

“Forecasting the Future”

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JOBS, POPULATION, AND HOUSING UNITS, BY COUNTY, 1990 - 2025.

Variable / County	1990	2000	2010	2025	1990-00	2000-10	2010-25
JOBS							
Garfield	18,000	28,500	35,400	46,000	4.7%	2.2%	1.8%
Pitkin	17,000	21,000	28,400	42,000	2.1%	3.1%	2.6%
Eagle	20,000	38,000	62,400	107,000	6.6%	5.1%	3.7%
POPULATION							
Garfield	30,000	44,300	58,000	85,000	4.0%	2.7%	2.6%
Pitkin	12,700	16,000	18,000	24,000	2.3%	1.2%	1.9%
Eagle	22,200	43,000	56,300	80,000	6.8%	2.7%	2.4%
HOUSING UNITS							
Garfield	12,500	17,300		32,000	3.3%		2.5%
Pitkin	9,800	12,000		18,000	2.0%		1.7%
Eagle	15,200	25,300		47,000	5.2%		2.5%

Table prepared by the Colorado Demography Section, May 2003

Reasons for Colorado Economic and Population Growth

- Worksheet -

1990 - 2000

2000 - 2010

2010 - 25

International, National

1. **Peace**
2. **Globalization of Capitalist Economy**
3. **Ideal Position of the U. S. *in our own type of system***
4. **Growth in Wealth**

Regional (Rocky Mtn., Colorado)

5. **California: hi-tech, Asian markets, Asian labor.**
6. **Decentralization**
7. **Attractiveness: Geographic position, transportation access (DIA), attractive environment - mountains!**

“Local” (Resort Region)

8. **Second homes, tourism on the Western Slope**
9. **Retirees**

Forecast Alternatives

Per Annum Growth Rate

1. Explosive Growth	5%
2. Fast Growth	3+%
3. Steady Growth	2%
4. Moderate Growth	1%
5. Some Growth	0.6%
6. Slow Growth	0.2%
7. Flat - No Growth	0%
8. Slight Decline	- 0.2%
9. Some Significant Decline	- 0.6%
10. Significant Decline	- 1%

Conclusions for Counties of the Roaring Fork and Colorado River Valleys

Eagle County: The fast growth of the 1990s will slow but remain “steady” until it approaches or reaches “build out”.

Pitkin County: The county may re-invent itself several times as it steadily, then moderately, approaches “build out”.

Garfield County: The county will grow steadily as job growth continues steadily in Eagle and Pitkin counties. In addition, the county has its own tourism and retiree attractions that will add to growth. Current population forecasts understate these pressures.

POTENTIAL GOALS OF A REGION*

(Place where people both work and live.)

- 1. Economic Well-Being / Economic Development.**
- 2. Quality of Life / Regional and Community Planning.**
- 3. Health , Education, Other / Related to Community Services**
- 4. Environmental Protection.**
- 5. Others.**

“Sustainability” . . . (Can apply to all goals.)

1. Economic Well-Being.

Focii of Typical Economic Development Efforts.

- **problems of unemployment:** need for jobs, training
- **increase in personal income**
- **diversity . . . stability**
- **increase in (business) sales**

(Background: efforts need to be realistic to be beneficial; there needs to be real market for proposed approaches; and, if there is one, then only need temporary remedies.)

1. Economic Well-Being (continued).

Strategy for Region That Is Expected to Grow

- since region will grow, do not need to recruit *desperately*
can be selective (may recruit for selected “anchors”)
- may be some attention to people problems, e.g.,
unemployment, for short-terms (because of fits and starts)
- resist pressure from businesses to solve their short-term
problems
- think of the region as a business itself
 - have a long-term strategy
 - do not panic over short-term downturns
 - best economic development effort is a good plan:
for the economy, infrastructure, living environment

2. Quality of Life ...

Planning

Definitions

- **a little (adequate) thinking about an involved subject**
- **a scheme, detailed formulation, beforehand.**
- **practical, not idiot-logical**

Example:

- **planning a vacation:**
 - **site-seeing in Europe**
 - **a family vacation in a resort area.**

2. Quality of Life . . .

Planning . . . in Jim's Hometown (Wyomissing, PA)

- planned *before* the town was built.
- accounted for basic relationships among activities
 - adequate housing (land) for workers of all incomes
 - adequate land for community services
 - adequate housing for community service wrkrs
- protected / used (for parks) natural areas
 - community places / programs
 - social interaction, involvement, responsibility
- believed in and carried out: believed it was in the public interest and thus was their *responsibility*.