

The Nonprofit Sector in Colorado



NUMBER OF COLORADO NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS	
ALL NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS	23,148
501(c)(3) PUBLIC CHARITIES (INCLUDES SOME RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS)	18,166
501(c)(4) NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS	1,020
OTHER 501(c) NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS	3,962

Public Charities and Foundations Benefit Colorado Communities

Deliver vital community services

The American Indian College Fund helps Native American students, providing them with support through scholarships and funding toward higher education. From 2017-2018, the College Fund distributed over \$7 million in direct support to students.

Give voice to the people they serve

Mercy Housing has served more than 152,000 people by participating in the development, preservation and/or financing of more than 48,200 affordable homes. Mercy Housing's goal is to support efforts to promote policies—both legislative and regulatory—aimed at improving housing opportunities for those in need.

Contribute to vibrant communities

Started 30 years ago, the Colorado Nonprofit Association has made Colorado nonprofits stronger by leading research on charitable giving trends. The Association also advocates for nonprofits with policymakers on issues such as how to incentivize charitable giving, create efficiencies in the services nonprofits deliver, and promote accountability.

Advance solutions for challenges facing society

The Leighty Foundation is a family foundation that is committed to enhancing the impact of Colorado's nonprofits. Each year, it awards grants to area organizations working on issues such as education, health, environmental sustainability, and fostering community. In order to leverage charitable giving even further, the foundation provides considerable funding to organizations who seek to grow their volunteer programs.

Economic Impact of Colorado's Nonprofit Sector

- Employs nearly 190,000 - almost 8% of the state's workforce
- Generates more than **\$30 billion** in annual revenues
- Holds assets of **\$65 billion**
- Colorado foundations annually give over **\$834 million**
- Coloradans give **\$3.4 billion** to charity each year, representing **2.87 percent** of household income

Employment by Nonprofit Service Area

Nonprofit Service Area	% of CO Nonprofits
Religious, Grantmaking, and Civic Associations	36%
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	21%
Social Assistance	16%
Health Care and Hospitals	9%
Education	8%
Ambulatory Health, Nursing, and Residential Care	7%
Professional, Scientific Services	4%

Sources on reverse side

Note: The “nonprofit sector” encompasses organizations that are defined as tax-exempt under section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code. This includes both public charities and private foundations [501(c)(3)] and other nonprofits such as civic league organizations [501(c)(4)]. Exceptions are noted when relevant.

Sources:

Employment Information

Best estimate based on available data from the following sources:

The 2019 nonprofit employment report, Lester M. Salamon and Chelsea L. Newhouse, S. Wojciech Sokolowski, *Nonprofit Employment Bulletin #47*, Johns Hopkins Center for Civil Society Studies, 2019 {Data is 2016, page 3}
http://ccss.jhu.edu/wp-content/uploads/downloads/2019/01/2019-NP-Employment-Report_FINAL_1.8.2019.pdf

Breakdown by Nonprofit Service Area

Return on Investment: The Economic Impact of the Nonprofit Sector in Colorado, Lester M. Salamon, Stephanie Lessans Geller, S. Wojciech Sokolowski, Kevin Raines
(Denver: Colorado Nonprofit Association, 2008).

<http://ccss.jhu.edu/publications-findings?did=275> {Data are 2005, page 10}

Number of Nonprofits

Economic Contributions of Colorado's Nonprofit Sector, 2017, Economic & Planning Systems and Corona Insights.
https://www.cononprofitimpact.org/uploads/1/2/4/0/124064770/colorado_nonprofit_economic_impact_study.pdf

Asset and Revenues

Economic Contributions of Colorado's Nonprofit Sector, 2017, Economic & Planning Systems and Corona Insights.
https://www.cononprofitimpact.org/uploads/1/2/4/0/124064770/colorado_nonprofit_economic_impact_study.pdf

Foundation Giving

The Foundation Center, FC Stats: "Foundation Stats: Total Grantmaking Foundations" {Data are 2015}

<http://data.foundationcenter.org/#/foundations/all/state:CO/total/list/2015>

Individual Giving

How America Gives, 2014. The Chronicle of Philanthropy. {Data are 2012}.

<https://philanthropy.com/interactives/how-america-gives#search>

Nonprofit Examples:

Colorado Nonprofit Association: <http://www.coloradononprofits.org/> and

<https://www.coloradononprofits.org/resources/research-publications>

The American Indian College Fund: http://www.collegefund.org/content/about_us

The Leighty Foundation: <http://leightyfoundation.org/>

<http://www.leightyfoundation.org/volunteer-engagement/invest-volunteer-engagement/>

Mercy Housing: <https://www.mercyhousing.org/about/who-we-serve/>

As of September 2019