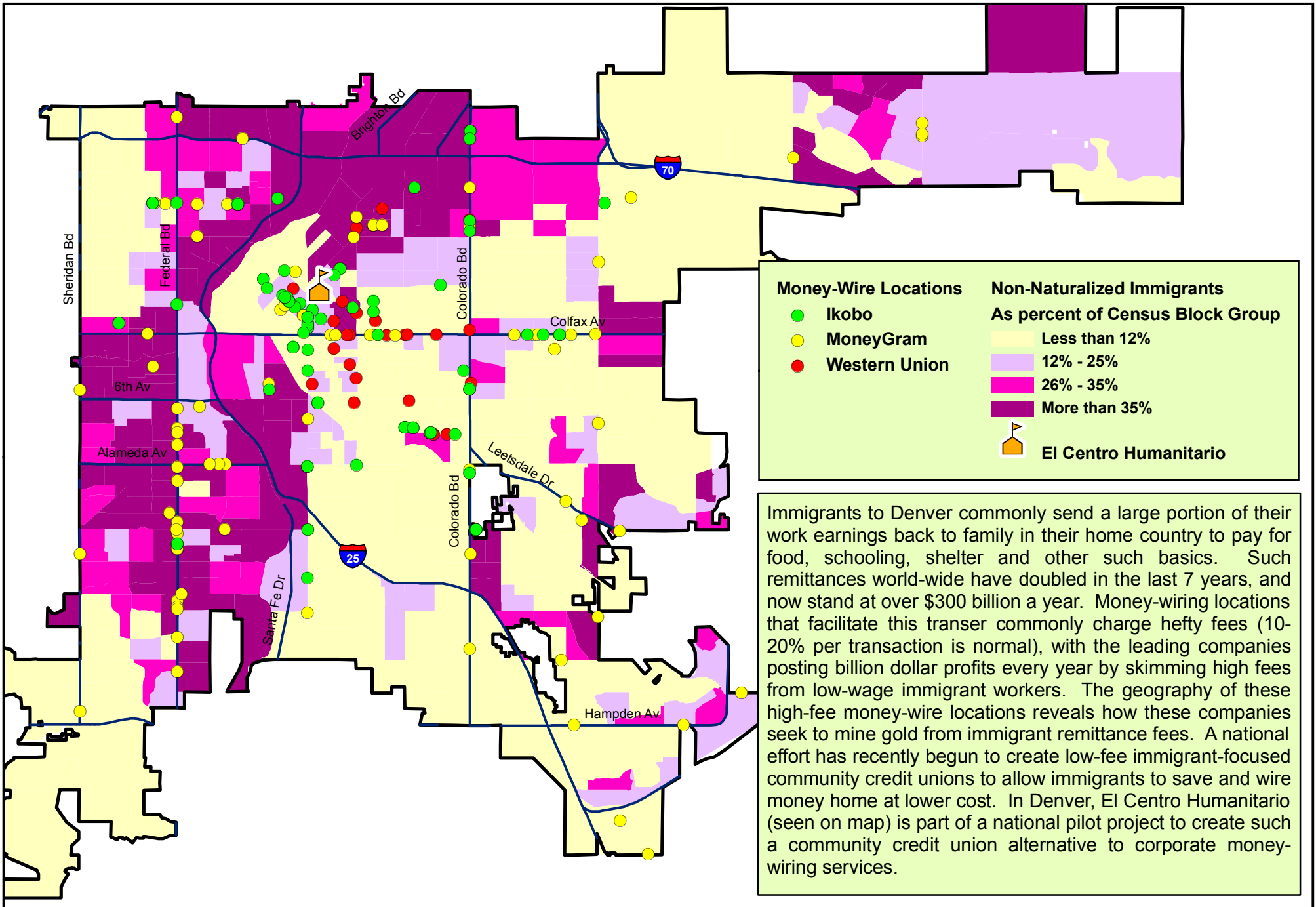


# High-Fee Money-Wiring Businesses Concentrated in Denver Immigrant Communities (2007)



Immigrants to Denver commonly send a large portion of their work earnings back to family in their home country to pay for food, schooling, shelter and other such basics. Such remittances world-wide have doubled in the last 7 years, and now stand at over \$300 billion a year. Money-wiring locations that facilitate this transfer commonly charge hefty fees (10-20% per transaction is normal), with the leading companies posting billion dollar profits every year by skimming high fees from low-wage immigrant workers. The geography of these high-fee money-wire locations reveals how these companies seek to mine gold from immigrant remittance fees. A national effort has recently begun to create low-fee immigrant-focused community credit unions to allow immigrants to save and wire money home at lower cost. In Denver, El Centro Humanitario (seen on map) is part of a national pilot project to create such a community credit union alternative to corporate money-wiring services.

Source: Internet search of company addresses; Geolytics Census estimates. For complete sources, see online Atlas at [www.fresc.org](http://www.fresc.org)