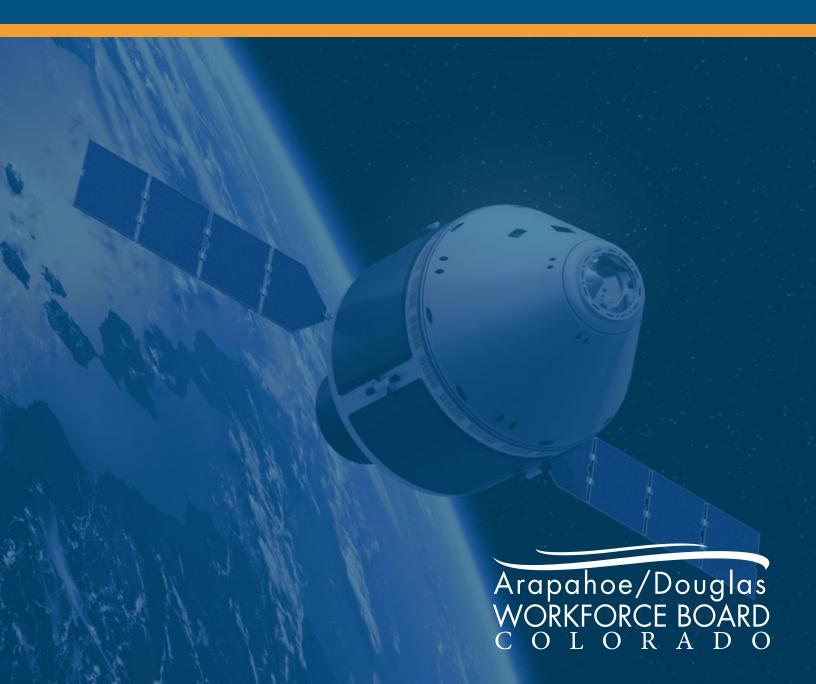


2025 Aerospace & Aviation INDUSTRY PROFILE

Colorado Urban Front Range



To navigate directly to a specific section, click on the title in the list below. This will link directly to the corresponding page.

To return back to the Table of Contents, click on any section title. This will link back to the Table of Contents to allow easy navigation to other sections.

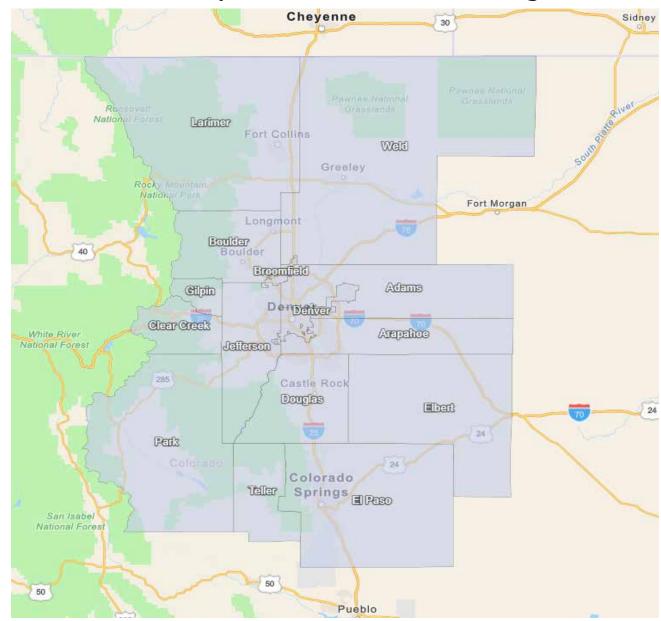
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Geographical Area



The geographical area for this industry profile includes the 15 counties that make up Colorado's Urban Front Range.



The geographic region includes the following metropolitan areas:

- Boulder
- Colorado Springs
- · Denver-Aurora-Lakewood
- Fort Collins
- Greeley

In 2024, this 15 county region employed nearly 2.74 million people across all industries, and made up 83.3% of Colorado's total employment.

In 2024, the Gross Regional Product (GRP) for the Urban Front Range was \$471.6 billion, which made up 1.7% of the national GRP

Lightcast defines GRP as the final market value of all goods and services in the region.

Industries Making up the Sector

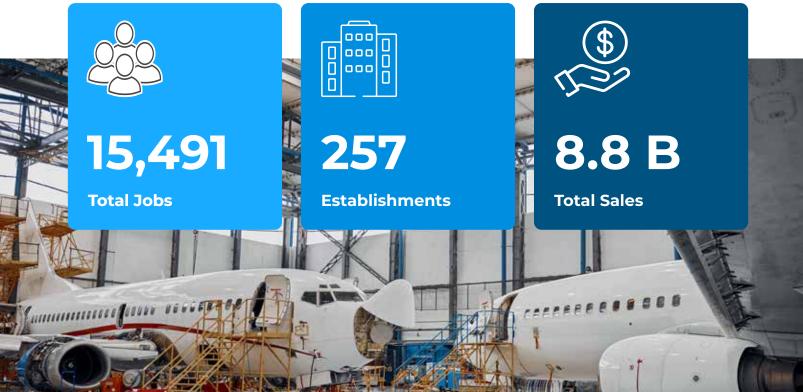
Aerospace & Aviation

▲ 2.6% From prior year

0.6%

Total Jobs in CO Urban Front Range The aerospace and aviation sector employs 15,491 people in 257 establishments. An 'establishment' is one facility in which people work. For example, a business in the sector may have several locations, and each one of those locations counts as an 'establishment.'

