Industry Overview

The information technology (IT) software and electronics cluster supports business activities in all other sectors of the economy with a variety of products and services, ranging from virus protection and other security programs for computers to electronics products and components. Technology and electronics industries are high-knowledge, human capital-based industries that are expanding globally and are expected to continue growing. The IT-software and electronics cluster includes companies involved in off-the-shelf software products, custom computer programming, computer facilities management, computer systems design, and data processing services. Additionally, businesses engaged in design, manufacture, wholesale, and repair of electronic equipment including computer peripheral equipment, semiconductors, electronic components, audio and video recording equipment, and magnetic and optical recording media are included. Companies in the IT-software and electronics industry also provide network solutions, web-based applications, and operating systems, in addition to manufacturing optical instruments and lenses, and navigational, measuring, electromedical, and control instruments.

The Denver South region[1] is an unrivaled center for IT-software and electronics companies. Further, the region's reputation as a tech hub and entrepreneurial ecosystem, with an unmatched talent pool, support this growing and thriving industry. The region serves as a major employment center for both large and small IT-software and electronics companies. Companies with major operations in the region include Arrow Electronics, IBM Corp., IHS Markit, Oracle, Zillow, Cognizant (formerly TriZetto Corporation), Keysight Technologies, Inc., and others. In fact, Centennial is Zillow's second-largest employment hub outside of Seattle. Additionally, Arapahoe County-based Arrow Electronics was recognized as a 2016 *Fortune 500* company with revenues totaling $23.3 billion—Colorado's largest revenue generating company. The company supplies about 40 percent of global electronic components and services.

The region is home to nearly 18,200 IT-software and electronics workers in nearly 990 companies, employing 5.6 percent of the region's total employment base. Employment in the region's IT-software and electronics industry grew for the sixth-consecutive year in 2016, adding about 5,050 workers between 2010 and 2016. IT-software and electronics employees earned an average wage of $100,780, nearly double the average private-sector worker in Colorado. Between 2015 and 2016, employment in the IT-software and electronics industry rose 6 percent and the number of companies increased 7.9 percent over-the-year. Indeed, 25 percent of all IT-software and electronics employment in the nine-county Metro Denver and Northern Colorado region[2] is located in the Denver South region.

Denver South's talent pipeline is a key ingredient for its entrepreneurial and innovative environment and is fueled by a growing IT-software and electronics workforce across the nine-county region and the state. Colorado attracts young, scientific, and technical talent with millennials being the largest generational group of the total population. According to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation, one-half to two-thirds of millennials are interested in entrepreneurship, and 27 percent are already self-employed. Colorado has the second-highest concentration of tech workers, with 9.3 percent of the state's private sector workforce employed in technology firms, according to the CompTIA's *Cyberstates 2017* report. In 2016, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation's *Innovation That Matters* ranked Denver the No. 3 city in the nation for fostering entrepreneurial growth and Denver ranked as the third-best city to start a tech career, according to ComputerTrainingSchools.com. Further, Metro Denver ranked among the top five cities for young entrepreneurs by NerdWallet in 2016. The Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation ranked Metro Denver ninth among the 40 largest metropolitan areas in the 2016 *Kauffman Index: Startup Activity*, with 360 people out of 100,000 adults becoming entrepreneurs each month.

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[1] The Denver South region consists of zip codes 80111, 80112, 80124, 80126, 80129, 80130, 80134, and 80237.
[2] The nine-county Metro Denver and Northern Colorado region consists of Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Denver, Douglas, Jefferson, Larimer, and Weld Counties.

The Denver South region is home to numerous programs and expansive real estate opportunities that support entrepreneurs and innovators. The region offers entrepreneurs access to the Innovation Pavilion, an innovation hub where productive collisions lead to creative solutions. The center was designed to serve all entrepreneurs, from established companies to emerging startups, to develop creative solutions in a collaborative environment. The facility offers flexible workspaces including growth suites, individual offices, coworking space, expandable bullpens, and access to conference rooms. The program includes 85 mentors in the advisory network, ranging from domain experts and serial entrepreneurs to sales, operations, finance, and growth strategists. The Innovation Pavilion connects entrepreneurs with corporate partners; funding; science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education and training; and 500 annual events. In addition to Innovation Pavilion, the Denver South region is in close proximity to more than 522,000 square feet of coworking spaces in Metro Denver including Galvanize, INDUSTRY Denver, STRIDE, Shift Workspaces, and the Commons on Champa, among others.

