

ROUTT COUNTY, COLORADO

Community Profile—September 2023



Routt County is located in the northwest quadrant of the State of Colorado, and is comprised of the communities of Steamboat Springs, Hayden, Yampa, and Oak Creek. Routt County is a delicate balance of terrain that supports three main industries: ranching, mining, and recreation. The spectacular beauty of the area attracts many permanent and part-time residents. The year-round population of Routt County is approximately 25,000. However, during ski season and on summer weekends the population increases dramatically. Routt County is home to Steamboat Springs Ski Resort, an internationally-known ski area attracting visitors from all over the world. The county also has a rich history and heritage in ranching and mining.

Routt County Community Assets

- ◆ Home to Steamboat Springs Ski Resort, a world-class, internationally known ski area attracting visitors across the world
- ◆ Two National Forests in the county: Routt National Forest & White River National Forest
- ◆ Home to four State Parks: Pearl Lake, Stagecoach, Steamboat Lake, Yampa River
- ◆ Hot Springs: Old Town & Strawberry Park
- ◆ Yampa Valley Regional Airport
- ◆ Yampa Valley Medical Center
- ◆ Colorado Creative District Designation
- ◆ Steamboat Springs Transit Free Bus System
- ◆ Schools: Steamboat Springs School District, South Routt School District, Hayden School District, Steamboat Mountain School, North Routt Community Charter School
- ◆ Colorado Mountain College Campus in Steamboat Springs

Communities in Routt County

- ◆ [Town of Hayden](#)
- ◆ [Town of Oak Creek](#)
- ◆ [City of Steamboat Springs](#)
- ◆ [Town of Yampa](#)

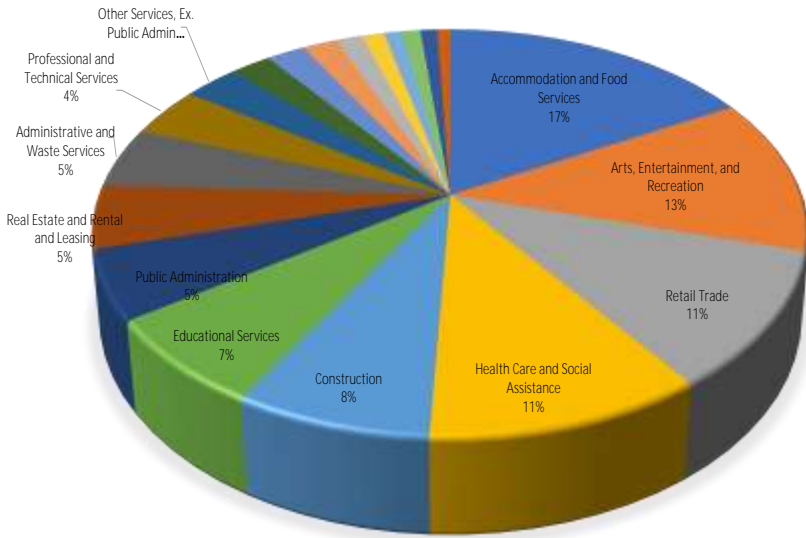
Population (2022)	25,007
Population Change since 2020 Census	0.7%
Population Forecast (2050)	36,338
Forecasted Population Change: 2022-2050	+45.3%
Median Household Income (2021)	\$93,776
Poverty Rate	6.0%
High School Diploma or more (age 25+)	96.7%
Bachelor's Degree or more (age 25+)	50.8%
Total Number of Households	10,094
Total Number of Housing Units	16,492
% Housing Units Vacant for Seas/Rec Use	28.4%
Average Household Size	2.4
Median Age	41.5
% Hispanic	7.0%
Total Employment (Q1 2023)	17,108
1-Yr Chg: Employment	4.6%
10-Yr Chg: Employment	16.2%
Total Establishments (Q1 2023)	2,218
1-Yr Chg: Establishments	+157
10-Yr Chg: Establishments	+539
Average Annual Wage (Q1 2023)	\$60,216
1-Yr Chg: Average Annual Wage	+11.5%
10-Yr Chg: Average Annual Wage	+49%
Total Labor Force (Aug 2023)	16,493
1-Yr Chg: Labor Force	+750
Unemployment Rate (Aug 2023)	2.8%
1 Yr Chg: UE Rate	+0.7%

