



Connecting with our communities: A look at the economy of Colorado's Western Slope

by: Liz Tran

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During a visit to Grand Junction, Denver Branch Executive Nick Sly interacted with business operators and local leaders.

In mid-August, Vice President, Economist and Denver Branch Executive Nick Sly spent a few days in Grand Junction, Colorado, to learn about the community and its economic environment.

During the visit, Sly met with a nationwide distributor and manufacturer of industrial goods, toured a nonprofit facility supporting the development of a variety of business enterprises in Mesa County, and sat down with local business leaders to hear about recent developments.

With a population of about 65,000, Grand Junction is western Colorado's largest city and the largest city between Denver and Salt Lake City, Utah. The region is considered the economic center of the Western Slope, and it's known for its many outdoor recreation destinations and its agricultural production, particularly apples, cherries, peaches and pears.

Sly's trip closed with an economic forum presented by the Branch. The event provided opportunities for business leaders and local policymakers to exchange views with the Reserve Bank. Activities such as Sly's visit help the Kansas City Fed speak to the unique perspectives of the region within the broader national conversation about economic developments.

The [Denver Branch](#) connects Colorado, northern New Mexico and Wyoming to the Federal Reserve through relationships with local staff who have insight into regional needs, economies and challenges.

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Media



During his visit to Grand Junction, western Colorado's largest city, Denver Branch Executive Nick Sly toured the facilities of a manufacturer and distributor of industrial goods.