



PRESS RELEASE

Colorado Department of Labor and Employment | 633 17th Street, Suite 1200 | Denver, CO 80202

For Immediate Release

Date: September 20, 2024

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Colorado Employment Situation – August 2024

7,400 Nonfarm Payroll Jobs Added in August;
Unemployment Rate Rises to 4.0 Percent

Household survey data

- According to the survey of households, Colorado’s seasonally adjusted **unemployment rate** increased one-tenth of a percentage point in August to 4.0 percent. The last time the unemployment rate for Colorado reached 4.0% was in January 2022. The **number of unemployed individuals** grew by 2,200 over the same time period to 128,500. The national unemployment rate decreased one-tenth of a percentage point to 4.2 percent from July to August.
- Colorado’s **labor force** increased by 4,100 in August to 3,247,000. The share of Coloradans participating in the labor force was 67.9 percent in August, unchanged over the last three months. The U.S. labor force participation rate was 62.7 percent in August, unchanged from the month prior.
- The **number of individuals employed** in Colorado grew by 2,000 in August to 3,118,600, which represents 65.3 percent of the state’s 16+ population. Colorado’s employment-population ratio of 65.3 in August was equal to the three months prior. The national employment-population ratio was unchanged from July to August at 60.0 percent.

Establishment survey data

- Employers in Colorado added 7,400 **nonfarm payroll jobs** from July to August for a total of 2,997,400 jobs, according to the survey of business establishments. Private sector payroll jobs grew by 7,700, while government lost 300 jobs.
- **July estimates** were revised down to 2,990,000, and the over the month change from June to July was a gain of 800 rather than the originally estimated increase of 4,800 (monthly revisions are based on additional responses from businesses and government agencies since the last published estimates).
- **The private industry sectors with significant job gains** in August were: professional and business services ($\approx 2,900$), educational and health services ($\approx 2,800$), and construction ($\approx 1,300$). There were no private industry sectors with significant over the month **job losses**.
- **Since August 2023**, nonfarm payroll jobs have increased 41,900, with the private sector growing by 23,200 and government adding 18,700 jobs. The largest **private sector job gains** were in educational and health services ($\approx 11,100$), professional and business services ($\approx 5,400$), leisure and hospitality ($\approx 5,300$), and financial activities ($\approx 5,300$). During that same period, **payroll jobs declined** in information ($\approx 2,800$), and construction ($\approx 2,400$). Colorado's **rate of job growth** over the past year is 1.4 percent, slightly below the U.S. rate of 1.5 percent.
- Over the year, the **average workweek** for all Colorado employees on private nonfarm payrolls was unchanged at 33.3 hours, while **average hourly earnings** grew from \$35.76 to \$37.80, two dollars and fifty-nine cents more than the national average hourly earnings of \$35.21.

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Informational Section

All Colorado estimates from the establishment and household surveys, including greater geographic detail, are available at [Colorado LMI Gateway](#). Estimates for all states and the nation are available at the [Bureau of Labor Statistics](#).

For data visualizations, visit [CDLE's Labor Market Information on Tableau](#).

The **September 2024 Colorado Employment Situation** will be released at 8:00 AM on Friday, October 18, 2024. The full schedule of release dates for calendar year 2024 estimates is available at [Labor Market Information](#).

Technical Notes

This release provides information on industry employment and labor force statistics for August 2024, the most current estimates available from the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment. The reference period for the establishment and household surveys was the pay period or week that includes the 12th of the month.

The unemployment rate, labor force, labor force participation, total employment, and the number of unemployed are based on a survey of households. The total employment estimate derived from this survey is intended to measure the number of people employed.

Nonfarm payroll jobs estimates are based on a survey of business establishments and government agencies, and are intended to measure the number of jobs, not the number of people employed. Other series based on this survey include private sector average weekly hours, average hourly earnings, and average weekly earnings.

The business establishment survey covers about seven times the number of households surveyed and is therefore considered a more reliable indicator of economic conditions. Because the estimates are based on two separate surveys, one measuring jobs by worksite and the other measuring persons employed and unemployed by household, estimates based on these surveys may provide seemingly conflicting results.

Supplemental Charts & Tables

Supplemental charts and tables are available on the remaining pages.

