

CONSTRUCTION

WORKFORCE OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, COLORADO



Industry Description and Employment Trends

The Jefferson County construction industry consists of all types of construction including residential, commercial, and government construction. Companies in this industry provide building services for both residential and nonresidential building construction, heavy and civil engineering projects, such as highway systems, utility systems, and oil and gas pipelines, and specialty trades including framers, roofers, electricians, and plumbers.

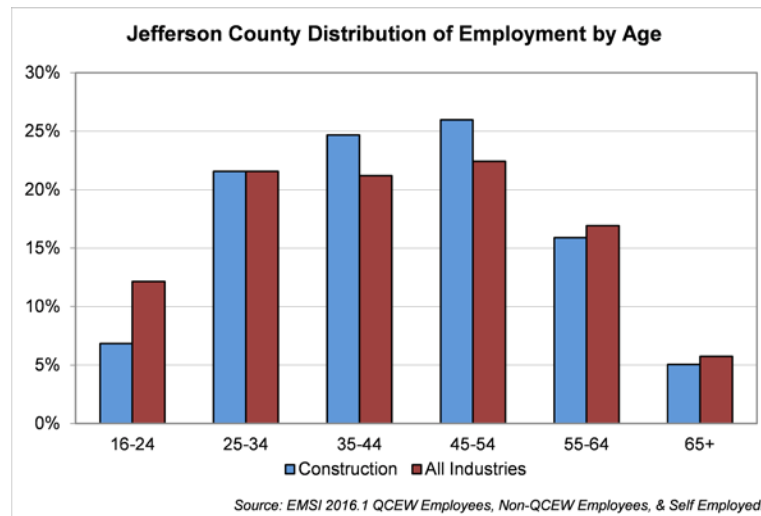
Employment in the nine-county Metro Denver and Northern Colorado region's¹ construction industry rose 3.4 percent between 2014 and 2015. From 2010 to 2015, employment in the region's construction industry increased 35.3 percent. Fourteen percent of the construction employment in the nine-county region is located in Jefferson County.

¹The 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.

Workforce Profile

Jefferson County's labor force includes nearly 311,500 individuals, representing 19 percent of the total labor force in Metro Denver and 11 percent of the state's labor force. Jefferson County's labor force includes a large pool of talented, well-educated, and highly skilled workers. Of Jefferson County's adult population, 42 percent are college graduates and 94.1 percent have graduated from high school. Jefferson County's construction industry has a larger share of employees that are between the ages of 25 and 54 years old (72.2 percent), compared with the age distribution across all industries (65.2 percent).

The construction industry offers opportunities for high school graduates and those willing to learn on-the-job. About 11 percent of construction-related occupations in Jefferson County require a bachelor's degree or higher, while 57.6 percent require a high school diploma or equivalent. Of the construction-related occupations, 55.4 percent require some sort of on-the-job training.



Wages 20 Largest Construction Occupations in Jefferson County	Median Salary	10th Percentile Salary	25th Percentile Salary	75th Percentile Salary	90th Percentile Salary
1. Construction Laborers	\$30,062	\$22,291	\$26,114	\$34,418	\$39,874
2. Electricians	\$46,113	\$28,818	\$34,567	\$60,209	\$73,291
3. Carpenters	\$35,182	\$24,910	\$29,143	\$39,884	\$44,918
4. First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades & Extraction Workers	\$54,866	\$35,664	\$44,269	\$68,131	\$81,473
5. Construction Managers	\$63,881	\$41,705	\$50,460	\$81,967	\$98,964
6. Painters, Construction & Maintenance	\$31,243	\$22,440	\$28,080	\$34,162	\$38,690
7. Plumbers, Pipefitters, & Steamfitters	\$44,197	\$30,615	\$34,700	\$53,938	\$62,644
8. Secretaries & Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, & Executive	\$34,448	\$22,174	\$27,436	\$42,775	\$50,947
9. Operating Engineers & Other Construction Equipment Operators	\$41,869	\$31,444	\$34,892	\$50,333	\$56,400
10. Heating, Air Conditioning, & Refrigeration Mechanics & Installers	\$44,091	\$29,286	\$37,209	\$51,877	\$57,331
11. Cost Estimators	\$61,941	\$35,156	\$44,783	\$78,487	\$94,485
12. General & Operations Managers	\$105,047	\$49,563	\$70,421	\$164,166	\$237,120
13. Cement Masons & Concrete Finishers	\$34,706	\$22,097	\$27,028	\$43,718	\$52,075
14. Office Clerks, General	\$32,261	\$19,476	\$24,788	\$43,116	\$54,850
15. Managers, All Other	\$75,237	\$49,454	\$61,968	\$92,277	\$116,418
16. Roofers	\$40,170	\$28,340	\$33,335	\$48,460	\$56,780
17. Drywall & Ceiling Tile Installers	\$36,172	\$27,474	\$30,290	\$43,315	\$47,707
18. Bookkeeping, Accounting, & Auditing Clerks	\$34,904	\$22,769	\$27,787	\$43,494	\$52,572
19. Sales Representatives, Services, All Other	\$49,564	\$22,680	\$33,232	\$72,900	\$106,468
20. Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	\$40,090	\$28,073	\$33,358	\$48,412	\$57,718

