



Rockies Baseline

Vital Signs for a Region in Transition

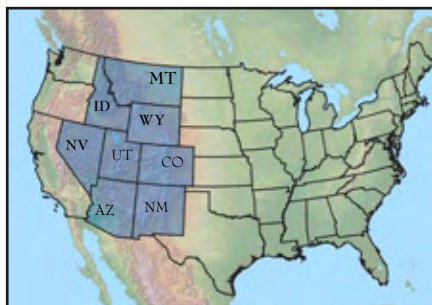
By Elizabeth Kolbe and David Carlson

THE 2009 COLORADO COLLEGE STATE OF THE ROCKIES REPORT CARD

Each year, the Colorado College *State of the Rockies Report Card* updates the Rockies Baseline. This brief, data-rich section highlights the key statistics of the Rockies' states, the region, and the nation. Like a yearly check-up on a growing body, the baseline inventories the vital signs for a growing and changing region.

Most of the trends and statistics reported in this year's baseline mimic those reported in years past. The statistics that stand out year after year not only emphasize the unique qualities of our region, but show the effects of our relatively new growth.

Looking at the region as a whole, our population is young and continues to grow faster than the national average. More of our students graduate from high school, and we have just as many students completing college, graduate, and professional degrees as the rest of the country. Our median home value is higher than



the nation's, and our median rent is lower. Though still lower than the national average, our household, family, and per capita incomes are growing at a faster rate. Every category of employment except one has grown faster in the Rockies since 2000.

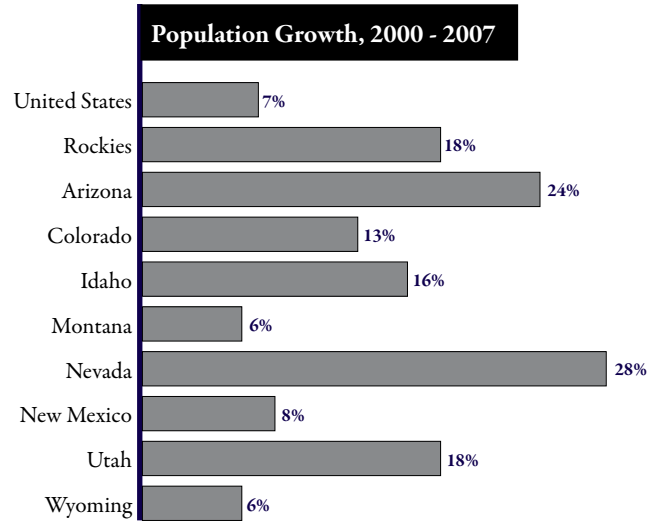
Most of the statistics reported in this year's baseline are encouraging, but a few present opportunities for improvement. Though a higher percentage of women graduate from high school in the Rockies, the gap between men and women in higher education is wider than the rest of the nation. Also, as incomes for every group in Montana and Wyoming boom, Utah has shown no change in household income since 2000 and Colorado's household income has decreased during the same interval.

As we transition into a new economic and political era, the State of the Rockies Project will continue monitor the pulse of the region.

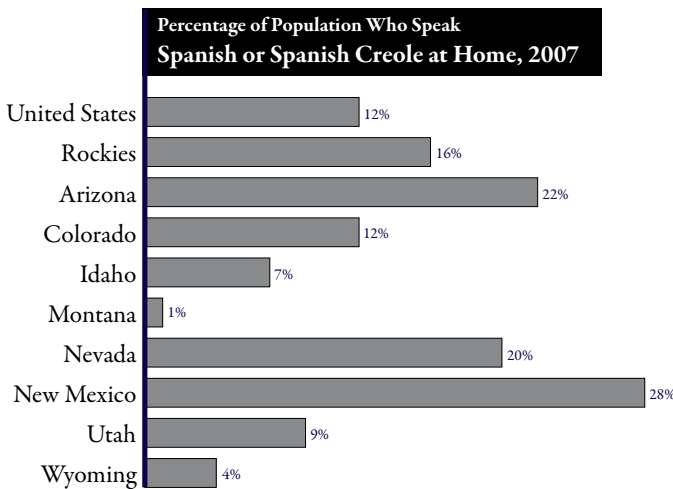
About the authors: Elizabeth Kolbe (Colorado College '08) is co-editor of the State of the Rockies Report Card, and program coordinator for the Colorado College State of the Rockies Project. David Carlson (Colorado College '10) is a 2009 Student Intern for the Rockies Project.