In 2024, the sector had \$8.8 billion in sales and contributed \$4.9 billion to the region's GRP. Colorado's Front Range is a national hub for aerospace and aviation, featuring major companies like Lockheed Martin, Boeing, Raytheon, Ball Aerospace, and Blue Origin. Colorado's Space Port is located near Denver International Airport (DEN), and offers private companies a host of opportunities for horizontal launch applications.



Top Specialized Skills

- · Systems Engineering
- · Agile Methodology
- · Project Management

Top Software Skills

- Python (Programming Language)
- Linux
- · Microsoft Office

Top Credentials

- · Security Clearance
- Top Secret-Sensitive Compartmented Information (TS/SCI Clearance)
- · Secret Clearance

Aerospace & Aviation Sector

Employment concentration measures the concentration of employment in an industry in the local region against the average employment concentration in that industry nationwide. For example, employment in guided missile and space vehicle manufacturing is 4.96 times more concentrated than the national average for this industry. The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) is the standard used by Federal statistical agencies in classifying business establishments for the purpose of collecting, analyzing, and publishing statistical data related to the U.S. business economy.

Radio & Television Broadcasting and Wireless Communications Equipment Manufacturing

NAICS **334220**

Numbers to Know

- 924 jobs
- 25 establishments
- 1.13 employment concentration
- \$389.1 million in sales
- 14.9% change to 2029
- \$122,944 average wage
- \$21,152 average employer paid benefits

Search, Detection, Navigation, Guidance, Aeronautical, & Nautical System & Instrument Manufacturing

NAICS **334511**

Numbers to Know

- 5,045 jobs
- 15 establishments
- 2.56 employment concentration
- \$2.0 billion in sales
- 8.8% change to 2029
- \$146,449 average wage
- \$25,196 average employer paid benefits

Aircraft Manufacturing

NAICS 336411

Numbers to Know

- 938 jobs
- 13 establishments
- 0.23 employment concentration
- \$597.5 million in sales
- 13.8% change to 2029
- \$119,737 average wage
- \$23,297 average employer paid benefits

Aircraft Engine & Engine Parts Manufacturing

NAICS **336412**

Numbers to Know

- <10 jobs
- 3 establishments
- Insf. Data employment concentration
- \$5 million in sales
- Insf. Data change to 2029
- Insf. Data average wage
- Insf. Data average employer paid benefits

Other Aircraft Parts & Auxiliary Equipment Manufacturing

NAICS **336413**

Numbers to Know

- 580 jobs
- 15 establishments
- 0.35 employment concentration
- \$241.9 million in sales
- 12.0% change to 2029
- \$104,612 average wage
- \$20,368 average employer paid benefits

Guided Missile & Space Vehicle Propulsion Unit & Propulsion Unit Parts Manufacturing

NAICS 336415

Numbers to Know

- 434 jobs
- 3 establishments
- 1.33 employment concentration
- \$401.8 million in sales
- 31.5% change to 2029
- \$194,588 average wage
- \$37,904 average employer paid benefits

Transportation Equipment and Supplies (except Motor Vehicle)
Merchant Wholesalers

NAICS **423860**

Numbers to Know

- 449 jobs
- 78 establishments
- 0.70 employment concentration
- \$238.7 million in sales
- (1.9%) change to 2029
- \$165,941 average wage
- \$21,550 average employer paid benefits

Guided Missile & Space Vehicle Manufacturing

NAICS **336414**

Numbers to Know

- 6,610 jobs
- 11 establishments
- 4.96 employment concentration
- \$3 billion in sales
- 0.9% change to 2029
- \$190,432 average wage
- \$37,093 average employer paid benefits

Other Guided Missile & Space Vehicle Parts & Auxiliary Equipment Manufacturing

NAICS **336419**

Numbers to Know

- <10 jobs
- 1 establishments
- Insf. Data employment concentration
- \$198,892 in sales
- Insf. Data change to 2029
- Insf. Data average wage
- Insf. Data average employer paid benefits

All Other Telecommunications

NAICS **517810**

Numbers to Know

- 508 jobs
- 94 establishments
- 0.65 employment concentration
- \$1.9 billion in sales
- 1.4% change to 2029
- \$163,608 average wage
- \$32,258 average employer paid benefits

