The county has seen a decrease in cases, beginning in 2016. Garfield County also has a lower poverty rate of 10.3 percent than the state at 11.5 percent (Source: Garfield County Department of Human Services).

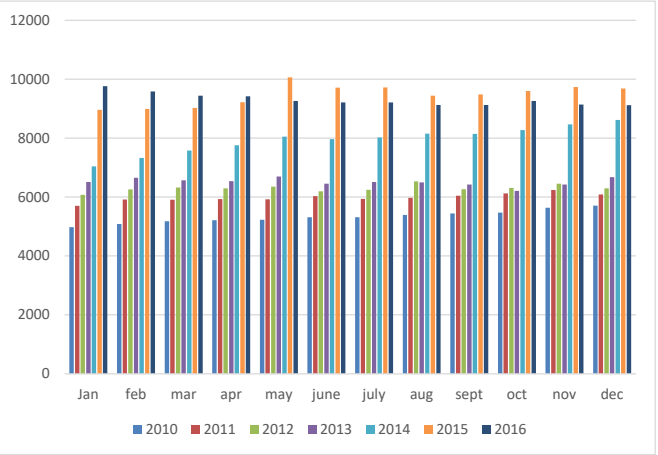


Figure 37: Garfield County Economic Security Cases
Source: Garfield County Human Services

CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

One of the best indicators of construction activity is the number of building permits, and the value thereof, issued by the Garfield County Community Development Department. These have declined significantly since 2007, but have been slowly increasing since 2013, as a reflection of the local economic conditions. Many of these permits were for small home improvement projects. The number of commercial permits has also slowed in recent years, presumably due to the decline in the oil and gas industry.

In 2013, valuations showed the first increase since peaking in 2007. Valuations declined slightly again from 2014, due to contraction in valuation for commercial permits. Valuations are spread relatively equally

between commercial and residential construction, and a small portion to other types.

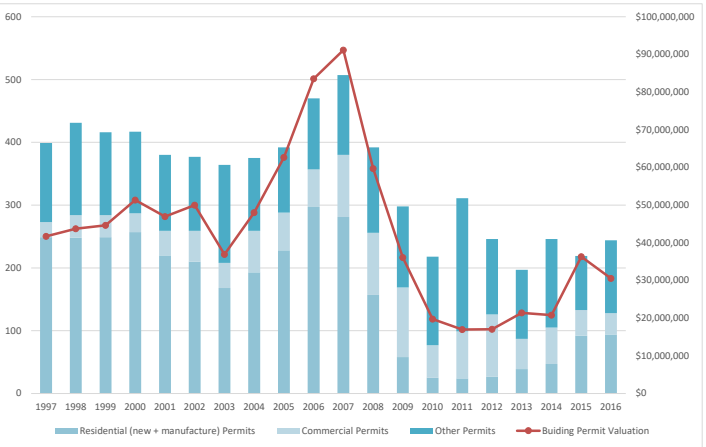


Figure 38: Building Permit Valuations 1997-2017
Source: Garfield County Community Development Department



NOTABLE NEW EMPLOYER

The Center of Excellence for Advanced Technology Aerial Firefighting was created in Senate Bill 14-164. During the legislative session, proponents of the center explained that there is currently no mechanism for determining the efficacy of aerial firefighting, and the need exists for an innovative, science and data focused research entity. For this reason, the center was held up as an integral part of ensuring the successful implementation of Colorado’s own aerial firefighting fleet.

“In short, the Center of Excellence will research, test, and evaluate existing and new technologies that support sustainable, effective, and efficient aerial firefighting techniques,” said Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control Director Paul Cooke.

Garfield County, specifically the Rifle Garfield County Regional Airport, was selected in April 2015 as the site for the Center of Excellence, as recommended by the Division of Fire Prevention and Control (DFPC). As home to the Upper Colorado River Interagency Fire Management Facility, and with its proximity to the Colorado Army National Guard High Altitude Aviation training site, the center will be well-positioned for success in Rifle, and will benefit all of Colorado. The Rifle/Garfield County location offers DFPC the ability to pair its currently existing resources (fire management officer and engine crew) with the Center of Excellence staff. As noted by Governor John Hickenlooper, the decision to locate the center in Rifle will “serve as the best way forward to meet our shared goal of protecting lives, property and our natural environment from devastating wildfires.”

“the Center of Excellence will research, test, and evaluate existing and new technologies that support sustainable, effective, and efficient aerial firefighting techniques.”

— CDFPC Director, Paul Cooke



Healthcare

Garfield County has robust healthcare options. These include two established hospitals: Valley View Hospital in Glenwood Springs, and Grand River Hospital and Medical Center in Rifle. Both provide state-of-the-art professional medical care for residents of Garfield County. In addition, there are innumerable general and specialized clinics, as well as well-respected alternative medicine facilities such as naturopathic doctors, therapists, and acupuncturists.

HOSPITALS AND CLINICS

Valley View Hospital

Established in 1955, Valley View Hospital is a community-owned, nonprofit hospital with a sterling reputation for professionalism and patient services. It is a fully licensed, 78-bed hospital, with inpatient and outpatient surgical units and a 24-hour emergency room.

Valley View Hospital is one of only 160 hospitals worldwide to be designated as a Planetree Hospital, and is one of Truven Health Analytics’ Top-100 hospitals. Valley View has also been recognized for excellence by Healthgrades, J.D. Power & Associates, and Consumer Reports. The array of specialty services in the Glenwood campus includes the Calaway Young Cancer Center, the High Mountain Brain & Spinal Surgery Center, the Heart & Vascular Center and the Cardiovascular Innovation and Research Institute. Valley View’s countywide services include a state-of-the-art facility in Carbondale, a medical care center in Silt and several specialty centers and physician practices.

Grand River Hospital and Medical Center

The Grand River Hospital and Medical Center opened in Rifle in 2003, and houses a clinic, physical therapy and surgery center, along with an emergency and radiology center. It offers state-of-the-art surgical services, outpatient services, and a caring and experienced inpatient medical-surgical, acute care unit and a 24/7 emergency department. The center is equipped to handle approximately 80 percent of the emergency cases that come through its doors, but it does not deliver babies. Partnered with family practitioners, talented surgeons, and a modern radiology department and laboratory, all located on campus, the facility and staff provide exceptional healthcare. It has an impressive physical therapy department. The clinic is a high quality, low-cost alternative to the emergency department for treating non-life-threatening illnesses and injuries and offers after-hours care.

Battlement Mesa Medical Center

Operated by Grand River Health District, the Battlement Mesa Medical Center offers a variety of services and is staff with experienced family medicine practitioners. The facility is conveniently located in Battlement Mesa, adjacent to the town of Parachute.

E. Dene Moore Care Center

Operated by Grand River Health District, long-term care is available at the E. Dene Moore Care Center, located in Rifle. This 57-bed, long term care, rehabilitation and respite care facility accepts Medicaid, Medicare, Medicare Part A, private pay and managed care contracts. Its physician led health care team, skilled nursing and registered dietitian provide 24-hour care services. The clinic is open seven days a week.

St. Mary’s Hospital

St. Mary’s Hospital, located in Grand Junction, Colorado, but only 45 miles from Parachute, is dedicated to meeting the healthcare needs of the residents of western Colorado and eastern Utah. St. Mary’s is a

not-for-profit hospital founded in 1896 by the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth. Today, St. Mary’s is the largest medical center between Denver and Salt Lake City, with over 350 beds, 2,000 staff, and 300 active physicians. The hospital physicians represent more than 40 specialties, and it is dedicated to providing specialized services, experienced professionals, and the latest in techniques and technology close to home for the people of western Colorado and eastern Utah. St. Mary’s Hospital is fully accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Health Care Organizations, the American Medical Association Council on Medical Education, the Colorado Medical Society, and the American Association of Blood Banks.

