

Industry Overview

The broadcasting and telecommunications cluster includes companies that help deliver voice, data, and video to end users. This cluster includes landline and wireless telephone communications companies, radio and television communications services, and cable and Internet service providers.

The nine-county Metro Denver and Northern Colorado region¹ is an established, nationally recognized center for the broadcasting and telecommunications industry. With 42,400 broadcasting and telecommunications workers, the region has the fifth-highest employment concentration out of the 50 largest metropolitan areas. The region is also home to some of the world's largest broadcast and telecommunications

companies. These companies are developing next-generation products in the region and all major technologies are represented including cellular, fixed wireless systems, and satellite. Further, new mobile technologies and expanded broadband access have provided increased productivity, and the ability to telework, or work at home. In fact, Colorado has the highest telecommuting rate in the nation. About 6.9 percent of the state's residents telecommute full-time, outpacing the national average by 2.6 percentage points.



The nine-county region is home to numerous broadcasting and telecommunications assets, including:

- **Data Centers** – The region is an attractive location for high-tech data centers, with low risk of natural disasters and a thriving economy. Centers for both private companies and government entities are located throughout the region.
- **Satellite** - Metro Denver's unique geographic location in the Mountain time zone makes it possible to have same day, real-time connections around the globe. The region is home to two of the nation's largest satellite television providers.
- **Subscription TV** - Metro Denver is the birthplace of the cable television industry and is home to a significant concentration of broadcasting and telecommunications companies including Time Warner Cable, Comcast, DISH Network, and others. In fact, Comcast has its second-largest employment presence in Colorado outside of Philadelphia. The Cable Center, located on the University of Denver campus, provides education, training, and research in all aspects of cable telecommunications.
- **Federal Laboratories and Research Centers** – Boulder is home to the Institute for Telecommunication Sciences (ITS), which is the research and engineering laboratory of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA). ITS performs basic research in radio science that provides the technical foundation for NTIA's policy development and spectrum management activities. The National Institute of Standards and Technology's Communications Technology Laboratory (CTL) in Boulder unites wireless communications efforts and develops instruments, creates protocols, models, and simulation tools to enable a range of emerging wireless technologies.
- **Voice and Data Services** - Metro Denver businesses and households can access numerous providers that offer landline and wireless phone services and high-speed Internet. The region has more than 30 long-distance providers for intraLATA calls, or long distance calls within a local access transport area (LATA). Metro Denver's extensive fiber optic network allows the flow of voice and data traffic at lower prices.
- **WiFi** - The downtown Denver WiFi Zone was among the first in the nation to provide large-scale, public Internet access. Several locations throughout Denver offer free WiFi, including the 16th Street Mall, Skyline Park, the Denver Performing Arts Complex, and Denver International Airport. Several organizations offer telework consulting services for employers in the region including the Downtown

¹ The nine-county region is comprised of two principal areas, Metro Denver and Northern Colorado. Metro Denver consists of Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Denver, Douglas, and Jefferson counties. Northern Colorado consists of Larimer and Weld counties.

BROADCASTING AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS: Metro Denver and Northern Colorado Industry Cluster Profile

Denver Partnership, 36 Commuting Solutions, Transportation Solutions, the Denver Regional Council of Governments, and Smart Commute Metro North.

Several programs and initiatives to expand broadband across the state are underway. The Colorado Governor's Office of Information Technology (OIT) and the Colorado Department of Local Affairs are currently developing an enhanced broadband infrastructure database that will include fiber routes, tower locations and capacity, and detailed attributes for the Community Anchor Institutions. The datasets will be used for state, regional, and local broadband planning and analysis efforts. A new initiative was unveiled to bring high-speed Internet to schools across the state called Kids Link Colorado, a partnership between the Colorado Office of the Governor, OIT, and EducationSuperHighway to identify schools where improved broadband access is needed, and strategies to increase access and affordability. During the next year, the partnership will release a connectivity report for the state to recommend strategies to achieve connectivity goals. Further, Colorado has a five-year strategic plan to enable statewide broadband connectivity by partnering with the private sector to assure availability to all Coloradans.

Municipalities across the region have expanded broadband networks and increased speed. Longmont completed construction of its \$40.3 million Gigabit City that provided 17 miles of expanded broadband services to more than 37,000 city facilities, businesses, and residents. Every business and resident in Longmont will have access to the affordable, fiber-based gigabit services. As a result, *PC Magazine* ranked Longmont third among cities with the fastest average upload and download speeds in 2016. Similarly, nearly 100 municipalities across the state have implemented or are exploring the idea of offering their own broadband Internet service including Golden, Centennial, and Lafayette.

According to BroadbandNow.com, more than 82 percent of residents across the nine-county region have access to broadband speeds of 25 megabits per second (Mbps) or faster and 70 percent of residents have access to broadband speeds of 100 Mbps or faster. A number of cities were recognized for providing exemplary digital service and increased connectivity to residents. The "2016 Digital Cities Survey" ranked the City and County of Denver seventh in the more than 250,000 population category, the city of Fort Collins ranked second in the 125,000 to 249,999 population category, and the cities of Boulder, Westminster, and Arvada ranked among the top 10 in the 75,000 to 124,999 population category.

Broadcasting and Telecommunications Economic Profile

The broadcasting and telecommunications industry cluster consists of 16, six-digit North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) codes including radio and television communications equipment, telephone communications, and cable television services.