ROUTT COUNTY, COLORADO

Community Profile—September 2023

ECONOMY

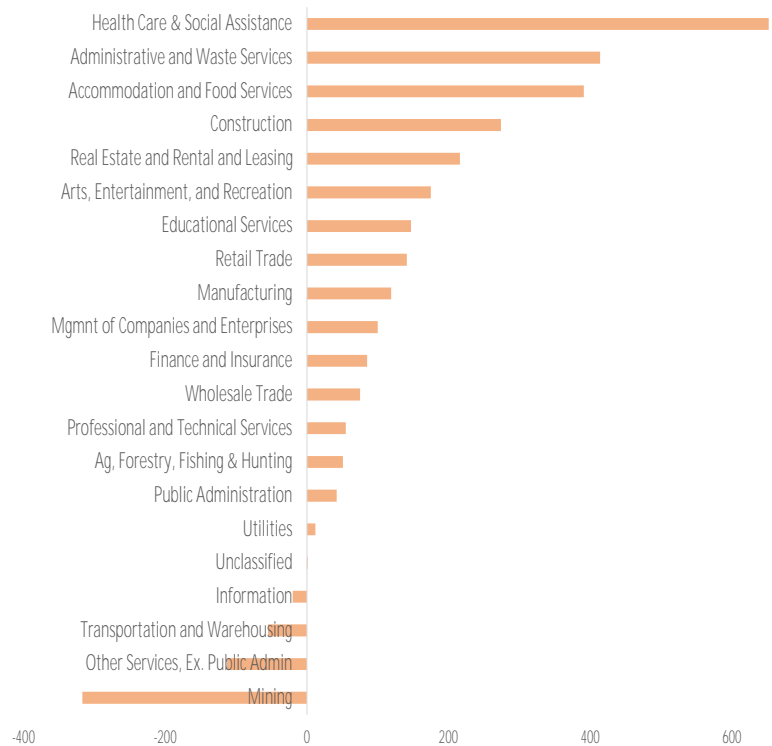
Total Jobs (Q1 2023): 17,108



Routt County is more diverse in terms of industries when compared other counties in the NWCCOG Region in that 70% of jobs come from outside the tourism sector. While accommodation and food services does account for the most jobs (17%), higher paying sectors such as healthcare (11%; paying annual wage of \$66,872) and construction (8%; paying annual salary of \$63,596) account for a large portion of jobs. Routt County showed strong job growth overall over the short term (+4.6% year over year) and long term (+16.2% over the decade). The county’s labor force grew over the last year by 750. Unemployment is edging up slightly, reported at 2.8% for August 2023, which is +0.7% increase year over year. Healthcare continues to be a strong sector in the Routt County economy, accounting for 11% of jobs, paying an annual average salary of \$66,872. The healthcare sector was also the sector with the most job growth over the last 10 years.

Industry	Jobs	Establishments	Annual Wage
All Industries	17,108	2,218	\$ 60,216
Accommodation and Food Services	2,891	164	\$ 43,160
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	2,140	67	\$ 44,252
Retail Trade	1,839	186	\$ 47,632
Health Care and Social Assistance	1,817	152	\$ 66,872
Construction	1,287	367	\$ 63,596
Educational Services	1,195	31	\$ 40,976
Public Administration	936	25	\$ 77,792
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	860	194	\$ 57,044
Administrative and Waste Services	827	135	\$ 54,600
Professional and Technical Services	688	378	\$ 87,464
Other Services, Ex. Public Admin	512	139	\$ 41,860
Wholesale Trade	373	74	\$ 100,516
Finance and Insurance	357	86	\$ 197,600
Transportation and Warehousing	318	50	\$ 62,660
Mining	245	10	\$ 128,648
Manufacturing	204	45	\$ 52,364
Information	174	35	\$ 68,276
Utilities	165	10	\$ 113,048
Management of Companies & Enterprises	155	33	\$ 100,568
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting	124	37	\$ 44,928

