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# Living and Working in Jeffco

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Your guide to living and working in Jefferson County, Colorado



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**Contact Information**  
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# Why Jeffco?

If you are considering moving to Colorado, Jefferson County and Jeffco Public Schools may be the perfect fit for you.

## Jeffco Offers:

- Nearly 700 square miles of land, including natural parks and foothills
- Lower cost of living compared to the Denver Metro area
- Quick access to the mountains and to the city

## Jeffco Public Schools Offers:

- Meaningful work
- Wide range of academics to meet student needs
- Outdoor education
- Engaged leaders, innovative staff, and a collaborative environment



## Why Colorado?

There are many reasons why Colorado is one of the most popular destinations for relocation across the United States, including:

- Year-round outdoor activities, from skiing in the winter to hiking in the summer
- 53 of the country's 96 fourteeners are in Colorado
- 300 days of sunshine per year
- Sporting events featuring the Broncos, Rockies, Nuggets, Avalanche, and more
- Welcoming community

# Neighborhoods & Housing

## Neighborhood Profiles

[Arvada](#) | Population: Over 106,000

Arvada offers quaint neighborhoods and a robust mix of businesses.

[Bow Mar](#) | Population: About 1,000

Here you'll join a fun, family-oriented community in a quiet country setting.

[Conifer](#) | Over 19,000

This mountain destination offers great restaurants, festivals, and outdoor activities for the summer and winter.

[Edgewater](#) | Population: Over 5,100

Edgewater offers a unique small town atmosphere within minutes of the downtown Denver area.

[Evergreen](#) | Population: Over 9,000

Evergreen offers an array of parks, art galleries, theater, restaurants, outdoor activities, entertainment, and more.

[Golden](#) | Population: Over 18,800

Golden is rich with culture, outdoor activities, scenic beauty, thriving businesses, and friendly people.

[Lakeside](#) | Population: About 10

The town of Lakeside is home to the famous Lakeside Amusement Park.

[Lakewood](#) | Population: Over 142,000

Lakewood offers an abundance of activities, culture, and community resources.

[Littleton](#) | Population: Over 41,000

From historic Downtown Littleton to the suburbs, Littleton offers a safe, family-friendly community.

[Morrison](#) | Population: About 500

Morrison, is a town with many attractions and a depth of historical and cultural resources.

[Mountain View](#) | Population: About 500

Mountain View covers a 12 square block area with a strong sense of community.