VETERAN’S ADMINISTRATION CLINIC AND HOSPITAL

Located in Grand Junction, the Veteran’s Administration Medical Center (VAMC) serves 37,000 veterans. VAMC exists to serve veterans through the delivery of timely, quality care, by staff who demonstrate outstanding customer service, and promote the advancement of health care through research, and the education of tomorrow’s health care providers. The VAMC operates 53 beds, comprised of 23 acute care and 30 Transitional Care Unit beds. The VAMC provides primary and secondary care, including acute medical, surgical, and psychiatric inpatient services, as well as a full range of outpatient services. The VAMC was the recipient of the 2001 Presidential Award for Quality and the 1999 Robert W. Carey Quality Award Trophy. It is the first and only organization ever in VA to earn the Presidential Award for Quality.

Located in Glenwood Springs, the Glenwood Springs TeleHealth Clinic is a satellite clinic of the Grand Junction VA Medical Center. Its mission is to provide primary health care to veterans living in the Glenwood Springs area, including Pitkin and Eagle counties, and other surrounding communities. The TeleHealth Clinic offers services in primary care visits and follow-up, mental health visits, wound care, pre and post-operative care, nurse clinic visits, immunizations, patient education, medication management, laboratory: blood drawing services, and diabetes management. The clinic also offers veterans the opportunity to speak face-to-face with a benefits representative at the Denver Regional Benefits Office via a secure teleconferencing system.

GARFIELD COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH

The Garfield County Public Health Department ensures that residents of Garfield County have access to resources that promote optimal health, safety and well-being. Its mission is to prevent disease and promote healthy behavior by targeting the highest standards of health for individuals and communities. The county provides a variety of services,

including blood pressure screenings, car seat checks, communicable disease surveillance, early periodic screening, diagnosis, and treatment for Medicaid clients (EPSDT). It has health care programs for children with special needs (HCP), health education, immunizations for children and adults, prenatal case management, tobacco prevention, travel vaccinations, and administers the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) nutritional supplement program. It also has an environmental health division that provides the most robust air quality monitoring program in the state.



Senior Living

Garfield County is a great place for seniors to live and enjoy their golden years. With a variety of living options and county programs, such as Well & Wise, the county is focused on keeping its seniors healthy, happy, and actively engaged in their community of choice.

The county has a senior nutrition program that provides hot, nutritious meals to seniors over 60, and their spouses. Each meal provides at least one-third of the adult daily recommended dietary intake and seniors are encouraged to pay as they are able. The program also supports socialization and is a referral system for information about senior issues and activities in the various communities throughout Garfield County. Other services provided by the county include a Senior Equipment and Service Program, a Caregiver Support Program, and the Northwest Colorado Options for Long Term Care. Garfield County Senior Programs publishes a monthly newsletter, so that seniors can stay well-connected and engaged with their community. Additional senior services within the county include a Meals on Wheels program, a variety of home health services, and hospice by private entities.

SENIOR CENTERS

With a rapidly growing senior population in the county, several centers are available for social engagement and resources. In Glenwood Springs, the Lucy Huntley Senior Center is located at Colorado Mountain College. In Silt, the fire station provides a meeting space and a senior lunch program. The Rifle Senior Center also provides a social space, as well as a senior lunch program, as does the Valley Senior Center in Parachute, and the Senior Matters space at the 3rd Street Center in Carbondale.



LIVING FACILITIES

Various options exist throughout the county for senior living facilities, ranging from independent care facilities to nursing home facilities.

Senior housing facility	Type	Location
HERITAGE PARK ASSISTED LIVING AND CARE CENTER	Assisted/Nursing	Carbondale
CRYSTAL MEADOWS SENIOR HOUSING*	Senior	Carbondale
HARMONY HOUSE ASSISTED LIVING	Assisted	Glenwood Springs
OPEN GATE RESIDENCE	Assisted	Glenwood Springs
SUNNYSIDE RETIREMENT CENTER*	Senior	Glenwood Springs
CREEKSIDE ASSISTED LIVING	Assisted	Glenwood Springs
GRACE HEALTH CARE OF GLENWOOD SPRINGS	Nursing	Glenwood Springs
THE MANORS (MANOR 1 AND MANOR 11)	Independent	Glenwood Springs
CASTLE VALLEY RANCH SENIOR HOUSING*	Senior	New Castle
SILT SENIOR HOUSING (GC HOUSING AUTHORITY)	Senior	Silt
RIFLE HOUSING AUTHORITY	Senior	Rifle
CHATEAU AT RIFLE	Assisted	Rifle
E. DENE MOORE CARE CENTER	Nursing	Rifle
VETERANS COMMUNITY LIVING CENTER	Nursing	Rifle
MESA VISTA ASSISTED LIVING RESIDENCE	Assisted	Parachute
VALLEY SENIOR HOUSING (GC HOUSING AUTHORITY)	Senior	Parachute

*part of the senior program

TRANSPORTATION

Seniors and disabled individuals unable to use regular Roaring Fork Transportation Authority (RFTA) bus service may be eligible for Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Paratransit service within the city limits of Aspen, Glenwood Springs and throughout Garfield County. This program is provided under the guidelines of ADA. This program is open to those persons unable to board, ride or exit a wheelchair lift-equipped bus, and persons whose disability does not allow them to travel to and from the stop.

RFTA and the City of Glenwood Springs provide complementary paratransit service for passengers with disabilities to individuals that reside within 3/4 of a mile of the “Ride Glenwood” fixed-route bus service within Glenwood Springs. Similar ADA Complementary

Paratransit service is provided for individuals that are unable to access the Carbondale Circulator within the Town of Carbondale, due to a documented temporary or permanent disability.

The Traveler provides accessible transportation to those over the age of 65, and for persons with a disability in designated areas of Garfield County. Based in Glenwood Springs and Rifle, the Traveler serves qualified individuals within the following Garfield County service area parameters: a five-mile radius from Interstate 70 between Parachute and Glenwood Springs, and a five-mile radius from Highway 82 between Glenwood Springs and Carbondale. To help support its operation, the Traveler requests voluntary donations for the services it provides.

Recreation & Leisure

According to a 2008 survey of Garfield County residents, up to 60 percent said they live in the county for its recreational opportunities. As such, tourism is a high priority for the county, which benefits from both significant summer and winter visitations. Over 15 percent of countywide respondents resided or relocated to Garfield County due to its proximity to ski resorts. While many of the signature recreational amenities of the area have been provided in this section, it is impossible to list them all. For more recreational opportunities, visit the town's chambers, visitor centers or recreation centers.



Sunlight Mountain Resort

One of the great independent ski resorts, Sunlight Mountain Resort is a winter playground with hundreds of acres for skiing, snowboarding, snowmobiling, cross-country skiing, and snowshoeing. The resort provides a full-day of skiing for about half the cost of the large resorts. With 67 trails and 3 lifts, there are rarely lift lines, and everyone parks for

free. Located just 12 miles south of Glenwood Springs, this gem of a resort is a no hassle, no hype resort and is a certain pleaser with powder stashes that lasts for days. Accessed from the same parking lot, is the Babbish Gulch area that provides miles of cross country skiing and snowshoeing. Amenities include a restaurant, lounge, rental and retail shop, ski school, children's center, and snowmobile tours.



Rio Grande, Glenwood Canyon, and Crystal River Bike Trails

For biking enthusiasts, pedaling from Aspen to Glenwood Springs is one of the best things to do while visiting Garfield County. The 44 miles of continuous multi-use trail features many access points, so one can pick the ride that is the right length for either a weekend or lunch-hour ride. The trail is a Rails-to-Trails project and was developed along the old Rio Grande railway corridor. It has an easy grade up and down the valley.

The Crystal River Trail is a spur trail that connects in the town of Carbondale to the Rio Grande Trail. The trail has a gentle grade and follows State Highway 133 south from Carbondale for about five miles.

The Glenwood Canyon trail is a renowned biking trail as well. It is a popular thoroughfare through the narrow gorge of Glenwood Canyon and meanders alongside the Colorado River for 18 miles between Glenwood Springs and Dotsero. For those that enjoy using a paved trail, these trails are not to be missed.

