

# Bring Your Business to the New West



The Grand Junction Economic Partnership (“GJEP”) is a private non-profit incorporated organization and the official economic development agency of Mesa County. This Partnership represents the cities of Grand Junction and Fruita, the Town of Palisade and Mesa County.

## Target Industries:

- Aviation/Aerospace
- Energy
- Food, Beverage and Agriculture
- Healthcare
- IT/Professional Services
- Outdoor Apparel and Manufacturing

## Services Offered:

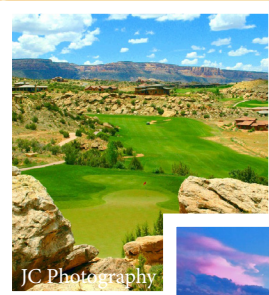
- Regional Overviews and Tours
- Site selection assistance
- Incentive/assistance programs
- Customized research
- Market information and data
- Access to regulatory authorities
- Employee recruitment
- Labor market analysis
- And more...

## Get Connected:

-  Check out our website: [www.gjep.org](http://www.gjep.org)
-  Follow us on Twitter: [GJEconDev](https://twitter.com/GJEconDev)
-  Read our Blog: [gjep.org/gjep-blog](http://gjep.org/gjep-blog)
-  Like us on Facebook: [GJEconomicPartnership](https://www.facebook.com/GJEconomicPartnership)
-  View videos on our YouTube Page: [GJEconDev](https://www.youtube.com/GJEconDev)
-  Look at pictures on Instagram: [gjepecondev](https://www.instagram.com/gjepecondev)
-  Subscribe to our newsletter: [bit.ly/ZIQUut](http://bit.ly/ZIQUut)

## Area Rankings:

- 5th Safest Place to Live to Avoid Natural Disaster
- 7th Sunniest City in the U.S.
- 6th Best Hunting and Fishing Town in the U.S.
- 12th Best Small Place for Business and Careers
- 10 Best Places to live on \$100 a day
- 13th Most Exciting Small Cities in America
- Fruita is the 5th Safest Place in Colorado
- Best Places for Young Families in Colorado
- Top 10 Wine Destinations in the US



JC Photography



## Top 10 Employers

1. Mesa County School District
2. St. Mary's Hospital and Regional Medical Center
3. Mesa County
4. Star Tek, Inc.
5. City Markets, Inc.
6. City of Grand Junction
7. Colorado Mesa University
8. VA Medical Center - Grand Junction
9. Community Hospital
10. Hilltop Community Resources



# Welcome to the Grand Valley!



## THE NEW WEST:

MODERN. INDEPENDENT. STILL WILD.

 **GRAND JUNCTION** economic PARTNERSHIP  
122 N. 6th St. | Grand Junction, CO 81501  
P: (970) 245-4332 | F: (970) 245-4346  
[www.gjep.org](http://www.gjep.org)



**Student Placement:**

- 47% of CMU alumni are employed on Colorado's Western Slope and 35% are found in Mesa County
- Degrees in Healthcare and Manufacturing Technology/Engineering make up 30% of Colorado Mesa University's total graduates

**Local Education**

- 90% of total population has a high school diploma
- 26% of the total population has a bachelor's degree or higher

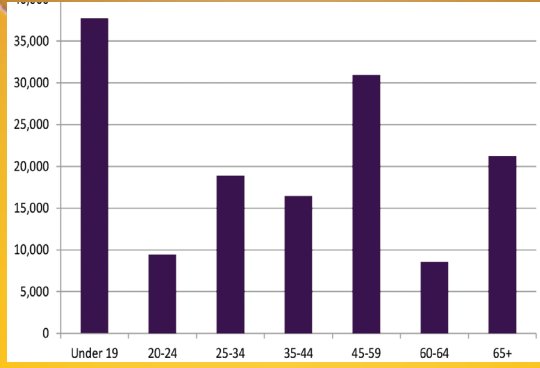


**Workforce:**

- The total Grand Junction MSA labor force was reported at 75,871 (12.2014)
- Unemployment rate is 4%
- The average annual wage in Mesa County for the second quarter of 2014 was \$40,051

**Demographics**

- Population: 149,617
- Median Age: 38
- Median household income \$49,471



**Top Reasons YOU Want to Live in the Grand Valley**

The combination of spectacular scenery, recreational opportunities, and excellent climate makes the Grand Valley an easy choice for the outdoor lover. The area's exceptional quality of life is attractive to businesses, individuals and tourists alike.

**Colorado National Monument** - features towering monoliths within a vast plateau and canyon panorama. You can experience sheer-walled, red rock canyons along the twists and turns of Rim Rock Drive, where you may spy bighorn sheep and soaring eagles 13 miles from downtown Grand Junction.

**The Grand Mesa National Forest** - is one of the world's largest flat top mountains. It boasts over 300 lakes scattered across the area topping out at over 11,000 feet of elevation. Just 45 minutes to the top of this mountain offers spectacular snow sport opportunities, as well as a cool retreat during the summer heat of the desert.

**3 Unique Downtowns**

- **Downtown Grand Junction** is home to dozens of delightful shops, music venues, restaurants, galleries and area services. Art on the Corner (AOTC) is a year-round outdoor sculpture exhibit and is one of the first of its kind in the country. AOTC is free to the public and includes more than 100 sculptures in a variety of mediums and styles.
- **Downtown Fruita** overflows with festive events! Fat Tire Festival, Mike the Headless Chicken Festival, Rimrock Rodeo and the Thursday night concert series are just a few of the things to enjoy.
- **Downtown Palisade** allows you to slow down and enjoy your surroundings. You can get to know the local creative community of oil, pastel and watercolor artists, sculptors, and glass and clay artists, or visit music festivals, farmers' markets and more.

**World Class Recreation** - within the Grand Valley including countless parks and recreation facilities boasting over 10,000 miles of various trails! The Colorado and Gunnison rivers converge in Grand Junction and provide first class rafting and kayaking for all abilities. A gorgeous riverfront trail system provides many routes for hikers and bicyclists. Powderhorn Mountain Resort provides over 1,600 acres of freshly powdered ski slopes to hone your skills and is a short 30 minute drive from the heart of Grand Junction.

**Festivals** - The Grand Valley hosts numerous festivals and events during the year including Palisade Peach Festival, Country and Rock Jam, Downtown Art and Jazz Festival, Fruita Fat Tire Festival, Farmers Markets, Colorado Lavender Festival and more.

**Breweries and Distilleries** - The Grand Valley offers a variety of locally crafted beverages to suit everyone's taste. Local brew pubs include Kannah Creek, Rockslide, Suds Brothers and Palisade Brewing Company. Peachstreet Distillery creates a variety of spirits.

**Colorado Wine Country** - Palisade, Colorado was recently named in the top 10 Wine Destinations in the United States. The Grand Valley is home to over 20 wineries and vineyards and produces over 75% of Colorado's wine grapes. Join us in September to celebrate at the Colorado Mountain Winefest.



Colorado National Monument



Rafting by JC Photography



Downtown by JC Photography



Grand Mesa National Forest



Sarah Mah Withers



Palisade Blossoms