

SOUTHWEST REGION

Introduction

The Southwest region includes some of Colorado's most scenic mountain ranges. The San Juan and West Elk Mountains are prominent landscape features and recreation attractions among the 10.3 million acres of land in southwest Colorado. Many people refer to the San Juans as the "Switzerland of America". With over seven million acres of public land, recreationists visit the area for its renowned outdoor pursuits including: skiing, fishing, hiking, climbing, and boating. Mountain biking in the Southwest is renowned and is a major economic influence, particularly in Durango and Crested Butte.

Cultural and historical investigators will find numerous ghost towns, abandoned mining camps, and remnants of ancient civilizations.

Physiographic Description

Higher elevations are heavily forested, and this region includes portions of Rio Grande, San Juan, Uncompahgre, and Gunnison National Forests. South and west of the Rockies, the terrain consists of high plateaus and mesas. Woodland and "pygmy" pinyon pine vegetation is common, and several kinds of cacti and yucca are found at low elevations in the south.

Northern areas of this region are drained by the Colorado River Basin. The southwest corner contains spectacular high desert scenery.

Major Tourism and Recreation Attractions

National Park Lands: Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park, Curecanti National Recreation Area, Hovenweep National Monument, Mesa Verde National Park

US Forest Service Forest Lands: National Forests: Grand Mesa, San Juan, Uncompahgre, Gunnison, Rio Grande, San Isabel, Wilderness Areas: West Elk, Maroon Bells Snowmass, La Garita, Weminuche, Collegiades, Fossil Ridge, Raggeds, Uncompahgre, Powderhorn, Mount Sneffels, Lizard Head

Bureau of Land Management Areas: Gunnison Gorge National Conservation Area including Gunnison Gorge, Flat Top, and Gunnison River/Tri-State

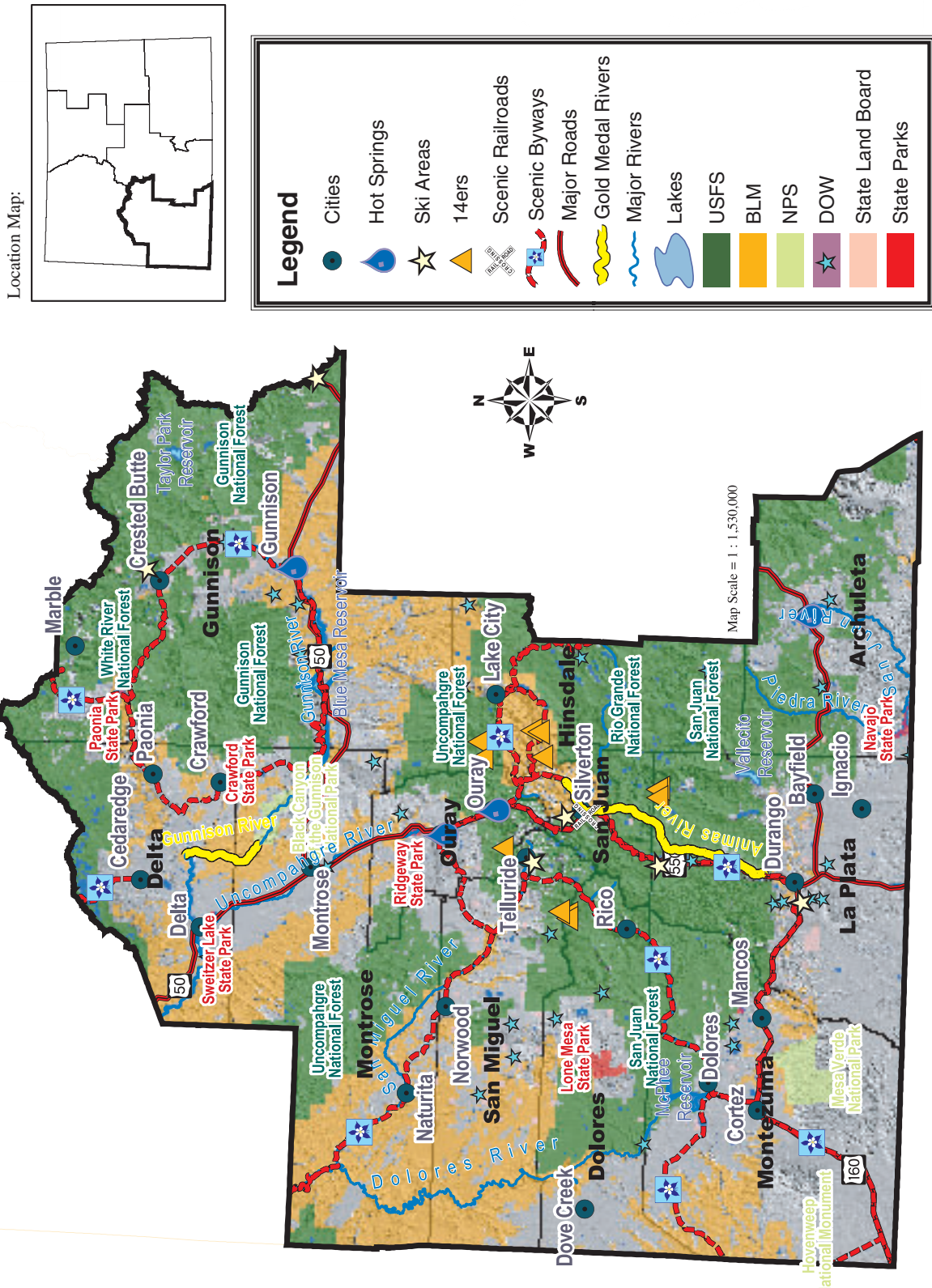
Special Recreation Management Areas: San Miguel, Uncompahgre Plateau, North Fork, Escalante, Alpine Triangle, Powderhorn, Cochetopa, Hartman Rocks, Dolores River, Alpine Triangle, Durango Urban Interface Community, Grandview Ridge, Animas Mountain

