Alamosa County

David Acosta, Austin Kennedy, Harley Nguyen, Madison Tatum
# Alamosa County

## Community Quick Facts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Alamosa County</th>
<th>Colorado</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population (2016)*</td>
<td>16,006</td>
<td>5,534,240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population Change (2010 to 2016)*</td>
<td>532</td>
<td>483,908</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Employment (2016)†</td>
<td>10,092</td>
<td>3,231,769</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median Household Income†</td>
<td>$32,385</td>
<td>$62,520</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median House Value†</td>
<td>$141,600</td>
<td>$264,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of Population with Incomes lower than the Poverty Line†</td>
<td>31.4%</td>
<td>12.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of Population Born in Colorado†</td>
<td>57.9%</td>
<td>42.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Source: State Demography Office
† Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012-2016 American Community Survey, Print Date: 10/25/2018
Overview

- Foundation
  - Socio-Economic Assets
  - Base Analysis
- Resiliency
  - Proprietors
  - Establishments
  - Income
- Opioids
- Conclusion- So What?
Socio-Economic Assets: Age Demographics

- Alamosa County generally has a younger age demographic due to a couple of different factors:
  - Adams State University.
  - Alamosa County is a sort of hub, acting as the largest area of the San Luis Valley and surrounding areas in Southern Colorado.

- Age Cohorts:
  - Median Age: 30.2 years old
  - 24.8% <= 18 years old
  - 23% between 25-44 years old
  - 26% between 45 and 64 years old
Socio-Economic Assets: Household Income

- A less successful area of Alamosa County is its average household income.
  - 52% of all households in the County are below $34,000
  - 25% are below $15,000
  - 15% are below $25,000
- With 52% of all households below $34,000, the average household income is $47,163.
  - Can infer that there are a substantial concentration of households that are well above that.
Socio-Economic Assets - Educational Attainment

- With Adams State central to the county, it would be assumed that Alamosa would have a relatively high educational attainment rate.
  - As a percent of population 25 years and over:
    - 27% have a high school diploma
    - 15.4% have a bachelor’s degree
    - 9% have a masters degree or higher
- This is not the case - While Adams State does have a a few thousand students enrolled, a large portion of Alamosa’s jobs are focused in areas that do not require a higher education.
  - The two bigger industries: Agriculture & tourism
  - Substantial leakage of college graduates
Base Analysis - Job Concentration
Base Analysis - Employment Trends
Base Analysis - Employment Trends

Retail Trade

Construction
Resiliency

Total Employment Relative to 2001

- Colorado
- Alamosa
- Nonmetro
Resiliency

- Alamosa is resilient
  - Lags behind CO, but above nonmetro average
  - Have far exceeded pre-recession levels of employment
  - Diversified (Government is highest percentage of total employment at 23.62%)
- If Alamosa is resilient, in what way are they struggling?
  - Low median income ($32,385)
  - High poverty rate (31.4%)
- Where to go from here?
  - Analyze industries moving in, moving out, and what they pay
## Industrial Change

