



# National Weather Service



## Forecasting for over 110 Years!!!

The National Weather Service Office in [Grand Junction, Colorado](#) is located near the [Grand Junction Regional Airport](#) in western Colorado. It is located 28 miles east of the Utah border at the junction of the Colorado and Gunnison rivers. Grand Junction is an oasis in the desert nestled between towering [rock formations](#) and beautiful, lush mountain ranges.

The unique landscape and climate in Grand Junction provide for unlimited outdoor recreation activities. From [winter skiing to mountain biking, fishing, rock climbing, and camping](#), you will find Grand Junction to be a place of enjoyment year-around.

Grand Junction is home to [Colorado Mesa University](#), which offers liberal arts, professional and technical programs for certificates', associates', bachelors' and masters' levels. Grand Junction hosts several community and cultural events throughout the year. The [Grand Junction Forecast Office](#) covers over 50,000 square miles of terrain. Whether you prefer to take in a baseball game at the [Junior College Baseball World Series](#), enjoy the beautiful sounds of the [Grand Junction Symphony](#), sample wine at any of the [several vineyards](#), or visit one of the 14 world class ski areas, Grand Junction is sure to have an event for everyone to enjoy!

### Quick Stats\*:

County: Mesa

Population: 150,731  
(County, 2016 Est. Census)

Median Age: 38.8

Median Income: \$50,070

Median Home Price: \$241,600

COL Index: 101

Unemployment: 5.4%



\*Information courtesy of the Grand Junction Economic Partnership



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Grand Junction, CO**

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## NWS GRAND JUNCTION, CO STATION DIGEST

**STATION LOCATION:** The office is located at the Grand Junction Regional Airport (GJT) <https://www.gjairport.com/>

**COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION:** Grand Junction is 247 miles SW of Denver and 284 miles SE of Salt Lake City, UT, Grand Junction is located in Mesa County. It is a major commercial and transportation hub within the large area between the Green River, UT and the Continental Divide. This city is along the Colorado River, at its confluence with the Gunnison River, which comes in from the south. “Grand” refers to the historical Grand River; it was renamed the Upper Colorado River in 1921. “Junction” refers to the confluence of the Colorado and Gunnison rivers. Grand Junction has been nicknamed “River City”. The valley was long occupied by the Ute people and earlier indigenous cultures. In the 1880s, European-American farmers settled into the area. Beginning in the late 20<sup>th</sup> century, several wineries were established in the area. Grand Junction is also home to the [Junior College World Series](#) each year. Whether you enjoy the indoors or outdoors, Grand Junction has an event for everyone, young and old. Be sure to check out [visitgrandjunction.com/events-calendar](http://visitgrandjunction.com/events-calendar) for upcoming events.

**CLIMATE:** The Grand Junction area is a semi-arid climate. Grand Junction sits in a large area of high desert lands in Western Colorado. The average annual precipitation is 9.42” per year. Winters are cold and dry, with a January mean temperature of 27.4 °F. Lows drop to 0°F or below approximately 3 nights per year. Snowfall averages are approximately 19” per year, which is low compared to the other parts of the state. Summer is hot and dry. Grand Junction averages 64.5 days a year with temperatures at 90 °F and above with an average 6.5 days attaining 100 °F or more. Sunshine hours are abundant, even in winter and total just over 3200 hours per year.

**LODGING:** There are several hotels and motels near the Grand Junction, CO WFO and in downtown Grand Junction. Please check out: [visitgrandjunction.com/hotels-lodging](http://visitgrandjunction.com/hotels-lodging) for more information.

**HOUSING:** The median home value for 2019 in Grand Junction is \$241,600. The median home/apartment rental price ranges approximately between \$800 and \$1,295 and depends on size, type and location of housing. Outlying areas of Grand Junction are Fruita, Palisade, Orchard Mesa, Clifton and the Redlands.

**PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION:** Grand Valley Transit services Grand Junction, Fruita, Orchard Mesa and Palisade. The Redlands area is served by a public dial-a-ride service. There are two taxi companies that service the airport and Grand Junction area: [Sunshine Rides](#) and K2 Taxi: Phone: (970) 242-4652. Uber and Lyft are also available.

**TAXES:** Colorado State Income tax is 4.63%. Mesa County sales tax is 8.02%. Mesa County property tax is 7.9% per \$100,000.

**ECONOMY:** Major contributors to the Grand Junction economy are health care, tourism, agriculture, livestock, and energy mining (gas and oil). Top employers include: Mesa County Valley School District 51, St. Mary’s Hospital, Mesa County, State of Colorado, Colorado Mesa University, City Markets, Inc., Community Hospital, VA Medical Center, Star Tek, and the City of Grand Junction.

**RECREATION:** There are 1,559,551 acres of Public Lands within a half day’s drive from Grand Junction. Many of the parks are “dog-friendly”. Only forty-five minutes east of Grand Junction is [Powderhorn Ski Resort](#), which is a popular destination for locals and visitors. There is an abundance of mountain-biking, hiking, river recreation, fishing and camping that are all within a half-days drive. A few of the well-known destinations and activities nearby include:

[The Colorado National Monument](#)

[Arches National Park](#)

[The Grand Mesa](#)

[Fruita Mountain Bike Trails](#)

[Canyonlands National Park](#)

[Black Canyon of the Gunnison](#)

[Grand Mesa National Forest](#)

[ATV Trails](#)

[Wine Tasting](#)

[Mountain Bike Trails](#)

[Rafting on the Colorado River](#)

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