The nine-county region ranked fifth out of the 50 largest metro areas for broadcasting and telecommunications employment concentration in 2016, up one position from the prior year. With direct employment of about 42,400 broadcasting and telecommunications employees, the region ranked ninth.² About 87 percent of Colorado's broadcasting and telecommunications cluster employees work in the region.

² Employment concentration is the direct cluster employment in a region expressed as a percent of total employment in all industries in the same region. Employment concentration is calculated and ranked for the 50 largest metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs). Direct employment is the number of employees in the industry cluster in a region. No multiplier effects are included. Direct employment is estimated and ranked for the 50 largest MSAs.

BROADCASTING AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS: Metro Denver and Northern Colorado Industry Cluster Profile

Broadcasting and Telecommunications Employment and Company Profile, 2016

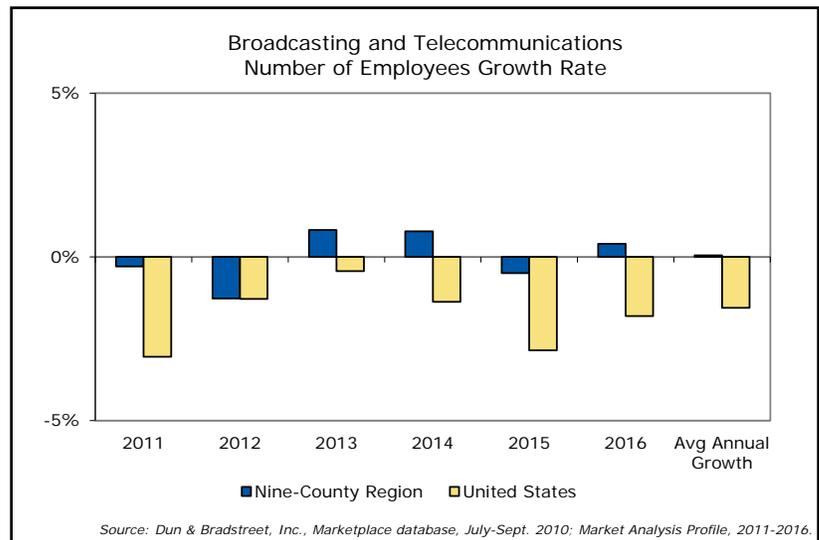
	Nine-County Region	United States
Direct employment, 2016	42,400	1,134,550
Number of direct companies, 2016	2,630	141,170
One-year direct employment growth, 2015-2016	0.4%	-1.8%
Five-year direct employment growth, 2011-2016	0.2%	-7.5%
Avg. annual direct employment growth, 2011-2016	0.0%	-1.6%
Direct employment concentration	1.9%	0.7%

Sources: Dun & Bradstreet, Inc. Marketplace database, July-Sept. 2010; Market Analysis Profile, 2011-2016; Development Research Partners.

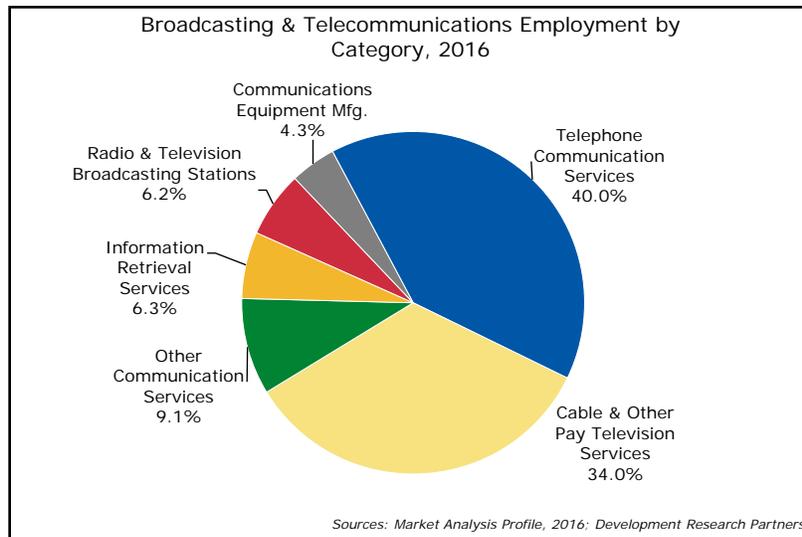
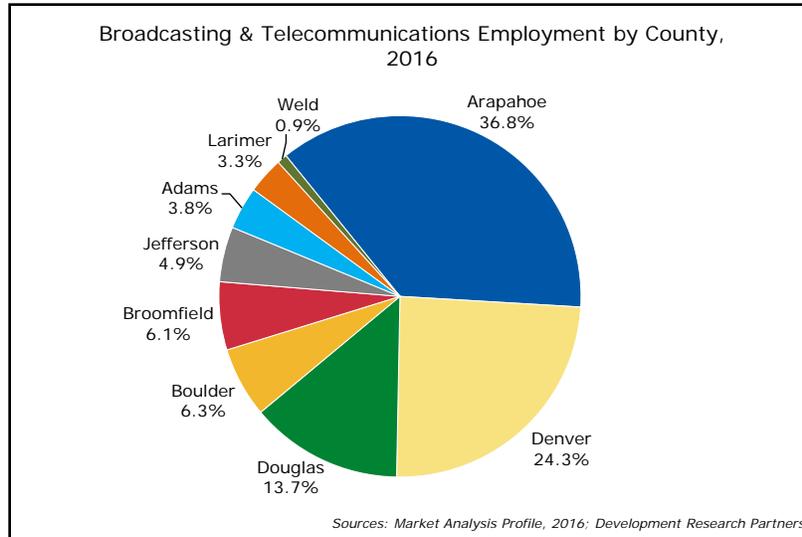
Broadcasting and Telecommunications Employment