Colorado and U.S. Unemployment Rates, Over Past Year

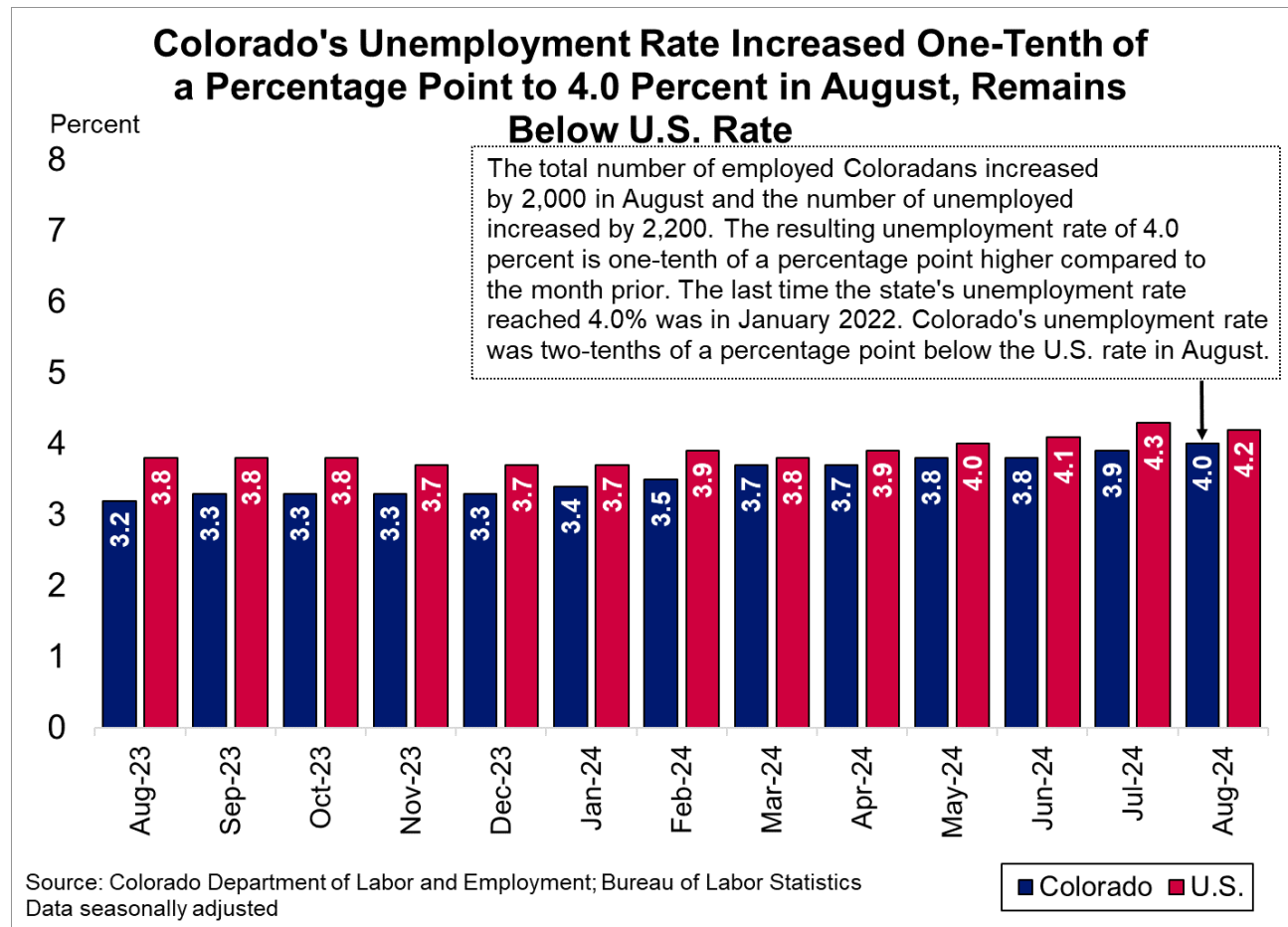


Chart information:

- Colorado's August 2024 unemployment rate was 4.0 percent, while the U.S. rate was 4.2 percent.
- Prior month rates were 3.9 percent and 4.3 percent, respectively.
- The last time Colorado's unemployment rate reached 4.0% was in January 2022.
- The total number of employed Coloradans increased by 2,000 in August.
- The total number of unemployed Coloradans grew by 2,200 to 128,500.
- Unemployment rate for Colorado has ranged between 3.2 and 4.0 percent over the past year, while the U.S. range has been 3.7 and 4.3 percent.
- These data are seasonally adjusted and are produced by the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment and the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Colorado Labor Force Participation Rate, Over Past Year

