



# Rockies Baseline

## *Vital Signs for a Region in Transition*

By Chris Jackson

### THE 2007 COLORADO COLLEGE STATE OF THE ROCKIES REPORT CARD

Tracking key changes happening in the Rockies each year is an important goal for each annual Report Card. What are key measurements that “tell the Rockies story” of a dynamic region in transition? How fast are such indicators changing among the Rockies states and when compared to the Rockies’ benchmarks for the eight-state Rockies Region and the U.S.? These and other perspectives can be quickly grasped by glancing at this year’s Vital Signs.

Now a consistent feature of every *State of the Rockies Report Card*, the Rockies Baseline section presents a set of demographic and economic indicators. By tracking changes from 2000 to 2005 we can illustrate the intricacies of this region in transition. The statistics presented here are an important introduction to the later sections of the Report Card, as they are often the fundamental drivers of change in the region.



Integral to the Rockies Baseline are national and interstate comparisons that are critical to distilling the character of the West. Immediately apparent in this year’s Rockies Baseline, the region’s population growth continues to surpass that of the nation, now by more than four times. A related trend: job growth in the Rockies has outpaced the U.S., however, the Rockies mimics the national trend of high growth in service industry occupations. This

year’s Vital Signs depict a region that is economically thriving, socially diverse, and well-educated.

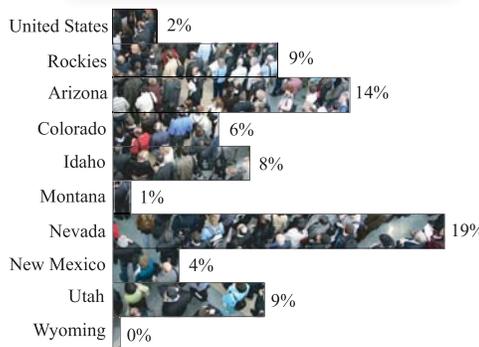
A clearer understanding of the characteristics that define our region, and where it is both similar and divergent from the U.S. as a whole, equips Rockies citizens to engage in the kind of thoughtful debate that will eventually help us define ourselves as a region and strengthen our common western voice.

*About the author: Chris Jackson (Colorado College class of 2006) is Program Coordinator for the Colorado College State of the Rockies Project.*

## Population & Age, 2005

	Population	Population growth since 2000	Percentage of Population age 0-19	Percentage of Population age 65+	Median Age	Median Age Change since 2000
United States	288,378,137	2%	28%	12%	36	3%
Rockies	19,889,425	9%	29%	11%	34	2%
-Arizona	5,829,839	14%	30%	13%	35	1%
-Colorado	4,562,244	6%	28%	10%	35	1%
-Idaho	1,395,634	8%	30%	11%	35	4%
-Montana	910,651	1%	25%	13%	40	7%
-Nevada	2,381,281	19%	28%	11%	35	1%
-New Mexico	1,887,200	4%	29%	12%	36	5%
-Utah	2,427,350	9%	33%	9%	29	5%
-Wyoming	495,226	0%	25%	12%	39	8%

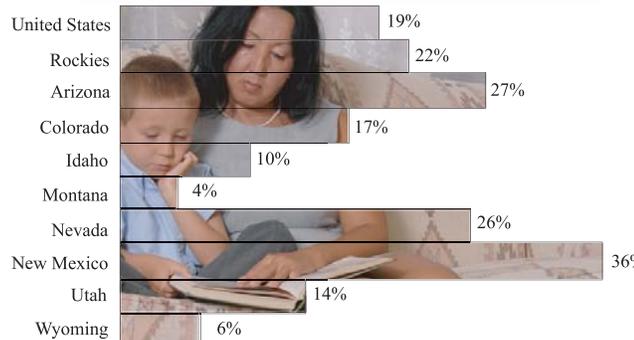
### Population Growth, 2000 to 2005



## Language, 2000 and 2005

	percentage of the population age 5 and Older Who Speak the Following Language at Home	English Only, 2005	Language other than English, 2005	Language other than English 2000
United States	81%	19%	18%	
Rockies	78%	22%	20%	
-Arizona	73%	27%	26%	
-Colorado	83%	17%	15%	
-Idaho	90%	10%	9%	
-Montana	96%	4%	5%	
-Nevada	74%	26%	23%	
-New Mexico	64%	36%	37%	
-Utah	86%	14%	13%	
-Wyoming	94%	6%	6%	