Flattops Wilderness Area

The Flat Tops Wilderness Area is the second largest U.S. Wilderness Area in Colorado. It is 235,214 acres (951.88 km²), with 38,870 acres (157.3 km²) in Routt National Forest and 196,344 acres (794.58 km²) in White River National Forest. It was designated a wilderness area in 1975. Trappers Lake, located in the north of the area, was the lake that inspired Arthur Carhart, a U.S. Forest Service official, to plea for wilderness preservation. This wilderness area is unique. It compares with no other mountain range in the state. There are no tall spires, and no fourteeners are found in the Flat Tops. Rather, it is a massive block of rock pushed upward and planed level, its surface punctured here and there with rare peaks rising a thousand feet above the high plateau.

White River National Forest

Nestled in the heart of the Rocky Mountains, the 2.3 million acre White River National Forest is the top recreation Forest in the nation. Home to world-renowned ski resorts and the birthplace of designated wilderness, the White River has something to offer every outdoor enthusiast. Accessible from every town in Garfield County, the White River National Forest is available for one to enjoy such pleasures as camping, ATV riding, fishing, skiing, rock climbing, or a quiet afternoon reading in the forest.

Gold Medal Fly-Fishing

Garfield County is at the center of five world-class rivers, including the Fryingpan, Roaring Fork, White, Crystal, and the Colorado rivers. Because of this proximity, the City of Glenwood Springs has been named Field & Stream's #1 Top Fishing Town. Anglers of all abilities are successful on these rivers, and can enjoy the day fishing from a bank or by taking a guided float trip. Even if fish are not caught, one cannot help but enjoy the views from either the bank or the boat.

Hanging Lake

There's a good reason this is one of the most popular hikes in the state of Colorado. Geologically speaking, there are few places in the world that can compare to this marvel of Mother Nature. Hanging Lake is a rare example of a lake formed by travertine deposition, where the natural geologic and hydrologic processes continue to operate as they have done throughout the history of the lake. The site is also noteworthy for its thriving hanging garden plant community. Because of these qualities, Hanging Lake was designated a National Natural Landmark by the Secretary of the Interior in 2011. Accessed from I-70 at the Hanging Lake exit, get there early, as the parking lot often fills up!

CARBONDALE

Touted as one of the “Best Towns” according to Outside Magazine and “Top-12 Towns” in the “50 Next Greatest Places to Live and Play” by National Geographic Adventure Magazine, Carbondale is a great base camp for recreation enthusiasts. Whether you are looking for a rad skateboarding park, a scenic drive, a mountaineering adventure or a calming yoga class, you can find your adventure of choice either in or near Carbondale. The town of Carbondale provides a Recreation and Community Center in a 13,500 square foot state-of-the-art facility. Carbondale also maintains an outdoor pool that is open during the summer.

Some of Carbondale’s Top-10 “must dos” are found below; however, a more exhaustive list of Carbondale’s recreational assets can be found by visiting www.carbondale.com/activities-recreation.

Epic Hikes and Bike Trails

Whether one is interested in pavement or dirt, wheels or feet, you can explore Red Hill and Mushroom Rock, the Crown Trails, Thompson Creek, or the Lead King Basin Loop – to name just a few. Stop into one of the local bike shops for the skinny on the latest trail conditions. Don’t forget to spend the day upvalley, too. Aspen and Snowmass are only a quick drive upvalley to some of the best mountain biking in the state (not to mention the not-to-miss road bike to the Maroon Bells). When the ground is still covered with snow in

the winter, or in the midst of spring thaw, head to the desert areas of Fruita, Loma or Moab, Utah, where the trails are world-class and just a short drive away.

West Elk Loop Scenic Byway

Once described as “the closest you can come to a wilderness experience in a passenger car,” this route has a unique combination of geological, historical, recreational, and scenic features. Carbondale is the gateway for this stunning route, which traverses 205 miles of spectacular vistas.



Spectacular Golf Courses

Situated at the foot of the majestic Mount Sopris, River Valley Ranch Golf Club is a 520-acre residential golf and resort community nestled in Colorado’s spectacular Crystal River Valley. The rolling valley floor and banks of the Crystal River unite to create a prime landscape, from which to craft a magnificent mountain golf course. With the natural palette of the valley’s riparian corridors, wetlands, grasses, and rolling topography, River Valley Ranch has been heralded as “the new jewel of the Rockies” by Golf Magazine, which named River Valley Ranch to its prestigious “Top 10 You Can Play” listing. In addition, Golfer Magazine featured this well-known golf club in its recent “Best of America’s New Courses” list.

just above the Crystal River, and framed by beautiful aspens and a backdrop of stunning mountains, giving it an undeniable visual appeal.

Historically speaking, the mill was known as the Sheep Mountain Power House, and was located on the Lost Horse Mill site. Today it is known as “The Crystal Mill”. The mill, constructed in 1893, harnessed the river’s flow to power the air compressor housed inside. The mill closed its operations in 1917. Continuing efforts to preserve it have been aided by the Gunnison and Aspen Historical Societies, residents of Crystal and Marble, and interested individuals caught by the spectacle of the old mill.

Hot Springs

No trip to the mountains is complete without a visit to the hot springs. A few miles south of Carbondale are the geothermal pools at Avalanche Ranch. Just down the road from Avalanche Ranch are the Penny Hot Springs, which sit on the banks of the Crystal River. The historic Glenwood Hot Springs are located right off I-70 in Glenwood Springs. Conclude a weekend of epic adventures by soaking away those sore muscles.

The Crystal Mill

The Crystal Mill is located 6 miles east of Marble, just before the ghost town of Crystal. It is reachable only in the summer and fall months by a rough, one-lane, 4-wheel-drive road. The picturesque Crystal Mill is one of the most photographed sites in Colorado. It’s precariously perched on an outcropping of rock





GLENWOOD SPRINGS

At the confluence of the Colorado and Roaring Fork rivers, the historic resort town of Glenwood Springs is famed for the Glenwood Hot Springs Pool, Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park, Glenwood Canyon, Yampah Hot Springs Vapor Caves, and Sunlight Mountain Resort. Not only can one explore underground caverns, pedal miles of riverfront trails, or paddle the whitewater, they can also sample local produce, shop in unique boutiques, or just focus on relaxation.

Today, Glenwood Springs' attractions draw over a 1.5 million visitors each year. Each season offers something unique. The warm summer months provide endless opportunities to raft, kayak, hike, and bike. While the winter snow attracts skiers, riders, snowshoers, and snowmobilers. Swimming and cave exploration are year-round activities.

Though Glenwood Springs offers a plethora of more traditional recreational pursuits, such as its outstanding community center (gym, climbing wall, aquatic center, fitness classes), it also offers outdoor adventures that are both unusual and unique to the area. For an exhaustive resource of recreational activities visit www.visitglenwood.com.

Hot Springs

Home to two hot springs facilities, including the largest mineral hot springs pool in the world, Glenwood Springs has a deep-rooted heritage in the spa and hospitality business. Visionaries of the late 1800s built an internationally known hot springs resort. Travelers from around the globe soaked in the thermal waters, stayed in luxurious hotels, and explored the wonders of subterranean caves. Originally named Yampa ("big medicine") by the native Utes, early pioneers called it "The Grand Spring." As the world's largest mineral-rich hot springs, it has served visitors for thousands of years and is rich with mythic properties for healing and relaxation. Open year-round, the Glenwood Springs

Hot Springs pool is complemented by a 107-room lodge, water slides, mini-golf, athletic club, and the Spa of the Rockies.

In 2014, owners broke ground on the Iron Mountain Hot Springs and the facility opened in the summer of 2015. The Iron Mountain facility includes a large family pool with fresh chlorinated water and 16 smaller pools that are connected by heated walkways. The smaller pools are filled with natural thermal waters and range in temperatures. Set along the bank of the Colorado River, this facility is quickly becoming a choice location for soaking and relaxation.



