

Rural Colorado Migration Study

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This report is based on the results of 1,438 telephone and internet surveys conducted with residents living in eight rural Colorado counties¹. The purpose of this study is to analyze why people move to, and stay living in rural Colorado, with an additional focus on the impact public lands have on residency decisions. This study emerged from a partnership between Colorado Mesa University, the Bureau of Land Management and the local leadership in several of the counties surveyed here. The BLM National Recreation Strategy entitled, “Connecting with Communities”² sets out goals to “facilitate greater well-being and economic benefits within communities,” and “reposition the recreation program within community service provider networks to better serve mutually shared customers.” This research partnership was formed to better understand the role that public lands play in the quality of life of rural communities adjacent to BLM managed lands in central and western Colorado, as well as provide those communities with useful data to inform their efforts to plan for their communities as they change with the migration of people in and out of their counties.

Methodology

The nine counties included in this study are Chaffee, Delta, Dolores, Fremont, La Plata, Mesa, Montezuma, Montrose, and San Miguel. These counties were selected to offer a representative mix of Western and Central Colorado populations outside major metro areas. The populations of the counties range from a high of 149,249 in Mesa County to a low of 1,953 in Dolores County, with an average population of 41,792.³ Select demographic variables for each county, including migration rates, are presented in Table 1.

Each of the nine counties also contain a considerable amount of federal public lands in their boundaries, ranging from a low of 46.6% in Fremont County to a high of 77.1% in neighboring Chaffee County. The average percentage of federal public lands across the nine counties is 63.2%. While this percentage of federal public lands is not unusual in rural counties

¹ The views and conclusions contained in this document are those of the authors and should not be interpreted as representing the opinions or policies of the U.S. Government. Mention of trade names or commercial products does not constitute their endorsement by the U.S. Government.

² U.S. Bureau of Land Management, Recreation and Visitor Services Program, [BLM Recreation Strategy 2014-2019: Connecting with Communities](#).

³ Demographic data is collected from the Colorado State Demographer’s Office.

across the western United States, it is not typical of rural counties in any other region of the country.

Table 1. Demographic Characteristics of Select Rural Colorado Counties

	Male	White	Hispanic	College Degree	Under 34 years of age	Population Change since 2010	Migration Rate per 1000	CO Native	Median HH Income
(1) Chaffee	53.9%	85.8%	9.6%	34.1%	22.1%	6.2%	12.13	37.5%	\$51,092
(2) Delta	50.4%	84.5%	12.1%	20.0%	21.4%	-2.9%	-3.84	52.5%	\$42,452
(3) Dolores	54.2%	93.5%	4.9%	21.0%	27.3%	-3.5%	-5.65	49.6%	\$31,875
(4) Fremont	59.3%	77.7%	12.6%	15.2%	26.5%	0.1%	3.11	44.4%	\$40,423
(5) La Plata	50.4%	81.8%	10.6%	43.3%	30.6%	9.0%	10.15	34.9%	\$60,238
(6) Mesa	49.2%	84.8%	11.6%	26.3%	30.1%	2.4%	0.75	49.8%	\$49,322
(7) Montezuma	48.9%	77.4%	10.0%	26.7%	22.9%	4.6%	5.38	42.5%	\$43,553
(8) Montrose	48.5%	80.4%	16.3%	24.5%	22.3%	1.3%	1.18	45.8%	\$43,999
(9) San Miguel	53.7%	88.7%	8.1%	53.9%	27.7%	10.3%	10.37	26.8%	\$56,047

Regional Groupings

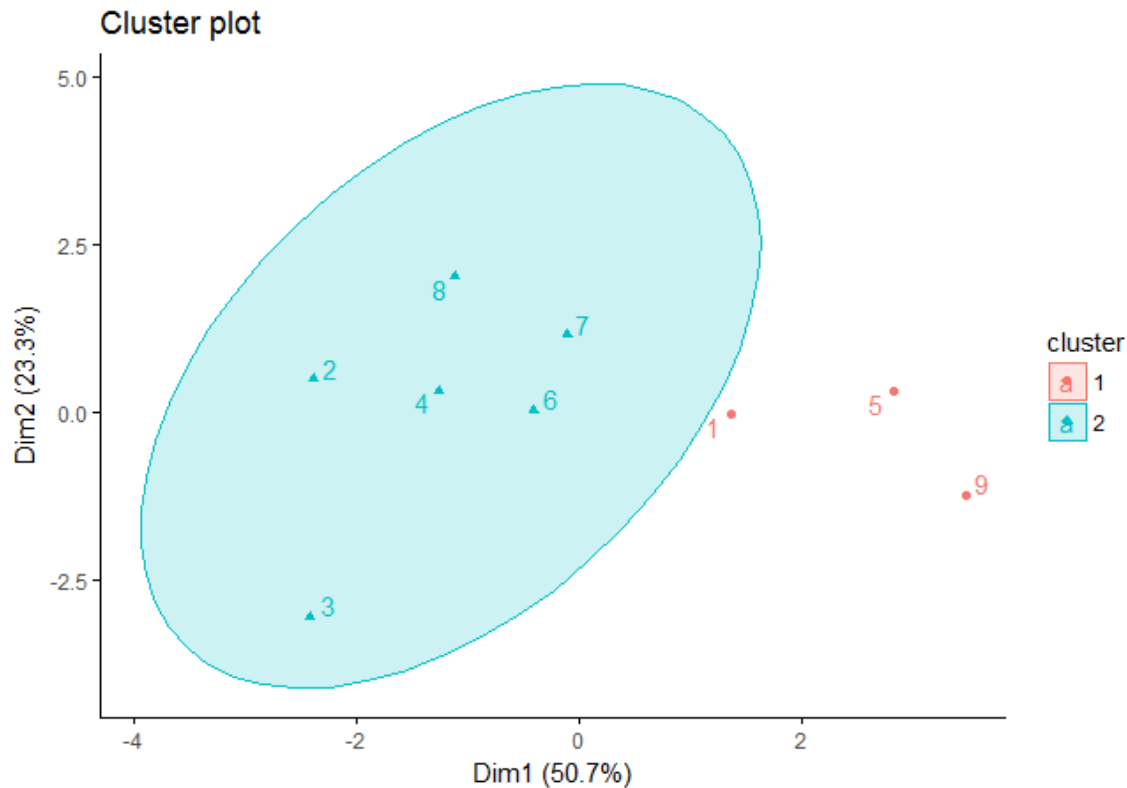
The researcher team hypothesized that the counties included in this study could be divided into several groups based on the similarity of their demographic profiles. To test this hypothesis, the research team created a county data file with characteristics for each of the nine Colorado counties included in the survey and then used the PAM (*Partitioning around Medoids*) algorithm in the *factoextra* package in R to determine the optimal number of county groups.⁴ Table 1 shows the variables used for clustering.

The cluster analysis identified two clusters as the optimal grouping solution.⁵ The two dimension solution puts Chaffee, La Plata, and San Miguel into one group (the New West grouping) and Delta, Dolores, Fremont, Mesa, Montezuma, and Montrose into the second group (the Suburban and Old West grouping). Figure 2 shows the cluster solution for the nine counties.