### Percentage of Population Who Speak a Language Other than English at Home, 2005



### Change in Median Age, 2000 to 2005

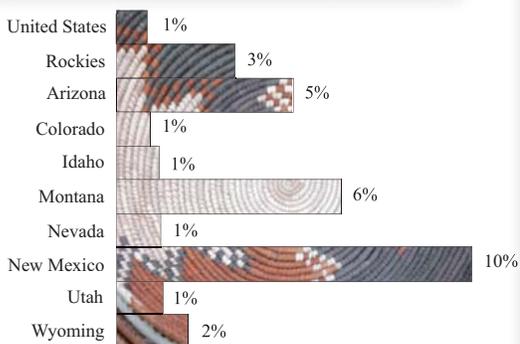


## Families, 2005

	Family Households as a Percentage of all Households	Non-family Households as a Percentage of all Households	Average Family Size in Number of People	Average Family Size, Change since 2000
United States	67%	33%	3.2	1%
Rockies	67%	33%	3.2	1%
-Arizona	66%	34%	3.2	2%
-Colorado	64%	36%	3.1	1%
-Idaho	70%	30%	3.1	-2%
-Montana	64%	36%	3.0	1%
-Nevada	65%	35%	3.2	3%
-New Mexico	66%	34%	3.2	-0%
-Utah	75%	25%	3.6	-0%
-Wyoming	65%	35%	3.0	-2%

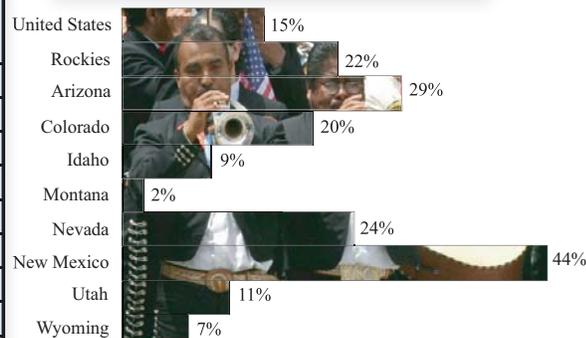
## Race & Ethnicity, 2005

### Percentage of Population Who Identify as American Indian or Alaska Native, 2005



	Percentage of Population Who Identifies as the Following	American Indian and Alaska Native	Black or African	White	Hispanic or Latino (any race)
United States	1%	12%	75%	15%	
Rockies	3%	3%	81%	22%	
-Arizona	5%	3%	76%	29%	
-Colorado	1%	4%	83%	20%	
-Idaho	1%	0%	92%	9%	
-Montana	6%	0%	91%	2%	
-Nevada	1%	7%	76%	24%	
-New Mexico	10%	2%	70%	44%	
-Utah	1%	1%	90%	11%	
-Wyoming	2%	1%	92%	7%	