The nine-county region's broadcasting and telecommunications employment (42,400 workers) increased 0.4 percent in 2016, compared with the previous year's level. National employment levels decreased 1.8 percent over-the-year. Between 2011 and 2016, the region's broadcasting and telecommunications employment rose 0.2 percent, compared with a 7.5 percent decline at the national level. Broadcasting and telecommunications companies employed 1.9 percent of the region's total employment base, compared with 0.7 percent employment concentration nationwide.

Approximately 2,630 broadcasting and telecommunications companies operated in the nine-county region in 2016. About 83 percent of the region's broadcasting and telecommunications companies employed fewer than 10 people, while 0.7 percent employed 250 or more.



BROADCASTING AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS: Metro Denver and Northern Colorado Industry Cluster Profile



Major Broadcasting and Telecommunications Companies

- Alcatel-Lucent
www.alcatel-lucent.com
- AT&T Inc.
www.att.com
- Avaya Inc.
www.avaya.com
- BI Incorporated
www.bi.com
- Birch Communications
www.birch.com
- BT Conferencing, Inc.
www.btconferencing.com
- CenturyLink, Inc.
www.centurylink.com
- Charter Communications Inc.
www.charter.com
- iHeartMedia, Inc.
www.iheartmedia.com
- Integra Telecom, Inc.
www.integratelecom.com
- Level 3 Communications, Inc.
www.level3.com
- Liberty Media Corp.
www.libertymedia.com
- Sprint Corp.
www.sprint.com
- Starz
www.starz.com
- T-Mobile
www.t-mobile.com
- Verizon
www.verizon.com

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Major Broadcasting and Telecommunications Companies Cont'd

- Comcast Corp.
www.xfinity.com
- DIRECTV, Inc.
www.directv.com
- DISH Network
www.dish.com
- EchoStar Corp.
www.echostar.com
- Google
www.google.com
- WildBlue Communications, Inc.
www.wildblue.com
- WOW! Internet, Cable & Phone
www.wowway.com
- XO Communications, LLC
www.xo.com
- Zayo Group
www.zayo.com

2016 Industry Highlights

Key Company Announcements

The nine-county region's diverse and highly educated workforce, innovative and entrepreneurial spirit, and reputation as a tech hub make it an attractive location for broadcasting and telecommunications companies to locate and expand. Notable company announcements in 2016 included:

- Comcast Corp. will open a new call center in Fort Collins in 2017 and plans to hire 600 employees, most of whom are expected to be hired locally. The new center is in addition to existing customer care sites in the southern Metro Denver area, where Comcast employs about 400 people.
- Comcast Corp. leased a 212,000-square-foot office building in the Dry Creek Business Park in Centennial. Comcast will occupy the property in the first quarter of 2017.
- Comcast Corp. expanded its VIPER team in downtown Denver with new offices at 15th and Wynkoop. The company's Internet software development division will employ more than 200 workers and 110 contract staff.
- Google exercised an option to purchase the land for the second phase of its Boulder campus, which is expected to accommodate another 500 employees. The \$150 million project includes a four-acre campus that will provide 330,000 square feet of office space in three four-story buildings with an underground parking lot. The first phase, designed to accommodate up to 1,000 workers, is slated for completion in 2017.
- Charter Communications Inc. plans to lease 306,000 square feet in Village Center Station in Greenwood Village and will add 800 jobs to the area. The new space will be home to the company's corporate functions, software and product development, and regional operations.
- Liberty Global moved its headquarters from Douglas County to downtown Denver in February. The company leased more than 70,000 square feet in the Triangle Building near Denver Union Station.
- DISH Network plans to add up to 100 new technology jobs with the opening of its new Grand Central offices in downtown Denver. The expansion is part of DISH's growing line of products and services including the Hopper DVR platform and Sling TV.
- SpotXchange Inc., a firm that provides an online video advertising platform, will move its headquarters from Westminster to Broomfield in May 2017. The company leased 38,730 square feet of space at 8181 Arista Place to accommodate its growing workforce and product offerings.
- Broomfield-based Gogo will expand its Gogo Vision that offers studio-licensed movies and television episodes in seven languages. Gogo utilizes on-board servers that stream content wirelessly to personal electronic devices.
- Rocky Mountain PBS plans to expand and move to north downtown Denver. The project includes a 500-seat performance theater, 80,000 square feet of office space, shared studios, and a Denver Public School expeditionary learning school. The facility is expected to bring 43 new jobs to the organization.
- Denverite, an all-digital news operation, launched in Denver. The news outlet provides a daily digital email newsletter, a website, and a social media stream.

Expanded Broadband and Network Improvements

The nine-county region's broadcasting and telecommunications companies offered expanded broadband and increased network speeds in 2016.



