

# In Profile

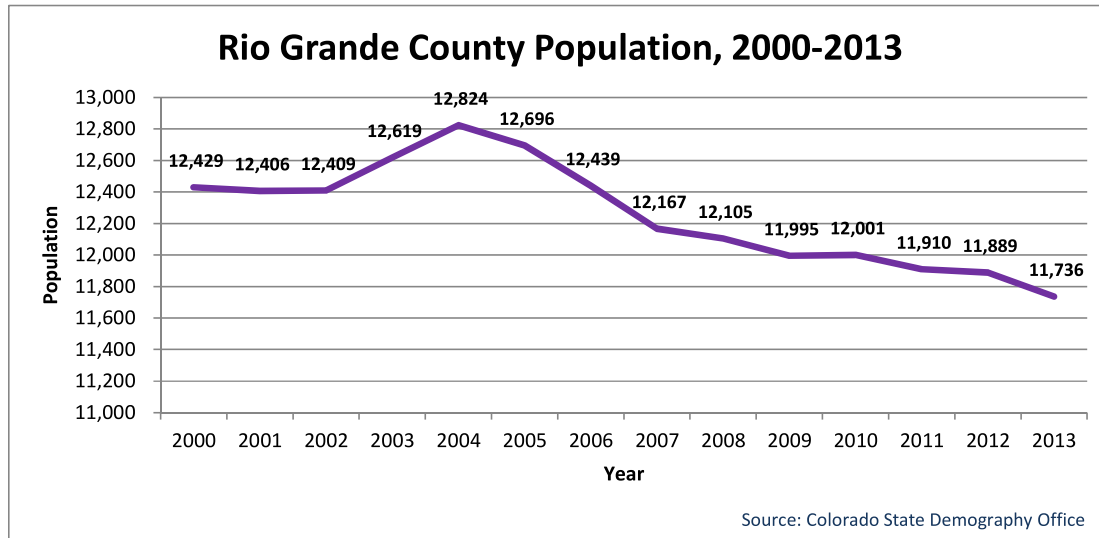
# Rio Grande County

## Rio Grande County At A Glance

2013 Population (SDO)	11,736
Pop. Growth 2000-2013 (SDO)	-5.5%
Median Household Income (ACS 09-13)	\$38,993
County Employment 2014 (SDO)	5,347

Source: Colorado State Demography Office: ACS 2009-2013, U.S. Census Bureau

## Population



- Rio Grande County’s population declined 5.6% between 2000 and 2013 – from 12,429 in 2000 to 11,736 in 2013.
- Most recently, the county lost 265 people in the period from 2010 to 2013.
- The Rio Grande County accounts for 25% of the population of the San Luis Valley.
- Colorado grew by 4.26 percent during the period of 2010 to 2013.