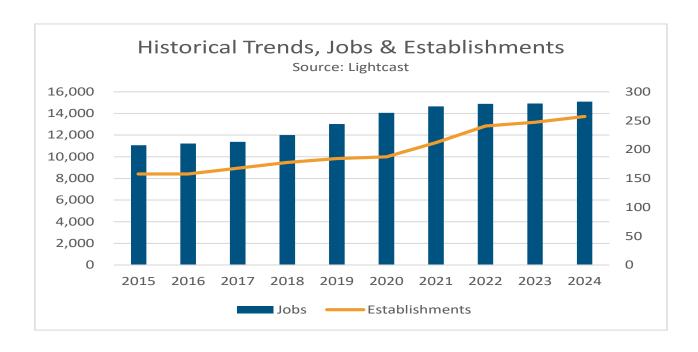
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Historical Trends

Colorado Urban Front Range

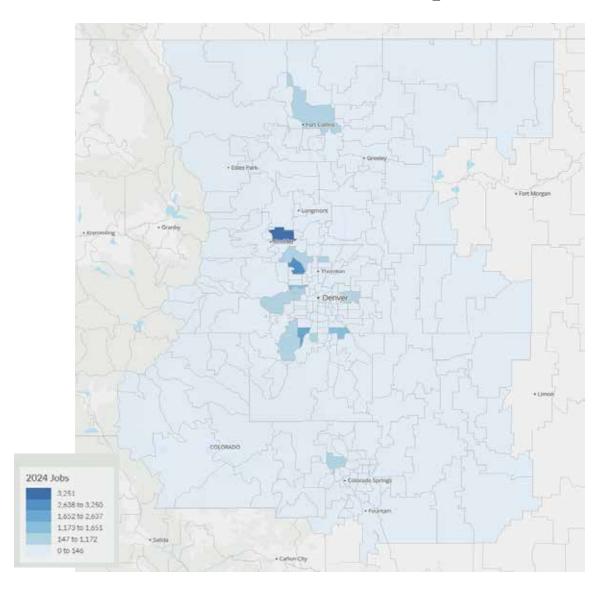
The first graph shows the growth in jobs (blue bars), and the growth in the number of establishments (orange line) in the sector between 2015 and 2024. The second graph shows the growth in wages, salaries and proprietor earnings (blue bars) and in employer-paid benefits, including the employer portions of both Social Security and Medicare payroll deductions (orange line) for the same period.





Employment Concentration

Employment Concentration Map



Colorado Urban Front Range

The overall employment concentration in this sector is 3.51 times the national average, which suggests the region has a steady supply of skilled labor. Concentration also varies by county, with the heaviest sector employment concentrations in Jefferson and Boulder counties.

Sector Employment Concentration



Employment concentration in the sector is shown here within each of the 15 counties making up the region. Note that the current wages, salaries, and proprietor earnings, as well as the current employer-paid benefits are different within each county. This is because each county has a different mix of businesses operating within various industries in the sector. For example, the highest average wage per worker is in guided missile and space vehicle propulsion unit and propulsion unit parts manufacturing while the lowest is in other aircraft parts & auxiliary equipment manufacturing. Thus, a county that has a greater concentration of other aircraft parts and auxiliary equipment manufacturing will have a lower average wage per worker.

ADAMS

- Jobs 492
- Employment Concentration
 0.38
- Current Wages, Salaries,
 & Proprietor Earnings \$129.904
- Benefits \$20,723
- Top Businesses Intrex
 Aerospace, Air Comm Corp.,
 Aircover Network Solutions

BROOMFIELD

• Jobs - 335

12

- Employment Concentration
 -1.52
- Current Wages, Salaries,
 & Proprietor Earnings \$282,940
- Benefits \$48,734
- Top Businesses Ball Aerospace, Atomos Space, Mountain Aviation Inc.

ARAPAHOE

- Jobs 1.657
- Employment Concentration
 0.93
- Current Wages, Salaries,
 & Proprietor Earnings \$113.023
- Benefits \$21,474
- Top Businesses United Launch Alliance,
 Wideopenwest, Lockheed
 Martin

CLEAR CREEK

- Jobs Insf. Data
- Employment Concentration
 Insf. Data
- Current Wages, Salaries, & Proprietor Earnings - Insf. Data
- Benefits Insf. Data
- Top Businesses Insf. Data

BOULDER

- Jobs 3,678
- Employment Concentration
 -3.57
- Current Wages, Salaries,
 & Proprietor Earnings \$134.109
- Benefits \$23,359
- Top Businesses Sierra Space, Blue Canyon Technologies, Northrop Grumman

DENVER

- Jobs 228
- Employment Concentration0.08
- Current Wages, Salaries,
 & Proprietor Earnings \$200,928
- Benefits \$35,400
- Top Businesses Boeing, Quantum Concentrates, Imagine Communications