BROADCASTING AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS:

Metro Denver and Northern Colorado Industry Cluster Profile

- AT&T invested nearly \$300 million to upgrade its Denver infrastructure and wireless networks from 2013 to 2015, boosting reliability, coverage, speed, and performance. The company added capacity in the Colorado Convention Center, Coors Field, and Denver International Airport, among others. Across the state, AT&T invested \$575 million between 2013 and 2015 including nearly 650 wireless network upgrades, doubled capacity at more than 200 sites, and added distributed antenna systems.
- Canada-based Tucows Inc. will begin construction of a fiber network in Centennial in 2017. The company's Ting Internet service will bring speeds of an estimated 1,000 megabits per second (Mbps), expanding opportunities for both residents and businesses.
- Comcast Corp. will offer 1 gigabit-per-second Internet service to customers in the Front Range by early 2017. Comcast will deploy the service using existing coaxial cable and fiber optic lines that are already in place in most neighborhoods and homes.
- Fiber-to-the-home connections are becoming standard for new housing developments in the region. The fiber networks replace traditional copper phone wires and coaxial cables for television and broadband. In 2016, CenturyLink Inc. and Comcast Corp. completed fiber-to-home connections in 75,000 new homes built or under construction.
 - Comcast and Oakwood Homes are making fiber-to-the-home standard in a part of northeast Denver's Green Valley Ranch neighborhood. Construction is expected to begin around the rail stop.
 - Sterling Ranch Development Co. is creating a fiber-optic, network-linked community in Douglas County. Developers plan for each one of the 12,500 homes in the new development to have gigabit-speed Internet connections. Once built, the development will be among a handful of places globally utilizing "smart" infrastructure.
- Cable and satellite TV providers are expanding over-the-top (OTT) streaming services in Colorado and nationally. Dish Network introduced Sling TV and several other companies are launching similar services including AT&T, CenturyLink, Comcast, and Direct TV. OTT allows consumers to stream live cable television channels and video over Internet-connected devices with low-cost subscriptions and no long-term contracts.
- Denver-based WOW! Internet, Cable & Phone raised \$40 million in financing to expand its product offerings. The broadband service provider has 2,800 employees and 784,600 customers.
- Prism TV is expanding and is currently available to 500,000 homes in Metro Denver. The service is similar to cable, with hundreds of channels and limited-time deals that require a 12-month contract. It also allows wireless set-top boxes so customers are not limited to keeping the box near a CenturyLink connection in the wall.

Merger and Acquisition Activity

Broadcasting and telecommunications companies in the nine-county region announced several mergers and acquisitions in 2016.

- Charter Communications, Inc. merged with Time Warner Cable Inc. and Bright House Networks in May 2016. The company is the second largest cable operator in the U.S., offering a full range of broadband communications services and serving over 25 million customers in 41 states.
- Golden-based Centerline Solutions, a designer and builder of wireless service antennae towers, acquired Florida-based UCI Construction. Centerline's acquisition grows the company to over 400 employees nationwide and opens access to the southeastern market. Part of the fast-growing mobile-phone infrastructure industry, Centerline has had triple-digit revenue growth over the past three years.
- Golden-based Digital Roads Inc. was acquired by New Mexico-based Advanced Network Management Inc. (ANM) to expand product offerings and serve its growing client base. ANM will combine the staff at Digital Roads Inc. with its existing Denver office.
- Boulder-based Zayo Group completed its acquisition of Canada-based Allstream in a deal valued at \$348 million. Other notable Zayo acquisitions in 2016 included Clearview International for \$18.9 million. Over the past two years, the company has acquired more than a dozen companies.
- California-based Lions Gate acquired Douglas County-based Starz in a \$4.4 billion deal. The deal will create worldwide growth opportunities for the combined company.
- CenturyLink plans to purchase Broomfield-based Level 3 Communications in a deal worth an estimated \$34 billion. The combined company will be the second-largest domestic communications provider serving global enterprise customers and will expand CenturyLink's network by 200,000 route miles of fiber. Level 3 has a presence in more than 60 countries.

