

Colorado

With a significant defense and aerospace cluster, Colorado continues to be a top area for cleared professionals. Salaries fall below the national average, but with lower-than-average cost of living and high quality of life, it remains an in-demand destination.

The state's push to brand Colorado as the place for all things aerospace continues to drive defense and aerospace activities forward, attracting more cleared jobs. However, salaries here tend to be lower when compared to national figures. Colorado's space economy now employs more than 66,000 workers, and the state counts more than 160 private aerospace businesses. But government contractors earn about \$6,000 less per year than the national average, and that's much the same story for mid-career level professionals who earn about \$7,000 less, and senior-career level professionals who earn about \$5,000 less. Despite high demand for clearances, there is still a pay gap between Colorado's cleared jobs and national figures. Those holding Secret and Top Secret clearances earn around \$8,000 less by comparison. Those with Top Secret/SCI earn about \$6,000 less. And while those with counterintelligence polygraph level clearances hold the highest salaries by clearance level, they still earn about \$5,800 less than the national average.

Average Total Compensation

\$82,950

NATIONAL ~~\$84,404~~



AVERAGE COMPENSATION BY EMPLOYER TYPE

	NATIONAL	COLORADO
Government Contractor	\$ 99,339	\$ 93,143
Military	\$ 69,508	\$ 68,504



AVERAGE COMPENSATION BY CLEARANCE LEVEL

	NATIONAL	COLORADO
DoD Secret	\$ 76,865	\$ 68,640
DoD Top Secret	\$ 95,120	\$ 86,732
DoD Top Secret/SCI	\$ 96,280	\$ 90,966



AVERAGE COMPENSATION BY POLYGRAPH LEVEL

	NATIONAL	COLORADO
Counter Intelligence	\$ 101,917	\$ 96,110
Don't Have One	\$ 84,453	\$ 79,378



AVERAGE COMPENSATION BY CAREER LEVEL

	NATIONAL	COLORADO
Mid-Level (5+ yrs)	\$ 71,985	\$ 64,702
Senior (10+ yrs)	\$ 95,536	\$ 90,701
Management	\$ 110,612	\$ 102,094



AVERAGE COMPENSATION BY GOVERNMENT AGENCY

	NATIONAL	COLORADO
DoD and All Military	\$ 96,445	\$ 92,271



AVERAGE COMPENSATION BY MILITARY BRANCH

	NATIONAL	COLORADO
Army	\$ 69,690	\$ 61,267