2016 Industry Highlights

Key company expansions and announcements in the Denver South region in 2016 included:

- Zillow Group Inc. plans to add 150 positions to its operations in Centennial. The company will hire business and customer care consultants to its rentals and new home listings lines of business.
- Greenwood Village-based Recondo Technology secured $16 million to support product development designed to improve financial outcomes for patients and customers. Recondo's products and services enable patients and providers to monitor benefits and payments for high-deductible insurance and health savings plans.
- Zvelo Inc., a Greenwood Village-based online security and data company, closed $2.75 million in royalty-debt financing from Cypress Growth Capital. The company plans to hire engineers and sales employees to help the company combat online advertising malware and fraud.
- Xero, a maker of cloud-based accounting software, relocated its U.S. headquarters from San Francisco to Denver South. The company cited the region's outdoor recreation, relatively affordable housing market, talent acquisition, and favorable tax structure as reasons for its relocation.
- Travelport Worldwide Limited plans to consolidate the company's three existing U.S. technology hubs in Denver, Atlanta, and Kansas City into two centers of excellence in Metro Denver and Atlanta. The consolidation will enhance and optimize the company's operational and technological efficiency. Travelport operates a travel commerce platform that connects the world's leading travel providers with online and offline travel agencies and other travel buyers.
- Arapahoe County-based Arrow Electronics partnered with crowdfunding website Indiegogo to create a crowdfund-to-production platform aimed at accelerating the pace of innovation for technology and Internet of Things (IoT) entrepreneurs. Arrow is integrating its comprehensive design and production into Indiegogo's crowdfunding engine to create a first-of-its-kind program to link entrepreneurs with design tools, prototype services, and manufacturing support.
- Arrow Electronics was recognized by *Fortune* as one of the world's most admired companies for the 16th consecutive year in 2016. The company ranked first in the "wholesalers: electronics and office equipment" category.
- Centennial-based Fast Enterprises was named to Glassdoor's "Best Places to Work 2017." The government software and consulting provider ranked No. 6 on the national list for large companies.

Merger and Acquisition Activity

IT-software and electronics companies in the Denver South region announced several mergers and acquisitions in 2016.

- IHS Inc., a global business-intelligence provider, completed a merger with United Kingdom-based Markit Ltd. The company, renamed IHS Markit Ltd., will have a London headquarters. The combined company creates a $13 billion international market and financial data company.

- Centennial-based IQNavigator and VMSBeeline merged to form one of the largest independent VMS software providers. The combined company is co-headquartered in Centennial and Jacksonville, Fla., which is Beeline's domestic operations hub, and will deliver the next generation of technology innovation, end-to-end customer engagement services, and value-add capabilities for managing the contingent workforce.
- Oracle Corp. purchased Manchester, N.H.-based Dyn, Inc. a cloud-based Internet Performance and DNS provider. Oracle plans to add Dyn's DNS solution to its bigger cloud computing platform, which provides Infrastructure-as-a-Service (IaaS) and Platform-as-a-Service (PaaS) products.

Industry Infrastructure Support

The Denver South region's organizations, professional associations, and coworking spaces are dedicated to advancing the vibrant IT-software and electronics industry.

- Metro Denver is an emerging digital health community. Founded in July 2012 by the Denver South Economic Development Partnership, Innovation Pavilion, and the Society of Physician Entrepreneurs, Prime Health is a growing statewide community of 1,600+ health care executives, physicians, technologists, academics, entrepreneurs, and investors dedicated to improving health and lowering healthcare costs through the commercialization of digital health technologies. Prime Health is a resource ecosystem for Digital Health—the convergence of the digital and genetics revolutions with bioscience, healthcare and wellness, and IT-software. Colorado is home to more than 130 digital health companies.
- Innovation Pavilion is a business incubator focused on technology launched in Centennial, which is home to entrepreneurs, business startups, academic and government organizations, and established businesses. The 80,000-square-foot Plug and Play project offers work space and WiFi to entrepreneurs. The project is modeled after one of Silicon Valley's most successful Plug and Play Technology Centers, featuring more than 300 startups.
- H5 Data Centers opened a science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) Innovation Center at its flagship Denver data center campus in Greenwood Village. H5 opened the center in conjunction with the Colorado Technology Association, Handy Networks, and Eaton Corp.
- Greenwood Village's Skill Distillery is an intensive 16-week coding school and software bootcamp aimed at training web developers and software programmers. The Java-centric course helps students become full-stack programmers, with knowledge in HTML, CSS, JavaScript, Java, SQL, Spring, and other core technologies. The program also provides resume writing and interview skills.
- Office Evolution has two locations in Greenwood Village and Lone Tree. The coworking space includes fully-furnished office spaces, drop-in business lounges, and conference rooms.