⁴ Kassambara, Alboukadel. 2017. *Practical Guide to Cluster Analysis in R (Edition 1)*. STHDA.

⁵ The average silhouette method was used to identify the optimal number and quality of clustering.

Figure 1: County Clusters



Note: 1=Chaffee; 2=Delta; 3=Dolores; 4=Fremont; 5=La Plata; 6=Mesa; 7=Montezuma; 8=Montrose; 9=San Miguel.

In general the New West (NW) counties have higher rates of population change (avg.= 8.5%) than Suburban and Old West (SW) counties (avg.=.33%); higher median household income levels in NW (\$55,792) than in SW (\$41,937); and a smaller percentage of the population that are native Coloradoans (NW avg. = 33%) than SW (avg.= 47%). These match some of the differences found to be important in other research on migration patterns in the American West (Limerick, 1997).

Survey Methodology

A telephone and internet survey was conducted to capture the opinions of a representative sample of residents living in our study area. The survey instrument was developed by researchers at The Social Research Center and Natural Resources Center at Colorado Mesa University with assistance from the Center for Opinion research at Franklin & Marshall College. Previous migration studies were used to develop (and in some cases were replicated in) the survey instrument, including Sofranko and Williams (1978), Rudzitis (1989), Rudzitis (1999),

Rudzitis and Streatfeild (1992), Rudzitis, Watrous, and Johansen (1995).

The interviews were conducted July 26 — August 20, 2017 at the Center for Opinion Research at Franklin & Marshall College in partnership with Colorado Mesa University. The findings presented in this report represent the responses of 1,470 adult residents living in the study area. The address-based sample was obtained from Marketing Systems Group. All sampled respondents were notified by letter or postcard about the survey. Interviews were completed over the phone and on-line depending on each respondent's preference. Survey results were weighted (age, gender, race, and education) using an iterative weighting algorithm to reflect the known distribution of those characteristics reported by the United States Census Bureau.

The sample error for this survey is +/- 3.2 percentage points for the SW and +/- 4.3 percentage points for the NW without design effects. With design effects, the sample error is +/- 8.0 percentage points for the SW, and is +/- 10.0 percentage points for the NW.⁶ The sampling error for any subgroups and individual counties is larger. In addition to sampling error, this poll is also subject to other sources of non-sampling error. Generally speaking, two sources of error concern researchers most. Non-response bias is created when selected participants either choose not to participate in the survey or are unavailable for interviewing. Response errors are the product of the question and answer process. Surveys that rely on self-reported behaviors and attitudes are susceptible to biases related to the way respondents process and respond to survey questions.

This methodology allows us to provide a snapshot of why people move to, and stay living in, rural communities in these nine counties. It also allows us to capture the residents' opinions on the impact public lands have on decisions to move to, and stay living in, rural communities. Often residents of rural and suburban western states with high percentages of federal public lands complain that studies of visitor preferences about those landscapes undervalue the preferences of those who live in gateway communities to those lands, even if

⁶ The decision to collect a minimum of 100 responses from each county overrepresented the opinions of residents living in smaller counties and underrepresented the opinions of residents living in populous counties. To correct for this, responses were weighted to known demographic characteristics in each region as reported by the United States Census Bureau. We have chosen to present weighted responses in this report.

they are more likely to directly experience the impacts of management decisions. Others are concerned that studies of public lands adjacent to the local communities focus too narrowly on narrow user groups. In short, residents argue that studies miss the “everyday” residents who live, work and play in and around these public lands. The methodology employed in this study addresses these concerns.

A target response rate was set at a minimum of 100 respondents from each county. Actual responses from each county are: Chaffee=158, Delta=275, Dolores= 32, Fremont=128, La Plata=199, Mesa=176, Montezuma=136, Montrose=211, San Miguel=155. Dolores County responses have been excluded from the findings listed below given low participation rates.

While there are regional differences, survey respondents are more likely to be older than 45 years old, have at least some college experience, married, white, females who do not telecommute for their job. Employment status, work experience (including business/industry type) and total annual income statistics are reported in Appendix A.

Key Findings

The vast majority of all respondents living in the SW have lived outside of their home county at some point in their life. Only 5% of respondents in the NW, and 6% in the SW, have never lived outside of their current home county. The average length of residence among the respondents is 21 years in both regions.

Residents in both regions have a positive view of their county as a place to live. Nine in ten residents in the NW believe that their county is an *excellent* or *good* place to live compared to almost 8 in ten residents from the SW. While NW residents are slightly more positive towards their county as a place to live, few residents in both regions rate their county as a *poor* place to live (NW=2%; SW=4%).

A significant majority (NW=87%; SW=75%) of residents living in both regions believe that their home county is “different from most other places.” When asked how the county is different, some of the most frequently cited differences in the NW include scenic, beautiful; cost of living (higher); rural, open space; outdoor recreation; and secluded (positive). In the SW, some of the top differences include the economy (negative); rural, open space;

atmosphere/attitude—laid back, peaceful, relaxed, slower; small city, town, and quality of people (positive).

Movers & Stayers

Respondents were classified as either “movers” or “stayers” based on their length of residence in their home county. Following Rudzitis (1999), movers are those who have moved into their home county within the last 10 years. Those who have lived in their home county for more than 10 years are stayers. In our sample, there are 345 stayers and 167 movers in the NW and 644 stayers and 282 movers in the SW.

Movers

Most movers to the study region migrated from a different state (NW=58%; SW=52%). In the NW, the top migratory states include California (10%) and Utah (10%), while in the SW, the top migratory states are Arizona (10%) and California (10%). While most movers migrate to Colorado from outside of the state, a sizeable number (NW=40%; SW=43%) migrate within the state. The top three migratory counties in the NW include Denver (11%), Mesa (11%) and Boulder (10%). In the SW, the top three migratory counties include Mesa (16%), Montrose (8%) and Larimer (7%). In terms of patterns, residents in the SW are more likely to move inside the region compared to residents in the NW.

When asked which statement best reflects their decision to move to their home county, most movers to the NW selected “because I like the place” (57%). This is followed by “I moved here for other reasons” (25%) and “I moved here primarily for employment opportunities” (18%). In the SW, 48% selected that they “moved for other reasons” compared to 36% selecting “because I like the place” and “for employment opportunities” (16%). These results show that employment is not the primary driver for migration to counties located in both regions. Respondents who moved to their current county for reasons other than employment frequently cite “outdoor recreation” (37%) in the NW and “family lives there/moved to be near family” (27%) in the SW as reasons why they live there.

When asked to rate (on a scale of 1-10 where 1 is not important at all and 10 is very important) the importance of 12 characteristics of their home county on their decision to move

there, residents from both the NW and SW rated “landscape/scenery” the highest (NW=average 8.70; SW=average 8.21). In the NW, “landscape/scenery” is followed by “environmental quality” (average 8.44), “outdoor recreation” (average 8.38), “climate” (average 7.58), and “pace of life” (average 7.53). In the SW, “outdoor recreation” (average 7.99), “climate” (average 7.58), “pace of life” (average 7.42), and “cost of living” (average 7.35) round out the top five characteristics. In the NW, four of the five highest rated characteristics are tied to the landscape/physical environment. In the SW, three of the five top characteristics are related to the landscape/physical environment.