Population & Age, 2007

	Total Population, 2007	Population Growth since 2000	Percentage of Population Age 0 - 17	Percentage of Population Age 65+	Median Age
United States	301,621,159	7%	25%	13%	37
Rockies	21,360,990	18%	26%	11%	35
Arizona	6,338,755	24%	26%	13%	35
Colorado	4,861,515	13%	25%	10%	36
Idaho	1,499,402	16%	27%	12%	34
Montana	957,861	6%	23%	14%	39
Nevada	2,565,382	28%	26%	11%	36
New Mexico	1,969,915	8%	25%	13%	36
Utah	2,645,330	18%	31%	9%	28
Wyoming	522,830	6%	24%	12%	37



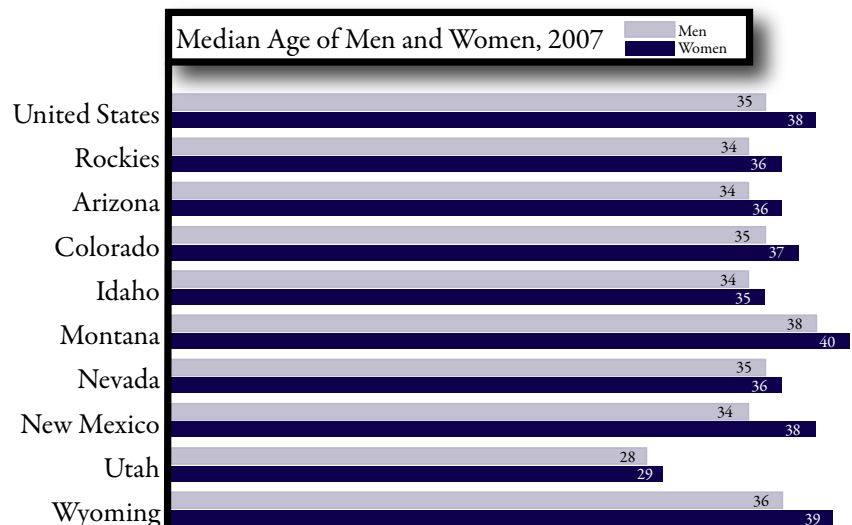
Language, 2000 and 2007



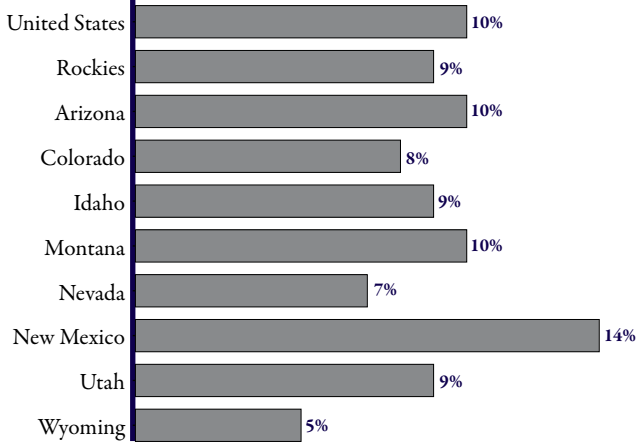
	Percentage of population age 5 and older who speak the following language at home	English Only, 2007	Language other than English, 2007	Language other than English, 2000
United States		80%	20%	18%
Rockies		78%	22%	20%
Arizona		72%	28%	26%
Colorado		83%	17%	15%
Idaho		90%	10%	9%
Montana		96%	4%	5%
Nevada		73%	27%	23%
New Mexico		64%	36%	37%
Utah		86%	14%	13%
Wyoming		94%	6%	6%

People in Poverty

	2000	2007
United States	12%	13%
Rockies	12%	12%
Arizona	14%	14%
Colorado	9%	12%
Idaho	11%	12%
Montana	14%	14%
Nevada	10%	10%
New Mexico	18%	18%
Utah	9%	10%
Wyoming	11%	9%



Percentage of Families in Poverty, 2007



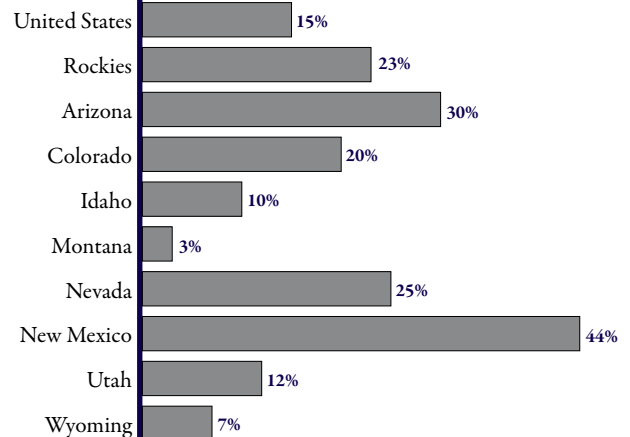
Families in Poverty with Children Under 18, 2007

