Report to You, Our Citizens:
City and County of Denver, Colorado
Fiscal Year 2022

City Overview
Denver, a consolidated city-county in central Colorado, is known for its beautiful vistas of Cherry Creek, South Platte River, and the Rocky Mountains. With a thriving social scene, promoted by Denver Arts and Venues, it is easy to see why Denver is routinely listed as one of America’s happiest cities. Recent government commitments to expand services (see “Strategic Priorities” below) contribute to the City and County’s appeal to current and future Denverites.

Strategic Priorities:
1. Affordable Housing
   Add 25,000 units by 2032
2. Housing for All
   Provide housing for 1,000 people in 2024
3. Safe Neighborhoods
   Add 167 to police force in 2024
4. Vibrant Downtown
   Create pedestrian-friendly spaces
5. Greener Denver
   Expand electric vehicle infrastructure

At a Glance: Denver’s Demographics
Population: 729,239
   White: 80.2%
   African American: 9.9%
   Other: 9.9%
Income Levels:
   Median Household: $78,177
   Per Capita: $50,642
Education:
   High School Graduate: 90.0%
   College Graduate: 52.5%

Denver’s community values include equity, access to opportunity, environmental stewardship, diversity, community engagement, an entrepreneurial spirit, and cultural heritage; these values demonstrate Denver’s commitment to creating a thriving and harmonious city and county for all!

Michael Hancock, 45th Mayor of Denver
“Our residents look to us...[to improve] the future prosperity and quality of life in Denver...I look forward to working with you as we move our city toward better years ahead.”

for more information, visit https://denvergov.org/
**Performance**

**Employment Statistics**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Principal Employers</th>
<th># Employees</th>
<th>% Employment Growth over 2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Denver Public School District #1</td>
<td>12,644</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City and County of Denver</td>
<td>11,503</td>
<td>7.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State of Colorado Central Payroll</td>
<td>9,503</td>
<td>-4.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denver Health &amp; Hospital Authority</td>
<td>8,139</td>
<td>12.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Airlines, Inc.</td>
<td>7,669</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Affordable Housing**

1,611 affordable city-financed housing units are **under construction**

541 income-restricted units are in the **planning stage**

**Transportation & Infrastructure**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parking Tickets Issued</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recyclables Collected</td>
<td>-10.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refuse Collected</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1,327 Tons of Asphalt Used to **Repair Potholes**!

**Denver Police and Fire Department**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>2022</th>
<th>2021</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Physical Arrests by Police</td>
<td>27,605</td>
<td>26,982</td>
<td>2.31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traffic Violations</td>
<td>30,878</td>
<td>48,576</td>
<td>-36.43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency Responses</td>
<td>128,129</td>
<td>114,196</td>
<td>12.20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* A "physical arrest" is defined as the taking of an individual into custody and transporting said individual to a police station.

**Business Licenses**

39,239 business license transactions in FY2022...

... a 54 percent increase over FY2021, resulting from COVID-19 recovery!

**Youth Programs**

1,047 children served by the **Denver Great Kids Head Start Program**, which provides preschoolers with the skills needed for school success

**MY Denver Card** provides youth **aged 5-18** with free access to recreation centers and cultural facilities year round

**Denver International Airport**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th># Passengers</th>
<th># Airport Employees</th>
<th># Runways</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Departures</td>
<td>20,398,020</td>
<td>1,052</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arrivals</td>
<td>20,340,453</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfers</td>
<td>28,547,988</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>69,286,461</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Library**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Library Usage Statistics</th>
<th>Total Volumes Borrowed</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6,788,153</td>
<td>11.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Library Usage Statistics</th>
<th>Volumes in Collection</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1,646,583</td>
<td>9.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Library Usage Statistics</th>
<th>Physical Volume Circulation per Capita</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1.42</td>
<td>60.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Library Usage Statistics</th>
<th>Download Volume Circulation per Capita</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0.97</td>
<td>9.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Library Usage Statistics</th>
<th>In-Person Visits per Capita</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2.46</td>
<td>60.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Library Usage Statistics</th>
<th>Online Visits per Capita</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7.19</td>
<td>-4.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Financials

Source: Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR)

Changes to Charges for Services, Operating Grants, and Capital Grants arose from the return of pre-pandemic activity levels and the expiration of various COVID-era grant programs.

Sales and Use Taxes increased as a result of increased retail and services consumer spending.

Assessed property values increased in 2022, leading to additional Property Taxes.

Lodger Taxes increased due to elevated levels of leisure travel, low unemployment, and a 10% increase in lodging occupancy rates.

Increased Economic Opportunity expenses were associated with the expansion of affordable housing.

Health-related expenses increased in FY2022 in part due to coverage for employee insurance plans.

Cost savings for Public Safety arose as COVID expenses, such as those for PPE, were discontinued.

As Denverites entered post-pandemic normalcy, COVID-related General Government expenses decreased.

Audit

BDO USA, P.A. provided an unmodified opinion on Denver’s ACFR for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2022.

Awards

Denver submitted its FY2022 ACFR to the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) with hopes of earning their forty-first consecutive Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting.

the complete ACFR is available at https://shorturl.at/ehjFK
In 2019, the Denver City Council approved **Comprehensive Plan 2040**, a strategic report detailing visions for a re-invigorated Denver community. Six **vision elements** drive this plan: Economically Resilient; Equitable, Affordable, and Inclusive; Strong and Authentic Neighborhoods; Connected, Safe, and Accessible Places; Economically Diverse and Vibrant; and Healthy and Active.

### Current Progress

- **Economically Resilient**: 2021 greenhouse gas emissions were **36% lower** than 2005 levels
- **Equitable, Affordable, and Inclusive**: 4% reduction in cost-burdened households since 2017
- **Strong and Authentic Neighborhoods**: 50% of households in **2 new neighborhoods** (since 2016) have access to quality transport, jobs, and retail within walking distance
- **Connected, Safe, and Accessible Places**: 7% reduction in commuters driving to work in a single-occupancy vehicle (since 2016)
- **Economically Diverse and Vibrant**: 2.2% increase in jobs within diverse, innovative, and growing economic sectors (since 2019)
- **Healthy and Active**: no updated or new data available in fiscal years 2021 or 2022

### Current Challenges

- While Denver is committed to increasing affordable housing (see “Strategic Priorities” on page one), and some progress has been made in the area (see “Performance” on page two), more citizens need housing faster than accommodations can be built, as evidenced by:
  - Inundation of city shelters with new individuals and families
  - Denver is among the **worst cities on homelessness**
- Commercial vacancy rates are **eighth highest** in the nation for 2022
- Denver’s average monthly crime rate in 2022 was **43% higher** than in 2019
  - Third highest car theft rate nationwide in 2022
  - FBI ranks Denver as **15th most dangerous place to live** nationwide

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**City Council**

District 1: Amanda Sandoval
District 2: Kevin Flynn
District 3: Jamie Torres
District 4: Kendra Black
District 5: Amanda Sawyer
District 6: Paul Kashmann
District 7: Jolon Clark
District 8: Christopher Herndon
District 9: Candi CdeBaca
District 10: Christopher Hinds
District 11: Stacie Gilmore
At-Large: Robin Kniech
At-Large: Deborah Ortega

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[denvergov.org](http://denvergov.org)

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**CITIZEN-CENTRIC REPORTING**

[denvergov.org](http://denvergov.org)