DOUGLAS

- Jobs 342
- Employment Concentration
 0.45
- Current Wages, Salaries,
 & Proprietor Earnings \$147.877
- Benefits \$28.861
- Top Businesses Lockheed Martin, Leading Edge Aerospace Dynamics, Global Communications Group

GILPIN

- Jobs Insf. Data
- Employment Concentration
 Insf. Data
- Current Wages, Salaries, & Proprietor Earnings - Insf.
 Data
- Benefits Insf. Data
- Top Businesses Insf. Data

PARK

- Jobs Insf. Data
- Employment Concentration
 Insf. Data
- Current Wages, Salaries, & Proprietor Earnings - Insf.
 Data
- Benefits Insf. Data
- Top Businesses J Weber Communications

EL PASO

- Jobs 601
- Employment Concentration
 0.32
- Current Wages, Salaries,
 & Proprietor Earnings \$122.942
- Benefits \$21.998
- Top Businesses Northrop Grumman Space Systems, Collins Aerospace, Boeing

JEFFERSON

• Employment Concentration

• Current Wages, Salaries,

& Proprietor Earnings -

Top Businesses - Lockheed

Martin, Ball Aerospace,

• Benefits - \$37.405

General Dynamics

• Jobs - 6.878

- 5.33

\$194.746

ELBERT

- Jobs 13
- Employment Concentration
 0.50
- Current Wages, Salaries,
 & Proprietor Earnings \$108,318
- Benefits \$18,706
- Top Businesses Insf. Data

LARIMER

- Jobs 594
- Employment Concentration
 0.64
- Current Wages, Salaries,
 & Proprietor Earnings \$138.690
- Benefits \$23.904
- Top Businesses Woodward HRT, Numerica Corp., Altitude Signal

TELLER

- Jobs Insf. Data
- Employment Concentration Insf. Data
- Current Wages, Salaries, & Proprietor Earnings - Insf.
 Data
- Benefits Insf. Data
- Top Businesses Tank's R
 Us, Salvage Data Recovery
 Services

WELD

- Jobs 282
- Employment Concentration
 0.45
- Current Wages, Salaries,
 & Proprietor Earnings \$128,027
- Benefits \$23,628
- Top Businesses Pivital, Swissphone, Community Radio of Northern Colorado

13

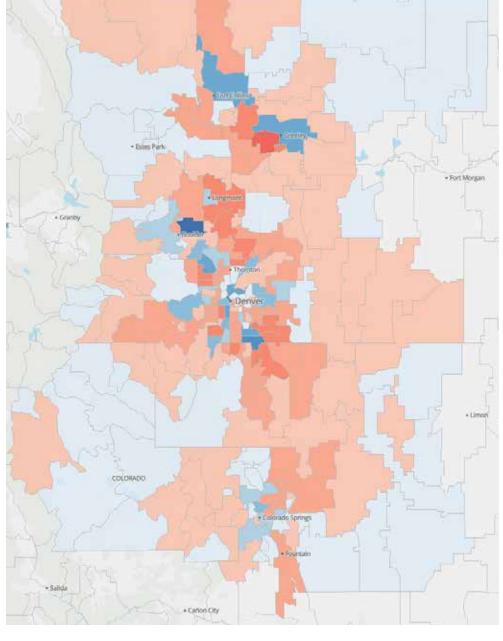
Source: Lightcast Business names are sourced from Database USA



Where Core Workforce Lives

Commute Map





Every sector has a group of occupations it needs to fulfil its mission. This is called a staffing pattern, and generally includes managers, business and finance people, sales and administrative support, computer and mathematical occupations. There is also a core set of occupations that are primarily responsible for producing the goods or services that industry provides. In aerospace and aviation, this core set of occupations is made up of architectural and engineering occupations. Examples of these occupations include aerospace engineers, industrial engineers, aerospace engineering technologists and technicians. This map shows where persons employed in these occupations live (orange areas) and where they work (blue areas).

Where Core Workforce Lives

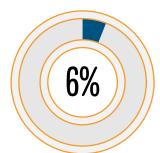
Commute Patterns

This table shows the number of 'net commuters' in each of the 15 counties making up the region. For example, 21,091 people in these core aerospace and aviation jobs live in Jefferson County, while there are 19,185 employed there. This means there are 1,905 more of these core workers living in Jefferson County than work there. Note: the latest commuter data available is from 2024.