[Westminster](#) | Population: Over 106,000

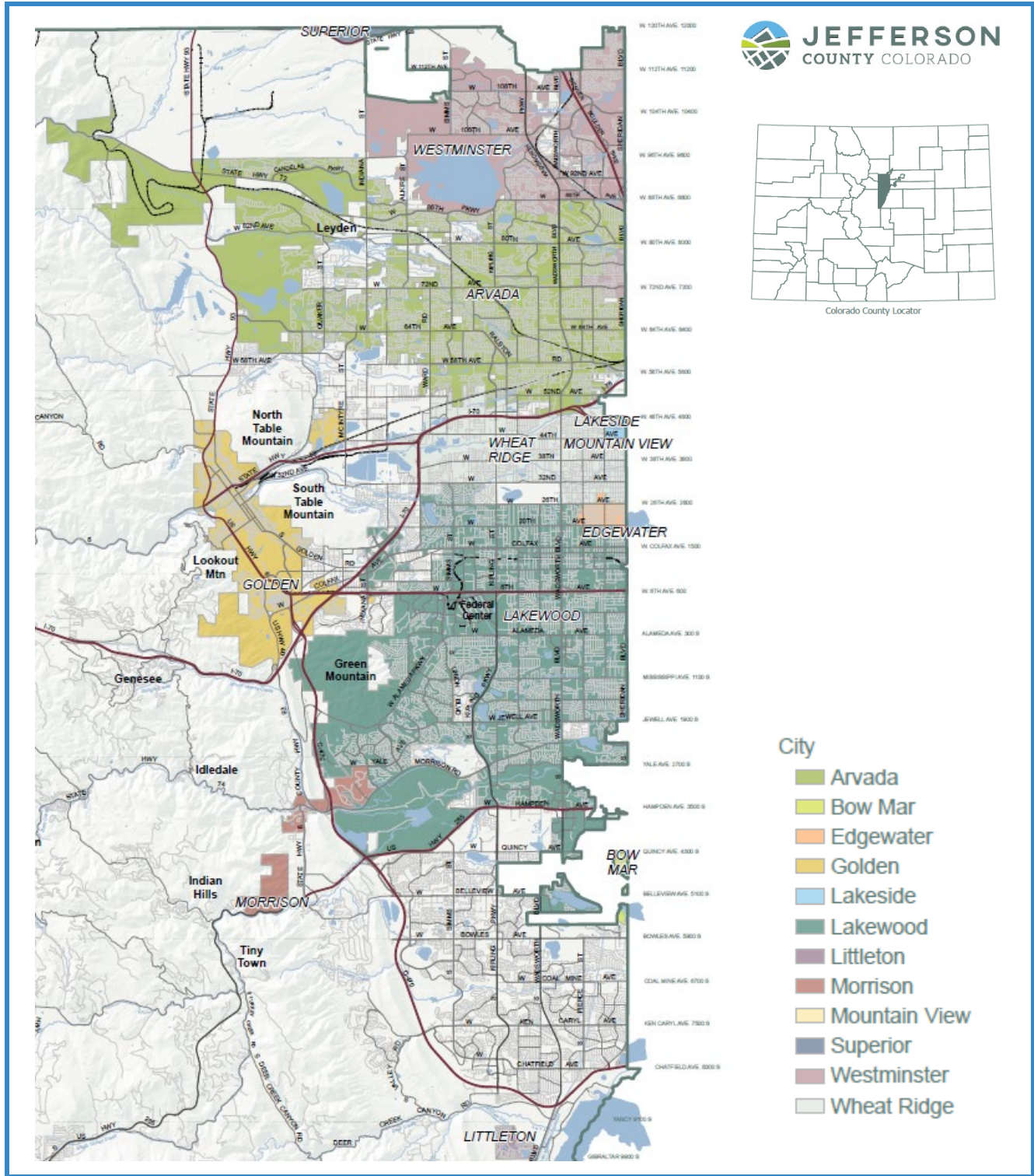
Westminster offers a low cost-of-living without compromising access to great city amenities and outdoor activities.

[Wheat Ridge](#) | Population: About 30,000

Near Downtown Denver, Wheat Ridge is a great suburban area with a strong sense of community.

Note: Populations are based on 2010 census data and may be outdated.

# Jefferson County Neighborhood Map



Map and data sourced from Jefferson County Colorado's website. [Click here to view the original map.](#)

## Cost of Living in Jeffco

If you plan to move to Colorado, an apartment in Jefferson County may be considerably less expensive than the Denver Metro area. Outlined below are the median rent expenses in the area.



Median rents as of March 2021. Data retrieved from <https://www.zumper.com/>

## Housing Resources



### [Colorado Housing Connects](#)

Colorado Housing Connects specializes in helping people navigate housing services and resources.

### [Colorado Housing Search](#)

The fast, easy-to-use, free search lets people look for rental and for-sale housing using a wide variety of criteria and special mapping features.

### [Home Partners of America](#)

Home Partners provides the opportunity for people to move into a great home and community today that otherwise may not be available in the rental market. Their Lease with a Right to Purchase Program allows you to find a home that you want to rent initially, but may want to buy in the next 3-5 years.

### [Jefferson County Housing Authority](#)

The mission of the Jefferson County Housing Authority is to create vibrant, stable, communities, in areas of opportunity, via bold and strategic initiatives and to provide families and individuals with housing options driven by compassion and respect throughout Jefferson County.

