

# Adult Literacy and Numeracy Snapshot

## COLORADO



U.S. PIAAC Skills Map: State and County Indicators of Adult Literacy and Numeracy

The Skills Map provides the most comprehensive snapshot of key workforce skills in every state and county in the United States. Users can easily access information about the literacy and numeracy proficiency of adults aged 16-74 and compare performance between individual states and counties. Results are reported as the state or county average score on a scale of 0-500 and as the percentage of adults at the lowest levels of proficiency (at or below Level 1), medium proficiency (at Level 2), and the highest levels of proficiency (at or above Level 3).

The data in the tool are generated by a technique called small area estimation. The statistical models used to calculate the state and county estimates relied on combined data from the 2012, 2014, and 2017 Program of the International Assessment of Adult Competencies (PIAAC) in conjunction with 2013-2017 data from the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS) to produce reliable estimates. The estimates are predictions of how the adults in a given state or county would have performed had they taken the PIAAC assessments. For more information on the tool, please visit the PIAAC State and County Estimates page: [nces.ed.gov/surveys/piaac/state-county-estimates.asp](https://nces.ed.gov/surveys/piaac/state-county-estimates.asp)

### Literacy

#### Average scale score:

National  
**264**

Colorado  
**272**  
↑ (above national average)

#### Colorado proficiency level results:

At or below Level 1  
(Below 226)  
**17%**

Level 2  
(226-275)  
**30%**

At or above Level 3  
(Above 275)  
**54%**

*Note: Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.*

#### States sorted by average literacy scale score:

New Hampshire	279	Connecticut	271	Oklahoma	263
Minnesota	279	Kansas	271	South Carolina	263
Vermont	277	South Dakota	271	Arizona	262
District of Columbia	277	Michigan	271	Kentucky	261
Alaska	277	Hawaii	270	Georgia	260
North Dakota	276	Virginia	270	Tennessee	260
Washington	275	Idaho	270	West Virginia	260
Utah	274	Ohio	268	New York	260
Iowa	273	Maryland	268	Florida	259
Oregon	273	Indiana	266	Alabama	259
Maine	273	Pennsylvania	266	Arkansas	259
Wisconsin	273	Rhode Island	266	California	257
Massachusetts	273	Missouri	266	Nevada	255
Montana	273	Illinois	266	Texas	254
Wyoming	272	North Carolina	265	Mississippi	252
<b>Colorado</b>	<b>272</b>	New Jersey	264	New Mexico	252
Nebraska	271	Delaware	264	Louisiana	252

## Counties sorted by average literacy scale score:

Douglas	293	Yuma	259
Broomfield	289	Delta	258
Ouray	287	Jackson <sup>1</sup>	257
Boulder	286	Fremont	256
Clear Creek	286	Pueblo	255
Pitkin	283	Kit Carson	254
Larimer	283	Lake	254
Elbert	283	Las Animas	253
San Miguel	282	Prowers	253
Gilpin	281	Otero	253
Gunnison	281	Adams	252
La Plata	280	Rio Grande	251
Jefferson	280	Saguache	251
Routt	280	Morgan	250
Hinsdale <sup>1</sup>	279	Alamosa	248
Park	278	Conejos	247
Teller	277	Lincoln	242
Custer	277	Costilla	240
Mineral <sup>1</sup>	277	Crowley	240
El Paso	277	Bent	237
Arapahoe	273		
Grand	272		
Summit	271		
Chaffee	271		
Washington	270		
Archuleta	270		
Rio Blanco	269		
Sedgwick	269		
Eagle	268		
Mesa	267		
Cheyenne	267		
San Juan <sup>1</sup>	266		
Kiowa <sup>1</sup>	266		
Denver	265		
Montezuma	264		
Baca	264		
Phillips	263		
Dolores	263		
Weld	263		
Huerfano	261		
Logan	261		
Montrose	260		
Garfield	260		
Moffat	260		

## Numeracy

## Average scale score:

National  
**249**Colorado  
**260**  
↑ (above national average)

## Colorado proficiency level results:

At or below Level 1  
(Below 226)  
**25%**Level 2  
(226-275)  
**31%**At or above Level 3  
(Above 275)  
**44%***Note: Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.*

## States sorted by average numeracy scale score:

New Hampshire	268	South Dakota	259	Arizona	247
Minnesota	268	Hawaii	259	Oklahoma	247
Vermont	265	Kansas	258	Kentucky	247
North Dakota	264	Connecticut	258	South Carolina	246
Alaska	264	Virginia	257	New York	245
Washington	262	Idaho	256	West Virginia	245
Utah	262	Michigan	256	Tennessee	245
Iowa	261	Maryland	255	California	244
Massachusetts	261	Ohio	254	Georgia	243
Oregon	260	Rhode Island	253	Florida	243
Maine	260	Pennsylvania	252	Arkansas	243
Montana	260	Missouri	252	Alabama	242
District of Columbia	260	Illinois	252	Nevada	240
<b>Colorado</b>	<b>260</b>	Indiana	252	Texas	238
Wyoming	260	New Jersey	250	New Mexico	235
Nebraska	259	North Carolina	249	Mississippi	234
Wisconsin	259	Delaware	249	Louisiana	233

## Counties sorted by average numeracy scale score:

Douglas	285	Teller	266	Denver	252
Broomfield	281	El Paso	265	Kiowa <sup>1</sup>	252
Boulder	276	Mineral <sup>1</sup>	265	Phillips	250
Ouray	275	Custer	264	Weld	250
Clear Creek	275	Arapahoe	261	Baca	250
Pitkin	273	Chaffee	259	Montezuma	250
Elbert	273	Summit	258	Dolores	249
San Miguel	272	Grand	258	Logan	246
Larimer	271	Washington	258	Garfield	246
Gilpin	270	Archuleta	258	Huerfano	246
Jefferson	270	Rio Blanco	256	Moffat	245
La Plata	269	Eagle	256	Yuma	244
Gunnison	268	Sedgwick	255	Montrose	244
Routt	268	Mesa	253	Jackson <sup>1</sup>	243
Hinsdale <sup>1</sup>	268	Cheyenne	253	Delta	243
Park	267	San Juan <sup>1</sup>	253	Fremont	240

**Counties sorted by average numeracy scale score (continued):**

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Kit Carson	239
Lake	239
Pueblo	239
Prowers	238
Adams	238
Las Animas	237
Morgan	237
Otero	235
Rio Grande	235
Saguache	235
Alamosa	230
Conejos	229
Lincoln	224
Costilla	221
Crowley	220
Bent	216