



2 0 0 8



Quality of Life Indicators

for the Pikes Peak region

THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTORS



THE COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP FUND



Pikes Peak United Way

For more information on how you or your organization can get involved in this annual effort, please contact:

Pikes Peak United Way

518 N. Nevada Ave

Colorado Springs, CO 80903

(719) 955-0735

2008 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In this second edition of the Quality of Life Indicators for the Pikes Peak region, the Vision Councils have begun to look at indicators that deserve applause (identified in the report with a star of achievement) or concern (warning flag). In some Councils, the membership has taken a leadership role in coordinating a community response to an issue. The following is a high-level summary of each of the nine areas:

Both the national and local ECONOMY are currently experiencing a significant slowdown. As growth in the economy decreases and costs rise, there is less money to support those agencies that are critical to maintaining and improving our quality of life. We are proud of the broad growth in the military presence in the region over the last 5 years. While continuing to support this vital part of our economy, we must grow new and existing industries that provide high paying, good opportunities for our citizens. This in turn will ensure a robust economy to provide for our future vitality.

SOCIAL WELLBEING is the measure of a community's vibrancy. All the measures are interconnected, not only to each other, but to the overall quality of life. Household composition impacts issues like economic wellbeing and social isolation of the elderly. Likewise, issues of drug and alcohol abuse affects out-of-home placement of children.

Many indicators of the status of our ENVIRONMENT are tied to measurements in many different sections of this report. For instance, transportation impacts air and water quality while also affecting the overall health of community members. Stars of achievement go to the fact that our local water consumption per capita remains the lowest for Front Range cities and to our air quality for a high number of ozone free days. While measuring our collective (and individual) "carbon footprint" remains elusive, our community is doing about as well – or as poorly – as any other community that is heavily dependent on the burning of fossil fuels to generate electricity. The fact that measurements are just now beginning to be developed regarding how much or how efficiently El Paso County residents recycle deserves a warning flag, in and of itself, to acknowledge this basic lack of information.

Regarding the HEALTH of our community there are current issues, emerging issues, and capacity issues. The current issues concern untimely death – teen suicide, suicide deaths among older adults, infant mortality, and deaths from

stroke. The emerging issues are obesity among adults and adults reporting poor mental health. The capacity issues are persons without health insurance, licensed beds in general hospitals, registered nurses, and public health resources.

In EDUCATION, high school graduation rates fell, on average, in the six largest districts in El Paso County, though the rates vary widely among districts. An early indicator of student success is third grade reading levels, which earned a warning flag for only having 79% of students proficient or advanced. Another concern of the Vision Council is that Colorado is in the bottom ten percent nationwide in funding for our schools.

There are countless opportunities for community residents and visitors to participate in ARTS, CULTURAL and RECREATIONAL activities. The data that is available shows sustained growth in park acreage, trail miles, and recreation establishments. There has been especially good news in the outstanding increase in arts organizations. Attendance to those sites sampled remains steady, though there doesn't seem to be consistent growth. The biggest challenges facing this segment of our community are the weakening economy which results in lack of disposable income and the downward affect on tourism.

In TRANSPORTATION, efficiently and effectively moving people and goods is vital to a good regional quality of life. With the passage of the Pikes Peak Rural Transportation Authority, the regional transportation system has crossed the threshold into a new period of innovation and investment aimed at reducing the backlog of system needs. As the backlog of needs is reduced, the benefits from future investments could include long-term economic productivity, enhanced competitiveness, and improved quality of life for all citizens in the region.

In community SAFETY, the crime rate remains below the national average and the crime clearance rate is above the national average. The majority of citizens feel safe in their neighborhood. However, fire safety inspections, child abuse, and domestic violence continue to rise, earning warning flags and causing concern as issues that need further research, education, and community involvement to reverse the trends.

The COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT Vision Council continues to seek new and better measures of engagement. While we are excited to have some new data from the 2008 Community Survey, comprehensive measures for many key indicators still do not exist. In this report, we are encouraged by indicators of strong volunteerism and community philanthropy. Unfortunately, we see a challenge regarding the percentage of registered voters who actually vote as well as the discrepancy between our community's desire to be more accepting and tolerant and our present reality regarding those issues.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I ABOUT EL PASO COUNTY

HISTORY	1
PEOPLE	1
GEOGRAPHY	2
GOVERNMENT	2

3 GROWING A VIBRANT ECONOMY

EMPLOYMENT & INDUSTRY

Gross Metropolitan Product.	5
Components of the Gross Metropolitan Product. .	6
Gross Metropolitan Product Per Capita	7
Business Conditions Index	8
Employment by Industry	9
Economic Impact of Military Installations	10
Tourism	11

GROWTH

Job Growth	12
Primary Job Growth	13
Construction Permits Issued	14
Foreclosures	15

INCOME & COST OF LIVING

Median Household Income	16
Poverty	17
Unemployment Rate	18

19 PROMOTING SOCIAL WELLBEING

CHILDREN & FAMILIES

Household Composition	21
Family Stability	22
Teen Pregnancy	23
Subsequent Births to Teen Mothers	23

OLDER ADULTS

Social Isolation	24
Living in Your Environment of Choice	25
Respite and Caregiver Options	25

ECONOMIC WELLBEING

Homelessness	26
Availability of Quality, Affordable Child Care	27

DRUGS & ALCOHOL

Death Rates Due to Alcohol and Drugs	28
Patterns of Alcohol & Drug Use	28

29 PRESERVING THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

WATER

Water Consumption	31
Impervious Surfaces	32
Pollution in Fountain Creek	33

AIR

Ozone Levels	34
--------------------	----

ENERGY

Renewable Energy	35
Energy Sources	36
Energy Consumption: Electricity & Natural Gas. .	37
Carbon Dioxide	38

WASTE

Pounds of Waste	39
Recycling	40

41 SUSTAINING A HEALTHY COMMUNITY

CURRENT HEALTH ISSUES

Teen Suicide	43
Suicide Deaths Among Older Adults	44
Infant Mortality	45
Deaths From Stroke	46

EMERGING HEALTH ISSUES

Obesity Among Adults	47
Adults Reporting Poor Mental Health	48

INFRASTRUCTURE/CAPACITY

Persons Without Health Insurance	49
Licensed Beds In General Hospitals	50
Registered Nurses	51
Public Health Resources	52

53 ACHIEVING EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE

EARLY LEARNING

Early Childhood Education	55
Third Grade Reading Skills	55

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Tenth Grade Reading Skills	56
Tenth Grade Math Skills	56

STUDENT GRADUATION

High School Graduation Rate	57
High School Dropout Rate	57

HIGHER EDUCATION

Adult Educational Attainment	58
Outcomes of Higher Education	58

TEACHER QUALITY

Teachers with Advanced Degrees	59
Teacher Compensation	60

EDUCATIONAL FUNDING

School Funding	61
Students in Need	62

63 ENJOYING ARTS, CULTURE, AND RECREATION

ARTS, CULTURE AND HUMANITIES PRESENCE

Organizations	65
Attendance At Local Venues	66

RECREATION PRESENCE

Recreational Establishments	67
Parks Acreage	68
Miles Of Recreational Trails	69
Participation In Recreational Activities	70

71 MOVING AROUND EFFICIENTLY

DAILY TRAVEL

Modes of Travel	73
---------------------------	----

TRAFFIC

Travel Time	74
Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT)	75

GETTING AROUND SAFELY

Quality of Roads and Bridges	76
Traffic Accidents	77
Bicycle & Pedestrian Safety	78

ALTERNATE METHODS OF TRANSPORTATION

Public Transportation	79
Access by Air	80

81 KEEPING THE COMMUNITY SAFE

PUBLIC SAFETY

Crime Rate	83
DUI Arrests	84
Repeat Offenders in Jail	85
Juvenile Arrest Rate	86

PROVIDING SERVICES

Law Enforcement Calls for Service	87
Crime Clearance Rate	88
Neighborhood Safety	89
Joint Fire and EMS Response Times	90
Fire Safety Inspection Rate	90

SAFETY IN THE HOME

Child Abuse	91
Domestic Violence	92

93 FOSTERING COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT

Projected Voter Participation	95
---	----

DIVERSITY

Tolerance and Acceptance	96
------------------------------------	----

PHILANTHROPY

Community Giving	97
Where Coloradans Volunteer	98
Finding Volunteer Opportunities	98

LOCAL LEADERSHIP

Leadership Demographics	99
-----------------------------------	----

LOCAL KNOWLEDGE & ACCESS

Access to Information	100
---------------------------------	-----

101 END NOTES / BIBLIOGRAPHY

105 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

ABOUT EL PASO COUNTY¹

When possible, the indicators presented in this report cover data for El Paso County. The county seat and population center is Colorado Springs. Other major population centers in the county include Monument and Palmer Lake to the north; Security, Widefield and Fountain to the south; and Manitou Springs, Cascade and Green Mountain Falls to the west.

HISTORY

El Paso County was established in 1861. Colorado Springs became the county seat in 1873. Early on, many city leaders promoted the area as a tourist destination. Visitors came to see the area's beauty and were inspired to stay by the mild climate and the region's growing resort accommodations.

Gold was discovered in nearby Cripple Creek in 1891 and Colorado Springs found itself as a thriving financial center until 1917 when the U.S. went to silver for its coinage, and with that, the local economy once again emphasized tourism.

When World War II began, the area offered land to the military and Fort Carson was established on 137,000 acres to the south of Colorado Springs. The military's

presence grew in the 1950s with the opening of the U.S. Air Force Academy. Over the next 30 years, the Pikes Peak Region gained a reputation as the nation's military space capital as Space Command and additional Air Force installations relocated here.

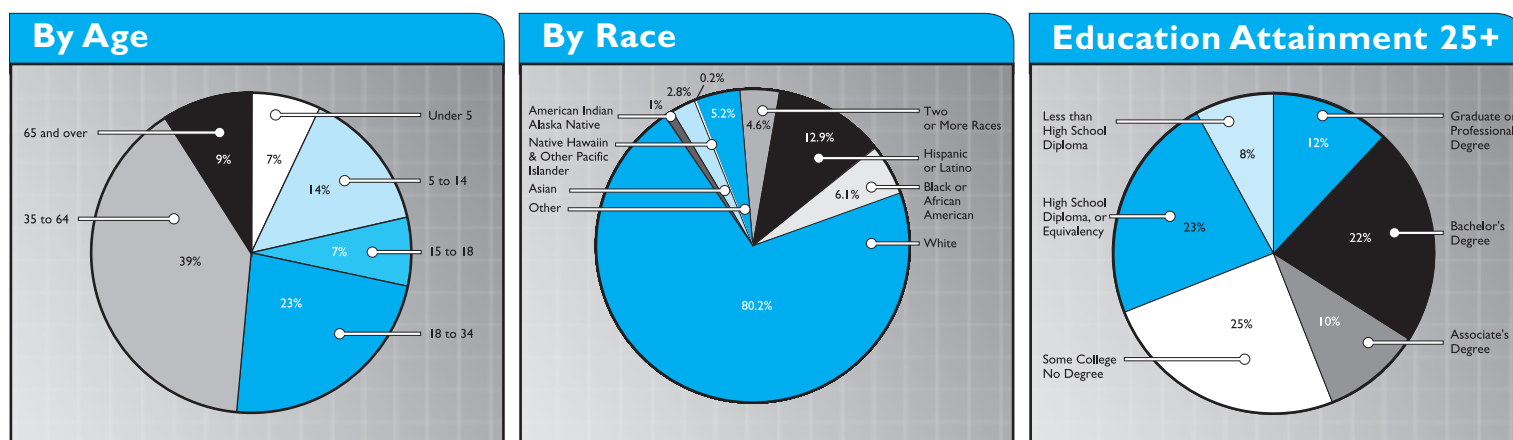
Manufacturing expanded in the 1960s and 1970s with technical advances in computers, electronic equipment, and semiconductor manufacturing. The amateur sports segment is also one of several service industries expanding in the region. Colorado Springs is home to the headquarters of the U.S. Olympic Committee and Olympic Training Center, (one of the world's finest multi-sport training facilities). Many other national nonprofit and religious organizations have moved their headquarters to the Pikes Peak Region as well.

PEOPLE

The population of El Paso County in 2007 is estimated at 587,272 comprised of 239,662 households in 2006. These charts detail the race, age and educational attainment of the population in 2006. In total approximately 372,437

residents reside in the city of Colorado Springs. The average size of a household was 2.57 people and the average family consisted of 3.14 related individuals.

EL PASO COUNTY POPULATION



Source: U.S. Census Bureau; American Communities Survey; 2006 data

GEOGRAPHY

El Paso County lies in east central Colorado and encompasses more than 2,158 square miles. While the western portion of El Paso County is extremely mountainous, the eastern part is prairie. The altitude ranges from 5,095 feet (1569 m) on the southern border at Black Squirrel Creek to 14,110 feet (4301 m) on the summit of Pikes Peak. This vast elevation difference creates a uniquely wide range of ecosystems and habitats.

When possible, the indicators presented in this report cover data for the entire area of El Paso County. The county seat and population center is Colorado Springs. Other major centers in the county include Monument and Palmer Lake to the north; Security/ Widefield and Fountain

to the south; and Manitou Springs, Cascade and Green Mountain Falls to the west. For the past 10 years, rapid population growth continues in the northeastern parts of the county, such as the Black Forest and Falcon areas.

At an elevation of 6,035 feet, residents enjoy a number of climatic advantages. During the summer months the days are seasonally warm, but when the sun sets, the evenings and nights are refreshingly cool. Sunny dates are abundant even during the winter and the sun's intensity at such elevation melt snow from streets and sidewalks quickly. The region's meteorological classification is an alpine desert with about 250 days of sunshine and only 15-16 inches of precipitation per year. Humidity remains comfortably low.

GOVERNMENT

El Paso County is governed by five county commissioners assisted by a variety of other elected and appointed officials. Together, these leaders oversee 13 departments that serve the county's needs for safety, transportation, human services, environment, parks and recreation and a variety of other public functions. The El Paso County Department of Public Health and Environment is also a government institution receiving tax funds.

Colorado Springs is governed by the mayor and eight other city council members. The city is charged with

taking care of government responsibilities within city limits. Some of its major services include the Municipal Utilities, Colorado Springs Airport, Police and Fire departments, Parks, and Recreation and Cultural Services.

Compared to similar Colorado counties, El Paso County's property tax rates rank the lowest. Combined sales tax and property tax revenue per person is also the lowest.

The county collects all property taxes, but disperses all but 10% of the total property taxes collected to other government entities, such as schools and library districts. This table demonstrates the dispersal of property taxes for a homeowner living in District 11, whose home has a market value of \$200,000. It also shows a related mill levy of 7.1678% and who pays a total of \$1,141 in annual property taxes.

County	Taxes per person- sales and property (ranking highest to lowest)	Mill levy -property tax rate (ranking highest to lowest)		Dollars	Percent of Total
El Paso County	\$186 (10)	7.514 (10)	El Paso County	\$99	9%
Adams	\$334 (6)	26.899 (2)	El Paso County Road and Bridge	\$10	1%
Arapahoe	\$253 (9)	15.217 (8)	City of Colorado Springs	\$79	7%
Boulder	\$468 (2)	22.467 (3)	City of Colorado Springs Road and Bridge	\$10	1%
Douglas	\$492 (1)	19.774 (6)	Library District	\$53	5%
Jefferson	\$407 (3)	24.346 (5)	School District 11	\$701	61%
Larimer	\$402 (4)	22.414 (4)	Water District	\$15	1%
Mesa	\$390 (5)	13.260 (9)	General and Special improvement districts	\$174	15%
Pueblo	\$301 (7)	31.708 (1)			
Weld	\$283 (8)	16.804 (7)			

Source: 2008 Citizen's Guide to El Paso County Government

¹Much of the narrative in this section is copied and adapted from information posted on El Paso County's official website at <http://adm2.elpasoco.com/epchome/default.asp>, the City of Colorado Springs' official website at <http://www.springsgov.com/Page.asp?NavID=194> and the 2008 Citizen's Guide to El Paso County Government.

GROWING A VIBRANT ECONOMY

The national and local economies are currently experiencing a significant slowdown. As growth in the economy decreases and costs rise, there is less money to support those agencies that are critical to maintaining and improving our quality of life. We are proud of the broad growth in the military presence in the region over the last 5 years. While continuing to support this vital part of our economy, we must grow existing industries and work to attract new businesses that provide high paying, good opportunities for our citizens, bringing money in to our area to ensure a robust economy to assure our future vitality.



The Economic and Civic Literacy Project, a program of the nonpartisan Limited Government Forum, works to nurture a better understanding of economics, history and civics in the Pikes Peak Region, believing, as the founders did, that a free Republic won't long survive without an informed, educated and rational citizenry. We believe improved economic literacy will encourage more enlightened decision-making by politicians and all citizens, based on a deeper understanding of the ideas and economic forces that sustain a free and prosperous society.

205 E. Cheyenne Mountain Blvd.
719-576-9055
LocalLibertyOnline.org

Growing a Vibrant Economy Council

Chair

MIKE KAZMIERSKI

Colorado Springs Economic Development Corporation

Members

BARRY BAUM

Western Forge (W Forge Holdings, Inc.)

Convener

LISA AMEND

Experience Colorado Springs

DEBRA ARNESON

Hewlett Packard

BRIAN BINN

Greater Colorado Springs Chamber of Commerce

HOWARD BROOKS

Pikes Peak United Way

FRED CROWLEY

University of Colorado, Colorado Springs

DAVE CSINTYAN

Greater Colorado Springs

Chamber of Commerce

ROBERT CUTTER

Advent Advisors, LLC

PAULA FERGUSON

Pikes Peak Workforce Center

WILLIAM GAMBLE

Black Leadership Forum

WENDY HENRY

BKD, LLP

PEGGY HERBERTSON

Pikes Peak Workforce Center

CHRISTOPHER JUNIPER

Natural Capitalism Solutions

AMY LONG

Experience Colorado Springs

LON MATEJCZYK

Colorado Springs Business Journal

THOMAS MOWLE

El Paso County Public Trustee

THOMAS NAUGHTON

U.S. Bank

CAROL ODELL

Colorado Springs Better

Business Bureau

SEAN PAIGE

SUSAN SAKSA

Leadership Pikes Peak

SCOTT SMITH

La Plata Communities, Inc.

Employment & Industry

Gross Metropolitan Product

Components of the Gross Metropolitan Product

Gross Metropolitan Product Per Capita

Business Conditions Index

Employment by Industry

Economic Impact of Military Installations

Tourism

Growth

Job Growth

Primary Job Growth

Construction Permits Issued

Foreclosures

Income & Cost of Living

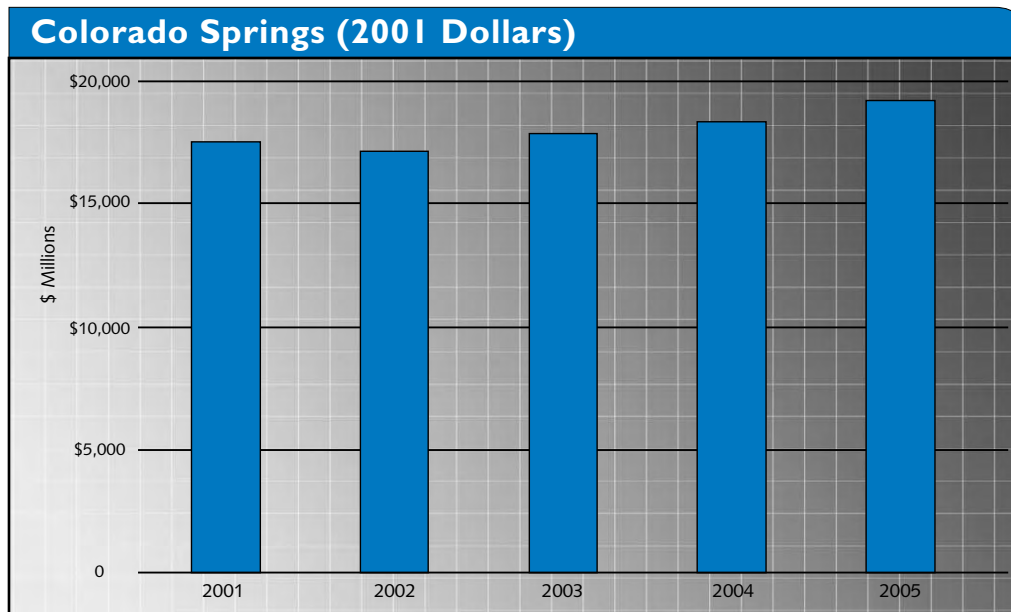
Median Household Income

Poverty

Unemployment Rate

Employment & Industry

GROSS METROPOLITAN PRODUCT



Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis

THIS CHART

Gross Metropolitan Product (GMP) is the measure of goods and services produced by labor and property in a specific region, and is a subset of the national Gross Domestic Product (GDP). The GDP is the most comprehensive measure of economic activity.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

GMP data provides a consistent measure across all States and Metropolitan Areas enabling government and citizens to easily evaluate the following:

- The size and growth trends of the local economy
- Comparison to other metropolitan areas, states and the overall U.S. economy

The size of the GMP, its rate of growth and composition, directly influences the tax base, from which local government funding is derived. This tax base supports infrastructure including, roads, schools, police, fire protection, health care and others services. A flat or declining level of GMP or a growth rate which does not keep up with inflation may result in a degradation of infrastructure adversely impacting quality of life.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

Out of the 363 metropolitan areas within the U.S., the Colorado Springs Metropolitan Area ranked 83rd in 2001 and 86th in 2005 a slip of 3 places. During the period 2001-2005, the Colorado Springs economy grew by 9.6% – 1.5% slower than the rate of growth of the overall U.S. economy. With this performance we can expect our ranking to slip further, making Colorado Springs less important to overall U.S. economic output. This level of growth may not support the increased demands for local infrastructure.

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

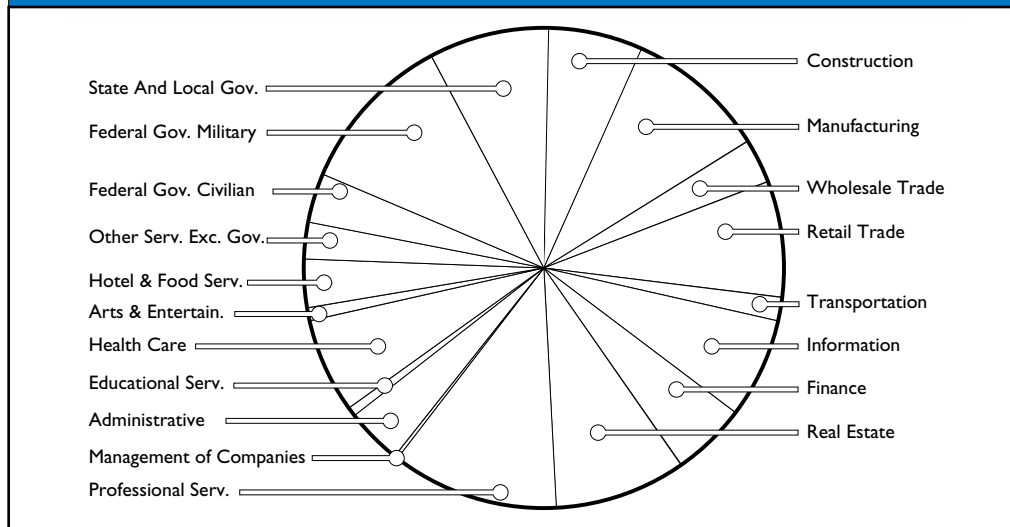
Our goal should be to regain the ground we lost and to work towards securing the 80th position in the nation within 5 years. This can be achieved through the diversification of the economy and emphasis on industries that support high levels of economic growth and value such as alternative energy, manufacturing, information technology, system hardware/software design and aerospace design/manufacture. The Colorado Springs Economic Development Corporation and the City of Colorado Springs should develop a plan to support this goal.

Metropolitan Area	Gross Metropolitan Product Value		Gross Metropolitan Product Growth	
	2005 (\$ Millions)	Rank out of 363	Growth 2001-05	Rank out of 363
Denver	118,430	18	9%	234
Austin	61,943	37	16%	113
Salt Lake City	45,606	46	9%	232
Omaha	34,891	54	13%	138
Albuquerque	30,542	58	17%	105
Boise	21,322	78	24%	37
Wichita	19,567	84	-4%	358
Colorado Springs	19,241	86	10%	212
Boulder	14,873	107	-1%	352
Fort Collins	9,026	159	15%	115
Pueblo	2,962	322	0%	349

Employment & Industry

COMPONENTS OF THE GROSS METROPOLITAN PRODUCT

2005 Colorado Springs \$19.2 Billion (in 2001 Dollars)



Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis

THIS CHART

shows the major components, and their value, within the Colorado Springs Metropolitan Area economy using a standard classification used by the U.S. Department of Commerce.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

This reflects the diversity in the local economy. As a community we don't want to be dependent on any one segment of the economy. A well diversified economy won't suffer from the challenges associated with extraordinary growth in a unique sector driving large increases in population and housing placing high demands on infrastructure. In addition, a diversified economy won't suffer the consequences of downturns in individual segments creating large layoffs and decreases in property values. A balanced portfolio of companies and industries within the local economy provides quality, sustainable, growth.

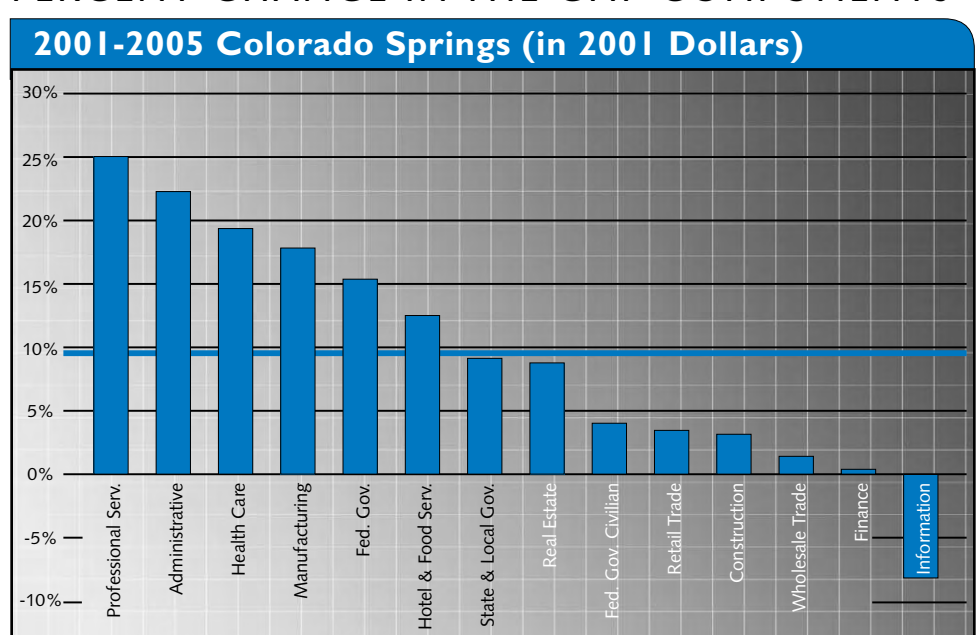
POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

Focus our economic development activities to increase information technologies, manufacturing, research and other high value-added segments to balance the large portion of the economy that depends on government spending and services. The Colorado Springs Economic Development Corporation and the City of Colorado Springs need to work to attract companies to Colorado Springs within these segments. Possible targets might include alternative energy, pollution control, aerospace, software development, communications, data storage, biotechnology and electronic design and manufacture. These would hopefully include headquarters operations. We should continue to enhance and preserve our military facilities and operations to protect the substantial military economic base we have today.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

Between 2000–2005, the Colorado Springs economy became more dependent on professional, technical and administrative services as well as military activities. This trend is expected to continue with the ongoing expansion of Fort Carson and other military facilities. In 2005, approximately one quarter of our economic output came from military and government activities in the area. Half of this, or \$2.1 billion (2001 dollars) was derived from military activities alone. During the period, the value of information technology, finance and insurance activities declined. The service segment accounted for approximately 25% of the total output. Manufacturing, real estate and wholesale/retail trade accounted for between 10-15% each. Approximately 3% of the local GMP comes from tourism. In short, the local economy is dominated by government spending and service industries.

PERCENT CHANGE IN THE GMP COMPONENTS



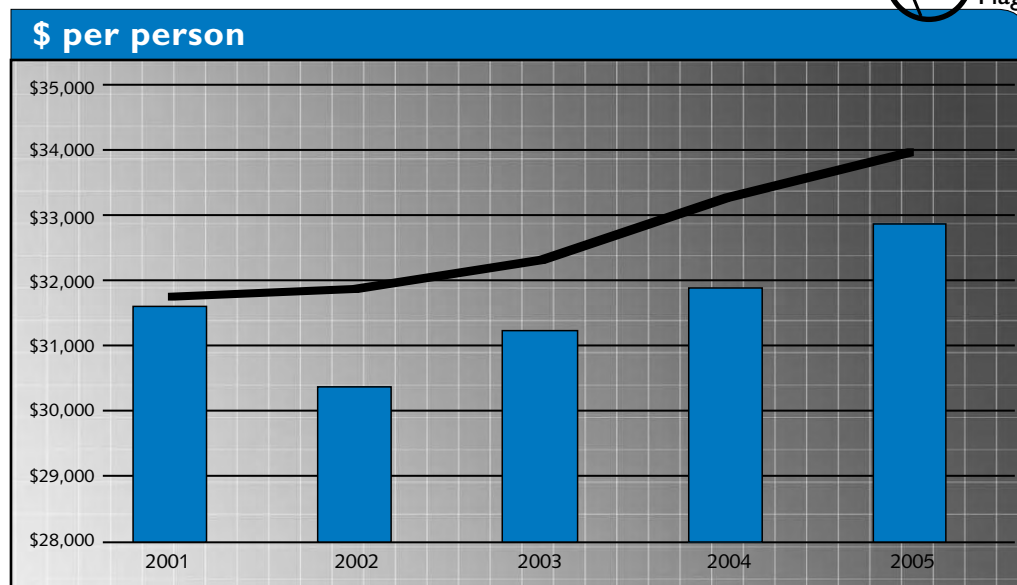
Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis

Employment & Industry

GROSS METROPOLITAN PRODUCT PER CAPITA



Warning
Flag



THIS CHART

combines the level of economic output (GMP in \$), with the number of people in the population, to provide a measurement of how productive the population is in generating goods and services comprising the output of the local economy.

Colorado Springs

U.S.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

A high level of economic output per person results in a community that achieves a high level of wealth creation while the same time placing a low demand on the infrastructure to support the population. Conversely, a low level of economic output per person places high demands on infrastructure in the form of housing, roads and schools without providing the economic output that provides a funding base to support such needs. In addition a community with a high economic output per person is more likely to have a higher tax base because of the discretionary funds available for high value purchases to fund a higher quality of life. This discretionary income also provides a higher level of donations to charitable and philanthropic causes. In short, high productivity results in a sustainable, higher quality, standard of life for the whole community.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

In 2005 Colorado Springs ranked 162nd out of 363 cities in the nation in terms of economic output per person. The productivity ranking significantly lags behind our ranking based on the size of the local economy where we rank 86th. We therefore have a higher population for a given level of output. The output per person is affected by the type of jobs and industries within the economy as well as the number of retired or unemployed people in the community. Since we have a reasonable level of unemployment it's likely our GMP/capita is most influenced by the industries we have and the number of retired or underemployed citizens. For example, call centers and tourism employ large numbers of people with below average economic output. Employees in such industries tend to have lower salaries compared to technology and manufacturing industries, leaving little discretionary income to spend on luxury items. This in turn provides a lower basis for various forms of tax collections. In 2007, 49% of the Colorado Springs population was in the workforce compared to 59% for Boulder, 54% for Denver, 54% for the State of Colorado and 62% for the nation. In Colorado Springs we have a less than satisfactory situation with a relatively high population for our economic output placing high demands on infrastructure without the economic base to effectively fund the expected levels of service.

Metropolitan Area	Gross Metropolitan Product per Capita (2001 \$ base)		
	2001 Rank Out of 363	2005	2005 Rank Out of 363
Boulder	8	53,211	10
Denver	9	50,144	16
Salt Lake City	30	43,572	38
Omaha	47	42,925	45
Austin	44	42,581	47
Boise	84	39,113	75
Albuquerque	82	38,296	84
Wichita	86	33,338	154
Fort Collins	165	33,203	156
Colorado Springs	140	32,794	162
Pueblo	335	19,619	355

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

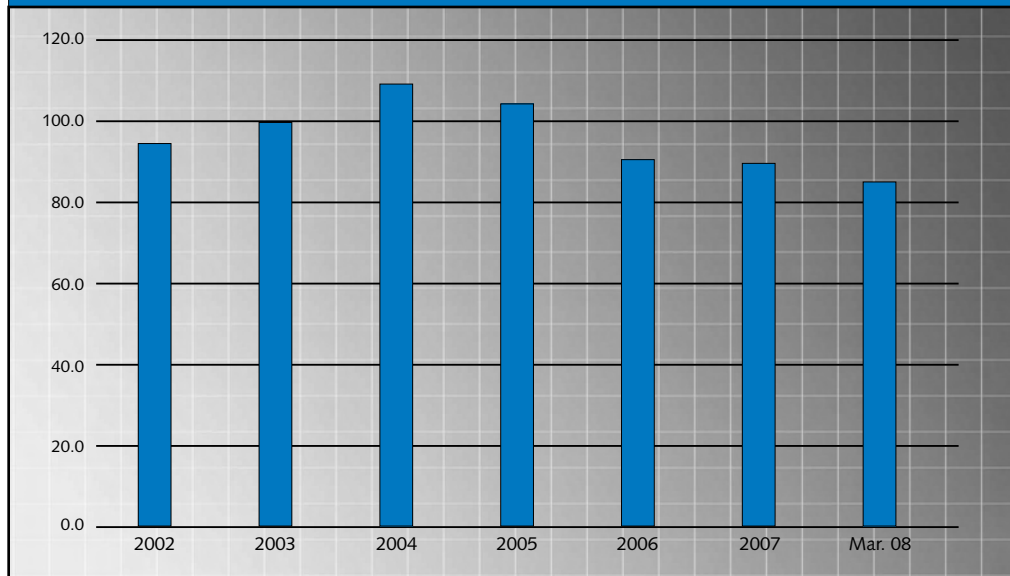
Attract high value industries with high paying wages to improve the output achieved for a given population base. These industries would include financial services, engineering, alternative energy, military aerospace design and manufacture. Using this industrial base, we can work to secure a position in the top 100 communities within the U.S. in terms of GMP per capita within 5 years. The Colorado Springs Economic Development Corporation and the City of Colorado Springs should work together to develop a plan to support this goal.

Employment & Industry

BUSINESS CONDITIONS INDEX



El Paso County



Source: Southern Colorado Economic Forum

THIS CHART

The Business Conditions Index is a geometric index of ten seasonally adjusted data series for El Paso County. This includes single family and town home permits, new car sales, employment rate, foreclosures, ES202 employment and ES202 wages and salaries. Colorado Springs data includes sales and use tax and airport enplanements. It is based on an index of March 2001 = 100.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

This is an overall measure of the economic health of the area.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

The Business Climate Index is at its lowest point since 2002 reflecting a significant slowdown in the local economy. Seven of the ten indicators continued their downward trend.

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

The drop in the BCI can be attributed to the slowdown in the overall national economy. Quality job growth in the local economy will help improve performance, especially the growth of Primary Employers who derive the majority of the revenues from outside the Pikes Peak region and therefore bring outside money into the community. The Colorado Springs Economic Development Corporation (EDC) is working to bring new Primary Employers into the area and help existing companies grow.

Employment & Industry

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

Civilian Employed Population 16 years & over El Paso Co.						
Type of Industry	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	Change 2003-07
Public Administration	20.0%	19.9%	20.2%	19.6%	19.9%	-0.1%
Professional, Scientific, Management, Administrative, and Waste Mgmt Service	13.8%	14.3%	14.3%	14.8%	14.8%	1.0%
Retail Trade	10.7%	10.7%	10.5%	10.4%	10.5%	-0.2%
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate, Rental and Leasing	9.6%	9.7%	10.1%	10.3%	10.2%	0.6%
Educational Services, Health Care and Social Assistance	9.2%	9.2%	9.3%	9.3%	9.4%	0.2%
Arts, Entertainment, Recreation, Accommodation and Food Services	9.2%	9.2%	9.0%	9.1%	9.1%	-0.1%
Other Services, Except Public Administration	6.8%	6.8%	7.0%	6.9%	6.9%	0.1%
Construction	6.3%	6.4%	6.6%	6.9%	6.7%	0.3%
Manufacturing	6.3%	6.0%	5.4%	5.1%	5.0%	-1.3%
Information	3.5%	3.4%	3.1%	2.9%	2.8%	-0.6%
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	2.0%	2.0%	3.1%	2.2%	2.2%	0.2%
Wholesale Trade	2.1%	3.1%	2.1%	1.9%	1.9%	-0.1%
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting and Mining	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	-0.1%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; American Communities Survey

THIS CHART

shows the percent of total employment held by each industry in El Paso County. Industry categories are determined by the U.S. Census Bureau and the National American Industry Classification System.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

A community with a diverse industrial base is better able to withstand normal employment up- and down-cycles. For example, tourism will have higher employment during the summer months and less during spring and fall months while retail may peak during spring and winter. The more variety in the economic makeup of a community, the more resilient it may be to national and global changes.

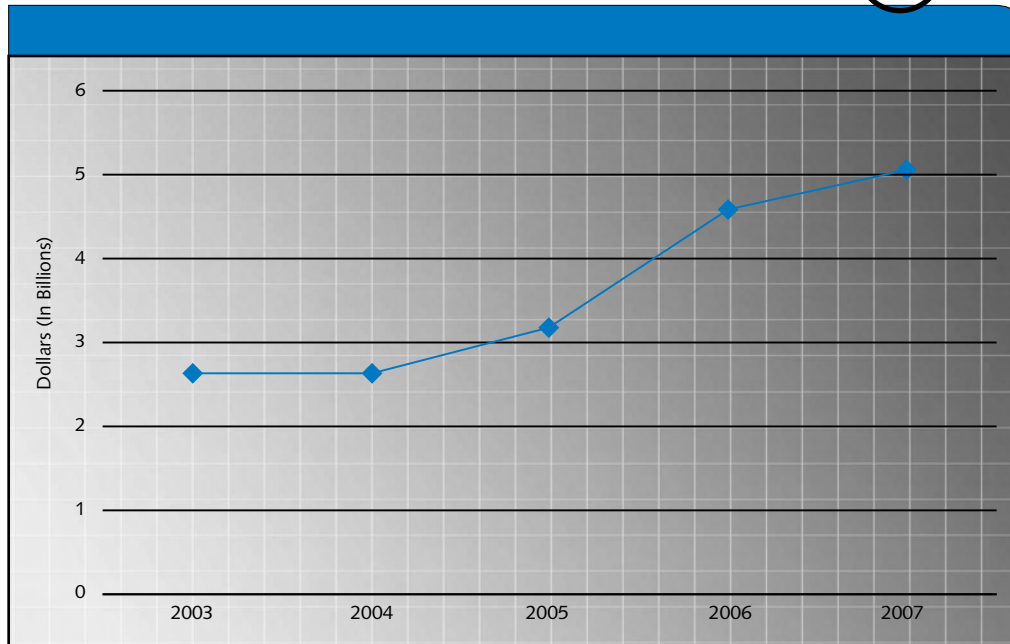
HOW ARE WE DOING?