### [Landed](#)

Landed helps educators buy homes with free home-buying education and guidance. They help you navigate all of your options for buying a home and offer a shared equity down payment program, which helps school employees get to a 20% down payment without any income restrictions

# Childcare Resources

## [Child Care Assistance Program](#)

The Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) provides financial assistance to eligible low-income families who need child care benefits for children from birth to age 12 or children with additional care needs under the age of 19.



## [Colorado Shines](#)

Colorado Shines is the quality rating and improvement system for all of Colorado's licensed early care and learning programs serving children ages 0-5. Colorado Shines is a free resource for programs, early childhood professionals and families.

## [Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters \(HIPPY\)](#)

HIPPY partners with families with children ages 2-4, particularly those most at risk because of poverty, limited education, or English proficiency. This is an intervention program that helps parents prepare their children for success in school and beyond.

## [Jeffco Families Colorado](#)

Jeffco Families Colorado collaborates with primary care providers, early learning and child care professionals, home visitors, mental health consultants, parents, caregivers and others to ensure all children in Jefferson County reach their full potential.

## [Jefferson County Child Care Association](#)

Jefferson County Child Care Association (JCCCA) is a nonprofit association that supports family child care home providers by enhancing and promoting professionalism through education, networking, and other valuable resources and activities. JCCCA also provides referrals to families seeking child care providers.

## [Preschool at Jeffco Public Schools](#)

Jeffco Public Schools offer a wide variety of quality preschool options for 3 and 4-year-olds at 55 sites across the county. Financial assistance is available for qualifying families. For more information, contact the Early Learning Office at 303-982-1737.



# Cultural Resources

There are many cultural attributes to the Jefferson County community. The following resources have been compiled to introduce new people to the rich diversity of our community. Whether these resources reflect your own identity or offer something new, we hope this information enriches your experience in Jefferson County.



## At Work

### [Jeffco Equity Diversity and Inclusion Team](#)

The Jeffco EDITeam offers a variety of resources and events for new staff. They host an **LGBTQ+ Work Group** and the **Employees of Color Advisory**. These groups meet regularly over the course of the year to collectively address the needs of employees of Color and LGBTQ+ staff in Jeffco Public Schools. They also host employee affinity groups. To learn more about these resources, or for direct support email [diversityandinclusio@jeffco.k12.co.us](mailto:diversityandinclusio@jeffco.k12.co.us)

### [JCEA Ethnic Minority Outreach Action Team](#)

The Ethnic Minority Outreach Action Team (EMOAT) provides opportunities for learning in order to advance multicultural education, equity, and social justice for members of the Jefferson County Educators Association. Contact: 303-982-6082

## At Home

### [Asian Chamber of Commerce](#)

The Asian Chamber of Commerce (ACC) is a membership organization based in Denver, Colorado. Its mission is to provide economic development and business opportunities for its members.

### [Asian Pacific Development Center](#)

The Asian Pacific Development Center is a community-based, nonprofit, 501 (c) (3) organization founded in 1980 to serve the needs of a growing population of Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) residents throughout Colorado.

### [Colorado Black Chamber of Commerce](#)

The CBCC serves the needs of Black-owned businesses, providing economic opportunity and support to them as well as the communities they serve.

### [Colorado Immigrant Rights Coalition \(CIRC\)](#)

CIRC is a statewide, membership-based coalition, founded to improve the lives of immigrants and refugees by making Colorado a more welcoming, immigrant-friendly state.

### [Colorado LGBTQ Chamber of Commerce](#)

The Colorado LGBTQ Chamber of Commerce strives to promote professional development, business diversity, and personal enrichment. They work to advance LGBTQ and LGBTQ-supportive businesses through shared knowledge, leadership, and support.

### [Denver African-American Commission](#)

DAAC serves as a bridge between the African American community and policy-makers and engage in responsible activism for the community.

### [El Centro Amistad](#)

Amistad's mission is to create opportunities and programs that promote education, health, and quality of life for the Latino community.