### Percentage of Population Who Identify as Hispanic or Latino, 2005



### Median Home Value, 2005



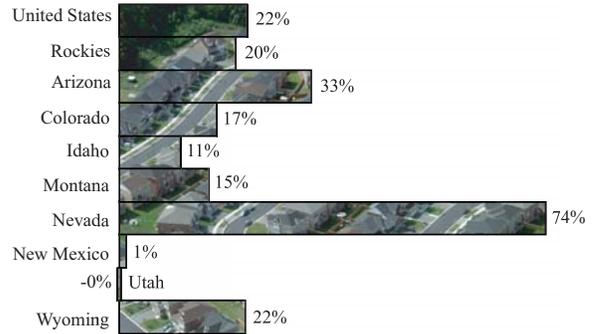
### Home Values & Costs, 2005

	Median Home Value	Median Home Value, Change since 2000	Median Monthly Costs for Housing Units Without Mortgage	Median Monthly Costs for Housing Units With Mortgage	Median Rent	Median Rent, Change since 2000
United States	\$167,500	22%	\$369	\$1,295	\$728	5%
Rockies	\$185,200	20%	\$311	\$1,234	\$710	1%
-Arizona	\$185,400	33%	\$299	\$1,194	\$717	1%
-Colorado	\$223,300	17%	\$350	\$1,443	\$757	-2%
-Idaho	\$134,900	11%	\$285	\$996	\$594	0%
-Montana	\$131,600	15%	\$326	\$1,026	\$552	8%
-Nevada	\$283,400	74%	\$371	\$1,452	\$861	7%
-New Mexico	\$125,500	1%	\$263	\$1,004	\$587	2%
-Utah	\$167,200	-0%	\$307	\$1,200	\$665	-3%
-Wyoming	\$135,000	22%	\$292	\$988	\$537	7%

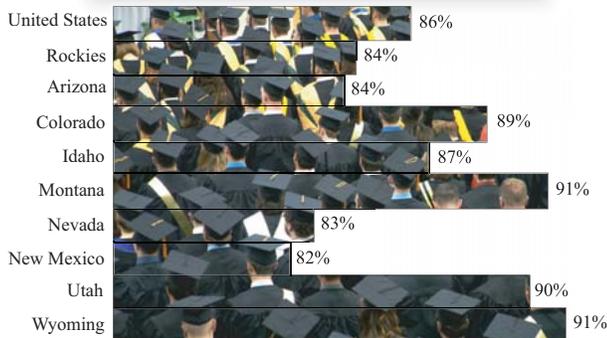
### Housing Units, 2005

	Occupied Housing Units	Owner-occupied Units as a Percentage of Occupied Housing	Renter-occupied Units as a Percentage of Occupied Housing	Average Number of Residents in Owner-occupied Units	Average Number of Residents in Renter-occupied Units
United States	111,090,617	67%	33%	2.7	2.4
Rockies	7,554,856	68%	32%	2.7	2.4
-Arizona	2,204,013	68%	32%	2.7	2.5
-Colorado	1,819,037	68%	32%	2.6	2.2
-Idaho	532,135	71%	29%	2.7	2.4
-Montana	368,268	69%	31%	2.6	2.3
-Nevada	906,719	61%	39%	2.7	2.5
-New Mexico	727,820	69%	31%	2.7	2.4
-Utah	791,929	71%	29%	3.2	2.7
-Wyoming	204,935	71%	29%	2.5	2.2

### Change in Median Home Value, 2000 to 2005



### Percentage of Population 25 and Older Who at Least Graduated High School, 2005



### Percentage of Population 25 and Older Who Earned Bachelor's Degree, 2005



### Educational Attainment, 2000 and 2005

	Earned High School Diploma (or Equivalency), 2005	Earned High School Diploma (or Equivalency), 2000	Earned Bachelors Degree, 2005	Earned Bachelors Degree, 2000	Earned Graduate or Professional Degree, 2005	Earned Graduate or Professional Degree, 2000
United States	86%	80%	27%	24%	10%	9%
Rockies	84%	84%	27%	25%	10%	9%
-Arizona	84%	81%	26%	24%	9%	8%
-Colorado	89%	87%	35%	33%	12%	11%
-Idaho	87%	85%	23%	22%	7%	7%
-Montana	91%	87%	26%	24%	8%	7%
-Nevada	83%	81%	21%	18%	7%	6%
-New Mexico	82%	79%	25%	24%	11%	10%
-Utah	90%	88%	28%	26%	9%	8%
-Wyoming	91%	88%	23%	22%	8%	7%