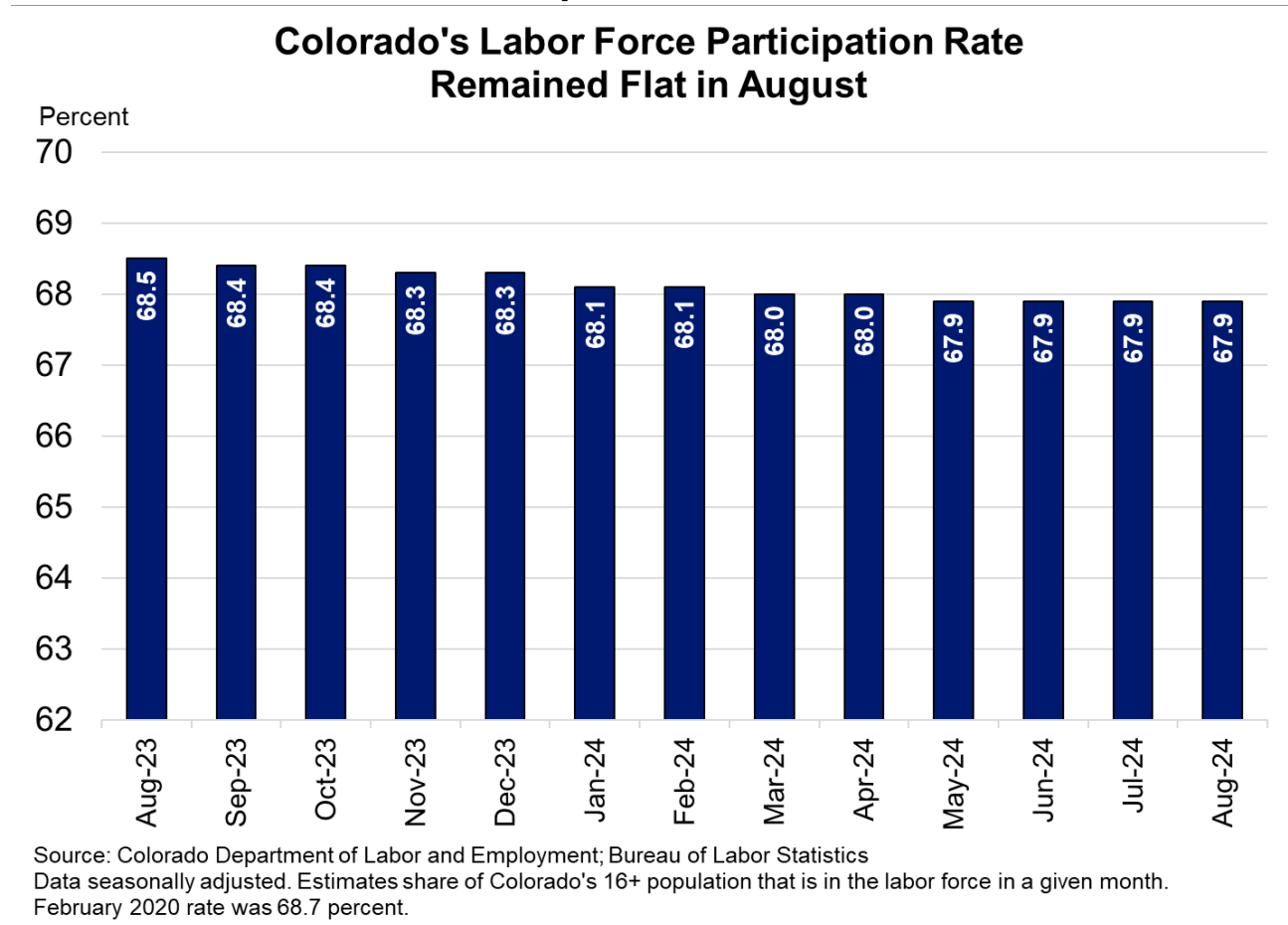


Chart information:

- Colorado's August 2024 labor force participation rate (LFPR) was 67.9 percent, unchanged from the prior three months.
- A year prior, Colorado's labor force participation rate was 68.5 percent.
- The labor force participation rate for Colorado has ranged between 67.9 percent and 68.5 percent over the past year.
- The August 2024 rate of 67.9 percent is below the February 2020 pre-pandemic rate of 68.7 percent.
- The labor force participation rate estimates the share of Colorado's 16+ population that is in the labor force in a given month.
- These data are seasonally adjusted and are produced by the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment and the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Colorado Employment-Population Ratio, Over Past Year

