

kiowa county

Much of Kiowa County developed along with the expansion of the railroads at the beginning of the last century. Adjoining the Kansas border, this region's open plains are connected to major markets and distribution centers, yet retain the flavor of small town life.

A large part of Kiowa County's economy comes from the area's natural resources. More than 120 wells in the area tap Colorado's fossil fuel deposits. A number of local businesses support these oil and gas drilling operations.

Covering close to one million acres, Kiowa County farms grow wheat, millet, grain sorghum, sunflowers and corn, and raise cattle, goats, sheep, horses and swine. Area granaries have the capacity to store up to five million bushels of grain.

Residents and visitors also enjoy investigating the county's recreation areas. The five reservoirs draw birdwatchers, boaters, fisherman, wildlife enthusiasts and hunters from across the state.

Kiowa County provides opportunities for cultural discovery and reflection, as well. A National Historic Site commemorates the 1864 Sand Creek Massacre. This deadly dawn attack on a Cheyenne and Arapaho encampment marked a tragic low point in relations between the military and Native Americans during the settlement of the frontier. Other chapters in county history can be explored at the Kiowa County Museum and Woelk Park.



Population¹

Total	1,519
Brandon ²	18
Chivington ²	10
Eads	610
Haswell	71
Sheridan Lake	56
Towner ²	41

Workforce³

Labor force	926
Employment rate	97.2%

County Taxes

Sales Tax ⁴	none
Mill Levy Rate ⁵	42.73 mills

Sources

¹U.S. Census Bureau, 2007

²Self-Reported Statistics

³Colorado Department of Labor, 2007

⁴Colorado Department of Revenue, 2009

⁵Colorado Department of Local Affairs, Division of Property Taxation, 2008

Attractions, Recreation & Events

Attractions

Artist of the Plains Art Gallery
 Haswell Jail
 Kiowa County Museum
 Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site
 Woelk Park & Museum

Recreation

Adobe Creek Reservoir/Blue Lake
 Great Plains Reservoirs
 Kiowa Creek Natural Area
 Prairie Horizons/Transamerica Bicycle Trail
 Queens State Wildlife Area

Events

Main Street Bash
 Kiowa County Fair & Rodeo



business profile: Weber's Water Service

Owned by a father-son team, Weber's Water Service shop can be seen from the farmhouse the family homesteaded in 1916. The typical oil well requires half-a-million gallons of water, and Weber's Water Service provides it for most of the drilling rigs in the area, along with well construction site bulldozing services, and oil and gas well maintenance. Eventually, after being refined, product from these wells ends up at gas stations nationwide. The company attributes its success, in no small part, to its strong customer relations and consistently providing good service at a fair price.