In asking residents to select the most important reason they moved to their home county from the list of 12 characteristics discussed above, the plurality of residents from the NW cited “outdoor recreation” (25%) as the most important reason where residents from the SW cited “Access to family and friends” (23%). Residents from the NW and SW both selected “Landscape/scenery” (NW=23%; SW=18%) as the second most important reason they moved to their home county.

The vast majority of movers to both regions believe that living in their counties is either as they envisioned it or better than they envisioned it (NW=90%; SW=85%). Only 13% of residents in the SW and 10% in the NW say that living in their counties is worse than they envisioned it.

Stayers

Stayers are residents who have lived in their home county for more than 10 years. A majority of stayers in both regions state that they live there “primarily because I like the place” (NW=71%; SW=58%), although there is a clear regional divide. Only 9% of stayers in both regions live there “primarily for employment opportunities” with the remainder living there for “other reasons” (NW=20%; SW=31%). For those stayers living in their home county for reasons other than employment opportunities, the most frequently cited reason for living there is “outdoor recreation” (20%) in the NW and “family lives there/moved to be near family” in the SW (31%).

When asked to rate (on a scale of 1-10 where 1 is not important at all and 10 is very important) the importance of 12 characteristics of their home county on their decision to

remain there, Stayers in both regions rated “Landscape/scenery”(NW=average 8.79; SW=average 8.39) as the number one characteristic. Outside of landscape/scenery, “Environmental quality” (NW=average 8.54; SW= average 7.93); “outdoor recreation” (NW=average 8.44; SW=average 8.03); “pace of life” (NW=average 8.18; SW=average 8.13); and “climate” (NW=average 8.10; SW=8.19) are also emphasized.⁷ Other than “pace of life”, this list highlights the importance of landscape/physical environment characteristics in stayers’ decisions to remain living in select rural Colorado counties.

In citing the most important county characteristic in their decision to stay, 18% of stayers in the NW named “access to family and friends” and “outdoor recreation” while 29% of stayers in the SW selected “access to family and friends”. The “landscape/scenery” was the second reason cited by residents living in the NW (20%) and “climate” was the second reason cited by residents of the SW (15%).

Public Lands

The impact of public lands was analyzed regarding residents’ decisions to move to (or stay living in) rural Colorado. In the survey instrument, public lands was defined as lands “managed by the government to regulate a variety of uses including (but not limited to) outdoor recreation, energy resource extraction, and conservation. Land management agencies include (among others) the Bureau of Land Management, the Forest Service, and Colorado Parks and Wildlife.”

Residents in both regions strongly agree that public lands are important to their counties (NW=82%, SW=80%); that public lands improve the quality of their life (NW=75%, SW=63%); and that public lands improve the quality of life in their communities (NW=76%, SW=69%). When “strongly agree” and “somewhat agree” responses are combined, the level of support for these statements does not drop below 89%. Less than 6% of residents in either region indicated that they strongly disagree with any of these statements about the relationship between public lands and the quality of life in their counties.

⁷ While the top five characteristics are the same in both regions, there are differences in order and intensity of importance between the regions. Complete results are found in Appendix 1.

To measure the impact of public lands on quality of life, residents were asked to rate the impact 15 different features of public lands have on their quality of life. Results show that 90% or more of residents from both regions believe that the following features of public lands greatly/somewhat improve their quality of life: “Close proximity to public lands”; “access to public lands”; “views of public lands”; “diversity of recreational opportunities on public lands”; “wildlife and plants on public lands”; “open spaces around you”; “ability to discover and explore”; and “sharing public lands with family and friends”. Likewise, in the NW, 91% stated that “rural lifestyle” improved the quality of their life, compared to 88% in the SW.

The feature of public lands that had the largest negative impact on quality of life is “natural resource extraction (oil/gas/coal).” In the NW, 36% rated natural resources extraction as negatively impacting quality of life, compared to 27% in the SW. While this feature received the highest negative response overall, there is a regional divide. For example, one-half of residents in the SW believe that natural resource extraction greatly/somewhat improves their quality of life compared to 35% in the NW.

When asked to identify the greatest benefit of public lands in their county, residents in both regions selected “diversity of recreational opportunities on public lands” (NW=26%; SW=24%). The second highest response for both regions is “access to public lands” (NW=14%; SW=15%). When asked if there are any problems or issues created by having public lands in their counties, 35% of NW residents and 28% of SW residents selected yes. The most often cited problems in the NW are “abuse, misuse, overuse” (14%); “tourism, tourists, attracts too many people” (14%); and “access – restricting, closing, increased cost” (12%). In the SW, the most often cited problems include “government involvement” (14%); “access – restricting, closing, increased cost” (13%); and “abuse, misuse, overuse” (12%). A noticeable regional difference is apparent in respondents views about the problems of government involvement (NW=5%; SW=14%) and tourism (NW=14%; SW=3%).

Landscape and scenery are often valued highly by participants in public lands-quality of life studies (including the results of this study). Participants were asked if they could see public lands from their home and the results show that a vast majority (NW=89%, SW=81%) indicated that they could see public lands from their home. This can be one of the most direct and

frequent ways local residents enjoy the presence of public lands in their counties. When asked to rate the view of public lands from their home, a greater percentage of SW residents (61%) rated the view favorably (good to excellent) than residents in the NW (51%). Interestingly, 30% of the NW residents rated the view of public lands from their home as “poor,” while only 19% of the SW residents did likewise.

Residents were asked several questions about their outdoor recreation activities on public lands in their county. The results indicate widespread use of public lands in the resident’s county with only 5% of SW residents and 2% of NW residents indicated that they had not visited the public lands in their county in a given year. NW residents are more frequent visitors to the public lands in their counties (72% chose “over 12 times a year”) than SW residents (50% chose “over 12 times a year”) but the overwhelming response is that local residents regularly visit public lands in their counties, which, combined with earlier findings, indicates this contributes to their quality of life.

A variety of outdoor recreation activities were mentioned as a primary activity, but the most common response in both regions was “day hiking or walking” (NW=43%, SW=36%), followed by fishing (NW=9%, SW=14%). Virtually every respondent indicated at least some outdoor recreation activity on public lands (only 1% of SW and 0% of NW selected “nothing, none” as their preferred activity).

Some counties requested additional questions (primarily about outdoor recreation) for residents of their counties. The results are presented in Appendix B.

Conclusions

The following conclusions are based on the above findings and data presented in the Marginal Frequency Report. Specifically:

- Residents are generally satisfied with where they live and consider their home counties to be unique.
- Residents generally stay living in or move to their home counties for reasons other than economic opportunities. Many of these reasons are associated with the physical environment surrounding the communities in which they live.