Table 110: Projected Population Estimates and Percent Changes for the Region

County	July - 2002	July - 2005	July - 2010	July - 2015	% Change 2002 - 2015
Archuleta	10,977	11,877	13,914	15,974	31.3%
Delta	29,221	30,316	33,133	35,799	18.4%
Dolores	1,859	1,846	1,873	1,914	2.9%
Gunnison	14,051	14,267	14,914	15,355	8.5%
Hinsdale	770	783	819	845	8.9%
La Plata	46,265	48,025	52,219	55,703	16.9%
Montezuma	24,120	25,028	27,160	29,365	17.9%
Montrose	35,252	36,611	39,934	43,369	18.7%
Ouray	3,974	4,069	4,340	4,530	12.3%
San Juan	574	585	609	632	9.2%
San Miguel	7,166	7,530	8,157	8,512	15.8%
Regional Totals and Percent Changes	174,229	180,937	197,072	211,998	17.8%

Source: DOLA Demography Section, 2003.

Map 17: Southwest Recreation Attractions



Source, Colorado State Parks GIS, 2003.

State Parks: Mancos State Park, Navajo State Park, Ridgway State Park, Sweitzer State Park, Crawford State Park, Paonia State Park

State Wildlife Areas: There are 60 SWAs in the region.

14er's: Uncompahgre, Wetterhorn, Mt. Sneffels, Wilson, Mt. Wilson, El Diente, Sunlight, Mt. Eolus, Windom, San Luis

Ski resorts: Durango Mountain Resort, Telluride Mountain, Monarch Ski Area, Crested Butte Mountain Resort, Silverton Mountain

Scenic and Historic Byways: Silver Thread, San Juan Skyway, Trail of the Ancients, Alpine Loop, West Elk Loop,

Cultural and historic sites: Fort Uncompahgre, Anasazi Heritage Center, Ute Mountain Ute Tribal Park, Crow Canyon Archaeological Area, Ute Museum

Hot springs: Orvis Hot Springs Resort, Ouray Hot Springs Pool, The Weisbaden Hot Springs Spa and Lodge, Pagosa Hot Springs, Trimble Hot Springs

Ghost towns: Animas Forks, Howardsville, Gothic, Tin Cup, Crystal, Ashcroft

Points of Interest and other recreation options: Durango-Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad, Four Corners Monument

Local Profile

Major Communities

The Southwest region consists of 11 counties: Archuleta, Delta, Dolores, Gunnison, Hinsdale, La Plata, Montezuma, Montrose, Ouray, San Juan, and San Miguel.

Major towns and cities within these counties include Cortez, Delta, Durango, Gunnison, Olathe, Pagosa Springs, Paonia, and Telluride.

Table 111: 2000 Census Data by County

Median Household Income	
Archuleta	\$37,901
Delta	\$32,785
Dolores	\$32,916
Gunnison	\$36,196
Hinsdale	\$37,279
La Plata	\$40,159
Montezuma	\$32,083
Montrose	\$35,234
Ouray	\$42,019
San Juan	\$30,764
San Miguel	\$48,514
Regional Average	\$36,895
Colorado Average	\$47,203

Median Age	
Archuleta	40.8
Delta	42.3
Dolores	42.4
Gunnison	30.4
Hinsdale	43.9
La Plata	35.6
Montezuma	38
Montrose	38.8
Ouray	43.4
San Juan	43.7
San Miguel	34.2
Regional Average	39.4
Colorado Average	34.3

Persons Below Poverty Level (%)	
Archuleta	11.70%
Delta	12.10%
Dolores	13.10%
Gunnison	15.00%
Hinsdale	7.20%
La Plata	11.70%
Montezuma	16.40%
Montrose	12.60%
Ouray	7.20%
San Juan	20.90%
San Miguel	10.40%
Regional Average	12.57%
Colorado Average	9.30%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.