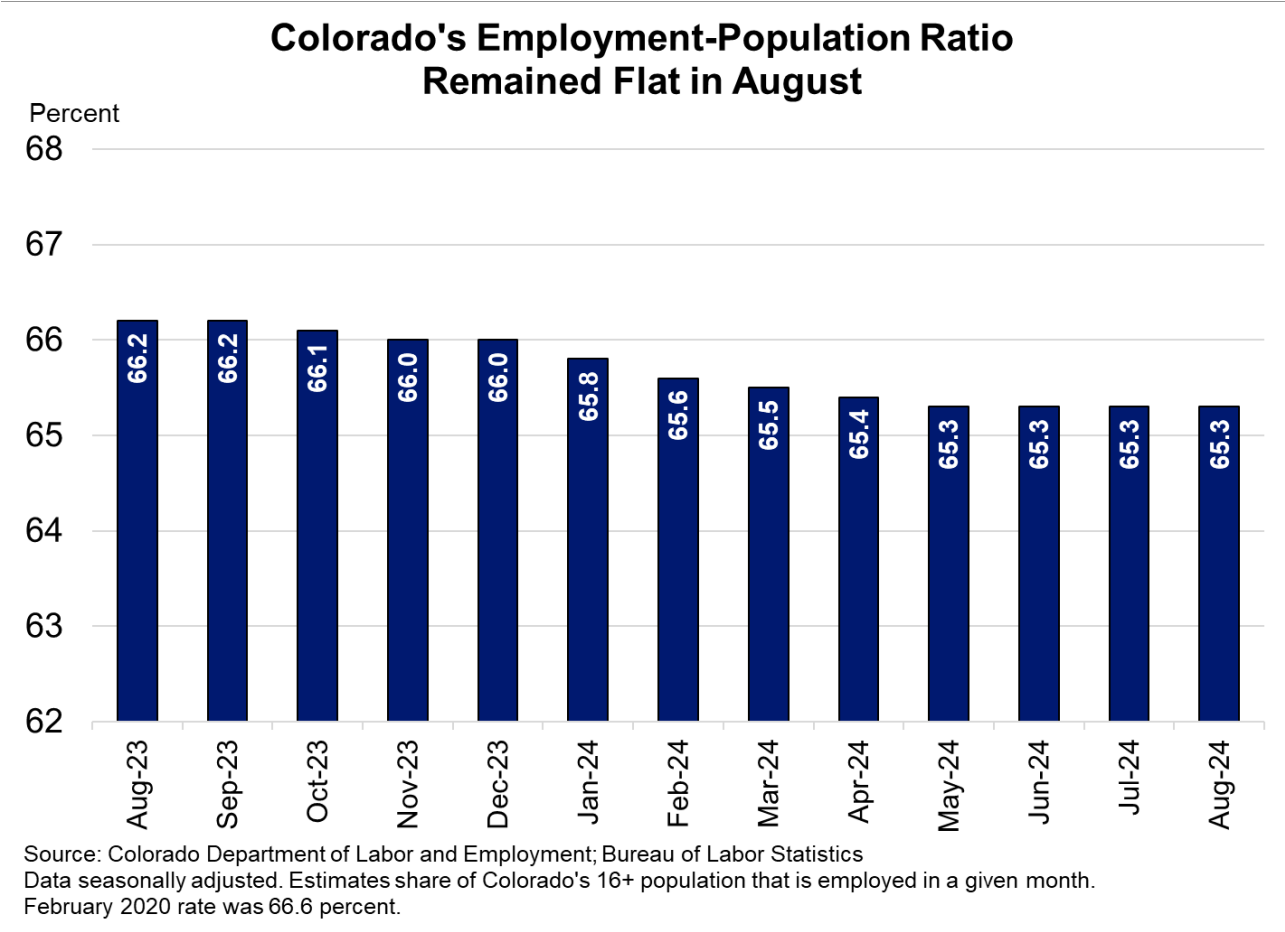
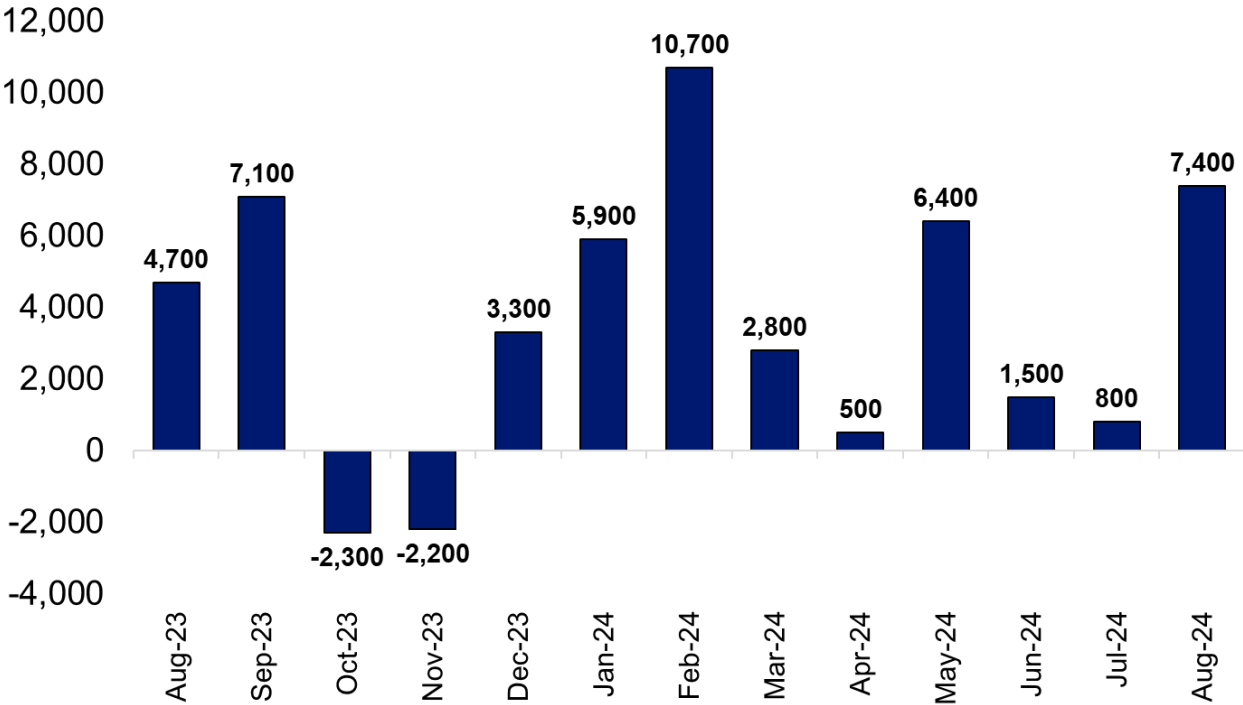