IT-Software and Electronics Economic Profile

The IT-software and electronics cluster consists of 27, six-digit North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) codes including software reproduction, software publishers, custom computer programming, data processing and hosting, computer facilities management services, computer systems design services, design, manufacture, wholesale, and repair of electronic equipment such as computer peripheral equipment, semiconductors, electronic components, and magnetic and optical recording media manufacturing. Electronics repair shops and electronics stores are also included.

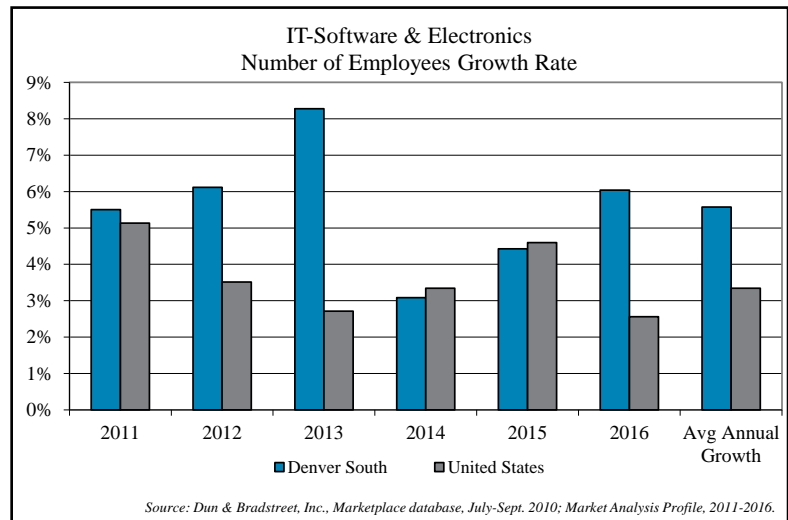**IT-Software and Electronics Employment and Company Profile, 2016**

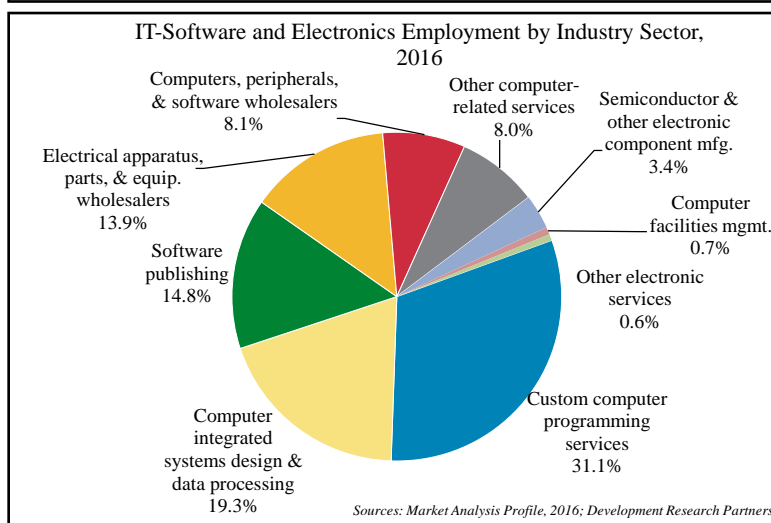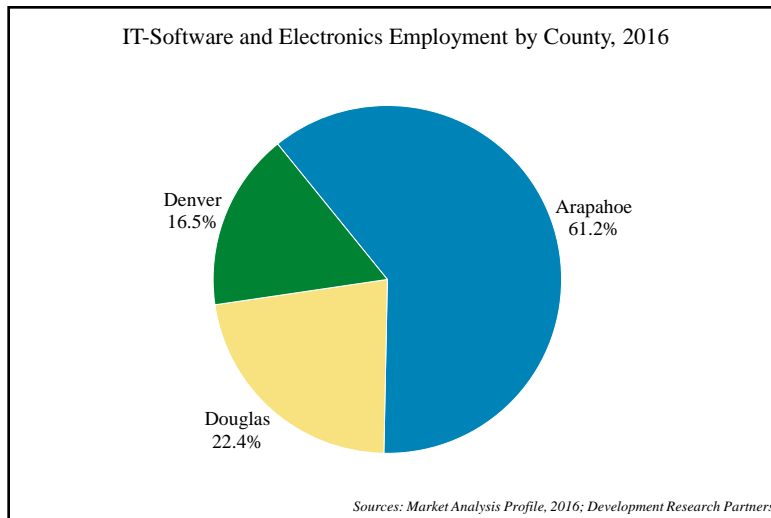|	Denver South	United States
Direct employment, 2016	18,200	4,526,270
Number of direct companies, 2016	990	314,370
One-year direct employment growth, 2015-2016	6.0%	2.6%
Five-year direct employment growth, 2011-2016	31.2%	17.9%
Avg. annual direct employment growth, 2011-2016	5.6%	3.3%
Direct employment concentration	5.6%	2.6%