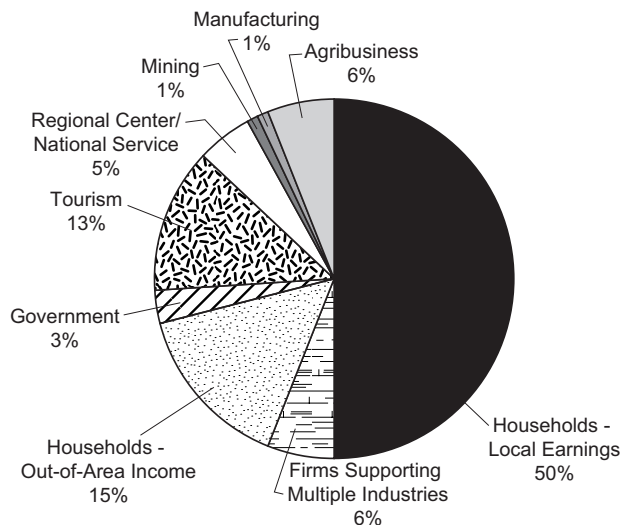
Sub-region Descriptions

To effectively describe the region, the following sub-regions have been created:

Sub-region	Counties
West Central	Delta, Gunnison, Hinsdale, Montrose, Ouray, San Miguel
Four Corners	Archuleta, Dolores, La Plata, Montezuma, San Juan



Figure 91: West Central Employment Shares by Major Industry & Household Groups, 2001



Source: DOLA Demography Section, 2003.

Sub-Region: West Central

Economic Profile

Montrose and Delta are well known as popular retirement locations, and the employment data backs this up. Households spending out-of-area income, such as retirement pensions, support more employment than any industry in the West Central sub-region. Tourism follows closely behind, the second largest source of local employment. Agriculture is next in importance, reflecting a long and continuing history of ranching and crops in this part of Colorado. Fifty-six percent of all employment is supported by local earnings and firms supporting multiple base industries – a typical characteristic of local Colorado economies.

Income generation in the area is very similar to employment. Income in the retail and service sectors, which is strongly associated with retiree and tourist spending, lags behind other parts of the economy. This is not as apparent in the West Central sub-region as these two basic industries lead income generation. While agribusiness employment ranks third among basic industries, total income from these firms ranks sixth, slightly larger than manufacturing.

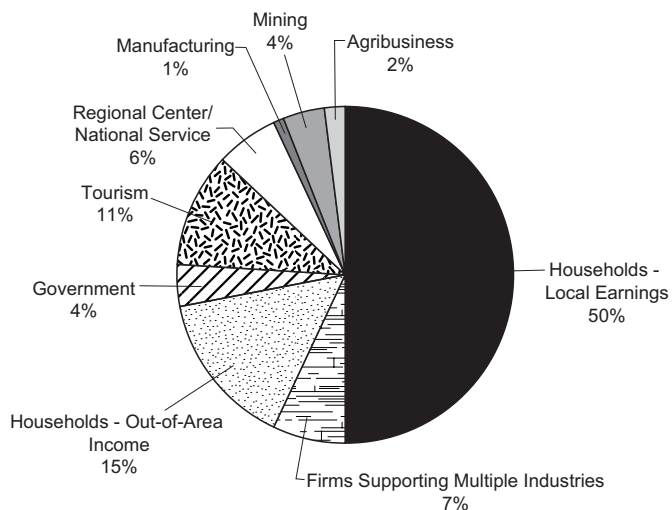
The West Central sub-region is generally an affordable place to live. For most counties, the cost-of-living index is at or below the Colorado average. However,

San Miguel County, nationally known for skiing and summer festivals in Telluride, is the exception. Telluride is one of the most expensive places to live in Colorado.

In all counties, the median household income index is between 80% and 90% of the cost-of-living index. While the cost of living is considered low, it is still challenging for many locals to make ends meet in West Central Colorado.

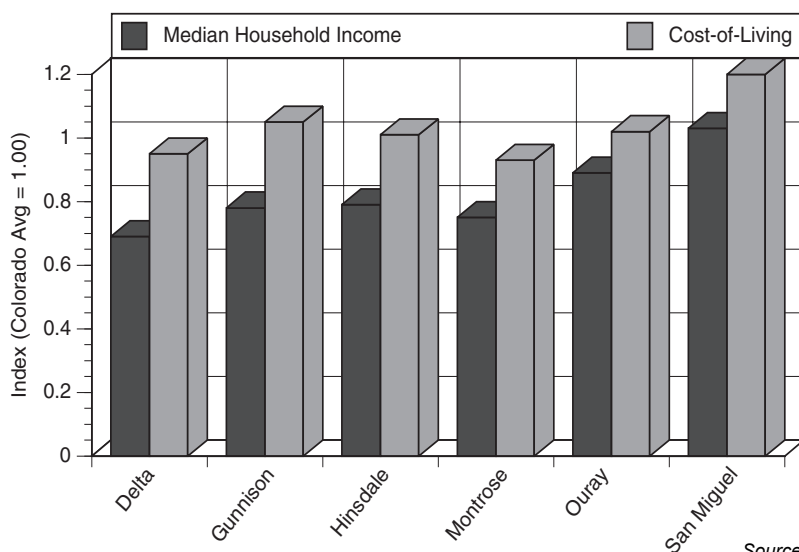


Figure 93: West Central Income Shares by Major Industry & Household Groups, 2001



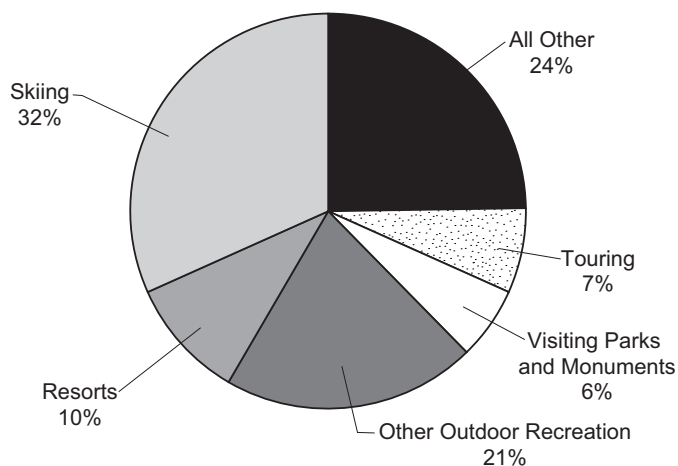
Source: DOLA Demography Section, 2003.