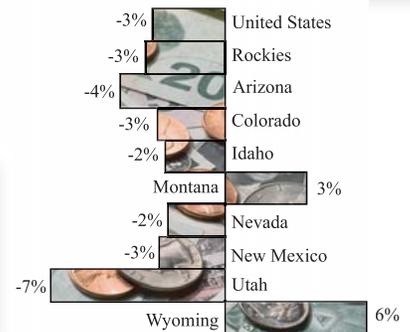
## Income, 2005

	Median Household Income	Median Household Income, Change Since 2000	Mean Household Income	Median Family Income	Median Family Income, Change since 2000	Mean Family Income	Per Capita Income	Per Capita Income, Change since 2000
United States	\$46,242	-4%	\$62,556	\$55,832	-3%	\$72,585	\$25,035	1%
Rockies	\$45,545	-5%	\$59,615	\$53,790	-3%	\$68,400	\$23,597	1%
-Arizona	\$44,282	-5%	\$59,262	\$51,458	-4%	\$67,400	\$23,365	0%
-Colorado	\$50,652	-7%	\$65,991	\$62,470	-3%	\$78,182	\$27,081	-2%
-Idaho	\$41,443	-4%	\$51,745	\$48,775	-2%	\$59,387	\$20,350	-1%
-Montana	\$39,301	4%	\$50,094	\$47,959	3%	\$58,774	\$21,765	11%
-Nevada	\$49,169	-4%	\$63,103	\$57,079	-2%	\$71,576	\$25,077	-1%
-New Mexico	\$37,492	-4%	\$51,325	\$44,097	-3%	\$58,138	\$20,798	5%
-Utah	\$47,934	-9%	\$60,117	\$54,595	-7%	\$67,009	\$20,814	-0%
-Wyoming	\$46,202	6%	\$56,436	\$55,343	6%	\$65,497	\$23,936	9%

### Median Family Income, 2005



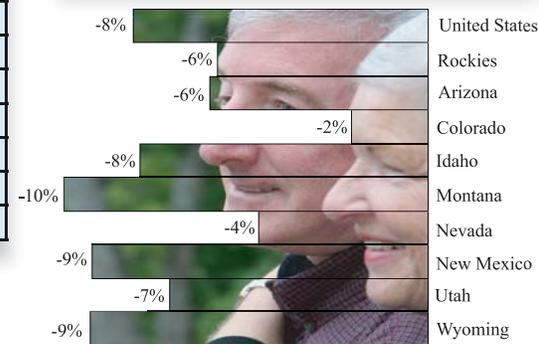
### Change in Median Family Income, 2000 to 2005