Chart information:

- Colorado's August 2024 employment-population ratio (EPOP) was 65.3 percent, unchanged from the prior three months.
- A year prior, Colorado's employment-population ratio was 66.2 percent.
- The employment-population ratio for Colorado has ranged between 65.3 percent and 66.2 percent over the past year.
- The August 2024 ratio of 65.3 percent is below the February 2020 pre-pandemic rate of 66.6 percent.
- The employment-population ratio estimates the share of Colorado's 16+ population that is employed in a given month.
- These data are seasonally adjusted and are produced by the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment and the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Colorado Monthly Change in the Number of Total Nonfarm Payroll Jobs, Over Past Year

Colorado Added 7,400 Total Nonfarm Jobs in August; July Numbers Revised Down 4,000



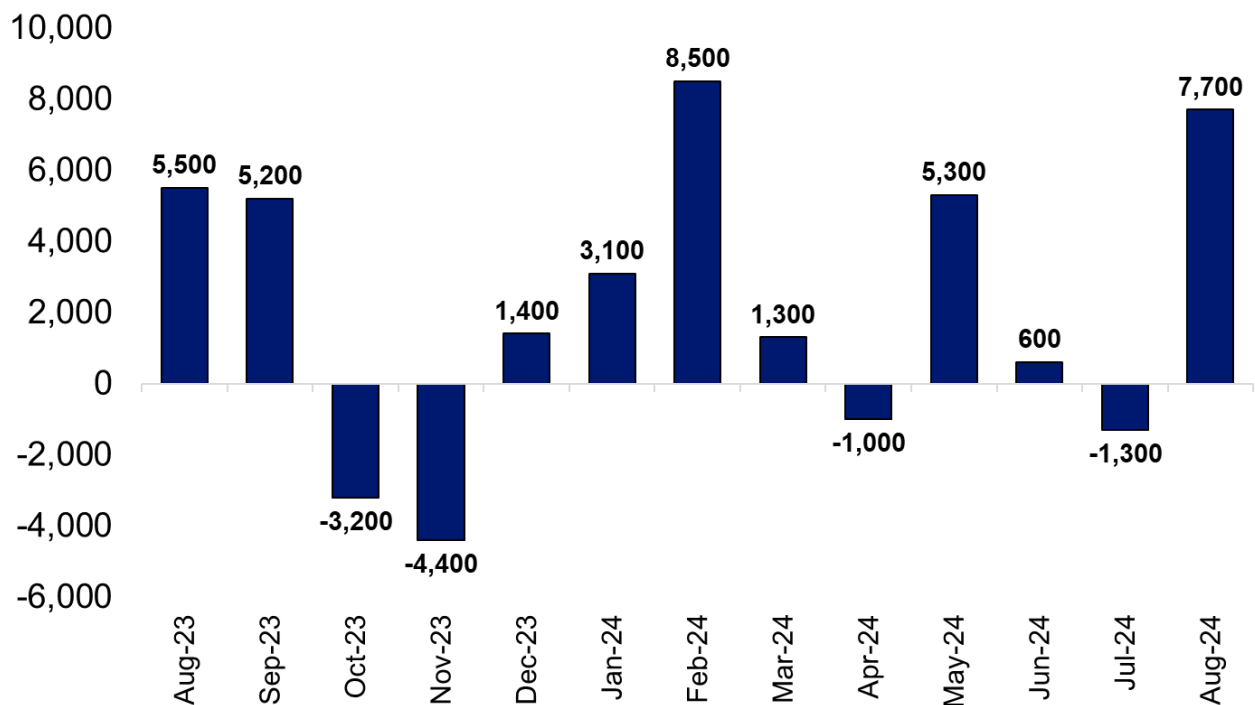
Source: Colorado Department of Labor and Employment; Bureau of Labor Statistics
Data seasonally adjusted