Percentage of the Following Groups Whose Income in the Past 12 Months is Below the Poverty Level	Percentage of Families		
	All Families	Married-Couple Families	Female Householder, No Husband Present
United States	15%	6%	37%
Rockies	14%	7%	36%
Arizona	16%	8%	35%
Colorado	13%	7%	34%
Idaho	13%	7%	38%
Montana	17%	9%	44%
Nevada	11%	5%	29%
New Mexico	22%	11%	46%
Utah	10%	5%	33%
Wyoming	9%	3%	26%

Race and Ethnicity, 2007

Percentage of the Population Who Identify as the Following	American Indian or Alaska Native	Black or African American	Hispanic or Latino	White
United States	1%	13%	15%	74%
Rockies	3%	4%	23%	81%
Arizona	4%	4%	30%	76%
Colorado	1%	5%	20%	84%
Idaho	1%	1%	10%	92%
Montana	6%	1%	3%	90%
Nevada	1%	8%	25%	74%
New Mexico	9%	3%	44%	69%
Utah	1%	1%	12%	90%
Wyoming	3%	2%	7%	92%

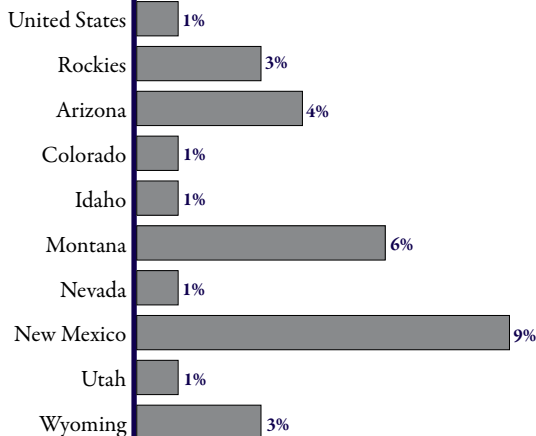
Percentage of people who identify as Hispanic or Latino, 2007



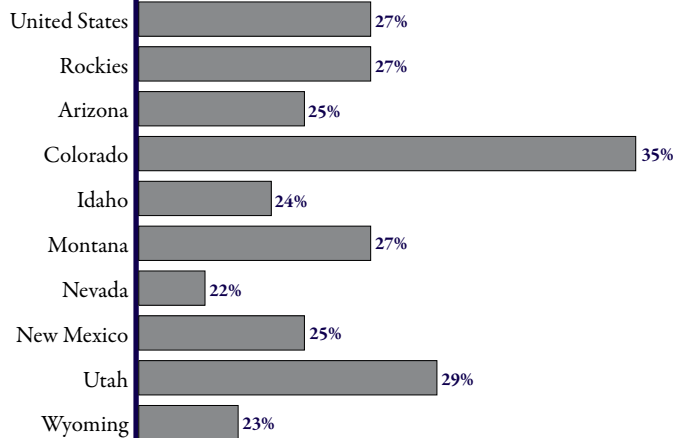
Foreign Born Population, Citizenship Status, and Year of Entry, 2007

	Total Population Foreign Born	Percentage Foreign Born of Total U.S. Population	Percentage of Foreign born that are naturalized U.S. citizens	Percentage of foreign born that are not U.S. citizens	Percentage of foreign born that entered before 2000	Percentage of foreign born that entered 2000 or later
United States	38,059,694	13%	43%	57%	72%	28%
Rockies	2,489,589	12%	33%	67%	68%	32%
Arizona	991,584	16%	30%	70%	66%	34%
Colorado	485,170	10%	32%	68%	67%	33%
Idaho	83,904	6%	35%	65%	72%	28%
Montana	16,057	2%	55%	45%	75%	25%
Nevada	497,821	19%	38%	62%	71%	29%
New Mexico	182,936	9%	33%	67%	73%	27%
Utah	215,757	8%	33%	67%	62%	38%
Wyoming	16,360	3%	37%	63%	64%	36%

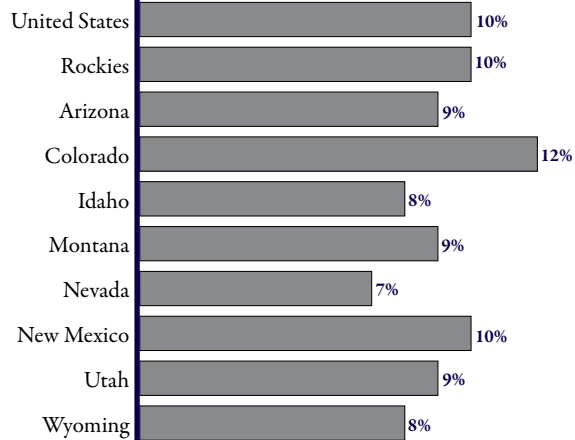
Percentage of people who identify as only American Indian or Alaska Native, 2007