### [First Nations Development Institute](#)

This institute improves economic conditions for Native Americans through direct financial grants, technical assistance & training, and advocacy & policy.

### [Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Metro Denver](#)

The Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Metro Denver is a membership driven organization comprised of small-business owners, corporate representatives, community leaders, and association members representing various professions. With over 2,500 members, the Hispanic Chamber is the state's largest minority Chamber.

### [Minority Business Directory](#)

Online database of certified, minority-owned businesses.

### [My Black Colorado](#)

My Black Colorado provides a guide for Black organizations, churches, social groups, and business. The organization exists to facilitate and cultivate a cohesive ecosystem of the local black community to inspire, innovate and connect local areas together.

### [One Colorado](#)

One Colorado is the state's leading advocacy organization dedicated to advancing equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) Coloradans and their families. They advocate for issues like safe schools, transgender equality, relationship recognition, and LGBTQ health and human services.

### [Rocky Mountain Indian Chamber of Commerce](#)

The RMICC's goal is to assist commerce that benefits American Indian Communities through economic development. The RMICC helps provide relevant training, workshops, events, and networking opportunities.

### [The Center on Colfax](#)

The Center on Colfax is the largest LGBTQ community center in the Rocky Mountain region, serving more than 47,000 people each year. They are focused on fulfilling their mission by ensuring that every member of the LGBTQ community has access to the programs and resources they need to live happy, healthy, and productive lives.

# Financial/Other Resources

## [JPS Employee Assistance Program \(EAP\)](#)

Employees, retirees, and family members over age 15 may contact the EAP for help with any personal or work related problems. You must be a current Jeffco employee to login at the link provided above. Our EAP Counselors offer the following services:

- Assessment
- Short term counseling
- Referral to community resources
- Training
- Conflict resolution/mediation
- Monthly Mindfulness Group

## [Colorado Drug Card](#)

Colorado Drug Card is a free statewide discount prescription assistance program, through which all residents are eligible to get pharmacy discounts.

## [Community Table \(Previously Arvada Community Food Bank\)](#)

The Mission of Community Table: A community in which people have access to food and resources to foster self-sufficiency.

## [Family Tree](#)

Family Tree is a non-profit human services agency providing innovative, life-changing services designed to end child abuse, domestic violence and homelessness.

## [Jefferson County Assistance and Support](#)

From infancy to adulthood and on to senior status, for job training, food and nutritional services, medication and medical assistance, Jefferson County's many programs and services helps people have better, safer lives.

## [Jefferson County Head Start Family Support](#)

This program is dedicated to engaging families at every step. They also offer a Fatherhood program, which specifically engages dads and other father figures.

## [Teacher Loan Forgiveness Program](#)

Under this program, if you teach full-time for five complete and consecutive academic years in a low-income school or educational service agency, and meet other qualifications, you may be eligible for forgiveness of up to \$17,500 on select loans.

# Things to do in Jeffco

## Outdoor Activities

### [Jefferson County Parks and Recreation](#)

Jefferson County Parks Department has 29 parks without entry fees, nearly 230 miles of trails, and a legacy of conservation and land preservation. Combine that with many recreation centers in Jeffco, there are many options for residents and visitors of Jefferson County.

### [Foothills Park & Recreation](#)

District residents receive a discount on fees, but Foothills' facilities, classes and events are open to the public including three recreation centers, one 2-sheet ice arena, four indoor and four outdoor swimming pools and two indoor sports facilities.

## Local Attractions



### [Bandimere Speedway](#)

Bandimere Speedway is a quarter-mile dragstrip located just outside Morrison, Colorado and Lakewood, Colorado. It opened in 1958 and hosts the NHRA's Mopar Mile-High Nationals. The facility has a seating capacity of 23,500 spectators.

### [Boettcher Mansion](#)

The Boettcher Mansion provides a rare combination of historic authenticity and modern amenities from its secluded setting inside the Lookout Mountain Nature Preserve in Golden, CO, only a half-hour drive west of Denver.