Chart information:

- Colorado added 7,400 total nonfarm jobs in August 2024, while July numbers were revised down by 4,000. The July revision shows an increase of 800 rather than the previously reported increase of 4,800 jobs.
- Since August 2023, the monthly change in Colorado’s total nonfarm jobs has ranged between -2,300 (October 2023) and +10,700 (February 2024).
- Out of the 13 months displayed, two have experienced over the month decreases, while over the month increases have occurred in 11 months.
- The average monthly change in Colorado’s total nonfarm jobs over the past year is +3,600.
- These data are seasonally adjusted and are produced by the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment and the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Colorado Monthly Change in the Number of Private Sector Payroll Jobs, Over Past Year

Private Sector Increased by 7,700 Jobs in August; July Figures Revised Down 3,800



Source: Colorado Department of Labor and Employment; Bureau of Labor Statistics
Data seasonally adjusted

Chart information:

- Colorado private sector jobs increased by 7,700 in August 2024, while July numbers were revised down by 3,800; the July revision shows a decrease of 1,300 rather than the previously reported increase of 2,500 jobs.
- Since August 2023, the monthly change in Colorado's private sector jobs has ranged between -4,400 (November 2023) and +8,500 (February 2024).
- Out of the 13 months displayed, four have experienced over the month decreases, while over the month increases have occurred in nine months.
- The average monthly change in Colorado's private sector jobs over the past year is +2,200.
- These data are seasonally adjusted and are produced by the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment and the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Colorado and U.S. Over the Year Growth Rates for Total Nonfarm Employment, Over Past Year