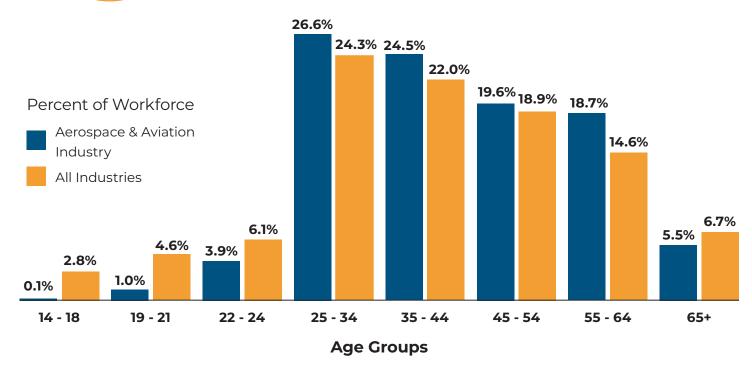
County	Net Commuters	Resident Workers	Jobs		
Denver	9,853	19,386	29,239		
Boulder	5,190	12,906	18,096		
Arapahoe	1,005	16,777	17,782		
Clear Creek	72	118	190		
Larimer	13	13,225	13,238		
Broomfield	(21)	3,539	3,518		
Gilpin	(68)	121	53		
Park	(158)	276	119		
Teller	(217)	515	298		
Elbert	(321)	528	207		
El Paso	(515)	18,417	17,902		
Jefferson	(1,905)	21,091	19,185		
Adams	(2,716)	16,532	13,816		
Douglas	(5,059)	10,535	5,476		
Weld	(5,979)	17,655	11,676		



Comparative Retirement Risk



Retirement risk in aerospace & aviation is lower than that across all industries in the region. Over the next few years, retirement risk will grow based on the 55-64 age band. This reflects a younger labor force with significantly higher numbers in the 25 to 34 age bands than the regional average across all industries.

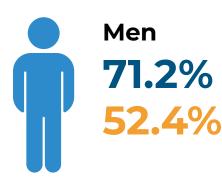


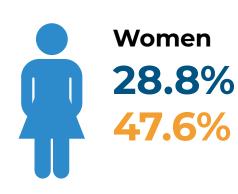
Comparative Gender

Percent of Workforce

Aerospace & Aviation Industry

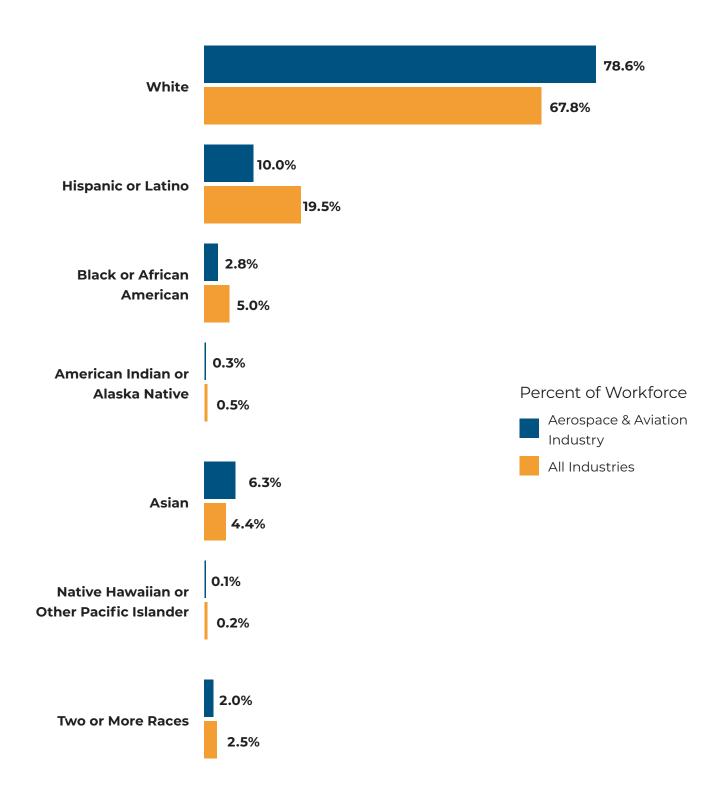
All Industries





Demographics

These bar charts illustrate the racial and ethnic composition of the workforce in the aerospace and aviation industry.



19

Source: Lightcast

18

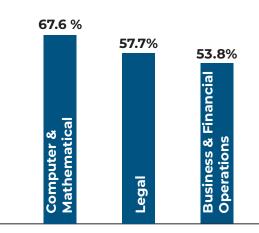


Telework and Automation Strategies

Remote Work Potential

35.8% Remote Work Capability for Sector

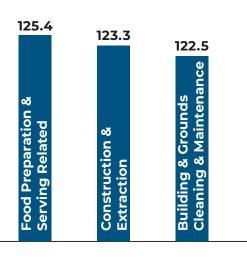
In a scarce labor market, a valid strategy for employers may be to review their staffing mix and determine which positions, if any, can be employed remotely or using a hybrid schedule. Approximately 35.8% of the workforce in aerospace and aviation has at least partial teleworking capacity.