- Landscape and other physical environment county characteristics are frequently cited as reasons movers decided to move to their home counties. Access to family and friends is also frequently cited as a reason for moving.
- A small minority of movers say that living in their county is worse than they envisioned. Most movers believe that it is as they envisioned it, or better.
- Like movers, stayers also frequently cite landscape and other physical environment county characteristics as reasons they continue to live in their home counties. Access to family and friends is also frequently cited as a reason stayers remain living in their home counties.
- Public lands play an important role in the quality of life in rural Western Colorado counties for individuals and the community as a whole.
- Local residents frequently visit public lands in their counties. The most frequently cited outdoor recreation activity on public lands is day hiking or walking.
- While both NW and SW highly value the role public lands and public land activities play in their quality of life, these are particularly valued by people migrating into the area, especially in the NW.
- There is a strong sense of place attachment to the landscapes of rural Colorado counties by the residents who live there.

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Appendix A: Marginal Frequency Report

Regional Division

suburban and old west	n =926
<i>Delta</i>	
<i>Fremont</i>	
<i>Mesa</i>	
<i>Montezuma</i>	
<i>Montrose</i>	
new west	n=512
<i>Chaffee</i>	
<i>La Plata</i>	
<i>San Miguel</i>	

Moving or Staying

Q1. Have you ever lived outside [fill county name]?

	suburban and old west	new west
Yes	94%	95%
No	6%	5%

Q2@a. How long have you lived in [Fill in County] county? An estimate is fine.

	Valid N	Mean	Standard Deviation
suburban and old west	909	21.61	18.28
new west	499	21.43	17.31

	suburban and old west	new west
0-5 years	22%	19%
6-10 years	1%	1%
11-20 years	10%	14%
21 or more years	67%	66%

Q3. As a place to live, do you think [fill county name] is...

	suburban and old west	new west
Excellent	31%	54%
Good	48%	36%
Fair	17%	8%
Poor	4%	2%
Don't know	0%	1%

Q4. Do you believe that [fill county name] is similar to most other places in the country, or would you say that [fill county name] is somewhat different from most other places?

	suburban and old west	new west
similar to most other places	19%	10%
different from most other places	75%	87%
Don't know	6%	4%

Q5. How is [fill county name] County different?

	suburban and old west 780	new west 359
Scenic, Beautiful	3%	12%
Cost of living (negative) - higher	1%	11%
Rural, open space	10%	11%
Outdoor Recreation	4%	10%
Secluded - (Positive) sparsely populated, little traffic	6%	9%
Atmosphere/Attitude- laid back, peaceful, relaxed, slower	10%	8%
Mountains	2%	7%
Small city, towns	9%	6%
Quality of people (Positive)- better, friendlier, Better, good, best	9%	5%
Tourist/Vacation area	1%	5%
Community (Positive)	1%	4%
Attractions/entertainment (Positive) - Lots to do	3%	4%
Diverse (cultural and ethnic)	4%	3%
Quality of life (Positive)- Better, good, best	0%	3%
Economy (negative)- not as good ,bad, poor	13%	3%
Geography/Topography (General/Neutral)	5%	3%
Liberal	0%	3%
Climate, weather (Positive)	2%	3%
Crime- lower, safe	6%	3%
Climate, weather (General)	5%	2%
Progressive	0%	2%
Clean environment, not polluted	1%	2%
Quality of people (General/Neutral)	3%	2%
Active lifestyle	1%	1%
Negative comment- in general or not listed	3%	1%
Conservative	4%	1%
Positive comment- in general or not listed	2%	1%
Ranching	1%	1%
Cost of living (General/neutral)	0%	1%
College	0%	1%

Limited Access to Healthcare	0%	1%
Government (negative)	1%	1%
Access to urban areas, Rural area in close proximity to urban area (city)	1%	1%
Quality of life (General/Neutral)	0%	1%
Diverse (geography)	1%	1%
Attractions/entertainment (Negative) - Not enough to do	1%	1%
Geography/Topography (Negative)	0%	1%
Quality of people (Negative) - Worse, lower, uneducated, not as good, less friendly	2%	1%
Secluded - (Negative)	0%	1%
Good place to retire	1%	1%
Lack of industry (negative)	1%	0%
Agriculture	2%	0%
Government (General/Neutral)	1%	0%
Closed-minded, prejudice, resistant to change, not diverse	1%	0%
Congested, lots of people, traffic	0%	0%
Slower- behind the times	2%	0%
Cost of Living, Affordability (Positive) - more affordable	1%	0%
Schools, education- not as good, less	2%	0%
Crime- higher	1%	0%
Cost of Living, Affordability (Negative)- less affordable	1%	0%
Government (positive)	1%	0%
Mining	0%	0%
Infrastructure (General/Neutral)	0%	0%
Other	9%	10%

**Responses may total more than 100% because multiple answers were accepted.*

Residency Status

	suburban and old west		new west	
	n		n	
Stay	644	70%	345	67%
Mover	282	30%	167	33%

Q6. Which of the following statements best reflects why you [moved to/stay living in] [fill county name]?

	Stay		Mover	
	suburban and old west	new west	suburban and old west	new west
	644	345	282	167
I moved/live here primarily for employment opportunities.	9%	9%	16%	18%
I moved/live here primarily because I like the place.	58%	71%	36%	57%
I moved/live here for other reasons.	31%	20%	48%	25%
Don't know	2%	0%	0%	0%

Q7. What are the main reasons you live here?

	Stay		Mover	
	suburban and old west 572	new west 314	suburban and old west 238	new west 138
Access to urban areas, Rural area in close proximity to urban area (city)	0%	3%	3%	1%
Active lifestyle	0%	0%	1%	0%
Agriculture	2%	0%	3%	1%
Atmosphere/Attitude- laid back, peaceful, relaxed, slower	8%	5%	11%	6%
Attractions/entertainment (Positive) - Lots to do	1%	3%	2%	1%
Clean environment, not polluted	2%	2%	0%	2%
Climate, weather (General)	1%	0%	0%	0%
Climate, weather (Positive)	10%	13%	13%	7%
College	0%	0%	1%	0%
Community (Positive)	2%	7%	3%	7%
Cost of Living, Affordability (Negative)- less affordable	0%	1%	0%	0%
Cost of Living, Affordability (Positive) - more affordable	3%	0%	13%	3%
Crime- lower, safe	4%	3%	4%	0%
Diverse (geography)	0%	1%	0%	0%
Economy (positive)- better	1%	3%	0%	0%
Family lives there/Moved to be near family	34%	19%	27%	16%
Geography/Topography (Negative)	0%	0%	1%	0%
Geography/Topography (Positive)	0%	0%	0%	2%
Good place to raise family, family-friendly	2%	8%	2%	5%
Good place to retire	3%	2%	2%	1%
History, heritage, culture	0%	1%	0%	0%
Infrastructure (Positive)	0%	0%	0%	1%
Limited Access to Healthcare	0%	0%	0%	1%
Mountains	6%	7%	6%	9%
Outdoor Recreation	13%	25%	13%	37%
Public/Social Services (Positive)	0%	1%	0%	0%
Quality of life (General/Neutral)	0%	0%	0%	1%
Quality of life (Positive)- Better, good, best	1%	3%	1%	3%
Quality of people (General/Neutral)	0%	1%	0%	0%
Quality of people (Positive)- better, friendlier, Better, good, best	7%	7%	5%	7%
Ranching	2%	1%	1%	3%
Rural, open space	3%	6%	3%	4%
Scenic, Beautiful	10%	23%	14%	14%
Schools, education- better, more	2%	3%	2%	2%
Secluded - (Positive) sparsely populated, little traffic	6%	5%	5%	11%
Small city, towns	4%	10%	6%	8%
Tourist/Vacation area	0%	1%	0%	0%

Negative comment- in general or not listed	0%	1%	0%	0%
Positive comment- in general or not listed	4%	3%	4%	1%
Other	17%	10%	17%	16%
Don't know	1%	1%	0%	0%

*Responses may total more than 100% because multiple answers were accepted.