While we have a very diverse employment base in the community, emphasis needs to be placed on growing those industries which sell goods and services to those outside our region to bring money into this area and increase our economic output per person.

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

Attract high value industries including those in various forms of high technology design and manufacturing, information technology and software / web-based applications where we currently have a lower level of activity. The Colorado Springs Economic Development Corporation and the City of Colorado Springs could take the lead in developing and implementing these objectives.

ECONOMIC IMPACT OF MILITARY INSTALLATIONS



Source: Colorado Springs Chamber of Commerce, Military Affairs Council, Pikes Peak Region Military Facts

THIS CHART

shows the total estimated economic impact including payroll, construction, services, procurement of materials, equipment, supplies and dollar value of jobs created by the military in El Paso County. Military installations included in the study are Fort Carson, Peterson Complex, U.S. Air Force Academy, and Schriever Air Force Base.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

The military in the Pikes Peak region is a significant positive driver for the region's economy. The direct and indirect impact on the economy is nearly 40%. This provides a stabilizing affect on the region's economy.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

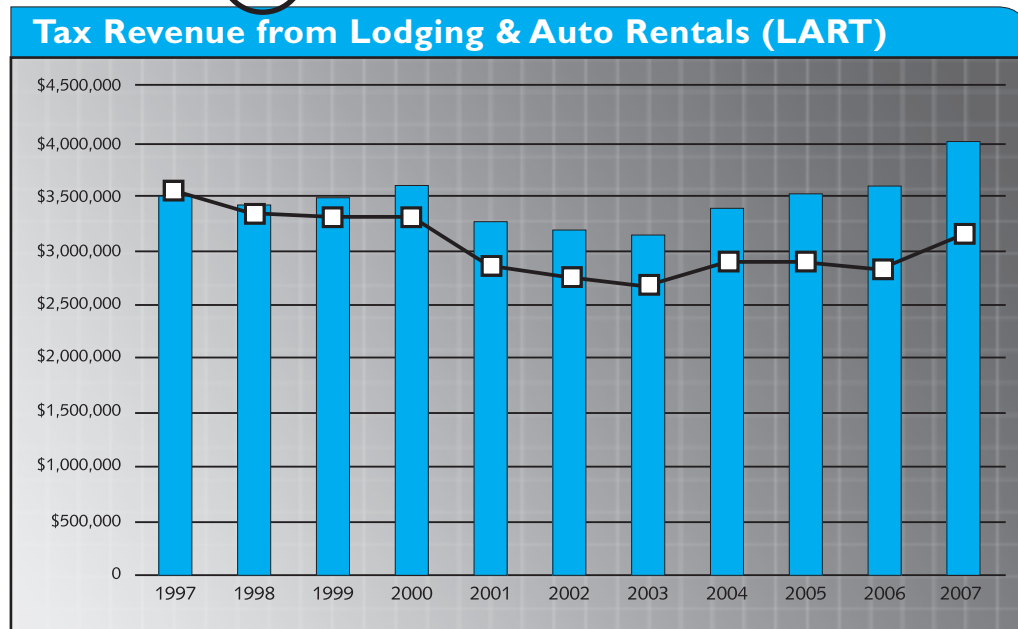
Since 2004, this indicator has continued to rise, primarily as a result of the ongoing major growth at Fort Carson. This growth has not only resulted in an increased number of personnel stationed at the Post, but also a large amount of construction. The indirect impact on other sectors of the economy, such as services, retail, etc., is significant.

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

Although the direction of this indicator has been positive over the last several years, the community must remain proactive in maintaining and growing the military infrastructure in the region. The forecast is for this indicator to continue to be positive over the next several years.

Employment & Industry



TOURISM Star of Achievement



Source: City of Colorado Springs Finance Department

THIS CHART

shows tax revenues in the City of Colorado Springs from taxes levied on lodging and auto rentals. This is a common measure of the economic impact of tourism since tourists represent the majority of hotel stays and auto rentals.

 Nominal LART
 Inflation Adjusted LART (1997 \$)

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Tourism is Colorado Springs' third-largest industry, employing more than 14,000 people. Each year, over six million people visit Colorado Springs and the Pikes Peak Region and spend over one billion dollars at our hotels, restaurants, attractions and retailers. Tax revenue collected from non-residents makes up about 25% of our City's annual general fund budget. A portion of the Lodgers and Auto Rental Tax (LART), collected by hotels (2%) and car rental companies (1%) within City limits is channeled into marketing, advertising and sales programs to keep Colorado Springs top of mind when people are choosing a destination for a leisure or business trip.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

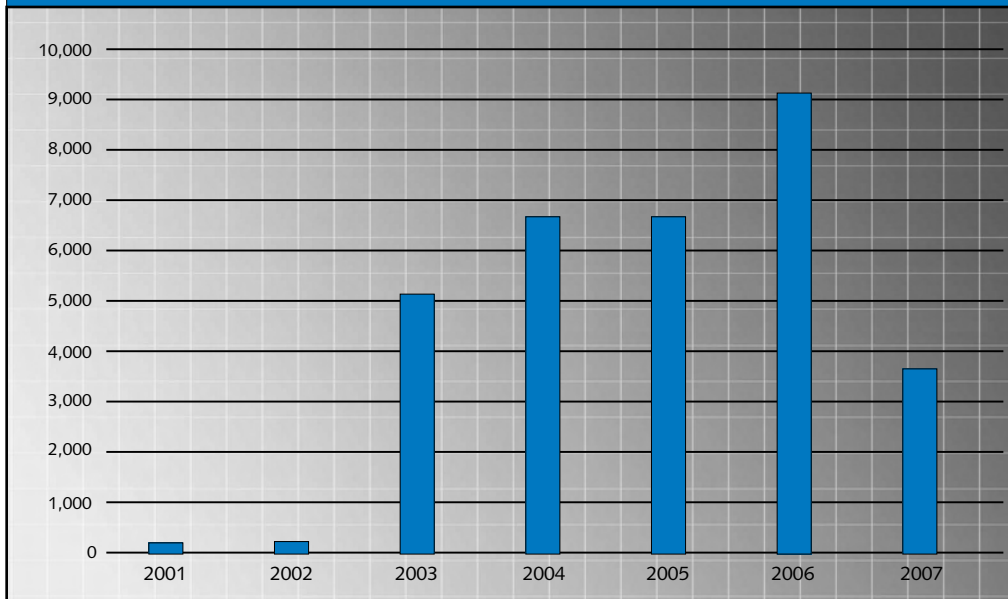
In 2002 and again in 2003, the LART tax went down due to the events of September 11, 2001 and the subsequent slowing of the economy. As the country and economy recovered, so did the tourism and business travel industry, with the LART tax growing steadily ever since. However, when adjusted for inflation, compared to the late 90s, the effective amount of dollars available for tourism promotion and other City projects has actually decreased.

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

Competition is fierce for tourism and business travel dollars. In 2006, the governor signed a \$26 million economic development package that increased the Colorado Tourism Office's annual budget from \$5 million to \$19 million. These funds are vital to promoting the entire state and provide a springboard for Colorado Springs to then inspire travel to our city. It is critical for this funding mechanism to continue and citizens should encourage their state representatives not to waiver in their support of tourism. As a community, we need to encourage City Council to continue to fund tourism promotion at its current level or to increase funding to increase visitation. The community also needs to pull together to create and communicate a strong brand identity that allows various marketing entities to present a consistent message to the traveling public so that the tourism industry continues to flourish.

JOB GROWTH Warning Flag

Colorado Springs MSA Net Number of Jobs Added per Year



Source: Colorado Data: Colorado Department of Labor, Colorado Quarterly Census of Employment & Wages
U.S. Data: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment & Wages

THIS CHART

shows the number of jobs added to the local economy. This is a net number taking into account the number of jobs lost in the same period. It includes all types of civilian jobs including those for primary employers, retail, service industries, government members, etc. but not military servicemembers. This measurement does not take into account the quality or salary level of the added jobs.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Each year the population of Colorado Springs grows by 6,000-8,000 people. In our region, approximately 50% of the population is in the civilian workforce; therefore, we need to add about 3,000-4,000 jobs each year to keep up with natural growth in our community. Added jobs support the expansion in our economy which provides new career growth opportunities for the workforce and generates the wealth and additional tax base to support our infrastructure, including roads, health services, safety services and schools. Failure to achieve or exceed this level of job growth will result in a shortage of funding for infrastructure items, a lower level of economic output and the associated reduction in quality of life.

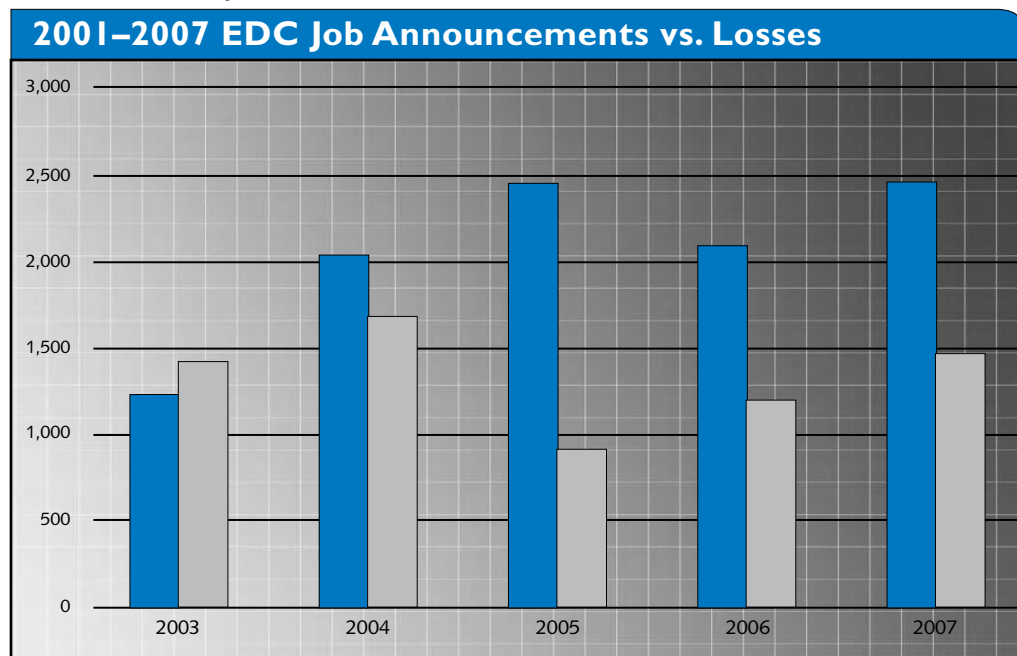
HOW ARE WE DOING?

32,000 jobs in all categories were added over the seven year period 2001-2007, representing a 12% increase in the workforce since the start of the decade. In 2007, a significant reduction in the net jobs added occurred. With the economic pressures in the overall U.S. economy, we can expect a low level of net job growth in 2008.

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

- 1) Identify overall job growth targets required to achieve and support our desired level of economic growth and establish a plan to achieve them. This target needs to include the inevitable losses which occur due to layoffs, corporate restructuring etc. It is likely that the number of jobs we actually need to add is twice the desired net level of job growth to make up for these losses. Overall new job additions must be in the range of 6,000-8,000 per year for current level of modest growth and perhaps at a level of 9,000-10,000 to meet our goals for higher level of economic growth and productivity.
- 2) Determine the desired mix of jobs to be added to promote "quality growth" (high salaries, fewer jobs with lower demand on infrastructure) but at the same time meet the needs of the community (available skills vs. job requirements). This mix will include desirable industries and skills for **sustained** growth without significant boom and bust cycles and with high overall economic output per person. The Colorado Springs Economic Development Corporation and Pikes Peak Workforce Center will play a lead role to meet this goal.

PRIMARY JOB GROWTH



Source: Colorado Springs Economic Development Corporation

THIS CHART

shows the announced gains and losses of primary jobs within El Paso County. Primary jobs are those companies that derive greater than 50% of their revenue from outside the Pikes Peak Region. While attracting new quality jobs to the area it is important we retain the existing jobs from existing primary employers.

■ New Primary Jobs
■ Layoffs/Closures

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Primary jobs drive the entire economy and bring in the wealth for the community that is needed to sustain and grow the economy. There is no size consideration for these employers, only the fact that they bring wealth into the community through their external customer base. Only 4% of the businesses in the region are primary employers yet they account for over half of the jobs in the community. The region needs on average 3,500 new primary jobs each year (1,900 to replace the average number of primary jobs lost each year and 1,600 to meet the needs of the young adults entering the workforce).

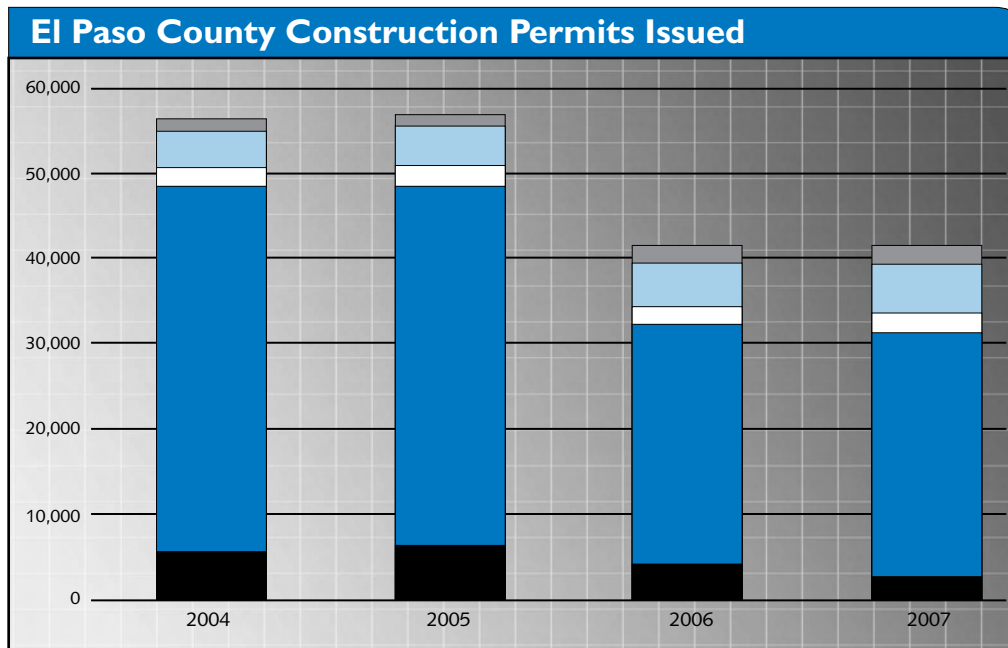
HOW ARE WE DOING?

Over the last four years our performance has been satisfactory, with greater than 2000 primary jobs announced each year. Each year we need a net gain of over 1,100 new primary jobs to sustain a modest growth in the economy. These primary jobs are multiplied by a factor of 2 or 3 with other support jobs added to the community.

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

More financial support is needed for primary jobs creation. The primary job creation effort is led by the Colorado Springs Economic Development Corporation (a non-profit) and the EDC program is under-funded in comparison to other communities our size. Additionally, the state and the region do not support incentives as a way to attract and retain quality jobs. The days of companies making major relocation decisions primarily on quality of life factors have ended, as companies now must consider the cost of doing business and incentives provided to off set costs as they work to remain competitive in a global market place.

CONSTRUCTION PERMITS ISSUED



Source: El Paso County Pikes Peak Regional Building Department, Pikes Peak Region Building Report

THIS CHART

This chart shows the number of building permits issued in El Paso County each year by type. It measures the current and projected demand for new homes and commercial buildings as well as the alterations of existing structures.

- All Others
- Commercial Alterations
- New Construction-Commercial
- Residential Alterations
- New Construction-Single Family

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Home and business ownership creates a sense of community. A greater number of permits will translate into more families owning their own home. In addition, permits allow the community to project and adjust service needs to meet general demands including schools, parks, roads, tax revenue, etc.

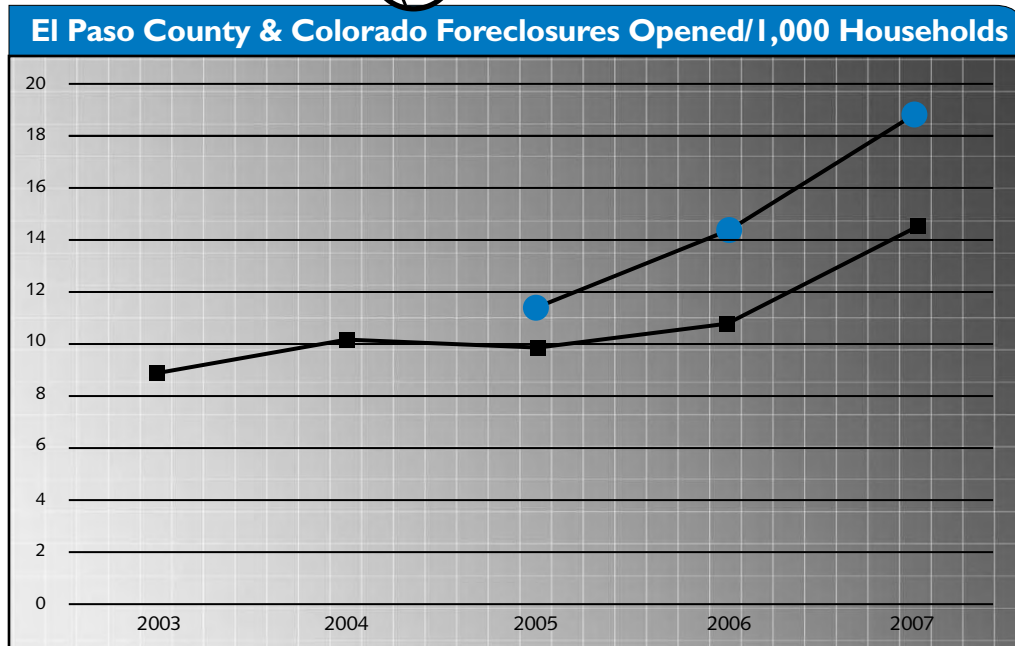
HOW ARE WE DOING?

Construction permits slowed significantly in 2006 and 2007. The market is reacting to the economy and the building industry is slowing down from the heated market in 2004 and 2005. Per the Colorado Springs Home Builders Association, a healthy and normal market for the Pikes Peak region for single family homes is between 3,500 and 4,500 permits per year.

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

A vibrant and growing community creates opportunities for people to enter the home ownership market and provides opportunities for businesses to expand. As a community we need to collaborate on ways to keep the cost of entry appropriate and accessible to working adults.

FORECLOSURES Warning Flag



Source: Colorado Public Trustees Association

THIS CHART

shows the number of foreclosure actions that were started or opened per 1,000 households in El Paso County. Banks foreclose on a home when the homeowner fails to make loan payments.

● Colorado
■ El Paso County

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

The effects on numerous business sectors due to high foreclosure rates are negative. Mortgages and equity loans are harder to get, home prices drop, which is perhaps positive for home buyers; however, a continued drop in home prices could leave a home owner owing more than the house is worth. This is a national problem being addressed at the federal level.

The homeless rate could increase, crime could increase and other adverse quality of life items could increase if a high level of foreclosures is not addressed.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

The El Paso County Public Trustee's Office is reporting that February 2008 foreclosures were the highest since the Public Trustee Office started keeping records.

Recent state statute changes have allowed for additional time prior to the home sale for the homeowner to cure the deficit payment. This may have a positive effect on the state's foreclosure rate moving forward.

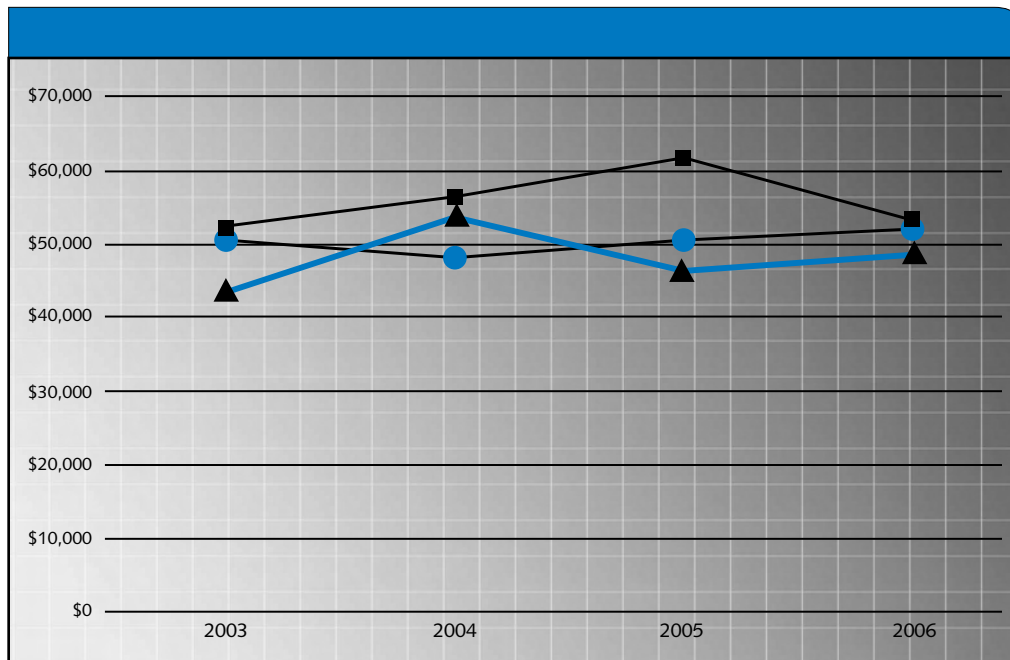
This is a national problem, not just an El Paso County problem.

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

People need to continue to be educated to live within their means. Lending companies need to return to lending practices that qualify people based on their financial situation at the time of the loan.

Income & Cost Of Living

MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME



Source: U.S. Census Bureau; American Communities Survey

THIS CHART

shows the median household income for El Paso County, the State of Colorado, and the U.S.

Median household income represents the exact middle of the income distribution of the household population in the community, with 50 percent of households earning incomes above the median and 50 percent of the households earning below the median. A household is defined as a group of people dwelling together and may consist of a single adult, a family, a group of roommates, or unrelated individuals.

■ El Paso County

● Colorado

▲ U.S..

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Household income is a measure of current private income commonly used by the United States government and private institutions. It combines the pre-tax money receipts of all residents over the age of 15 in a single dwelling unit. As the median household income rises, their buying power increases for the purchase of goods and services. These in turn generate tax revenues to fund necessary community infrastructure. In addition, a higher median income level supports a higher level of charitable contributions to those in need.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

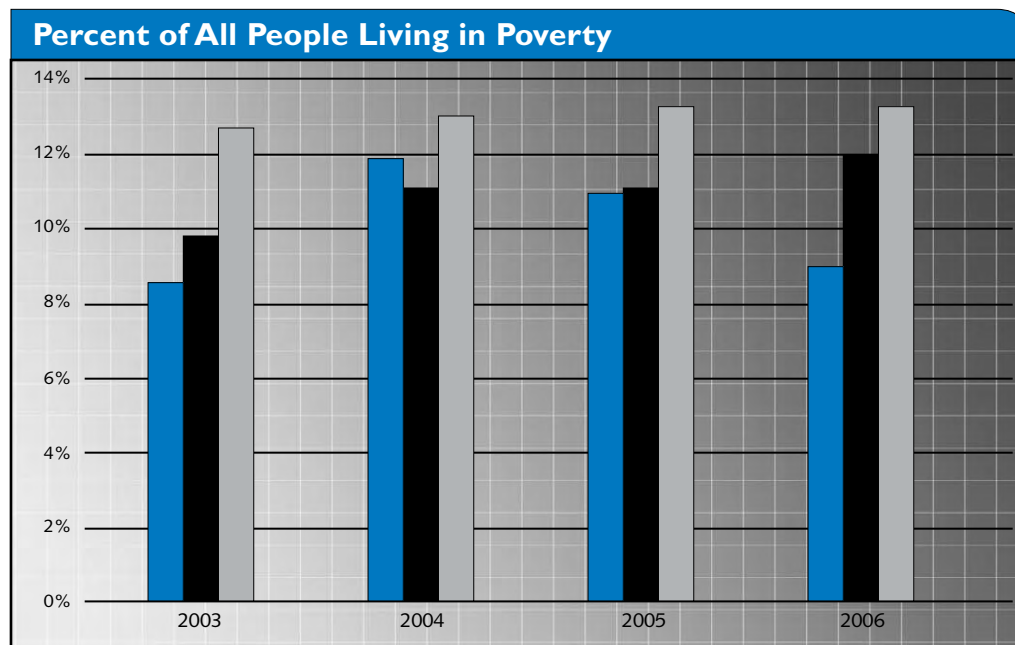
The median household income in El Paso County is higher than the U.S., but only slightly above the State of Colorado averages. In 2006, median income in El Paso County dropped to 2003 levels while the U.S. and Colorado showed modest gains.

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

While the median household income nationally has increased 30% since 1990, it has increased only slightly in real dollars after considering the impact of inflation. We need to attract high paying jobs to the community that in turn maximize the earning potential for all our citizens based on their skills and availability. This action is driven by the Colorado Springs Economic Development Corporation and the City of Colorado Springs.

Income & Cost Of Living

POVERTY



Source: U.S. Census Bureau; American Communities Survey

THIS CHART

shows the percentage of all people living below federal poverty thresholds. In 2006, the federal poverty threshold for a family of three with one member being a child under 18 years old was \$16,227.

■ El Paso County
■ Colorado
■ U.S.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

This is important because it helps to gauge the overall quality of life for all El Paso County citizens. Keeping the number of people living below the poverty level as low as possible translates into a better quality of life for all. This measure also helps to guide the level of funding and efforts necessary to provide services to the less fortunate people in our community.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

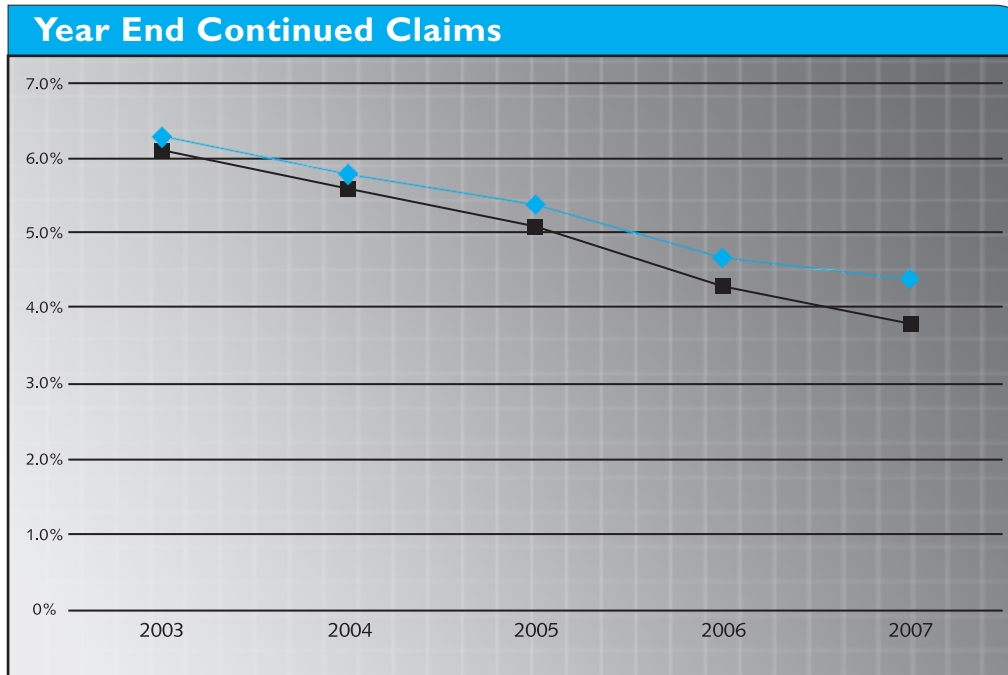
The U.S. official poverty rate in 2006 was 12.3%, down from 12.6 % in 2005, thus we can take some comfort in being below the national average for all groups taken collectively. However, the situation would be much improved if we had lower levels of poverty in the under 18 and under 5 year-old groups. While both the poverty rate and the number in poverty decreased for people aged 65 and older nationally (9.4% and 3.4 million in 2006, down from 10.1% and 3.6 million in 2005), El Paso county showed a slight increase in this category but still remained below the national level for this group.

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

For the groups shown above the largest groups historically and **currently** affected are those under 18 and under 5 years of age. This would point to a need to enhance programs that support early child development and support, and to enhance programs and increase funding for pre-teen and teen training and jobs.

Income & Cost Of Living

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



Source: Colorado Department of Labor & Employment

THIS CHART

shows the average annual unemployment rate for El Paso County and the state of Colorado. Unemployed workers are defined as job-seekers that do not currently have a job and are actively contacting employers for viable employment. Full employment occurs when everyone in the economy who is willing to work at the current market rate for someone of his skills has jobs. Full employment does not imply that all adults have jobs.

◆ El Paso County
■ Colorado

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

The unemployment rate has long been identified as an indicator of the overall health of the nation and economy. An unemployment rate below 4% is considered by many experts to be a good sign.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

The local unemployment rate spiked in 2003 and has been steadily decreasing ever since. The more businesses that are brought into the area along with the continued growth of current employers, will help ensure the local economy stays healthy and balanced.

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

If the unemployment rate number continues its downward trend, the local economy will continue to thrive. However, recent announcements in the community will likely reverse this favorable trend in 2008.

PROMOTING SOCIAL WELLBEING

As a community we recognize that there are several aspects of individuals' personal lives that impact the quality of life for all of us and require coordinated community efforts to make positive change. Children are the future of every community, and families are the basic building blocks of society. Healthy, successful children, strong families, and thriving older adults are fundamental in promoting social wellbeing. The inability to pay for basic needs such as

housing and childcare threaten social wellbeing by putting excess strain on individuals and families. Drug and alcohol abuse result in a variety of tragic problems for individuals and society alike.

The Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments is involved daily in promoting well being in the Pikes Peak region. We are the home of the Pikes Peak Area Agency on Aging and work with community partners such as Silver Key Senior Services, United Way and the CU Aging Center to enhance the vitality of our region and the people who live here.



Pikes Peak Area
Council of Governments
Communities Working Together

15 South Seventh Street
Colorado Springs, CO 80905
Tel: 719.471.7080
Fax: 719.471.1226
www.ppacg.org

Promoting Social Wellbeing Council

Chair

BARBARA DRAKE

El Paso County Dept of Human Services

DEB NOTTINGHAM

Convener

LISA SALLEY

Convener

Members

TERRI ANDERSON

Silver Key Senior Services

LESLIE COOK

MONICA DAVIS

Pikes Peak Library District

DEE DRAKE

EPC Co-occurring Collaborative

JEANNINE HOLT

Harbor House Collaborative

BOB HOLMES

Homeward Pikes Peak

DENISE KRUG

Goodwill Industries of Colorado Springs

REGINA LEWIS

Pikes Peak Community College

LINDA MEREDITH

Community Partnership for Child Development

KATHY MOAN

Joint Initiatives for Youth and Families

JEFF MURRELL

ALISON NAGEL

LORI NOLEN

Silver Key Senior Services

DEB NOTTINGHAM

LEE OESTERLE

Kids Crossing

SHANNON PONCE

Goodwill Industries of Colorado Springs

DIANE PRICE

Child Nursery Centers

PATRICIA RANDLE

Army Community Services

NICHOLAS SACCARO

Care & Share, Inc.

KEN SANDERS

Centre on Fathering/Fountain Valley Sr. Center

MARYANN STADJUCHAR

Catholic Charities of Colorado Springs

Children & Families

Household Composition

Family Stability

Teen Pregnancy

Subsequent Births to Teen Mothers

Older Adults

Social Isolation

Living in your Environment of Choice

Respite and Caregiver Options

Economic Wellbeing

Homelessness

Availability of Quality, Affordable Child Care

Drugs & Alcohol

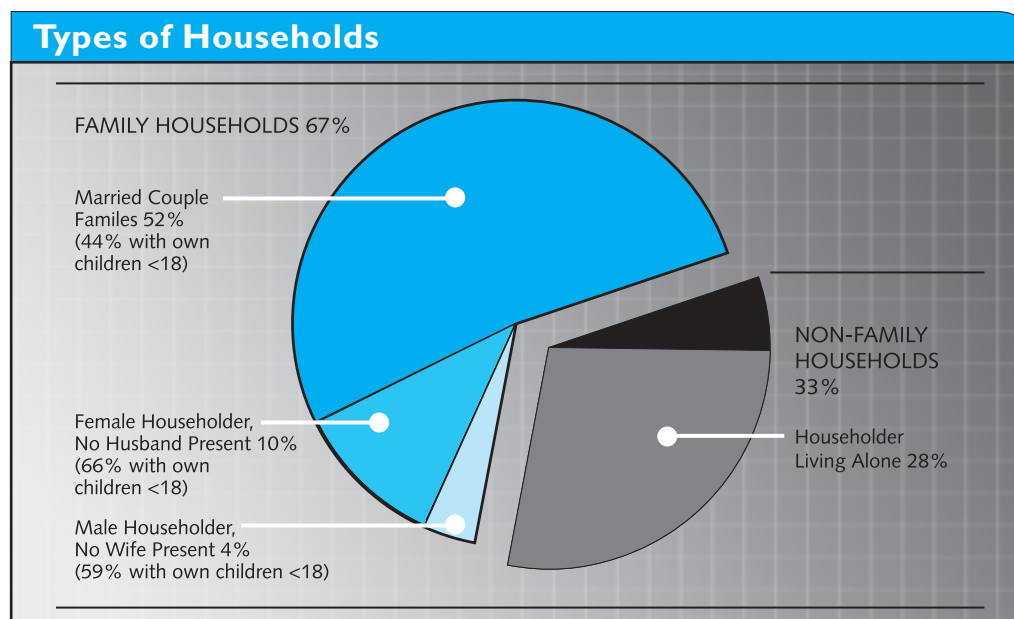
Publicly Funded Treatment

Drug and Alcohol Use by Children

Children & Families

All families are different: from single parents to married couples with or without children to seniors living alone. Knowing household composition helps communities understand how to support the wellbeing of all residents. Children are more likely to succeed when they live in a home characterized by family stability. When children must be removed from home because of abuse or neglect, the goal is to place them in a safe, permanent home as soon as possible, either with their own family or an adoptive family. Teen pregnancies often result in health problems for mother and baby and parenting problems can create potential social and economic hardship. Subsequent births to teen mothers are often the impetus for withdrawal of family support systems, greatly increasing risk factors for these young families.

HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION



THIS CHART shows the types of households in El Paso County as a percentage of total households. Of particular interest: it shows how many married couples, single women, and single men lead households. Many of those households have children living with them.

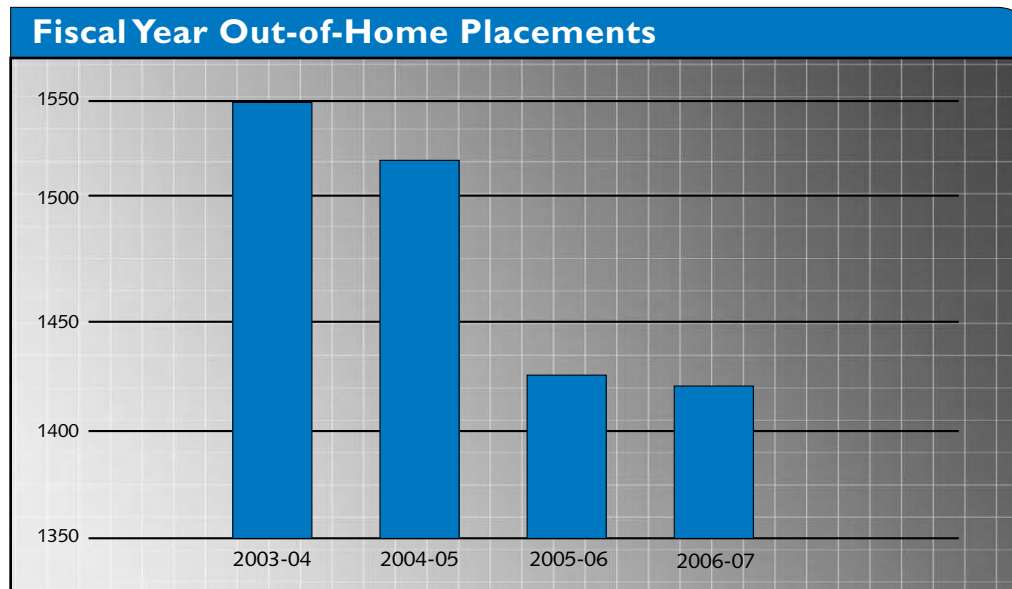
Source: U.S. Census Bureau

HOW ARE WE DOING?

67% of households consist of families with more than 52% of households led by married couples. Single parents with children represent 13% of total households numbering 20,425. This figure is down from 21,000 single parent households in 2005. Just over 27% of households consist of just one person living alone; 7% of households consist of a single adult over 65 years, which is a percentage increase from 2005. Additionally, in 2006 9,821 grandparents lived with their grandchildren, which has increased from 6,500 in 2005, and 46% of those were financially responsible for their grandchild's basic needs including food shelter, clothing, and child care.¹

¹information from American Communities Survey US Census 2006 Data
http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/ADPTable?_bm=y&-geo_id=05000US08041&-qr_name=ACS_2006_EST_G00_DP2&-ds_name=&-_lang=en&-redoLog=false

FAMILY STABILITY



Source: El Paso County Department of Human Services

THIS CHART

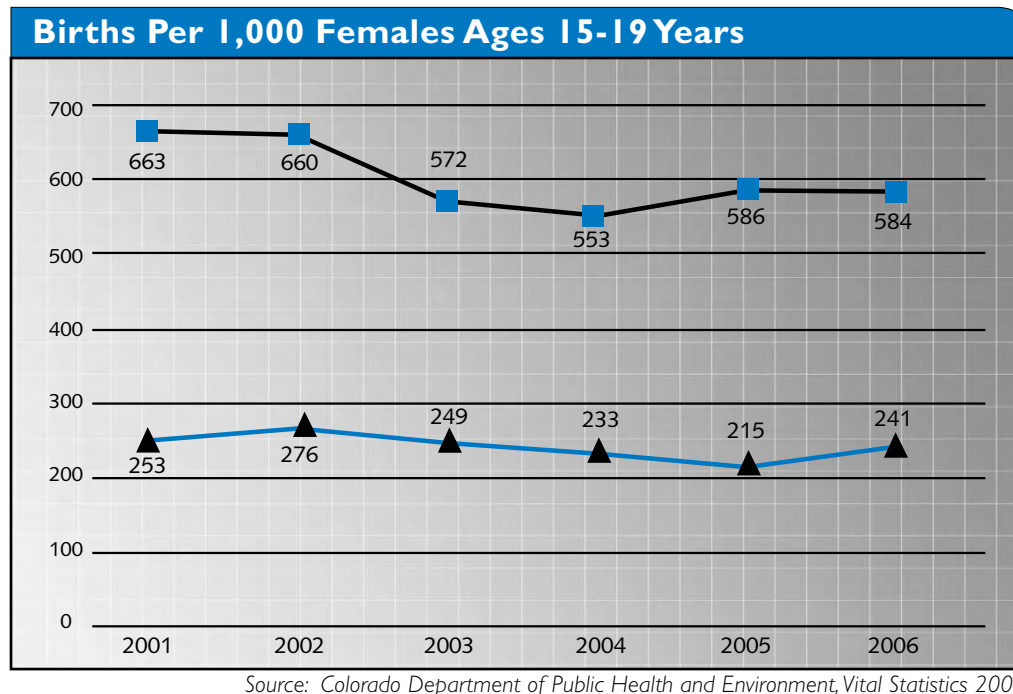
measures the number of out-of-home placements of children. The numbers may be duplicated and include a child placed for any period of time during the state fiscal year. Out-of-home placements include foster and relative care as well as residential treatment.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

The number of out-of-home placements has been decreasing since 2004 despite increases in the county population. The county's child/youth population increased to 153,698 during the 2007 State Fiscal Year. This may reflect a combination of more stable families, the assistance of extended families when support is needed, and better preventative services for at-risk families from government and nonprofits before out-of-home placement is necessary.