Sources: Dun & Bradstreet, Inc. Marketplace database, July-Sept. 2010; Market Analysis Profile, 2011-2016; Development Research Partners.

IT-Software and Electronics Employment

The Denver South region's IT-software and electronics employment (18,200 workers) rose 6 percent in 2016, compared with the previous year's level, adding about 1,040 new jobs over the same period. National employment levels increased 2.6 percent over-the-year. IT-software and electronics companies employed 5.6 percent of the region's total employment base, compared with a 2.6 percent employment concentration nationwide.

Approximately 990 IT-software and electronics companies operated in the Denver South region in 2016. Nearly 73 percent of the region's IT-software and electronics companies employed fewer than 10 people, while 0.8 percent employed 250 or more.

IT-Software & Electronics
Number of Employees Growth Rate

Source: Dun & Bradstreet, Inc., Marketplace database, July-Sept. 2010; Market Analysis Profile, 2011-2016.

DENVERSOUTH
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP

IT-Software and Electronics Employment by County, 2016

Denver
16.5%

Arapahoe
61.2%

Douglas
22.4%

Sources: Market Analysis Profile, 2016; Development Research Partners.

IT-Software and Electronics Employment by Industry Sector, 2016

Computers, peripherals, & software wholesalers
8.1%

Other computer-related services
8.0%

Semiconductor & other electronic component mfg.
3.4%

Electrical apparatus, parts, & equip. wholesalers
13.9%

Computer facilities mgmt.
0.7%

Software publishing
14.8%

Other electronic services
0.6%

Computer integrated systems design & data processing
19.3%

Custom computer programming services
31.1%

Sources: Market Analysis Profile, 2016; Development Research Partners.

Major IT-Software and Electronics Companies

- Arrow Electronics
  www.arrow.com
- Beeline (formerly IQNavigator)
  www.beeline.com
- CIBER, Inc.
  www.ciber.com
- Cisco Systems, Inc.
  www.cisco.com
- Cognizant (formerly TriZetto Corp.)
  www.trizetto.com
- CSG International
  www.csgi.com
- Fast Enterprises
  www.fastenterprises.com
- IBM Corp.
  www.ibm.com

- NICE Systems
  www.nice.com
- Oracle Corporation
  www.oracle.com
- Recondo Technology
  www.recondotech.com
- SAP
  www.sap.com
- SourceHOV
  www.sourcehov.com
- Statêra, Inc.
  www.statera.com
- Travelport
  www.travelport.com
- Trustwave
  www.trustwave.com