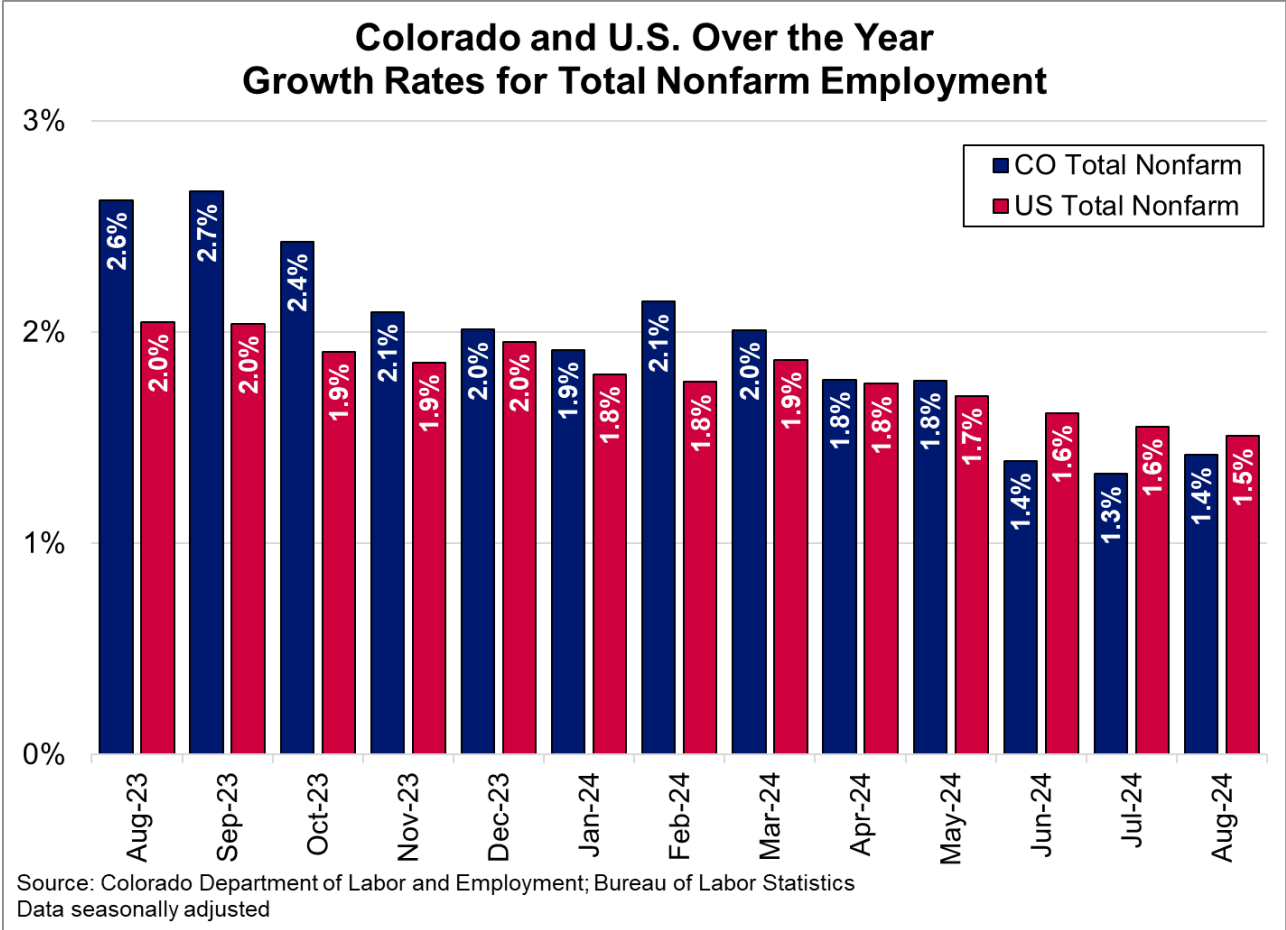


Chart information:

- Colorado’s over the year growth rate for total nonfarm employment was 1.4 percent in August 2024, lower than the U.S. rate of 1.5 percent.
- Total nonfarm employment growth rates for Colorado and the U.S. a year prior were 2.6 percent and 2.0 percent, respectively.
- Colorado has lagged the U.S. growth rate in three of the past 13 months, has exceeded it in eight months, and was the same in two months. The difference ranged between three-tenths of a percentage point lower (July 2024) and seven-tenths of a percentage point higher (September 2023).
- These data are seasonally adjusted and are produced by the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment and the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Colorado Most Recent Monthly Change in Payroll Jobs at the Industry Supersector Level