Figure 92: West Central Median Household Income and Cost-of-Living Indices by County, 2001



Source: CSU Cooperative Extension, 2002.

Figure 94: West Central Employment Shares Generated by Tourism and Travel Categories, 1999



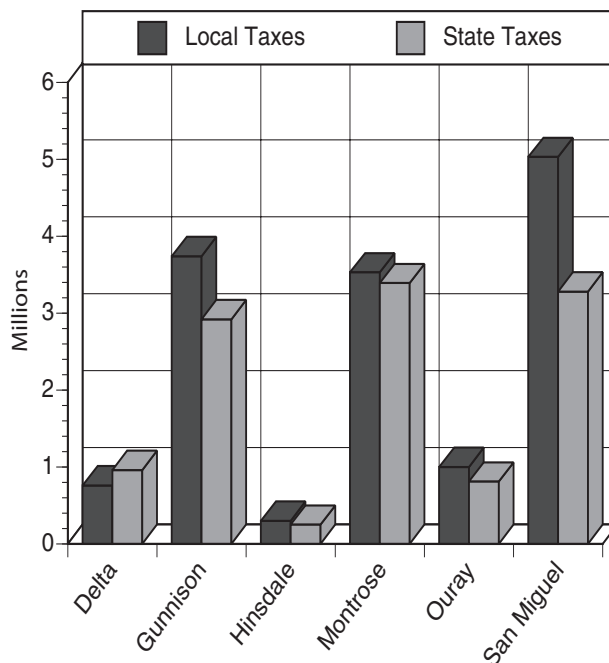
Source: Center for Business & Economic Forecasting, Inc., DOLA Demography Section, 2001

Economic Profile of Tourism

Tourists visit the region year-round, creating a balance between tourism in the winter and other season. Skiing accounts for 32% of tourism while the combination of touring, visiting parks & monuments, and other outdoor recreation accounts for 34% of tourism. Although downhill skiing is the foremost tourism attraction, outdoor recreation activities of all kinds support a collective 66% of the tourism industry. Telluride is the major skiing destination in the region, while most surrounding counties are popular summer and fall festival destinations. Gunnison County benefits from winter tourism at Crested Butte, summer activities around local reservoirs, and fall hunting on public lands.

State and local taxes generated by travel and tourism expenditures vary tremendously within this sub-region. The local governments in San Miguel County received nearly \$5 million from tourism, or nearly 94% of the region's total tax receipts in 2000.

Figure 95: West Central and Local Taxes Generated by Tourism & Travel, 2000



Source: Dean Runyan and Assoc., 2001.

Montrose and Gunnison Counties collect well over \$3 million in tax receipts annually. Taxes from tourism account for slightly over 60% of total tax receipts in Gunnison and Ouray Counties.

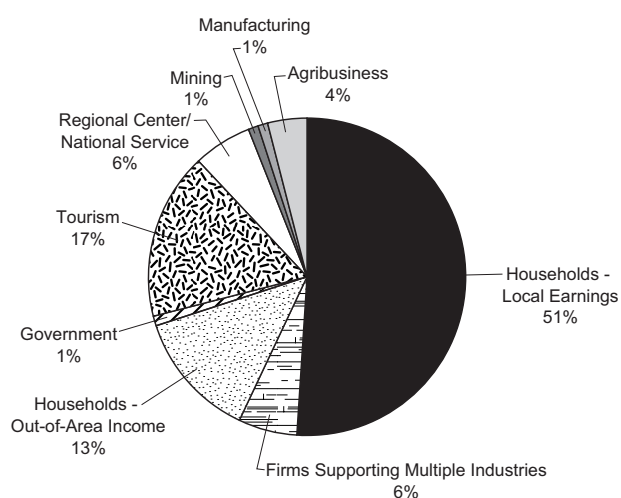
Sub-Region: Four Corners

Economic Profile

The Four Corner's economy is heavily influenced by tourism and out-of-area income. Tourism is the leading employer in the Four Corners sub-region, which is known for year-round tourist attractions such as the Durango-Silverton Railroad and Mesa Verde National Park. At least 17% of all area employment can be traced to tourism. Retirees and those sometimes called "amenity migrants" spend income earned out-of-area and provide at least 13% of all employment. The remaining basic industries combined generate only 13% of area jobs. The additional 57% of employment is supported by local earnings and firms supporting multiple base industries which is typical of local Colorado economies.

This pattern of job generation described is also reflective of income generation in the area. Tourism and spending by retirees and "amenity migrants" again dominate the income generation. Regional Center income ranks third, suggesting that higher paying business and professional services are important to this part of Colorado.

Figure 96: Four Corners Employment Shares by Major Industry & Household Groups, 2001



Source: DOLA Demography Section, 2003.