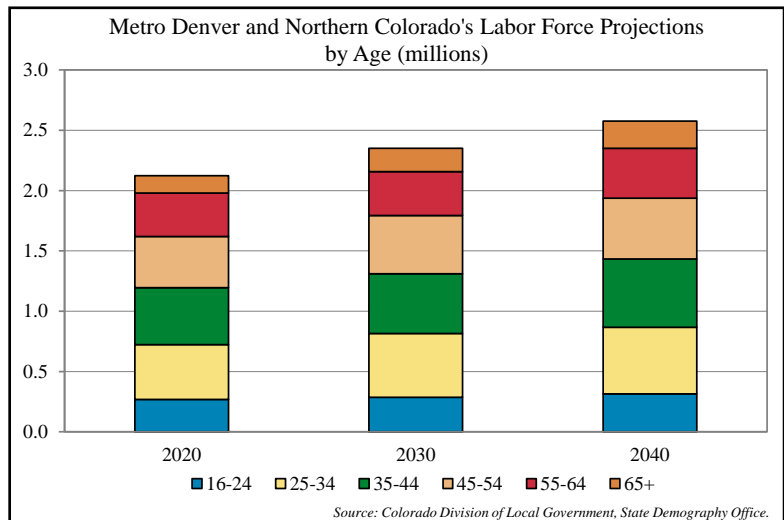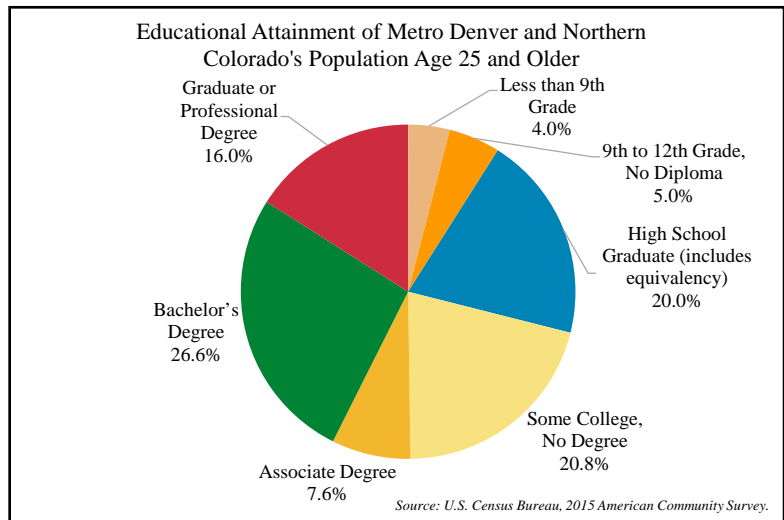## Major IT-Software and Electronics Companies Cont'd

- IHS Markit
  www.ihsmarkit.com
- Keysight Technologies Inc.
  www.keysight.com
- McAfee, Inc.
  www.mcafee.com
- Microsoft Corp.
  www.microsoft.com

- ViaWest
  www.viawest.com
- Xero Ltd.
  www.xero.com
- Zillow Group Inc.
  www.zillow.com
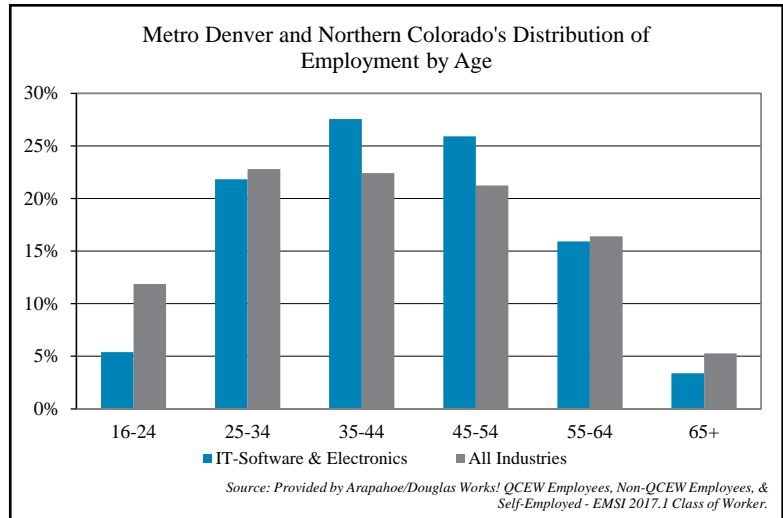
IT-Software and Electronics Workforce Profile

Many companies choose locations because of the available workforce. With nearly half of the nine-county region's 3.8 million residents under the age of 35, employers can draw from a large, young, highly educated, and productive workforce. Of the region's adult population, 42.6 percent are college graduates and 91 percent have graduated from high school. The state has the nation's second-most highly educated workforce as measured by the percentage of residents with a bachelor's degree or higher.

The attractiveness of the region draws new residents through in-migration. The region's population is expected to grow 31 percent from 2020 to 2040, driving a 21.2 percent increase in the region's labor force over the same period. It is important to note the changing composition of the workforce supply as the baby boomers begin to retire, which will pose implications for businesses whose employee pool includes significant numbers of these workers.