Children & Families

TEEN PREGNANCY



THIS CHART

shows the total annual live births in El Paso County to females ages 15-17 and 18-19 per 1,000 females in the same age group.

- Births per 1,000 Females Age 18-19
- ▲ Births per 1,000 Females Age 15-17

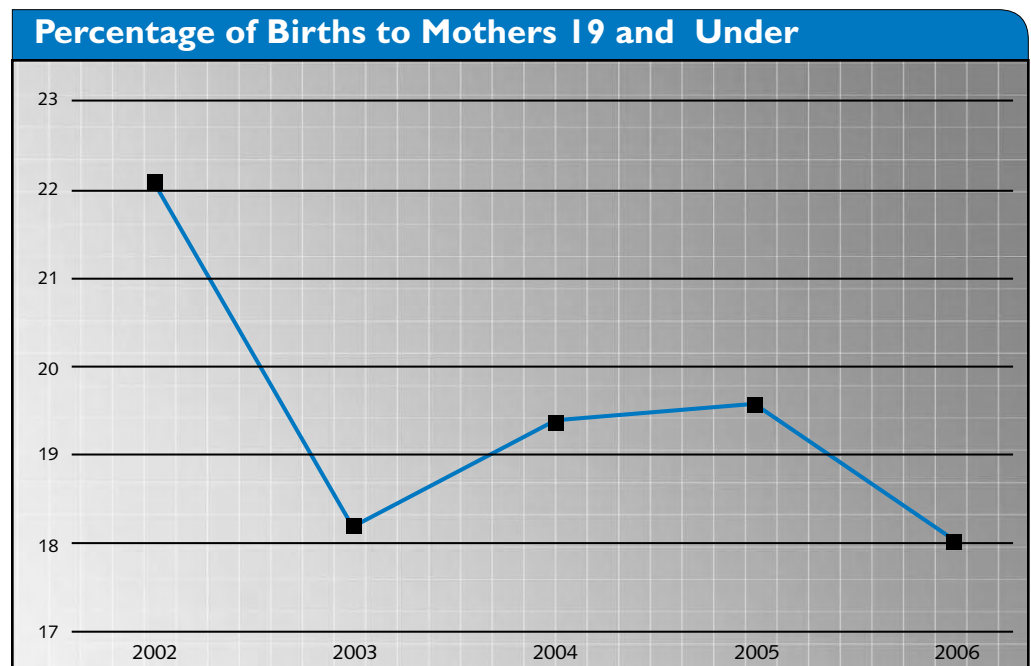
HOW ARE WE DOING?

Since 2002 the rate of births to teen girls has decreased; however, 2006 indicates teen pregnancies are increasing.

SUBSEQUENT BIRTHS TO TEEN MOTHERS

THIS CHART

shows the percentage of births to mothers ages 19 and younger in El Paso County in which the mother had a previous child.



HOW ARE WE DOING?

There does not appear to be a trend. However the rate is the lowest it has been since 2002.

A community must address the needs and cultivate the strengths of its older population. The increasing number of older adults in Colorado Springs presents new opportunities and challenges to this community. Safety, independence, access to a social network, and support by family and informal caregivers, as needed, are important components of a livable community.

Population 60 and older:	
Census 2000	64,957
Census 2004	73,916
Census 2008 (prediction)	86,978
Census 2012 (prediction)	104,154
Census 2020 (prediction)	144,821

Social Isolation

Does not participate in senior center activities.	82%
Does not participate in a club or civic group.	61%
Does not volunteer or help out in the community.	60%
Does not attend movies, sporting events, or group events	59%
Does not participate in religious or spiritual activities with others.	42%

Source: *Strengths and Needs Assessment of Older Adults in the State of Colorado*

THIS CHART

shows the results of adults 60 and older who were surveyed. Pikes Peak Region Older Adults Survey – 20% (14,772) of the respondents indicated

HOW ARE WE DOING?

Social engagement is crucial to the physical and psychological well-being of older adults. Transportation and appropriate, accessible activities are key factors in older adults being engaged in their community. A large percentage of the older adults surveyed had little to no social engagement in their daily lives.

Older Adults

LIVING IN YOUR ENVIRONMENT OF CHOICE

Survey Results		
Older adults who live alone	21.1%	12,815
Have too few activities or feeling bored had been a problem in the past year.	20%	14,772
Get only a little or no social support from family.	17%	12,566
Get only a little or no practical support from family.	33%	24,392
Feeling lonely, sad, or isolated had been a problem in the past year.	19%	13,836
Need help getting or arranging transportation in the past year.	15%	10,927
Everyday activities such as walking, bathing or getting in and out of a chair had been a problem	20%	14,544
Cannot do heavy housework	21%	15,522
Cannot do yard work and snow shoveling	22%	16,262

Source: Strengths and Needs Assessment of Older Adults in the State of Colorado

THIS CHART

shows the results of adults 60 and older who were surveyed.

Respite & Caregiver Issues		
Frequently or sometimes felt burdened by their care giving.	32%	3,124
The person they care for was frequently or sometimes uncooperative.	35%	3,450
The person they care for was frequently or sometimes verbally aggressive.	18%	1,791
Could use more services or information about services.	15%	1,469
Could use more financial support.	17%	1,665
Could use more respite or free time for themselves.	3%	294

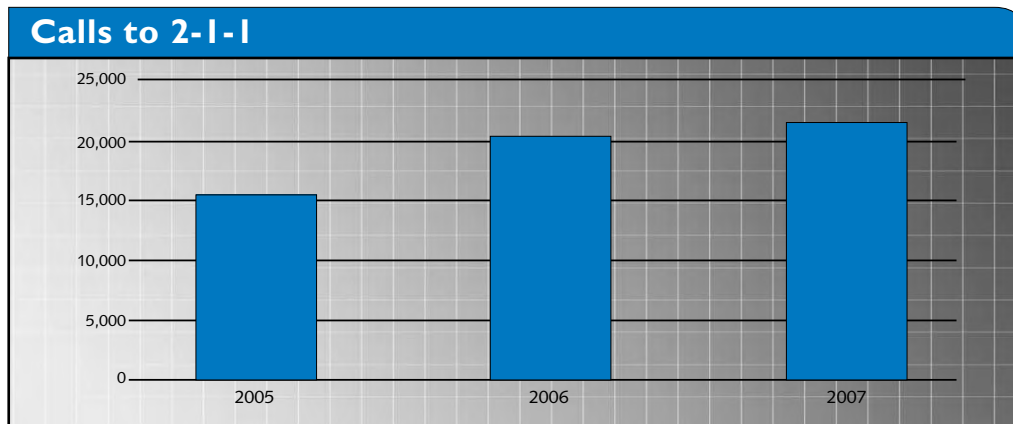
Source: Strengths and Needs Assessment of Older Adults in the State of Colorado

THIS CHART

shows the results of caregivers of adults 60 and older who were surveyed. Of the 13% (9,793) who were surveyed, the following results were indicated.

* Difference between these numbers and those in report are the result of rounding of the reported percent. All information from the Status of Older Adults in the Pikes Peak Region

HOMELESSNESS



Source: 2-1-1 Information & Referral Center

THIS CHART

This is the number of calls taken by Pikes Peak United Way's 2-1-1 Information and Referral line.

"Requests for assistance to 2-1-1 are an extremely good barometer of individuals and families living in a state of homelessness, or, even more significantly, of those who are working poor and who will slide into homelessness absent some type of community assistance."

— Bob Holmes, Executive Director, Homeward Pikes Peak

HOW ARE WE DOING?

Currently there are approximately 2,000 homeless individuals in El Paso County. Approximately 1,600 are women and kids who are fleeing abusive domestic situations, along with families who have experienced that one, large, emergency that has put them over the financial edge: broken car, breadwinner's health problems, loss of job. Approximately 400 are those who suffer from untreated mental health and substance abuse problems, and who have been homeless most of their lives.

In spite of greater outreach and actually helping people into homes and apartments, homeless numbers, in general, have remained mostly the same because of the general decline in the economy, the sub-prime mortgage meltdown and the rising cost of food and petroleum products.

Outstanding New Programs:

Over the past three years several outstanding programs have been developed to assist individuals and families at various stages of homelessness. An impressive aspect is how many of these programs involve collaboration among agencies to provide a synergistic effect in maximizing the utilization of resources.

2-1-1 Community Help Line

Pikes Peak United Way

2-1-1 operators are on duty from 8 am to 5 pm and bilingual operators are available. 2-1-1 has the largest compendium of available services anywhere in the county.

Crisis Intervention Training & Community Mental Health Grant

Colorado Springs Police Department

The CSPD has recognized the special challenges of policing the mentally ill population. Specially trained officers are skilled in negotiations and talking individuals through potentially explosive problems. This program will save lives!

Housing First

Collaboration: Homeward Pikes Peak, Harbor House, Salvation Army, The Mental Health Collaborative

Housing First provides housing and extensive counseling and case management to homeless suffering from alcohol addiction. Many participants do quit or drastically reduce alcohol usage, and many return to the community workforce. Retention rate in the program is 80+%. This program costs about \$15,000 per year per person, compared with the estimated \$54,000 cost associated with leaving people out on the street. That cost includes the price of police, fire, ambulance and emergency room services.

Home Ownership Opportunities

Habitat for Humanity and Rocky Mountain Community Land Trust

Woodman Vistas: 67 affordable housing units will be included in a larger housing development in northern Colorado Springs, making home ownership a "dream come true" for families who never thought owning a home was a reality.

Treatment for Chronically Homeless Substance Abusers

Harbor House

Some homeless individuals are ready to quit abusing substances, and Harbor House is there to help. Harbor House has a 90+% success rate. Cost savings to taxpayers in the program are similar to those in Housing First.

Treatment for Uninsured Homeless with Co-Occurring Disorders

The Mental Health Collaborative

Funded by a five-year grant for \$500,000, The Collaborative works to provide "best practices" treatment for uninsured homeless individuals with the co-occurring disorders of mental health and substance abuse problems.

Vocational Training Opportunities

Spring Rescue Mission

Spring Rescue Mission offers a program for substance abusers, requiring abstinence, which provides them with a salable job skill upon completion. The most famous of their array of courses is one that prepares future sous chefs, and is accredited through a major culinary institute.

Economic Wellbeing

QUALITY, AFFORDABLE CHILD CARE*

Children Under 5 Benefiting from Colorado Child Care Assistance		
July 1, 2004 – June 30, 2005	Number of children under 5 benefiting from CCCAP	3395 ¹
	Percent of children in poverty under 5 benefiting from CCCAP	Less than 37%
July 1, 2005 – June 30, 2006	Number of children under 5 benefiting from CCCAP	2911 ²
	Percent of children in poverty under 5 benefiting from CCCAP	Less than 35%
July 1, 2006 – June 30, 2007	Number of children under 5 benefiting from CCCAP	2952 ³
	Percent of children in poverty under 5 benefiting from CCCAP	Less than 37%

Source: El Paso County Department of Human Services

HOW ARE WE DOING?

Less than 37% of children living below the federal poverty line benefit from CCCAP funds. Even those who can afford child care may find it difficult to attain. El Paso County has more than 1,200 licensed childcare providers, but approximately two-thirds serve fewer than ten children. Therefore there is only one space available for every five children under the age of 15. More information on poverty rates can be found in the **Growing a Vibrant Economy** section of this report.

*Availability of affordable early childcare for children below the poverty line

THIS CHART

shows the total number of children under five in El Paso County benefiting from the Colorado Child Care Assistance Program (CCCAP) in the last 3 years and the percentage of children five years old and younger living below the federal poverty line who benefit from CCCAP. In the years shown, El Paso County CCCAP assistance was available to any family earning less than 140 percent of federal poverty. In September 2007, the level increased to 185 percent of federal poverty. On July 1, 2008 families eligible at 185 percent or below remain eligible to 225 percent of the federal poverty threshold. The average monthly reimbursement rate is \$558.⁵

¹Colorado Child Care Assistance Program Annual Program Information, July 1, 2004 – June 30, 2005

²Colorado Child Care Assistance Program Annual Program Information, July 1, 2005 – June 30, 2006

³Colorado Child Care Assistance Program Annual Program Information, July 1, 2006 – June 30, 2007

Drugs & Alcohol

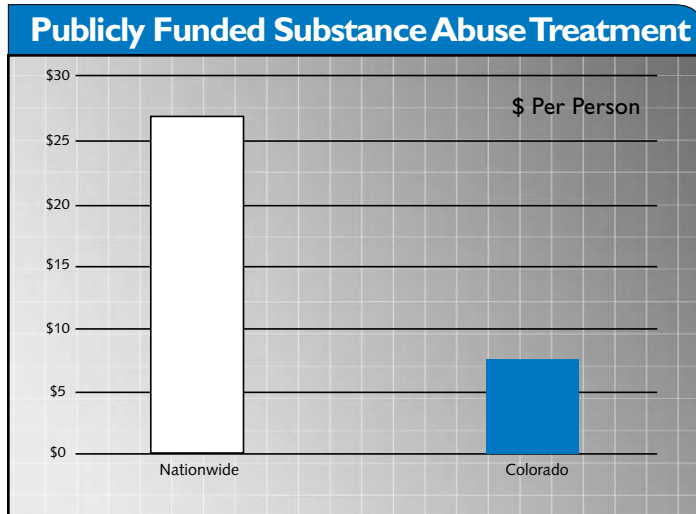
Substance abuse refers to overindulgence in and dependence on an addictive substance, especially alcohol or a narcotic drug. Substance abuse can present significant obstacles with everyday life from maintaining financial stability and relationships to succeeding at school or work. This is an issue of particular importance to Coloradans as Colorado has higher rates of drug and alcohol use than U.S. averages. In recent studies, the state ranks 19% higher than the national average in per capita consumption of alcoholic beverages¹. Colorado also ranks in the top five for illicit drug use and dependence (other than marijuana).



Warning
Flag

Substance abuse is not just an individual problem, but profoundly impacts the community at large. The direct and indirect costs for public agencies controlling the use of substance abuse or responding to the consequences of it, add up to more than an estimated \$168 billion per year for the United States². Substance Abuse often occurs in conjunction with mental health disorders requiring a more complicated treatment approach.

DRUG AND ALCOHOL USE



Source: --

THIS CHART

Nationwide, \$27 is spent per US Resident on publicly funded substance abuse treatment. Only \$7.50 is spent per person in the state of Colorado⁴.

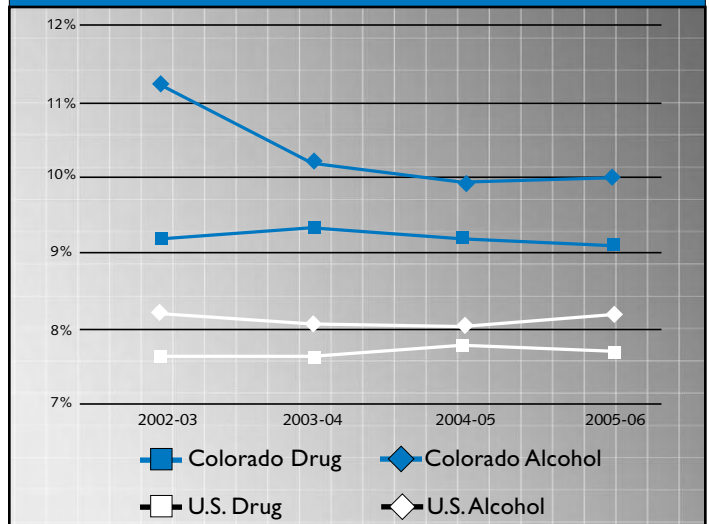
HOW ARE WE DOING?

The state of Colorado spends the least on treatment, prevention and research compared to 46 other states. For every \$100 spent on problems caused by substance abuse in Colorado, \$0.06 is spent on treatment or prevention compared to an average of \$3.70 in other states³.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

With an estimated prevalence rate of 10%, El Paso County has approximately 57,500 people with substance abuse or dependence issues. This means that 1 out of 10 people in El Paso County have a substance abuse issue.

Drug & Alcohol Use by People 12 and Older



Source: SAMHSA, Office of Applied Studies, National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 2002, 2003, and 2004

THIS CHART

shows the percentage of people who, when questioned, reported using illicit drugs in the past month. It also tracks the percentage of people who reported experiencing alcohol dependence or abuse over the past year. Both indicators compare Colorado averages to U.S. averages.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

Substance use information for El Paso County is collected by ADAD according to region. El Paso County is part of Region 3 which reports the highest prevalence rate for illicit drug use or dependence (other than marijuana) in the state. Also, this region is the most lacking in treatment for illicit drug use in ages 12 or older⁵.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Effective treatment for substance abuse is usually long-term and complex in delivery. Wrap around services are needed to fully address all barriers to successful recovery. Publicly funded services in El Paso County currently address about 1/3 of the need for treatment. Currently there is only enough public funding to cover basic services such as intake/assessment, treatment plans, crisis intervention and behavioral therapy or counseling.

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

In 2008, local community agencies convened to assess the following areas: demand vs. supply for inpatient treatment, continuum of care and gaps in service, and efforts to improve availability of information on where and how to seek help for substance abuse.

As a community, collaboration is needed to draw attention to the complicated issues surrounding substance abuse and the impact on our region.

¹ U.S. Apparent Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages Based on State Sales, Taxation or Receipt Data, U.S. Alcohol Epidemiologic Data Reference Manual Volume 1, 4th Edition, June 2004, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

² Economic Benefits of Drug Treatment: A Critical Review of the Evidence for Policy Makers, February 2005, Treatment Research Institute, University of Pennsylvania.

³ Shoveling Up: The Impact of Substance Abuse on State Budgets, January 2001. The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University.

⁴ Health Care Spending: national Estimates of Expenditures for Mental Health and Substance Abuse Treatment, 1997 (July 2000)

⁵ 2005 Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS), Drug and Alcohol Services Information System, Office of Applied Studies, SAMHSA. www.icpsr.umich.edu/SAMHDA Quick Tables).

PRESERVING THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Time Magazine is quoted as saying, "Don't blow it, good planets are hard to find." This is true for our beautiful community. If we take for granted the natural resources and beauty of our area and not understand and protect them, we risk losing or degrading these resources for future generations. Our environment is tied to many other aspects of our community and thus many other vision councils:

- Transportation–air and water quality
- Education–experiential environmental learning improves science standardized testing scores
- Health–air and water quality, and contact with natural settings reduces stress
- Wellbeing–natural settings promote happiness and healthy living
- Arts–nature continues to be one of the greatest sources of inspiration
- Economy–conservation and sustainability attract global businesses.

Fort Carson is proud to partner with the Environment Vision Council of the Quality of Life Indicators project to produce this 2008 indicators report. Fort Carson embraces sustainability as a partnership between our present and our future. For more information about Fort Carson's Sustainability and Environmental Management System (SEMS) efforts, including our annual sustainability progress report, visit <http://sems.carson.army.mil> or call our SEMS Coordinator at 719-526-9777.



FORT CARSON, COLORADO
SUSTAINABILITY & ENVIRONMENTAL
MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Preserving the Natural Environment Council

Co-Chairs

MICHAEL HANNIGAN

Pikes Peak Community Foundation

ERIC CEFUS

Catamount Institute

Members

MARK TREMMEL CONVENER

Colorado Arch Partnership – Convener

JANE ARD-SMITH

Sierra Club

RICHARD MUZZY

Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments

MARK ROBINSON

Colorado Renewable Energy Society

GARY RAPP

Recycling Coalition of Colorado Springs

GAIL CONNERS

Colorado Springs Utilities

TIM OLIVER

CHRISTOPHER JUNIPER

Fort Carson Sustainability Planner

Water

Water Consumption
Impervious Surfaces
Pollution in Fountain Creek

Air

Ozone Levels

Energy

Renewable Energy
Energy Sources
Energy Consumption: Electricity & Natural Gas
Carbon Dioxide

Waste

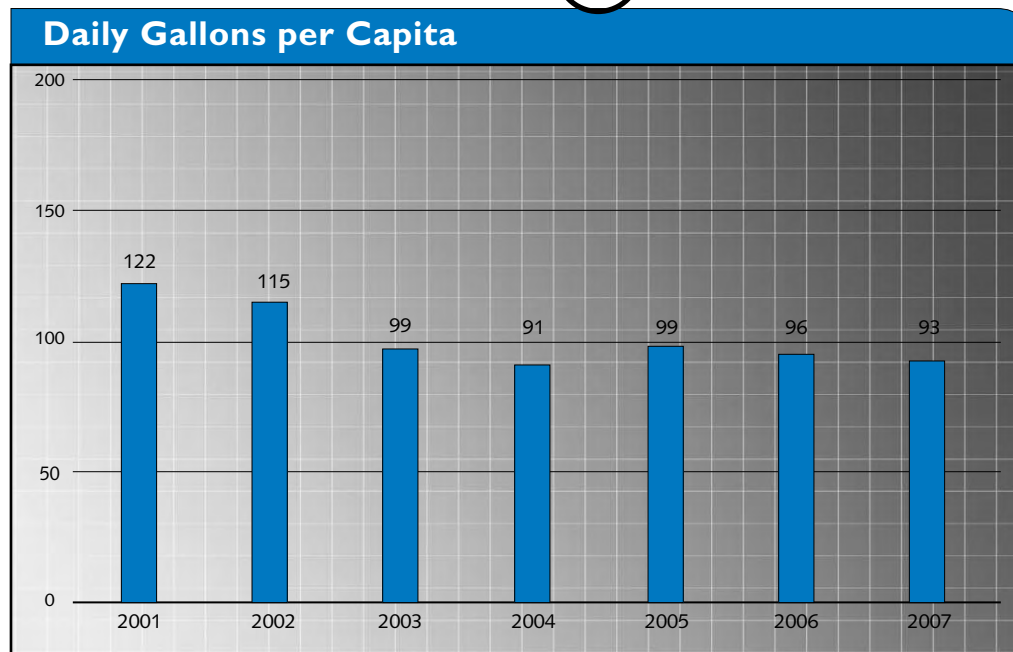
Pounds of Waste
Recycling

Water

El Paso County is located in a semi-arid region of the country and averages less than 15 inches of rain and snow each year. During the 1930s, approximately 60% of Colorado Springs' water supply came from local streams and reservoir storage. Today, nearly 75% of the water used for homes and businesses comes directly from snowmelt near the Continental Divide. The infrastructure needed to bring water from afar to Colorado Springs for daily water consumption drives both the cost and quantity available.

After water is used, it is treated and released into Fountain Creek, increasing stream flows. Also contributing to stream flows are the increasing areas of impervious surface from development within the watershed. During storms, water washes chemicals and waste such as soaps, oils, fertilizers and pet waste from our streets and yards into the streams at rapid rates causing physical damage to the streams, washing pollutants into them which cause broad ecosystem damage, and creates conflicts with downstream neighbors.

WATER CONSUMPTION Star of Achievement



Source: Colorado Springs Utilities

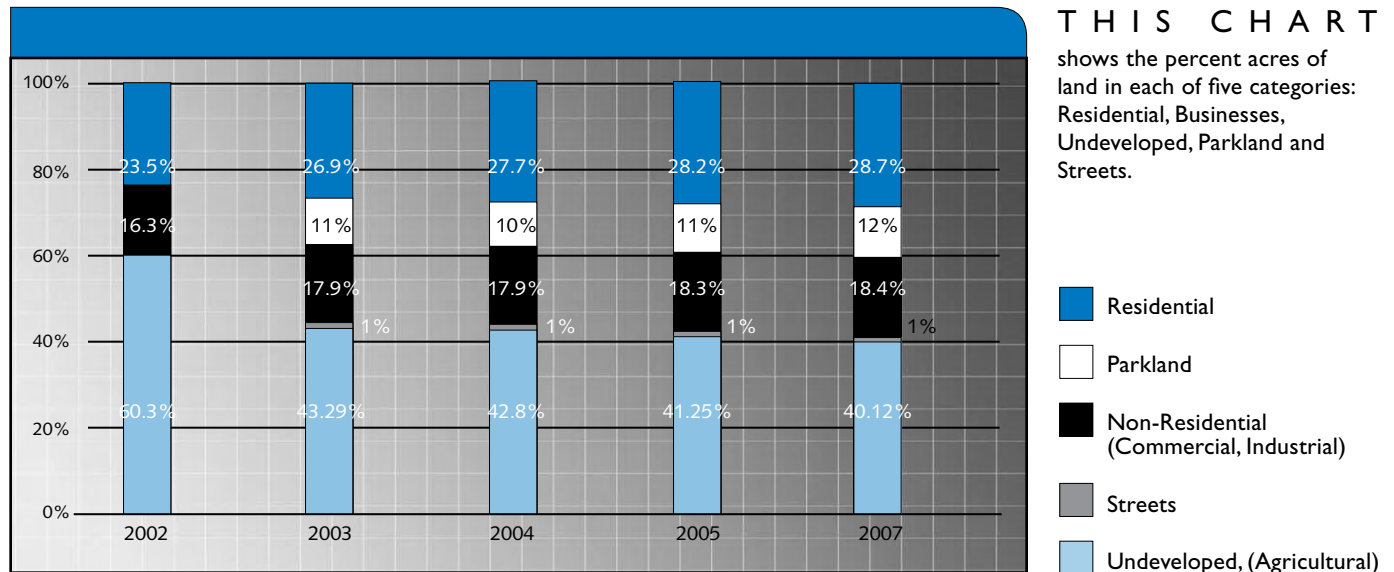
THIS CHART

shows the average daily water consumption per capita of residential water supplied by Colorado Springs Utilities.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

From 2001 to 2004, water consumption dropped nearly 30 gallons per person and is currently hovering between 90 and 100 gallons. An estimated 50% of household water is used for landscape irrigation. During the extreme drought that began in 2002, watering restrictions and aggressive water conservation education programs helped the community learn how to conserve. Restrictions were lifted in 2006. Water conservation can help delay the need for costly improvements to the infrastructure, as well as ensure residents continue to enjoy first use water or snowmelt rather than recycled water. Conservation efforts by our community earned a star of achievement this year.

IMPERVIOUS SURFACES



WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

The impervious surfaces are those areas covered by material that water cannot penetrate, such as roadways, parking lots, rooftops and cement-lined drainage channels. In 2007, the first year of annual replicable available data, the percentage of land that was calculated to be impervious, not including sidewalks, was 14%. This is the number that will be tracked forward.

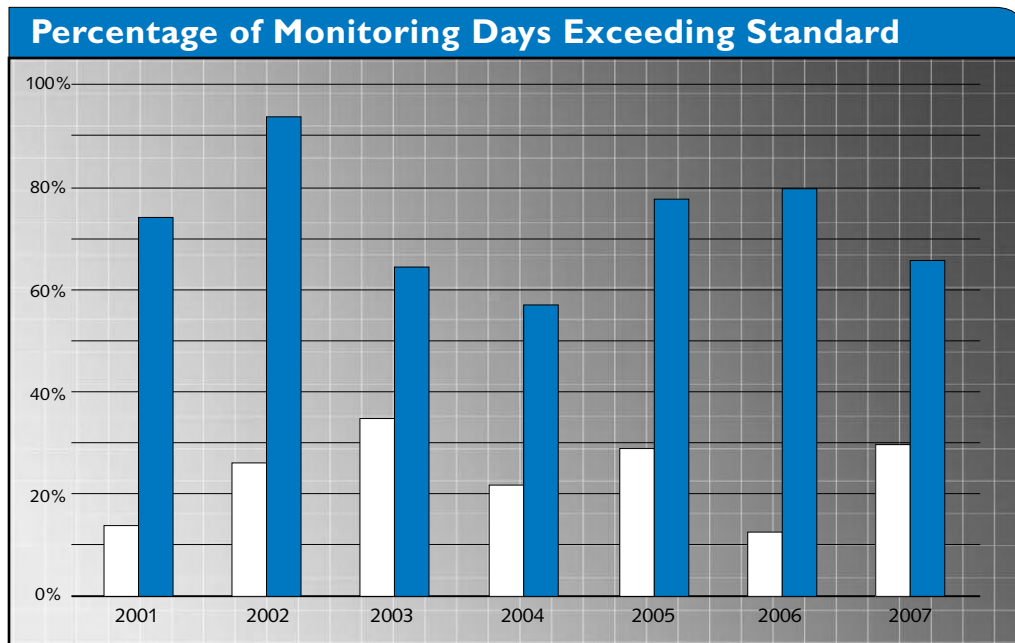
HOW ARE WE DOING?

The total acres of land in the city of Colorado Springs has increased only slightly since 1997. The last major annexation or addition of land into the city was the 24,000 acres of Banning Lewis Ranch in 1988, increasing the city footprint by 20%. Banning Lewis currently makes up a large portion of the undeveloped land in the city. The City of Colorado Springs calculated this number per property for the first time in 2007 to ensure an equitable collection of a fee used to repair storm water infrastructure in the city. In 2005, a Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments study showed that sub-areas within the city of Colorado Springs reached 45% impervious surface. This falls within a range that indicates streams can no longer support their designated uses. An impervious surface blocks the absorption of water into the ground, impacting supply to aquifers county residents who rely on the water for drinking.

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

The Fountain Creek Watershed Taskforce, housed at PPACG, monitors the impervious surface ratio as one measure of watershed health.

POLLUTION IN FOUNTAIN CREEK



Source: Pikes Peak Area Council Of Governments (PPACG)
Standard = 126 col/100 ml E. Coli Concentrations

THIS CHART shows the percentage of times E. coli (Escherichia coli) bacteria levels exceeded Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) standards at monitoring stations located along Fountain Creek during winter (November through April) and summer (May through October) months.

Winter
Summer

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

The presence of bacteria can lead to human illnesses and harm the natural environment. EPA standards have multiple levels. The standard shown in this graph is the recreational standard for one-time contact where levels should not exceed 126 col/100ml. The standard for swimming is 100 col/100ml. E. coli is measured through a complex series of biological tests making it difficult to get readings on a daily basis.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

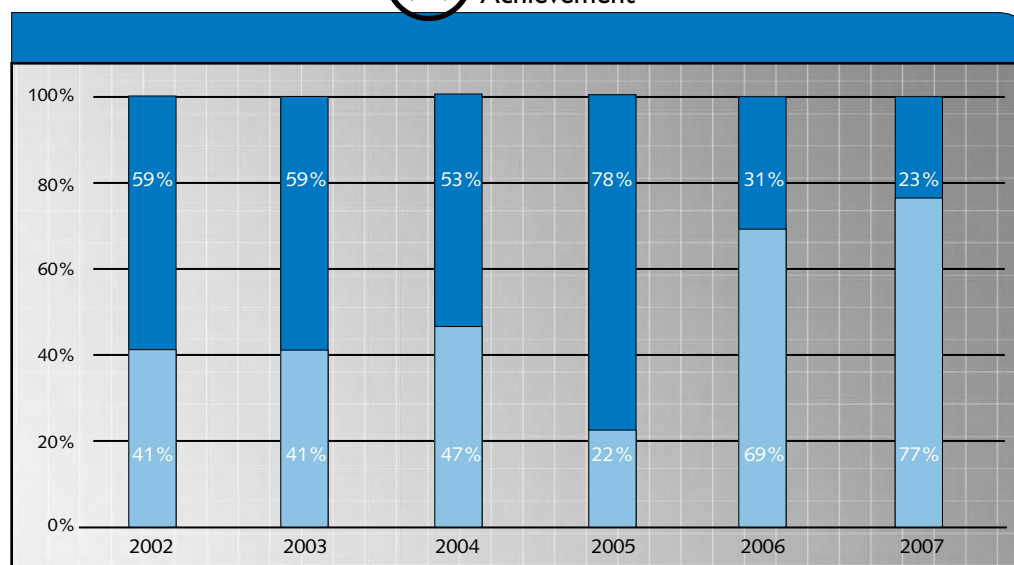
During low flow winter months, E. coli levels rarely exceeded the EPA standard. However, in the summer months, when flows are considered normal and are highly impacted by storms, the standard was exceeded more often. More than 60% of readings in the summer of 2007 exceeded the standard. In fact, a reading at one location was as high as 150,000 col/100ml during and after storms in August 2007.

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

The Fountain Creek Watershed Taskforce, housed at PPACG, collaborates with many stakeholders like Colorado State University and the USGS, on monitoring and problem solving this impact. Cities and counties receive permits that outline the regulations for creek pollution in their area.

One measure of air quality is the presence of ground-level ozone. High ozone levels present health concerns for all residents but are especially dangerous for sensitive people, particularly the elderly, young children and those with asthma or other respiratory ailments. Ground-level ozone also interferes with the ability of plants to produce and store food, compromising the health of our broader ecosystem. Automobiles contribute an estimated 56% of the pollutants that create ozone while the other 44% come from other sources such as: power plants, industrial boilers, gasoline vapors, dry cleaners, factories, and commercial products. Measuring vehicle miles traveled (found in the Getting Around Efficiently section) gives the community a sense of the impact of daily driving habits on air quality. Car emissions regulations and increased gas efficiency help reduce pollutants.

OZONE LEVELS Star of Achievement



Source: Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments

THIS CHART

shows the level of air quality as a percentage of ground level ozone monitored days each summer (April through September) at the Air Force Academy monitoring station.



WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

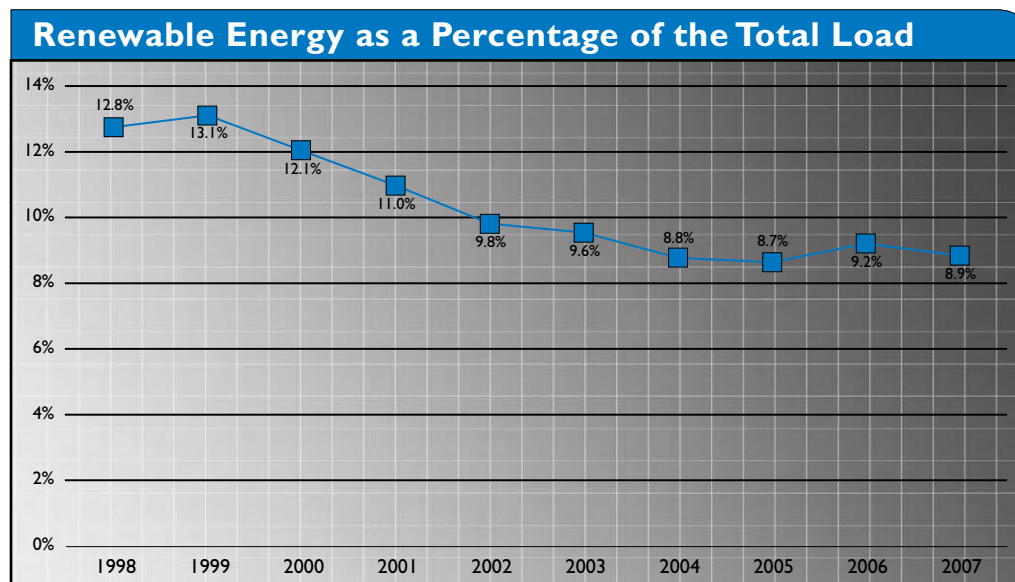
Only summer months are presented, because strong sunlight and hot weather conditions are a catalyst for ozone creation. There are six levels for reporting air quality: Good, Moderate, Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups, Unhealthy, Very Unhealthy and Hazardous.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

During winter months, El Paso County has not recorded an ozone problem. Monitors indicate that a majority of days in our region are in the "Good" range while no days fall lower than "Moderate", meaning air quality is satisfactory and air pollution poses little or no risk. Overall, El Paso County has clean air with regard to ozone, earning a star of achievement.

Many citizens are concerned about climate change. Science proves that a primary cause of global warming is burning fossil fuels such as natural gas, gasoline and coal to produce electricity. (Note: 71% of Colorado Springs electricity comes from the burning of coal.) Energy consumption is linked to air pollution as well as future supply and security issues, and our "carbon footprint." Vehicle miles traveled (found in the Moving Around Efficiently section), is an indicator of energy consumed. The greatest source of carbon dioxide emissions (CO₂) is the energy used to heat and cool our buildings. Tracking household electricity and natural gas consumption can help each person understand his or her impacts on energy consumption and perhaps help protect the environment and save money. Renewable energy sources like wind, water and solar present an alternative to fossil fuels.

RENEWABLE ENERGY



Source: Colorado Springs Utilities

THIS CHART

shows the percent of energy coming from renewable energy sources for Colorado Springs Utilities customers. Renewable Energy is hydropower, solar and wind.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

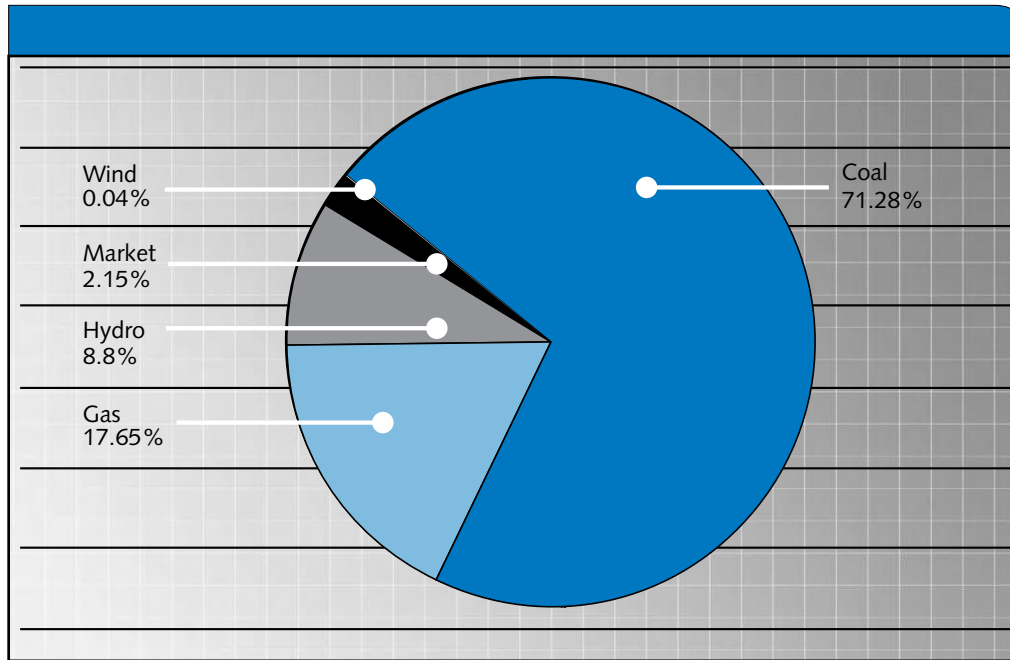
In 2004, Colorado voters approved Amendment 37, a Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS). It was amended in 2007 and requires that 3% of electricity come from renewable energy sources by 2011, increasing that to 10% by 2020. Colorado Springs Utilities is currently meeting the standard and for the future, and has plans to purchase Renewable Energy Credits to continue to meet the standards.