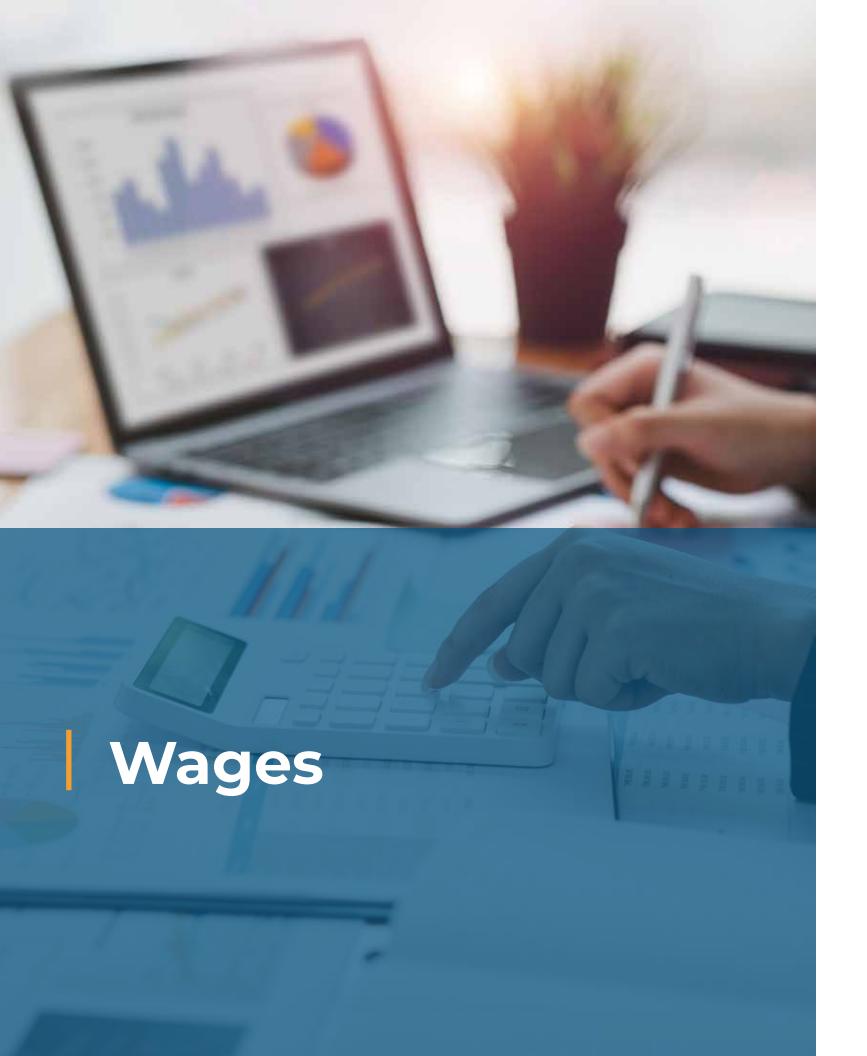


Automation Index

94.1

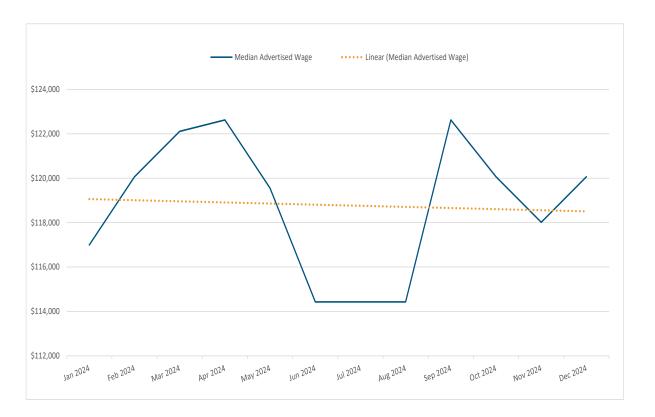
Another valid strategy employers can use in today's scarce labor market is automation. Automation seldom replaces workers 1:1. Rather, automation leverages the productive capacity of fewer workers to allow for higher output. Examples of automation in aerospace and aviation are flight simulators, robotic arms and automated guidance systems.





Advertised Wage Trends

This line graph shows movement in advertised wages in jobs posted in the sector over the last year.



Competitive Wage Analysis

The following table shows the top 20 occupations by percentage of total employment in the sector, as well as total employment across industries. For example, the aerospace and aviation sector employs 1,244 aerospace engineers but there are 3,835 employed across all industry sectors. This is important because the aerospace and aviation sector must compete with other sectors for critical talent, such as software developers, industrial engineers, and mechanical engineers. Average annual openings for each occupation are estimated according to known attrition (people leaving the occupation or retiring) as well as expected national and local growth in the occupation.

Median posted wage levels can be compared to estimated entry and experienced level wages, and the typical entry level education, as well as the typical on-the-job training (OJT) are shown to illustrate the potential for apprenticeships and OJT to supplement shortfalls in the traditional training pipeline.

The Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) system is used by Federal statistical agencies to classify workers into occupational categories for the purpose of collecting, calculating, or disseminating data.

