



Gov. Hickenlooper (D)

"I think I can speak for the retail business community that the Broncos better start winning."

— Gov. John Hickenlooper, on November 22, 2017, responding to a Denver Broncos' losing streak blamed for decreasing visits to bars, restaurants and shops in the Colorado capital.

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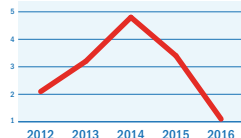
Colorado

Pop. (2017): 5,594,670
Median household income: \$64,401
Credit Rating: AA/Negative

Pop. growth 2017-2022: 1.46%
Median age: 37.2
Right-to-work state: No

GDP

19th



2016 GDP
(in millions of current US\$)
\$322,644

Legislative Update

- Colorado raised its special marijuana sales tax to 15 percent to avert \$528 million in budget cuts to hospitals and to generate \$1.9 billion for road construction. The marijuana tax had been set to drop to eight-percent.
- Gov. Hickenlooper signed legislation that allows businesses that make growth investments of at least \$100 million to be eligible for incentives similar to tax credits smaller businesses receive for investing in economically lagging areas; allows data centers to avoid paying tax on non-Colorado transactions; extends the Colorado Economic Development Commission through July 2025; extends a tax credit program for individuals who invest in early-stage technology companies.
- The state budget approved in May doubles co-pays Medicaid patients are charged for prescriptions, outpatients services and emergency room visits.



18th
Business Tax Climate Rank Change 2017-2018: **0**



17th
Higher Ed. R&D Expenditure: **\$1,381,054**



35th
Number of NCRCs: **6,401** | Percent Improvement 2017-2018: **37%**



7th
ITIF Score: **78.3**



29th
Lowest Electric Power Cost (cents/kWh): **7.55**



30th