Glenwood Whitewater Park

The first whitewater park built anywhere on the entire length of the Colorado River, the Glenwood Springs Whitewater Activity Area ("Whitewater Park") has become a destination for paddling enthusiasts from around the globe. The area's river improvements and the creation of the wave were completed in 2008, to the delight of the local and regional paddling and stand-up surfing communities. Depending on river flows, there is the G-wave and also a "hole" at the feature. It is most popular with park users from May through September. It was selected as the site for the 2009 U.S. Freestyle Kayaking Team Trials, and has been getting rave reviews from paddlers ever since. The site regularly convenes top paddlers who test their skills against the powerful current of this manmade wave.

Stand-Up Paddle Boarding

Though the sport has its origins in Hawaiian surfing traditions, SUPing as its known, is much easier to learn, extremely safe and another great way to play on Glenwood Springs' main waterway, the Colorado River. Much less demanding than surfing, paddle boarding is ideally suited to certain stretches of the Colorado River, including the acclaimed Glenwood Whitewater Park with its innovative standing wave. Stand-up boards are larger and more stable than

surfing longboards, and use a paddle for steering.

Yampah Spa Hot Springs Vapor Caves

One of Glenwood Springs' most unusual attractions is also one of its most historic. The underground vapor-filled caverns at the Yampah Spa and Vapor Caves were originally used by the Ute Indians for both healing and rituals. The Yampah Vapor Caves are one of only a few known natural vapor caves in North America. Deep underground mineral-rich steam from the Yampah spring, the same source that barrels water into the Glenwood Hot Springs Pool, seeps into three subterranean chambers and fills them with hot steam.





Glenwood Springs, Colorado

Voted “America’s Most Fun Small Town,”
— Rand McNally & USA Today Travel

Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park

Home to USA Today’s “One of Top-10 Caves in the World,” and one of seven finalists for U.S. Chamber’s 2015 Small Business of the Year Awards, the Glenwood Adventure Park and Fairy Caves is a not-to-be-missed attraction.

The Adventure Park is a western-themed park, where a scenic tram ride to the top of Iron Mountain begins the day of fun. It comes complete with incredible views of the Roaring Fork and Colorado River valleys, and the mountains beyond. The park features several scream-worthy thrill rides, such as the Cliffhanger Roller Coaster, Giant Canyon Swing, Soaring Eagle Zip Ride, and Alpine Coaster. There are also a variety of other kid-friendly attractions and activities the whole family will love.

No visit to Glenwood Springs would be complete without a tour of the Glenwood Caverns and Historic Fairy Caves. Explore an underground landscape millions of years in the making. Learn about the living cavern that’s home to thousands of formations, including stalactites, stalagmites, soda straws, cave bacon and flowstone. Experience the amazing King’s Row, the most highly decorated cave room in Colorado. Rated “One of the Top 10 Places to Go Underground!” There are two 40-minute walking tours appropriate for most ages that depart throughout the day. No reservations are necessary for the walking tours. Longer “Wild Tours” are available with advance reservations.

Paragliding & Skydiving

High-flying adventures abound in Glenwood Springs. Paragliding, sky diving, and the exhilaration of flight are not only for adrenaline junkies! Adults from all walks of life, kids, older folks, and even girls in dresses have been thrilled by these tandem adventures. There’s no experience required and experienced pilots are there to guide the experience over treetops, rivers, and meadows. Drift on invisible currents and take time to savor the views of the magnificent Roaring Fork Valley spread out like a toy landscape below.

Segway Tours

Glide through downtown Glenwood Springs, and along our river trails aboard a Segway Personal Transporter. The leading-edge mobility technology is not only green, it will have you grinning from ear-to-ear as you maneuver around town. Experienced guides will teach you all you need to know about how to operate your personal transporter. Follow their lead and head to some of Glenwood’s most exciting destinations, including overlooks on Red Mountain with some of the best views of the surrounding mountains and town.

Enjoy ice skating with the whole family at the outdoor, covered, NHL-sized rink at the Glenwood Springs Community Center. Open November through March, this facility is coveted as one of the few covered ice rinks in the area. Winter hockey leagues attract players of all skill levels and from as far away as Grand Junction, Colorado.

Disc Golf

Fans of the Colorado Mountain College Spring Valley Campus disc golf course say it’s one of the best courses anywhere. The best part of playing disc golf at the CMC course is the course itself; it has some of the most jaw-dropping views of Mount Sopris and the Elk Range further to the south.

Established and maintained by Sunlight Mountain Inn and the Roaring Fork Disc Golf Club, the newest disc golf course is at Sunlight Ski Resort. The course features a variety of challenges including tight, tree-lined fairways, long uphill tee shots, and huge downhill drives.



New Castle is western Colorado's best kept secret for mountain living, small town charm, and killer outdoor recreation opportunities. New Castle is proud of its 13 developed parks and well-maintained community center. The parks offer residents and visitors a wide range of recreational and social activities, while there are nearly limitless outdoor recreation options at one's doorstep. <http://www.newcastlecolorado.org/things-to-do>

NEW CASTLE

Lakota Canyon Ranch and Golf Club

Lakota Canyon Ranch and Golf Club opened for play in 2004, offering 18 holes of world-class golf with stunning views of rugged western Colorado canyons and natural terrain. Designed by nationally renowned architect, James Engh, Lakota Canyon provides a rare opportunity to enjoy amazing golf at the doorway of some of Colorado's most breathtaking mountain vistas. Lakota Canyon Ranch and Golf Club is open nine months out of the year. It has been named one of "Colorado's Top Golf Courses," and has earned numerous honors. PGA-certified professionals provide management and instruction for individuals and groups.

Four-Wheeling to the Clinetop

New Castle is the gateway to the Flat Tops. One of the most spectacular drives is the four-wheel-drive road to Clinetop Mesa. The one-lane Clinetop Road has many sharp switchbacks, along with opportunities to pull off to admire the views. Near the upper end of the road is the area burned in the fire of 2002. The new growth is testament to the forest recovery process. The road ends on top of the mesa. During the spring mud season the road requires more caution, and the upper half may be blocked by snow long after warm weather has reached lower elevations. In the fall, the road is heavily traveled by hunters, and progress can be considerably impeded. June, July, August and early September are the ideal times to take the drive.

Winter Sports on the Flat Tops

While winter weather in town can be generally mild, there is always plenty of snow just a few miles away. Buford Road (County Road 245) is open all the way to Buford in the summer. In the winter, the road closes at a large parking lot about 17 miles from New Castle. This parking lot accesses both snowshoeing/cross-country

skiing trails, and miles of groomed snowmobiling trails. Well-placed signs point snowmobilers to the west and foot traffic to the east. The snowshoeing trails lead through beautiful stands of aspens and lead to overlooks limited only by the weather conditions.

Horseback Riding

Colorado is horse country. New Castle offers opportunities to learn riding, take guided trail rides, ride in the wilderness, spend a vacation at a ranch with horses, or watch horse shows in an indoor arena. Several local ranches offer arenas for riding lessons, show and special events. Coulter Lake Guest Ranch located in the Flat Tops offers cabins, horseback riding, fishing, and boating, as well as winter recreation activities. The working Porter Ranch in the Alkali Creek Valley just South of New Castle, offers a venue for campers to enjoy horseback riding, fishing, biking, and hiking on thousands of acres.

Camping

Camping opportunities in New Castle range from primitive to luxurious. Elk Creek Campground offers cabins, tent sites and RV sites along beautiful East Elk Creek, with restrooms, showers and laundry facilities. Meadow Lake Campground features 10 campsites, fire grates, trash disposal, and a vault toilet. Meadow Lake is a popular fishing lake, with a boat ramp. Meadow Ridge Campground, located north of Meadow Lake, has 20 campsites, including pull-in, pull-out and pull-through opportunities and wheel chair accessible sites. Spruce Tree Guest Ranch provides charming knotty pine cabins nestled along East Elk Creek. Lastly, there are areas of dispersed camping allowed in both the White River National Forest and on BLM land.