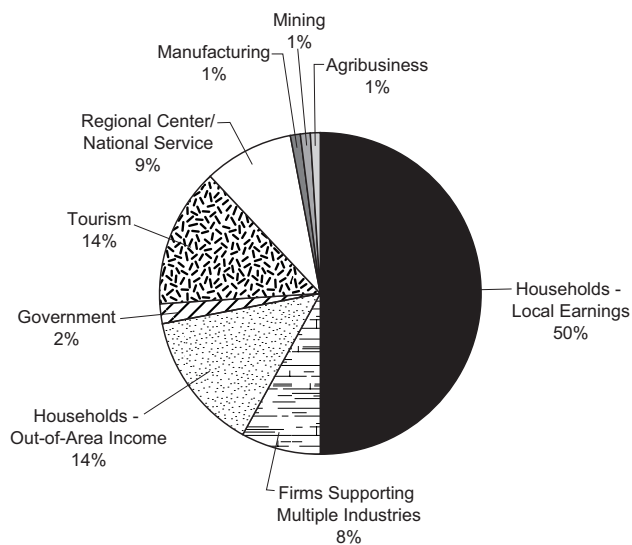
Living in the Four Corners sub-region is slightly cheaper than the Colorado average. While this is generally true, specific tourism destinations such as Durango have high housing costs that make them expensive places to live. Choosing to live in the Four Corners can mean an economic struggle for some. The median household income index ranges from 65% of the Colorado average in San Juan County to 85% in La Plata County.

Economic Profile of Tourism

Tourism may be more balanced in the Four Corners sub-region than anywhere else in Colorado. A variety of attractions and activities in all seasons provide a stable tourism industry. Outdoor recreation on both public and private lands dominates the tourism industry. Only a quarter of all tourism employment is generated by leisure and travel activities other than outdoor recreation.

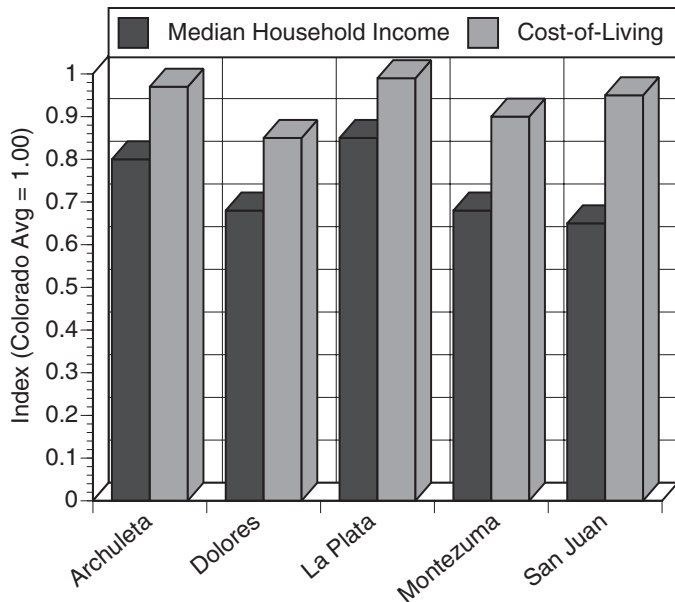
Local taxes generated by tourism activities are very unevenly distributed throughout the sub-region. Tourism activity is centered in Durango, and consequently tax receipts are the highest in La Plata County. However, San Juan County is by far the most reliant upon tourism-based tax receipts. Nearly 60% of all tax receipts in and around Silverton come from tourist activity. Dolores County collected less than \$100,000 in taxes from tourist activity in 2000, accounting for only 6% of total county tax receipts.

Figure 97: Four Corners Income Shares by Major Industry & Household Groups, 2001



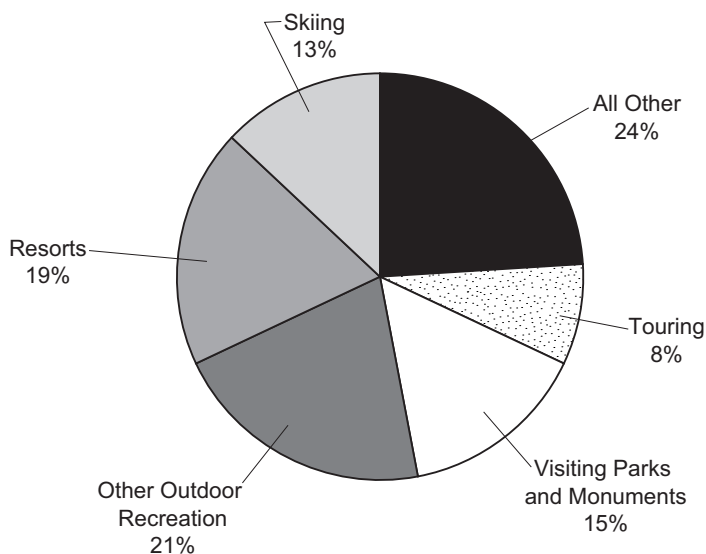
Source: DOLA Demography Section, 2003.