Competitive Wage Analysis

soc	Description	Jobs in Sector	% of Total Employment in Sector	Jobs Across all Industries	Average Annual Openings	Median Posted Wage	Entry Level Wage	Median Wage	Highly Experienced Level Wage	Typical On-the-Job Training	Typical Entry Level Education
11-9041	Architectural & Engineering Managers	267	1.7%	4,024	331	\$82.95	\$73.42	\$84.85	\$103.82	None	Bachelor's degree
13-1028	Buyers & Purchasing Agents	365	2.4%	9,319	880	\$53.05	\$29.75	\$37.21	\$48.64	Moderate-term OJT	Bachelor's degree
13-1081	Logisticians	178	1.1%	4,668	507	\$42.95	\$34.94	\$44.36	\$53.69	None	Bachelor's degree
13-1082	Project Management Specialists	276	1.8%	28,647	2,485	\$55.02	\$37.90	\$48.77	\$63.40	None	Bachelor's degree
13-1199	Business Operations Specialists, All Other	1,016	6.6%	43,849	4,283	Insf. Data	\$30.72	\$40.54	\$56.46	None	Bachelor's degree
15-1252	Software Developers	1,060	6.7%	45,468	4,124	\$62.65	\$51.20	\$65.21	\$81.29	None	Bachelor's degree
17-2011	Aerospace Engineers	1,244	8.0%	3,835	253	\$64.86	\$50.73	\$63.68	\$83.10	None	Bachelor's degree
17-2071	Electrical Engineers	284	1.8%	3,756	273	\$67.20	\$43.37	\$53.15	\$65.51	None	Bachelor's degree
17-2072	Electronics Engineers, Except Computer	429	2.8%	5,826	364	\$62.40	\$46.63	\$60.16	\$78.71	None	Bachelor's degree
17-2112	Industrial Engineers	614	3.9%	5,125	399	\$55.02	\$39.67	\$48.72	\$61.34	None	Bachelor's degree
17-2141	Mechanical Engineers	473	3.0%	6,820	509	\$55.75	\$40.08	\$49.46	\$63.73	None	Bachelor's degree
41-4012	Sales Representatives, Wholesale & Manufacturing, Except Technical & Scientific Products	248	1.6%	26,939	2,638	\$43.20	\$24.98	\$35.73	\$50.46	Moderate-term OJT	High school diploma or GED
43-5071	Shipping, Receiving, & Inventory Clerks	231	1.5%	14,067	1,480	\$21.91	\$18.06	\$21.10	\$24.19	Short-term OJT	High school diploma or GED
49-3011	Aircraft Mechanics & Service Technicians	192	1.2%	4,308	410	\$42.71	\$26.38	\$35.42	\$40.85	None	Postsecondary nondegree award
51-1011	First-Line Supervisors of Production & Operating Workers	278	1.8%	8,286	856	\$52.80	\$26.95	\$34.57	\$43.62	None	High school diploma or GED
51-2011	Aircraft Structure, Surfaces, Rigging, & Systems Assemblers	228	1.5%	240	31	\$33.60	\$25.18	\$29.06	\$30.93	Moderate-term OJT	High school diploma or GED
51-2028	Electrical, Electronic, & Electromechanical Assemblers, Except Coil Winders, Tapers, and Finishers	763	4.9%	4,534	531	\$25.48	\$18.69	\$21.34	\$24.86	Moderate-term OJT	High school diploma or GED
51-2098	Miscellaneous Assemblers & Fabricators	372	2.4%	9,023	979	\$20.80	\$17.63	\$19.37	\$23.20	Moderate-term OJT	High school diploma or GED
51-4041	Machinists	233	1.5%	2,657	293	\$27.45	\$23.42	\$27.53	\$32.11	Long-term OJT	High school diploma or GED
51-9061	Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, & Weighers	269	1.7%	4,297	545	\$29.54	\$20.41	\$24.02	\$30.21	Moderate-term OJT	High school diploma or GED



Top Occupations

Top 20 Occupations Currently Listed in the Colorado Urban Front Range

Top Occupations

These figures use information from unique job postings across the sector to show the number of jobs posted in the 15 county region during the last year and median posted salary. It is also important when planning staffing strategy to look at hires, separations and turnover rate for each of the occupations, what the percent of employment in the sector is, and the top skills demanded over the prior 12-month period.

Discover more about each occupation by simply clicking on the respective icon.