Conservation is one way to reduce the financial and environmental impacts of energy consumption. In the Pikes Peak region in 2007, there was an overall energy savings from Colorado Springs Utilities of 5.72 MW of electricity because of demand-side management programs and 9,297 MWh of electricity consumption. In addition since 2006, Colorado Springs Utilities has incentivized the installation of 48.9 kW of solar electricity generation on area homes, resulting in the generation of 220.18 MWh of clean electricity.

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

Diversifying local energy sources is like low hanging fruit in reducing dependence on fossil fuels. Examples of such include: whether purchase of wind power, conservation (the silent renewable energy source) and residential solar units with meters to sell power back to the city system. Federal and state incentives could help to accelerate these advances.

ENERGY SOURCES



Source: Colorado Springs Utilities

THIS CHART

shows the sources of energy used to produce electricity for Colorado Springs Utilities customers in 2007.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

Two fossil fuels, coal and natural gas, were used to generate 89% of our electricity in 2007.

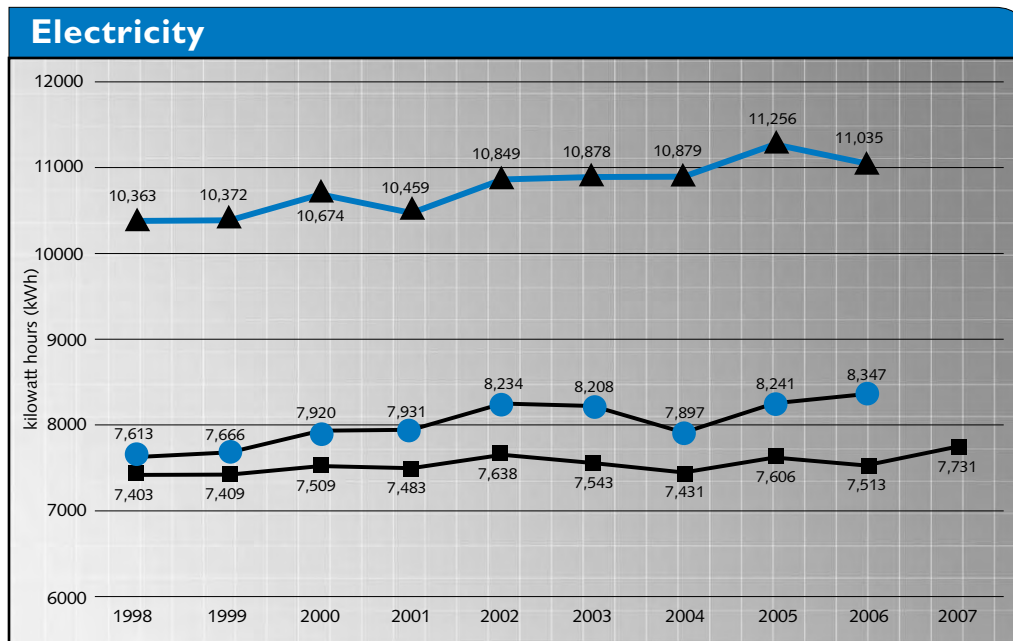
HOW ARE WE DOING?

This is not a very diverse energy mix. Historically, Colorado Springs Utilities has offered the least expensive option when determining long-range electric resource plans. That trend is changing and the result is an Electric Integrated Resource Plan (EIRP) in 2007, which for the first time didn't suggest a least cost option. Rather, it suggested a best value, with additional studies and research. This is due to a changing landscape for energy portfolios. Within one year, we've witnessed significant changes in environmental legislation and fuel economies.

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

In order to respond to these changing conditions, Colorado Springs Utilities is soliciting proposals from the industry for significant new wind generation, conducting a wind integration study, and studying the potential for increased Demand Side Management.

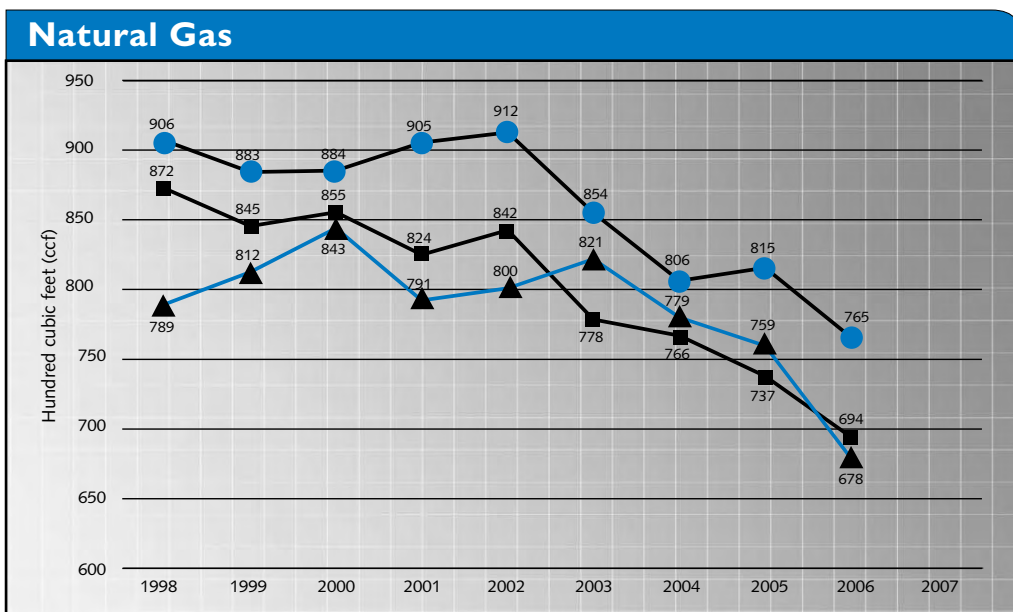
ENERGY CONSUMPTION:



Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration

THIS CHART

shows annual household consumption in kilowatt hours for Colorado Springs Utilities customers, Colorado and the U.S.



Source: Patty Crow, US EPA Region VIII

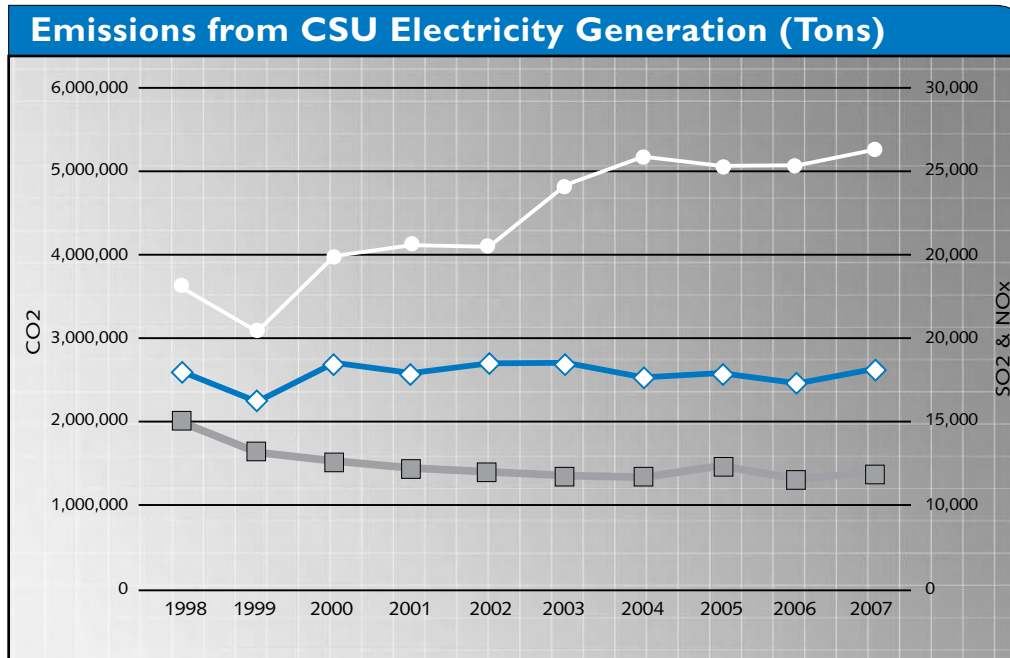
THIS CHART

shows the annual cubic feet of natural gas burned per household by Colorado Springs Utilities customers and the Colorado and U.S. averages.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

Colorado Springs Utilities customers are consuming less electricity than the U.S. and Colorado residential averages. However, there is a slight trend showing increasing electricity usage. This could be explained by the increasing use of electronic devices. Colorado Springs Utilities customers are consuming more natural gas than U.S. averages but less than the average Colorado household.

CARBON DIOXIDE



THIS CHART

shows emissions of carbon dioxide (CO₂), sulfur dioxide (SO₂), and nitrogen oxides (NO_x) from Colorado Springs Utilities electricity generation.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

Source: US EPA Clean Air Markets Database

Our community is doing about as well (or as poorly) as any other community that is heavily dependent on the burning of fossil fuels to generate electricity.

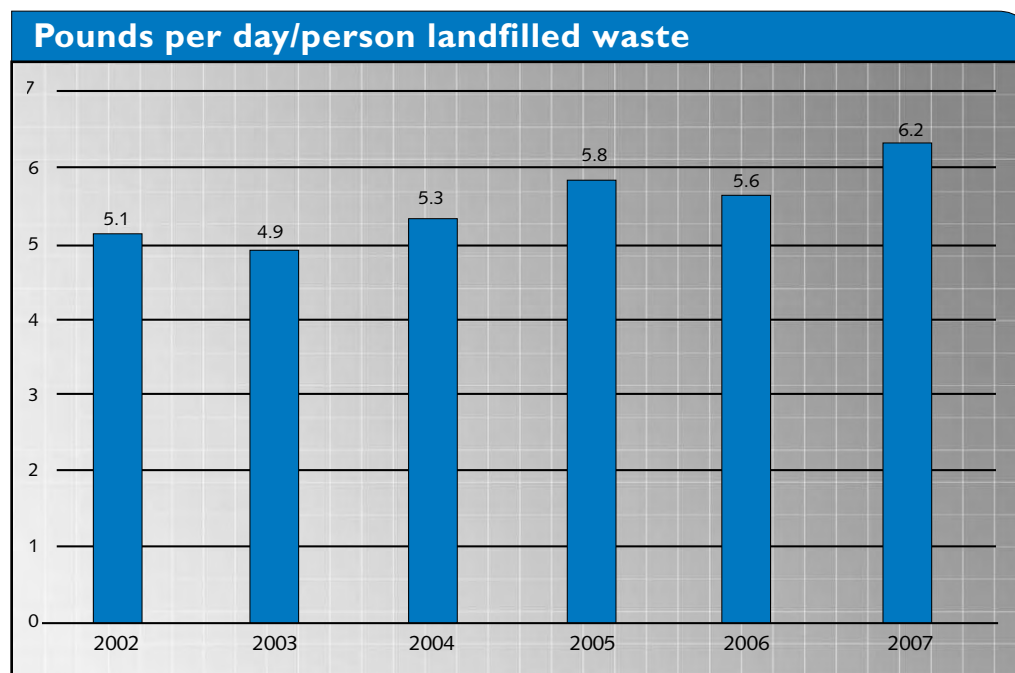
POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

These trends should show improvement in future years as the Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) percentage of renewable energy increases and as the utility best value planning decisions result in cleaner energy alternatives.

Waste

The household goods we throw away were made by extracting resources from the environment. Packaging materials are made from metals mined from the ground, plastics are manufactured from petroleum, and paper and cardboard are derived from trees. When these materials enter a landfill, many of them never decompose and those that do decompose without the benefit of returning any of these resources for future use. However, many of these items can be recycled and composted. Reducing, reusing and recycling waste supports our environment by limiting the damage done and energy consumed to extract, produce and throw away materials.

POUNDS OF WASTE



Source: El Paso County, Environmental Solid Waste Division

THIS CHART

shows the pounds of waste deposited per person per day into El Paso County's three local landfills.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

Pounds of waste per person is calculated by running annual gross cubic yards of waste in local landfills through a calculator formula developed by the University of Illinois.

*discrepancies between the 2007 and 2008 report are due to corrections in 2007 source data and in 2008, the calculation was run using US Census data for population rather than Colorado DOLA.

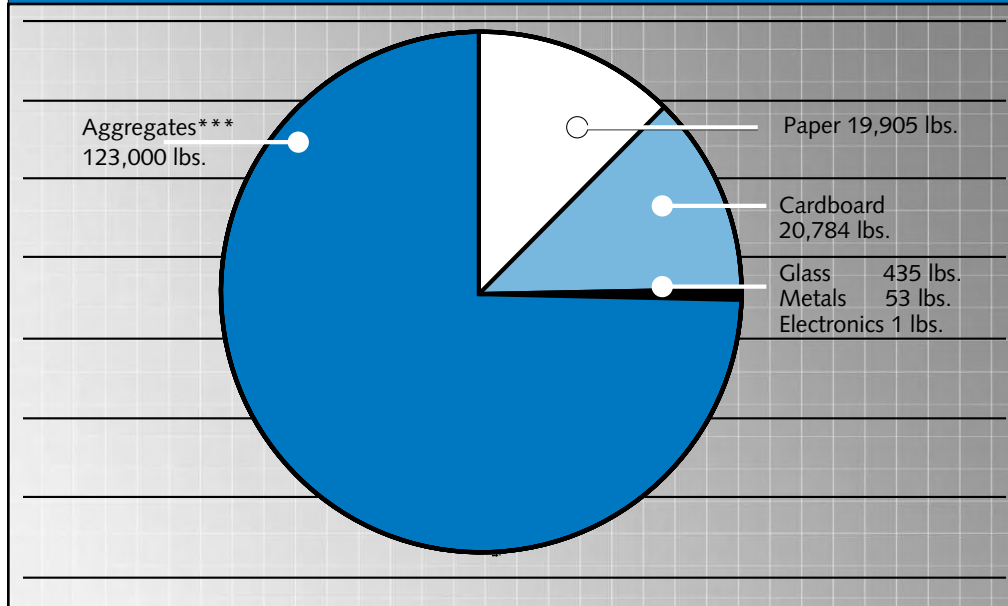
HOW ARE WE DOING?

Our community's pounds per person of waste have increased over the last few years.

In the U.S., approximately 230 million tons of municipal solid waste or garbage are generated each year. This means that each person in the U.S. generates an average of 4.6 pounds of solid waste per day. Compared to this estimate, El Paso County citizens generate more waste than the U.S. average and the trend is NOT improving.

RECYCLING Warning Flag

El Paso County Tons Recycled 2007



Source: Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

THIS CHART

shows the breakdown of quantities of materials recycled in 2007 in El Paso County.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

This is a total tonnage for all of El Paso County, not per person. Aggregates represent asphalt and concrete and are not generally recycled by households. Plastics are not included because the numbers are collected in Denver only.

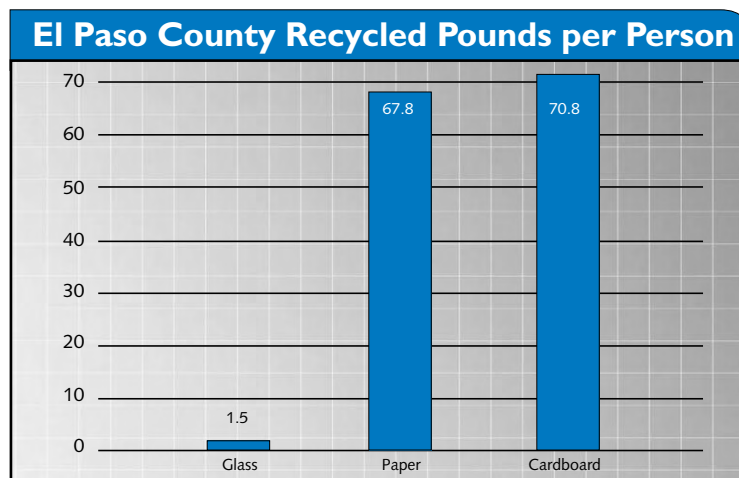
HOW ARE WE DOING?

Up until 2007, when Colorado launched an initiative to focus on recycling in the state, no data was available on total amounts, earning a warning flag.

The state of Colorado, through the Department of Health and Environment, will release in late 2008 newly collected data on recycling by county as compared to the state as a whole.

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

In 2008, locals launched the Green Cities Coalition and chose recycling as one of six areas to target for action. Also, Catamount Institute will be launching a Sustainable Business Network to support reduction of business waste. Recycling Coalition of Colorado Springs also advocates for better recycling in our region.



Source: Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

THIS CHART

shows the number of pounds per person recycled in El Paso County.

SUSTAINING A HEALTHY COMMUNITY

As a community, we understand the importance of good physical and mental health and the need for everyone to have access to quality healthcare, regardless of income level. Health difficulties can impact everything from family budgets to the local economy, and often make it more difficult for individuals to participate as full members of society.



The Gay & Lesbian Fund, recognizing the importance of safe communities where access and opportunity exist regardless of differences.

The Gay & Lesbian Fund for Colorado is proud to support organizations working to make Colorado families healthier. We recognize that when all families are healthy, Colorado is a better place.

Sustaining a Healthy Community Council/ Community Health Partnership

Chairs

RICK O'CONNELL, 2007-2008

Formerly with the Penrose-St. Francis Health Services, who engaged the project

KANDI BUCKLAND, 2008-2009

El Paso County Department of Health and Environment

Board Members Engaged in the Project:

DIRK HOBBS

M.D. NEWS/Medical Voyce, Inc.

SHARON RAGGIO

Pikes Peak Behavioral Health Group

LAURIE PICUS, MSW, LCSW

Colorado Consumer Health Initiatives

ROSEMARY BAKES-MARTIN

El Paso County Department of Health and Environment

B. J. SCOTT

Peak Vista Community Health Centers

ELLEN DEAUSTIN

HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital

MARCELLA RUCH

Mission Medical Clinic

MARTHA BARTON

Pikes Peak Hospice & Palliative Care

RICHARD (DICK) EITEL

Formerly with Memorial Hospital

WILLIAM MANDELL, D.O.

El Paso County Medical Society

ZELNA JOSEPH

S.E.T. of Colorado Springs

Current Health Issues

Teen Suicide
Suicide Deaths Among Older Adults
Infant Mortality
Deaths From Stroke

Emerging Health Issues

Obesity Among Adults
Adults Reporting Poor Mental Health

Infrastructure/Capacity

Persons Without Health Insurance
Licensed Beds In General Hospitals
Registered Nurses
Public Health Resources

Other Contributors:

TINA CURTIS

El Paso County Medical Society

DORIS RALSTON

Colorado Springs Osteopathic Foundation

LYNN PELZ

Peak Vista Community Health Centers

CAROL A. WALKER

El Paso County Medical Society and Foundation

CYNTHIA K. DOTY

Pikes Peak Behavioral Health Group

SUSAN BAKER, DNS, RN

Penrose-St. Francis Health Services

AMY SUFAK

Penrose-St. Francis Health Services

ANNETTE FRYMAN, RN, MBA

Pikes Peak Behavioral Health Group

Medical Direction Provided by:

JOEL DICKERMAN, D.O.

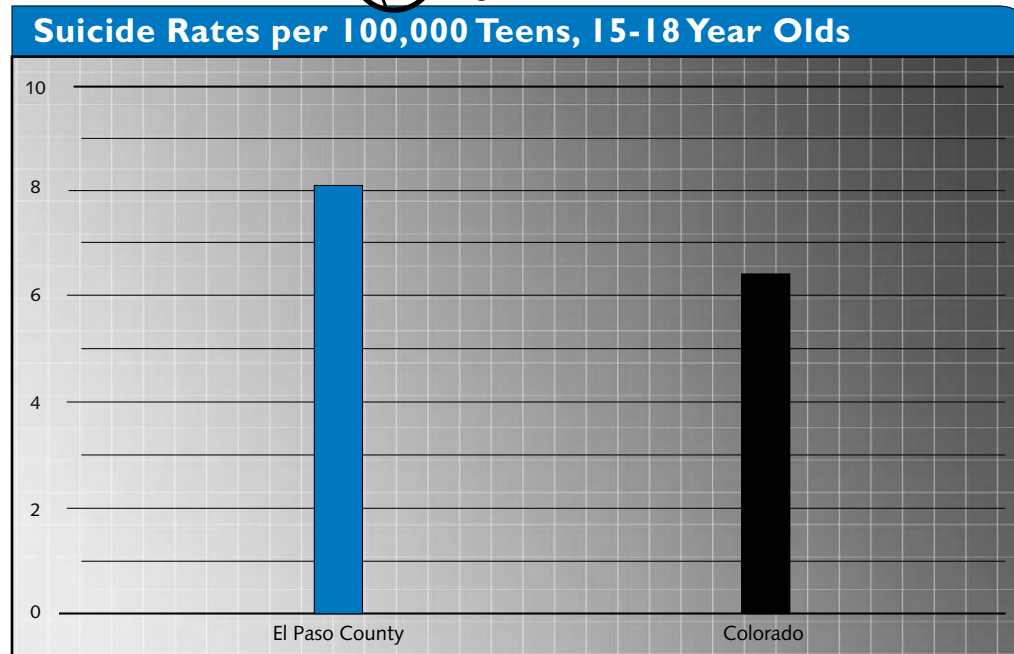
MICHAEL WELCH, D.O.

BERNADETTE ALBANESE, M.D.

Current Health Issues

These indicators are among the most significant in mortality issues impacting our area.

TEEN SUICIDE Warning Flag



Source: El Paso County Department of Health and Environment¹

THIS CHART

shows suicide rates for teens in Colorado and the El Paso County region. El Paso County's suicide rate of 8.1 per 100,000 is significantly higher than the state's rate of 6.4 per 100,000.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

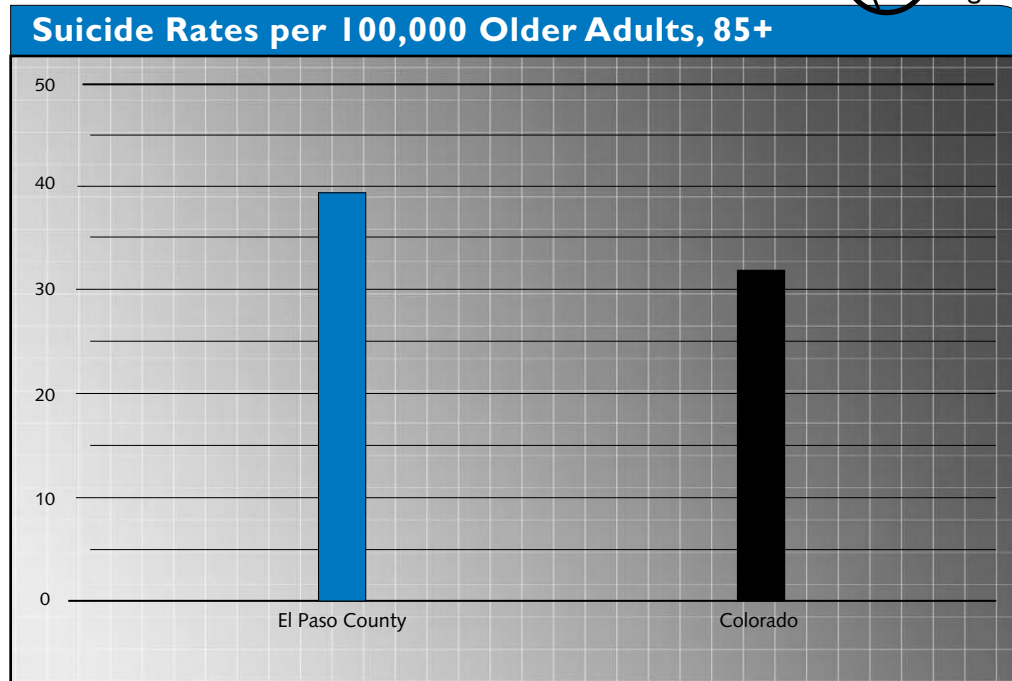
These figures place El Paso County among the top 10 highest teen suicide rates in the U.S. Additionally, among younger populations (aged 15 – 24), it is estimated that for every individual who commits suicide, there are approximately 100-200 attempts, which indicates that approximately 1 million young adults attempt suicide each year.

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

Making El Paso County youth aware of the services and support systems available to them can help curb the high suicide rates.

¹Life, Death and Disease in El Paso County, Colorado, 2006 Report to the Community, page 55

SUICIDE DEATHS AMONG OLDER ADULTS



Source: *El Paso County Department of Health and Environment*²

THIS CHART

shows suicide rates among older adults. The suicide rate in Colorado for individuals 85 and older is 31.9 per 100,000 people. The El Paso County rate is 39.7 per 100,000 people.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

Nationally, Colorado ranks fourth in elderly suicide rates. Within these statistics, 81% of suicide deaths are men.

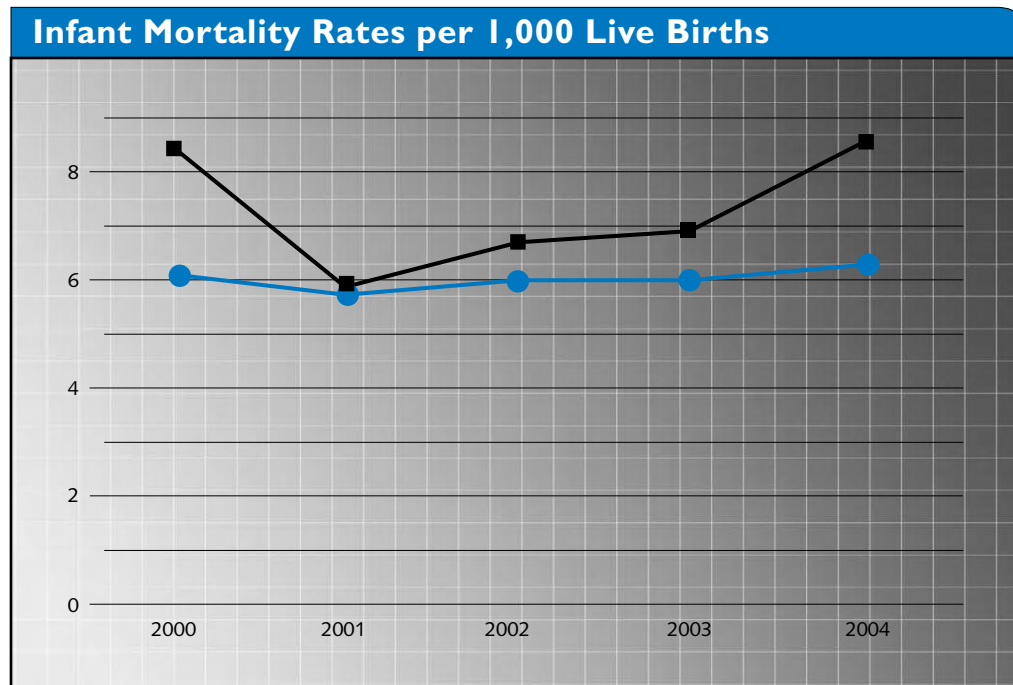
POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

There are various services, activities and support systems available for older adults. Connecting older adults with such resources may help lower the suicide rate. Please see Social Wellbeing Section for more information.

²Life, Death and Disease in El Paso County, Colorado, 2006 Report to the Community, page 55

Current Health Issues

INFANT MORTALITY



Source: El Paso County Department of Health and Environment³

THIS CHART

compares infant mortality rates in El Paso County and Colorado. The 2004 infant mortality rates were 8.6 per 1,000 live births for El Paso County and 6.3 per 1,000 live births for Colorado.

■ El Paso County
● Colorado

HOW ARE WE DOING?

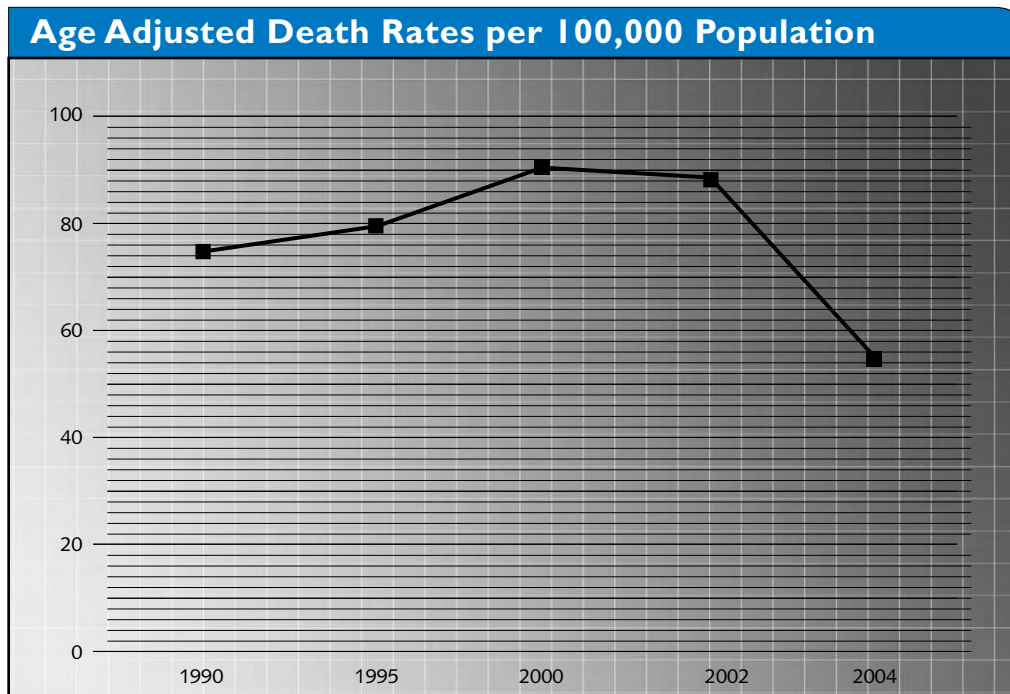
Since 2001 infant mortality rates have increased in both El Paso County and Colorado. In 2004, there were 8,139 live births in El Paso County.

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

It is the goal of *Healthy People 2010* to bring infant mortality rates to 4.5 per 1,000 live births. Similarly, they want to increase the percent of women who begin prenatal care in the first trimester to 90% (in 2004 it was 78.5%).

³Life, Death and Disease in El Paso County, Colorado, 2006 Report to the Community, pages 70, 71, 73 and 75

DEATHS FROM STROKE



Source: El Paso County Department of Health and Environment⁴

THIS CHART

shows that the El Paso County death rate from stroke at 54.7 per 100,000 population remains above the Colorado death rate from stroke which is 43.1 per 100,000 population.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

Current information from American Heart Association and American Stroke databases indicates that the combined incidence of stroke or trans-ischemic attack at Penrose and Memorial Hospitals reached 867 cases from July 2007 until July 2008. There were 2,221 strokes entered into these databases in all of Colorado for the same time period. Thus, Colorado Springs had approximately 40 – 45% of cases reported in the entire state.

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

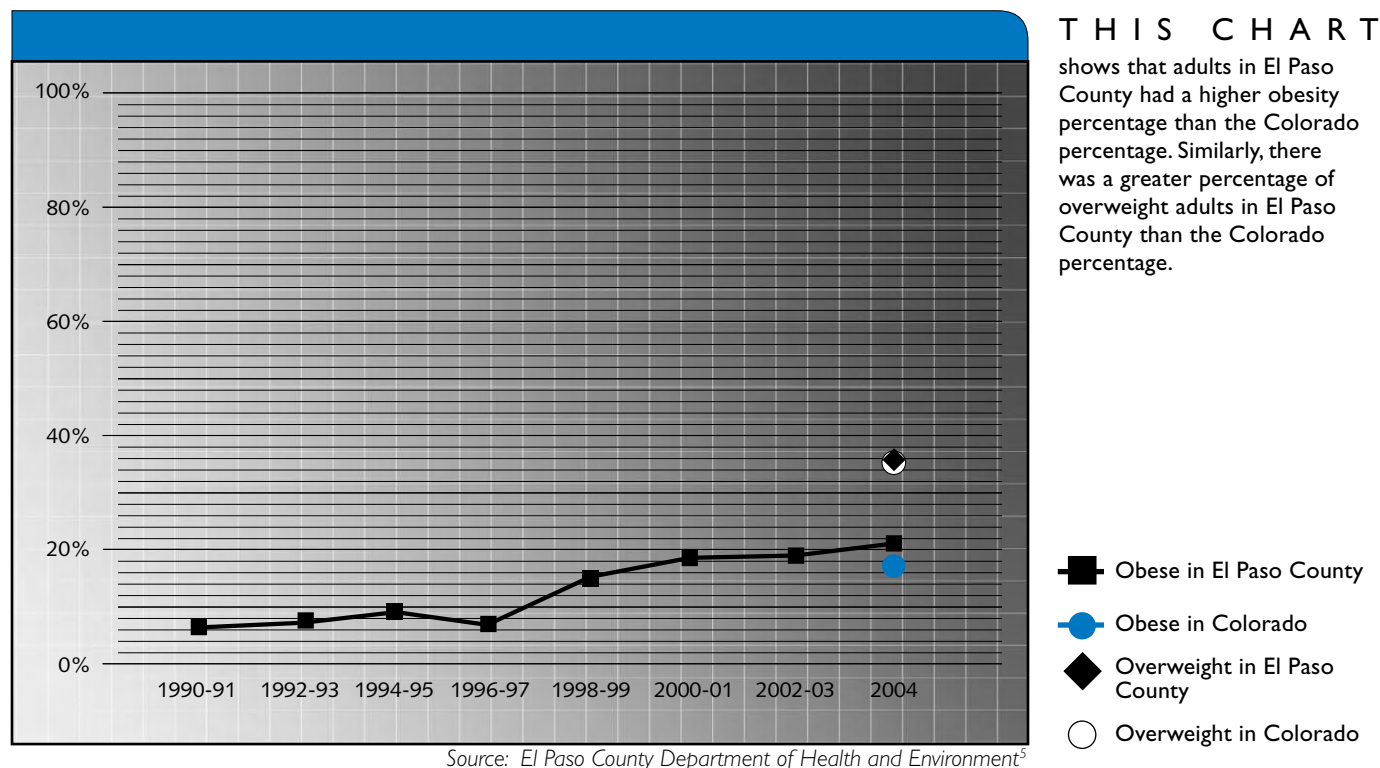
The *Healthy People 2010* target is 50 deaths from stroke per 100,000 population. Colorado Springs and El Paso County lie within a high area of stroke incidence according to national studies. Because risk factors for stroke are the same as for cardiac myocardial infarction, and often preventable, it is imperative that our city and county focus attention and public education into this area.

⁴Life, Death and Disease in El Paso County, Colorado, 2006 Report to the Community, page 12

Emerging Health Issues

These indicators are statistically emerging from the population and are quickly becoming major burdens on our service delivery system.

OBESITY AMONG ADULTS



HOW ARE WE DOING?

Notably in 1990-1991, only 6.9% of El Paso County adults were obese as compared to 21.4% in 2004. This means that the number of obese adults in El Paso County has more than tripled over the last 15 years. Current data indicate that the situation is worsening rather than improving.

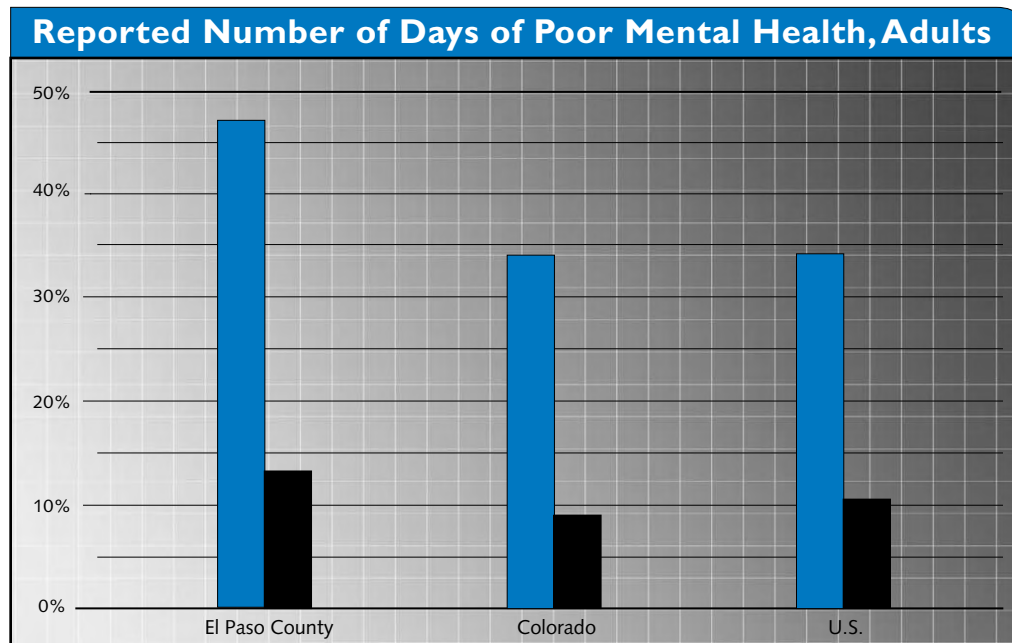
POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

The *Healthy People 2010* goal is to reduce the prevalence of adult obesity to less than 15%. Additionally, 53.6% of adults report that they are trying lose weight.

⁵Life, Death and Disease in El Paso County, Colorado, 2006 Report to the Community, page 33

Emerging Health Issues

ADULTS REPORTING POOR MENTAL HEALTH



Source: El Paso County Department of Health and Environment⁶

THIS CHART

shows that in 2004, 47% of El Paso County adults reported experiencing at least one day of poor mental health during the past 30 days. This compares to 34% of Colorado adults and 34.4% adults nationwide.

- Reported at Least 1 Day of Poor Mental Health
- Reported at Least 14 Days of Poor Mental Health

HOW ARE WE DOING?

This chart also shows that of those surveyed, 13.7% of respondents said that they had at least 14 days of poor mental health in the prior 30 days. The 2004 El Paso County Community Health Survey reveals that 18% of respondents needed mental health counseling or therapy during the previous year; 79.3% of those respondents indicated that they were able to get the services they needed.