Moving

The following questions were only asked of respondents classified as "movers"

suburban and old west	n =282
<i>Delta</i>	
<i>Fremont</i>	
<i>Mesa</i>	
<i>Montezuma</i>	
<i>Montrose</i>	
new west	n=167
<i>Chaffee</i>	
<i>La Plata</i>	
<i>San Miguel</i>	

Q9. Where did you live most recently before moving to [fill county name]?

	suburban and old west	new west
In a different county in Colorado	43%	40%
In a different state	52%	58%
In a different country	5%	2%

CNTY_CO2@alp. What is the name of the county you lived in before moving to [fill county name]?

	suburban and old west	new west
	121	67
Adams	1%	0%
Alamosa	3%	0%
Arapahoe	2%	4%
Boulder	5%	10%
Chaffee	4%	0%
Cheyenne	1%	0%
Delta	3%	4%
Denver	6%	11%
Douglas	2%	0%
Eagle	1%	0%
El Paso	0%	9%
Elbert	3%	0%
Garfield	6%	0%
Grand	0%	6%
Gunnison	2%	0%
Jefferson	4%	2%
La Plata	4%	2%
Lake	4%	0%
Larimer	7%	7%
Mesa	16%	11%
Montezuma	0%	4%
Montrose	8%	6%
Otero	2%	0%
Ouray	2%	2%
Park	1%	0%
Pueblo	0%	2%
Rio Blanco	2%	0%
Rio Grande	0%	2%
Saguache	0%	4%
San Miguel	3%	0%
Sedgwick	0%	2%
Summit	2%	6%
Teller	2%	0%
Weld	3%	3%

US_State@alp. What is the name of the state you lived in before moving to [fill county name], Colorado?

	suburban and old west	new west
	147	96
California	10%	10%
Utah	5%	10%
Illinois	5%	8%
North Dakota	3%	8%
Wisconsin	0%	8%
Texas	3%	7%
Virginia	0%	6%
Hawaii	3%	5%
Oklahoma	6%	4%
North Carolina	3%	4%
Ohio	1%	4%
Arizona	10%	3%
Missouri	3%	3%
New York	3%	3%
Indiana	2%	3%
New Mexico	8%	2%
Montana	2%	2%
Arkansas	1%	2%
Wyoming	1%	2%
Kansas	0%	2%
Minnesota	0%	2%
New Hampshire	0%	2%
Washington	5%	0%
Iowa	4%	0%
Maine	3%	0%
Rhode Island	3%	0%
Alaska	2%	0%
Idaho	2%	0%
Michigan	2%	0%
Nevada	2%	0%
New Jersey	2%	0%
South Carolina	2%	0%
Vermont	2%	0%
Delaware	1%	0%
Maryland	1%	0%

Using a scale of 1 to 10 where 1 is not important at all and 10 is very important, how important were the following characteristics of [fill county name] in your decision to move there?

	suburban and old west			new west		
	Valid N	Mean	Standard Deviation	Valid N	Mean	Standard Deviation
Employment Opportunity	279	5.36	3.43	164	5.82	3.21
Cost of living	280	7.35	2.43	167	5.48	2.51
School quality	277	4.45	3.42	162	4.89	3.34
Climate	280	7.58	2.43	165	7.58	2.55
Health and social services	272	5.52	3.01	160	5.64	2.80
Access to family and friends	280	6.30	3.32	166	5.34	3.37
Outdoor recreation	280	7.99	2.46	167	8.38	2.43
Crime rate	276	6.72	2.71	165	5.90	3.05
Landscape/scenery	280	8.21	2.24	167	8.70	2.11
Pace of life	280	7.42	2.80	164	7.53	2.79
Environmental quality	279	7.27	2.70	167	8.44	2.18
Place to raise children	276	4.84	3.65	165	5.63	3.76

MoveRe1. Which of these was the MOST IMPORTANT reason you moved here?

	suburban and old west	new west
	224	137
Employment Opportunity	5%	12%
Cost of living	9%	0%
School quality	4%	2%
Climate	9%	4%
Health and social services	3%	0%
Access to family and friends	23%	12%
Outdoor recreation	13%	25%
Crime rate	4%	2%
Landscape/scenery	11%	16%
Pace of life	7%	8%
Environmental quality	4%	8%
Place to raise children	7%	11%
Don't know	0%	0%

MoveRe2. Which of these was the second most important reason you moved here?

	suburban and old west	new west
	134	91
Employment Opportunity	10%	6%
Cost of living	17%	0%
School quality	1%	3%
Climate	4%	9%
Health and social services	2%	2%
Access to family and friends	6%	9%
Outdoor recreation	15%	17%
Crime rate	0%	2%
Landscape/scenery	18%	23%
Pace of life	10%	15%
Environmental quality	7%	10%
Place to raise children	9%	5%
Don't know	0%	0%

MOVEQOL. Since moving to [fill county name], would you say:

	suburban and old west	new west
Better than I envisioned it.	35%	43%
As I envisioned it.	50%	47%
Worse than I envisioned it.	13%	10%
Don't know	2%	1%

Staying

The following questions were only asked of respondents classified as "staying"

suburban and old west	n =644
<i>Delta</i>	
<i>Fremont</i>	
<i>Mesa</i>	
<i>Montezuma</i>	
<i>Montrose</i>	
new west	n=345
<i>Chaffee</i>	
<i>La Plata</i>	
<i>San Miguel</i>	

Using a scale of 1 to 10 where 1 is not important at all and 10 is very important, how important are the following characteristics of [fill county name] in your decision to remain living in [fill county name] (for more than ten years)?

	suburban and old west			new west		
	Valid N	Mean	Standard Deviation	Valid N	Mean	Standard Deviation
Employment Opportunity	621	5.58	2.79	337	6.08	2.92
Cost of living	633	6.65	2.45	335	5.53	2.56
School quality	594	6.18	3.08	335	6.75	3.08
Climate	634	8.19	1.95	340	8.10	2.15
Health and social services	622	6.40	2.55	341	6.35	2.65
Access to family and friends	630	7.88	2.49	341	6.96	2.84
Outdoor recreation	635	8.03	2.46	344	8.44	2.24
Crime rate	630	7.17	2.46	341	7.60	2.53
Landscape/scenery	633	8.39	2.05	341	8.79	2.01
Pace of life	636	8.13	2.06	342	8.18	2.07
Environmental quality	633	7.93	2.11	345	8.54	1.99
Place to raise children	622	7.34	3.05	335	7.12	3.38

