

Colorado Springs, Colorado

El Paso County inspects food establishments in Colorado Springs using a food code similar to the 2001 Food Code. Food establishments were inspected twice annually, but starting in 2007, a risk-based system is used to determine if certain establishments qualify to be inspected once, twice, or three times per year.

Eight inspectors cover at least 2,341 establishments and several hundred temporary eating establishments during special events. A searchable online database allows consumers to see the health violations found during inspections for numerous inspections at the same restaurant.

Colorado Springs averaged 1.5 violations per establishment with a weighted score of 3.8. The city provided all 30 requested inspection reports. Nearly half of the restaurants had violations relating to food contact surfaces, and improper holding temperatures was the category with the second most violations.

Colorado Springs restaurants were cited for, among other violations:

- Outer openings not adequately protected against insects and rodents
- Potentially hazardous foods not being properly held cold as required

Restaurants studied: MacKenzie's Chop House, Penrose Dining Room, Broadmoor Tavern, Broadmoor, Charles Court, La Petite Maison, Sunbird, Margarita, Colorado Steaksith, Craftwood Inn, Peppertree, TGI Fridays, Applebees, Jose Muldon's, Metropolitan, Giuseppe's Old Depot Restaurant, The Blue Star, Marigold's Café and Bakery, Edelweiss, Red Lobster, Macaroni Grill, McDonald's, Pita Pit, Subway, Quiznos, Arby's, Panera, Jamba Juice, Dunkin Donuts, Chick-fil-A, Chipotle