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

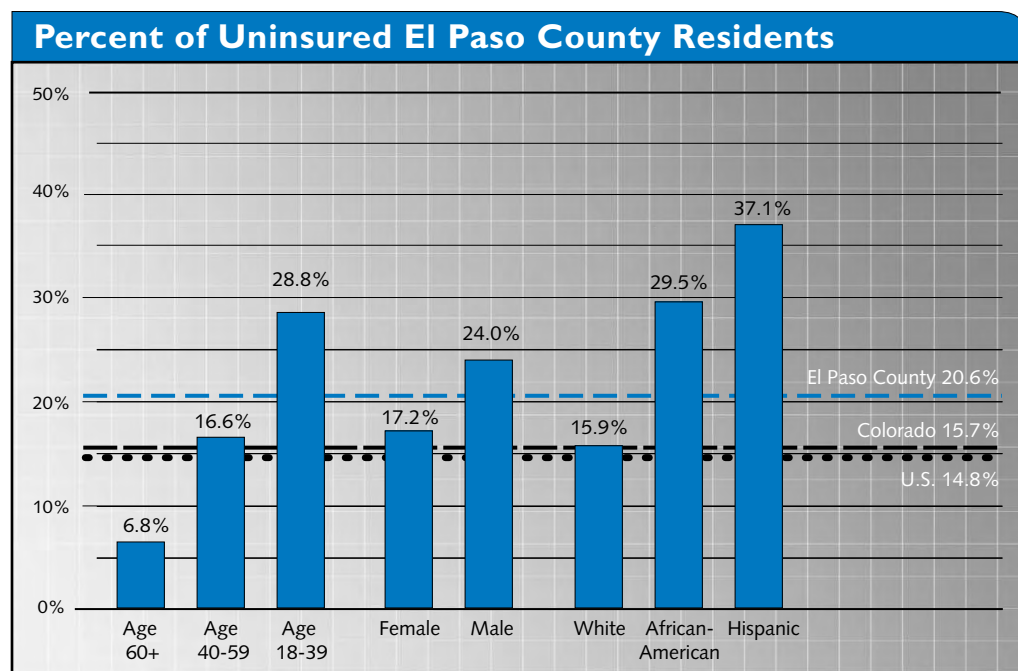
Compared to other states, Colorado's behavioral health care spending is 20% below the national average. Please see Social Wellbeing section for additional mental health information.

⁶Life, Death and Disease in El Paso County, Colorado, 2006 Report to the Community, pages 46-49

Infrastructure/Capacity

These indicators identify deficits and vulnerabilities in our current care system that will have a major impact on institutions, businesses and individuals.

PERSONS WITHOUT HEALTH INSURANCE



Source: El Paso County Department of Health and Environment⁷

THIS CHART

shows that in 2004, 20.6% of persons in El Paso County did not have health insurance as compared to 15.7% in Colorado and 14.8% nationally.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

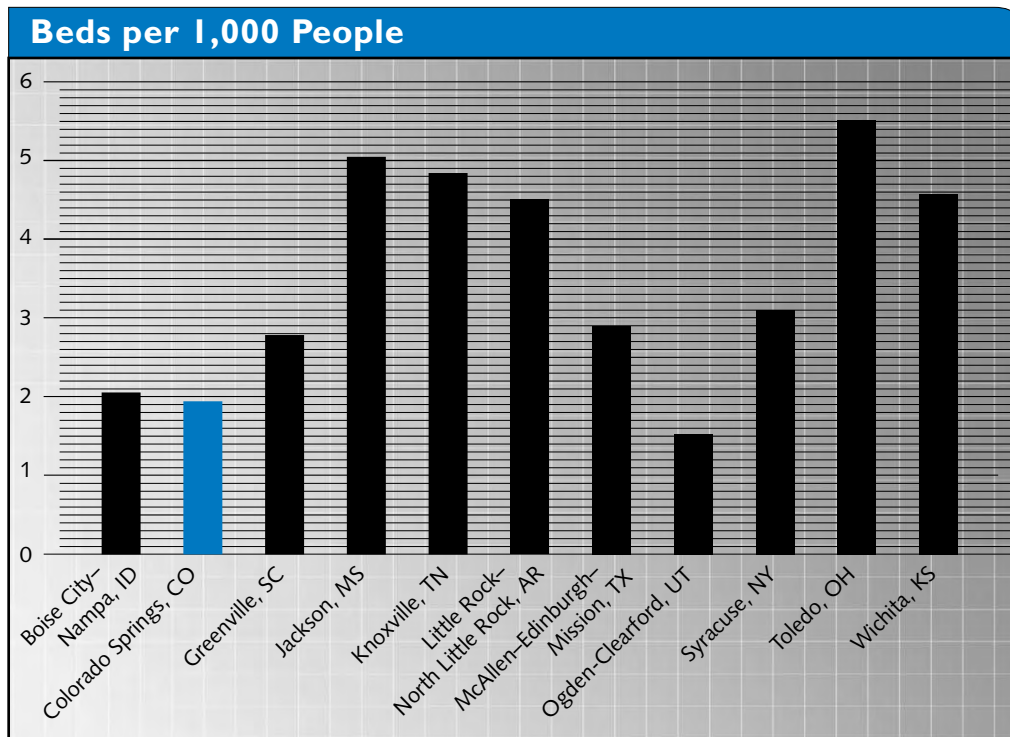
In our community about 1 out of every 5 adults is uninsured. Additionally, 28% of those surveyed indicated that they have not gone to a doctor or a clinic, although they needed assistance, because they could not afford the medical care. When looking at the uninsured population by age, gender and race/ethnicity, the data indicates that Hispanics, men and younger adults are more likely to be uninsured.

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

Local initiatives, including the Community Health Partnership, have been working to expand health care resources for the underinsured and uninsured in El Paso County. Other local initiatives are being led by the Latino American Health Network and the Black Leadership Forum.

⁷Life, Death and Disease in El Paso County, Colorado, 2006 Report to the Community, page 24-27

LICENSED BEDS IN GENERAL HOSPITALS



Source: Health Care Infrastructure in Colorado Springs 2008)⁸

THIS CHART

shows the number of licensed beds and the number of staffed beds in the two largest hospitals in the El Paso County area. It also shows how Colorado Springs compares to cities similar in population.

Note: Information does not include new additions to hospitals.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

Colorado Springs ranks 29th among 31 comparable cities in the United States in the number of licensed general hospital beds. Colorado Springs has 1.97 licensed general hospital beds per 1,000 people. The average among the 31 comparable cities was 3.25 licensed general hospital beds per 1,000 people. Jackson, Mississippi ranks the highest with 5.08 beds per 1,000 people.

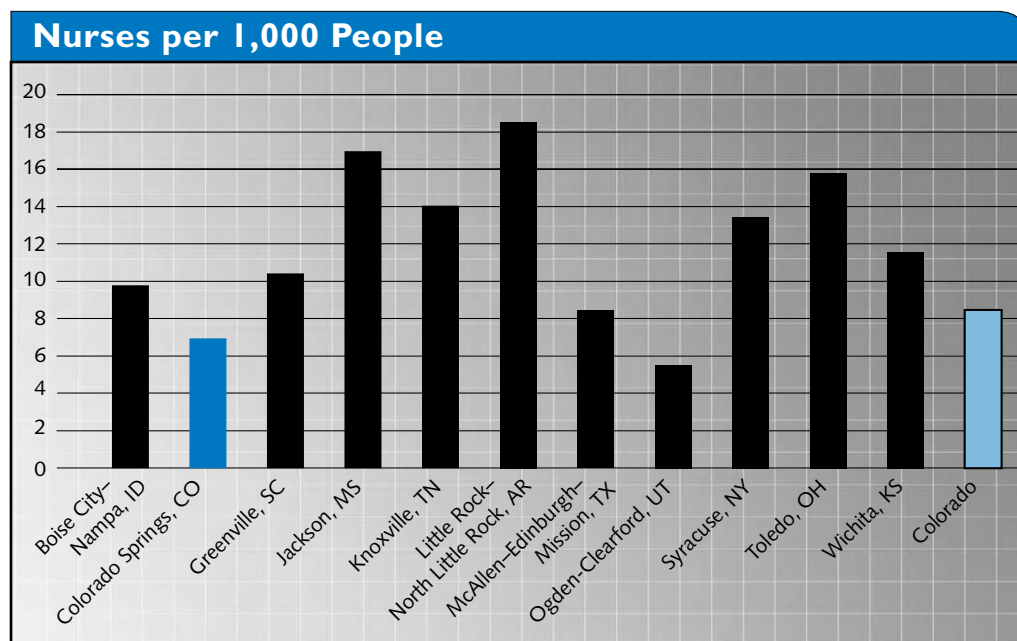
POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

With new additions to local hospitals, the number of licensed beds and the number of staffed beds will increase.

⁸Wendy M. Limbert, Ph.D. and Steven Beard. *Health Care Infrastructure in Colorado Springs*. Western Strategies Center, Colorado Springs, Colorado. January 2008. Pages 22 and 56.

Infrastructure/Capacity

REGISTERED NURSES



Source: Health Care Infrastructure in Colorado Springs 2008⁹

THIS CHART

compares the number of registered nurses per 1,000 people in Colorado Springs with other cities similar in populations.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

Colorado Springs ranks 30th among 33 comparable cities in the United States in the number of registered nurses. Colorado Springs has 7.09 registered nurses per 1,000 people. The average among the 33 comparable cities was 8.67 registered nurses per 1,000. Colorado Springs is also below the statewide average. The average in Colorado is 8.68 registered nurses per 1,000 people. Little Rock, Arkansas ranks the highest with 18.5 registered nurses per 1,000 people.

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

Efforts are underway to increase educational opportunities and improve the health care training infrastructure, and initial results from these programs are encouraging. Cooperation between training programs, community organizations, and health care providers is especially effective because it provides students with a clear “pipeline” for career development.

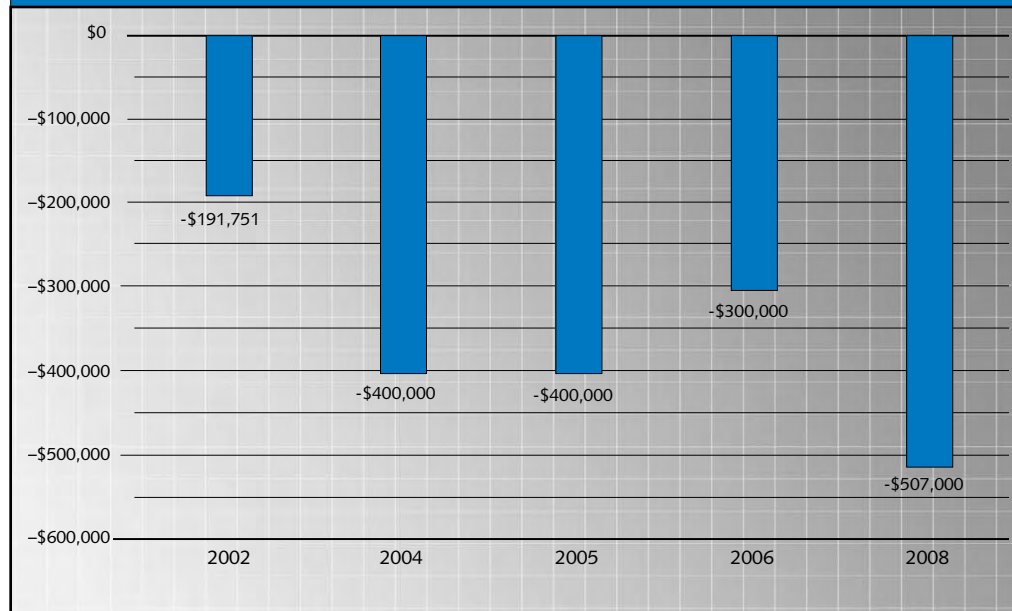
⁹Wendy M. Limbert, Ph.D. and Steven Beard. *Health Care Infrastructure in Colorado Springs*. Western Strategies Center, Colorado Springs, Colorado. January 2008. Pages 60 and 62

PUBLIC HEALTH RESOURCES



Warning
Flag

El Paso County Health Department Budget Cuts



Source: El Paso County Health Department

THIS CHART

shows that as a result of budget restrictions, the El Paso County Department of Health and Environment (EPCDHE) is understaffed in every area; over the past eight years, the department has lost 35% of its total budget. In 2008, El Paso County Health Department staffing stands at 209 personnel compared to 251 in the year 2000. This is far less than the national average of 327 personnel employed by local health departments serving comparably sized cities.¹⁰

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

Funding directly impacts the types and levels of service the El Paso County Department of Health and Environment (EPCDHE) can provide to protect public health.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

When compared to other similar health departments in Colorado, the EPCDHE receives fewer local dollars to provide mandated health protection services. For example, EPCDHE receives \$6.40 per person compared to Pueblo County at \$11.61 per person and Boulder County at \$19.30 per person.

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

The rate of growth of local funding of the EPCDHE should be keeping in pace with the local population growth. But instead, the local funding for the EPCDHE has steadily decreased, earning this warning flag.

¹⁰Wendy M. Limbert, Ph.D. and Steven Beard. *Health Care Infrastructure in Colorado Springs*. Western Strategies Center, Colorado Springs, Colorado. January 2008. Pages 11-13.

ACHIEVING EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE

Educational excellence is not simply about acquiring knowledge, but also about honing critical thinking skills, learning appropriate social behavior and being exposed to new ideas and innovation. Achieving said excellence is a process that begins the moment a child is born, and continues through adulthood. A quality education is vital to a person's quality of life, and allows them the opportunity to contribute to their community in a meaningful way.



ENT Federal Credit Union knows that our children are the key to the future success of our community, and that a quality education is an integral part of ensuring our children are prepared to become productive citizens. We are pleased to sponsor the Achieving Educational Excellence section of the 2008 Quality of Life Indicators report.

Achieving Educational Excellence Council

Chair

NOREEN LANDIS-TYSON

Co-Chair

PAULA MILLER

Co-Chair

Members

ANTHONY ANDERSON

JOHN ATKINSON

DEE BEAUDETTE

TERRY BISHOP

MARGE BLACK

JOHN BOX

HOWARD BROOKS

CHRIS CHAPARRO

DALTON CONNER

JOYCE COPE

ROY CRAWFORD

RANDY DALTON

MIKE EDMONDS

JACQUELINE GOODEN

GREG GARCIA

TOM HAROLD

NANCY MARTINEZ

MARY ELLEN MCNALLY

MIKE MILES

JOE MOORE

VANNESSA MOSES

VINCE PUZICK

BOB & DONNA SELLE

PAM SHOCKLEY-ZALABAK

DICK SIEVER

GINA SOLAZZI

SUSAN SPENCER

JAMES STEWART

JADE SUTER

JANET SUTHERS

KAREN TEJA

VIC TISE

SHERRIE VOGT

MARY JANE WILLSHIRE

JOHN WILSON

DENISE WISDOM

Early Learning

Early Childhood Education

Third Grade Reading Skills

Student Achievement

Tenth Grade Reading Skills

Tenth Grade Math Skills

Student Graduation

High School Graduation Rate

High School Dropout Rate

Higher Education

Adult Educational Attainment

Outcomes of Higher Education

Teacher Quality

Teachers with Advanced Degrees

Teacher Compensation

Educational Funding

School Funding

Students in Need

Early Learning

Educational excellence is dependent upon a child's ability to read well. Children who learn to read early have a greater chance of success. Early childhood education programs prepare children for the learning process in elementary school and can improve outcomes for all children, especially those in lower-income families. Thus, access to affordable and quality early childhood education is a strong indicator of a child's social and academic preparedness.

Children spend much of their time in kindergarten through second grade learning to read; in the third grade, the focus switches. Instead of learning to read, the child must be able to read in order to learn. Measuring the third-grade reading skills of the children in our community gives us an indication of how well they will be able to succeed as they continue their academic journey.

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Enrollment of Children in Poverty in Early Education

	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	Change
El Paso County	54.4%	53.8%	59%	5.2%

Source: American Communities Survey, US Census 2006-2007, El Paso County, CO; Colorado Department of Education; Colorado State Demography Office; Community Partnership for Child Development/Head Start

Note: the final numbers of the next five charts are weighted average based on district population.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

In El Paso County, the rate declined from 54.4% in 2004-2005 to 53.8% in 2005-2006, but rose in 2006-2007 by 5.2%, as a result of the State's increased investment in the Colorado Preschool Program.

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

According to the Colorado Children's Campaign, the federal government defines children to be at risk of education failure because of poverty, if their family earns less than 185% of the federal poverty level (FPL). In El Paso County, the percent of children in families below this level is 28%, or one out of every four.

THIRD GRADE READING SKILLS



Warning
Flag

Third Graders Reading at Grade Level by District

	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	Change
Colorado Springs 11	70.0%	70.0%	71.0%	1.0%
Academy 20	85.0%	87.0%	88.0%	1.0%
Harrison 2	63.0%	61.0%	64.0%	3.0%
Falcon 49	80.0%	75.0%	78.0%	3.0%
Widefield 3	74.0%	68.0%	70.0%	2.0%
Fountain-Fort Carson 8	78.0%	79.0%	78.0%	-1.0%
Largest Six Districts	74.9%	73.9%	79.0%	5.1%
State of Colorado	71.0%	70.0%	71%	1.0%

Source: Colorado Department of Education

HOW ARE WE DOING?

The average rate for El Paso County's largest school districts improved from 73.9% in 2005-2006 to 79.0% in 2006-2007. In Colorado, the rate improved by 1% over the previous year, returning to 2004-2005 levels.

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

Five of the six largest school districts in El Paso County showed at least a 1% improvement in this indicator, with Harrison School District 2 and Widefield School District 3 improving by 3%. Only Fountain Ft. Carson School District 8 showed a decline. The Educational Vision Council has determined that improvement in third grade reading levels is critical to school success for El Paso County students, and is focusing efforts on improving this indicator.

THIS CHART

shows the percentage of 3 and 4-year old children in El Paso County living below 100% of the Federal Poverty Level who are enrolled in either the state-funded Colorado Preschool Program or the Head Start program.

THIS CHART

shows the percentage of public school third graders in El Paso County's six largest school districts* who achieve at the top two (out of four) levels on the Colorado Student Assessment Program (CSAP) in reading.

*The six largest districts represent 80% of El Paso County's public school enrollment.

Student Achievement

The Colorado Department of Education believes that student assessment, high academic standards, and accountability at both the school and school district level are the three most important factors of school reform. In Colorado, student achievement is measured primarily through scores on the Colorado Student Assessment Program (the standardized test more commonly called CSAP). The test scores on four levels; the top two levels indicate a student is performing at grade-level or above.

TENTH GRADE READING SKILLS

Tenth Graders Reading at Grade Level by District				
	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	Change
Colorado Springs 11	64.0%	69.0%	70.0%	1.0%
Academy 20	82.0%	84.0%	87.0%	3.0%
Harrison 2	50.0%	57.0%	59.0%	2.0%
Falcon 49	69.0%	74.0%	77.0%	3.0%
Widefield 3	68.0%	75.0%	75.0%	0.0%
Fountain-Fort Carson 8	65.0%	74.0%	80.0%	6.0%
Largest Six Districts	68.2%	73.1%	79.9%	6.8%
State of Colorado	66.0%	68.0%	69.0%	1.0%

Source: Colorado Department of Education

THIS CHART

shows the percentage of public school tenth graders in El Paso County's six largest school districts who achieve at the top two (out of four) levels on the CSAP in reading.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

In El Paso County, the rate increased by 6.8%, from 73.1% in 2005-2006 to 79.9% in 2006-2007. In Colorado, the rate also increased by 1% over the same time period.

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

Five of the six largest school districts in El Paso County showed at least a 1% improvement in this indicator, with Fountain Ft. Carson School District 8 improving by 6%. Widefield School District 3 showed no improvement in this indicator over the same time period.

TENTH GRADE MATH SKILLS

Tenth Graders Doing Math at Grade Level by District				
	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	Change
Colorado Springs 11	24.0%	30.0%	28.0%	-2.0%
Academy 20	40.0%	41.0%	44.0%	3.0%
Harrison 2	13.0%	17.0%	17.0%	0.0%
Falcon 49	33.0%	31.0%	35.0%	4.0%
Widefield 3	22.0%	27.0%	22.0%	-5.0%
Fountain-Fort Carson 8	27.0%	26.0%	27.0%	1.0%
Largest Six Districts	27.9%	31.1%	31.4%	0.3%
State of Colorado	30.0%	31.0%	30.0%	-1.0%

Source: Colorado Department of Education

THIS CHART

shows the percentage of public school tenth graders in El Paso County's six largest school districts who achieve at the top two (out of four) levels on the CSAP in math.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

In El Paso County, the rate increased by less than 1% from 2005-2006 to 2006-2007. In Colorado, the rate declined from 31% to 30% over the same time period.

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

Three of the six largest school districts showed an improvement in this indicator of at least 1%, while one school district showed no improvement, and two declined by at least two percentage points.

Student Graduation

Obtaining a high school diploma is critical if a student wishes to further his or her education, and in finding good-paying, quality employment. Youth who do not complete high school are often only able to obtain low-paying jobs. Looking at high school graduation and dropout rates can tell us whether our children are adequately prepared to enter college or the workforce.

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE

Students Graduating within Four Years by District				
	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	Change
Colorado Springs 11	67.8%	69.0%	67.5%	-1.5%
Academy 20	91.6%	89.5%	91.4%	1.9%
Harrison 2	81.9%	65.0%	69.8%	4.8%
Falcon 49	81.5%	85.6%	83.2%	-2.4%
Widefield 3	83.8%	86.3%	81.5%	-4.8%
Fountain-Fort Carson 8	87.7%	79.4%	84.0%	4.6%
Largest Six Districts	77.9%	77.1%	76.7%	-0.4%
State of Colorado	80.1%	74.1%	75.0%	0.9%

Source: Colorado Department of Education

THIS CHART

shows the percentage of students who graduate from public high schools in El Paso County's six largest school districts within four years.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

The graduation rate declined by less than one percent, from 77.1% in 2005-2006 to 76.7% in 2006-2007 in El Paso County's six largest school districts. In Colorado, the rate improved from 74.1% to 75% over the same time period.

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

Three of the six largest school districts improved graduation rates in 2006-2007, while three declined. Harrison School District 2 increased graduation rates by 4.8%, while Widefield School District 3 declined by 4.8%.

HIGH SCHOOL DROPOUT RATE

THIS CHART

shows the percent of public high school students in El Paso County's six largest school districts who drop out between ninth and twelfth grade.

Because many students leave school without graduating but did not drop out, the dropout rate is not the inverse of the graduation rate.

Students Who Drop Out Between Ninth & Twelfth Grade				
	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	Change
Colorado Springs 11	7.0%	6.1%	4.6%	-1.5%
Academy 20	1.7%	1.6%	0.9%	0.7%
Harrison 2	1.9%	8.4%	3.1%	-5.3%
Falcon 49	4.2%	1.6%	2.5%	0.9%
Widefield 3	4.9%	4.1%	1.1%	-3.0%
Fountain-Fort Carson 8	4.4%	5.3%	1.1%	-4.2%
Largest Six Districts	4.5%	4.3%	2.8%	-1.5%
State of Colorado	4.2%	4.5%	4.4%	-0.1

Source: Colorado Department of Education

HOW ARE WE DOING?

The dropout rate declined from 4.3% to 2.8% in 2006-2007 in El Paso County's six largest school districts. In Colorado, the rate also declined from 4.5% to 4.4%.

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

Harrison School District 2 and Fountain Ft. Carson School District 8 improved dropout rates by more than 4%; only two of the County's six largest school districts showed an increase in dropout rates.

The 21st century finds our world moving to a knowledge- and skill-based economy, and thus community success depends on strong development of a community's intellectual capital. This includes working to expand participation in higher education because the economy demands a higher percentage of educated, skilled workers. Adult educational achievement is just as important as children's educational achievement if our community is to truly achieve educational excellence.

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Adults in El Paso County by Education Level				
	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	Change
Some College	26.0%	24.8%	24.8%	0.0%
Associate	10.1%	10.2%	9.7%	-0.5%
Bachelor	19.7%	21.0%	22.0%	1.0%
Graduate	11.9%	12.7%	12.4%	-0.3%
Bachelor or Higher	31.6%	33.7%	34.5%	0.8%
State of Colorado Bachelor or Higher			34.3%	

Source: American Communities Survey, US Census 2004-2007, El Paso County, CO

HOW ARE WE DOING?

The percentage of adults in El Paso County with a bachelor's or graduate degree rose from 33.7% in 2006 to 34.5% in 2007. In Colorado, the rate declined from 35.5% to 34.3%.

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

While the percent of adults with a bachelor's degree increased by 1% in El Paso County, the number of adults with associate's and graduate degrees declined; the number of adults with some college remained unchanged.

THIS CHART

shows the percentage of adults age 25 and older in El Paso County with associate's, bachelor's, or graduate degrees.

OUTCOMES OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Higher Education Degrees Awarded Annually by Type				
	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	Change
Doctorate	167	20	60	40
Master	1,347	1,803	2,127	324
Bachelor	3,046	4,713	6,055	1,342
Associate	1,594	1,475	1,488	13
Total	6,154	8,011	9,730	1,719

Source: Integrated Post Secondary Education Data System (IPEDS)

HOW ARE WE DOING?

The total number of degrees rose from 8,011 in 2005-2006 to 9,730 in 2006-2007. While the number of degrees awarded increased in all categories, the biggest increase was in bachelor's degrees with 1,342 more handed out in 2006-2007. The El Paso County area can be proud to note that all of the statistics increased.

Accredited institutions of higher education included in the data set are:

College America-Colorado Springs, Colorado College, Colorado School of Professional Psychology, Colorado Technical University, Colorado Technical University Online, Everest College-Colorado Springs, Intellitec College-Colorado Springs, Intellitec Medical Institute, National American University-Colorado Springs, Nazarene Bible College, Pikes Peak Community College, Remington College-Colorado Springs Campus, United States Air Force Academy, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs, University of Phoenix-Southern Colorado Campus

THIS CHART

shows the total number of degrees awarded annually in El Paso County at postsecondary institutions accredited by an accrediting agency or state approval agency recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education and tracked by the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS).

Teacher Quality

The caliber of the teachers in our community schools has a direct correlation to student performance and achievement. Providing a strong compensation package is necessary for our community's ability to recruit and retain high-quality teachers. To educators, it's an indication of our commitment to them and to our children, and ensures our children receive a quality education.

TEACHERS WITH ADVANCED DEGREES

Percentage by District				
	Fall 2004	Fall 2005	Fall 2006	Change
Colorado Springs 11	53.0%	52.0%	61.7%	9.7%
Academy 20	54.0%	55.0%	52.9%	-2.1%
Harrison 2	41.0%	39.0%	40.8%	1.8%
Falcon 49	34.0%	33.0%	35.7%	2.7%
Widefield 3	43.0%	42.0%	44.1%	2.1%
Fountain-Fort Carson 8	37.0%	39.0%	41.3%	2.3%
Largest Six Districts	48.0%	47.0%	50.5%	3.5%
State of Colorado	48.0%	48.0%	50.2%	2.2%

Source: Colorado Department of Education

THIS CHART

shows the percentage of public school teachers in El Paso County's six largest school districts holding a masters or doctoral degree.

Note: the final numbers of the next four charts are a weighted average based on district population

HOW ARE WE DOING?

In El Paso County's six largest districts, the rate increased from 47% in Fall 2005 to 50.5% in Fall 2006. In Colorado, the rate increased from 48% to 50.2%.

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

Of the six largest school districts, only Academy School District 20 showed a decline in this indicator, decreasing from 55.0% in Fall 2005 to 52.9% in Fall 2006. Colorado Springs School District 11 showed the greatest jump, with a 9.7% increase.

TEACHER COMPENSATION

Teacher Salaries by District				
	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	Change
Colorado Springs 11	\$ 44,411	\$ 44,388	\$ 44,914	\$ 526
Academy 20	\$ 40,889	\$ 41,068	\$ 43,310	\$ 2,242
Harrison 2	\$ 38,240	\$ 38,394	\$ 38,610	\$ 216
Falcon 49	\$ 38,391	\$ 38,351	\$ 38,716	\$ 365
Widefield 3	\$ 42,086	\$ 42,026	\$ 43,225	\$ 1,199
Fountain-Fort Carson 8	\$ 40,488	\$ 41,083	\$ 42,646	\$ 1,563
Largest Six Districts	\$ 41,617	\$ 41,666	\$ 41,904	\$ 238
State of Colorado	\$ 43,965	\$ 44,456	\$ 45,831	\$ 1,375

Source: Colorado Department of Education

THIS CHART

shows the average public school teacher salary in El Paso County's six largest school districts compared to Colorado.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

Average public school teacher salaries in El Paso County's six largest school districts increased by \$238 from 2005-2006 to 2006-2007. The median teacher salary for Colorado teachers is greater than El Paso County and increased by \$1,375 over the same period.

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

Only two of the six largest school districts increased average teacher salaries by more than the state average of \$1,375; three increased salaries by less than \$600, an average of a 1% increase from 2005-2006 to 2006-2007.

Educational Funding

Educational funding is vital for school success. Tracking the amount of total revenue per student in our schools can give an indication of how our community is doing in terms of educational success. In schools with a large percentage of students in need, this number is even more important, as these students often require more expensive supplemental services.

SCHOOL FUNDING

Cost Per Pupil General Fund Revenue* by District				
	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	Change
Colorado Springs 11	\$ 6,120	\$ 6,283	\$6,610	\$ 327
Academy 20	\$ 6,842	\$ 7,038	\$7,218	\$ 180
Harrison 2	\$ 6,657	\$ 7,042	\$7,365	\$ 323
Falcon 49	\$ 5,889	\$ 6,415	\$6,832	\$ 417
Widefield 3	\$ 6,399	\$ 6,465	\$6,462	-\$ 3
Fountain-Fort Carson 8	\$ 7,385	\$ 8,807	\$7,778	-\$ 1,029
Largest Six Districts	\$6,436	\$6,743	\$6,940	\$ 197
State of Colorado	\$ 7,228	\$ 7,327	\$7,687	\$ 360

THIS CHART

shows the annual amount of basic operating revenue available per full time student in El Paso County's six largest public school districts.

Source: Colorado Department of Education, Comparison of Revenues & Expenditures for Selected Funds, Column F

HOW ARE WE DOING?

The annual amount of basic operating revenue available for each public student in El Paso County's six largest school districts increased from \$6,743 to \$6,940 in 2006. In Colorado, the amount rose from \$7,327 to \$7,687. School funding per pupil in Colorado is one of the lowest in the nation.

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

Two school districts (Widefield School District 3 and Fountain Ft. Carson School District 8) saw a reduction in the basic operating revenue available per student from 2005-06 to 2006-07 (-\$3 and -1,029 respectively) while no district saw more than a 7% increase in general operating revenue per student (Falcon District 49).

*Represents basic operating revenue of each district divided by the number of students

STUDENTS IN NEED

Pre K-12 Students Eligible for Free or Reduced Lunch				
	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	Change
Colorado Springs 11	40.0%	40.1%	44.5%	4.4%
Academy 20	6.0%	5.9%	7.6%	1.7%
Harrison 2	62.1%	61.1%	62.7%	1.6%
Falcon 49	15.7%	15.0%	15.5%	0.5%
Widefield 3	24.2%	26.4%	25.9%	-0.5%
Fountain-Fort Carson 8	34.1%	33.4%	36.4%	3.0%
Largest Six Districts	30.3%	30.3%	31.5%	1.2%
State of Colorado	33.26%	33.70%	34.33%	0.6%

Source: Colorado Department of Education

THIS CHART

shows the percentage of public students (pre-K through Grade 12) eligible for free or reduced lunch in El Paso County's six largest school districts.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

The percentage of public students eligible for free or reduced lunch in El Paso County's six largest school districts increased 1.2% from 30.3% in 2005-2006 to 31.5% in 2006-2007. In Colorado, the amount rose by 0.6%, from 33.7% to 34.33%.

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

Harrison School District 2 continues to have the highest percentage of Pre-K through Grade 12 population who are eligible for free and reduced lunch, rising from 61.1% in 2005-2006 to 62.7% in 2006-2007. Colorado Springs School District 11's eligible population rose by 4.4% over the same period, representing the largest percentage increase of any of the six largest districts.

ENJOYING ARTS, CULTURE, AND RECREATION

Arts, culture and recreation play an important role in our quality of life by providing entertainment and opportunities to come together as a community promoting physical and mental health, and benefiting the economy. The indicators presented in this report help the community understand the presence of arts, culture and recreational opportunities, which include visual and performing arts, outdoor and indoor recreation, community events, and cultural celebrations.



Leadership Pikes Peak is a proud partner on the Dream City Vision 2020 initiative, engaging the community in crafting our community vision and on the Quality of Life Indicators project which will measure our progress toward that vision.

Leadership Pikes Peak
P.O. Box 128
24 S. Weber Street, Ste. 135
Colorado Springs CO 80901
719/ 632-2618
www.leadershippikespeak.org

Arts, Culture, and Recreation Council

Co-Chairs and Conveners

PAUL BUTCHER

City of Colorado Springs
Co-Chair

BETTINA SWIGGER

Cultural Office of the Pikes Peak Region
Co-Chair

JUDITH RICE-JONES

University of Colorado at Colorado Springs
Convener

MATT MAYBERRY

City of Colorado Springs
Convener

Members

KURT AICHELE

Southeast YMCA

MOREY BEAN

Colorado Architecture Partnership

ERIN HANNAN

United States Anti-Doping Agency

KAY JEANSONNE

DOT LISCHICK

Colorado Architecture Partnership

DOUG MARTIN

Colorado Springs Sports Corporation

Arts, Culture and Humanities Presence

Organizations
Attendance at Local Venues

Recreation Presence

Recreational Establishments
Parks Acreage
Miles of Recreational Trails
Participation in Recreational Activities

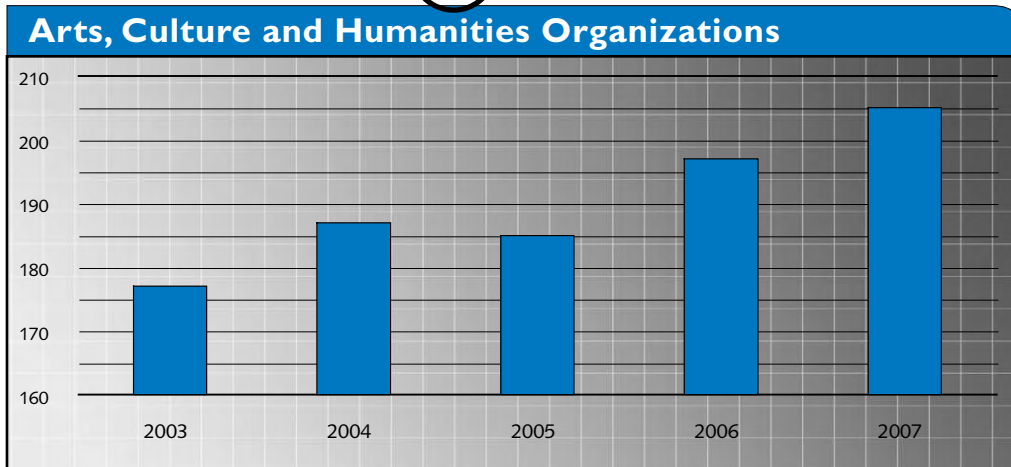
Arts, Culture and Humanities Presence

Though opportunities to participate in arts, culture and humanities organizations are abundant in the community, residents do not necessarily take advantage of these opportunities. Tracking the number of organizations and tracking participation demonstrates how these services touch the lives of individuals. Increasing attendance and participation rates may indicate that organizations are providing and effectively marketing opportunities for everyone.

ORGANIZATIONS



Star of
Achievement



Source: National Center for Charitable Statistics

THIS CHART

shows the number of arts, culture and humanities organizations in El Paso County. The information is derived from the National Center for Charitable Statistics and is compiled from IRS files, state agencies and organizational listings, service organizations, and other data sources to create a master database.

DEFINITIONS

Arts – Theater companies and dinner theaters, dance companies, musical groups, performing arts companies, and independent artists and writers

Culture – Art museums, zoos and botanical gardens, nature parks, and other similar organizations

Humanities – History museums, historical sites, preservation organizations, and other similar groups

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

While this gives a more apples-to-apples comparison of organizational numbers over a series of years, it does not provide complete insight into the rich tapestry of the local arts and culture groups that operate informally or without nonprofit certification. In 2007 the Cultural Office of the Pikes Peak Region (COPPeR) worked to remedy this issue. COPPeR collected names of arts and cultural organizations for its 2007-2008 COPPeR Pages publication, which is the official guide to the region's arts and cultural organizations. This guide focuses on organizations with arts, culture and heritage as their primary purpose and function. COPPeR cross-referenced these organizations with registered organizations on www.PeakRadar.com. These two important measurement tools did not exist before 2007.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

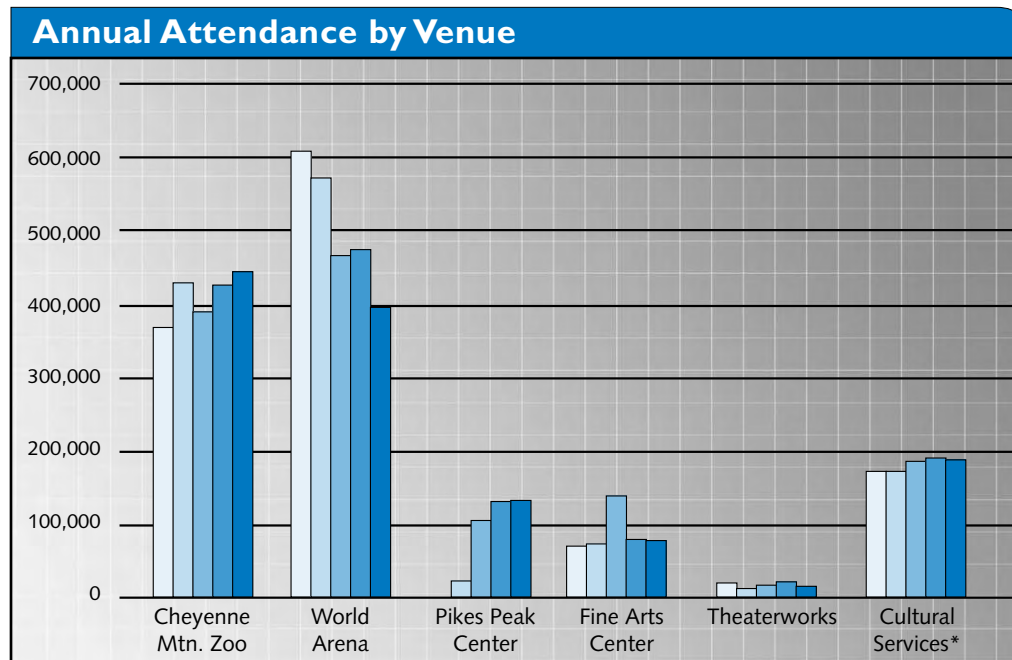
Arts, culture and humanities organizations have seen overall growth consistent with increases in population in El Paso County. Colorado Springs ranks 36th out of 276 metropolitan areas in number of arts businesses per capita. In 2007, American Style magazine named Colorado Springs among the top 25 arts destinations for midsize cities.

These non-profit organizations are especially susceptible to economic downturns and changes in funding streams. The current economic climate may create critical pressure on these organizations both in terms of seeking funding and audiences.