### [Buffalo Bill's Museum & Grave](#)

The Museum illustrates the life, times, and legend of William F. Cody. It includes exhibits about Buffalo Bill's life and the Wild West shows, Native American objects, and firearms.

### [Butterfly Pavilion](#)

Butterfly Pavilion is the first stand-alone, Association of Zoos and Aquariums-accredited non-profit invertebrate zoo in the world and a leader in invertebrate knowledge, inspiration and connection.

### [Chatfield Farms](#)

Facilities include the Earl J. Sinnamon Visitor Center, the historical Hildebrand Ranch, a restored 1918 dairy barn and silo, the 1874 Deer Creek Schoolhouse, 2.5 miles of nature trails, the Deer Creek Discovery children's play area and numerous wildflower gardens. Bring your binoculars and wander the many trails. The area is known for exceptional bird watching.

### [Colorado Railroad Museum](#)

The Colorado Railroad Museum offers over 100 narrow and standard gauge steam and diesel locomotives, passenger cars, cabooses HO Model Railroad and G-scale garden railway on our 15-acre railyard. Also, see their exhibit galleries, renowned library, Roundhouse restoration facility and working turntable. Group rates and programs are available.

### [Dinosaur Ridge](#)

Dinosaur Ridge is a National Natural Landmark just outside suburban Denver. It has been ranked as the top dinosaur track site in the United States, and one of the top such sites in the world. Their mission is to educate the public about, and ensure the preservation of, the natural and historic resources of Dinosaur Ridge, Triceratops Trail, and the surrounding areas.

### [Lakeside Amusement Park](#)

Lakeside Amusement Park is a large facility with excitement, history and charm, located by a picturesque lake with great mountain views. A merry-go-round, a drop tower, bumper boats, roller coasters, sports cars and many spinning rides make Lakeside the perfect site for family fun and large events.

### [Lookout Mountain Nature Center](#)

Interactive exhibits take visitors on a tour of the flora and fauna of the foothills ecosystem. Kids enjoy a hands-on play room and observation room. The Nature Center offers free naturalist-led programs in every season for individuals, families, schools, and groups.

### [Red Rocks Park and Amphitheatre](#)

Red Rocks Amphitheatre is an open-air amphitheater built into a rock structure near Morrison, Colorado. They offer concerts, events, movie screenings, hiking and biking trails, exercise, and much more.

### [SeaQuest](#)

SeaQuest brings the majestic wonders of our planet, ranging from rainforests and deserts to exotic marine life. Guests are encouraged to connect with animals and learn about their ecosystems through various hands-on activities which include hand feeding sharks, stingrays, birds and tropical animals.

### [Tiny Town Railroad](#)

Tiny Town Railroad is just a short drive west of Denver into the foothills. Here, you can spend the day among their kid-sized buildings, ride the train, and enjoy a picnic.

## Art and Culture

### [Foothills Art Center](#)

Located in Golden, the Foothills Art Center inspires and engages the community through arts, education, and a creative exchange of ideas.



### [Golden History Park](#)

Golden History Park (formerly Clear Creek History Park) is home to many of the original buildings from the Pearce Ranch in Golden Gate Canyon. Also, see the 1876 Guy Hill schoolhouse which was originally located in the canyon too, but on a different property.

### [Lakewood Cultural Center](#)

The Lakewood Cultural Center is the artistic hub of its community. It features a 320-seat theater, art galleries, fine art and dance studios, meeting and event spaces, and a full calendar of fine and performing art classes, camps, performances and special events.

### [Morrison Natural History Museum](#)

Discover Colorado's dinosaurs with expert guides and hands-on exhibits at Jefferson County's original paleontology museum. Encounter historic and modern fossil finds and see research in progress in the fossil preparation laboratory. The Museum continues to actively studying local paleontology.

### [The Arvada Center](#)

The Arvada Center is a leader in creating high-quality arts and humanities experiences that nourish the ability to explore and express the full range of human emotion.

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