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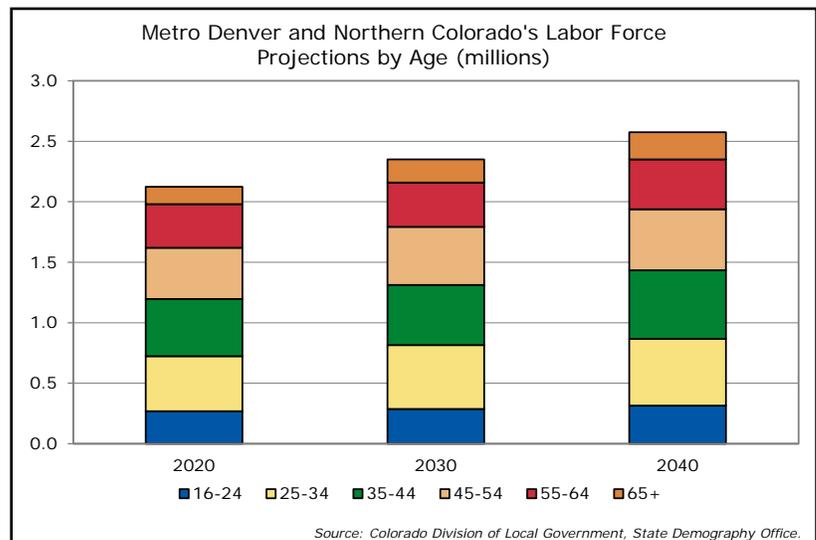
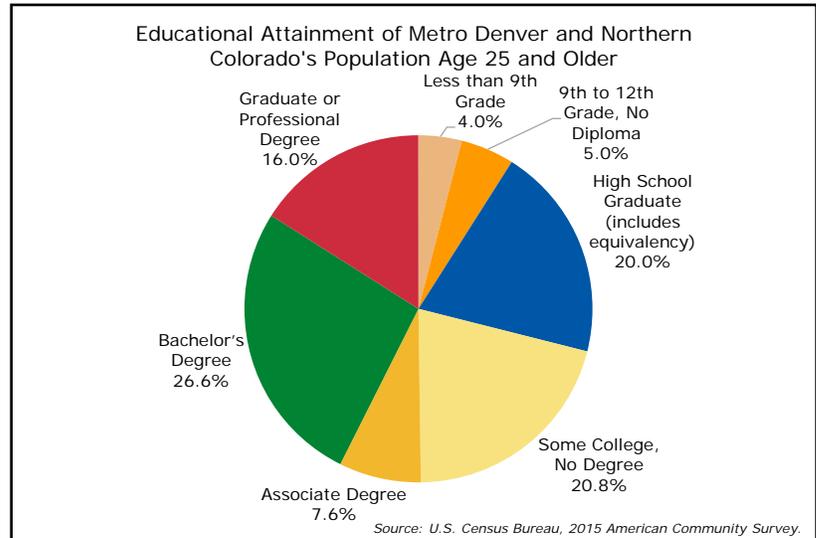
- AT&T plans to purchase Time Warner in an \$85.4 billion deal. The merger would allow AT&T to control the distribution of both company's shows, movies, and other content. The deal is expected to require antitrust hearings from the U.S. Justice Department and federal regulators.
- Denver-based Liberty Global merged with Netherlands-based Vodafone Group, a company that operates European mobile phone networks. The \$3.7 billion deal will allow the joint-venture partners to offer bundles of cable television, broadband, and mobile services to 4.2 million video subscribers and 5.3 million wireless phone subscribers. Liberty Global is the largest multinational cable television and broadband provider worldwide.

Broadcasting and Telecommunications Workforce Profile

Many companies choose locations because of the available workforce. With nearly half of the nine-county region's 3.8 million residents under the age of 35, employers can draw from a large, young, highly educated, and productive workforce. Of the region's adult population, 42.6 percent are college graduates and 91 percent have graduated from high school. The state has the nation's second-most highly educated workforce as measured by the percentage of residents with a bachelor's degree or higher.

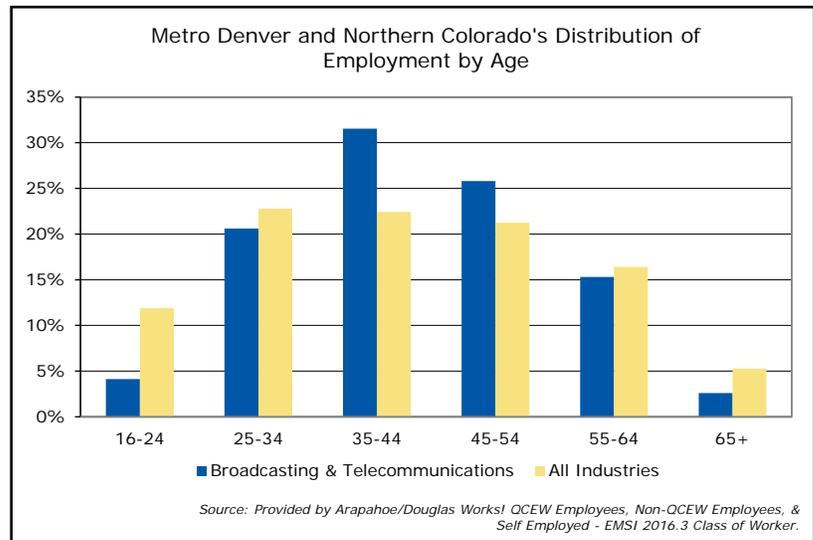
The attractiveness of the region draws new residents through in-migration. The region's population is expected to grow 31 percent from 2020 to 2040, driving a 21.2 percent increase in the region's labor force over the same period. It is important to note the changing composition of the workforce supply as the baby boomers begin to retire, which will pose implications for businesses whose employee pool includes significant numbers of these workers.

The nine-county region's broadcasting and telecommunications industry employs 42,400 people and includes a large pool of talented, well-educated, and highly skilled workers. The broadcasting and telecommunications cluster has a larger share of employees (57.4 percent) that are between the ages of 35 and 54 years and older, compared with the age distribution of all industries across the nine-county region (43.7 percent).



BROADCASTING AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS: Metro Denver and Northern Colorado Industry Cluster Profile

The broadcasting and telecommunications workforce supply consists of four main components: those currently working in the industry; those doing a similar type of job in some other industry; the unemployed; and those currently in the education pipeline. The Metro Denver and Northern Colorado Occupation & Salary Profile below includes the 10 largest broadcasting and telecommunications occupations in the region. For these 10 largest occupations, the chart details the total number of workers employed in that occupation across all industries, the number of available applicants that would like to be working in that occupation, the number of recent graduates that are qualified for that occupation, and the median and sample percentile annual salaries.