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>Total Employment in 2017 Relative to 2001</th>
<th>Annual wages per employee (QCEW)</th>
<th>% of total employment</th>
<th>LQ (Total Employment)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Alamosa</td>
<td>Colorado</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Jobs</td>
<td>1.10</td>
<td>1.22</td>
<td></td>
<td>100.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>0.90</td>
<td>1.06</td>
<td>$40,749.73</td>
<td>7.77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mining</td>
<td>0.32</td>
<td>1.95</td>
<td></td>
<td>0.28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilities</td>
<td>1.46</td>
<td>1.04</td>
<td>$111,363.00</td>
<td>5.77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>0.88</td>
<td>1.02</td>
<td>$45,048.00</td>
<td>5.07%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>1.15</td>
<td>0.81</td>
<td>$34,879.00</td>
<td>1.23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wholesale trade</td>
<td>0.84</td>
<td>1.08</td>
<td>$50,955.00</td>
<td>1.92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail Trade</td>
<td>0.92</td>
<td>1.10</td>
<td>$27,374.00</td>
<td>12.12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation and warehousing</td>
<td>1.38</td>
<td>1.35</td>
<td>$43,785.00</td>
<td>2.52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information</td>
<td>0.72</td>
<td>0.72</td>
<td>$29,806.00</td>
<td>0.94%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance activities</td>
<td>1.40</td>
<td>1.09</td>
<td>$50,455.00</td>
<td>3.49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Real estate</td>
<td>1.13</td>
<td>1.27</td>
<td>$28,449.00</td>
<td>2.30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional and business services</td>
<td>1.15</td>
<td>1.44</td>
<td>$47,202.00</td>
<td>2.65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management of companies and enterprise</td>
<td>1.04</td>
<td>2.19</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.04%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admin and waste</td>
<td>1.77</td>
<td>1.21</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>2.16</td>
<td>1.89</td>
<td>$32,065.00</td>
<td>0.97%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Services</td>
<td>1.36</td>
<td>1.60</td>
<td>$41,187.00</td>
<td>17.38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts</td>
<td>0.75</td>
<td>1.49</td>
<td>$19,520.00</td>
<td>0.87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accommodation and food</td>
<td>1.27</td>
<td>1.35</td>
<td>$14,594.00</td>
<td>8.76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other services, except public</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.27</td>
<td>$23,490.00</td>
<td>4.61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>1.14</td>
<td>1.27</td>
<td></td>
<td>23.62%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Industrial Change

- Incoming high-paying industries
  - Utilities
  - Manufacturing
  - Transportation and Warehousing
  - Finance Activities
  - Professional and Business Services
  - Health Services

- Outgoing high-paying industries
  - Agriculture
  - Construction
  - Wholesale Trade

- Many industries still lag behind CO both in the present and in growth over time.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Enterprise Employment Size</th>
<th>Number of Firms</th>
<th>Number of Establishments</th>
<th>Employment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>445</td>
<td>487</td>
<td>5484</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;20</td>
<td>319</td>
<td>320</td>
<td>1553</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-99</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>1226</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100-499</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>934</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500+</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>1771</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Establishments

• Big majority of employment comes from small business

• Births and Deaths
  ○ High level of births and deaths shows that Alamosa County is dynamic
  ○ Finance, Construction, and Retail Trade are high paying industries that showed a high amount of births and deaths
Proprietors

Proprietor/Total Jobs Ratio 2001-2017

- Colorado
- Alamosa
Proprietors
Income

Median annual income: $32,385
Income

Median Household Income in Alamosa County in 2016
Income

- Less than CO state except Wholesale Trade and Construction
- Highest earnings: Wholesale Trade
- Lowest earnings: Arts
Income

- Men’s salaries > Women’s salaries
- Highest income: driver (men), elementary & middle school teachers (women)
- Lowest income: Secretaries & Administrative Assistants (men), Retail Salespersons (women)
Income

- Increase: $7,000
- 30% lower than in state
Opioids

- Made from opium => manage pain
- Highest proportion during 2014-2016 period
- 2016: decrease slightly

Figure 1: Prescriptions Dispensed by Drug Class, Alamosa County, Colorado, 2014-2016
Opioids

- The number of prescriptions per patient fluctuated from 1 to 65.
- The number of opioid prescriptions per patient increased with age.
  - 2% of 14 and younger age group uses 5 or more Rx’s, however.
  - 35% of 55 and older age group use the same number.
Opioids

- Prescription rates for opioids increased in the three-year period
- It peaked in 2015
Opioids

Solution:

- Taking smaller opioids doses.
- Naloxone: restore normal respiration to a person whose breathing has slowed or stopped due to overdosing with prescription opioids pain medication.
Conclusion So What?

- **Strengths**
  - Resilient job industries
  - Regional hub
  - Tourism
  - Adams State

- **Weaknesses**
  - High poverty, low income
  - Outflow of graduates
  - Opioid crisis

- **Recommendations**