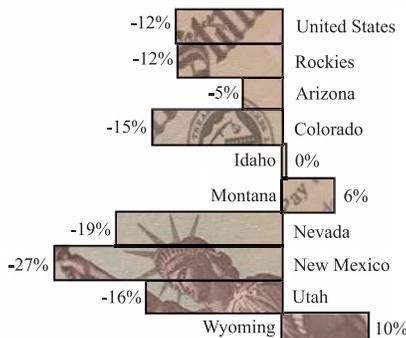
## Income by Type, 2005

	Mean Earnings	Mean Earnings, Change Since 2000	Mean Social Security Income	Mean Social Security Income, Change Since 2000	Mean Retirement Income	Mean Retirement Income, Change Since 2000	Mean Supplemental Security Income	Mean Supplemental Security Income, Change	Mean Cash Public Assistance Income	Mean Cash Public Assistance Income, Change Since 2000
United States	\$63,834	-2%	\$13,371	3%	\$18,391	-8%	\$7,148	-1%	\$3,048	-12%
Rockies	\$59,137	-3%	\$13,405	2%	\$19,651	-6%	\$7,204	-1%	\$2,596	-12%
-Arizona	\$59,904	-1%	\$14,079	3%	\$19,739	-6%	\$7,436	-1%	\$2,843	-5%
-Colorado	\$64,988	-5%	\$12,967	3%	\$21,755	-2%	\$7,021	-3%	\$2,355	-15%
-Idaho	\$51,155	-4%	\$13,268	2%	\$16,737	-8%	\$6,929	-1%	\$2,104	0%
-Montana	\$49,353	7%	\$12,828	1%	\$15,691	-10%	\$7,563	8%	\$2,966	6%
-Nevada	\$62,213	-2%	\$13,341	2%	\$20,454	-4%	\$7,255	-8%	\$2,597	-19%
-New Mexico	\$50,168	-0%	\$12,294	1%	\$19,388	-9%	\$6,736	0%	\$2,420	-27%
-Utah	\$58,417	-7%	\$13,858	2%	\$18,907	-7%	\$7,685	2%	\$2,777	-16%
-Wyoming	\$55,081	6%	\$13,285	2%	\$17,004	-9%	\$7,221	-5%	\$3,035	10%

### Change in Mean Retirement Income, 2000 to 2005



### Change in Mean Cash Public Assistance Income, 2000 to 2005



### Families in Poverty, 2005 As a Percentage of All Families



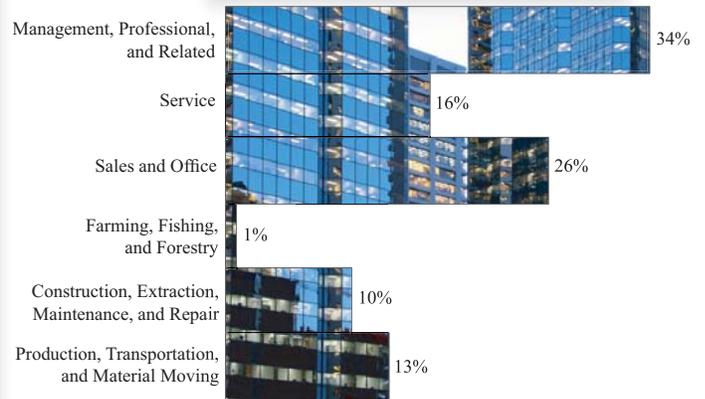
## Poverty, 2000 and 2005

Percentage of the Following Groups Whose Income in the Past 12 Months is Below the Poverty Level	All Families, 2005	All Families, 2000	All People, 2005	All People, 2000
United States	10%	9%	13%	12%
Rockies	10%	9%	13%	12%
-Arizona	11%	10%	14%	14%
-Colorado	8%	6%	11%	9%
-Idaho	10%	8%	14%	11%
-Montana	11%	10%	14%	14%
-Nevada	9%	8%	11%	10%
-New Mexico	14%	15%	19%	18%
-Utah	8%	6%	10%	9%
-Wyoming	6%	8%	10%	11%