Several remarkable capital projects were completed in 2007. The Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center finished a \$28.6 million capital campaign to remodel and expand their main facility by 48,000 square feet. Also notable is Colorado College's Edith Kinney Gaylord Cornerstone Arts Center, a \$33.4 million multi-disciplinary facility that was designed by world-renowned architect Antoine Predock, which opened in the summer of 2008. The Pikes Peak Center for the Performing Arts completed a \$5 million capital campaign for renovations and technical improvements to its 2,000-seat hall.

Arts, Culture and Humanities Presence

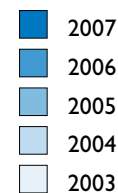
ATTENDANCE AT LOCAL VENUES



Source: The Cheyenne Mountain Zoo, Colorado Springs World Arena, The Pikes Peak Center, The Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, Theaterworks, the Colorado Springs Cultural Services Division

THIS CHART

shows the total annual attendance at the following venues: Cheyenne Mountain Zoo, World Arena, Pikes Peak Center for the Performing Arts, Fine Arts Center, UCCS Theatreworks, and the facilities operated by the City's Cultural Service Division.



HOW ARE WE DOING?

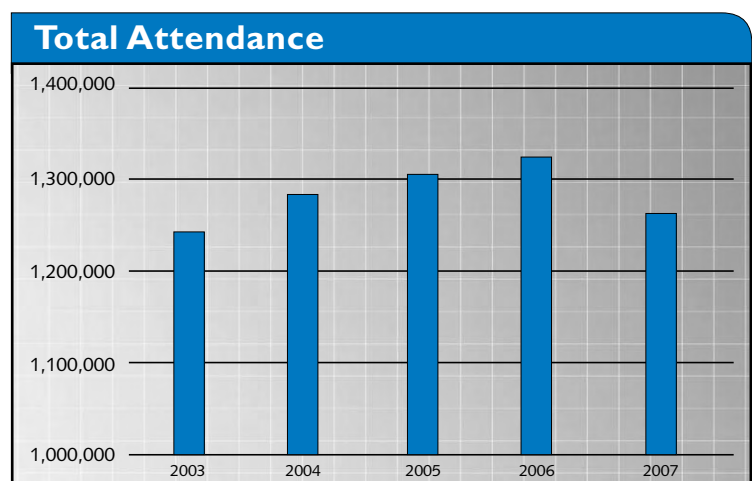
Colorado Springs has a vibrant arts and culture community. This assessment is supported by the creation of the Cultural Office of the Pikes Peak Region (COPPeR) and their web site PeakRadar.com, the expansion of the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, the construction of the Cornerstone Arts building at Colorado College, and the success of the public art program "Art on the Streets." The activity and energy represented by these and so many other developments are not necessarily reflected in admission and visitation statistics. Though these numbers don't tell the whole story, they are a testament to the ways in which arts and culture touch the lives of community residents and visitors, but numbers alone do not tell the whole story.

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

Arts and culture organizations will continue to seek out effective ways of developing and marketing relevant programs. In addition to attendance figures, the community must also work to find other reliable ways of tracking the true impact of these programs.

THIS CHART

shows the total attendance for all of the venues listed.



Source: The Cheyenne Mountain Zoo, Colorado Springs World Arena, The Pikes Peak Center, The Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, Theaterworks, the Colorado Springs Cultural Services Division

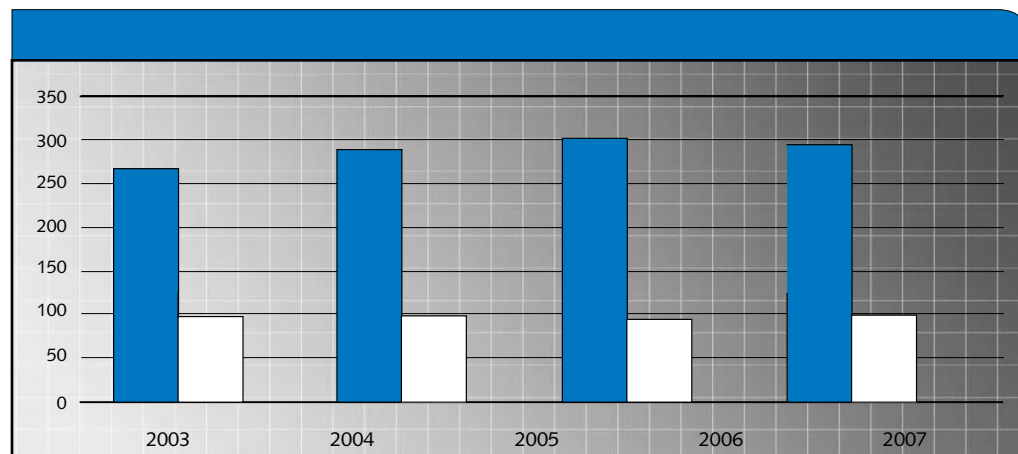
[The decline in 2007 was driven by the Fine Arts Center being closed for expansion.]

* Cultural Services includes the following venues: Colorado Springs Pioneers Museum, Rock Ledge Ranch Historic Site, Starsmore Discovery Center, and Helen Hunt Falls Visitor Center.

Recreation Presence

Parks, trails and other opportunities for both indoor and outdoor physical activities are main attractions for living in Colorado. The state's generally mild weather gives residents and visitors the opportunity to utilize outdoor spaces for recreational use throughout the year. Additionally, these areas provide space for athletic activities that benefit the overall health of people in our community.

RECREATIONAL ESTABLISHMENTS



Source: North American Industry Classification System, U.S. Census Bureau, County Business Patterns

THIS CHART

shows the number of recreational and sports establishments in El Paso County. Establishment counts represent the number of locations with paid employees any time during the year. Businesses operating without an Employer Identification Number (EIN), and businesses with an EIN but without employees, are excluded from the data.

■ Recreation Establishments
□ Sports Establishments

HOW ARE WE DOING ?

In 2008, Colorado Springs was named the "Fittest City in America" by Men's Fitness Magazine. The number of recreational establishments in El Paso County per 100,000 residents kept pace with population growth from 2003 to 2006. Growth in this sector also contributes to overall economic health and serves as an economic niche for the region. Recreational establishments provide extensive opportunities for interaction with family, friends and other community members but offer less active participation and exercise than sports establishments. During this period, recreational establishments increased by nearly 10% while the sports establishments grew by only 1%.

DEFINITIONS

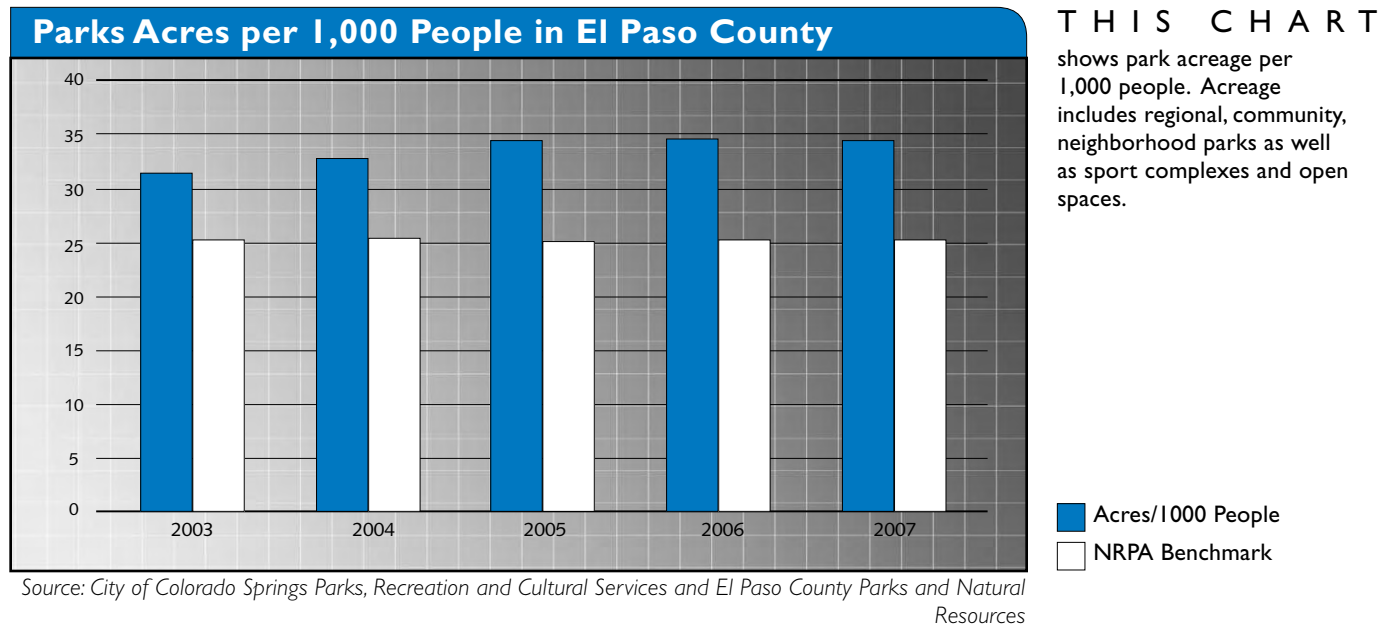
Sport – Sports teams sports clubs, racetracks, spectator sports, golf courses, country clubs, fitness centers, and bowling centers

Recreation – Amusement and theme parks, arcades, gambling industries, all other amusement and recreations industries

Recreation Establishment–

A single physical location at which business is conducted or services or industrial operations are performed. A single company or enterprise may consist of one or more establishments. When two or more activities are carried on at a single location under a single ownership, the entire establishment is classified on the basis of its major activity and all data are included in that classification.

PARKS ACREAGE

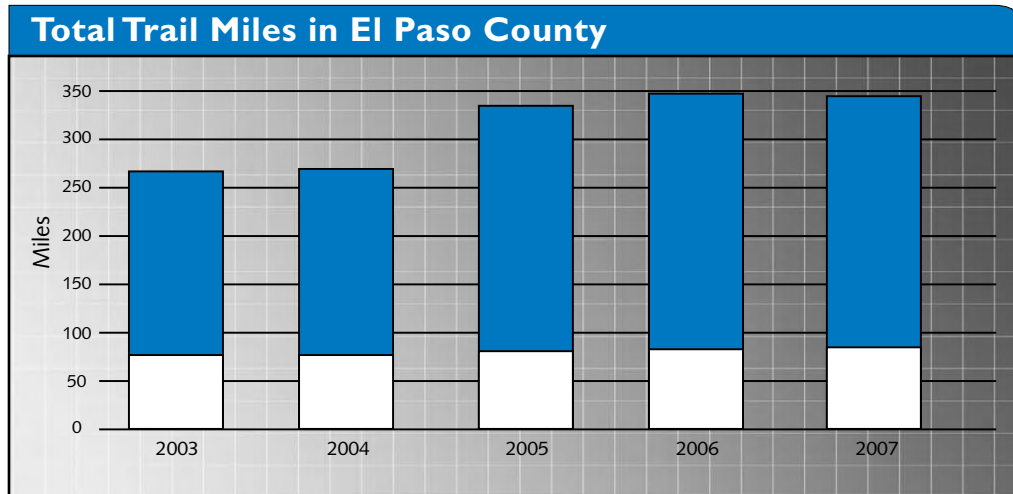


HOW ARE WE DOING?

The national average for this measurement is 25 acres/1,000 population. While both the City of Colorado Springs and El Paso County have added over 1,200 acres of parkland from 2005 to 2007, growth in population has kept a steady pace as well, resulting in only a slight increase in park acres per 1,000 people. The number of park acres per 1,000 people in El Paso County remains well above the standard benchmark established by the National Recreation and Parks Association. This statistic certainly contributed to *Men's Fitness* magazine ranking Colorado Springs as the "Fittest City in America" in 2008.

Recreation Presence

MILES OF RECREATION TRAILS



Source: City of Colorado Springs

THIS CHART

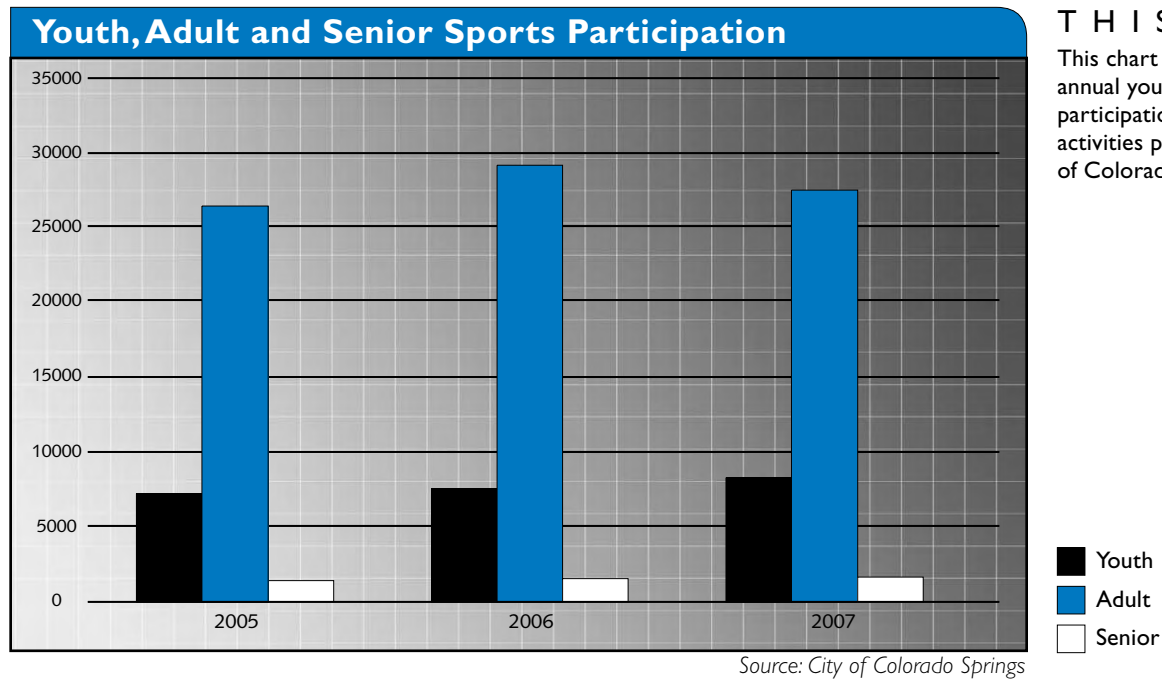
This chart shows total trail miles in El Paso County. It includes trails that are constructed throughout the city and county for commuters and recreational use as well as trails that are constructed inside various parks and open spaces.

■ City
□ County

HOW ARE WE DOING?

Trail mileage has increased since 2003 and is keeping pace with population growth. This is also a key factor in *Men's Fitness* magazine ranking Colorado Springs as the "Fittest City in America" designation.

PARTICIPATION IN RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES



THIS CHART

This chart shows the total annual youth, adult, and seniors participation in recreation activities provided by the City of Colorado Springs.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

Growth in youth sports participation is directly linked to the addition of spring football to available programs. For adult sports (basketball, dodgeball, football, softball and volleyball) only basketball has shown a program increase. Dodgeball participation has dropped by nearly half since 2005. Other decreases may be related to less discretionary time, money and increasing fuel costs.

MOVING AROUND EFFICIENTLY

Efficiently and effectively moving people and goods is vital to a good regional quality of life. With the passage of the Pikes Peak Rural Transportation Authority, the regional transportation system has crossed the threshold into a new period of innovation and investment aimed at reducing the backlog of transportation system needs. As the backlog of needs is reduced, the benefits from future investments could include long-term economic productivity, enhanced competitiveness, and improved Quality of Life for all citizens in the region.

The Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments provides the regional forum for communities to work together to develop a safe and efficient transportation system for all users.



Pikes Peak Area
Council of Governments
Communities Working Together

15 South Seventh Street
Colorado Springs, CO 80905
Tel: 719.471.7080
Fax: 719.471.1226
www.ppacg.org

Moving Around Efficiently Vision Council

Chair

DAN STUART

Alpern, Myers & Stuart LLC
Co-Chair

WAYNE WILLIAMS

El Paso County Commissioner
Co-Chair

Members

LISA AMEND

Experience Colorado Springs at Pikes Peak
Convener

VIC ANDREWS

Community Leader USAA

KRISTIN BENNETT

City of Colorado Springs

CRAIG BLEWITT

City of Colorado Springs

AL BRODY

Pikes Peak Area Bikeways Coalition

CRAIG CASPER

Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments (PPACG)

DAN CLEVELAND

Trails & Open Space Coalition

MARK EARLE

Colorado Springs Airport

JOHN FAULKNER

Colorado Springs Airport

JEN FURDA

Greater Colorado Springs Chamber of Commerce

FRANCINE HANSEN

Council of Neighborhoods & Organizations (CONO)

BOB HARTWIG

Colorado Springs Citizen's Transportation Advisory Board
(CTAB)

Daily Travel

Modes of Travel

Traffic

Travel Time
Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT)

Getting Around Safely

Quality of Roads and Bridges
Traffic Accidents
Bicycle & Pedestrian Safety

Alternate Methods of Transportation

Public Transportation
Access by Air

BARD LOWER

City of Colorado Springs

SHERRE RITENOUR

Mountain Metropolitan Transit

TERRY STORM

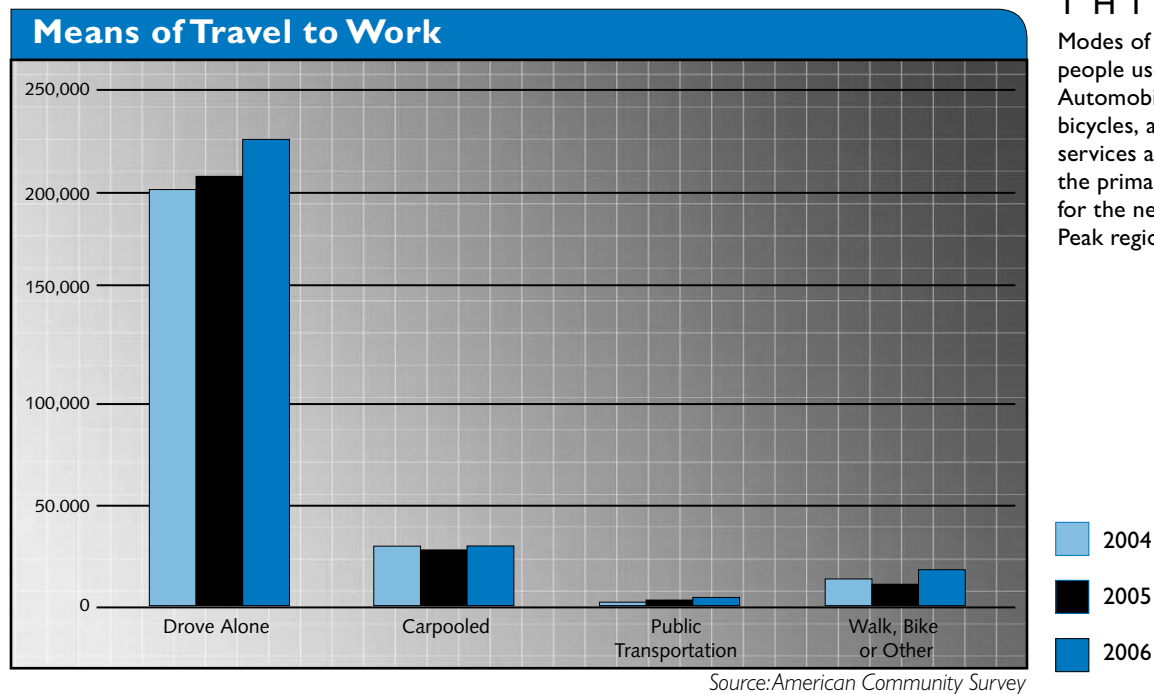
Pikes Peak Association of Realtors

Daily Travel

Looking at the different travel modes in the region provides us with a snapshot of how our community moves around. Primarily, people in the Pikes Peak region drive alone, while some do carpool.

Some residents walk or bike to work. The region has many designated bicycle routes and a trail network that continues to expand. Non-motorized transportation takes traffic off roads, reduces emissions, and provides a healthy alternative for commuters.

MODES OF TRAVEL



THIS CHART

Modes of travel are methods people use for transportation. Automobiles, public transit, bicycles, and pedestrian services are expected to remain the primary mobility options for the near future in the Pikes Peak region.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

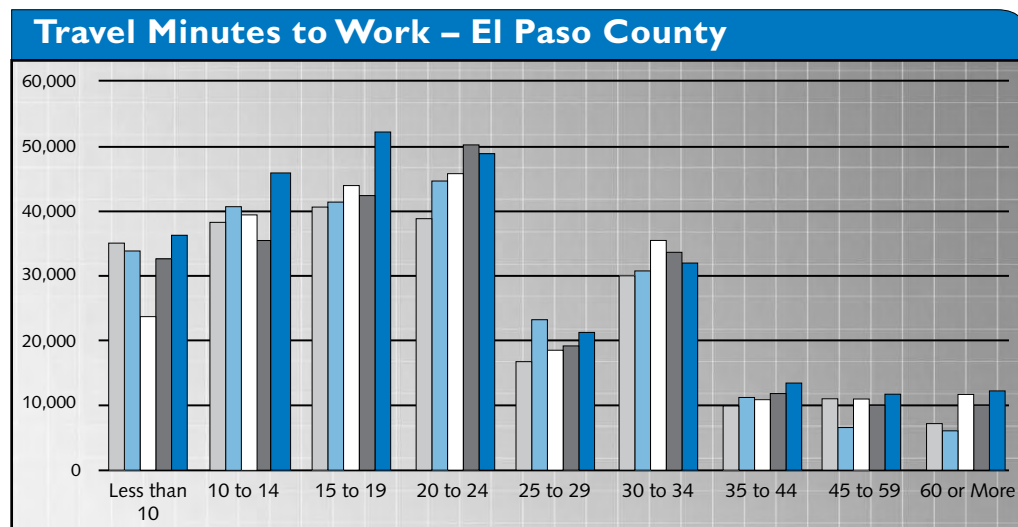
Tracking trends in modes of travel will help to plan improvements for existing systems to make them more accessible to all segments of the population in an effective manner.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

In 2000, 78% of El Paso County residents drove alone to work as compared to 76% of the U.S. That is an increase from the U.S. averages of 64% in 1980 and 73% in 1990.

Traffic congestion is a major quality of life issue. Congestion is caused by more cars, farther commutes and increasing Vehicle Miles Traveled per person. The number of miles traveled, travel times and the number of residential vehicles are increasing at a more rapid rate than lane miles in the Pikes Peak Region. This provides insight into the reasons for increased traffic congestion.

TRAVEL TIME



Source: American Community Survey

THIS CHART

shows the average travel time to work of all workers in El Paso County 16 years and older who did not work at home.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Travel time is the natural measure of the effectiveness of a transportation infrastructure. The purpose of a road or freeway is to transport people and goods to their destinations. While safety, simplicity of route and scenery play some role, the measure that is most important to people is travel time.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

Data shows that prior to the completion of the Colorado Springs Metro Interstate Expansion (COSMIX) project, the average travel times to work have not changed significantly since 2002. Although specific data is not yet available, completion of the COSMIX project has had a positive impact on the travel time of the average commute. In 2005, the average in El Paso County was 22 minutes, up from 18.7 minutes in 1990, but lower than the average commute times in the U.S. (25 minutes in 2005 and 22 minutes in 1990).

The chart at right is an overview of travel speeds on major corridors in the City of Colorado Springs.

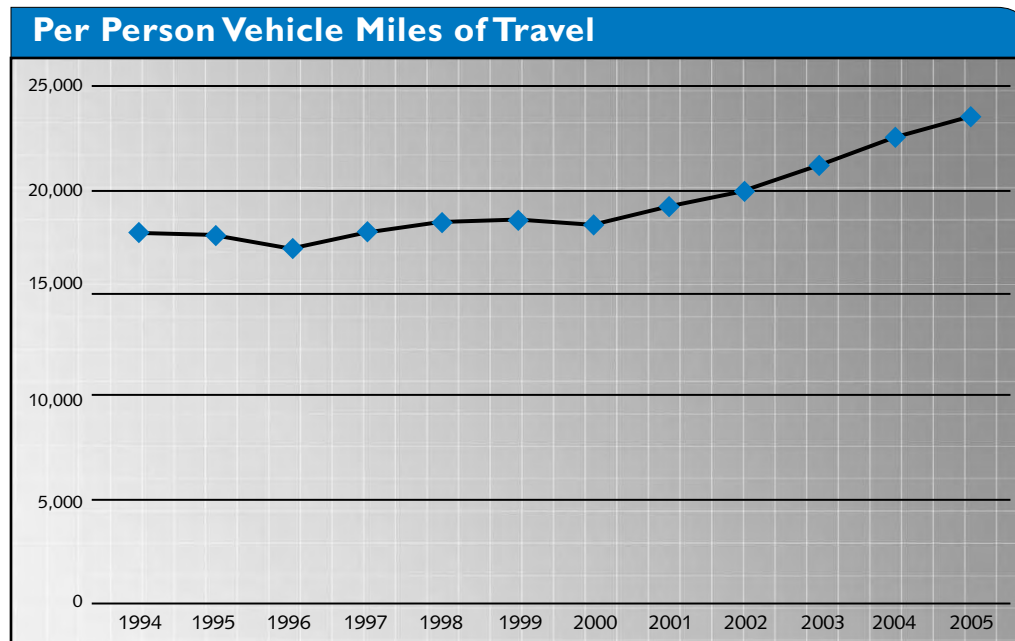
POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

Building new interchanges where major arterials cross will improve traffic flow throughout the region.

Travel Speeds on Six Corridors in Colorado Springs		
	2006	2007
Academy Blvd	30.5	30.7
Powers Blvd	35.9	38.2
Platte Ave	32.0	30.5
Cimarron	29.8	30.0
Research Pkwy	36.5	34.4
Woodmen Rd	32.3	28.3

Source: City of Colorado Springs Traffic Engineering Division

VEHICLE MILES TRAVELED (VMT)



Source: Texas Transportation Institute Urban Mobility Report/PPACG

THIS CHART

shows the estimated average annual vehicle miles traveled per capita in El Paso County. This number is not actually measured but rather is modeled for our region using a number of factors such as registered vehicles, types of vehicles, population and distance to work and other destinations.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

Data gathered by measuring Vehicle Miles Traveled is crucial to the success of highway planning and management. This data is also a common measure of roadway use. VMT are often used to estimate congestion, air quality and potential gas-tax revenues. VMT can also provide a general measure of a region's economic activity.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

The demand for transportation services is directly related to the demographic, economic and geographic characteristics of an urban area. The total demand for transportation typically rises in proportion to increases in population, employment and improved economic conditions. As an urban area expands, the numbers and lengths of individual trips increase unless land-use densities and mixed-use development increase at an equal or greater rate.

Land-use development and transportation planning are inextricably linked. The relationship between transit or bicycle/pedestrian travel and the structure of development is not now emphasized in municipal plans or regional policy statements. At present, the low-density development patterns in the Pikes Peak region require the use of a vehicle for all of life's typical daily activities. Developments that are designed solely for automobile circulation exclude buses and other modes of travel from easy and efficient access. Furthermore, areas that develop without providing connections to adjacent developments or neighborhoods increase regional vehicle usage.

Getting Around Safely

QUALITY OF ROADS & BRIDGES

Pavement Condition Distribution by Jurisdiction (2007)			
	Good	Fair	Poor
CDOT	70%	27%	3%
El Paso County	46%	46%	8%
City of Colorado Springs	25%	58%	18%
City of Manitou Springs	1%	25%	74%
Town of Monument	24%	51%	26%
City of Fountain	31%	44%	22%
Pavement Condition Distribution by VMT Share			
Percent of Regional VMT	55%	38%	7%

Source: Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments (PPACG)

THIS CHART

shows the quality of paved roads in El Paso County and the City of Colorado Springs in 2007 as measured by the Pavement Management Application adopted in late 1990's.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Measuring the quality of paved roads is required for access to federal funds. Measuring the quality of roads and bridges allows governments to allocate annual revenue to keep the roadways passable and safe. When a maintenance backlog occurs and quality declines from Fair to Poor it becomes more expensive to fix problems. Maintaining our local roadways and bridges ensures efficient commerce, reducing costs of products and services. It also protects each of our personal investments in our cars, homes, and personal safety.

Since the collapse of the I-35 W. Mississippi River Bridge in 2007, there has been an emphasis on bridge safety at the federal level. In 2007, El Paso County reported that 30 of 457 bridges were in poor condition while another 18 were only listed in fair condition.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

Since the implementation of the Pikes Peak Rural Transportation Authority (PPRTA) in 2005, significant progress has been made in bridge reconstruction, sidewalk and curb and gutter repairs and overlaying streets. In 2007 alone, PPRTA funds helped resurface 34 miles of roadways in the City of Colorado Springs and reconstructed concrete curbs, gutters and sidewalks as needed along 44 miles of repaved roadways, enabling \$1.4 million in high priority repairs. In El Paso County, PPRTA funds paved 39.13 miles on 39 roads. (Source: 2007 PPRTA Annual Report to the Citizens)

PPRTA funds allocated \$8.6 million to the repair of the Cimarron Street Bridge in Colorado Springs. Construction began in October of 2007 and will be completed this fall. (Source: 2007 PPRTA Annual Report to the Citizens)

Other significant projects funded by PPRTA under construction in 2008 include the Baptist Road Widening project (\$8.8 million) and Phase 2 of South Academy Improvements (\$10.6 million) to complete the four-lane expressway section between I-25 and SH-115. (Source: 2007 PPRTA Annual Report to the Citizens).

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

We need to invest more in maintenance while simultaneously conducting preventative maintenance. Even with the PPRTA we can't afford to do this because the lane miles that need to be maintained are expanding much faster than our ability (funding) to maintain them is.

THIS CHART

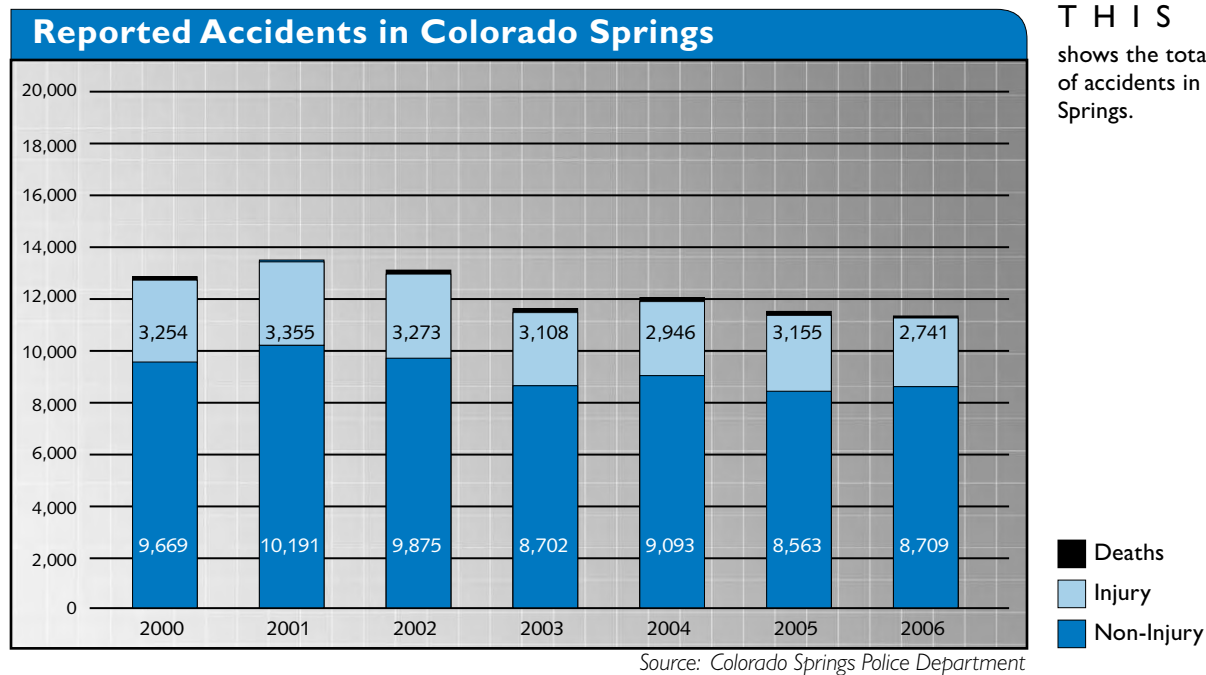
shows the quality of bridges in the City of Colorado Springs and El Paso County in 2007.

2007 El Paso County Bridges	
Total	457
Good	409
Fair	18
Poor	30

Source: Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments (PPACG)

Getting Around Safely

TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS



THIS CHART shows the total annual number of accidents in Colorado Springs.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

This data is collected as a measure to effectively propose and implement traffic accident prevention countermeasures and evaluate the effectiveness of those countermeasures. Accidents are a major contributing factor to traffic congestion. Reducing traffic accidents is a major goal of transportation planning and roadway management.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

Since 2000, the accident rate has been decreasing. In 2007, there were 8.1 injury producing accidents per VMT.

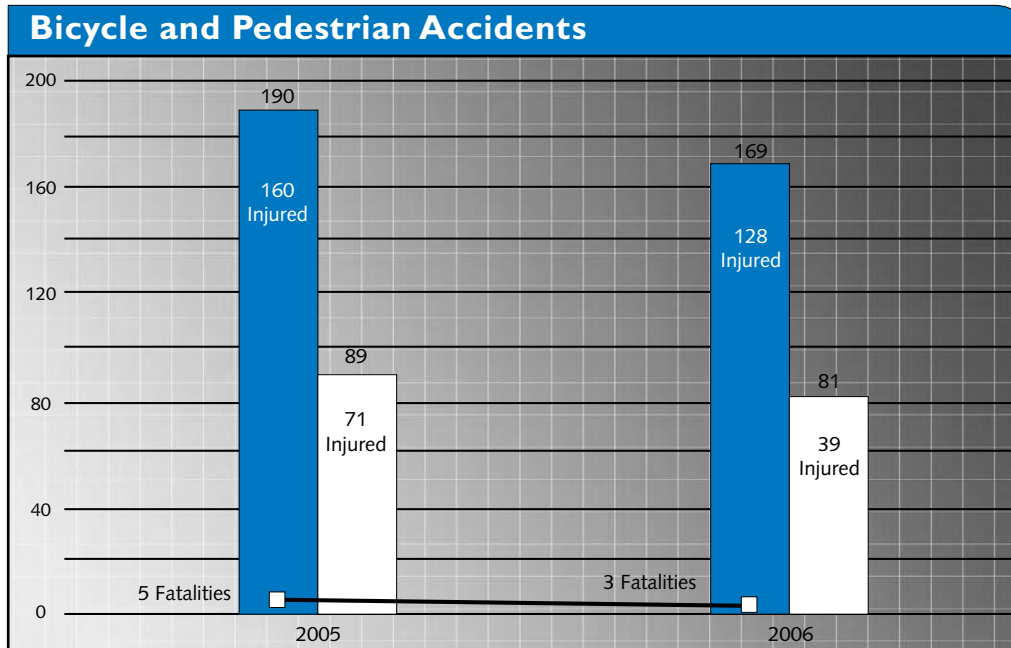
POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

Safety is traditionally viewed as a concern to be addressed during project design or left to enforcement agencies. A traditional engineering approach might be to simply improve the geometric design of a road or to change the operation of an intersection. Safety should be more broadly defined as an issue to be addressed through a combination of engineering, enforcement, education and emergency services (the four "E's")

A new framework called Safety Conscious Planning replaces the fractured, narrow approach to safety as a purely engineering or enforcement concern by integrating safety concerns into planning at all levels. Safety Conscious Planning is a comprehensive, system-wide, multi-modal, proactive process:

- Comprehensive: Considers all aspects of transportation safety-engineering, education, enforcement, and emergency medical response
- System-wide: considers corridors and entire transportation networks at the local, regional and state levels as well as specific sites.
- Multi-modal: includes transit, bicycle, and pedestrian safety improvements
- Proactive: addresses current safety problems and presents future hazards and problem behaviors.

BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN SAFETY



Source: Colorado Springs Police Department/City of Colorado Springs Transportation Planning

THIS CHART

shows the number of crashes involving a vehicle and either a pedestrian or a pedal bicycle, including injuries and fatalities. Accident reports involving automobiles is only one measure of the safety of walking or biking. Injuries due to unsafe or inadequate infrastructure also occur.

■ Pedestrians
□ Cyclists

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

The City of Colorado Springs is making significant progress in creating a more bicycle- and pedestrian-friendly environment for its residents and visitors. The City currently maintains 104 miles of multi-use trails. An additional 14.5 miles of multi-use trail are maintained by homeowners associations. Multi-use trails are typically 10-12' wide and accommodate many non-motorized uses and are referred to as Tier 1 and Tier 2 trails. Tier 3 trails are rustic, single track trails, usually found within open spaces.

Sixty-one miles of the total 94 miles of Tier 3 trails within the City of Colorado Springs are open to mountain biking and there are 54 miles of bicycle lanes within City limits. Another 15 miles of bicycle lanes are planned for installation in 2008.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

In 2007, Colorado Springs was awarded a Silver-level Bicycle-Friendly Community Award by the League of American Bicyclists. The number of bicycles carried by buses, including FREX, has increased steadily since 2004.

Accidents involving cyclists and pedestrians decreased from 2005 to 2006, as did injuries and fatalities. In 2005, five pedestrian fatalities occurred in Colorado Springs, while statewide there were 48 pedestrian fatalities.

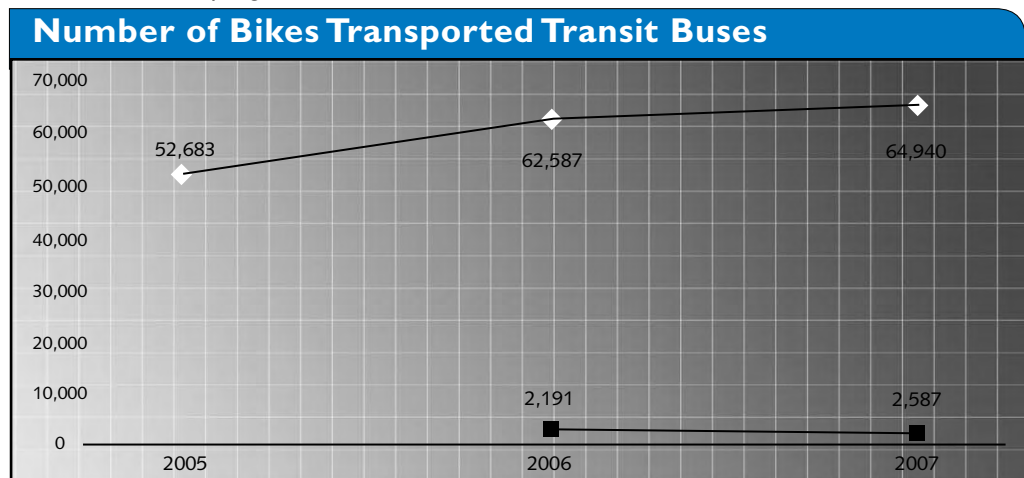
THIS CHART

The number of bicycles carried on buses, including FREX, has increased steadily since 2004.

