

Snapshot of health system climate vulnerability and performance in...

Colorado

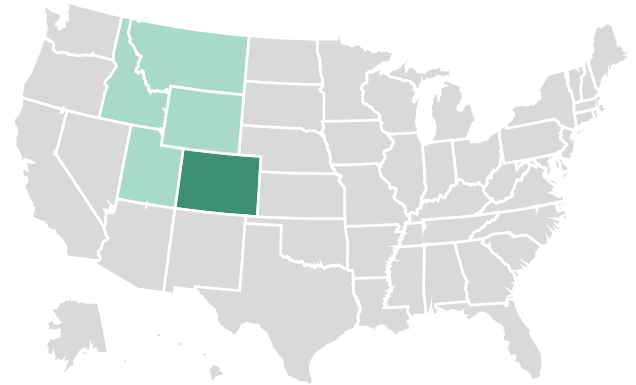


The
Commonwealth
Fund

Colorado ranks #22 overall.

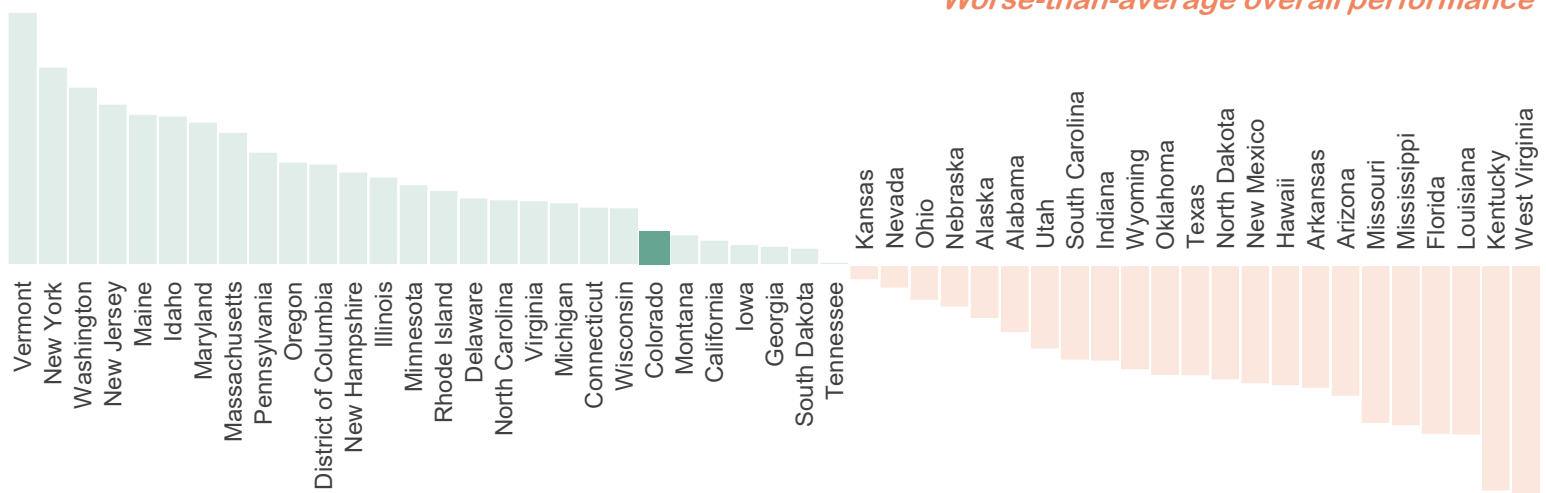
Colorado ranks #2 in the Rocky Mountain region.

	National Rank	Rank Among Rocky Mountain States*
Average Annual Air Quality Index	48 of 51	4 of 5
Health Risk from Extreme Heat	38	4
Health Care Facility Risk from Natural Hazards	22	3
Health Care Facility Flood Risk	13	4
State Energy Efficiency Policy	13	1
State Electricity Emissions and Their Health Impact	37	2
Health Care Sector Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions	24	2
Health Care Worker Commuting Emissions	12	4



*Note: Rocky Mountain region includes CO, ID, MT, UT, WY.


How Colorado Compares to All States



Better-than-average overall performance

Table 1. Indicators of State Health System Climate Vulnerability and Performance

Indicator	Data year	State rate	U.S. average	State rank
Average Annual Air Quality Index Scale of 0–500, with values below 100 generally considered good/moderate air quality	2022	55	42	48
Health Risk from Extreme Heat CDC/ATSDR ^a Heat and Health Index (0–1), with 1 indicating greatest risk	2024	0.55	0.51	38
Health Care Facility Risk from Natural Hazards FEMA ^b National Risk Index (0–100), with 100 indicating greatest risk	2023	48	54	22
Health Care Facility Flood Risk Percent of inpatient facility beds in high-hazard flood zones	2023	0.8%	2.5%	13
State Energy Efficiency Policy ACEEE ^c Energy Efficiency Scorecard (0–50), with 50 indicating best performance	2022	30.5	17	13
State Electricity Emissions and Their Health Impact Health impact per unit of electricity generated, ^d where lower values indicate less health impact from emissions	2021	0.576	0.464	37
Health Care Sector Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Kilograms of carbon dioxide equivalent (kg CO ₂ e) ^e	2020	1,277	1,362	24
Health Care Worker Commuting Emissions Transportation-related GHG emissions from health care facility employee commuting (kg CO ₂ e per employee)	2022	1,862	2,169	12



Colorado ranked best on:

Health Care Worker Commuting Emissions

On average, health care facilities in Colorado have lower annual commuting emissions per employee than in other states. Health care facilities in the state are more often located in higher-density areas with public transit and pedestrian access, minimizing the need for longer trips.



Colorado ranked worst on:

Average Annual Air Quality Index

Residents of Colorado experience poorer average air quality than other states in a given year.

Notes: (–) Indicates missing data. (a) Centers for Disease Control/Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (CDC/ATSDR). (b) Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). (c) American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ACEEE). (d) Measured in Disability-Adjusted Life Years (DALYs) per gigawatt-hour (GWh) of electricity generated; DALYs are a common measure of the burden of disease, representing years of healthy life lost. (e) Kilograms of CO₂e stands for “carbon dioxide equivalent,” a standard measure of the warming effect of greenhouse gases.