Educational Attainment of Metro Denver and Northern Colorado's Population Age 25 and Older

- Graduate or Professional Degree 16.0%
- Less than 9th Grade 4.0%
- 9th to 12th Grade, No Diploma 5.0%
- High School Graduate (includes equivalency) 20.0%
- Bachelor's Degree 26.6%
- Some College, No Degree 20.8%
- Associate Degree 7.6%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2015 American Community Survey.

Metro Denver and Northern Colorado's Labor Force Projections by Age (millions)

Legend: 16-24, 25-34, 35-44, 45-54, 55-64, 65+

Years: 2020, 2030, 2040

Source: Colorado Division of Local Government, State Demography Office.

The Denver South region's IT-software and electronics industry employs nearly 18,200 people and includes a large pool of talented, well-educated, and highly skilled workers. The age distribution of workers in the nine-county region's IT-software and electronics cluster is concentrated in the younger age brackets, especially the 35-44 and 45-54 age groups.

The IT-software and electronics workforce supply consists of four main components: those currently working in the industry; those doing a similar type of job in some other industry; the unemployed; and those currently in the education pipeline. The Metro Denver and Northern Colorado Occupation & Salary

Metro Denver and Northern Colorado's Distribution of Employment by Age

■ IT-Software & Electronics ■ All Industries

Source: Provided by Arapahoe/Douglas Works! QCEW Employees, Non-QCEW Employees, & Self-Employed - EMSI 2017.1 Class of Worker.

Profile below includes the 10 largest IT-software and electronics occupations in the region. For these 10 largest occupations, the chart details the total number of workers employed in that occupation across all industries, the number of available applicants that would like to be working in that occupation, the number of recent graduates that are qualified for that occupation, and the median and sample percentile annual salaries.

Wages

The 2015 average annual salary for an IT-software and electronics worker in the nine-county region was $100,780, compared with the national average of $102,530. Total payroll for the IT-software and electronics cluster in the nine-county region exceeded $6.7 billion in 2015.

Metro Denver and Northern Colorado IT-Software and Electronics Occupation & Salary Profile, 2016

10 Largest IT-Software and Electronics Occupations in Metro Denver and Northern Colorado	Total Working Across All Industries (2016)	Number of Available Applicants (2016)	Number of Graduates (2015)	Median Salary	10th Percentile Salary	25th Percentile Salary	75th Percentile Salary	90th Percentile Salary
1. Software developers, applications	19,949	339	921	$103,454	$65,735	$81,356	$122,826	$148,422
2. Software developers, systems software	10,829	184	1,038	$108,739	$68,046	$86,965	$128,679	$154,997
3. Sales representatives, wholesale & mfg., except technical & scientific products	24,019	2,306	75	$70,993	$27,952	$41,103	$82,934	$130,224
4. Computer user support specialists	11,439	194	928	$57,610	$34,918	$43,203	$69,054	$87,818
5. Computer systems analysts	7,787	132	1,580	$93,447	$57,265	$70,042	$112,190	$143,089
6. Sales representatives, services, all other	19,331	1,856	55	$67,160	$25,477	$37,558	$83,399	$121,144
7. Customer service representatives	34,719	3,784	0	$35,742	$23,706	$27,755	$41,879	$51,228
8. Network & computer systems administrators	9,014	153	852	$83,869	$51,933	$65,942	$102,033	$119,858
9. Sales representatives, wholesale & mfg., technical & scientific products	5,426	521	50	$105,248	$48,966	$68,006	$129,119	$184,988
10. General & operations managers	31,830	2,642	6,292	$112,133	$50,365	$73,238	$174,412	$254,484

Notes: The number of available applicants is a point-in-time measurement of the number of people who have registered in Colorado's workforce development system's statewide database, Connecting Colorado, as being able and available to work in a particular occupation. Results should be interpreted with caution since registration in Connecting Colorado is self-reported. In addition, the skills rubric may assign up to four occupation codes for each registrant. Therefore, the number of available applicants could be inflated. *Source: Provided by Arapahoe/Douglas Works!; QCEW Employees, Non-QCEW Employees, & Self Employed - EMSI 2017.1 Class of Worker.*

Education & Training

Colorado's higher education system provides an excellent support system for businesses in the region. There are 28 public higher education institutions in Colorado, of which seven four-year and six two-year public institutions offering comprehensive curricula are located in the nine-county region. In addition, there are more than 100 private and religious accredited institutions and more than 350 private occupational and technical schools offering courses in dozens of program areas throughout the state. Although not exhaustive, a list of the major, accredited educational institutions with the greatest number of graduates for each of the 10 largest IT-software and electronics occupations in the nine-county region are included below. A directory of all higher education institutions with corresponding websites may be accessed via http://highered.colorado.gov.