The Town of Silt has 13 developed parks on approximately 13 acres. The town maintains 3.6 miles of trails. With excellent access to public lands, Silt residents and visitors have a variety of outdoor amenities to choose from to enjoy.

Silt River Preserve

In 2009, the town of Silt purchased a 132-acre parcel south of the Colorado River on County Road 346, known as The Silt River Preserve. The town collaborated with Great Outdoors Colorado, the Aspen Valley Land Trust, the Gates Family Foundation, and with other agencies to develop a plan for the property. The preserve is held as a perpetual conservation easement, and is managed as wildlife habitat, open space, and for agricultural purposes. The preserve provides opportunities for naturalist to observe wildlife, birdwatch, and to access the Colorado River.

Three National Forests

White River, Gunnison, and Grand Mesa forests are accessible from the town of Silt. President Theodore Roosevelt is responsible for preserving the lands of all three of these forests. One of the oldest stations, the Cayton Ranger Station, is near Theodore Roosevelt's 1905 hunting camp in present day Grand Mesa National Forest. Visitors can see the one-room school he dedicated, where the German prisoner of war camp was, and visit

other historic sites, or just take pictures of great scenery. Today enjoy, fishing, hunting, camping, picnicking, and spotting wildlife, such as elk, mule deer, mountain lions, black bears, coyotes, foxes, wild turkeys, and pheasants. These, along with scenic photography, are just some of the activities you can enjoy in these forests.

Harvey Gap State Park

Harvey Gap State Park is Silt's backyard playground and is a favorite spot for anglers in winter and summer. Stocked with catfish, largemouth and smallmouth bass, perch, crappie, rainbow trout, tiger muskie and northern pike, there are plenty of options for anglers. Boats with motors of 20 horsepower or less and canoes are welcome. Ice fishing draws anglers to Harvey Gap in the winter. Harvey Gap also offers shaded picnic tables by the water, boating and a swim beach. The 160-acre lake is also ideal for windsurfing and stand-up paddle boarding. Harvey Gap is a day-use area, but overnight camping is available nearby at Rifle Falls State Park and Rifle Gap State Park.

Hiking

New Castle has several in-town trails, and provides easy access to mountain trails. One of the town's unique features is the small mountain which sits in the middle of town. The Mt. Mederis trail, which can be reached from C Avenue, leads across the ridge of the mountain. The Colorow Trail offers a three-mile hike through BLM land north of town pedestrian bridge and Talbott Trail constructed in 2014 provide riverside hiking and biking. Nearby are the trailheads to the East Elk Creek Trail, the Storm King Memorial Trail, the Hadley Gulch Trail and the Cherry Creek Trail. All provide miles of hiking through magnificent wilderness areas with spectacular views. A guide to the trails is available at New Castle Town Hall and on the town website.

Disc Golf

Coal Ridge Park, on the south side of the Colorado River, is home to the Fire Mountain Disc Golf Course.

The 18-hole course is highly-rated by disc golfers, who appreciate its challenging layout, as well as the spectacular river views. Coal Ridge Park is also home to the town's boat ramp for Colorado River access.

Cross-country skiing and snowshoeing

The Buford Road parking lot gives access to a network of snowshoeing and cross country skiing trails. The trails wind through meadows and aspen groves, leading to spectacular outlooks. Turn onto East Elk Creek Road just north of New Castle to enter the White River National Forest. From the parking lot, the trail is unplowed in the winter and provides a great 1 1/4-mile snowshoeing trail to a bridge crossing the creek. Harvey Gap does not maintain cross-country trails, but the entire park is open to skiers all winter. Lakota Canyon Ranch Golf Course is also a great place to cross-country ski and it is open to snowshoers and skiers all winter.



RIFLE

It's no secret why people want to relocate to western Colorado; the quality of life and the surrounding landscape are unmatched. In the heart of the Rocky Mountains, the Colorado River Valley is a mecca for all things outdoors. With eight major alpine ski resorts within an hour's drive, and more than 800,000 acres of back country wilderness in the White River National Forest, western Garfield Colorado residents spend the majority of their free time on their bikes, rafts, kayaks, skis, and climbing ropes.

Rifle and the surrounding area abound with authentic mountain and outdoor activities. From fishing (rivers and lakes, ice fishing and fly-fishing), boating, hunting, golfing, camping, hiking, world-class rock climbing, snowmobiling, snowshoeing, horseback riding, mountain biking, spas, museums, bowling, rodeo, and water skiing, one can nearly do it all in Rifle. The city of Rifle has an active parks and recreation department that has offerings for a variety of ages and skill levels. The city also provides a recreation and workout facility as well as the Art Dague pool and slide.

For a list of other activities in Rifle, visit www.riflechamber.com/tourism; in the meantime, here are a few highlights of the area.



Hunting

Rifle welcomes all types of hunters! Duck and goose hunt on the Colorado River, pack in by horse or ATV to some of the best deer, elk, bear, and lion hunting, or bring your dog to kick up a pheasant or grouse from the tall grass. The Rifle Area Chamber of Commerce hosts a Hunters Welcome Center, so hunters from all over the nation that stop in Rifle have the opportunity to visit with representatives from the US Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Colorado Division of Parks and Wildlife and many more! Hunters can get information on "where the deer & elk are," hunting tips and tricks, lodging, restaurants and businesses that supply all their hunting gadgets and gear! Hunters receive a warm

welcome in town and can find accommodations and dine at Shooters Grill, where they are "Armed and Delicious!"

The Flat Top range, accessed from New Castle via the Buford Road (CR 245), is an exceptional region for hunters. The White River National Forest is open to hunting for elk, mule deer, wild turkeys, black bear and bighorn sheep. Hunting licenses are available locally as are supplies for hunting trips. There are campgrounds near Meadow Lake, a prime hunting location, and dispersed camping is allowed throughout the forest. Hunting information and regulations are available from Colorado Parks and Wildlife.

Centennial Park

Centennial Park, the crown jewel of Rifle, was conceived in 2005 and completed at the end of 2010. This park consists of historical information, a water play area, sundial, amphitheater, and a large, open-grass field. This park has been the recipient of four prestigious awards: 2011 Starburst Award from Colorado Lottery, 2011 CPRA Columbine Award for Park Design, 2011 Downtown Colorado Inc. Award for Best Downtown Park and 2011 Design Concepts Merit Award for Design. This park has been the venue for many new events in Rifle, including the very successful Centennial Concert Series and Market, as well as a Fall Festival, Tree Lighting Ceremony and many others. The park continues to be an icon of Rifle's history and the hub for today's arts and cultural events.





Rock & Ice Climbing

"Simply put, Rifle Mountain Park is the best limestone sport climbing destination in North America."

— Wolverine Publishing

If you're feeling adventurous, Rifle Mountain Park features world-famous rock-climbing and ice-climbing opportunities. Rifle Mountain Park is a narrow box canyon located just 13 miles north of Rifle. The area serves as one of America's premiere sport-climbing destinations, and has been listed by Colorado.com as the "Five Spots Not to Be Missed!" The 2.5 miles of steep limestone walls that comprise Rifle Mountain Park contain a wealth of routes. Most of the routes are for advanced climbers, but a beginning climber can still find plenty to have fun with. The rock-climbing season runs from mid-April through late October. Rifle Mountain Park contains an unbelievable concentration of standard setting climbing. Known for its overhanging enduro-fests, caves and "meat" walls, it's the ultimate rock climber's paradise! With names like Noble's Wife, Call the Cops, Don't-Point-That-Thing-At-Me, Swamp

Monster, and the Anti-Phil Wall; there are over 100 climbing routes.