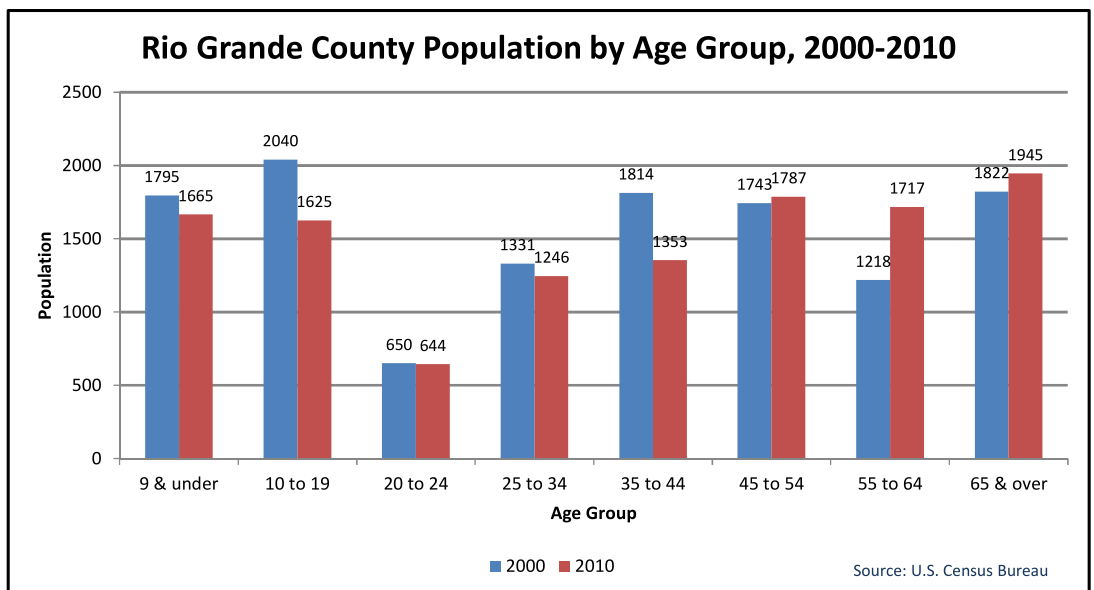
**Median Age**  
**41**

**Per Capita Income**  
**\$20,557**

**39.4%**  
**Homes with no Mortgage**

**No health insurance**  
**20.6%**

Since 2000, Rio Grande County has seen increases in age groups 45 and older. A significant increase is in the group 55 to 64. Children 19 and under declined 545 during the decade. The number of young adults 20 to 24 remained constant, but make up only 5% of the population. Working age adults 35 to 44 dropped 461.



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# Housing & Households

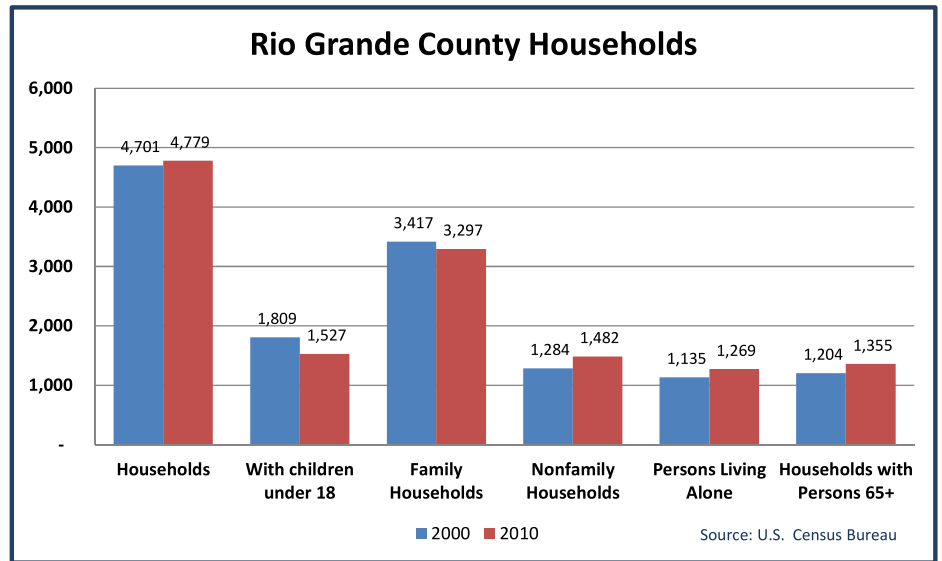
## Rio Grande County Housing Units

	2000	2010
Total Housing Units	6003	6630
Occupied Units	4701	4779
Owner-Occupied	3323	3218
Renter-Occupied	1378	1561
Vacant Units	1302	1851
Seasonal	761	1309
Other Vacant	541	542

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

- The vacancy rate was 30% in 2010, excluding seasonal housing it was 8.2%.
- Owner-occupied units are 67.3% of occupied units.
- Over 32.6% of occupied units are rental units.
- Occupied units account for 72% of total units.
- Total housing units grew by 627 from 2000 to 2010.

- From 2000 to 2010, the number of households in Rio Grande County increased by only 78.
- Nonfamily households increased 198 while family households declined 120.
- About 28.3% of households are persons 65 and older and increased 151.
- Persons living alone increased 134 and account for 26.5% of households.
- The number of households with children fell 282.



# Race & Ethnicity

## Rio Grande County Pop. by Race/Ethnicity

	2000	2010	2010%
Total	12,413	11,982	100
White	9,177	9,373	78.2
Afro-American	43	43	0.36
Native	157	220	1.8
Asian	28	42	0.4
Pacific Islander	3	2	0.02
Other Race	2,662	1,908	15.9
Two or More	343	388	3.2
Hispanic*	5,172	5,086	42.4

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

- In Rio Grande County, 21.7% identify as a race other than White. That reflects a greater diversity than the state as a whole, where 20.9% identify racially as other than White.
- Under half in Rio Grande County identify as Hispanic (42.4%), which compares to 20.8% in Colorado.
- The share of Rio Grande County residents that identify as Hispanic declined from 2000 to 2010. In 2000, 41.6% identified as Hispanic.

\* Hispanic origin is considered an ethnicity, not a race by the U.S. Census Bureau. Hispanics may be of any race.