Wages & Occupations

The 2015 average annual salary of construction workers in Jefferson County was \$56,700, compared with the average of \$51,300 for all workers in Jefferson County. The table below includes data for the 20 largest construction occupations in the county. It portrays the industry workforce supply as consisting of three main components: those currently working in that occupation either in the industry or in a similar job in some other industry (total working across all industries); the number of available applicants that would like to be working in that occupation; and the number of recent graduates that are qualified for that occupation.



Occupation Data 20 Largest Construction Occupations in Jefferson County	Total Working Across All Industries (2015)	Number of Available Applicants (2016)¹	Number of Graduates (2014)²	2015-2020 Projected Occupation Growth Rate
1. Construction Laborers	2,825	109	33	5.1%
2. Electricians	2,233	49	863	8.1%
3. Carpenters	2,146	35	52	2.3%
4. First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades & Extraction Workers	1,395	53	1,360	1.6%
5. Construction Managers	936	50	9,379	-1.0%
6. Painters, Construction & Maintenance	824	23	18	-5.7%
7. Plumbers, Pipefitters, & Steamfitters	873	7	393	7.2%
8. Secretaries & Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, & Executive	5,526	83	70	8.4%
9. Operating Engineers & Other Construction Equipment Operators	697	25	10	5.6%
10. Heating, Air Conditioning, & Refrigeration Mechanics & Installers	574	13	294	7.1%
11. Cost Estimators	585	11	10,013	6.5%
12. General & Operations Managers	3,774	206	9,551	7.4%
13. Cement Masons & Concrete Finishers	356	8	4	-13.2%
14. Office Clerks, General	3,169	196	0	10.0%
15. Managers, All Other	1,696	186	10,189	3.7%
16. Roofers	305	5	4	8.9%
17. Drywall & Ceiling Tile Installers	300	7	4	3.7%
18. Bookkeeping, Accounting, & Auditing Clerks	2,764	146	352	7.3%
19. Sales Representatives, Services, All Other	1,960	141	52	8.2%
20. Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	1,344	50	0	-0.4%

¹The 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.

²The number of graduates represents a 10-county region consisting of Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Denver, Douglas, El Paso, Jefferson, Larimer, and Weld Counties. Sources: EMSI 2016.1 QCEW Employees, Non-QCEW Employees, & Self-Employed; Connecting Colorado, 2016.

Educational Institutions

The 10-county region's² educational institutions provide an excellent support system for area businesses. There are 28 public higher education institutions in Colorado, of which eight four-year and seven two-year public institutions offering comprehensive curricula are located in the 10-county region. In addition, there are more than 100 private and religious accredited institutions and nearly 380 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 the largest construction occupations in Jefferson County are included below. A directory of all higher education institutions with corresponding websites may be accessed via highered.colorado.gov.

- **Colorado State University**
www.colostate.edu
- **Colorado Technical University Online**
www.coloradotech.edu
- **University of Colorado: Boulder, Colorado Springs, Denver**
www.cu.edu
- **Colorado State University Global Campus**
www.colostate.edu
- **Metropolitan State University of Denver**
www.msudenver.edu
- **University of Denver**
www.du.edu
- **Colorado Technical University Colorado Springs**
www.coloradotech.edu/colorado-springs



- **Regis University**
www.regis.edu
- **Red Rocks Community College**
www.rrcc.edu
- **Arapahoe Community College**
www.arapahoe.edu
- **Front Range Community College**
www.frontrange.edu

²The 10-county region consists of the Metro Denver and Northern Colorado region and El Paso County.



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