StayRe1. Which of these is the MOST IMPORTANT reason you stay here?

	suburban and old west	new west
	492	295
Employment Opportunity	4%	5%
Cost of living	3%	2%
School quality	1%	3%
Climate	7%	6%
Health and social services	2%	4%
Access to family and friends	29%	18%
Outdoor recreation	10%	18%
Crime rate	3%	4%
Landscape/scenery	9%	12%
Pace of life	11%	8%
Environmental quality	5%	9%
Place to raise children	12%	10%
Don't know	4%	2%

StayRe2. Which of these was the second most important reason you stay here?

	suburban and old west	new west
	344	222
Employment Opportunity	2%	4%
Cost of living	8%	0%
School quality	4%	5%
Climate	15%	10%
Health and social services	3%	2%
Access to family and friends	13%	6%
Outdoor recreation	14%	14%
Crime rate	4%	0%
Landscape/scenery	13%	20%
Pace of life	10%	15%
Environmental quality	5%	9%
Place to raise children	9%	16%
Don't know	1%	1%

Common Questions

Asked of all respondents

The following questions are about public lands. Public lands are managed by the government to regulate a variety of uses including (but not limited to) outdoor recreation, energy resource extraction, and conservation. Land management agencies include (among others) the Bureau of Land Management, the Forest Service, and Colorado Parks and Wildlife.

Do you agree or disagree, with the following statements?

		suburban and old west	new west
Public lands are important to [fill county]	Strongly agree	80%	82%
	Somewhat Agree	14%	11%
	Somewhat Disagree	1%	2%
	Strongly disagree	3%	4%
	Don't know	2%	0%
Public lands in [fill county] improve the quality of my life	Strongly agree	63%	75%
	Somewhat Agree	26%	16%
	Somewhat Disagree	4%	3%
	Strongly disagree	4%	5%
	Don't know	3%	1%
Public lands in [fill county] improve the quality of life in my community	Strongly agree	69%	76%
	Somewhat Agree	22%	15%
	Somewhat Disagree	3%	5%
	Strongly disagree	5%	4%
	Don't know	2%	1%

How much do the following features of public lands affect the quality of life in [fill county name]?

		suburban and old west	new west
Close proximity to public lands	Greatly improve	66%	71%
	Somewhat improve	26%	24%
	Have no effect on the quality of life in	6%	4%
	Negatively impacts quality of life	0%	1%
	Don't know	2%	0%
Access to public lands	Greatly improve	66%	69%
	Somewhat improve	25%	23%
	Have no effect on the quality of life in	5%	4%
	Negatively impacts quality of life	2%	3%
	Don't know	2%	1%
Views of public lands	Greatly improve	64%	72%
	Somewhat improve	26%	21%
	Have no effect on the quality of life in	6%	5%
	Negatively impacts quality of life	1%	1%
	Don't know	2%	1%
Diversity of recreational opportunities on public lands	Greatly improve	61%	63%
	Somewhat improve	29%	27%
	Have no effect on the quality of life in	6%	6%
	Negatively impacts quality of life	2%	2%
	Don't know	2%	2%
Wildlife and plants on public lands	Greatly improve	66%	72%
	Somewhat improve	25%	20%
	Have no effect on the quality of life in	7%	5%
	Negatively impacts quality of life	1%	1%
	Don't know	1%	1%
Open spaces around you	Greatly improve	72%	79%
	Somewhat improve	20%	16%
	Have no effect on the quality of life in	6%	4%
	Negatively impacts quality of life	2%	1%
	Don't know	1%	0%
Economic opportunities created by public lands	Greatly improve	26%	25%
	Somewhat improve	42%	41%
	Have no effect on the quality of life in	16%	20%
	Negatively impacts quality of life	5%	4%
	Don't know	11%	11%
Educational opportunities on public lands	Greatly improve	33%	30%
	Somewhat improve	40%	42%
	Have no effect on the quality of life in	15%	17%
	Negatively impacts quality of life	2%	2%
	Don't know	11%	9%

Ability to discover and explore	Greatly improve	67%	70%
	Somewhat improve	25%	23%
	Have no effect on the quality of life in	6%	5%
	Negatively impacts quality of life	1%	2%
	Don't know	2%	1%
Rural lifestyle	Greatly improve	60%	62%
	Somewhat improve	28%	29%
	Have no effect on the quality of life in	7%	6%
	Negatively impacts quality of life	2%	2%
	Don't know	3%	1%
Connection to heritage (historic and/or prehistoric)	Greatly improve	41%	36%
	Somewhat improve	35%	36%
	Have no effect on the quality of life in	17%	20%
	Negatively impacts quality of life	0%	2%
	Don't know	7%	6%
Sharing public lands with family and friends	Greatly improve	63%	64%
	Somewhat improve	28%	27%
	Have no effect on the quality of life in	8%	5%
	Negatively impacts quality of life	0%	1%
	Don't know	2%	3%
Health benefits from public lands around you	Greatly improve	47%	59%
	Somewhat improve	29%	27%
	Have no effect on the quality of life in	16%	8%
	Negatively impacts quality of life	1%	2%
	Don't know	8%	5%
Natural resources extraction (oil/gas/coal)	Greatly improve	26%	16%
	Somewhat improve	24%	19%
	Have no effect on the quality of life in	16%	21%
	Negatively impacts quality of life	27%	36%
	Don't know	8%	8%
Ranching	Greatly improve	48%	42%
	Somewhat improve	30%	33%
	Have no effect on the quality of life in	13%	14%
	Negatively impacts quality of life	4%	8%
	Don't know	6%	3%

PL3. What is the greatest benefit of having public lands in [fill county name]?

	suburban and old west	new west
Ability to discover and explore	10%	5%
Access to public lands	15%	14%
Agriculture	1%	1%
Cannot /will not be developed	5%	7%
Close proximity to public lands	2%	1%
Connection to heritage (historic and/or prehistoric)	1%	1%
Diversity of recreational opportunities on public lands	24%	26%
Economic opportunities created by public lands	3%	2%
Educational opportunities on public lands	1%	0%
Health benefits from public lands around you	5%	6%
Natural resources extraction (oil/gas/coal)	1%	0%
Open spaces around you	7%	12%
Ranching	0%	1%
Rural lifestyle	1%	1%
Sharing public lands with family and friends	3%	2%
Tourism	1%	2%
Views of public lands	3%	4%
Wildlife and plants on public lands	4%	6%
Nothing, none	2%	2%
Other	7%	3%
Don't know	4%	4%

PL4. Are there any problems or issues created by having public lands in [fill county name]?

	suburban and old west	new west
Yes	28%	35%
No	55%	45%
Don't know	17%	20%

PL4y@a. What is the single greatest problem or issue of having public lands in [fill county name]?