Rifle Falls State Park

Rifle Falls was listed as one of the 99 Gorgeous Places in Colorado. On a hot summer day, the mist that drifts from the exhilarating gush of water over 70-foot-high limestone cliffs and the dark caves below them in Rifle Falls State Park are a sublime natural air conditioner. It's home to Colorado's only 80-foot triple waterfall. Explore through small limestone caves. RV and tent camping, wonderful trails. Rifle Falls State Park is also considered the perfect wedding setting.

Rifle Gap State Park

Listed as the number 5 in the Top Colorado Summer Cool Downs, the well-maintained swim beach at Rifle Gap State Park is a great place to enjoy pristine water, as well as extraordinary Rocky Mountain views. Landlubbers can head to the nearby Rifle Falls to take in the lush scenery, savor its misty spray or explore the limestone caves.



PARACHUTE/BATTLEMENT MESA



Battlement Mesa Golf Club

Battlement Mesa Golf Club opened in 1987 and has been ranked one of the “Best courses in America You Can Play” by Golf Digest. The routing takes full advantage of the one-of-a-kind setting: a high plains plateau overlooking the Colorado River. The club offers affordable golf vacations and a welcome relief from the atmosphere found not far “up valley” in Vail and Aspen. www.battlementmesagolf.com.

Battlement Mesa Trails

The Battlement Mesa trails provide an opportunity for pedestrian and recreational activity. Within the community of Battlement Mesa an extensive system of paved trails provide access for pedestrians and bicyclists to ride for miles, and enjoy the beauty of the community. From the Battlement Mesa trailhead, one can ride ATVs and enjoy the fantastic scenery of the ride and the sight of the Battlement Reservoirs. The trailhead also provides access to the active individuals to either hike or bike to the top of the battlements.

Grand Mesa Access

At 10,000 feet, Grand Mesa, the largest flat-top mountain in the world, rises more than a mile above the valley floor. Discover aspen and spruce groves, flowered meadows and over 200 cool clear lakes offering fantastic fishing for rainbow, brook and brown trout. Some lakes have boat launches, of which many can be reached from the highway. For the more adventurous, visit the lakes only accessible by four-wheel drive, foot or horseback. Utes called this the “Home of the Departed Spirits” and they brought hostages here after the 1879 Meeker Massacre. Almost entirely within the Grand Mesa National Forest, Grand Mesa has abundant wildlife, making this a popular area for fall hunting. Elk, deer, moose, and many smaller mammals roam the alpine forest. Drive the Grand Mesa Scenic and Historic Byway and tour the changing aspens in the fall.

Cottonwood Park

Cottonwood Park, is an eight-acre park in which special events are held and the community gathers to enjoy the outdoor amenities of the park. The town’s festivities of Grand Valley Days and Oktoberfest are held here annually. The park can be reserved by the public for parties, reunions, weddings, and parties.

Colorado River

The Colorado River flows calmly between the town of Parachute and Battlement Mesa. The river affords many opportunities for recreation, including, a smooth raft/canoe/kayak ride down the river from Cottonwood Park to the Una Bridge or all the way to De Beque. It is ride that is conducive for the entire family.

Fishing/Wildlife

The lake on the Colorado State Department Fish and Wildlife property near Cottonwood Park on the Colorado River provides recreational fishing for all ages. It is a stocked pond and fish are plentiful. In addition, the property is a wildlife and environment refuge. One can sight many species of birds and other wildlife and wetlands abound.

Grand Valley Recreation Center

Located in the heart of Battlement Mesa, the well-maintained and loved Grand Valley Recreation Center offers fitness and martial arts classes, a weight room, an indoor running track, spa, sauna, cardio area, racquetball and tennis courts, as well as an Olympic-sized pool. The facility also has a caterer’s kitchen, meeting rooms, and a game room. Discounted rates are provided for in-district members, including homeowners, renters, and other full-time residents. The recreation center is open to the public.



“Diverse” is an appropriate description for the range of Garfield County’s cultural amenities, as it spans six municipalities and several geographic regions, each with their own identities and influences. While much of the county proudly retains a rural and western culture that harkens back to its farming and ranching roots, gradual urbanization is altering the cultural landscape. This is being accompanied by an influx of modern telecommunications, performing arts centers, and urban transplants seeking rural lifestyles.

As just a flavor of the diversity offered to residents and visitors to the county, performing arts are drawing larger audiences with performance centers like Thunder River Theater Company in Carbondale, the New Space Theater at the CMC Spring Valley campus, and the recently renovated New Ute Theater in Rifle. The many world-class cultural offerings in Aspen and Vail are easily accessible from most areas of the county. These venues provide community and professional theater, programs on literature, politics, visual arts, and a variety of public educational, civic and cultural activities. Colorado Mountain College provides multiple cultural opportunities to students and the public at its various campuses within Garfield County.

Each community within the county has a variety of cultural amenity offerings, ranging from film to rodeo, and from fairs to historic walking tours. This section highlights only a few of the unique and signature events that help give each community its unique flavor and feel.

Cultural Events

GARFIELD COUNTY

Garfield County Fair and Events Center

The Garfield County Fair and Events Center is located in the heart of Rifle, Colorado. With nearly \$2 million in recent improvements the facility consists of a 225-by-140-foot indoor arena, a 250-by-150 foot outdoor arena, 140 stalls, and three meeting rooms/banquet halls. The facility hosts a wide variety of events throughout the year, including rodeo events, such as team roping, barrel racing, and bull-riding. The facility is also used for many agricultural events, such as 4-H, Future Farmers of America (FFA) and other youth functions and houses the Colorado State University extension office. The facility also hosts other diverse events, such as job fairs and expos, private parties and banquets, and carnivals and concerts.

Garfield County Fair and Rodeo

In 2018, the Garfield County Fair celebrates its 80th year. The fair and rodeo, held yearly in late July to early August, features a family rodeo, PRCA ProRodeo, bull riding, parade, a car show, concert, and a demolition derby. Evenings at the fair are concluded with well-known musicians showcased in the facility’s arena.



CARBONDALE

First Fridays

On the first Friday of each month, experience all things Carbondale, including gallery openings, art walks, business open houses, live music and street performers in historic downtown, at the Third Street Center, and along Highway 133.

Mountain Fair

The Carbondale Mountain Fair began in 1972 with 20 booths showcasing local artists and artisans. Today, the Mountain Fair draws over 145 vendors, poised to bring their unique and diverse homemade wares to town each summer. In addition to vendors, Mountain Fair features non-stop entertainment – both in live music and various forms of performing arts. There is a family-area called “The Oasis,” which provides interactive, creative experiences for children, there is also great food; friendly competitions that run the gamut from pie-baking to wood-splitting, and an amazing spirit. That spirit is best evidenced by the over 300 volunteers who come together to run the fair. Throughout the weekend, over 20,000 people pass through from across the state and all over the country. www.carbondalearts.com.

5Point Film Festival

Known as Colorado’s basecamp for adventure, the town of Carbondale is home to the world-renowned 5Point Film Festival, which takes place every April. For those seeking an adventurous kick-off to spring, 5Point weekend is an inspiring time to spend days outside in the mountains, followed by nights viewing the best of adventure filmmaking. Visitors can live out a 5Point adventure of their own, with biking, hiking, and mountain activity all on Carbondale’s doorstep. The town offers a range of accommodations and gourmet dining, rounding out a perfect adventure weekend, during which life can indeed imitate art or film.

The 5Point film festival takes place at the Carbondale Recreation Center, and across downtown Carbondale venues. The four-day-long program includes inspiring short adventure films, special guests, filmmakers, outdoor industry professionals and athletes from across the globe. Established in 2008, 5Point Film is on a mission to inspire adventure of all kinds; connect generations through shared experience; engage passion with a conscience; and educate through film. 5Point also hosts various film events around the country, and organizes the Dream Project, which is an adventure scholarship program for local high school students.

Potato Day

Potato Day is the longest-standing annual community event in Carbondale! Since 1909, local farming and ranching families have kept local traditions alive with a parade, BBQ, potato sack races, and other fun activities that take place in Sopris Park.