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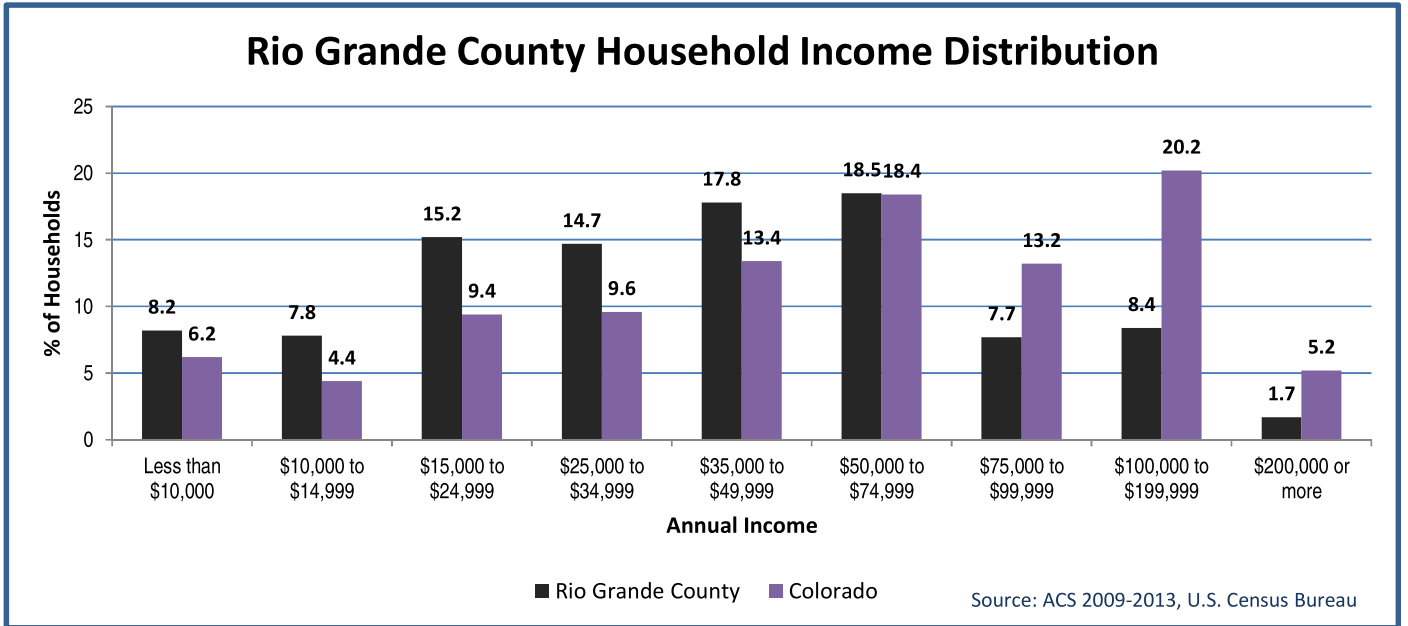
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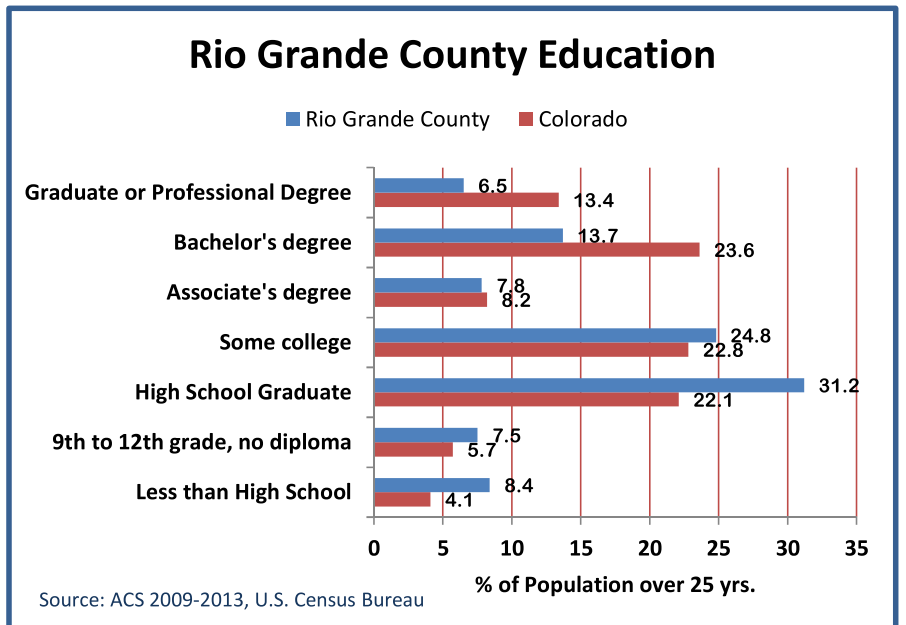
# Income

