



Colorado Springs
Regional Economic
Development Corporation

Top Ten Reasons to Locate Your Company in Colorado Springs and the Pikes Peak Region

10. **Low Utility Rates --**
Colorado Springs Utilities, a public utility, offers some of the lowest rates West of the Mississippi.
9. **Excellent Schools --**
Colorado Springs school districts are among the best in Colorado and in the nation.
8. **Excellent Colleges --**
The University of Colorado at Colorado Springs is one of the best master's degree institutions in the country. Colorado College is one of the top liberal arts schools in the nation. Pikes Peak Community College has more than 125 programs of study, offering associate's degrees and various certifications in Career and Technical fields. Colorado Technical University offers technology-driven degrees for every stage of a career. The Air Force Academy is one of the most demanding and rigorous institutions in the country.
7. **Low Taxes --**
Colorado Springs and El Paso County offer the lowest tax burden in Colorado. Lower taxes than most of the country.
6. **Exceptional talent --**
Thousands of electrical engineers, software engineers, aeronautical engineers, systems administrators, executives, creative artists, business consultants....we have it all.
5. **Educated workforce --**
As a metro area we have one of the highest educated workforces in the country.
4. **Strong corporate environment --**
27 Fortune 500 companies have a presence in Colorado Springs.
3. **Low cost of living --**
It's affordable to live here. Housing is moderately priced. Cost of living is below the national average.
2. **Dry, sunny mountain climate --**
No extreme temperatures. Average high in January is around 45 degrees. Average high in July is around 75 degrees. Little precipitation. More than 300 days of sunshine per year.
1. **Quality of life!**
Outdoor, healthy lifestyle. Fittest city in America. Restaurants, nightlife, recreation. Garden of the Gods, Pikes Peak, trails, open space, wildlife. It doesn't get better than this.

For more information, please contact:
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COLORADO SPRINGS & COLORADO RANKINGS

- Colorado Springs **ranked 7th “Best Mid-Size City”** by Portfolio.com. The study was ranked on healthy economies, moderate living costs, light traffic and strong educational systems. Portfolio.com compared 109 medium-sized markets with populations between 250,000 and 750,000. (06/10)
- Colorado continues to have the **lowest percentage of obese adults** at 18.9 percent according to Trust for America’s Health. (06/10)
- Colorado Springs **ranked 19th “Best City for Families”** according to Parenting.com. Cities were ranked based on health, safety, education, economy and recreation. (06/10)
- Colorado Springs has **5 high schools** listed on Newsweek’s annual **America’s Best High Schools list**. The ranking is based on how hard their staffs work to challenge students with advanced-placement courses and tests. (06/10)
- Colorado Springs **was listed** in RelocateAmerica.com’s **“Top 100 Places to Live in America for 2010”**. The list focused on communities poised for recovery and future growth. The editorial team discovered communities with strong local leadership, employment opportunities, thriving community commitment, improving real estate markets, growing green initiatives, plentiful recreational options and an overall high quality of life. (05/10)
- Colorado Springs **ranked 12th best place for business and careers** according to Forbes.com. The annual rankings are based on factors such as cost of doing business, job growth, education attainment and population. (04/09)
- Colorado Springs **ranked 6th “Most Wired City”** by Forbes.com. The study was compiled by computing the percentage of Internet users with high-speed connections in a particular city and the number of companies providing high-speed Internet in that area. (03/10)
- Colorado Springs **ranked 10th “Best City to be a Woman”** according to Women’s Health magazine. The study was based on 35 health and lifestyle areas including health, life and fitness. (12/09)
- Colorado Springs **ranked 18th Friendliest Bike City** in America by Bicycling magazine. Editors evaluated cities with 100,000 or more people, with the rankings based on cycling-friendly statistics (numbers of bike lanes and routes, bike racks, city projects completed and planned) and bike culture (number of bike commuters, cycling clubs, cycling events, renowned bike shops). (04/10)
- Colorado Springs **ranked 4th Fittest City** by Gallup. Gallup’s telephone survey, which was conducted between December 29, 2009 and January 2, 2010, calculated average body mass index based on the heights and weights the respondents provided. The study also recorded information of health habits such as eating, exercise and access to health insurance. (03/10)
- Colorado Springs **wins** national award for **cultural diversity** by the National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials, a constituency group of the National League of Cities. The award is based on implementing quality and innovative programs in communities to enhance and promote cultural diversity. Each year, the City Cultural Diversity Awards recognize city programs which encourage citizen involvement and show an appreciation of cultural diversity. (03/10)
- Colorado Springs ranked as **one of the top “10 Best Drivers’ Cities in America”** list according to Car & Driver magazine. Factors such as frequency of sunny days, car ownership costs, and annual road salt use factored into the ratings. (12/09)
- Colorado Springs **ranked 9th** in **“America’s Best Bang-For-The-Buck Cities”** by Forbes.com. The study was based on solid housing markets, relatively stable employment, enviable cost of living and quick commutes. (11/09)