

# KIOWA COUNTY COLORADO

2006 DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

Prepared by



# KIOWA COUNTY

## HISTORY

On April 11, 1889, Colorado Governor Job A. Cooper signed a bill creating Kiowa County. The name was derived from the Kiowa Indians who hunted and lived in eastern Colorado before European's arrived.

During the early settlement of Kiowa County, the naturally occurring Great Plains Reservoirs attracted Indians, settlers and trappers. The Indian named reservoirs include: Neesopah, meaning "Black Water"; Neegronda, meaning "Big Water"; Neenoshe, meaning "Standing Water"; and Neeskah, meaning "Queens Lake". These recreational waters attract many people to this area today.

The early settlers arrived by covered wagon, horseback, foot and by train. The Pueblo and State Line Railroad, later purchased by the Missouri Pacific Railroad, played a large part in the development of Kiowa County. The major towns were located along its lines. The towns remaining today are as follows: Arlington, Haswell, Eads, Chivington, Brandon, Sheridan Lake and Towner.



Source: "Atlas of the World", Rand, McNally & Co., 1898

## LOCATION

Kiowa County is located in the prairie lands of southeastern Colorado. It is rectangular in shape, with Kansas as its eastern boundary. The county measures 78 miles long east to west and is 24 miles in width. Total land area is 1,148,160 acres or 1794 square miles. Elevation ranges from 3,800 feet above sea level in the southeast corner to 4,600 feet in the northwest.

Kiowa County is intersected by east-west Colorado Highway 96 and north-south U.S. Highway 287, recently designated as the Ports to Plains trade corridor route. Other major roadways in the area are U.S. Highway 50 and U.S. Highway 385. Interstate highways are within a short distance: I-70 is 60 miles north and I-25 is 90 miles west of the county.

Highway distance to Cities:

Pueblo	90 miles	(1.5 hours)
Colorado Springs	120 miles	(2 hours)
Denver	165 miles	(2.75 hours)
Goodland, KS	120 miles	(2 hours)
Amarillo, TX	249 miles	(4 hours)
Garden City, KS	136 miles	(2.5 hours)

## EMPLOYMENT

### EMPLOYMENT

Kiowa County	2002	2003	2004	2005
Labor Force	817	800	921	880
Employment	782	756	868	840
Unemployment	35	44	53	40
Employment Rate	4.3	5.5	5.8	4.5

### EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY-2005

Industry	Number	Percent of Total
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, Hunting	9	2%
Accommodation & Food Services	D	D
Construction	28	
Financial/Insurance/ Real Estate	12	3%
Government	258	64%
Health Care and Social Assistance	D	D
Manufacturing	D	D
Mining	D	D
Other Services	D	D
Professional & Technical Services	D	D
Retail	44	11%
Transportation	D	D
Utilities	D	D
Wholesale	22	5%
Total*	405	100%

\*May not sum due to data suppression

Source: Colorado Department of Labor & Employment

## POPULATION

COUNTY & PLACES	1990	2000	2004 EST.
Kiowa County	1,688	1,622	1,525
Eads	780	747	702
Haswell	62	84	79
Sheridan Lake	95	66	62

Source: Bureau of the Census  
Colorado Demography Section

## POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS

ETHNIC	NUMBER	PERCENT
White	1568	96.7
Black/African American	8	.5
American Indian/Alaska Native	28	1.7
Asian	1	.1
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	1	.1
Other	29	1.8

Source: Bureau of the Census – 2000 Census

## INCOME

Total Personal Income 2004(\$thousands)	\$43,871
Per Capita Income 2004(dollars)	\$30,787

### AVERAGE ANNUAL WAGES - 2000

Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing	\$23,310
Mining	D
Construction	D
Manufacturing	16,820
Transportation/Communication/Public Utilities	41,481
Wholesale Trade	17,127
Retail Trade	8,817
Finance/Insurance/Real Estate	D
Services	10,007
Government	19,447
All Industries	19,242

Source: State of Colorado

'D' indicates that data has been suppressed.

## RETAIL SALES

	2002 (\$1000's)	2003 (\$1000's)	2004 (1000's)	2005 (1000's)
Kiowa County	12,122	12,155	19,807	23,468
Eads	8,843	7,943	8,272	8,838
Remainder of Co	3,279	4,213	11,535	14,630

Source: Colorado Department of Revenue

## REAL ESTATE SALES

MARKET AREA	2003	2004	2005
Town of Eads			
Houses Sold	7	14	6
Average Price	\$27,429	\$35,079	\$49,533
Median Price	35,000	24,250	43,250
Remainder of County			
Houses Sold	1	1	1
Average Price	52,600	75,000	43,000
Median Price	52,600	75,000	43,000

Source: Kiowa County Assessor