

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.

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:

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Area Rankings:

- 5th Safest Place to Live to Avoid Natural Disasters
- 7th Sunniest City in the U.S.
- 12th Best Small Place for Business and Careers
- Fruita named in Top 10 Mountain Bike Destinations in North America
- Grand Junction is one of the Top Ten Rising Travel Destinations
- 25 Best Cities for Tech Startups
- 13th most Exciting Small Cities in America
- Grand Junction is one of America's Coolest Desert Towns



Food, Beverage & Agriculture



THE NEW WEST:

MODERN. INDEPENDENT. STILL WILD.

 **GRAND JUNCTION** economic PARTNERSHIP
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www.gjep.org

Student Placement:

- Colorado Mesa University offers an Agriculture Science program that includes a cooperative work/internship experience

Local Education

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

Workforce:

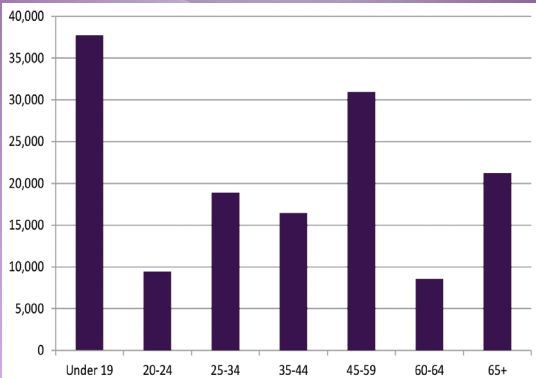
- 7,485 people employed (02.2015) in the Food, Beverage & Agriculture, which is 9.8% of Mesa County's labor force
- Unemployment rate is 4.7%
- The average annual wage for Food, Beverage & Agriculture in Mesa County is \$32,191

Agriculture

- In 2012, Mesa County farms brought in more than \$84.5 million in crop and livestock sales, which is a 38% increase from 2007
- This includes \$40.7 million in fruit, tree nuts, and berry sales, which makes Mesa County the top producer in this category in the state

Demographics

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



Top Reasons YOU Want Your Business in the Grand Valley

The Grand Valley has a heritage in fruit, vegetables, farming and ranching. We also have branched out to include organic foods, craft breweries, distilleries and world class wineries.

- Access to a pipeline of qualified employees through cutting edge programs at Colorado Mesa University
- Financing options available through local and state resources
- Mesa County is a top producer of fruit, tree nuts and berry sales
- An innovative healthcare system that is one of the best in the country
- The exceptional quality of life appeals to a qualified and motivated workforce
- Inventory of land and buildings to meet your expansion and/or relocation needs
- Variety of tax incentives including the locally administered Enterprise Zone program
- Purchases of manufacturing equipment or machine tools of over \$500 are exempt from Colorado State Sales and Use tax
- Western Colorado Community College offers a unique culinary arts program with small class sizes and the ability for students to hone their skills at the college managed restaurant, Chez Lena.

Existing Local Food, Beverage and Agriculture Companies

Colterris Winery
Kannah Creek Brewing Company
Field to Fork CSA

Palisade Distillery
6350' Natural Foods
High Country Orchards

*This is not an inclusive list of existing local businesses