Figure 98: Four Corners Median Household Income and Cost-of-Living Indices by County, 2001



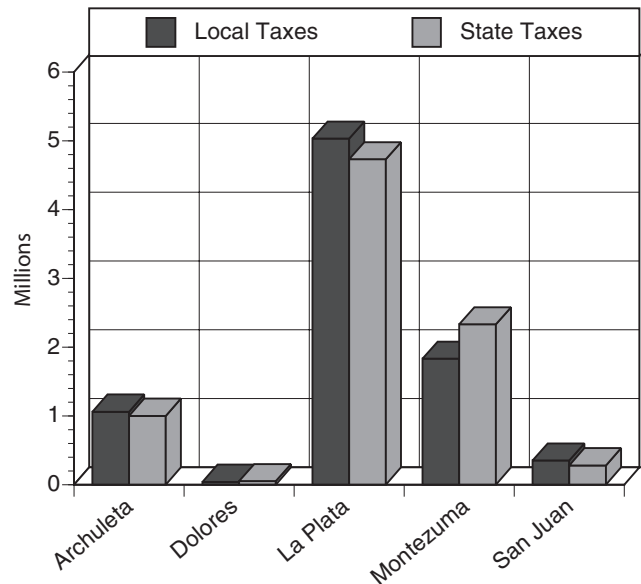
Source: CSU Cooperative Extension, 2002.

Figure 99: Four Corners Median Employment Shares Generated by Tourism and Travel Categories, 1999



Source: Center for Business & Economic Forecasting, Inc., DOLA, Demography Section, 2001.

Figure 100: Four Corners State and Local Taxes Generated by Tourism and Travel, 2000



Source: Dean Runyan and Assoc., 2001.

Regional Tourism and Visitor Recreation

Visitor Profiles

Information provided in this section is gathered from the Colorado State Parks Market Assessment Study completed by PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC). The following tables depict information on the demographics of survey respondents, preferred outdoor recreation destinations and activities, and increased visitation on the basis of proposed features. While this information was gathered for State Parks, the answers demonstrate user preferences relevant for other recreation managers.

Distinguishing between visitors and local residents helps characterize the similarities and differences in activities, preferences, and needs. Visitors were defined as those that travel more than 50 miles to the area and locals are considered residents living in the region.

Table 112: Demographic Profile of State Parks Visitors

	Southwest Region totals (%)	Local Residents (%)	Tourists (%)
Gender			
Male	53	52	59
Female	47	48	41
Age			
18 to 24	9	11	<1
25 to 34	16	19	8
35 to 44	22	23	17
45 to 54	27	28	25
55 to 64	13	11	22
65 and older	13	8	28
Education			
High school or less	27	29	22
Some college	37	35	39
College graduate	23	24	19
Post graduate	14	12	19
Marital status			
Single, no children	16	20	3
Single, children	10	11	8
Married/living with partner, no children	13	11	19
Married/living with partner, children	62	59	69
Gross Annual Income			
Under \$19,999 per year	12	11	16
\$20,000 - \$49,999 per year	52	51	53
Over \$50,000 per year	36	37	31
Ethnicity			
White	93	93	94
Hispanic	6	7	3
Black	<1	<1	<1
Asian	<1	<1	<1
Other	1	<1	3

Source: Colorado State Parks Market Assessment Study, 2003

(N=176)

(N=139)

(N=37)

Table 113: Why Locals and Tourists Visit State Parks

Reason for Visiting State Park	Southwest Region totals (%)	Local Residents (%)	Tourists (%)
To unwind/relax	18	16	28
Spend time with family and friends	47	51	34
Spend time on my own/get away from crowds	1	<1	3
To stay fit/exercise	1	1	<1
To blow off steam	1	1	<1
To be close to nature	2	3	1
View the scenery	2	1	3
To participate in a recreational activity that I love	20	20	19
To do something different	3	3	3
To get away from the usual demands of life	6	5	9

Source: Colorado State Parks Market Assessment Study, 2003

(N=176)

(N=139)

(N=37)

Table 114: What People Plan to Do During State Park Visit(s)

Activity	Southwest Region totals (%)	Local Residents (%)	Tourists (%)
Hiking/walking for pleasure	31	24	56
Fishing	28	23	47
Hunting	1	1	<1
Picnicking	35	37	25
Photography	13	12	17
Dog walking	14	12	19
Looking at visitor center exhibits	6	2	19
Swimming	43	50	17
Motorized boating	41	50	8
Bicycling	4	3	6
Horseback riding	<1	<1	<1
Rock climbing	1	1	3
Non-motorized boating	3	2	6
Naturalist-led programs	1	2	<1
Running	1	1	3
Rollerblading	<1	<1	<1
Nature/wildlife observation	18	16	28
Camping	26	19	53

Source: Colorado State Parks Market Assessment Study, 2003

(N=176)

(N=139)

(N=37)

Table 114: What People Plan to do During State Park Visit(s) (Cont.)