## Employment by Occupation, 2005

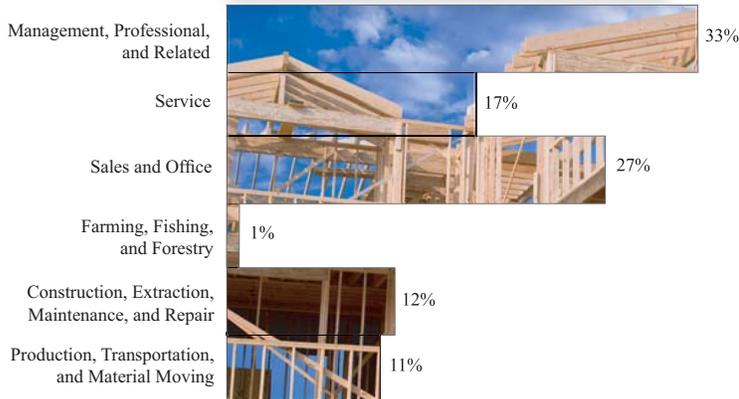
Percentage of Civilian Population 16 and Older in the Following Occupations	Management, Professional and Related	Service	Sales and Office	Farming, Fishing and Forestry	Construction, Extraction, Maintenance, and Repair	Production, Transportation, and Material Moving	Employed Civilian Population 16 and Older
United States	34%	16%	26%	1%	10%	13%	136,458,810
Rockies	33%	17%	27%	1%	12%	11%	9,556,215
-Arizona	33%	17%	27%	1%	12%	10%	2,629,872
-Colorado	38%	16%	26%	1%	11%	9%	2,333,593
-Idaho	31%	16%	26%	3%	11%	13%	671,516
-Montana	32%	18%	26%	2%	12%	11%	466,509
-Nevada	25%	24%	27%	0%	14%	10%	1,161,150
-New Mexico	34%	19%	25%	1%	12%	10%	850,821
-Utah	32%	15%	29%	0%	11%	13%	1,177,505
-Wyoming	32%	16%	22%	2%	14%	13%	265,249

The United States  
Employment by Occupation, 2005



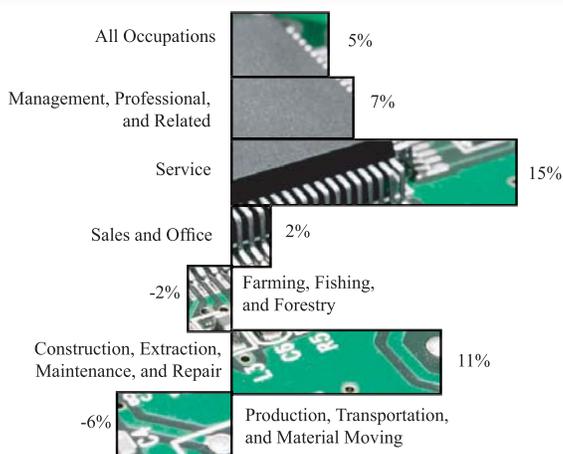
## Employment Growth by Occupation, 2000 and 2005

The Rockies Region  
Employment by Occupation, 2005

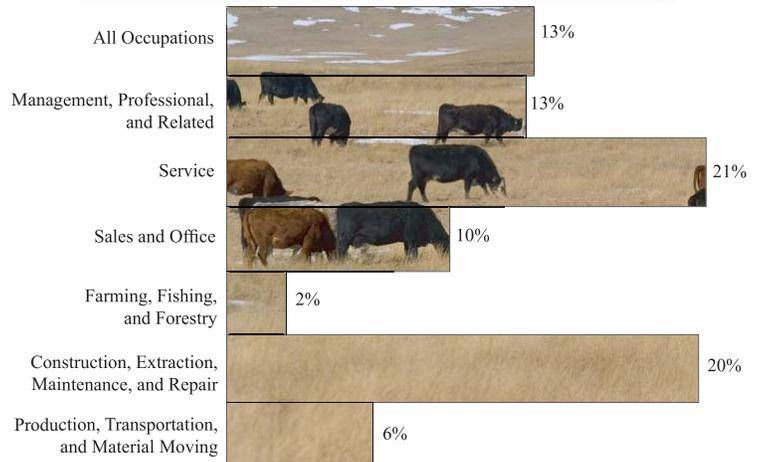


Percentage of Civilian Population 16 and Older in the Following Occupations	Management, Professional and Related	Service	Sales	Farming	Construction	Production	All Occupations
United States	7%	15%	2%	-2%	11%	-6%	5%
Rockies	13%	21%	10%	2%	20%	6%	13%
-Arizona	18%	26%	12%	2%	28%	12%	18%
-Colorado	8%	18%	1%	-5%	7%	-5%	6%
-Idaho	11%	18%	14%	11%	17%	1%	12%
-Montana	6%	14%	10%	-23%	23%	6%	10%
-Nevada	23%	21%	21%	-8%	48%	19%	24%
-New Mexico	10%	23%	7%	25%	16%	2%	11%
-Utah	11%	18%	14%	1%	13%	9%	13%
-Wyoming	19%	8%	1%	18%	5%	15%	10%