The chart below shows the distribution of income in Rio Grande County compared to the rest of Colorado. The county has one-third of residents making less than \$25,000 annually, 31.2%. That compares to 20% statewide making less than \$25,000 per year. Rio Grande County reflects a higher percentage than the rest of the state of those with an annual income of \$35,000 to \$49,999 and is on par with the state for those making \$50,000 to \$74,999. At higher incomes levels, Rio Grande County lags behind state. The greatest contrast is with incomes over \$100,000 where 10.1% in the county are above that income level. Statewide, 25.4% have an annual income above \$100,000. The Median Household Income (MHI) for Rio Grande County is \$38,993, lower than the state MHI of \$58,433.



# Education

Rio Grande County is behind the state in the percentage of residents with college degrees with 27.7% holding Associate's, Bachelor's or advanced degrees. Statewide, 45.2% have college degrees. However, 31.2% in Rio Grande County are high school graduates, compared to only 22.1% in Colorado. The county has a higher percentage – 15.9% - of those who have not finished high school, compared to 9.8% statewide.



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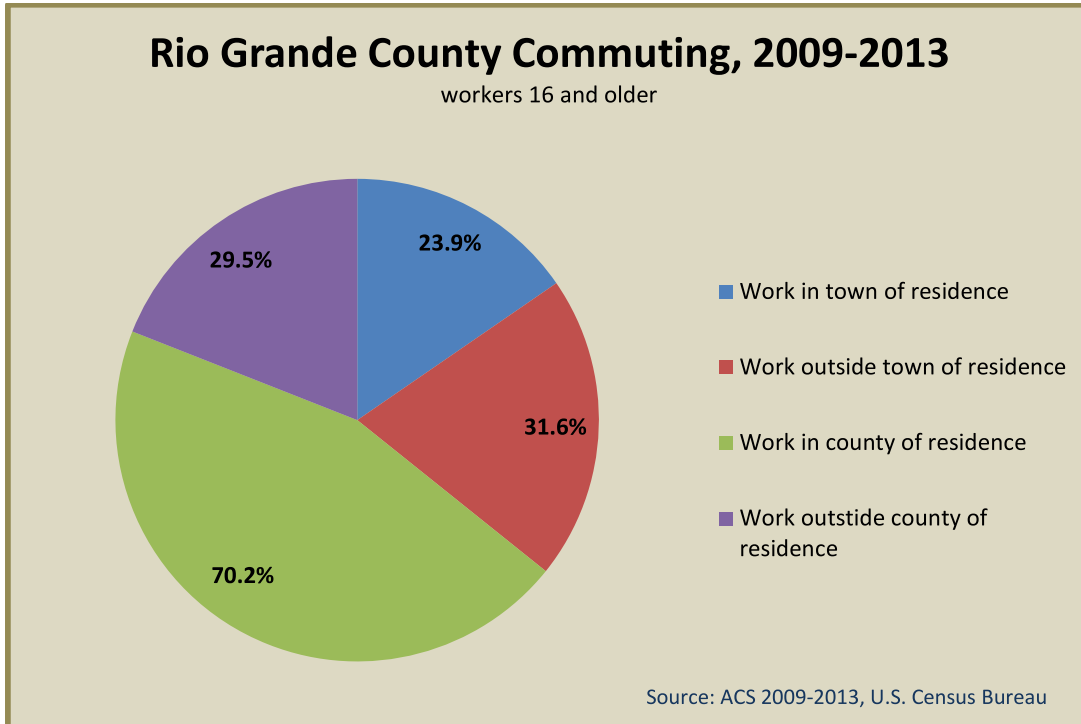
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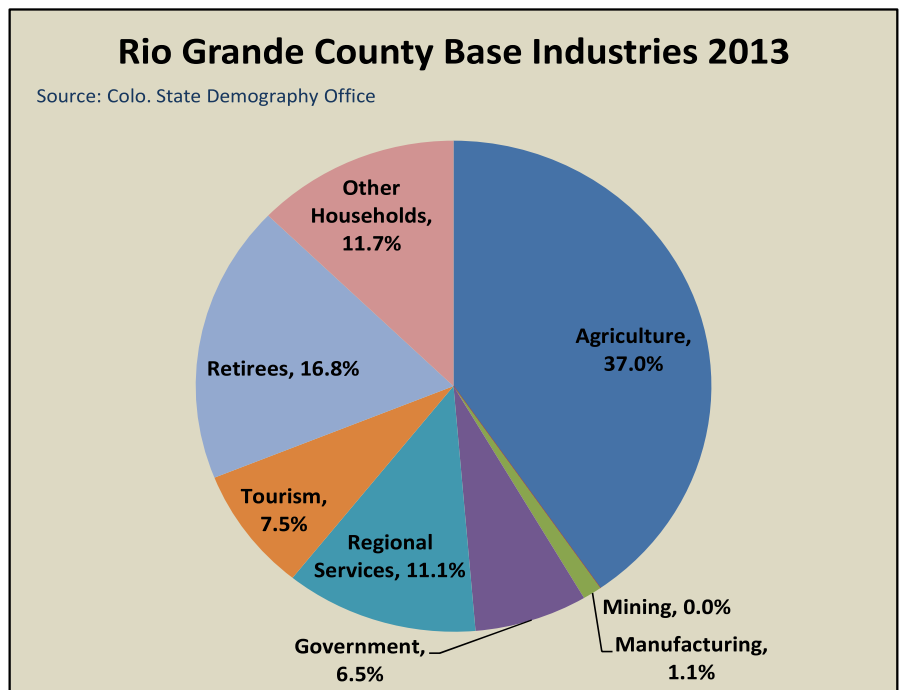
# Commuting