Activity	Southwest Region totals (%)	Local Residents (%)	Tourists (%)
Dirt bike riding	<1	<1	<1
Off-road vehicle activities	<1	<1	<1
Spending time with friends and family	1	1	<1
Rest/relaxation	<1	<1	<1
Work-related activity	1	1	<1
Attending special events/activities	<1	<1	<1
Other	3	4	<1

Source: Colorado State Parks Market Assessment Study, 2003

(N=176)

(N=139)

(N=37)

Table 116: First Choice Outdoor Recreation Destinations

(State Parks users and non-users)

Preferred Destination	Statewide (%)	Southwest (%)
Wilderness areas with little or no development	29	38
Large parks with a wide range of camping, trails, boating and fishing	27	21
Forests and lakes with limited trails, camping, boating and fishing	21	22
Rivers with boating and fishing	16	13
Community trails and community parks with ball fields and recreation centers	8	6

Source: Colorado State Parks Market Assessment Study, 2003

(N=1613)

(N=64)

Table 117: Information Sources Used When Planning Leisure Activities

(State Parks users and non-users)

Information Source	Statewide (%)	Southwest (%)
Recommendation from family/friends	87	83
Newspapers	62	57
Television	43	36
Radio ads	37	39
Internet	40	26
Entertainment magazines	20	15
Billboards	18	14

Source: Colorado State Parks Market Assessment Study, 2003

(N=1613)

(N=64)

Table 118: Outdoor Recreation Activities Participated in During the Last 2 Years

(State Parks users and non-users)

Activity	% of Statewide Respondents	% of Southwest Respondents
Picnicking	82	85
Trail recreation (hiking, biking, etc.)	74	73
Water recreation (swimming, sailing, etc.)	61	61
Tent camping	59	59
Fishing	53	62
Visiting historical sites	62	63
Motorized water recreation	29	33
RV/car camping	37	45
Bird/wildlife watching	52	61
Hunting	20	31
Winter sports (skiing, snowboarding, etc.)	36	30
Ball sports (golf, baseball, tennis)	44	35
Motorized trail recreation	31	47
Motorized winter sports	16	20

Source: Colorado State Parks Market Assessment Study, 2003

(N=1613)

(N=64)

Table 119: Participation in Leisure Activities

(average number of times per month)

(State Parks users and non-users)

Activity	Statewide Respondents	Southwest Respondents
Surfing the internet	11.3	7.5
Participating in recreational activities for exercise	8.7	8.1
Working in the garden	8.7	11.7
Go to the gym/indoor fitness activities	5.6	4.7
Outdoor leisure activities like camping, fishing, hunting	2.8	3.4
Go for dinner	5.3	4.6
Off-road driving	1.9	4.3
Go to shopping mall	2.6	1.9
Play team sports	1.5	1.2
Go to bar/night club	1.1	0.7
Go to movies	1.3	0.8
Casino, racetrack, or other gaming venture	0.4	0.2
Go to museum/art gallery	0.9	0.8
Go to concert or live theater	0.7	0.4

Source: Colorado State Parks Market Assessment Study, 2003

(N=1613)

(N=64)

Table 120: Motivations for Choosing Out-of-Home Leisure Activities

(State Parks users and non-users)

Motivation	Statewide (%)	Southwest (%)
Unwind/Escape (average)	82	83
Give my mind a rest	82	84
Release tensions and anxieties	83	78
Get away from demands of life	86	83
To relax	92	94
Experience peace and calm	89	91
Get away from crowds	83	84
Be alone	54	63
To be close to nature	85	89
Self-fulfillment (average)	70	77
Learn about new things	74	82
Develop my skills and abilities	56	68
To exercise and keep fit	72	75
Experience new and different things	77	83
Thrill-seeking (average)	51	55
To take risks	32	35
To experience thrills and excitement	48	51
To experience new challenges	58	60
Be my own boss	64	75
Socialize (average)	68	69
To spend time with my family	88	86
Be with friends	79	80
To meet new people	38	40

Source: Colorado State Parks Market Assessment Study, 2003

(N=1613)

(N=64)

Table 121: Increased Visitation to State Parks on the Basis of Proposed Features

(State Parks users and non-users)

Feature	% of Statewide Respondents	% of Southwest Respondents
Smaller crowds	83	75
More backcountry parks with minimal development	70	70
Better quality facilities	70	61
More trail opportunities	67	60
Greater range of recreational options	60	56
More education programs	57	53
More advertising	55	51
Theme parks	35	34
Lodges/conference centers	34	22
Golf courses	19	14

Source: Colorado State Parks Market Assessment Study, 2003

(N=1613)

(N=64)

Grant Allocations

The following table is a summary of total grant allocations since each grant program's inception. Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grants are awarded by Colorado State Parks with authority

from the National Park Service. Both Off-Highway Vehicles (OHV) and Recreation Trails Grants (Trails) are administered by Colorado State Parks. Conservation Trust Fund (CTF) grants are a portion of lottery proceeds automatically distributed to local governments on the basis of population.

Table 122: Grant Information by County

County	GOCO grant total value	LWCF grants total value	OHV grants total value	Trails grants total value	CTF grants total value	County total
Archuleta	2,391,800	27,562	33,660	105,054	937,341	3,495,417
Delta	2,859,949	230,100	83,042	35,000	3,308,359	6,516,450
Dolores	4,847,946	0	57,875	45,497	221,700	5,173,018
Gunnison	15,207,461	250,806	256,900	127,820	1,619,856	17,462,843
Hinsdale	138,268	0	48,673	0	77,878	264,819
La Plata	1,190,193	1,037,228	78,375	443,947	4,944,680	7,694,423
Montezuma	293,825	150,997	79,475	81,030	2,759,387	3,364,714
Montrose	2,036,534	428,595	68,121	0	3,842,483	6,375,733
Ouray	786,418	34,682	189,763	238,084	376,346	1,625,293
San Juan	304,195	7,266	48,673	15,155	90,542	465,831
San Miguel	2,092,030	42,235	113,050	70,300	648,935	2,966,550
Region Total	\$32,148,619	\$2,209,471	\$1,057,607	\$1,161,887	\$18,827,507	\$55,405,091

Local Government Survey Results

The following table is the summary for all local governments responding to the survey within the region.