	suburban and old west	new west
	258	180
Abuse, misuse, overuse	12%	14%
Access -Restricting, closing, increasing cost	13%	12%
Bureaucracy, Administration of lands	9%	8%
Cause of conflicts	7%	7%
Environmentalist	1%	5%
Funding necessary to maintain public lands	3%	3%
Government involvement	14%	5%
Lack of tax base revenue	2%	3%
Natural Resource extraction: mining, fracking, drilling	9%	6%
Recreational use effect on eco system	2%	3%
Road closures	1%	0%
Tourism, tourists, attracts too many people	3%	14%
Use by homeless/vagrant	1%	3%
Use for motorized recreation	0%	1%
Vandalism	6%	5%
Nothing, none	0%	0%
Other	16%	10%
Don't know	0%	1%

PL5. Are you able to view public lands from your home?

	suburban and old west	new west
Yes	81%	89%
No	18%	10%
Don't know	2%	1%

PL6. Is the view of public lands from your home:

	suburban and old west	new west
	749	454
Poor	19%	30%
Fair	21%	18%
Good	24%	13%
Very good	14%	11%
Excellent	23%	27%

PL7. How many time per year would you say you visit the public lands in [fill county name]?

	suburban and old west	new west
Never, Not at all	5%	2%
1-6 times a year	26%	13%
7-12 times a year	18%	12%
Over 12 times a year	50%	72%
Don't know	1%	1%

PL8. What is your primary outdoor recreation activity on public lands?

	suburban and old west	new west
Backpacking (overnight)	0%	0%
Biking	2%	8%
Bird Watching	0%	1%
Camping	9%	8%
Day hiking or Walking	36%	43%
Discovery and Exploring	2%	1%
Driving and sightseeing	9%	3%
Fishing	14%	9%
Horseback riding	3%	1%
Hunting	8%	4%
Off-Road Driving (Jeeping/4x4)	3%	3%
OHV riding	4%	4%
Photography	0%	1%
Rafting/canoeing/kayaking	0%	2%
Recreational gold panning	0%	1%
Rock climbing	0%	1%
Target Shooting	0%	1%
Trail running	0%	2%
Watching wildlife	1%	1%
Nothing, none	1%	0%
Other	4%	5%
Don't know	1%	1%

Demographics

AGE. What was your AGE on your last birthday?

	suburban and old west	new west
18-24	5%	2%
25-34	12%	11%
35-44	13%	14%
45-54	25%	29%
55-64	15%	15%
65 and over	30%	28%

EDUC. What was the HIGHEST grade level of schooling you have completed?

	suburban and old west	new west
Non high school graduate	5%	2%
High school or GED	36%	24%
Some college	17%	20%
Associates degree or technical degree	14%	9%
Bachelors degree	16%	26%
Postgraduate degree	12%	20%

Mar@b. What is your current marital status?

	suburban and old west	new west
Single, Never Married	15%	17%
Married	56%	59%
Separated	2%	1%
Divorced	14%	14%
Widow, Widower	12%	8%

Race and Ethnicity. Which of the following categories best describes your racial background?

	suburban and old west	new west
non-Hispanic White	82%	85%
non-Hispanic Black	0%	1%
non-Hispanic Other	11%	5%
Hispanic	6%	9%

INCOME. What is your total annual household income?

	suburban and old west	new west
Under \$25,000	17%	12%
\$25-\$35,000	15%	10%
\$35-50,000	17%	15%
\$50-75,000	18%	24%
\$75-100,000	15%	18%
Over \$100,000	15%	17%
Don't know	4%	4%

Work@a. Are you currently working for pay at a job?

	suburban and old west	new west
Yes	50%	62%
No	50%	38%

Work@b. Are you...

	suburban and old west	new west
	454	193
Going to school	5%	2%
Something else	15%	14%
Unemployed and looking for work	7%	5%
Disabled	12%	10%
Retired	61%	69%

EMP1. Which of the following best describes your employer:

	suburban and old west	new west
	459	316
A not for profit organization or institution	12%	14%
A private company or corporation	46%	36%
The local, state, or federal government	20%	21%
Are you self-employed	22%	29%
Don't know	0%	1%

Emp2cod. What kind of business or industry are you employed in? For example: Administrative and support services, Agriculture, Construction, Education Services, etc.

	suburban and old west 459	new west 316
Accommodation and Food Services	2%	4%
Administrative and support and waste management services	3%	2%
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, and Hunting	6%	4%
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	3%	3%
Construction	4%	7%
Educational Services	13%	15%
Finance and Insurance	3%	4%
Health Care and Social Assistance	17%	15%
Information	1%	2%
Management of companies and enterprises	0%	1%
Manufacturing	3%	1%
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	2%	0%
Other Services, Except Public Administration	7%	7%
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	9%	11%
Public Administration	2%	2%
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	2%	3%
Retail Trade	7%	4%
Transportation and Warehousing	4%	2%
Utilities	2%	1%
Wholesale Trade	0%	1%
Other	9%	10%

Emp3cod. What kind of work do you do? (Examples: registered nurse, an accountant, a mechanic, a secretary, supervisor)

	suburban and old west 459	new west 316
Other teachers and instructors	8%	8%
General and operations managers	5%	6%
Farmers, ranchers, and other agricultural managers	3%	3%
Nursing, psychiatric, and home health aides	3%	3%
Property, real estate, and community association managers	3%	2%
Secretaries and administrative assistants	3%	2%
Retail salespersons	3%	1%
Registered nurses	2%	3%
First-line supervisors of retail sales workers	2%	2%
Chief executives and legislators	1%	3%

Software developers, applications and systems software	1%	3%
Accountants and auditors	1%	2%
Architectural and engineering managers	1%	2%
Maids and housekeeping cleaners	1%	2%
Miscellaneous managers, including funeral service managers and postmasters and mail superintendents	1%	2%
Other education, training, and library workers	1%	2%
Paralegals and legal assistants	1%	2%
Physicians and surgeons	1%	2%
Artists and related workers	1%	1%
Bookkeeping, accounting, and auditing clerks	1%	1%
Chefs and head cooks	1%	1%
Counter and rental clerks	1%	1%
Dentists	1%	1%
Education administrators	1%	1%
Elementary and middle school teachers	1%	1%
Emergency medical technicians and paramedics	1%	1%
Healthcare support workers, all other, including medical equipment preparers	1%	1%
Miscellaneous agricultural workers, including animal breeders	1%	1%
Miscellaneous community and social service specialists, including health educators and community health workers	1%	1%
Other healthcare practitioners and technical occupations	1%	1%
Physical therapists	1%	1%
Preschool and kindergarten teachers	1%	1%
Sales representatives, services, all other	1%	1%
Sales representatives, wholesale and manufacturing	1%	1%
Veterinarians	1%	1%
Agricultural inspectors	1%	0%
Architects, except naval	1%	0%
Archivists, curators, and museum technicians	1%	0%
Carpenters	1%	0%
Cashiers	1%	0%
Clergy	1%	0%
Construction equipment operators except paving, surfacing, and tamping equipment operators	1%	0%
Counselors	1%	0%
Credit counselors and loan officers	1%	0%
Derrick, rotary drill, and service unit operators, and roustabouts, oil, gas, and mining	1%	0%
Designers	1%	0%
Editors	1%	0%
Electricians	1%	0%
Eligibility interviewers, government programs	1%	0%
Entertainers and performers, sports and related workers, all other	1%	0%