◆ Metropolitan Transit
■ FREX

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

Further increasing motor vehicle driver awareness and safety training for bicyclists and pedestrians will help. Connecting the disconnected multi-use trail system that we currently have will help. A lot of the crashes occur when non-motorized travelers try to cross busy streets in bad places because good connections don't exist.



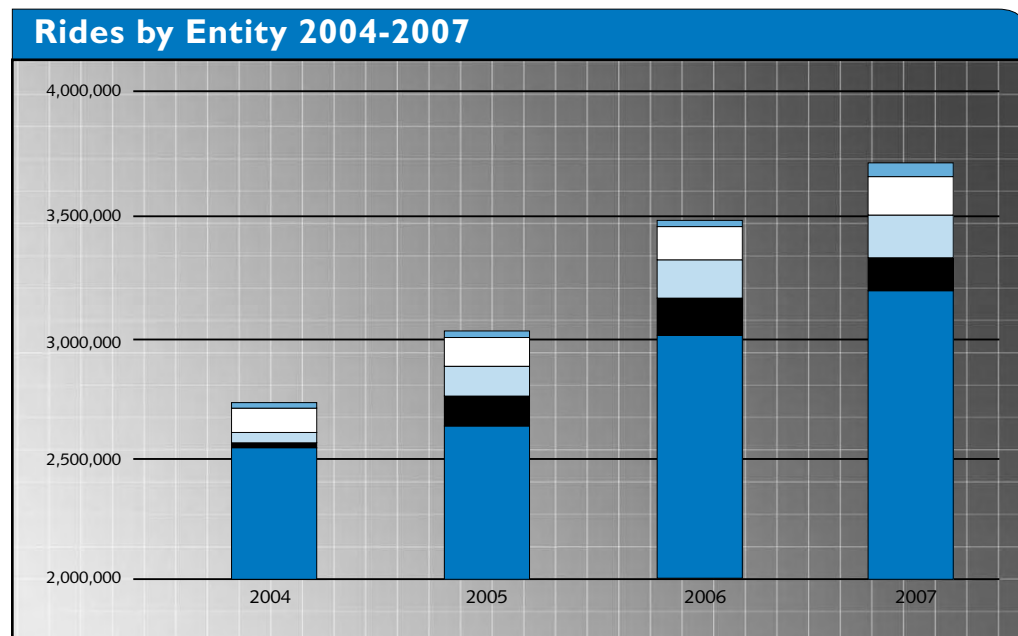
Source: Mountain Metropolitan Transit

Alternate Methods of Transportation

Maintaining our transportation infrastructure, including roadways, bike paths and sidewalks ensures safety and mobility for local residents and visitors. Adequate maintenance encourages the use of all modes of travel, which can reduce congestion and harmful air emissions.

People in the Pikes Peak region utilize a variety of transportation methods, including public transportation, air travel, bicycles, and pedestrian trails.

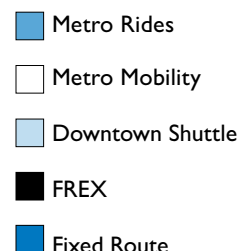
PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION



Source: Mountain Metropolitan Transit

THIS CHART

shows the number of rides provided by Mountain Metropolitan Transit's fixed route service including Front Range Express (FREX) to Denver and special needs services, a portion of which is mandated to serve door to door within a mile of the fixed route system.



WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

As gas prices continue to rise, an efficient transit system can provide an effective alternative to single car trips for residents who must commute to work every day and ensure that transit systems become more efficient as population density increases with urban development. Efficient transit systems reduce traffic congestion and emissions, contributing to a healthier environment.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

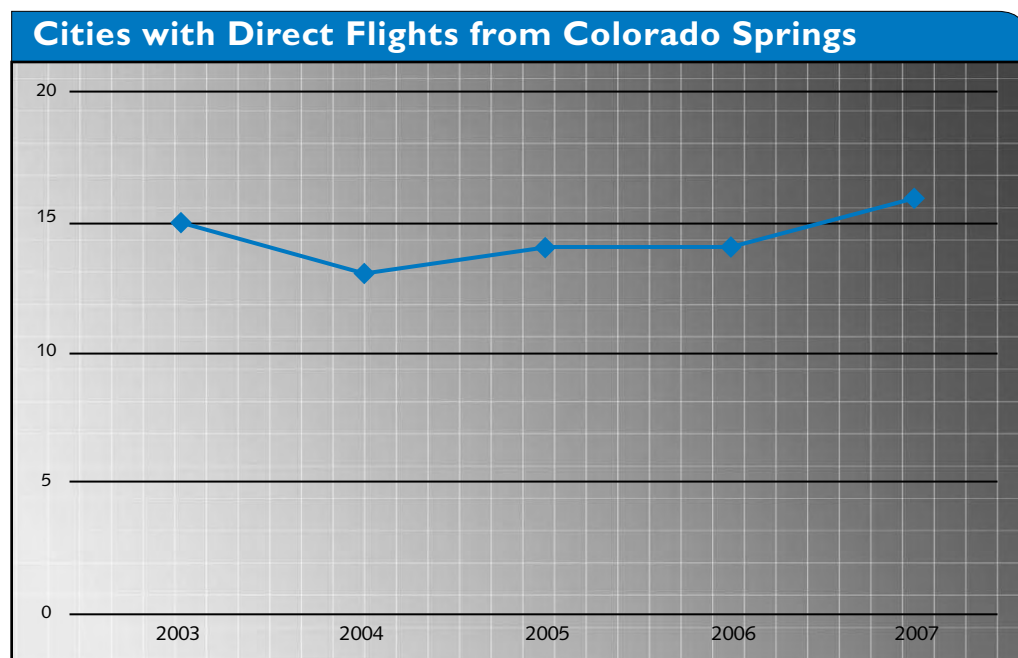
The implementation of PPRTA has allocated dedicated funding for bus service in the Pikes Peak region. In 2007, PPRTA funds purchased 9 new commuter buses (\$6.32 million), made significant route improvements including two new weekday, peak hour express routes, and installed talking signs on all buses at the Downtown Terminal to assist visually impaired riders. PPRTA funds also assisted those with disabilities by providing funding for ADA access improvements at various locations including Pikes Peak Community College. (Source: 2007 PPRTA Annual Report to Citizens)

Bikes Transported			
	2005	2006	2007
Mountain Metropolitan Transit	52,683	62,587	64,940
FREX	—	2,191	2,587

Source: Mountain Metropolitan Transit

Alternate Methods of Transportation

ACCESS BY AIR



Source: Colorado Springs Airport

THIS CHART

shows the number of cities reachable by a direct flight from the Colorado Springs Airport.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

Increased air service contributes to the local economy. In addition to the economic impacts of passenger travel, air cargo is the fastest growing method of transporting commercial products, creating economic importance for the region with the growth of national and global markets and supply chains for manufactured goods.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

Travelers can now access 15 cities with non-stop flights from the Colorado Springs Airport including: Atlanta, Chicago, Cincinnati, Dallas-Fort Worth, Denver, Houston, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, Minneapolis/St. Paul, Ontario, Phoenix, Salt Lake City, Sacramento, San Francisco and San Diego.

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

Rising fuel costs and airline consolidation remain areas of concern.

KEEPING THE COMMUNITY SAFE

Every citizen's quality of life depends on being and feeling safe at home and in the community. Communities work together to provide a safe environment through prevention initiatives, police, fire and emergency medical services, criminal justice and court services, as well as nonprofit sponsored intervention.

Committed to addressing the root causes of community problems to create lasting solutions.



Pikes Peak United Way

518 North Nevada Avenue
Colorado Springs, CO 80903
719-632-1543

Keeping the Community Safe Council

Chair

PETE CAREY

Deputy Chief, Colorado Springs Police Department

STEVEN DUBAY

Convener

Members

REGINA DIPADOVA

Spring Creek Youth Services

MAILE GRAY

Drive Smart

JEANINE HOLT

Harbor House

BRETT LACEY

Fire Marshal, Colorado Springs Fire Department

TERRY MAKETA

Sheriff, El Paso County

SHIRLEY RHODUS

El Paso County Department of Human Services

TED SAYER

Operations Manager, American Medical Response

TRUDY STREWLER

CASA

Public Safety

Crime Rate

DUI Arrests

Repeat Offenders in Jail

Juvenile Arrests

Providing Services

Law Enforcement Calls for Service

Crime Clearance Rate

Neighborhood Safety

Joint Fire and EMS Response Times

Fire Safety Inspection Rate

Safety In The Home

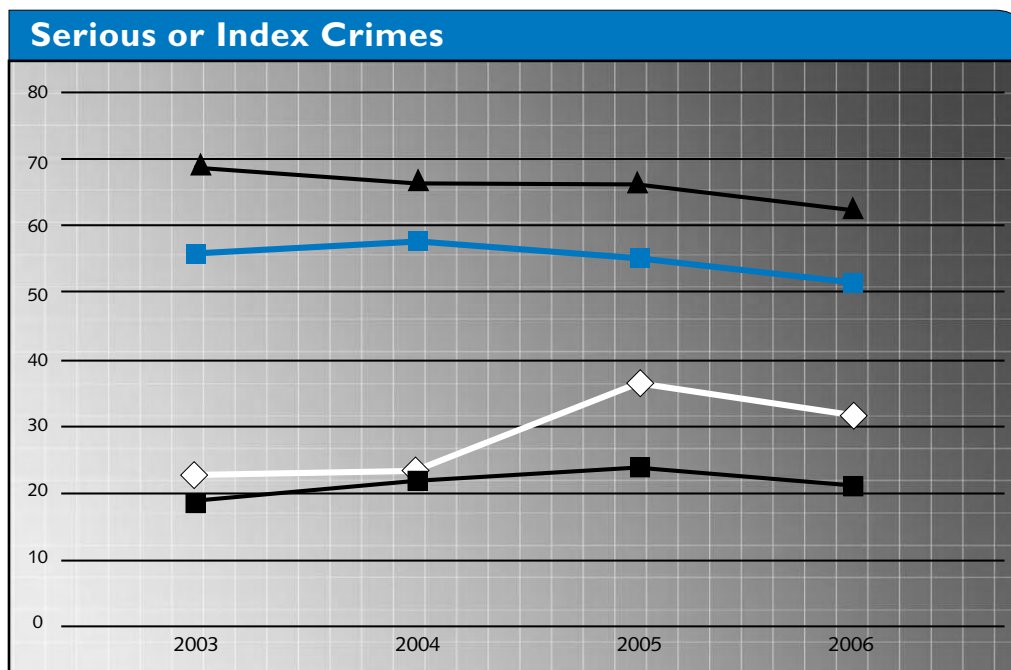
Child Abuse

Domestic Violence

Public Safety

A community's crime rate is impacted not only by availability of jobs, wages and education levels, but also by public safety strategies employed to prevent crime and the tax dollars available to fund those strategies. It is well documented that substance abuse plays a role in crime. DUI, juvenile crime and repeat offenders impact public costs of victimization and enforcement. El Paso County Sheriff's Office Detention Bureau Chief Presley says, "An average of 80 to 85% of those incarcerated in El Paso County have some type of chemical dependency." Offering inmates substance abuse and mental health treatment as well as life skills and job training are prevention measures that have a price tag, but can both reduce the number of victims and the cost of incarceration.

CRIME RATE



Source: Colorado Springs Police Department, Fountain Police Department, El Paso County Sheriff's Office, and FBI Crimes in the U.S., 2006¹

THIS CHART

shows the rate of occurrence of serious or index crimes occurring per 1,000 persons in Colorado Springs, Fountain, unincorporated El Paso County and the U.S.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

Index crimes include: murder, sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, and auto theft. The U.S. rate is for cities of similar size to Colorado Springs (200,000 to 530,000 residents) and allows us to compare ourselves to a national average.

- ▲ U.S.
- Colorado Springs
- ◆ Fountain
- El Paso County

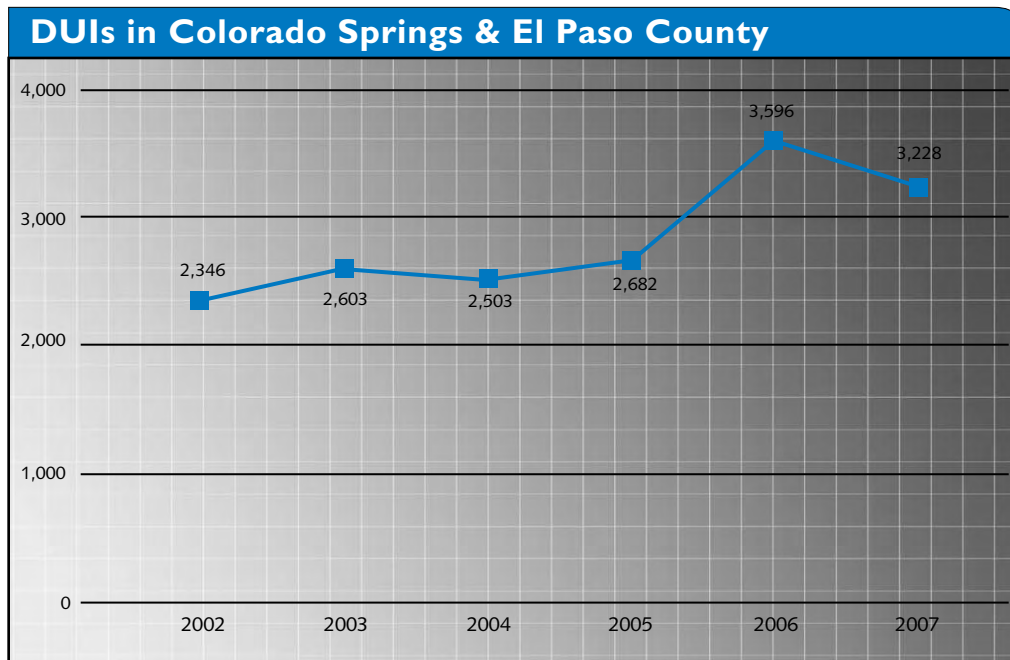
HOW ARE WE DOING?

In 2006, the index crime rate in Colorado Springs was 51.4, below the national average.

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

In 2008, Citizens for Effective Government, a group of civic leaders organized the Safer Community Initiative to encourage support for adequate levels of funding for public safety, including law enforcement and crime prevention.

DUI ARRESTS



Source: Colorado Springs Police Department, El Paso County Sheriff's Office

THIS CHART

shows the total arrests per year for Driving Under the Influence (DUI) of alcohol by the Colorado Springs Police Department, and the El Paso County Sheriff's Office.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

For a DUI arrest, drivers must have a blood alcohol level of .08% or greater, indicating their driving has been impaired due to consumption.

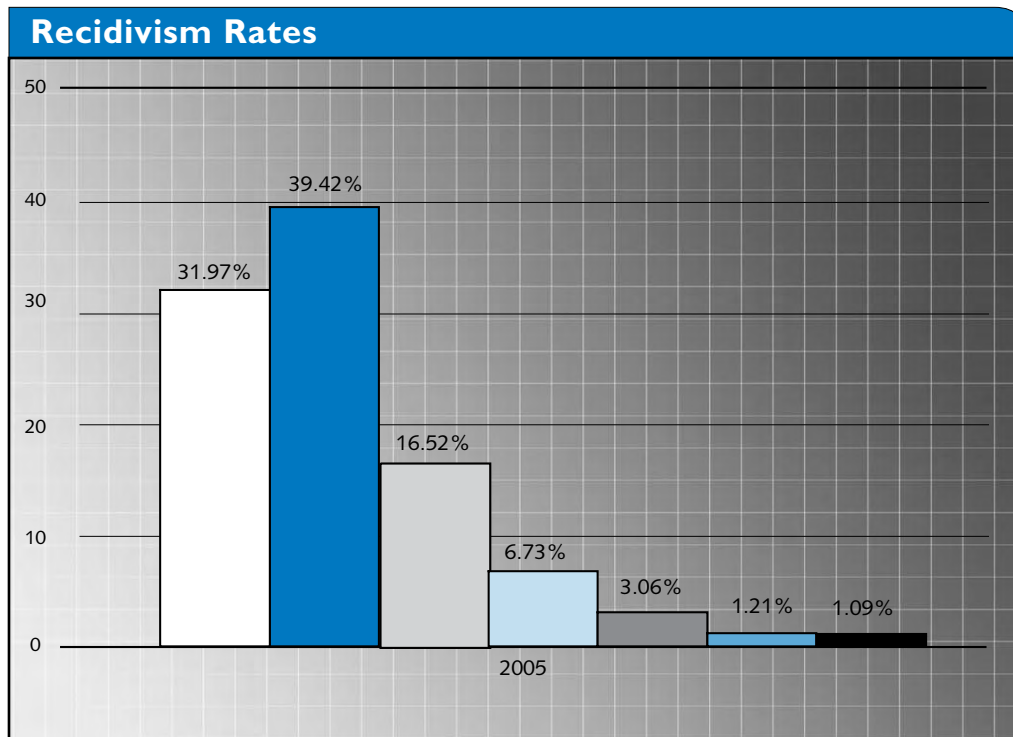
HOW ARE WE DOING?

Since 2002, DUI arrests in Colorado Springs, Fountain and El Paso County have increased. Drunk driving has grave impacts for the community. El Paso County rates third in the state for alcohol related traffic fatalities with a total of 25 deaths. However, because of our population size, the rate of 4.42 deaths per 100,000 people ranks El Paso County 39th of all 64 Colorado counties. El Paso County is also below the national county average for alcohol related traffic deaths which is 7.61 per 100,000 ².

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

The ability to apprehend DUI offenders increases when focused policing strategies such as check points, education, street racing enforcement, and focused high school education are used. DUI enforcement may vary due to grant funding availability for prevention and enforcement activities. Sustained funding sources are critical for effective and consistent impact to this community problem.

REPEAT OFFENDERS IN JAIL



Source: El Paso County Sheriff's Office

THIS CHART

shows the recidivism percentage of inmates in the El Paso County jail.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

Recidivism, returning to jail for a new crime represents a population and, that victimizes a community and creates a burden on the public safety system.

- 1 Time Only
- 2-4 Times
- 5-9 Times
- 10-14 Times
- 15-19 Times
- 20-24 Times
- 25 Times

HOW ARE WE DOING?

In 2006, 26,150 people or 0.4 % of the population served time in the El Paso County jail. Of these 68% had been previously incarcerated compared to 66% in 2004. In 2007, County Sheriff Maketa reported, "The recidivism rate among Colorado state inmates is 49%. Simply put, half of those released will commit a crime within three years of their release and those deemed most likely to re-offend have a recidivism rate of 95%."³

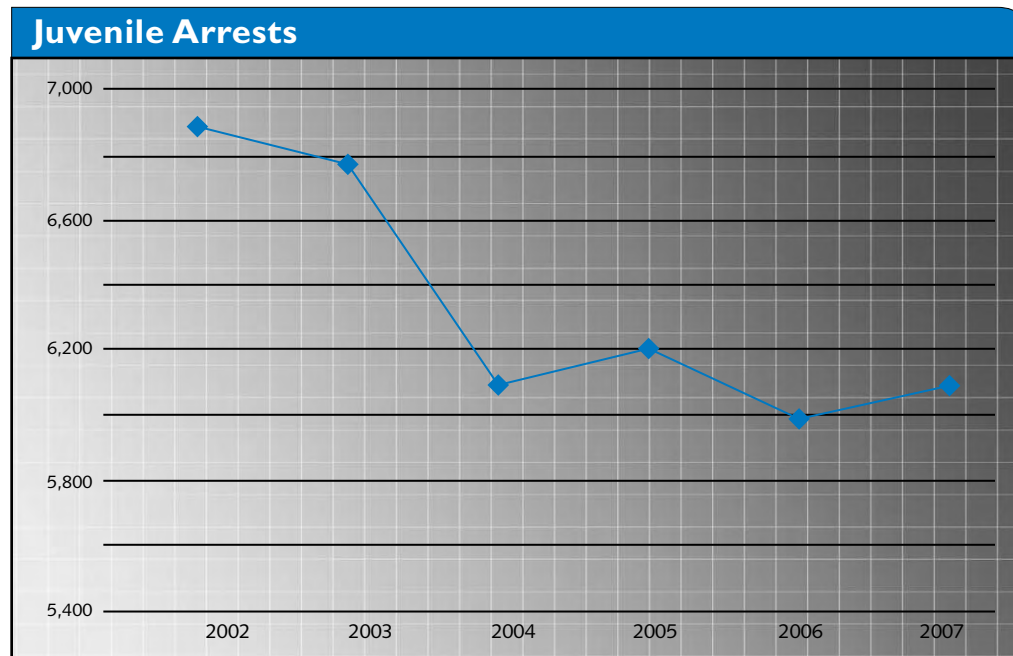
POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

In 2008, Citizens for Effective Government, a group of civic leaders organized the Safer Community Initiative to fund substance abuse, prevention and rehabilitation programs to help reduce recidivism.

³Maketa, Terry. "The Right Conditions for a Perfect Storm." El Paso County, Colorado, Sheriff's Office, 8 August 2007, <http://www.elpasoco.com>.

Colorado Department of Corrections. Statistics Reporting and Evaluation Unit, <http://www.doc.state.co.us/Statistics/pdfs/Recidivism/2006RecidBulletin.pdf>.

JUVENILE ARRESTS



Source: Colorado Springs Police Department

THIS CHART

shows the number of youth in El Paso County who have been arrested by the Colorado Springs Police Department and the El Paso County Sheriff's Office.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

The juvenile arrest rate includes arrests of juveniles for all criminal offenses including misdemeanors and felonies.

The Council wanted to draw attention to youth in crisis and the impact of crime and substance abuse on juveniles. This data will establish the foundation for future reports.

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

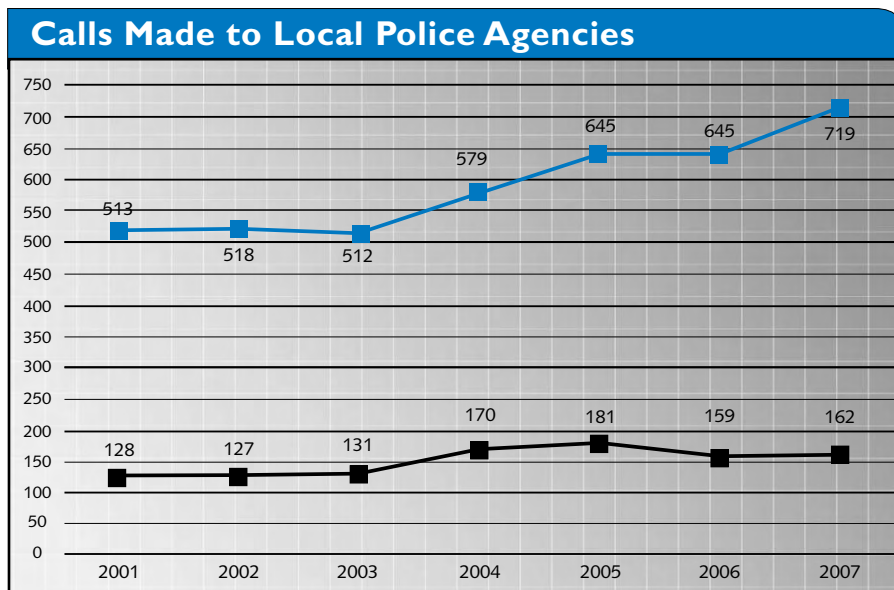
There are many opportunities for individuals to volunteer to help juveniles find productive ways to channel their energy. Please go to www.volunteerpikespeak.org for more information.

Providing Services

It is the responsibility of any community to ensure the equitable and effective provision of public safety services to all citizens. For law enforcement, the crime rate and subsequent need for service is impacted by public safety strategies employed to prevent crime. The number of calls for service affects service levels and response times. Citizen satisfaction is an important

indicator of how successful local government is in delivering public safety services and is measured here by perception of neighborhood safety. For emergency medical services the joint fire/emergency medical service (ems) response times are critical to saving lives. The risk of structural fires is reduced by regular fire safety inspections.

CALLS FOR SERVICE



Source: Colorado Springs Police Department and El Paso County Sheriff's Office

THIS CHART

shows the number of calls for service received per 1,000 residents by the Colorado Springs Police Department and the El Paso County Sheriff's Office. NOTE: Calls for service may be defined differently by individual law enforcement agencies. Data reflects information as calculated by CSPD and EPCSO.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

Maintaining service levels and response times when calls for service increase requires more police officers. Responding to increasing calls for service also impacts the amount of time law enforcement officers have for other policing activities, such as proactive policing efforts and crime prevention.

■ Colorado Springs

■ El Paso County

HOW ARE WE DOING?

The number of law enforcement calls for service per 1,000 residents continues to show a steady upward trend in recent years. There is a resultant concern that law enforcement resources keep pace with both the rise in population and the calls for service.

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

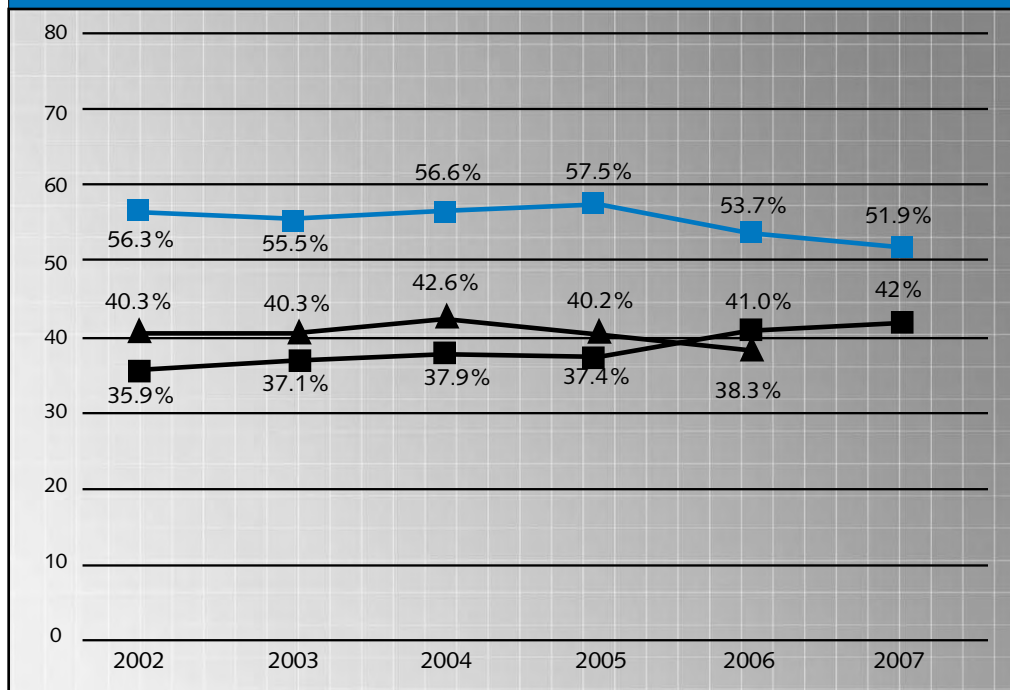
Effective crime prevention strategies and community education are essential to decreasing the number of calls for law enforcement service. Citizen support for and participation in these activities raise awareness and have the potential to decrease the trend of calls despite the faster level of population growth.

CRIME CLEARANCE RATE



Star of
Achievement

Crime Clearance Rate



Source: Colorado Springs Police Department and El Paso County Sheriff's Office

THIS CHART

shows the clearance rate – those cases solved by Colorado Springs Police Department and El Paso County Sheriff's Office – for all Part I Indexed Crimes: murder, sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny and auto theft. Note: U.S. data is available only through 2006.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

The crime clearance rate is an indicator of the success of solving crimes and is affected by the number of officers available to investigate crime, increased number of crimes and calls for service, and availability of investigative tools.

■ Colorado Springs

■ El Paso County

▲ U.S.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

The clearance rate has remained fairly level in both Colorado Springs and El Paso County. Property crimes (including burglary, larceny and auto theft) represent the vast majority of crimes. When separated from all Part I Crimes, the clearance rate for violent crimes is higher, about 55% for Colorado Springs and 80% for El Paso County.

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

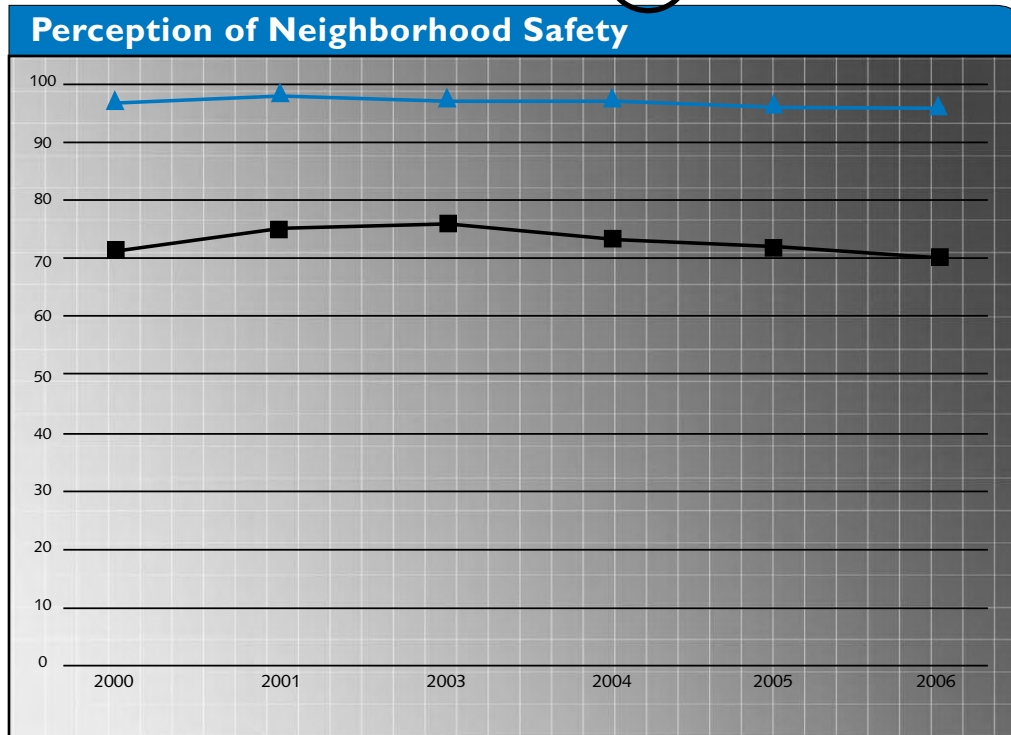
With declining resources, the potential exists that investigatory resources may shift away from property crimes to maintain investigation of violent crimes. This would decrease the overall crime clearance rate. Continued support for all law enforcement activities, including investigatory personnel, tools, and techniques are vital to sustain and improve this data.

Providing Services

NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY



Star of
Achievement



Source: Colorado Springs Police Department Police Accountability and Service Standards (PASS) City-wide Survey

THIS CHART

indicates the percentage of people who feel very safe or somewhat safe walking in their neighborhood.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

This information reflects responses to the Colorado Springs Police Department's survey of citizens in Colorado Springs when asked about neighborhood safety.

- ▲ Day - Very or Somewhat Safe
- Night - Very or Somewhat Safe

HOW ARE WE DOING?

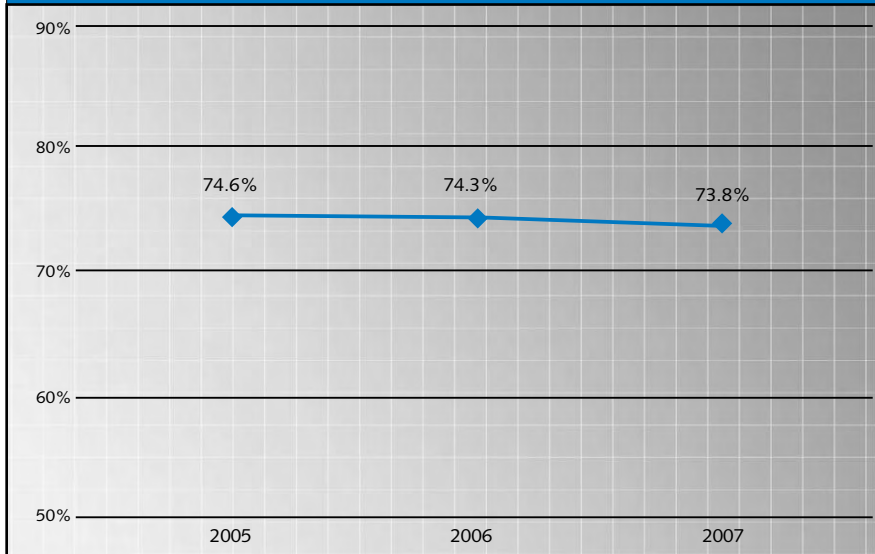
In 2006, more than 96% of those polled continued to feel safe or somewhat safe walking around their neighborhood during the day. Predictably, the number of people who felt very or somewhat safe walking around the neighborhood at night was lower and decreased from 2005 to 2006 by 2%.

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

A variety of services for community safety, day or night, are essential for a vibrant community. The continued support of public safety initiatives, including law enforcement and lighting are crucial for sustaining this data. Opportunities for citizens to participate in their neighborhood's safety through collaboration and partnerships include attending Business Watch meetings, Neighborhood Watch meetings, and homeowner association meetings.

JOINT FIRE AND EMS RESPONSE TIMES

Response Time Within Six Minutes



Source: Colorado Springs Fire Department

THIS CHART

shows how often the Colorado Springs Fire Department and American Medical Response (AMR) arrived on the scene for an emergency medical call within six minutes.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

Response time is defined by the time from when a call is received by 911 until the first unit arrives on scene.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

The Colorado Springs City Council has set a goal of meeting the six minute response time 90% of the time. In 2007, the first unit arrived on the scene within six minutes 73.8% of the time, falling short of the Council's goal.

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

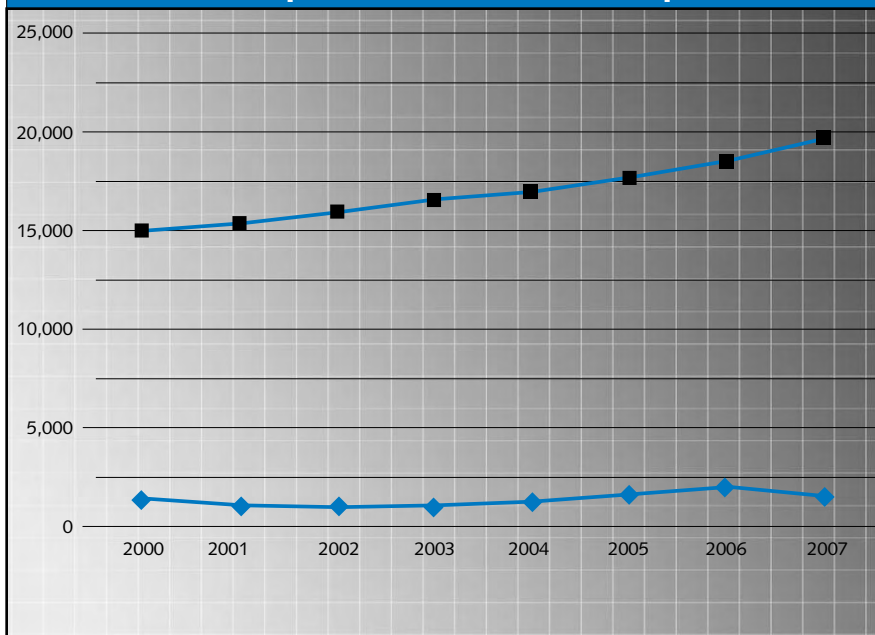
In 2008, Citizens for Effective Government, a group of civic leaders, organized the Safer Community Initiative to encourage support for adequate levels of funding for all aspects of public safety, including support for fire and emergency medical services.

FIRE SAFETY INSPECTION RATE



Warning Flag

Annual Fire Department Business Inspections



Source: Colorado Springs Fire Department

THIS CHART

shows the number of businesses that receive fire safety inspections annually in comparison with the total estimated number of businesses in the city of Colorado Springs.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

This graph represents the number of businesses in the City of Colorado Springs and how many of those receive fire safety inspections annually. The total number of businesses is an estimate because an accurate tracking method for businesses doesn't currently exist.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

More than 90% of businesses each year don't receive a fire safety inspection. Each of these businesses should have regular inspections to help ensure the public's safety and welfare.

◆ Businesses Inspected

■ Estimated Businesses

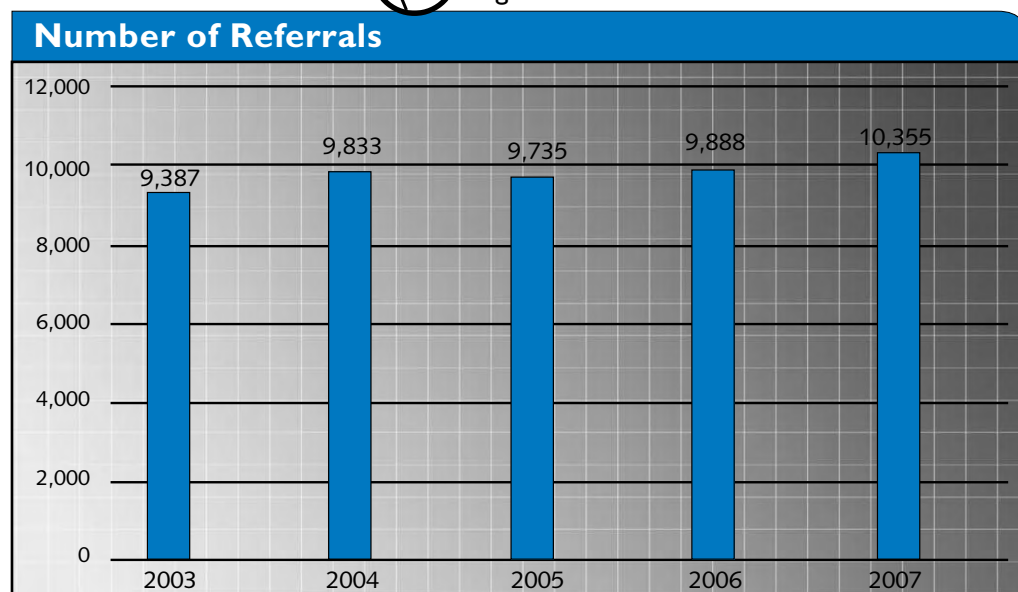
POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

The lack of fire inspections increases the risk, not only to the individual business but to employees, customers and the economic vitality of the community. Fire code violations are associated with nearly every commercial occupancy fire. Fire fighter safety is at serious risk because they don't know which hazards exist in a given occupancy and the hazards contained therein are left unmitigated.

Safety In The Home

Domestic violence is a pattern of abusive behavior (emotional, verbal, physical, or sexual) that is used to establish power and control over another person through fear, intimidation and use of violence. Domestic violence can escalate into homicide.

CHILD ABUSE Warning Flag



Source: El Paso County Department of Human Services

THIS CHART

shows the total number of child abuse and neglect referrals received by the El Paso County Department of Human Services in the past five years.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

A child abuse and neglect referral is any report taken regarding child maltreatment and may include reports of adolescents who are beyond control of their parents. Other abuse referrals include reports of neglect, physical, sexual and emotional abuse.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

Referrals for child abuse and neglect continue to show a steady increase in the past five years.

