



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

September 20, 2022

Contact: Lindsey Caroon

lcaroon@adproresults.com | (701) 340-7140

## **Peak Progress: 2022 Quality of Life Indicators Report Released**

*QLI Report is Most Comprehensive Report in 15 Years*

**Colorado Springs, Colo.** – The fifteenth edition of the [Peak Progress: Quality of Life Indicators](#) report for the Pikes Peak Region, which features over 90 indicators in 12 key sectors, will be formally released at a media conference on Wednesday, September 21, 2022, at 10:00 am. The conference will be held at the Pikes Peak United Way offices, 518 N Nevada Ave, Colorado Springs, CO 80903. The quantitative data in the 2022 report objectively define quality of life in the region and also notes ongoing local and regional trends. The quantitative data in this report has been used since 2007 to objectively define quality of life in the Pikes Peak region. Experts and volunteers who contributed to the report were able to leverage the pandemic-related postponement of information to ensure a report that is more robust and detailed than ever before.

This year's report reveals that the Pikes Peak region is a great place to live and work with citizens who are highly engaged. The 12 key sectors studied include [Demographics](#), [Government](#), [Built Environment](#), [Economy](#), [Social Well-being](#), [Health](#), [Community Engagement](#), [Education](#), [Safety](#), [Transportation](#), [Recreation](#), and [Natural Environment](#). Six distinct, overlapping themes emerged:

- **Government:** 82.4% of adults in the Colorado Springs area were registered to vote in 2020.
- **Built environment:** As of 2021, Colorado Springs had 308,836 housing units.
- **Economy:** Over the past two decades, substantial job increases have been seen in education and health services (+111%), local government education (+ 38%), and leisure and hospitality (+35%).
- **Health:** In El Paso and Teller Counties, the proportion of the adult population estimated to be obese was 28% in 2020, an increase from 21% in 2015. The pandemic affected primary care utilization, resulting in a 25% drop in visits to care providers.
- **Education:** Across Colorado Springs, the 2021 four-year high school graduation rate was 74.3%. The 2021-2022 student-teacher ratio across all Colorado Springs schools was 16.9 to 1, reflecting an increase of more than half a point from 2020-2021, after four years of decreases.
- **Recreation:** 92% of Colorado Springs residents are satisfied with the community's outdoor recreation opportunities and 84% of Colorado Springs residents are satisfied with public parks and spaces – a higher percentage of satisfaction than any other aspect of living.

**“The report, compiled by more than 150 community volunteers, makes a conscious effort to present factual data,”** says Cindy Aubrey, Pikes Peak United Way President and CEO. **“While it shows trends, the report does not attempt to evaluate these trends as either positive or negative. The goal of presenting**



**this data is to help the community prioritize and make educated decisions about areas most deserving of time, talent, and resource investment.”**

Underwritten by GE Johnson, El Paso County, the El Pomar Foundation, the City of Colorado Springs, Colorado Springs Forward, Pikes Peak Community Foundation, Pikes Peak State College, the Colorado Springs Chamber and EDC, and UCCS, in association with Leadership Pikes Peak and the Pikes Peak Library District, the 2022 Quality of Life Indicators report is available to the public online at <https://www.ppunitedway.org/peakprogressqli/>

**About Pikes Peak United Way:** Pikes Peak United Way is celebrating its 100th year and will be hosting a series of celebratory events in 2022 and 2023. The mission of Pikes Peak United Way is to enhance youth success and family stability in the Pikes Peak region by leading and lifting the most vulnerable in our community with mentorship, life resources, and job opportunities. Our signature programs and partner agencies focus on connecting youth and their families to resources to ensure access to fundamental needs of food, shelter, and learning resources. Visit <https://www.ppunitedway.org/> for more information. #LiveUnited

###