Education, Commerce and Industry – Aurora, Colorado  
(Updated June 2019)

Aurora’s economy is thriving, partly because the city continues to lure some of the top businesses in the nation in such industries as aerospace and defense, bioscience and health care, transportation and logistics, and renewable energy. Aurora’s business friendly, customer service-driven attitude is the heart of the Aurora Advantage 4 Business. Educational opportunities abound in Aurora, providing an ample training ground for the city’s future workforce.

Education

Higher Education

- University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus
  - University of Colorado Hospital ranked No. 1 hospital in Colorado, and nationally ranked in 11 specialties and high performing in one adult specialty and six procedures/conditions in 2018-19 by U.S. News & World Report
  - University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus ranked No. 12 for primary care and No. 30 for research in 2018-19 by U.S. News & World Report
  - Children’s Hospital Colorado ranked nationally in 10 pediatric specialties in 2018-19 by U.S. News & World Report
- Community College of Aurora, including the nationally recognize Colorado Film School
- Pickens Technical College
- Colorado Technical University – Aurora Campus
- American Sentinel University
- Anthem College
- Concorde Career College
- Everest College
- Pima Medical Institute
- Platt College

School Districts

- Cherry Creek Schools (one of the top performing districts in Colorado)
- Aurora Public Schools (one of the state’s most diverse districts with children from more than 90 nations)
- Bennett Public Schools (undeveloped land in Aurora that extends east of Monaghan Road, north of County Line Road and south of 72nd Avenue falls within this district.)
- Brighton Public Schools (serving Aurora residents who live in the new Highpoint at DIA neighborhood)
- Douglas County School District (serving residents of Aurora’s Inspiration neighborhood along Gartrell Road, just north of Inspiration Road)
Workforce: 190,859 people working in Aurora

- Percent Working in...
  - Management/Business/Science and Arts: 31.8%
  - Sales and Office: 25%
  - Services: 20.4%
  - Production/Transportation/Material Moving: 11.8%
  - Natural Resources/Construction/Maintenance: 10.9%

- Industry Breakdown
  - Education/Health Care/Social Services: 18.7%
  - Professional/Scientific/Management/Administration: 13.8%
  - Arts/Entertainment/Recreation/Food Services: 11%
  - Retail Trade: 11.6%
  - Construction: 9%
  - Finance/Insurance/Real Estate: 7.6%
  - Transportation/Utilities: 7.1%
  - Other Services: 5.3%
  - Manufacturing: 5.6%
  - Public Administration: 3.7%
  - Wholesale Trade: 2.5%
  - Information: 3.1%
  - Agriculture/Mining: 0.9%

Commerce and Industry

Anschutz Medical Campus and Fitzsimons Innovation Community
- This one-square-mile site of the former Fitzsimons Army Base is a $5.4 billion redevelopment project that will eventually employ more than 41,000 people. It’s one of the world's newest education, research and patient care facility and the largest academic health center in the Rocky Mountain Region. It attracts more than two million visitors annually.
- Campus includes:
  - Fitzsimons Innovation Community ($400 million investment, with 75 innovative companies at 100% capacity and 25 companies waiting to gain access to incubator space; constructing 300,000 square feet of additional space in the next 12 months)
  - The University of Colorado Hospital (Employs 7,110 people and is ranked the No.1 best hospital in the Colorado in the 2018-19 U.S. News and World Report's Best Hospitals list; constructing an 11-story, 103-bed inpatient tower)
  - The University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus (Employs 8,140 people at an academic health center that combines interdisciplinary teaching, research and clinical facilities; constructing a 7-story, 390,000-square-foot health sciences building)
  - Children’s Hospital Colorado (Employs 5,670)
  - State-of-the-art Rocky Mountain Regional VA Medical Center opened in 2018

Buckley Air Force Base
- Contributes nearly $1 billion annually to Aurora’s economy
• Supports 12,000 personnel (10 percent of Aurora’s total employment)
• Home to the 460th Space Wing, Buckley operates a satellite system that supplies persistent global surveillance, and provides missile warning, missile defense and technical intelligence, tracking and targeting
• Hosts “Big Five” mission partners (Colorado Air National Guard, Navy Operational Support Center, Aerospace Data Facility-Colorado, Army Aviation Support Facility and Air Reserve Personnel Center) and supports 84 base partners located on base and in the community

Retail
• **Square Feet of Retail Space in Aurora:** 21 million
• **Stanley Marketplace** (100,000-square-foot former aircraft ejection seat manufacturing facility featuring more than 50 independently owned Colorado businesses, including restaurants, retail and services)
• **Aurora City Place** (village street concept features major retail anchors and smaller shops)
• **Cornerstar** (outdoor retail center features both smaller and larger stores and restaurants as well as a small grocery)
• **The Gardens at Havana** (pedestrian-oriented outdoor retail center featuring an urban garden theme and a mix of smaller shops and larger retail anchors as well as a small grocery)
• **Southlands** (1.7-million-square-foot outdoor lifestyle center with a four-block main street and community plaza surrounded by additional retailers, restaurants and a movie theater)
• **Town Center at Aurora** (indoor shopping center with more than 140 specialty stores, including major department stores and eateries)

Other Major Public and Private Employers
• **Aurora Public Schools** (Employs 6,300 people)
• **Cherry Creek Schools** (Employs 3,750 people, which are only those in the district who work in Aurora schools)
• **City of Aurora** (Employs 3,900 people)
• **Community College of Aurora** (Employs 600 people)
• **Raytheon Company** (Employs 2,430 people to design space systems, ground equipment and software)
• **HealthONE: The Medical Center of Aurora** (Employs 1,710 people to provide hospital/medical care)
• **Kaiser Permanente** (Employs 1,940 people in the health care industry)
• **Amazon** (Employs 1,500 working in warehouse and distribution services)
• **24-7 Intouch** (Employs 1,350 people to provide customer service solutions)
• **Tyco Integrated Security** (Employs 850 people to provide commercial security services)
• **SROriginals** (Employs 870 people to make and distribute bakery products)
• **ADT Security Systems** (Employs 700 people for alarm system monitoring)
• **Northrop Grumman** (Employs 750 people and works on hardware/software data processing systems)
• **Lockheed Martin** (Employs 660 people in systems design/research)
• **Breakthru Beverage Colorado** (Employs 660 people working in wholesale liquor)
• **Other large private employers:** Advantage Security, Staples, Beverage Distributors Co., Wagner Equipment Co., G4S Secure Solutions (USA) Inc., University of Colorado Medicine, United Natural Foods, Inc., Aurora Mental Health Center, Nelnet, Inc., Graebel Companies, Inc., Cooper Lighting, Developmental Pathways, Core-Mark Distributors and Advanced Circuits