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

The steady increase in the child maltreatment referrals received by the Department of Human Services shows a need for action. Because parental substance abuse is the primary presenting problem in child abuse cases, child abuse numbers can indicate a need for resources for early intervention strategies targeting substance abuse, mental health concerns, family violence, and programs addressing poverty (please see Promoting Social Wellbeing for more information on these issues).

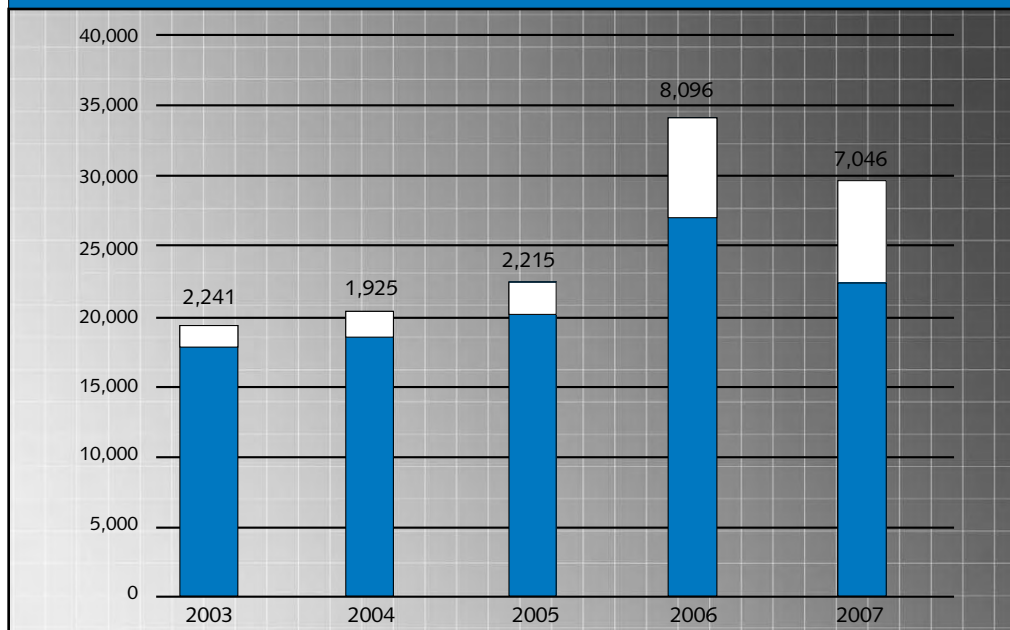
Safety In The Home

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



Warning
Flag

Number of Calls




Source: T.E.S.S.A., Colorado Springs


THIS CHART

shows the number of advocacy and crisis contacts received annually at T.E.S.S.A. through 2007.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

T.E.S.S.A. is the primary nonprofit agency dedicated specifically and solely to the issues of domestic violence and sexual assault in El Paso and Teller Counties.

 Crisis Contacts

 Advocacy Contacts

HOW ARE WE DOING?

Total advocacy and crisis contacts to T.E.S.S.A. have increased each year since 2003. Notably, the number of crisis contacts increased from 2,215 in 2005 to 8,096 in 2006. Research estimates that family violence occurs in one out of every six households (Gelles & Straus, 1988), suggesting that over 32,000 El Paso County households could be struggling with this issue.³

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

Increasing awareness and providing preventive education are keys to impacting domestic violence and sexual assault. Community support for programs aimed at decreasing domestic violence and sexual assault are critical to improve these data.³

¹ <http://bjsdata.ojp.usdoj.gov/dataonline/Search/Crime/Local/RunCrimeJurisbyJuris.cfm>

² National Center for Statistics and Analysis of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Research, State Traffic Information, http://www-nrd.nhtsa.dot.gov/departments/nrd-30/ncsa/STA18_CO/2005/8_CO_2005.htm

³ T.E.S.S.A. website, <http://www.tessacs.org/index2.asp?category={3816EE32-0A4C-46EA-B58E-8CE99EFIF928}>

FOSTERING COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

In order to be inclusive, democratic and effective, communities require the involvement and engagement of all residents. When people are well-informed, vote, donate time and money to local organizations, work together with their neighbors, act as leaders, and meet together in public spaces, the entire community benefits. With engagement comes knowledge about one another's successes, challenges and lifestyles. When people care about one another and community issues, and act upon that concern, it increases the quality of life for everyone.

THE COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP FUND

Investing to Preserve and Enhance the Region's Quality of Life

The fund's central organizing principle is that civic engagement, empowered by private initiative and philanthropy, holds the greatest promise in building a model city of opportunity. Society's capacity for creativity, innovation and risk taking resides mostly in voluntary action. This is the engine of transformation.

Focus areas: Educational Excellence, Economic Opportunity, Nonprofit Capacity, and Private Conservation Initiatives.

Letters of Inquiry accepted year-round at 205 E. Cheyenne Mountain Boulevard, Colorado Springs, CO 80906. Fund Director Joe Woodford. Fund Adviser Jon Stepleton.

Community Engagement Council

Chair

SUSAN SAKSA

Leadership Pikes Peak
Chair

PAUL JOHNSON

Pikes Peak Habitat for Humanity
Convener

DEE VASQUEZ

Pikes Peak Library District
Convener

Members

AMANDA MOUNTAIN

Gazette Charities

ERIN BENNETT

Leadership Pikes Peak

JAY FAWCETT

Western Strategies

KATHRYN YOUNG

City of Colorado Springs

SUSAN PRESTI

Colorado Springs Utilities

JON STEPLETON

Woodford Foundation

DAVE PHILLIPS

Young Life

Political Engagement

Projected Voter Participation

Diversity

Acceptance and Tolerance

Philanthropy

Community Giving
Where Coloradans Volunteer
Finding Volunteer Opportunities

Local Leadership

Leadership Demographics

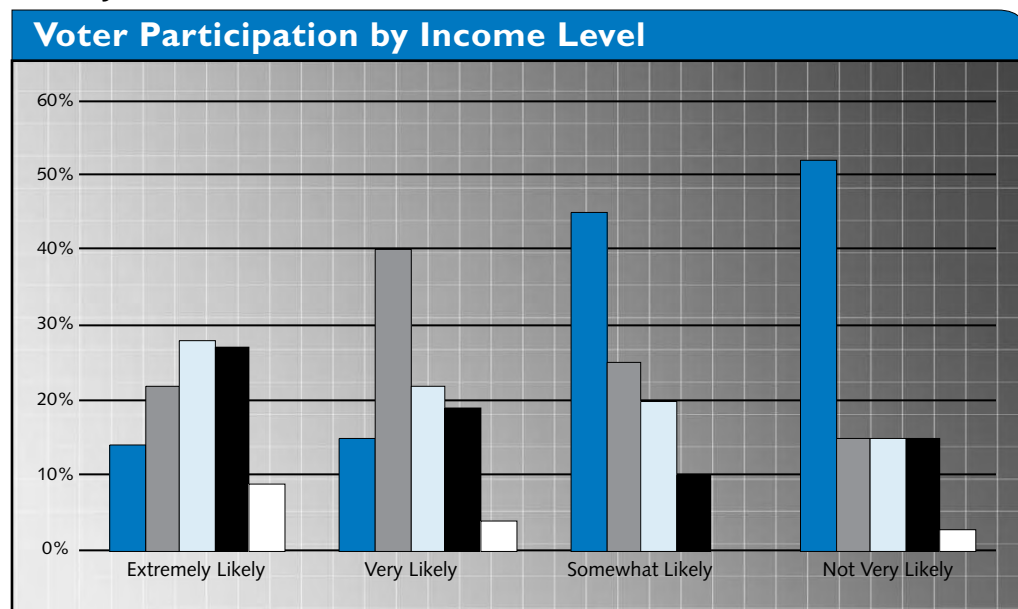
Local Knowledge & Access

Access to Information

Political Engagement

A universally recognized sign of a community's engagement is its willingness to elect its own leaders and to shape laws at the ballot. Voter participation measures civic interest and the public's optimism regarding their impact on decision-making. A high level of citizen involvement improves the accountability of government and increases personal investment in community issues.

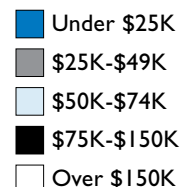
PROJECTED VOTER PARTICIPATION



Source: El Paso County Clerk and Recorder

THIS CHART

shows the likelihood of voting in the upcoming election based on family income. Families making less than \$25,000 a year (under the poverty line) are less likely to vote, whereas families making more than \$25,000 a year are more likely to vote. Potential barriers to voting for lower-income families are transportation to the polls, childcare needs, and access to information regarding elections. As we have seen with local elections, more people vote when they are mailed their ballot and given ample time to fill it out.



HOW ARE WE DOING?

Overall Trends

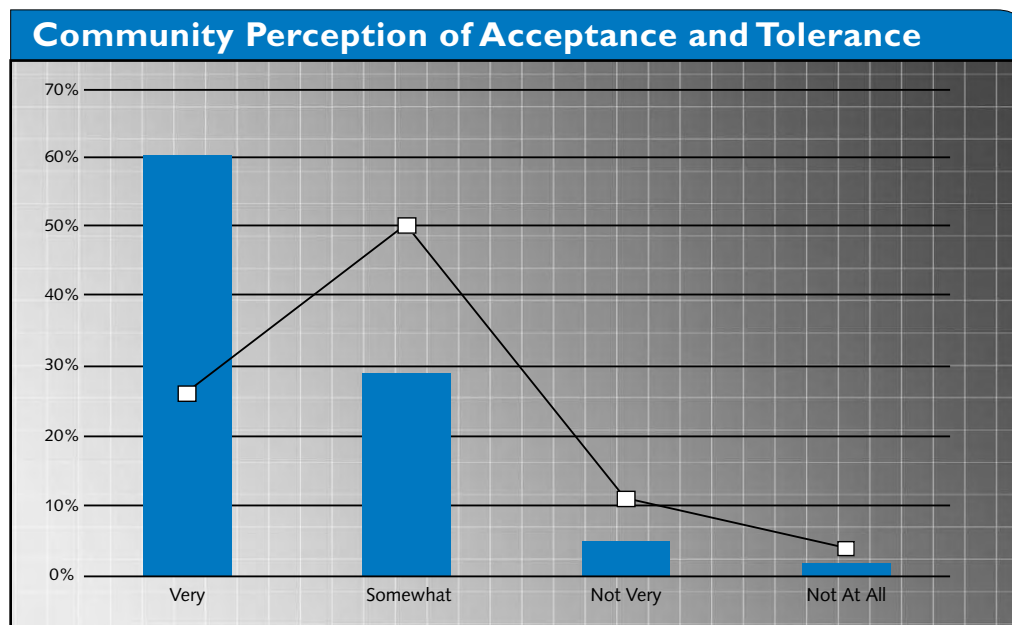
In El Paso County we consistently have 80-90% of the population registered to vote. During the past two presidential elections, 60-70% of those registered voters voted while only 30-50% voted in prior election years. Municipal elections in Colorado Springs often see less than a 30% turnout with the exception of mail-only elections (where all voting happens by mail), which have seen a turnout of 40-60%. Source: El Paso County Clerk and Recorder

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

Making all local elections mail-only might improve voter participation. Mail-only elections reduce barriers that low-income families and others face while voting. They can help to increase voter turnout and produce election results that are more representative of El Paso County's constituents.

Robust community engagement is only possible in a community that welcomes and encourages the involvement of its fellow citizens. The first step toward tolerance is promoting an understanding of diverse cultures. Cultural and ethnic diversity is what makes a community unique and a great place to live and work. Acceptance connotes not just a tolerance of diversity but also a celebration of it.

ACCEPTANCE AND TOLERANCE



Source: 2008 Community Visioning Survey

THIS CHART

shows that community residents rate acceptance and tolerance as important but consider this community only "Somewhat Tolerant". Minorities are most likely to rate tolerance as important (67%) and least likely to say that the community is "Very Tolerant" (18%). 50% of the respondents find Colorado Springs to be a "Somewhat Tolerant" place while 26% say it is a "Very Tolerant" community.

- How important is having a tolerant and accepting community to you?
- How accepting and tolerant do you consider Colorado Springs to be?

HOW ARE WE DOING?

In 2006, Colorado Springs reported 20 hate crime incidents as a result of bias against a particular race, religion, sexual orientation, ethnicity/national origin, or physical or mental disability. When compared with other cities in Colorado, Colorado Springs had the most hate crimes, followed by Grand Junction and Denver with 16 and 11 respectively. In Colorado Springs, 12 of the 20 reported incidents were based on religion and 6 were based on race. Source: Federal Bureau of Investigation, 2006 Statistics

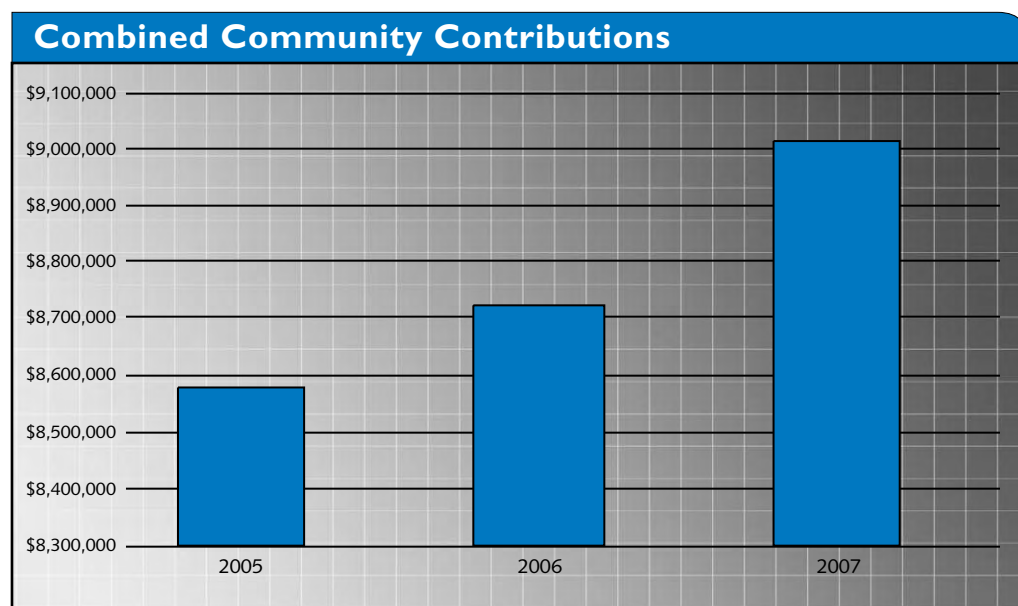
POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

The Colorado Springs Diversity Forum, a coalition of citizens and community organizations, is taking the lead in improving cultural acceptance and raising awareness of diversity issues. In 2007, they developed an annual event for the celebration of diversity and culture. The Forum has the demonstrated support of both the citizens and the local government which makes it the logical organization to develop additional initiatives to address this issue.

Philanthropy

A strong well-supported nonprofit community service sector is critical for maintaining a healthy and stable region. Community donations and volunteerism are helpful indicators for assessing the viability of the nonprofit sector and the extent to which residents are engaged and invested in the wellbeing of their community.

COMMUNITY GIVING



Source: Pikes Peak United Way, Empty Stocking Fund, Combined Federal Campaign

THIS CHART

shows the combined total dollars raised by Pikes Peak United Way's annual campaign, the Empty Stocking Fund and the Combined Federal Campaign. While this does not track all charitable giving in El Paso County, these drives represent the most widely marketed campaigns that represent general giving trends for the community.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

Contributions to these three campaigns have increased each year. Colorado Springs ranks 17th in a comparison of United Way campaign results for 30 comparable cities. Given the constitutional constraints on government funding, the health of the nonprofit sector is especially reliant on private philanthropies to meet the needs of this community. The Empty Stocking Fund grew by 34% from 2005 to 2007 and is now on par with similar fundraising efforts at large metropolitan newspapers including the *Boston Globe* and the *Dallas Morning News*.

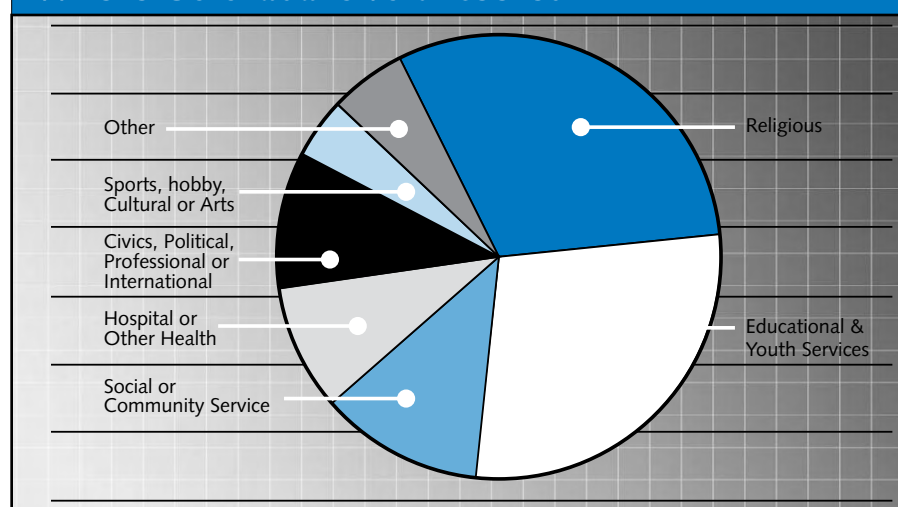
Sources: PP United Way giving statistics, 2008; Colorado Springs Gazette

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

Continued growth of the major funding campaigns could be achieved through increased marketing and visibility. The increasing strength of the Empty Stocking Fund may be an opportunity to reach untapped donors. Changing demographics will drive increased need to offer on-line donation options.

VOLUNTEERISM

Where Coloradans Volunteered



Source: Corporation for National & Community Service, Volunteering in America 2007

THIS CHART

shows the sectors in which people volunteer. Most people volunteer with their religious organization followed by volunteers working with educational or youth services.

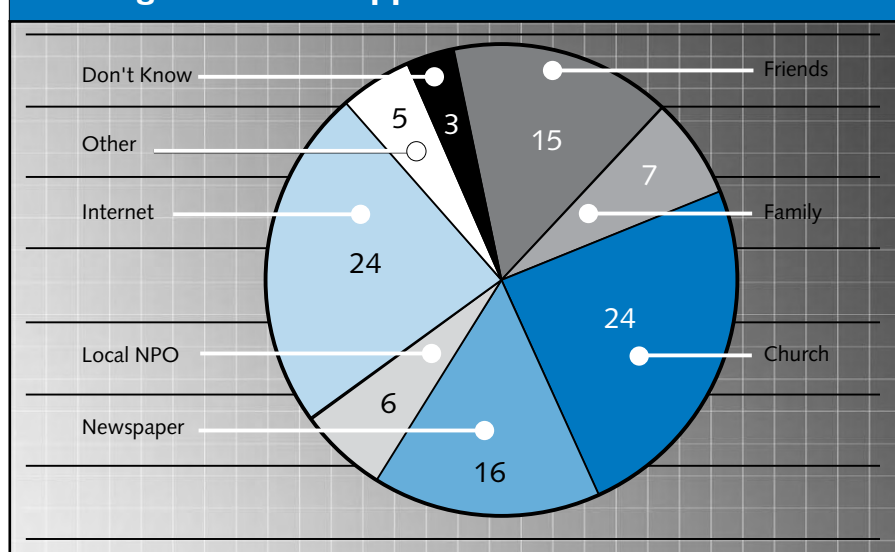
HOW ARE WE DOING?

Coloradans volunteer more than the U.S. average. Since 2002, the percentage of Coloradans who volunteer has hovered between 29% and 32%. In October 2007, 3,000 individual volunteers took part in the Pikes Peak United Way Make a Difference Month volunteer effort. They worked on 150 projects for community nonprofits. These volunteers donated 12,700 hours for a contribution to the community valued at \$240,000*.

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

Make a Difference Month is a highly visible activity that can encourage companies and new volunteers to get involved. The Volunteer Center is a central information resource and has a website (www.volunteerpikespeak.org) with the matching function that can be utilized by citizens, employers and nonprofits to increase volunteerism to meet community needs.

Finding Volunteer Opportunities



Source: 2008 Community Visioning Survey

THIS CHART

shows the various sources people use to find volunteer opportunities in El Paso County.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

Most people (48%) learn about volunteer opportunities through their churches or the internet. Newspapers and friends are the 3rd and 4th most popular way volunteers find out about opportunities.

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

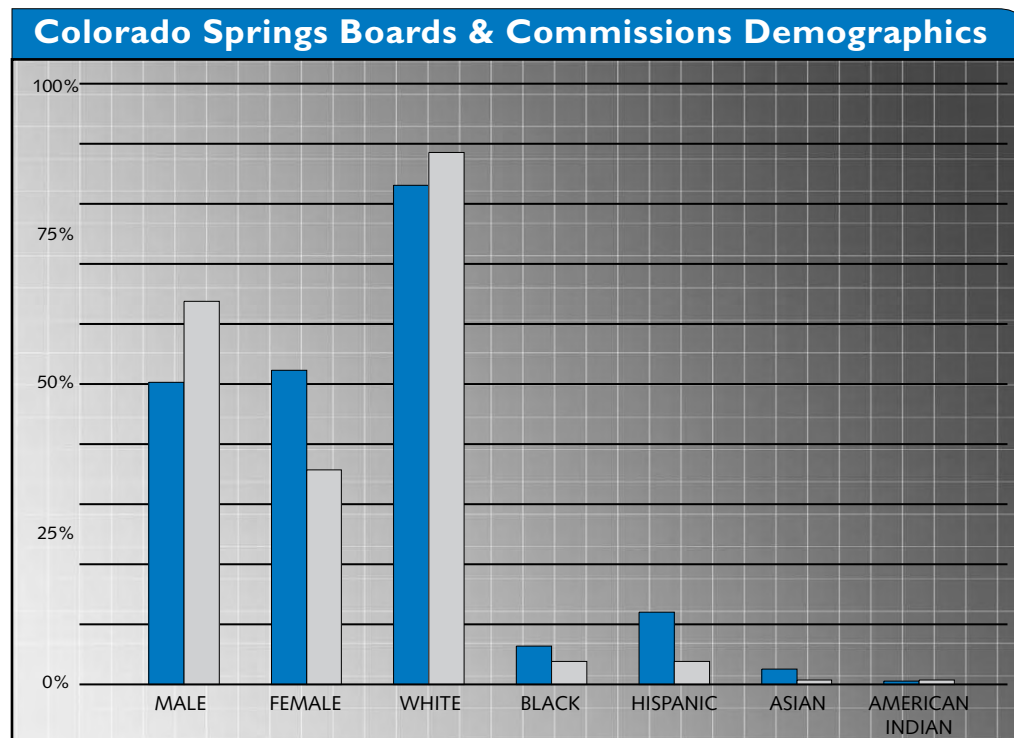
Promoting volunteer opportunities through churches, newspapers, friendships and the internet will continue to be the most effective communication strategy to encourage participation.

*Based on Points of Light Foundation's standard average of \$19.51 per hour for 2007.

Local Leadership

The vitality of a community is dependent upon the quality and engagement of its leaders. Leaders include elected and appointed officials as well as volunteer coalitions of individuals and organizations that address specific issues consistent with the community's values.

LEADERSHIP DEMOGRAPHICS



THIS CHART reflects the ethnic composition of those serving on City boards and commissions compared to the community population as a whole. Unfortunately, the composition of the boards and commissions are not an accurate representation of the demographic make up of our community.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

When asked to rate the quality of the County Commissioners and the City Council, El Paso County nearly 50 % of residents gave favorable ratings.* This community has a wealth of leadership programs that continue to grow in offerings and participation. In recent years, coalitions of informal leaders have come together to drive community action initiatives that have been approved by voters in order to improve the community (examples include Referendum C, Police & Fire tax, Open Space (TOPS)). A trend worth watching is a shift toward collaborative community leadership initiatives. *Source: RBI 2008 Community Visioning Survey

Source: City of Colorado Springs

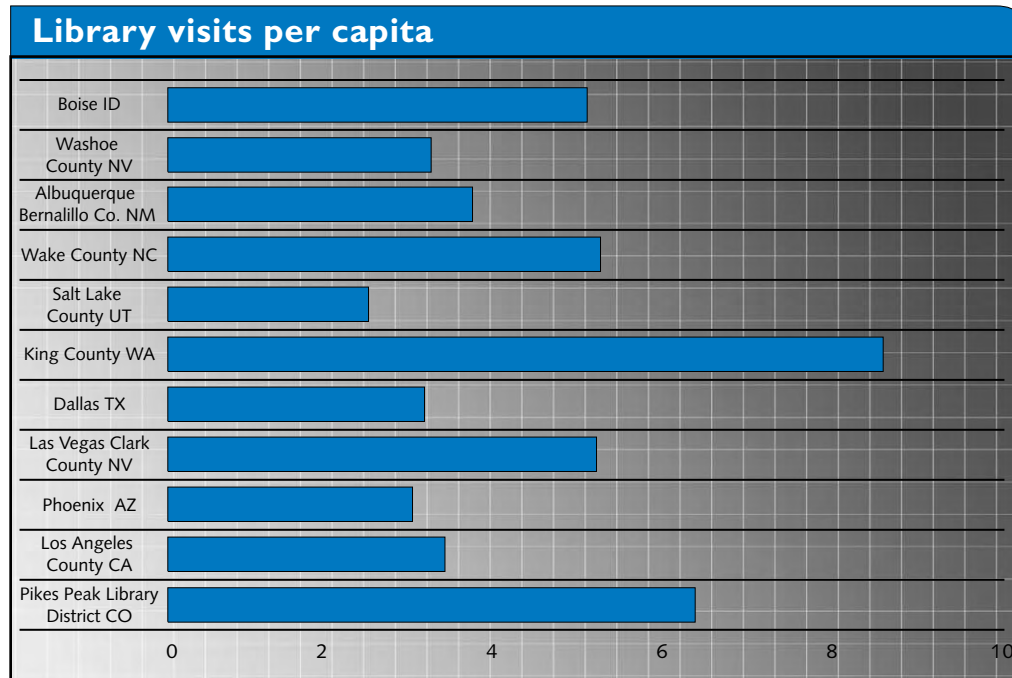
POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

Citizen-driven initiatives such as Dream City 2020 and the Citizens' Public Health and Safety Initiative led by the Citizens for Effective Government Coalition offer potential for meaningful engagement. Graduates of community leadership programs are a resource that should be more fully engaged in these efforts and other leadership roles.

Local Knowledge & Access

Understanding what is going in our community is critical to making informed personal and communal decisions. As a culture, we rely on a multitude of information sources when we seek information that affects our lives. Where and how often we find information reflects our level of interest in our quality of life.

ACCESS TO INFORMATION



THIS CHART

shows the number of visits to the public library, divided by the total service population in El Paso County and comparable US cities as identified by the greater Colorado Springs Economic Development Corporation

Source: Pikes Peak Library District

HOW ARE WE DOING?

In comparison to cities similar in size, the Pikes Peak Library District ranks 2nd with a 6.49 rating. King County, Washington ranks 1st with a 8.80 rating. Last year the PPLD had 3,423,072 visits.

POTENTIAL FOR ACTION

The Pikes Peak Library District is a vital part of the El Paso County community and a valuable resource. Initiatives taken by the Pikes Peak community and local leadership can use the resources and services the Pikes Peak Library District provide.

GROWING A VIBRANT ECONOMY

- Binn, Brian. Greater Colorado Springs Chamber of Commerce, Military Affairs Division. Spring 2008.
- CAI-3 personal income, population and per capita income <<http://www.bea.gov/regional/reis/drill.cfm>>
- Colorado Data, Colorado Department of Labor; Colorado Quarterly Census of Employment & Wages. U.S. data from U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment & Wages.
- Colorado Department of Labor and Employment. <<http://www.imigateway.coworkforce.com/imigateway>>
- Colorado Springs Economic Development Corporation Annual Report
- Colorado Public Trustees Association. <<http://www.e-ccta.org/CPTA/forclosure%20statistics.htm>>
- El Paso County, Pikes Peak Regional Building Department, Pikes Peak Region Building Report. <<http://www.pprbd.org/PublicAccess/Charts.aspx>>
- GMP data from U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts, Estimates of Gross Metropolitan Product (GMP) by Metroplitan Area, 2001 – 2005, pages 5 – 9. Population data from U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates report July 1, 2007
- Gross Domestic Product by Metropolitan Area. <<http://www.bea.gov/regional/gdpmetro>>
- Lodgers and Auto Rental Tax Data: City of Colorado Springs' Finance Department Monthly Sales/Use Tax Reports. <<http://www.springsgov.com/Page.asp?NavID=1151>>
- Real GDP by Metropolitan Area (millions of chained 2001 dollars)<<http://www.bea.gov/regional/gdpmetro/action.cfm>>
- Regional Economic Accounts. <<http://www.bea.gov/regional/index#gsp>>
- Southern Colorado Economic Forum, report issued April 2008
- U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts, Estimates of Gross Metropolitan Product (GMP) by Metroplitan Area, 2001 – 2005, pages 5 – 9, 11. Published September 26, 2007
- U.S. Census Bureau, American FactFinder, El Paso County Colorado, Economic Characteristics. <http://factfinder_census.gov>

PROMOTING SOCIAL WELLBEING

- 2-1-1 Information and Referral Center.
- 2005 Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS), Drug and Alcohol Services Information System, Office of Applied Studies, SAMHSA. www.icpsr.umich.edu/SAMHDA Quick Tables).
- American Communities Survey**, U.S. Census Bureau 2006. <http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/ADPTable?_bm=y&-geo_id=05000US08041&-qr_name=ACS_2006_EST_G00_DP2&-ds_name=&-_lang=en&-redoLog=false>
- "Children in Out-of-Home Placement by Service Type." El Paso County Department of Human Services, 2008. There is a note that this report is "run thru TRAILS."

- Colorado Child Care Assistance*, El Paso County Department of Human Services.
- Economic Benefits of Drug Treatment: A Critical Review of the Evidence for Policy Makers, February 2005, Treatment Research Institute, University of Pennsylvania.
- Health Care Spending: National Estimates of Expenditures for Mental Health and Substance Abuse Treatment, 1997 (July 2000)
- Modified diagram from Principles of drug addiction treatment principles **National Institute on Drug Abuse** National Institutes of Health NIH Publication No. 99-4180 Printed October 1999
- National Survey on Drug Use and Health*, SAMHSA, Office of Applied Studies, 2002-2006
- Shoveling Up: The Impact of Substance Abuse on State Budgets, January 2001. The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University.
- Strengths and Needs Assessment of Older Adults in The State of Colorado*, Colorado Department of Human Services, Division of Aging and Adult Services, September 2004. <http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/ADRS/AAS/swna.pdf>
- Strengths and Needs Assessment of Older Adults in The State of Colorado—Pikes Peak Region*, Colorado Department of Human Services, Division of Aging and Adult Services, September 2004. http://www.ppacg.org/cms/index.php?option=com_remository&Itemid=27&func=fileinfo&id=136
- U.S. Apparent Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages Based on State Sales, Taxation or Receipt Data, U.S. Alcohol Epidemiologic Data Reference Manual Volume 1, 4th Edition, June 2004, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.
- Vital Statistics 2008, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, 2008.

PRESERVING THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

- City of Colorado Springs Stormwater Enterprise. **Impervious Surfaces.**
- Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. **El Paso County Recycling.**
- Colorado Springs Utilities. **Daily Gallons of Water per Capita.**
- Colorado Springs Utilities. **Energy Sources.**
- Colorado Springs Utilities. **Renewable Energy.**
- El Paso County Department of Health and Environment, Solid Waste Division. **Pounds of Waste per Day/Person.**
- Patty Crow, U.S. EPA, Region VIII. **Natural Gas.**
- Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments. **Percentage of Monitoring Days Exceeding E.Coli Concentration Standards.**
- Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments. **Ozone Levels.**
- U.S. Energy Information Administration. **Energy and Consumption: Electricity.**
- U.S. EPA Clean Air Markets Database. **Carbon Dioxide: Emissions from CSU Electricity Generation.**

BIBLIOGRAPHY

SUSTAINING A HEALTHY COMMUNITY

Life, Death and Disease in El Paso County, Colorado, 2006 Report to the Community, page 12, 24-27, 33, 46-49, 55, 70-71, 73, 75

Wendy M. Limbert, Ph.D. and Steven Beard. *Health Care Infrastructure in Colorado Springs*. Western Strategies Center, Colorado Springs, Colorado. January 2008. Pages 11-13, 22, 56, 60, 62.

ACHIEVING EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE

American Communities Survey, US Census 2004-2007, El Paso County <www.census.gov/acs/index.html>

Average Teacher Salaries Report , Colorado Department of Education. <www.cde.state.co.us/index_stats.htm>

Colorado Education Facts; Percent of Children Qualifying for Free and Reduced Lunch, Colorado Department of Education. <www.cde.state.co.us/index_stats.htm>

Colorado Preschool Program, Colorado Department of Education. <www.cde.state.co.us/cdeprevention/pi_colo_preschool.htm>

Colorado State Demography Office < www.dola.state.co.us/dlg/demog/index.html>

Community Partnership for Child Development/Head Start: Enrollment numbers in Head Start (Noreen Landis-Tyson, August 2008) (719-635-1536, nlandistyson@cpcd.org)

District Revenue and Expenses, Comparison of Revenues and Expenditures for Selected Funds, Column F, Colorado Department of Education: www.cde.state.co.us/index_finance.htm:

Early Learning: Third Graders Reading at Grade Level, Colorado Department of Education. < www.cde.state.co.us/cdeassess/documents/csap/csap-plds.html>

Higher Education: Educational Attainment, American Communities Survey. <www.census.gov/acs/www/index.html>

Higher Education: Outcomes of Higher Education, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System. < www.nces.ed.gov/programs/digest>

Student Achievement: Tenth Grade Math Skills, Colorado Department of Education. <www.cde.state.co.us/cdeassess/documents/csap/csap-plds.html>

Student Achievement: Tenth Grade Reading Levels, Colorado Department of Education. <www.cde.state.co.us/cdeassess/documents/csap/csap-plds.html>

Student Graduation: High School Dropout Rate, Colorado Department of Education. <www.cde.state.co.us/cdeeval/rv2006DropoutLinks.htm>

Student Graduation: High School Graduation Rate, Colorado Department of Education. <www.cde.state.co.us/cdeeval/rv2006GradLinks.htm>

Teacher Quality: Teachers with Advanced Degrees, Colorado Department of Education. <www.reportcard.cde.state.co.us/reportcard/CommandHandler.jsp>

ARTS, CULTURE AND RECREATION

Cheyenne Mountain Zoo: Attendance numbers.

City of Colorado Springs Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services

Colorado Springs Cultural Service Division

El Paso County Parks and Natural Resources

Fine Arts Center: Attendance numbers.

National Center for Charitable Statistics, Urban Institute. <<http://www.nccsdataweb.urban.org/NCCS>>

Pikes Peak Center: Attendance numbers.

Theaterworks: Attendance numbers.

U.S. Census Bureau. North American Industry Classification System, County Business Patterns.

World Arena: Attendance numbers.

MOVING AROUND EFFICIENTLY

American Community Survey, U.S. Census.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Accidents, City of Colorado Springs Transportation Planning

Direct Flights, Colorado Springs Airport.

El Paso County Bridges, Colorado Department of Transportation

Pavement Conditions – Roads and Bridges, Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments

Public Transportation, Mountain Metropolitan Transit & Front Range Express.

Traffic Accidents, Colorado Springs Police Department

Travel Speeds, City of Colorado Springs Traffic Engineering Division.

Vehicle Miles Traveled, Texas Transportation Institute Urban Mobility Report.

KEEPING THE COMMUNITY SAFE

Colorado Springs Police Department

Colorado Springs Fire Department

El Paso County Sheriff's Office

FBI Crimes in the U.S., 2006

Fountain Police Department

National Center for Statistics and Analysis of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Research, State Traffic Information. <<http://bjsdata.ojp.usdoj.gov/dataonline/Search/Crime/Local/RunCrimeJurisbyJuris.cfm>>

Police Accountability and Service Standards (PASS) Survey, Colorado Springs Police Department.

T.E.S.S.A., Colorado Springs, CO. <<http://www.tessacs.org/index2.asp?category={3816EE32-0A4C-46EA-B58E-8CE99EFIF928}>>

BIBLIOGRAPHY

FOSTERING COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

"2008 Community Survey: Quality of Life." *The Gazette*. 10 Jun 2008: Metro 3.

Boards & Commissions Demographics, City of Colorado Springs

El Paso County Clerk and Recorder

Hughes, Craig. "2008 Community Visioning Survey." RBI Strategies. March-April 2007. Results presented at Leadership Summit conference XIV, April 15 2008.

Pikes Peak Library District

I was able to find 2005 data online (it does not match the numbers in your chart, Which tells me your data must be more recent, though it doesn't state what year it's from):

<http://nces.ed.gov/surveys/libraries/librarysearch/library_detail.asp?Search=I&LibraryID=CO0096&ID=CO0096&details=>

"State of Colorado Profile." Corporation for National & Community Service. 2007. <<http://www.volunteeringinamerica.gov/newprofile.cfm?state=CO>>

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

A very special thanks to each member of the nine Vision Councils who are devoted to protecting and improving the amazing quality of life that we enjoy. Your volunteer work is noticed and appreciated.

This year a key team of volunteers worked to convene the Councils. With a team of volunteers as busy as these council members, that was no easy task. We are especially thankful for these “conveners” and their great work.

Each section of this report was sponsored, allowing us to conduct primary research, print additional copies of the report to help satisfy demand, and produce a more professional product. Many thanks to ENT Federal Credit Union, the Economic and Civic Literacy Project, the Community Leadership Fund, The Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments, The Pikes Peak Area Agency on Aging, Fort Carson Sustainability and Environmental Management System, the Gay and Lesbian Fund for Colorado, Leadership Pikes Peak, and Pikes Peak United Way. You made this possible.

Numerous employees of local and state government helped us. Warm thanks to the dedicated public servants that provided valid, accurate, reliable data for this report!

The core volunteer team providing project leadership this year was Susan Saksa, Annie Oatman-Gardner, and Lisa Amend. Three words: dedicated, skilled, caring.

When it comes down to it, there is no team I would rather work with than the folks who produced the final report. Thanks to summer intern extraordinaire Brittany Weddell—have a great senior year of college. Thanks to an amazing editor, Rick Fesler. Thanks to keen-eyed United Way colleagues Stacy Storer, JD Dallager, and Carrie McKee. Your detail-orientation and hard work made this happen. Finally, thanks to Todd Morrison of Ampersand Creative—it looks great, friend!

This is an annual effort, and we welcome your help. Call me at 719-955-0735 if you feel like joining the fun!



HOWARD BROOKS,
VICE PRESIDENT
PIKES PEAK UNITED WAY



Quality of Life Indicators

for the Pikes Peak region

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Please contact:

Pikes Peak United Way

518 N. Nevada Ave

Colorado Springs, CO 80903

(719) 955-0735