Wages

The 2015 average annual salary for broadcasting and telecommunications employees in the nine-county region was \$99,120, compared with \$84,130 nationwide. Total payroll for the broadcasting and telecommunications cluster in the region reached nearly \$4.2 billion in 2015.

Metro Denver and Northern Colorado Broadcasting and Telecommunications Occupation & Salary Profile, 2016

10 Largest Broadcasting & Telecommunications Occupations in Metro Denver and Northern Colorado	Total Working Across All Industries (2016)	Number of Available Applicants (2016)	Number of Graduates (2015)	Median Salary	10th Percentile Salary	25th Percentile Salary	75th Percentile Salary	90th Percentile Salary
1. Telecommunications equipment installers & repairers, except line installers	3,810	114	4	\$61,943	\$41,802	\$53,573	\$72,242	\$76,383
2. Sales representatives, services, all other	19,331	1,856	55	\$67,160	\$25,477	\$37,558	\$83,399	\$121,144
3. Customer service representatives	34,719	3,784	0	\$35,742	\$23,706	\$27,755	\$41,879	\$51,228
4. Business operations specialists, all other	33,547	1,510	50	\$79,615	\$41,759	\$54,434	\$97,749	\$126,953
5. Electronics engineers, except computer	4,938	123	441	\$101,396	\$64,980	\$77,300	\$122,914	\$150,057
6. Software developers, applications	19,949	339	921	\$103,454	\$65,735	\$81,356	\$122,826	\$148,422
7. Network & computer systems administrators	9,014	153	852	\$83,869	\$51,933	\$65,942	\$102,033	\$119,858
8. Telecommunications line installers & repairers	1,353	41	4	\$46,735	\$28,961	\$34,898	\$57,806	\$67,594
9. Computer network architects	3,501	60	2,251	\$106,010	\$66,384	\$82,947	\$125,442	\$150,490
10. Computer user support specialists	11,439	194	928	\$57,610	\$34,918	\$43,203	\$69,054	\$87,818

Notes: The number of available applicants is a point-in-time measurement of the number of people who have registered in Colorado's workforce development system's statewide database, Connecting Colorado, as being able and available to work in a particular occupation. Results should be interpreted with caution since registration in Connecting Colorado is self-reported. In addition, the skills rubric may assign up to four occupation codes for each registrant. Therefore, the number of available applicants could be inflated. *Source: Provided by Arapahoe/Douglas Works!; QCEW Employees, Non-QCEW Employees, & Self Employed - EMSI 2016.3 Class of Worker.*

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Education & Training

Colorado's higher education system provides an excellent support system for businesses in the region. There are 28 public higher education institutions in Colorado, of which seven four-year and six two-year public institutions offering comprehensive curricula are located in the nine-county region. In addition, there are more than 100 private and religious accredited institutions and more than 350 private occupational and technical schools offering courses in dozens of program areas throughout the state. Although not exhaustive, a list of the major, accredited educational institutions with the greatest number of graduates for each of the 10 largest broadcasting and telecommunications occupations in the nine-county region are included below. A directory of all higher education institutions with corresponding websites may be accessed via <http://highered.colorado.gov>.

- Colorado State University
www.colostate.edu
- Colorado State University Global Campus
www.colostate.edu
- Community College of Aurora
www.ccaurora.edu
- Front Range Community College
www.frontrange.edu
- Metropolitan State University of Denver
www.msudenver.edu
- Regis University
www.regis.edu
- University of Colorado: Boulder, Denver
www.cu.edu
- University of Denver
www.du.edu
- University of Northern Colorado
www.unco.edu

Key Reasons for Broadcasting and Telecommunications Companies to Locate in the Nine-County Region

The region is a top broadcasting and telecommunications location offering:

1. A central location and easy global access

- Denver International Airport was the sixth-busiest airport in the nation and 19th-busiest worldwide in terms of passenger traffic in 2015. (U.S. Bureau of Transportation Statistics, 2016; Airports Council International 2016; and Denver International Airport, 2016)
- Metro Denver is the largest region in the U.S. to offer one-bounce satellite uplinks to six out of seven continents in one business day due to its unique geographic location in the Mountain time zone. (Metro Denver Economic Development Corporation)
- Metro Denver's central U.S. location on the 105th meridian at the midpoint between Tokyo and Frankfurt makes it a strategic choice for conducting national and international business. (Metro Denver Economic Development Corporation)
- More than 1,000 miles from the nearest coast and outside of Tornado Alley, Metro Denver's risk of natural disasters is minimal compared with locations in the east, west, and south. (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 2016; U.S. Geological Survey, 2016)

2. A large concentration of high-quality technology workers and entrepreneurial talent

- Colorado has one of the nation's most educated workforces, ranking second among the 50 states for percentage of residents (39.2 percent) with a bachelor's degree or higher. (U.S. Census Bureau, 2015 American Community Survey)
- Colorado ranked third in the nation for its technology employment concentration (9 percent) in 2015. The state had the eighth-highest number of tech establishments, ranked ninth for average high-tech wage, and ranked third for the tech industries' contribution to the state's economy. Colorado had the 10th-highest wage differential in the nation, with tech workers earning nearly double the average private-sector worker. (CompTIA, *Cyberstates 2016: The Definitive State-by-State Analysis of the U.S. High-Technology Industry*, 2016)
- Metro Denver ranked ninth among the 40 largest metro areas for startup activity in the 2016 *Kauffman Index: Startup Activity*, with 360 people out of 100,000 adults becoming entrepreneurs each month. (Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, 2016)
- Metro Denver ranked as the fourth-best metro area for young entrepreneurs in 2016. The metro area received accolades for its highly educated population and high rate of small business loans. (NerdWallet, 2016)
- Boulder ranked sixth among the "Best Cities for New College Grads" in 2016. The city's growing tech hub, student and young professional population, and amenities contributed to its notable rank. (Zumper, 2016)