Carbondale Wild West Rodeo Season

Billed as “The place to be on Thursday Nights” the Carbondale Wild West Rodeo Association presents a 12-week summer season of authentic rodeo, featuring competitors from across the state and as far away as Texas. Each week, more than 150 contestants compete for the coveted end-of-the-year belt buckle, and weekly prize of \$2,000. The rodeo takes place every Thursday, rain or shine, and is held at the Gus Darien Arena. www.carbondalerodeo.com

New Powers Art Center: a World-Class Arts Center

The Powers Art Center offers a world-class gallery facility set against the backdrop of Mt Sopris. The gallery, which opened doors in 2014, is now open to the public Monday through Thursday, and offers free admission. The center’s permanent exhibits showcase Jasper Johns limited edition works on paper, and with over 300 works in the collection, the Art Center is able to feature 100 works in each exhibition. The Powers Art Center was created in memory of the life of John G. Powers as a museum and study center. The center is a gift to the community and visitors to share Power’s passion and study “Pop Art” through the lens of Jasper Johns. The galleries are supplemented by a library and conference room to facilitate contemplative enjoyment and research of the works. The Powers Art Center is located on a ranch setting near Carbondale. The building itself is a new 15,000-square-foot facility, with state-of-the-art solar electric generation and geothermal heating and cooling, designed by Japanese architect Hiroshi Nanamori. www.powersartcenter.org

True Nature Healing Arts

True Nature Healing Arts is a new sanctuary for health and wellness, featuring one of the only reflexology pathways in the country. The center offers daily yoga and meditation classes. The petit spa offers a selection of wellness massages, body treatments, facials and holistic treatments. The sanctuary’s design incorporates Feng Shui principles, eco-friendly materials, solar panels, local artisan crafts and architectural antiquities from Afghanistan, India, Pakistan and Morocco – all creating spaces that transcend time. The High Prana food kitchen serves the vegetarian, paleo, and raw food communities, featuring items such as medicinal loose-leaf teas, coffee, chai, cold-pressed juices, gourmet meals, soups, snacks, and special desserts just to name a few. www.truenaturehealingarts.com.

GLENWOOD SPRINGS

The community of Glenwood Springs is highly engaged in all of the arts, as is evidenced by the National Center for Arts Research ranking Glenwood Springs the number one “Vibrant Medium and Small Cities for the Arts.”

Strawberry Days

Strawberry Days is the oldest community festival west of the Mississippi River. Starting in 1898, Strawberry Days now includes music, a fine arts fair, carnival, food, interactive entertainment, and FamilyFest. In addition, the annual Saturday parade down Grand Avenue culminates at Strawberry (Sayre) Park with free strawberries and ice cream.

Free Summer Music Performances

The community funds and supports live music performances. Included in this are free music concerts at the Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park and at Two Rivers Park. Two Rivers Park hosts music on select Wednesday nights through the summer. The caverns’ Music on the Mountain Series offers “a can for a tram,” where the donation of a canned good for the needy gets a free tram ride to the concert.

Downtown Market

Tuesday evenings, until nearly dark, are the time to shop for your local produce and enjoy the distinct community of Glenwood Springs. The Downtown Market is open mid-June through September and is an open-air market featuring farm-fresh produce, hand-

made arts and crafts, Colorado wine and tastings, live music, cooking demonstrations, and more.

Historic Ghost Walk/Linwood Cemetery

Three weekends each October, the Frontier Historical Society and Museum present a ghostly visit to the past. Guides take participants by lantern light through Linwood Cemetery, where actors portray people who lived in Glenwood Springs 100 years ago, including gunslinger and dentist, John Henry “Doc” Holliday.

Glenwood Vaudeville Revue

Since the late 1800s, vaudeville variety shows have entertained audiences with song, dance, magic, comedy and all-around silliness. One hundred years ago, Vaudeville was the only entertainment available in the west. Acts traveled around the country performing in quaint theaters, and were often the highlight of the year. The Glenwood Vaudeville Revue revives this time-honored tradition at the site of the former Springs Theatre, 915 Grand Avenue.

Amtrak Train Depot

Enjoy the relaxed pace of train travel and a visit to the historic train depot. Amtrak has year-round daily arrivals into Glenwood Springs from various points throughout the west and midwest. The California Zephyr travels from Chicago to San Francisco, with stops in Denver and Grand Junction.

NEW CASTLE

Burning Mountain Festival

The Burning Mountain Festival has been a New Castle tradition since 1973. Originally sponsored by the New Castle Branch Library, the festival is now sponsored by the town, with the help of generous volunteers.

The Burning Mountain Festival is New Castle’s signature event. It is a small town’s celebration of summer, friends, family, and tradition. Neighbors from near and far are encouraged to join in the fun. Taking place over two days in early September, the festival celebrates the town’s mining history and is named for the iconic mountain in which a coal seam still burns. The festival includes a parade, musical performances in Burning Mountain Park, craft and food vendors, pancake breakfast, classic car show, kid’s carnival, and new activities each year.

Founders Day Celebration

In February, the town gathers to honor the anniversary of its founding in 1888. The event features stories from New Castle’s history, along with an old-fashioned

potluck with foods that were popular in the 1880s, and live music.

Community Market

The New Castle Community Market begins in July and continues through September. The market has many regular vendors who sell fresh produce, food and a variety of hand-crafted products. The Community Market generally starts in early July and continues until the end of September. It is held every Thursday in Burning Mountain Park. There are also booths available for non-profit and civic groups to disperse information or offer demonstrations. Local musicians perform at each market.

Chili Cookoff

Not just an opportunity to sample a wide variety of chilies, New Castle’s Chili Cookoff is the town’s annual winter celebration. In early December, crowds gather in Burning Mountain Park to eat chili, sample local beer, enjoy musical entertainment, and light the Christmas tree.

SILT

Silt Historical Park

The Silt Historical Park emphasizes life as it was when Silt was founded a century ago. The historical park features Chautauqua annually in May, at which time the park is manned with storytellers and demonstrators to educate and entertain the public for two days.

Stoney Ridge Pavilion - Party at the Pavilion

The Town of Silt built the Stoney Ridge Pavilion in 2011, to the north of the Stoney Ridge Recreational Ball Field. The outfield is used as the seating area, where patrons bring a chair or blanket (no fixed seating). The Stoney Ridge Pavilion is a 40-foot-wide by 26-foot-deep concrete concert stage, with a permanent roof constructed of wooden beams and trusses. It was designed to structurally support a professional sound/light system. During the summer, the town hosts Party at the Pavilion, where live music is featured in the evenings. A variety of music including blues/jazz, ’80s rock tribute, country, and stand-up comedy is part of the regular summer line-up.

Movie Night in the Park

Residents and visitors are invited to bring a blanket and chair to Town Park to watch a movie on the big screen. Movies in the park are a great way to get out, meet fellow residents and enjoy the offerings of a small town. Movies start at dark and concessions are available for purchase.

Emily Johnson Play-it-Forward Soccer Tournament

The Annual Emily Johnson Play it Forward 3v3 Soccer Tournament is held every year in June at Gates Soccer Park on CMC’s Spring Valley campus. Fifty teams of six players complete on boys and girls teams, as well as co-ed adult teams in both recreational and competitive divisions. The tournament honors the passion of Emily Johnson, an amazing Coal Ridge soccer player who was tragically killed in an ATV accident in November 2008. All proceeds support three scholarships given to local high school seniors in Emily’s name.



RIFLE

Rifle Rendezvous

The Rifle Rendezvous is an annual event in Rifle that celebrates the local history, and provides culture and entertainment for the Western Slope of Colorado. A rendezvous is a place where people of all cultures can assemble and exchange their wares, goods, values, and ideas. The rendezvous serves as the perfect place to bring together people of all ages and heritages, who have helped pioneer the mountains and valleys of western Colorado, both yesterday and today. It is a place where people can come together as friends and acquaintances and accept and understand one another, while having fun.