There were 33 respondents in this region; the majority of which are jurisdictions with larger populations that provide substantial recreation services to the public.

Table 123: Land and Facilities by SCORP Region

Percentage of Colorado's population within region (2002) =3.9%

Recreation Facility	Southwest	Statewide	Percent of Colorado's Recreation Facilities within Region
Public parks	125	2,592	4.8%
Acreage public parks	1,971	99,299	2.0%
Open space areas	69	1,853	3.7%
Acreage open space (fee title)	2,600	183,272	1.4%
Acreage open space (easements)	472	92,789	0.5%
Golf courses managed by your agency	3	75	4.0%
Acreage golf courses	489	11,090	4.4%
Baseball/softball fields	69	1,467	4.7%
Basketball courts	34	656	5.2%

Table 123: Land and Facilities by SCORP Region (Cont.)

Percentage of Colorado's population within region (2002) =3.9%

Recreation Facility	Southwest	Statewide	Percent of Colorado's Recreation Facilities within Region
Multi-use courts or gyms	10	193	5.2%
Picnic shelters	77	1,232	6.3%
Playgrounds	59	1,528	3.9%
Soccer fields	43	1,081	4.0%
Swimming pools	7	176	4.0%
Tennis courts	53	882	6.0%
Campsites	44	1,093	4.0%
Miles of multiple use paved trails	25	1,507	1.7%
Miles of multiple use gravel or soft surface trails	108	1,231	8.8%
Miles of pedestrian only (hiking) trails	23	269	8.6%

Source: Colorado State Parks Local Government Survey, 2003.

Table 124: Agency Characteristics by SCORP Region

Characteristic	Summary of Responses	Percent of Respondents
Agencies with a plan for outdoor recreation sites, facilities and services	15	45%
Of the agencies with a plan, those recreations plans subject to public review and comment	16	48%
Of the agencies with a plan, those that have the outdoor recreation plan formally adopted by their overseeing government (e.g. city council, county commissioners, board of directors, etc.)	14	42%
Outdoor recreation plans that include a trails component	15	45%
Outdoor recreation plans that address natural resource management and protection (such as erosion control, noxious weed management, habitat protection, etc.)	13	39%
Agencies offering Interpretive or Outdoor Education programs	2	6%
Number of people attending interpretive or Outdoor Education programs annually	652	NA
Agencies using volunteers to provide visitor services	4	12%
Agencies using volunteers for maintenance or construction work	0	0%
Estimated annual volunteer hours	5,408	NA

Table 124: Agency Characteristics by SCORP Region (Cont.)

Characteristic	Summary of Responses	Percent of Respondents
Agencies utilizing youth conservation corps crews for maintenance or construction work	4	12%
Estimated total number of annual crew weeks	9	NA
Agencies with dedicated funding sources (such as bonds or special purpose taxes) aside from lottery dollars, specifically for park, open space and trail investments	9	27%
Estimated total dollar value of capital improvements (such as land, facilities, trails) planned by agencies in the region for the five year period of 2003-08	\$34,157,454	NA
Estimated dollar amount that can be funded by existing resources for proposed five year capital improvements	\$14,890,916	NA

Source: Colorado State Parks Local Government Survey, 2003.

Table 125: Ranked Priority Issues for Local Governments

Issue	Southwest	State Rank
Insufficient resources to fund your agency's budget	1	1
Completing community trail systems	2	11
Need for visitor safety and protection	3	3
Capacity to serve growing population	4	8
Year to year stability of your agency's budget	5	2
Creating or updating your agency's parks and recreation plan	6	14
Liability protection for your agency	7	4
Monitor natural resource conditions (e.g., vegetation, weeds, water quality)	8	6
Offer recreation programs for youth	9	7
Access for people with disabilities	10	5
Vandalism	11	9
Provide public information about facilities and programs	12	10
Need to create a dedicated funding source for acquisitions and facilities	13	12
Creating or updating your agency's trails plan	14	19
Coordination/cooperation with other outdoor recreation agencies	15	13

Source: Colorado State Parks Local Government Survey, 2003.

Table 126: Ranked Priority Needs for Local Governments

Need	Southwest	Statewide
Community trail system	1	1
Acquisition of trail corridors and rights of way	2	4
Picnicking	3	2
Trails connecting to public lands	4	5
Trails connecting to adjacent communities	5	6
Playgrounds	6	3
Acquire water for recreation	7	11
Acquisition of parklands	8	9
River fishing	9	22
Skateboard parks	10	12
Soccer fields	11	10
Acquisition of natural open space	12	7
Tennis/basketball/volleyball courts	13	13
Baseball and football fields	14	8
Toilets and showers	15	17

Source: State Parks Local Government Survey, 2003.