BROADCASTING AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS: Metro Denver and Northern Colorado Industry Cluster Profile

- Denver ranked third among the top 25 U.S. cities for fostering innovation and entrepreneurial growth. The city ranked among the top five for a healthy quality of life, a well-connected ecosystem, a vibrant cultural foundation, and a highly educated young population. (U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation, 2016)
- Metro Denver ranked as the fourth-best metro area for science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) professionals in 2016. Metro Denver ranked seventh for the projected number of STEM jobs needed by 2020. (WalletHub, 2016)
- Denver ranked third for attracting the most millennials relocating from another city in 2016. (Mayflower, 2016)
- Metro Denver ranked fifth among the top 15 major metros for college graduates in 2016. Fort Collins ranked fourth among small metro areas. (American Institute for Economic Research, 2016)

3. Low to moderate costs of doing business

- Colorado ranked fifth on *Forbes'* 2016 "Best States for Business" list. The state received its highest rankings for labor supply (first overall), economic climate (second overall), growth prospects (third overall), and regulatory environment (ninth overall). (*Forbes*, 2016)
- Metro Denver ranked No. 1 among *Forbes'* 2016 "Best Places for Business and Careers" for the second-straight year. Four other Colorado metropolitan areas were included on the list. The Colorado Springs metro area ranked 12th, Fort Collins ranked 18th, Boulder ranked 26th, and Greeley ranked 51st. (*Forbes*, 2016)
- Metro Denver office rental rates averaged \$29.52 per square foot in the fourth quarter of 2016, making the region's office market highly competitive with other major markets in the U.S. (CoStar Realty Information, The CoStar Office Report, 4Q 2016)

4. A pro-business environment and competitive tax structure

- Colorado has one of the nation's most favorable corporate income tax structures. The state's corporate income tax rate of 4.63 percent is one of the lowest in the nation and is based on single-factor apportionment, which allows companies to pay taxes based solely on their sales in the state. (State of Colorado; The Tax Foundation)
- The Denver-Aurora-Broomfield metropolitan area ranked among the top 10 for economic development and job growth in the "Leading Locations for 2016" list. Areas recognized in the study exhibited economic strength and capacity to support business prosperity. (*Area Development*, 2016)
- Colorado has the nation's ninth-best tax climate for entrepreneurship and small business. (Small Business & Entrepreneurship Council, 2016)
- Colorado ranked among the top five "Best States for Small Business Friendliness" in 2016. Fort Collins received an "A" grade and Denver received an "A-" grade for overall friendliness. (Thumbtack.com, 2016; Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, 2016)

5. An overall better quality of life

- Denver ranked No. 1 among *U.S. News & World Report's* 2016 "Best Places to Live." Denver's healthy job market and access to the outdoors contributed to its notable rank. (*U.S. News & World Report*, 2016)
- Highlands Ranch ranked sixth in *MONEY Magazine's* 2016 "Best Places to Live" list. Centennial (13th) and Broomfield (25th) were also named to the list's top-25. (*MONEY Magazine*, 2016)
- Metro Denver ranked as the third-fittest metropolitan area in the U.S. in 2016. Increased physical activity, low obesity and diabetes rates, and access to recreational opportunities contributed to its high rank. (American College of Sports Medicine, 2016)
- Outdoor recreation is a fundamental component to Colorado's healthy, active lifestyle and generates a \$34.5 billion economic impact annually. The state has the fourth-highest percentage of state land area devoted to national forests and public lands, more than 70 state parks and wilderness areas, and is home to the highest concentration of 13,000 and 14,000-foot peaks in the nation. (Colorado Tourism Office, 2016)
- Denver ranked fifth among the "2016's Best Large Cities to Live In." Denver scored first for livability and third for local economy and taxes. (WalletHub, 2016)
- FasTracks is a multibillion dollar comprehensive transit expansion plan to build 122 miles of new commuter rail and light rail, 18 miles of bus rapid transit, 21,000 new parking spaces at light rail and bus stations, and enhance bus service for easy, convenient bus/rail connections across the eight-county district.