Firefighters	1%	0%
First-line supervisors of construction trades and extraction workers	1%	0%
Lawyers, and judges, magistrates, and other judicial workers	1%	0%
Maintenance and repair workers, general	1%	0%
Medical and health services managers	1%	0%
Miscellaneous construction workers, including solar photovoltaic installers, septic tank servicers and sewer pipe cleaner	1%	0%
Miscellaneous installation, maintenance, and repair workers, including wind turbine service technicians	1%	0%
Miscellaneous office and administrative support workers, including desktop publishers	1%	0%
Miscellaneous vehicle and mobile equipment mechanics, installers, and repairers	1%	0%
Occupational therapists	1%	0%
Other therapists, including exercise physiologists	1%	0%
Personal financial advisors	1%	0%
Physical scientists, all other	1%	0%
Physician assistants	1%	0%
Railroad conductors and yardmasters	1%	0%
Receptionists and information clerks	1%	0%
Tellers	1%	0%
Water and wastewater treatment plant and system operators	1%	0%
Writers and authors	1%	0%
Administrative services managers	0%	1%
Aircraft pilots and flight engineers	0%	1%
Construction laborers	0%	1%
Environmental scientists and geoscientists	0%	1%
First-line supervisors of correctional officers	0%	1%
Marketing and sales managers	0%	1%
Medical assistants	0%	1%
Miscellaneous media and communication workers	0%	1%
Office clerks, general	0%	1%
Postsecondary teachers	0%	1%
Producers and directors	0%	1%
Social and community service managers	0%	1%
Social workers	0%	1%
Special education teachers	0%	1%

EMPTLE. Do you primarily telecommute for your job?

	suburban and old west	new west
	459	316
Yes	20%	16%
No	77%	81%
Not applicable	2%	1%

GENDER. Sex of respondent

	suburban and old west	new west
Male	48%	49%
Female	52%	51%

Appendix B: County Questions Marginal Frequency Report

Delta County (n=250)

R2_Q1. Is there anything besides having more free time that keeps you from using the public lands in Delta County more frequently?

Yes	19%
No	79%

R2_Q2. What keeps you from using public lands in Delta County more often?

	n=46
Health	42%
Accessibility, moved	19%
Cost, income, financial	14%
Time/availability (includes retired, children have grown, have children)	7%
Overcrowded, too many people	4%
Climate	3%
Kids, children, family interests	3%
Age	1%
Decline of upkeep of lands – trash, etc.	1%
Dislike of management	1%
Job-related	1%
Nothing, none	1%
Other	7%

**Responses may total more than 100% because multiple answers were accepted.*

R2_Q3. If you were the outdoor recreation manager for public lands in Delta County, what would be your top priority for improving the county’s recreation infrastructure?

Improve, increase access	16%
Improve infrastructure (roads, trails, etc.)	8%
Increase awareness, advertise	7%
Add amenities	6%
Add, build new trails	6%
Ban natural resource extraction	5%
Improve conservation efforts, protect lands, protect environment, protect wildlife	5%
Increase educational information	3%
Explore ways to increase revenue, funding	2%
Improve cleanliness	2%
Improve/Change management	2%
Reduce motorized recreations	2%
Change rules	1%
Control livestock	1%
Improve signage	1%
Improve communication between management agencies	1%
Increase motorized recreation	1%
Nothing, none	3%
Other	8%
Dont know	21%

R2_Q4. How many miles did you travel the last time you recreated on visited public lands in Delta County?

	n	Mean	Standard Deviation
	231	33.0	107.1
0 miles	4%		
1-10 miles	41%		
11-20 miles	20%		
21-40 miles	22%		
41-60 miles	5%		
61 or more miles	5%		
Don't know	2%		

R2_Q5. On a scale of 1 to 10 where 1 is not important at all and 10 is very important, how important are public lands to the character of Delta County?

	n	Mean	Standard Deviation
	246	9.2	1.4

Mesa County (n=174)

How much do each of the following public lands improve the quality of life in Mesa County?

	A great deal	A fair amount	Not much	Not at all	Don't know
Colorado National Monument	70%	22%	4%	1%	2%
National Conservation Areas such as McGinnis canyons or Dominguez-Escalante	54%	32%	7%	1%	5%
Grand Mesa-Uncompahgre National forest	73%	23%	0%	1%	2%
Special Recreation Management Areas such as Bangs Canyon, 18 Road, Tabeguache, and Kokopelli?	57%	25%	7%	1%	10%
Scenic Byways like Grand Mesa, Unaweeep/Tabeguache, and Dinosaur Diamond	66%	26%	2%	1%	5%

Montrose County (n=239)

R8_Q1. Do you work for a company that makes direct use of the public lands in Montrose County? This could include companies in industries like tourism, ranching, mining, skiing, and guiding and outfitting.

Yes	9%
No	97%

How many times in the last year, that is since [month] 2016

	Never	1-5 times	6-10 times	11 or more times
Did you visit Black Canyon National Park?	41%	51%	5%	3%
Did you visit any Colorado State Park?	34%	42%	13%	10%
Did you, your family members, or your guests use air service to or from Montrose Regional Airport?	46%	45%	8%	1%

R8_Q4. Have you purchased a Colorado hunting or fishing license within the past 3 years?

Yes	48%
No	52%

R8_Q6. When family or guests visit from outside of Montrose County, which recreation destinations on public lands are you most likely to visit?

Black Canyon National Park	59%
Ridgeway State Park	20%
San Juan Mountains	12%
Blue Mesa Reservoir	10%
Grand Mesa	10%
Uncompahgre Plateau	8%
Grand Mesa/Uncompahgre National Forest	5%
Telluride Ski Resort	5%
BLM lands	4%
Gunnison Gorge N.C.A. (National Conservation Area)	3%
Dominguez-Escalante N.C.A.	1%
Gunnison River	1%
Named Activity - location not specified	3%
Nothing, none	3%
Other	32%

**Responses may total more than 100% because multiple answers were accepted.*

San Miguel (n=180)

Over the past year, that is since [month] 2016, how often have you participated in the following outdoor recreation activities on public lands in San Miguel County.

	Frequently	Sometimes	Seldom	Never
Motorized recreational activities	17%	21%	21%	42%
Non-motorized recreational activities	67%	17%	12%	4%
Winter (snow) recreational activities	52%	12%	19%	16%
Non-winter (snow) recreational activities	70%	23%	4%	3%
Hunting	19%	19%	11%	51%

R9_Q6. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Historic structures are an important part of the public lands in San Miguel County.

Strongly agree	68%
Somewhat agree	20%
Somewhat disagree	2%
Strongly disagree	6%
Don't know	4%



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