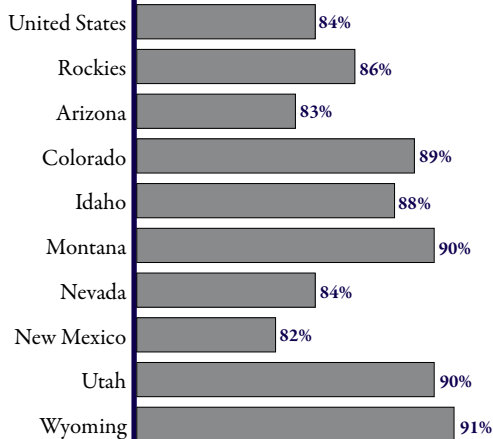
Percentage of population 25 and older who at least earned a Bachelor's Degree, 2007



Percentage of population 25 and older with at least a Graduate or Professional Degree, 2007



Percentage of population 25 and older who at least Graduated High School, 2007



Home Values and Costs, 2007

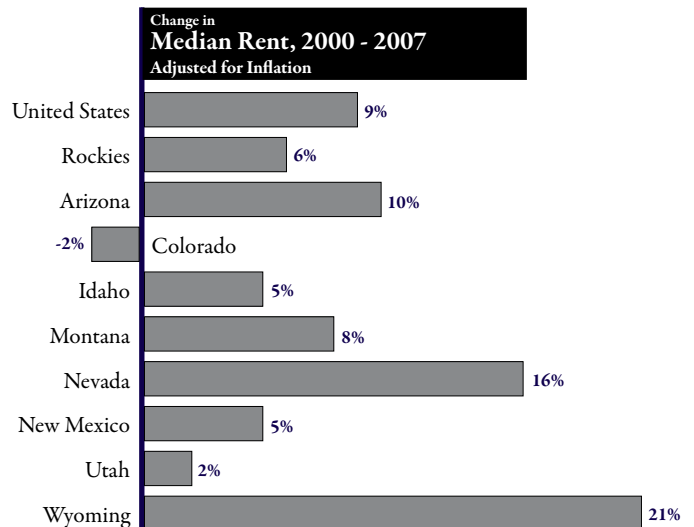
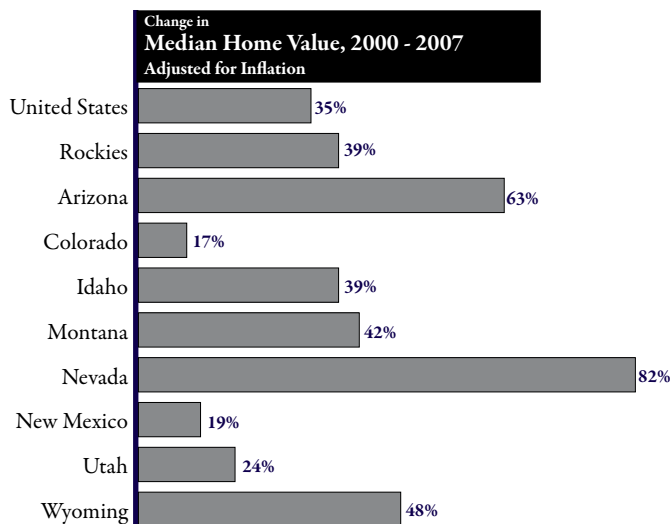
	Median home value for owner-occupied units, 2007	Median monthly costs for housing units with mortgage	Median monthly costs for housing units without mortgage	Median rent, 2007
United States	\$194,300	\$1,464	\$407	\$789
Rockies	\$225,000	\$1,435	\$338	\$783
Arizona	\$237,700	\$1,464	\$334	\$819
Colorado	\$233,900	\$1,569	\$361	\$788
Idaho	\$178,100	\$1,162	\$302	\$654
Montana	\$170,000	\$1,141	\$352	\$579
Nevada	\$311,300	\$1,779	\$427	\$980
New Mexico	\$155,400	\$1,130	\$284	\$637
Utah	\$218,700	\$1,358	\$340	\$733
Wyoming	\$172,300	\$1,162	\$323	\$636