10-Year Job Growth by Industry Annual 2012-2022



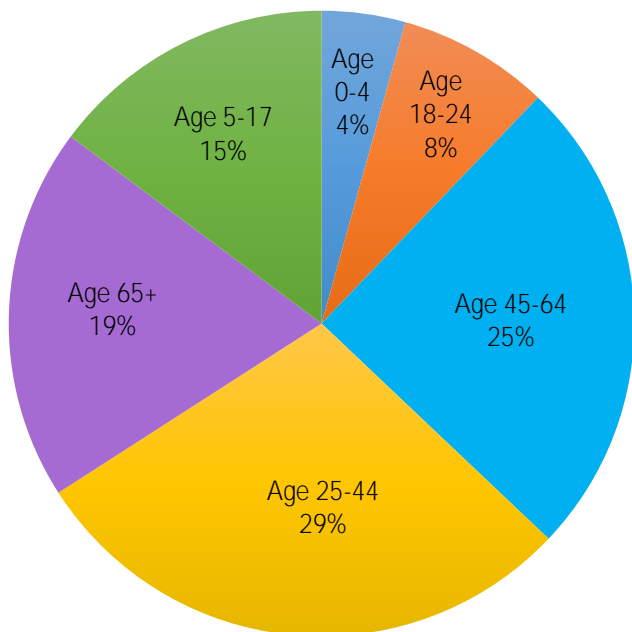
ROUTT COUNTY, COLORADO

Community Profile—September 2023

Population and Workforce

Population Mix

Total Population: 25,007 / Median Age: 41.5



Routt County’s total population is 25,007. The county has experienced a slight population increase since the 2020 Census (+0.7%), but is forecasted to grow significantly over the next 25 years (+45%). The largest portion of the population is in the 25-44 age group (29%). The county has a substantial portion of the population in the most employed age group, with 54% in this category (age 25-64). The fastest growing segment of the population is in the 65+ age group, which grew by 88% over the last decade.

Labor Force

August 2023

Total Labor Force:

16,493

+750 yr over yr

Unemployment Rate:

2.8%

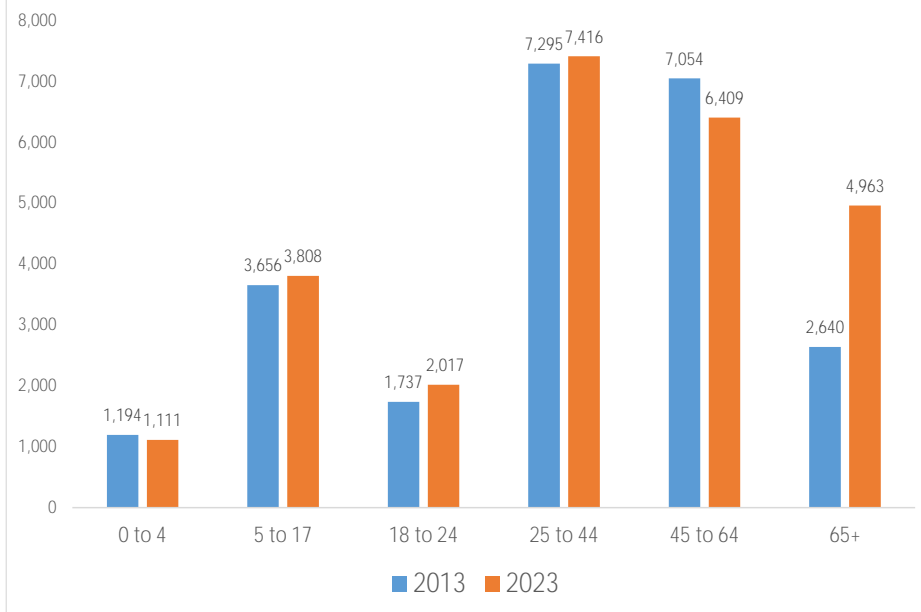
+0.7% yr over yr

Major Employers

100+ employees

- ◆ Steamboat Springs Ski Resort
- ◆ Yampa Valley Medical Center
- ◆ Routt County Government
- ◆ Steamboat Springs School District
- ◆ Steamboat Grand Resort Hotel
- ◆ Big Agnes
- ◆ Twenty Mile Coal Company
- ◆ Old Town Hot Springs
- ◆ Xcel Energy
- ◆ Catamount Ranch & Club
- ◆ Walmart
- ◆ Colorado Mountain College

Age Group Change over Time: 2013 vs. 2023



ROUTT COUNTY, COLORADO

Community Profile—September 2023

Innovation Intelligence Index

The Innovation Intelligence Index helps communities explore characteristics related to innovation and entrepreneurship to help advance economic development strategies. This data tool is provided by StatsAmerica which is funded by the U.S. Economic Development Administration. [Click here for details and data sources.](#)

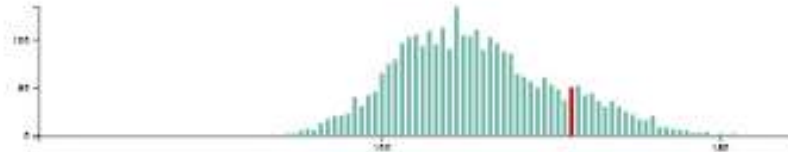
Routt County, CO

Population: 24,899 Per Capita Income: \$98,371 Largest City: Steamboat Springs

Innovation Intelligence Index

128.7

Rank: 431



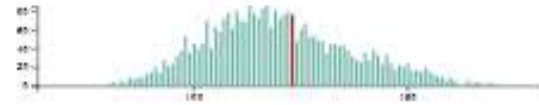
The graph above, and the similar graphs below, show the distribution of index values for all counties. The value for Routt County, CO is highlighted in red.

This area has **high** relative Innovation Capacity. The Innovation Index incorporates statistical data from a wide variety of sources. Review the indexes below to learn more about how this number was determined.

Human Capital and Knowledge Creation Index **123.5** (rank: 119)

Key Takeaways

- Patterns of establishment formation and composition indicate a **moderate** level of business competitiveness.
- The top measures for this index are:
 1. Bachelor's Degree Attainment (rank 25)
 2. Graduate Degree Attainment (rank 103)



Business Dynamics Index **155.0** (rank: 120)

Key Takeaways

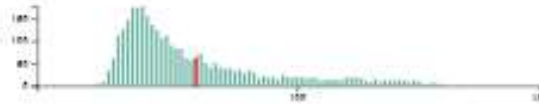
- Patterns of establishment formation and composition indicate a **high** level of business competitiveness.
- The top measures for this index are:
 1. Average Small Establishments (per 10,000 Workers) (rank 152)
 2. Traded Sector Establishment Births to Deaths Ratio (rank 53)



Business Profile Index **79.1** (rank: 107)

Key Takeaways

- The relative availability of resources for entrepreneurs and businesses is **moderate** in this area.
- The top measures for this index are:
 1. Proprietorship Rate (rank 466)
 2. Industry Diversity (rank 325)



Employment and Productivity Index **130.8** (rank: 626)

Key Takeaways

- Industry performance in Routt County, CO indicate a **moderate** level of positive outcomes from adding economic activity.
- The top measures for this index are:
 1. Patent Diversity (rank 127)
 2. Job Growth to Population Growth Ratio (rank 318)



Economic Well-Being Index **155.3** (rank: 225)

Key Takeaways

- As measured by residential internet connectivity and income, this area has a **high** standard of living.
- The top measures for this index are:
 1. Government Transfers to Total Personal Income Ratio (rank 39)
 2. Broadband Adoption Barriers (rank 25)