Aerospace Engineers

% Employment 8.0%
Unique Postings 355
Posted Salary \$64.86
Hires 1,341
Separations 1,328
Turnover Rate 35.5%

Top Skills: Systems Engineering, Project Management, Engineering Management



Software Developers

% Employment 6.7%
Unique Postings 1,869
Posted Salary \$62.65
Hires 20,717
Separations 21,541
Turnover Rate 49.7%
Top Skills: Software

Engineering, Agile Methodology, Python



Business Operations Specialists, All Other

% Employment 6.6%Unique Postings 0

Posted Salary Insf. DataHires 27,812

27,338

•Turnover Rate 63.5%

Top Skills: Insf. Data

Separations



Electrical, Electronic, & Electromechanical Assemblers, Except Coil Winders, Tapers, & Finishers

% Employment 4.9%Unique Postings 19Posted Salary \$25.48

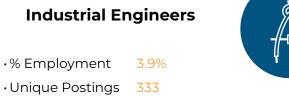
·Hires 1,724·Separations 1,951

•Turnover Rate 43.7%

Top Skills: Soldering, Engineering Drawings, Wire

Harnesses





\$55.02

2,168

2.039

41.0%

Mechanical Engineers



% Employment 3.0%Unique Postings 444Posted Salary \$55.75

HiresSeparations2,6802,444

•Turnover Rate 36.9%

Top Skills: Mechanical Engineering, Systems Engineering, Space Flight



First-Line Supervisors of Production & Operating Workers



Improvement Process, Project
Management, Equities



Project Management Specialists

% Employment 1.8%
Unique Postings 207
Posted Salary \$55.02
Hires 15,130
Separations 15,059
Turnover Rate 54.0%

Top Skills: Project Management, Finance, Business Strategies



Electronics Engineers, Except Computer

Posted Salary

Separations

Engineering

•Turnover Rate

Top Skills: Manufacturing

Engineering, Electrical

Engineering, Systems

Hires

% Employment 2.8%
Unique Postings 321
Posted Salary \$62.40
Hires 2,062
Separations 2,091
Turnover Rate 36.3%

Top Skills: Simulations, MATLAB, Electrical Engineering



Miscellaneous Assemblers & Fabricators

% Employment 2.4%
Unique Postings 9
Posted Salary \$20.80
Hires 6,852
Separations 7,681
Turnover Rate 85.4%
Top Skills: Deburring, Equites,

Test Equipment



Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, & Weighers

% Employment 1.7%
Unique Postings 76
Posted Salary \$29.54
Hires 2,455
Separations 2,492
Turnover Rate 59.0%

Top Skills: Micrometer, First Article Inspections, Calipers



Architectural & Engineering Managers

% Employment 1.7%
Unique Postings 290
Posted Salary \$82.95
Hires 1,120
Separations 1,059
Turnover Rate 27.1%

Top Skills: Systems Engineering, Project Management, Engineering Management



Buyers and Purchasing Agents

% Employment 2.4%
Unique Postings 392
Posted Salary \$53.05
Hires 5,189
Separations 5,327
Turnover Rate 57.8%
Top Skills: Procurement, Supply

Chain, Finance



Electrical Engineers

% Employment 1.8%
Unique Postings 361
Posted Salary \$67.20
Hires 1,341
Separations 1,328
Turnover Rate 36.4%
Top Skills: Electrical

Engineering, Systems
Engineering, Simulations



Sales Reps, Wholesale & Manufacturing, Except Technical & Scientific Products

*% Employment 1.6%
*Unique Postings 112
*Posted Salary \$43.20
*Hires 10,064
*Separations 10,153
*Turnover Rate 38.3%

Top Skills: Selling Techniques, Salesforce, Account Management



Shipping, Receiving, & Inventory Clerks

% Employment 1.5%
Unique Postings 36
Posted Salary \$21.91
Hires 9,302
Separations 9,891
Turnover Rate 71.0%
Top Skills: Shipping and Receiving, Auditing, Supply Chain

28 **29**



Machinists

% Employment 1.5%
Unique Postings 70
Posted Salary \$27.45
Hires 1,104
Separations 997
Turnover Rate 38.1%

Top Skills: Machining, Equities,

Machine Setup



Aircraft Structure, Surfaces, Rigging, & Systems Assemblers

% Employment 1.5%
Unique Postings 10
Posted Salary \$33.60
Hires 66
Separations 78
Turnover Rate 34.2%
Top Skills: First Article
Inspections, Auditing,

Airworthiness



Aircraft Mechanics & Service Technicians

% Employment 1.2%
Unique Postings 80
Posted Salary \$42.71
Hires 2,197
Separations 1,974
Turnover Rate 47.3%

Top Skills: Aircraft Maintenance, Compliance Auditing, NIST 800



Logisticians

% Employment 1.1%
Unique Postings 160
Posted Salary \$42.95
Hires 2,588
Separations 2,448
Turnover Rate 54.4%
Top Skills: Supply Chain, Logistics, Material Requirements Planning

Source: Lightcast



Let's Talk!

There are a number of strategies you can employ to enhance employee recruitment and retention. The Arapahoe/Douglas Works! Business Services Team can help you strategize and implement these tactics. Get started by calling (303) 636-1359 or visiting https://bit.ly/ADWBusinessServices.





COLORADO APPRENTICESHIP HUB The Colorado Apprenticeship Hub serves as a resource for companies seeking to engage in registered apprenticeship programs in Colorado. The Hub provides apprenticeship-related services at no cost to employers.

If you want to connect to a consultant, please email the team at apprenticeship@arapahoegov.com







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