Educational Attainment by Sex, 2007

Percentage of the Following groups who at Least:	Graduated High School		Earned a Bachelor's Degree		Earned a Graduate or Professional Degree	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
United States	84%	85%	28%	27%	11%	10%
Rockies	86%	87%	28%	26%	11%	9%
Arizona	83%	84%	26%	24%	10%	9%
Colorado	88%	89%	36%	34%	13%	12%
Idaho	88%	89%	26%	23%	9%	6%
Montana	90%	90%	28%	26%	10%	8%
Nevada	84%	84%	22%	21%	8%	7%
New Mexico	82%	83%	25%	25%	11%	10%
Utah	90%	90%	32%	26%	12%	7%
Wyoming	91%	91%	24%	23%	8%	7%

Housing Units, 2007

	Total Occupied Housing Units	Owner-occupied Units as a Percentage of Occupied Housing Units	Renter-occupied Units as a Percentage of Occupied Housing Units	Percentage of Renter-occupied that are Nonfamily Households	Percentage Vacant of Total Housing Units
United States	112,377,977	67%	33%	48%	12%
Rockies	7,774,402	68%	32%	47%	14%
Arizona	2,251,546	68%	32%	47%	16%
Colorado	1,859,965	69%	31%	52%	13%
Idaho	560,567	72%	28%	44%	11%
Montana	371,954	70%	30%	54%	15%
Nevada	954,067	60%	40%	44%	13%
New Mexico	734,847	70%	30%	48%	15%
Utah	835,320	72%	28%	40%	10%
Wyoming	206,136	69%	31%	52%	15%



Household Income by Type, 2007

Adjusted for Inflation. Means found using the population receiving each income type.

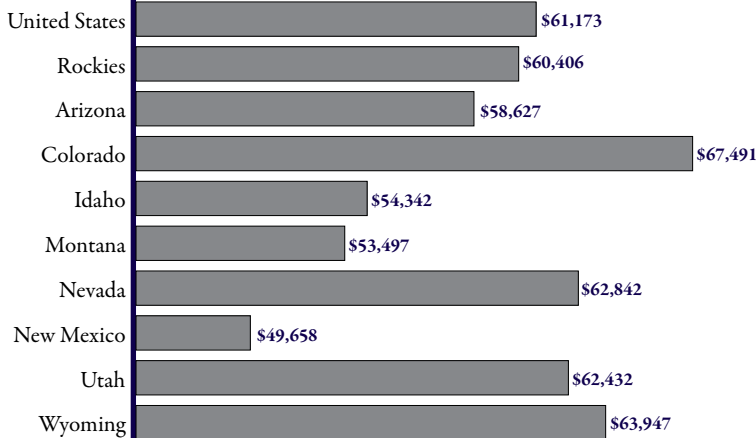
	Mean Earnings, 2007	Mean Earnings, Change Since 2000	Mean Social Security Income, 2007	Mean Social Security Income, Change Since 2000	Mean Retirement Income, 2007	Mean Retirement Income, Change Since 2000	Mean Supplemental Security Income, 2007	Mean Supplemental Security Income, Change Since 2000	Mean Cash Public Assistance Income, 2007	Mean Cash Public Assistance Income, Change Since 2000
United States	\$69,972	24%	\$14,493	28%	\$20,362	17%	\$7,757	23%	\$3,247	7%
Rockies	\$66,003	25%	\$14,581	28%	\$22,033	22%	\$7,869	24%	\$2,922	13%
Arizona	\$66,280	43%	\$15,066	33%	\$22,456	42%	\$8,183	34%	\$3,122	71%
Colorado	\$71,082	35%	\$14,164	18%	\$24,164	32%	\$7,566	16%	\$3,142	21%
Idaho	\$59,684	1%	\$14,755	34%	\$18,712	-3%	\$7,818	24%	\$1,963	-19%
Montana	\$54,234	35%	\$14,084	27%	\$18,649	23%	\$7,238	18%	\$2,148	-12%
Nevada	\$70,481	27%	\$14,570	28%	\$22,895	23%	\$8,974	31%	\$3,308	18%
New Mexico	\$55,060	25%	\$13,523	28%	\$20,968	13%	\$6,978	19%	\$2,646	-8%
Utah	\$66,977	22%	\$15,281	29%	\$21,213	20%	\$7,972	21%	\$2,845	-1%
Wyoming	\$65,687	45%	\$14,187	25%	\$17,910	10%	\$7,444	13%	\$3,283	37%