- Colorado State University
  www.colostate.edu

- Metropolitan State University of Denver
  www.msudenver.edu

- University of Colorado: Boulder, Denver, South Denver
  www.cu.edu

- Colorado State University Global Campus
  www.colostate.edu

- Regis University
  www.regis.edu

- University of Denver
  www.du.edu

- Front Range Community College
  www.frontrange.edu

- University of Phoenix-Colorado
  www.phoenix.edu

- University of Northern Colorado
  www.unco.edu

Key Reasons for IT-Software and Electronics Companies to Locate in the Denver South Region and the Surrounding Nine-County Region

1. **The ability to attract and retain high-quality IT and electronics professionals and technical talent**
   - Colorado has one of the nation's most educated workforces, ranking second among the 50 states for percentage of residents (39.2 percent) with a bachelor's degree or higher. (U.S. Census Bureau, 2015 American Community Survey)
   - IT services and custom software services were among Metro Denver's top-five leading tech industry sectors by employment in 2016. Metro Denver's average high-tech wage ($109,039) was nearly double that of the average private-sector worker. (CompTIA, *Cyberstates 2017: The Definitive National, State, and City Analysis of the U.S. Tech Industry and Tech Workforce,* 2017)
   - Metro Denver ranked as the fourth-best metro area for young entrepreneurs in 2016. The metro area received accolades for its highly educated population and high rate of small business loans. (NerdWallet, 2016)
   - Denver ranked third among the top 25 U.S. cities for fostering innovation and entrepreneurial growth. The city ranked among the top five for a healthy quality of life, a well-connected ecosystem, a vibrant cultural foundation, and a highly educated young population. (U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation, 2016)
   - Denver ranked as the third-best city to start a tech career in 2016. Denver scored highly in nearly every category related to the technology industry and investors gave more than $500 million to high-tech businesses in 2015. (ComputerTrainingSchools.com, 2016)
   - Denver ranked among the top 10 "Best American Cities for Women in Tech Jobs" in 2016. (Fortune, 2016)
   - Metro Denver ranked fifth among the top 15 major metros for college graduates in 2016. Fort Collins ranked fourth among small metro areas. (American Institute for Economic Research, 2016)
   - Lone Tree ranked among the best places in Colorado for millennial job seekers. The city's millennial population increased over 50 percent from 2010 to 2013. (NerdWallet, 2015)
   - Metro Denver ranked as the fourth-best metro area for science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) professionals in 2016. Metro Denver ranked seventh for the projected number of STEM jobs needed by 2020. (WalletHub, 2016)

2. **Direct access to a large and growing customer base**
   - Colorado ranked third in the nation for Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) grants per worker. The state received more than 200 grants totaling nearly $82.1 million, or $32.90 in grants per worker compared with the U.S. average of $11.80. (U.S. Small Business Administration, 2016; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2016)
   - Colorado companies in the IT-software, electronics, and computer-related industry attracted more than 160 deals totaling nearly $1.1 billion in venture capital over the past 10 years. This high level of investment signals a strong culture of innovation, entrepreneurship, and opportunities for the Denver South region. (PricewaterhouseCoopers, *MoneyTree Report*, 2017)
   - Colorado's largest export—computers and electronic products—accounted for 25 percent of all exports (totaling $2 billion) in 2015, compared with 14 percent of U.S. exports. (U.S. Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration, 2016)
   - Colorado ranked seventh in new company formation per 1,000 employees in 2015 and fourth in initial public offerings, strong measures of entrepreneurial energy. (U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2016 ; Information Technology and Innovation Foundation and Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, 2014)
   - Colorado ranked fifth for startup activity out of the 25 largest states by population in the 2016 *Kauffman Index: Startup Activity*, with 330 people out of 100,000 adults becoming entrepreneurs each month. (Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, 2016)