Where workers live and where they work tells us where jobs are located. Commuting affects roads and access to employees. According to the graph below, 70.2% of workers who live in Rio Grande County work in the county; 23.9% work in their town of residence. 29.5% of those living in Rio Grande County work outside the county. About one-third, 31.6%, work outside their town of residence.



## Jobs & the Economy

An analysis of Base Industries in Rio Grande County shows the importance of Agriculture to the county's economy, accounting for 37%. Retirees (16.8%), Other Households (11.7%) and Regional Services (11.1%) also account for large segments of the county's economy. Tourism represents 7.5% and Government 6.5%. Base Industries are those that bring new dollars to the region.



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A look at jobs by industry, below, indicates where the jobs are in the local economy. The top job sectors in Rio Grande County are:

- Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting
- Health Care & Social Assistance
- Public Administration
- Educational Services
- Accommodation & Food Services

Total average employment for Rio Grande County in 2014 is 5,347.

### Rio Grande County Job & Population Forecast

	Population	Total Jobs
2010	12,001	5,879
2015	12,124	5,694
2020	13,165	6,205
2025	13,892	6,647
2030	14,777	6,955

Source: Colorado State Demography Office

Forecasting job and population growth to 2030, the State Demography Office projects population will grow at an annual rate of 1.7% to 1.1%. The population over 65 years of age will continue to grow as a percentage of the total population, which could drive job growth in service industries and indicate a migration of workers to replace those retiring from the labor force over the next 10 years.

#### Rio Grande County Jobs by Sector, 2014

Accommodation and food	381
Admin and waste	114
Agriculture	1,303
Arts	73
Construction	300
Education	23
Finance activities	140
Government	955
Health Services	453
Information	10
Management of companies and enterprise	-
Manufacturing	140
Mining	-
Other services, except public administration	334
Professional and business services	150
Real estate	95
Retail Trade	410
Transportation and warehousing	90
Utilities	65
Wholesale trade	282
<b>Total Jobs</b>	<b>5,347</b>

Source: Colorado State Demography Office

#### Rio Grande County Economic Industry Mix

Agriculture	24%
Mining	0%
Utilities	1%
Construction	6%
Manufacturing	3%
Wholesale trade	5%
Retail Trade	8%
Transportation and warehousing	2%
Information	0%
Finance activities	3%
Real estate	2%
Professional and business services	3%
Management of companies and enterprise	0%
Admin and waste	2%
Education	0%
Health Services	8%
Arts	1%
Accommodation and food	7%
Other services, except public administration	6%
Government	18%

*This community profile was compiled by the San Luis Valley Development Resources Group and the San Luis Valley Council of Governments, with assistance from the Colorado State Demography Office.*

*For further information, contact Director of Research Hew Hallock at (719) 589-6099, or e-mail [hhallock@slvdrq.org](mailto:hhallock@slvdrq.org).*

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