

# County Profile: Boulder County (Urban)



CENTER FOR IMPROVING  
VALUE IN HEALTH CARE

## County Overview

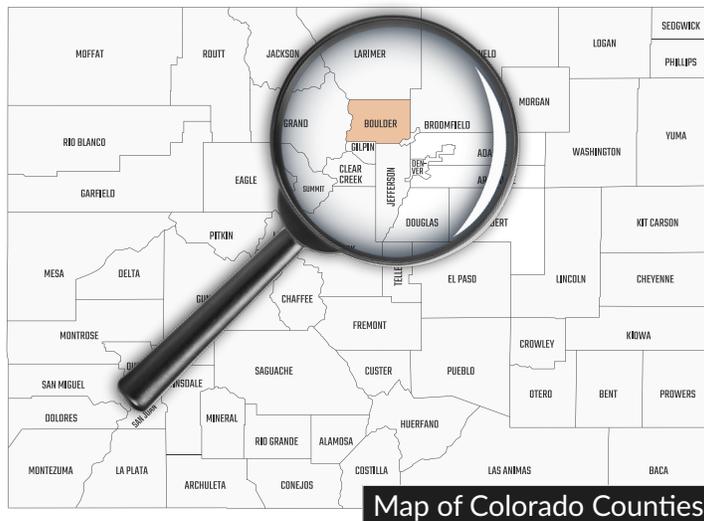
### Population Information 2023\*

Total Population	Unique Lives in the CO APCD	Insured Population**
<b>326,101</b>	<b>186,280</b>	<b>311,836</b>

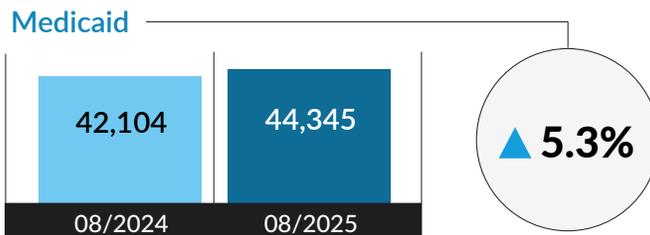
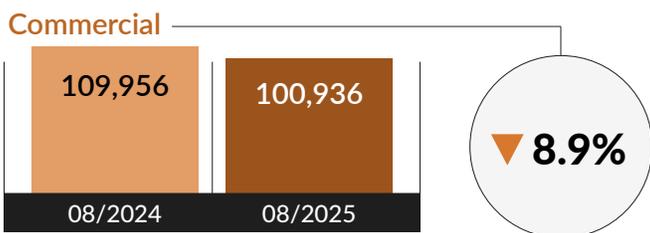
% Total Population in the CO APCD	% Total Insured Population in the CO APCD
<b>57%</b>	<b>60%</b>

\*Data comes from the [CO APCD Insights Dashboard](#), with data from reporting year 2023. See full considerations and [methodology](#) for Insights Dashboard population reporting.

\*\*County population and insured estimates are based on five years of Census data leading up to the selected year.



## Year-Over-Year County Enrollment



Commercial and Medicaid only, does not include Medicare Fee-for-Service or Advantage.

## Spending on Care in Boulder County

Payments Made by Health Plans and Patients Combined | All Payers, 2023 | Per Person Per Year (PPPY)

All data in this section comes from the [Community Dashboard](#), with most recent data through reporting year 2023.

Total Cost Per Patient + Plan	Statewide Average	County Rank	Breakdown by Category			
<b>\$8,047</b>	<b>\$8,231</b>	<b>12</b> <i>Lower is better, out of 64 counties</i>	<b>\$1,518</b> Inpatient	<b>\$1,764</b> Outpatient	<b>\$3,234</b> Professional	<b>\$1,728</b> Pharmacy

## County Trends and Notes | All measures reflect data from the [Community Dashboard](#) (2013 -2023)

- Boulder County has **slightly lower rate of spending on care than other urban counties**. In 2023, total cost of care (plan + patient) was \$8,047 per person per year, below the statewide average of \$8,231. Among Colorado counties, Boulder ranks 12th in spending on care (ranked lowest to highest), placing it in the top third of counties by affordability.
- Boulder County has a **lower rate of potentially preventable emergency department (ED) visits than the majority of urban Colorado counties**. In 2023, the county recorded 89 potentially preventable ED visits per 1,000 people, well below the Colorado urban county benchmark of 118 visits per 1,000 people. Boulder ranked 15th among Colorado counties in rate of potentially preventable ED visits (ranked lowest to highest).
- Boulder County has **one of the highest rates of breast cancer screenings**, indicative of a higher rate of preventive care use. In 2023, 68% of eligible residents received breast cancer screenings, placing Boulder among the top 10 counties in Colorado for screening (ranked highest to lowest).

Explore more county profiles and download the full underlying dataset for the Community Dashboard on [civhc.org](#).