3. **A central location and easy global access**
   - Metro Denver is the largest region in the U.S. to offer one-bounce satellite uplinks to six out of seven continents in one business day due to its unique geographic location in the Mountain time zone. (Metro Denver Economic Development Corporation)
   - Denver South boasts a close proximity to Denver International Airport (DEN) and Centennial Airport.
     - DEN was the sixth-busiest airport in the nation and 18th-busiest worldwide in terms of passenger traffic in 2016. (U.S. Bureau of Transportation Statistics, 2017; Airports Council International 2017; and Denver International Airport, 2017)
     - Centennial Airport is the premier reliever and business airport in the state to connect people, places and product. Supporting 23 business parks and 6,000-plus businesses in the south metro area, the airport provides all services necessary to compete in the global economy. The airport generates more than $1.3 billion for the region annually, the highest among the state's general aviation airports. (Centennial Airport, 2016; Colorado Department of Transportation, Division of Aeronautics, 2016)
   - Denver South is supported by access to national and global business hubs through a strong transportation infrastructure.
     - The region is served by I-25 and E-470, giving residents and workers easy access to DEN and downtown Denver.
     - Businesses and residents also have access to Regional Transportation Districts E and F light rail lines connecting the Denver South region to Metro Denver and DEN with six light rail stations, numerous bus connections, bike storage, and call and ride services.
     - The R Line, providing service along I-225, opened in early 2017 and construction of the southeastern light rail along I-25 that will add 2.3 miles of track and three more stations is underway. The completed rail and stations at the Sky Ridge Hospital complex, the Lone Tree City Center, and RidgeGate Parkway will open in 2019. (Denver South Economic Development Partnership, 2017)
   - Metro Denver's central U.S. location on the 105th meridian at the midpoint between Tokyo and Frankfurt makes it a strategic choice for conducting national and international business. (Metro Denver Economic Development Corporation)

4. Low to moderate costs of doing business

- Colorado ranked fifth on *Forbes*' 2016 "Best States for Business" list. The state received its highest rankings for labor supply (first overall), economic climate (second overall), growth prospects (third overall), and regulatory environment (ninth overall). (*Forbes*, 2016)
- Metro Denver ranked No. 1 among *Forbes*' 2016 "Best Places for Business and Careers" for the second-straight year. Four other Colorado metropolitan areas were included on the list. The Colorado Springs metro area ranked 12th, Fort Collins ranked 18th, Boulder ranked 26th, and Greeley ranked 51st. (*Forbes*, 2016)
- Installed or downloaded standardized software products are exempted from state sales and use tax. The City and County of Denver also exempts custom software products from sales tax. (Colorado Department of Revenue)
- Denver South's office rental rates averaged $24.51 per square foot in the first quarter of 2017, making the region's office market highly competitive with other major markets in the U.S. Denver South has nearly 42.5 million square feet of office space and roughly 5,000 acres of ready-to-be-developed land. (CoStar Realty Information, Q1 2017; Denver South Economic Development Partnership)

5. An overall better quality of life

- Highlands Ranch (sixth) and Centennial (13th) ranked among *MONEY Magazine*'s 2016 "Best Places to Live" list. (*MONEY Magazine*, 2016)
- Centennial ranked among the "Best Cities for Young Families" in 2017. The city ranked No. 49 out of 510 U.S. communities. (Apartment List, 2017)
- Douglas County had the fifth-highest median household income in the nation at $109,926, compared with the national median household income of $55,775. (Headlight Data, 2016)
- The Denver South region boasts a variety of quality living options from expansive apartment complexes to single-family homes surrounded by open spaces. One of the largest and most comprehensive master planned communities in the nation—RidgeGate—is located conveniently along I-25 and Lincoln Avenue in Lone Tree and offers over 3,500 acres of mixed-use density. The area is also known for beautiful neighborhoods, award-winning schools, and popular parks and trail systems. (Denver South Economic Development Partnership, 2017)
- Metro Denver ranked as the third-fittest metropolitan area in the U.S. in 2016. Increased physical activity, low obesity and diabetes rates, and access to recreational opportunities contributed to its high rank. (American College of Sports Medicine, 2016)
- Nearly 30 public and private golf courses are located in the South Metro Corridor and world-class ski resorts are located within 100 miles of the Corridor. (Denver South Economic Development Partnership)

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