

Rankings

The Denver South region is a hub of innovation and entrepreneurial activity. The region received several recent accolades for its strong entrepreneurial environment, including:

- Inc.com ranked Denver as the fourth-hottest startup city in the U.S. in 2020, and ranked among the top 10 for the rate of entrepreneurship, high-growth company density, and wage growth.
- Denver ranked ninth among the “Top 20 Best Tech Cities for IT Jobs,” according to the 2019 Tech Town Index by CompTIA.
- According to CompTIA’s *Cyberstates 2020* report, Metro Denver ranked as the No. 16 metro area in the U.S. for total tech jobs and No. 9 for most jobs added in the past year.
- Denver was the eighth-best market for tech talent in 2019, according to CBRE’s annual “Scoring Tech Talent” report.
- SmallBusinessTrends.com named Denver second in 2019 among the “Best Cities for Women Entrepreneurs.”
- Denver ranked among Inc.com’s top 10 “Best Cities for Startups Success” in 2019.
- Denver ranked among the top 50 most high-tech cities in the world in 2019, according to BusinessInsider.com.

Business Size

Denver South has a strong base of small businesses.

- More than 85 percent of the businesses in the Denver South region employ fewer than 10 workers and nearly 98 percent employ fewer than 100 workers.

New Business Filings

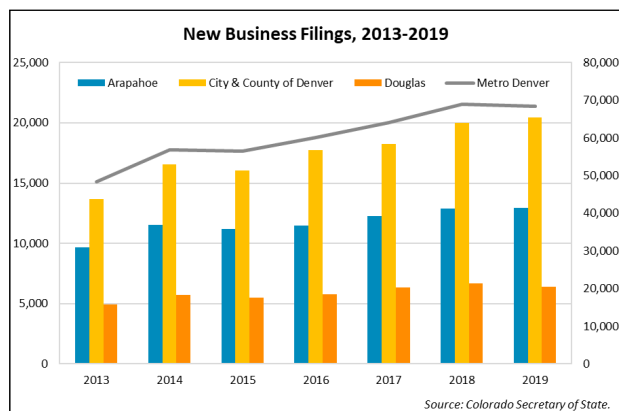
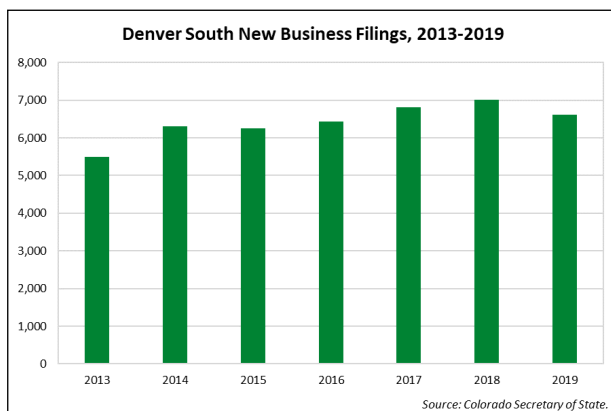
The number of new business filings in the Denver South region grew an average of 3.2 percent per year, compared with 6 in Metro Denver.

- Over 1,100 new businesses filings were added to the Denver South region between 2013 and 2019.
- New businesses in the Denver South region represent about 10 percent of the new businesses in Metro Denver.

Denver South Business Size, 2019

Employees	Percentage
1	21.3%
2 to 9	64.0%
10 to 49	10.3%
50 to 99	2.0%
100 to 249	1.1%
250 to 499	0.4%
500 to 999	0.2%
1,000 to 2,499	0.1%
2,500>	0.0%
Unknown	0.7%

Source: Dun & Bradstreet, Inc., Hoover’s Marketplace Database.

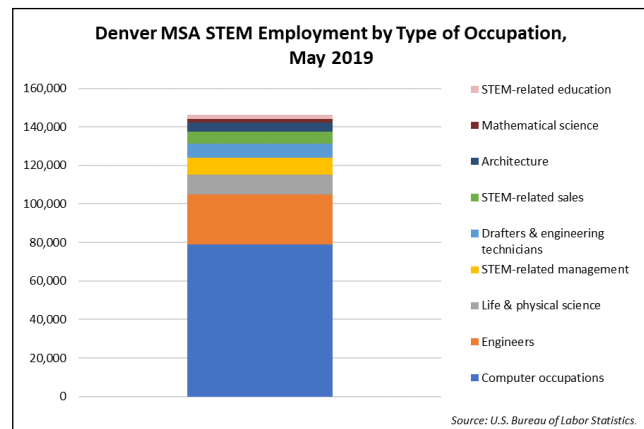
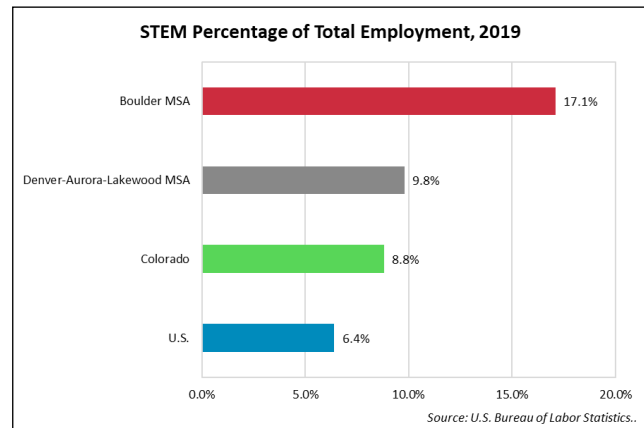


Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics (STEM)

STEM occupations demonstrate the concentration of high-tech jobs generally associated with innovation in a community.

According to Wallethub, Denver ranked among the top 30 metro areas for STEM professionals in 2020. Denver ranked 14th in professional opportunities for STEM workers.

- The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics estimated there were nearly 150,000 STEM jobs in 2019 in the Denver-Aurora-Lakewood MSA, representing 9.8 percent of all occupations. STEM occupations were about one-and-a-half times the national average of 6.4 percent.
- Computer occupations made up about 54 percent of STEM employment in the Denver MSA, and engineers made up an additional 18 percent.



Patents

A common metric used to measure innovation and R&D is patents.

- Among the three counties, Douglas County had the most utility patents granted per resident from 2000 to 2015.
- Utility patents doubled in all three counties over this period, and rose at least 4 percent per year between 2000 and 2015, exceeding the Metro Denver rate of 4.3 percent per year over the period.