The United States  
Employment Growth by Occupation, 2000 to 2005



The Rockies Region  
Employment Growth by Occupation, 2000 to 2005



## Employment by Industry, 2005

<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, Real Estate, Rental, and Leasing	Professional, Scientific, Management, Administrative, and Waste Management Services	Educational Services, Health Care, and Social Assistance	Arts, Entertainment, Recreation, Accommodation, and Food Services	Other Services (except public administration)	Public Administration	Total Employed Civilian Population 16 and Older
United States	2%	8%	12%	4%	12%	5%	2%	7%	10%	21%	8%	5%	5%	136,458,810
Rockies	3%	10%	8%	3%	12%	5%	2%	7%	11%	19%	11%	5%	5%	9,556,215
-Arizona	1%	11%	8%	3%	12%	5%	2%	9%	11%	19%	10%	4%	5%	2,629,872
-Colorado	2%	9%	8%	3%	12%	5%	3%	8%	13%	18%	10%	5%	4%	2,333,593
-Idaho	6%	10%	10%	3%	12%	5%	2%	6%	9%	19%	9%	4%	6%	671,516
-Montana	7%	9%	5%	3%	13%	5%	2%	6%	7%	20%	10%	6%	6%	466,509
-Nevada	1%	12%	5%	3%	11%	5%	2%	7%	10%	13%	24%	4%	4%	1,161,150
-New Mexico	4%	9%	5%	3%	12%	4%	2%	5%	11%	23%	10%	5%	7%	850,821
-Utah	2%	8%	11%	4%	13%	5%	3%	7%	10%	20%	8%	5%	5%	1,177,505
-Wyoming	12%	8%	4%	2%	12%	7%	2%	5%	6%	22%	11%	5%	5%	265,249

All data, unless otherwise indicated, comes from the 2000 Census and the 2005 American Community Survey, both of which were conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau. The data are available at <http://www.census.gov/>.

## Employment Growth by Industry, 2000 to 2005

<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, Real Estate, Rental, and Leasing	Professional, Scientific, Management, Administrative, and Waste Management Services	Educational Services, Health Care, and Social Assistance	Arts, Entertainment, Recreation, Accommodation, and Food Services	Other Services (except public administration)	Public Administration	All Industries
United States	-2%	20%	-11%	3%	4%	2%	-15%	11%	12%	9%	13%	4%	6%	5%
Rockies	5%	28%	-5%	14%	12%	9%	-19%	21%	22%	16%	15%	13%	10%	13%
-Arizona	-4%	43%	-5%	19%	16%	11%	-21%	29%	22%	23%	18%	14%	18%	18%
-Colorado	5%	9%	-11%	5%	4%	4%	-25%	9%	16%	12%	15%	10%	2%	6%
-Idaho	8%	32%	-11%	6%	5%	9%	-10%	25%	30%	13%	20%	10%	22%	12%
-Montana	-6%	33%	-2%	1%	16%	2%	-16%	18%	26%	3%	8%	18%	13%	10%
-Nevada	0%	57%	20%	47%	21%	20%	-5%	35%	35%	23%	13%	30%	17%	24%
-New Mexico	14%	24%	-9%	8%	9%	-2%	-7%	8%	28%	18%	13%	-1%	4%	11%
-Utah	-2%	10%	4%	15%	15%	14%	-15%	24%	18%	16%	14%	19%	10%	13%
-Wyoming	26%	5%	-20%	6%	10%	15%	-18%	13%	10%	12%	23%	7%	-5%	10%