Income, 2007

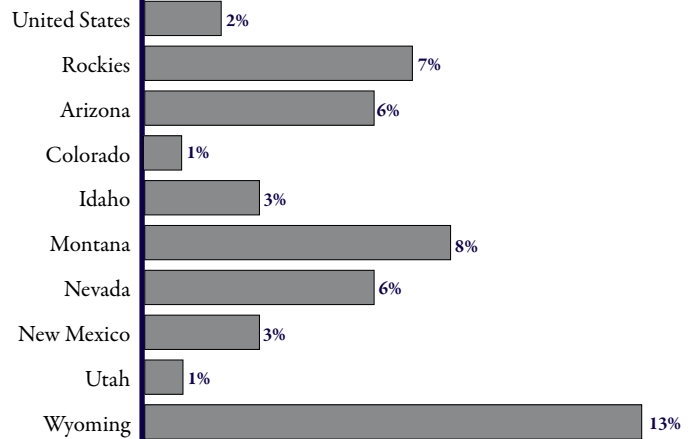
Adjusted for Inflation

	Median Household Income, 2007	Change in Median Household Income Since 2000	Mean Household Income, 2007	Median Family Income, 2007	Change in Median Family Income Since 2000	Mean Family Income, 2007	Per Capita Income, 2007	Change in Per Capita Income Since 2000
United States	\$50,740	1%	\$69,193	\$61,173	2%	\$80,265	\$26,688	3%
Rockies	\$50,918	2%	\$67,102	\$60,406	4%	\$76,885	\$25,463	4%
Arizona	\$49,889	3%	\$66,132	\$58,627	5%	\$75,786	\$24,811	2%
Colorado	\$55,212	-3%	\$73,037	\$67,491	1%	\$85,583	\$29,133	1%
Idaho	\$46,253	3%	\$60,595	\$54,342	4%	\$68,835	\$23,105	8%
Montana	\$43,531	10%	\$56,165	\$53,497	10%	\$66,227	\$22,937	11%
Nevada	\$55,062	3%	\$72,518	\$62,842	3%	\$81,398	\$27,729	5%
New Mexico	\$41,452	1%	\$56,170	\$49,658	5%	\$63,945	\$21,822	5%
Utah	\$55,109	0%	\$69,014	\$62,432	2%	\$76,630	\$22,603	4%
Wyoming	\$51,731	14%	\$67,721	\$63,947	17%	\$80,576	\$27,687	21%

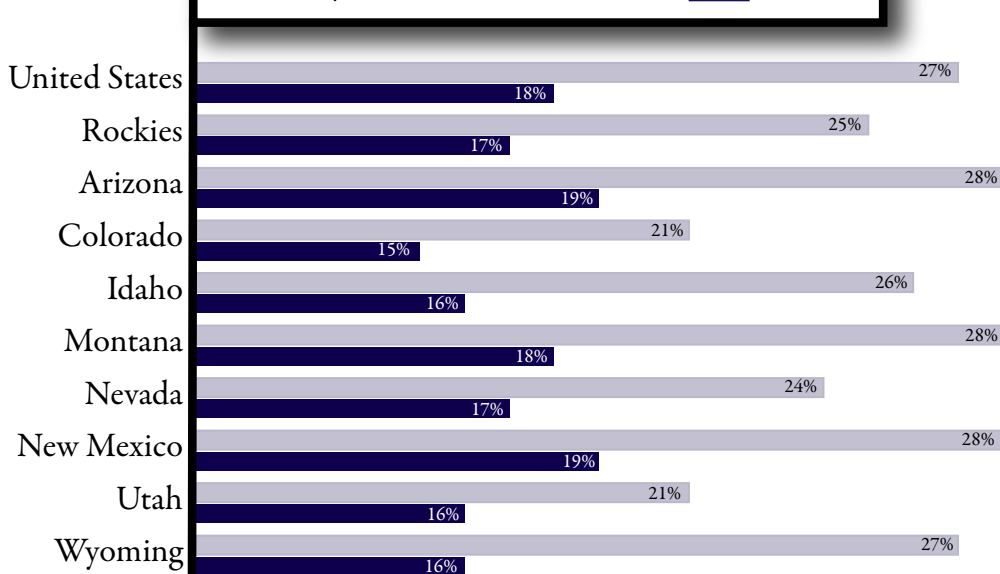
Median Family Income in the Past 12 Months, 2007
Adjusted for Inflation