Chili Cook-off

Held in October each year, the annual Chili Cook-off and Jalapeno-Eating Contest is held in the Garfield County Fairgrounds and Event Center. The 2018 event celebrated its 40th year. Participants are invited to come and taste the best red chili, green chili, salsa, and guacamole in western Colorado. Prizes are awarded for Grand Champion, Reserve Grand Champion, Showmanship, and People's Choice.

Ice Fishing Tournament

Every January, the Rifle Area Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with Colorado State Parks and Wildlife and other local businesses, hosts an Ice Fishing Tournament at Rifle Gap. Cash prizes are awarded for 1st through 5th place for adults over 18 for rainbow trout, brown trout and yellow perch. Prizes are also awarded for youth 17 and younger.

Ute Theatre and Event Center

The city of Rifle is proud to have restored and reopened the Ute Theater & Events Center in the heart of downtown Rifle. Operated by the city, the facility is a state-of-the-art theatre and events center, offering a space to gather, host events, produce cultural programming, and entertain. The Ute Theater & Event Center provides amenities, such as on-site sound and lighting equipment, stage, dressing rooms, tables or audience seating, and concession area.

PARACHUTE BATTLEMENT MESA

Winter Fest

The first Annual Battlement Mesa Winter Fest was held in 2013. Since then, it has become an annual event, that takes place at the Battlement Mesa Golf Course and the Town Plaza. Friends and neighbors of all ages gather together for seasonal celebration, featuring ice fishing, a parade of lights, middle and high school royalty, a hay ride, bonfire, food and beverages, dances, and other events.



Oktoberfest

Battlement Mesa and Parachute jointly host Oktoberfest in Parachute's Cottonwood Park. The annual early-October event features food, fun, and fireworks. Other fun family offerings have included a zip line, hamster balls, bungee trampoline, bounce houses, and cotton candy. A nationally known country western line-up performs at a concert on the Friday evening before the Saturday activities. The event continues to grow and is anticipated to soon become a signature event on the I-70 corridor.

Grand Valley Days

The Grand Valley Parks Association hosts the annual Grand Valley Days in Parachute. The event is a community celebration, commemorating the traditional western roots of the area. The event includes a two-night rodeo and a Saturday morning parade that brings the community out to celebrate.

Community Classic Golf Tournament

The Battlement Mesa / Parachute Community Classic Golf Tournament is held annually in September. Battlement Mesa Golf Course hosts the event. The event is a 4-person scramble, shotgun start, which makes it fun for both the skilled and the novice golfer.

Movies Under the Stars

Hosted by the Grand Valley Recreation Center, free movies are shown on the lawn at the Grand Valley Recreation Center. Movies play on four nights each summer and begin at dusk.

National Night Out

Battlement Mesa's National Night Out, sponsored by the Garfield County Sheriff's Office and Battlement Mesa Service Association, is always the first Tuesday of August in the Town Plaza in Battlement Mesa.



Page	Description
cover	Climber in Glenwood Canyon – David Clifford
4	Solo climber with summit – David Clifford
6 - 7	Roaring Fork River and Mount Sopris – David Clifford
8 - 9	Garfield County historical images – Frontier Historical Society
11	Youth car wash – Kelley Cox
12	Group rafting on the Colorado River – Kelley Cox
14 - 15	Family on mountain top with Jeep – David Clifford
16	Carbondale sculpture at night – Renelle Lott
	Town of Carbondale with Mount Sopris in background – Scot Gerdes
17	Woman running near Carbondale – David Clifford
18 - 19	Young ballerinas in dance studio – Kelley Cox
	Glenwood Springs panorama – Glenwood Springs Chamber Resort Association
19	Kayak competition on the Colorado River – Kelley Cox
20	Parade in downtown New Castle – Kelley Cox
	Young men playing basketball outside – Kelley Cox
21	Cub Scout camp fishing along river – Kelley Cox
22	Aerial view of the Town of Silt – Scot Gerdes
22 - 23	Horses along the Colorado River during winter – David Clifford
23	Garfield County Commissioners and Silt town administrators – David Suminski
24	Man on horse with American flag – Kelley Cox
25	Ice climber at Rifle Mountain Park – Kelley Cox
	Runners during the Law Enforcement Torch Run – Sean Strode
	Family celebrating at the Garfield County Fair & Rodeo – Darcy Copeland
26	Historic barn and drilling rig – Ryan Mackley
26 - 27	Wingsuit jumping from the Roan Plateau – David Clifford
28	Glenwood Hot Springs Pool along Interstate 70 – Glenwood Hot Springs
29	Private jet taking-off at the Rifle Garfield County Airport – Brian Condie
30	Visitors waiting to board the train – Kelley Cox
32	Cyclists on Rio Grande trail – Jack Affleck
32 - 33	Man riding mountain bike on single track trail – David Clifford
37	School children and teachers at a playground – Kelley Cox
38	Girls playing guitar at the public library – Chasing Fireflies Photography
42	restaurants and shopping downtown –
49	Aerial view of a gas pad in Garfield County – photographer unknown at press time
50	Gas well pad in Garfield County – Kirby Wynn
52	Celebrating the completion of the Carbondale solar array – CLEER Energy
53	Group of snowmobilers – Kelley Cox
54	Tractor making hay in front of the Bookcliffs – Kelley Cox
54 - 55	Hayfield with fence – Ryan Mackley
56	Construction with planes in background – Sean Strode
	Construction of new airplane hanger – Sean Strode
57	Colorado Governor John Hickenlooper cuts the ribbon for the Center of Excellence for Advanced Technology
	Aerial firefighting – Sean Strode
58	Valley View Hospital in Glenwood Springs – Valley View Hospital
	Grand River Health in Rifle – Grand River Health
60	Friend of the Seniors award winner, Bobbie Dungan – Sean Strode
62	Powder skiing at Sunlight Ski Mountain – Todd Patrick
63	Elk during winter in Garfield County – Ryan Mackley
64	Friends mountain biking near Carbondale – Ann Driggers
65	Man fly fishing on river during fall – Todd Patrick
	The Crystal Mill in Marble, Colorado – stock image
66	Family at the Glenwood Hot Springs Pool – Glenwood Hot Springs
67	Glenwood Hot Springs pool at night during winter – Glenwood Hot Springs
	Stand up paddle boarders on the Colorado River – Todd Patrick
68	Family during a cave tour at Glenwood Caverns – Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park
69	Kids riding the Glenwood Canyon Flyer at Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park– Kelley Cox
70	Campfire – Kelley Cox
72	Lakota Canyon Ranch and Golf Club – Lakota Canyon Ranch
73	Couple 4-wheeling in the mountains with a rainbow – David Clifford
74	Herd of elk on the Flat Tops – Ryan Mackley
75	Girl playing in water at Centennial Park – Ryan Mackley
	Water skiing at Rifle Gap State Park – Kelley Cox
76	Rock climbing at Rifle Mountain Park – David Clifford
77	Rifle Falls State Park riparian area – Ryan Mackley
78	Views from the front nine in Battlement Mesa – Battlement Mesa Golf Club
79	Grand Valley Recreation Center in Battlement Mesa – Renelle Lott
80	Woman on show horse – Brett Morrison
82	Parade – Robin Proctor
84	Young man holding fish in winter – Rifle Area Chamber of Commerce
85	Cowboy roping calf – Lynn Shore
86	Two eagles at nest – Kelley Cox



PHOTOGRAPHER CREDITS

© Copyright statement
This County Profile is a document created by Garfield County Communications staff with data and information for the use by businesses, citizens and visitors to the county, as well as for economic development groups. Most of the photos in the profile are copyrighted and solely owned by professional photographers, and are not licensed for use or distribution to or by third parties. The photographers are named above, and the county invites you to contact them to pursue licensing opportunities. Photos taken by county staff are available for community use.



GARFIELD COUNTY

www.garfield-county.com

COLORADO