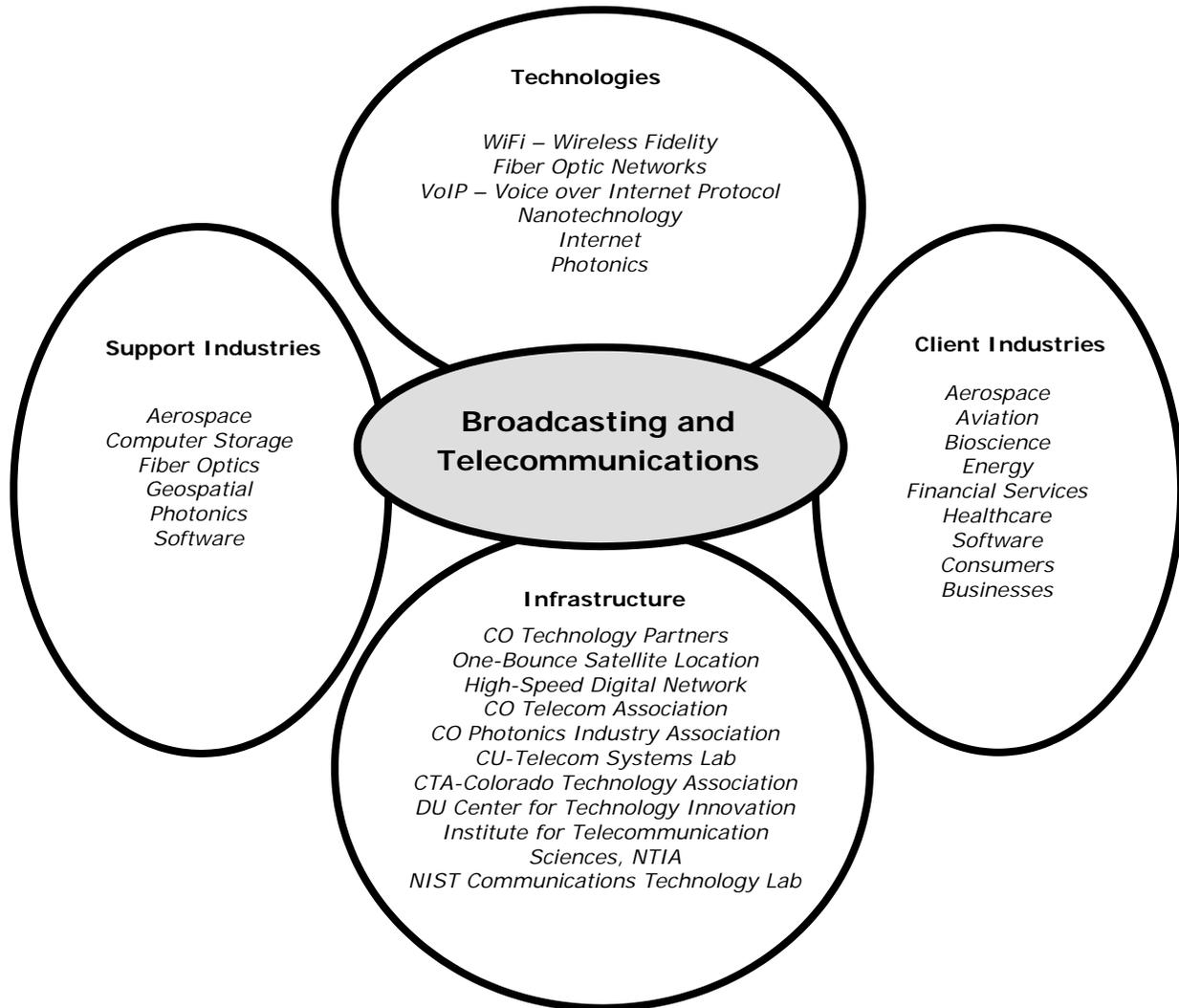
**BROADCASTING AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS:
Metro Denver and Northern Colorado Industry Cluster Profile**

Broadcasting and Telecommunications Industry Cluster Definition

NAICS Code*	NAICS Description	SIC Code	SIC Description
334210	Telephone apparatus mfg.	3661	Telephone & telegraph apparatus
334220 (P)	Radio & television broadcasting & wireless communications equipment mfg.	3663	Radio & tv communications equipment
334290	Other communications equipment mfg.	3669	Communications equipment, NEC
335921	Fiber optic cable mfg.	3357	Drawing & insulating of nonferrous wire
335929 (P)	Other communication & energy wire mfg.	3357	Drawing & insulating of nonferrous wire
515111	Radio networks	4832	Radio broadcasting stations
515112	Radio stations	4832	Radio broadcasting stations
515120	Television broadcasting	4833	Television broadcasting stations
515210	Cable networks & other subscription prog.	4841	Cable & other pay television services
517110	Wired telecommunications carriers	4813	Telephone communication except radio
517110	Wired telecommunications carriers	4822	Telegraph & other communications
517110	Wired telecommunications carriers	4841	Cable & other pay television services
517110	Wired telecommunications carriers	7375	Information retrieval services
517210	Wireless telecommunications carriers (except satellite)	4812	Radiotelephone communication
517210	Wireless telecommunications carriers (except satellite)	4899	Communication services, NEC
517210	Wireless telecommunications carriers (except satellite)	7375	Information retrieval services
517410	Satellite telecommunications	4899	Communication services, NEC
517911	Telecommunications resellers	4812	Radiotelephone communication
517911	Telecommunications resellers	4813	Telephone communication except radio
517919 (P)	All other telecommunications	4899	Communication services, NEC
517919 (P)	All other telecommunications	7375	Information retrieval services
519130 (P)	Internet publishing & broadcasting & web search portals	8999-0800	Communication services
561499 (P)	All other business support services	7389-1004	Teleconferencing services

**(P) indicates that only part of the NAICS industry category is represented in the industry cluster definition.
Note: NEC indicates "not elsewhere classified."*

Broadcasting and Telecommunications Industry Cluster Relationships



For additional information, contact us:



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