Change in Median Family Income, 2000 - 2007
Adjusted for Inflation



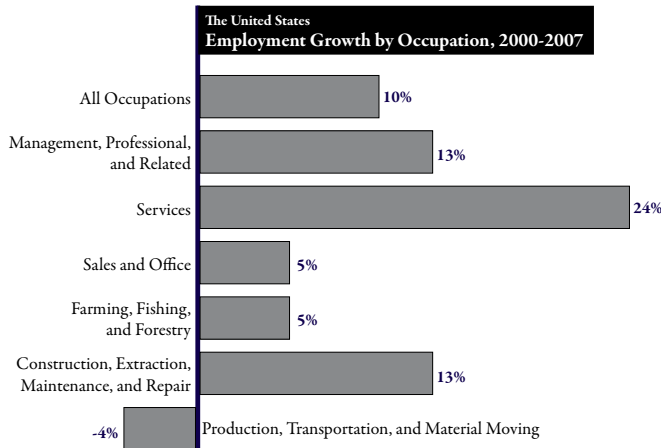
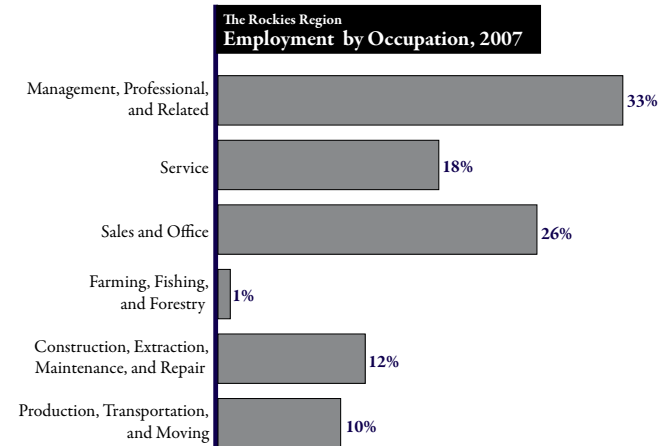
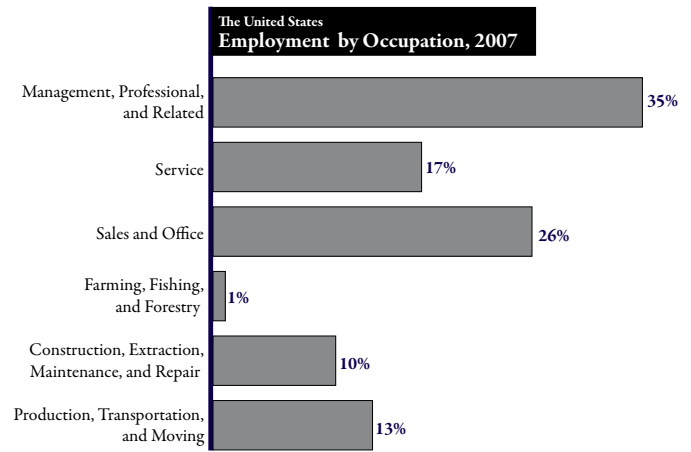
Percentage of People Receiving Social Security Income, Retirement Income, 2007



From the American Community Survey, 2007: Retirement income includes: (1) retirement pensions and survivor benefits from a former employer; labor union; or federal, state, or local government; and the U.S. military; (2) disability income from companies or unions; federal, state, or local government; and the U.S. military; (3) periodic receipts from annuities and insurance; and (4) regular income from IRA and Keogh plans. This does not include Social Security income.

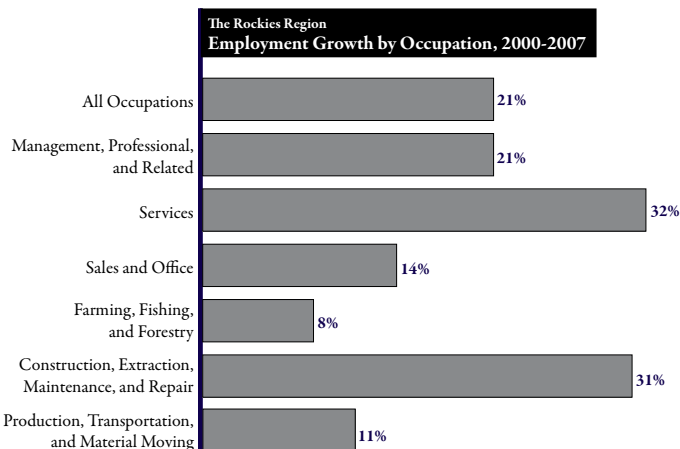
Employment by Occupation, 2007

Percentage of Civilian Population 16 and Older in the Following Occupations	Management, Professional, and Related	Service	Sales and Office	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	Construction, Extraction, Maintenance, and Repair	Production, Transportation, and Material Moving	Employed Civilian Population 16 and Older
United States	35%	17%	26%	1%	10%	13%	142,588,118
Rockies	33%	18%	26%	1%	12%	10%	10,197,295
Arizona	33%	18%	26%	1%	12%	10%	2,839,644
Colorado	37%	16%	25%	1%	11%	10%	2,489,006
Idaho	33%	15%	25%	2%	12%	13%	714,072
Montana	32%	18%	25%	2%	12%	10%	469,972
Nevada	27%	25%	26%	0%	12%	10%	1,247,341
New Mexico	34%	18%	24%	1%	12%	10%	885,283
Utah	33%	14%	28%	0%	11%	12%	1,273,013
Wyoming	30%	17%	23%	1%	15%	13%	278,964



Employment Growth by Occupation, 2000 - 2007

	Management, Professional, and Related	Service	Sales and Office	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	Construction, Extraction, Maintenance, and Repair	Production, Transportation, and Material Moving	All Occupations
United States	13%	24%	5%	5%	13%	-4%	10%
Rockies	21%	32%	14%	8%	31%	11%	21%
Arizona	28%	42%	18%	18%	41%	13%	27%
Colorado	13%	30%	5%	26%	18%	5%	13%
Idaho	24%	15%	16%	9%	33%	10%	19%
Montana	8%	17%	10%	-16%	22%	3%	10%
Nevada	38%	37%	24%	2%	43%	31%	34%
New Mexico	16%	26%	9%	11%	26%	6%	16%
Utah	25%	26%	19%	-4%	31%	11%	22%
Wyoming	17%	21%	10%	-20%	21%	15%	16%



Employment by Industry, 2007

<i>Percentage of Civilian Population 16 and Older Employed in the Following Industries</i>	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing/Hunting, and Mining	Construction	Manufacturing	Wholesale Trade	Retail Trade	Transportation/Warehousing, and Utilities	Information	Finance/Insurance, and Real Estate/Rental/Leasing	Professional, Scientific/Management, and Administrative/Waste Management Services	Educational Services, and Health Care/Social Assistance	Arts, Entertainment/Recreation, and Accommodation/Food Services	Other Services, (Except Public Administration)	Public Administration
United States	2%	8%	11%	3%	11%	5%	2%	7%	10%	21%	9%	5%	5%
Rockies	3%	10%	8%	3%	12%	5%	2%	7%	11%	19%	11%	5%	5%
Arizona	2%	11%	8%	3%	12%	5%	2%	8%	11%	19%	10%	5%	5%
Colorado	2%	10%	7%	3%	11%	5%	4%	8%	12%	18%	10%	5%	4%
Idaho	5%	10%	11%	3%	12%	5%	2%	6%	9%	19%	8%	4%	5%
Montana	7%	9%	5%	3%	13%	5%	2%	6%	8%	21%	10%	4%	6%
Nevada	2%	11%	4%	3%	11%	5%	2%	7%	11%	14%	24%	4%	4%
New Mexico	4%	9%	6%	2%	12%	5%	2%	5%	11%	22%	10%	4%	7%
Utah	2%	9%	11%	3%	12%	5%	3%	7%	11%	20%	8%	4%	5%
Wyoming	11%	9%	5%	2%	12%	6%	2%	5%	7%	21%	9%	4%	6%

Employment Growth by Industry, 2000 - 2007

	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing/Hunting, and Mining	Construction	Manufacturing	Wholesale Trade	Retail Trade	Transportation/Warehousing, and Utilities	Information	Finance/Insurance, and Real Estate/Rental/Leasing	Professional, Scientific/Management, and Administrative/Waste Management Services	Educational Services, and Health Care/Social Assistance	Arts, Entertainment/Recreation, and Accommodation/Food Services	Other Services, (Except Public Administration)	Public Administration
United States	9%	26%	-12%	-3%	7%	10%	-11%	15%	21%	17%	22%	8%	8%
Rockies	18%	40%	1%	6%	17%	20%	-14%	26%	34%	25%	23%	18%	15%
Arizona	33%	57%	1%	9%	23%	22%	-23%	32%	39%	33%	30%	33%	20%
Colorado	27%	21%	-8%	-3%	7%	17%	-20%	15%	21%	21%	23%	22%	9%
Idaho	8%	53%	-3%	-4%	17%	26%	10%	34%	40%	18%	22%	3%	18%
Montana	4%	40%	-6%	2%	14%	0%	3%	20%	32%	8%	4%	-8%	9%
Nevada	26%	53%	18%	26%	26%	33%	-6%	54%	60%	44%	21%	30%	27%
New Mexico	14%	34%	-1%	-1%	13%	18%	-5%	15%	33%	19%	22%	-1%	3%
Utah	17%	37%	9%	12%	19%	16%	-5%	24%	37%	27%	28%	11%	19%
Wyoming	17%	24%	28%	13%	17%	11%	-21%	12%	43%	14%	10%	0%	14%