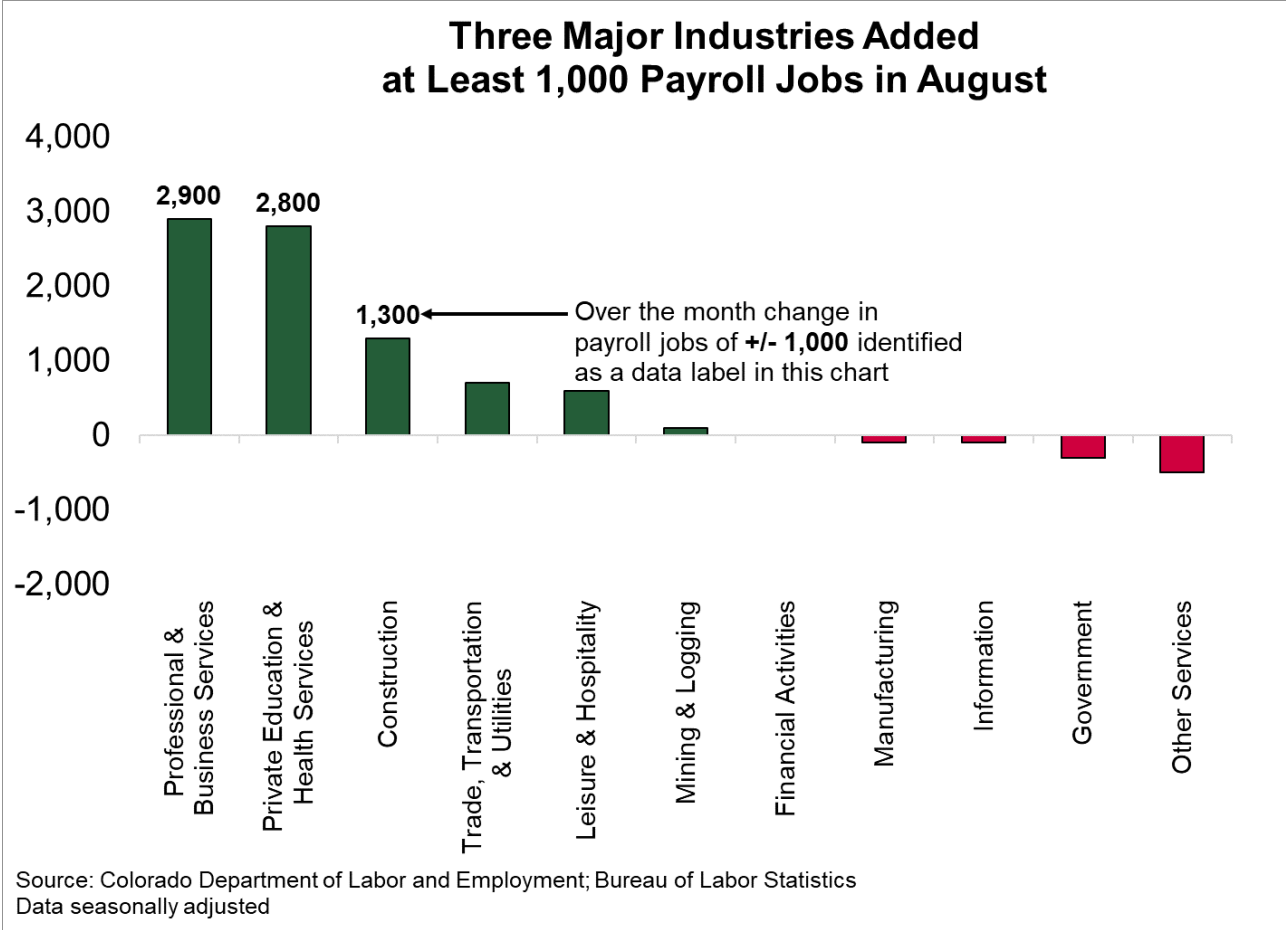
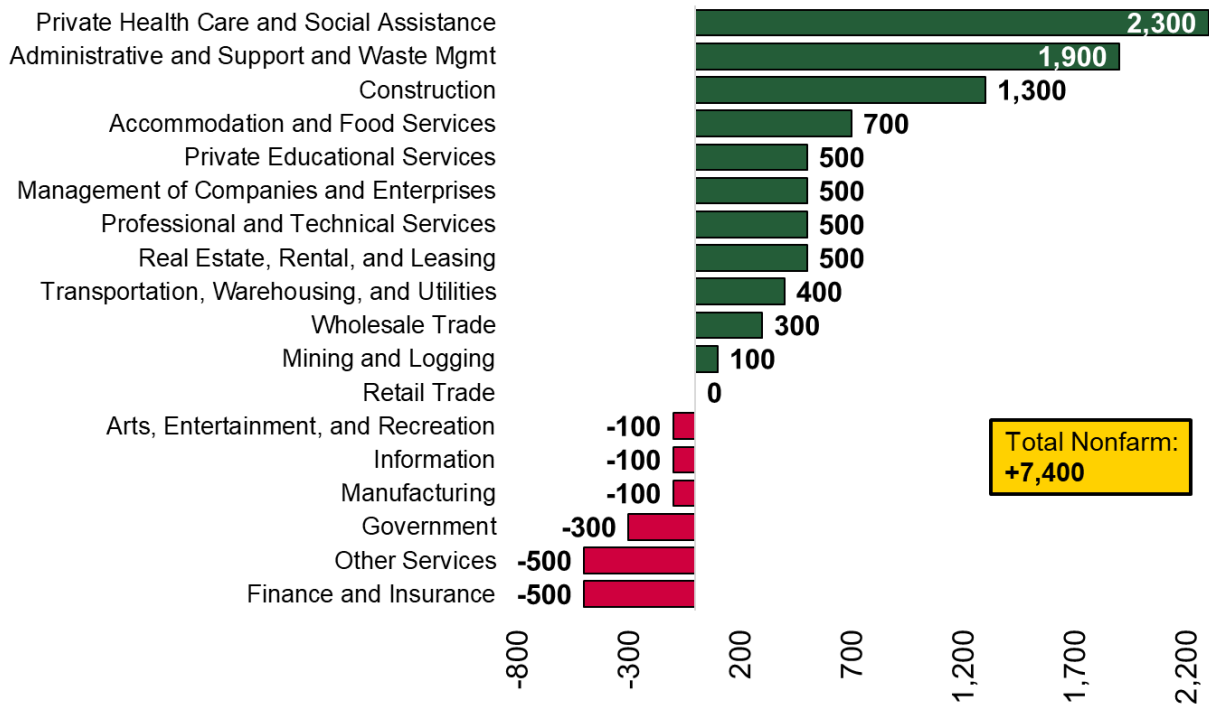


Chart information:

- Six Colorado industry supersectors gained jobs in August 2024, four industry supersectors experienced decreases in employment levels, and one industry supersector was unchanged.
- Notable over the month increases occurred in professional and business services (+2,900), private education and health services (+2,800), and construction (+1,300).
- These data are seasonally adjusted and are produced by the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment and the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Colorado Change in Payroll Jobs for Most Recent Month, by Industry Sector

Change in Payroll Jobs in August 2024, by Industry Sector



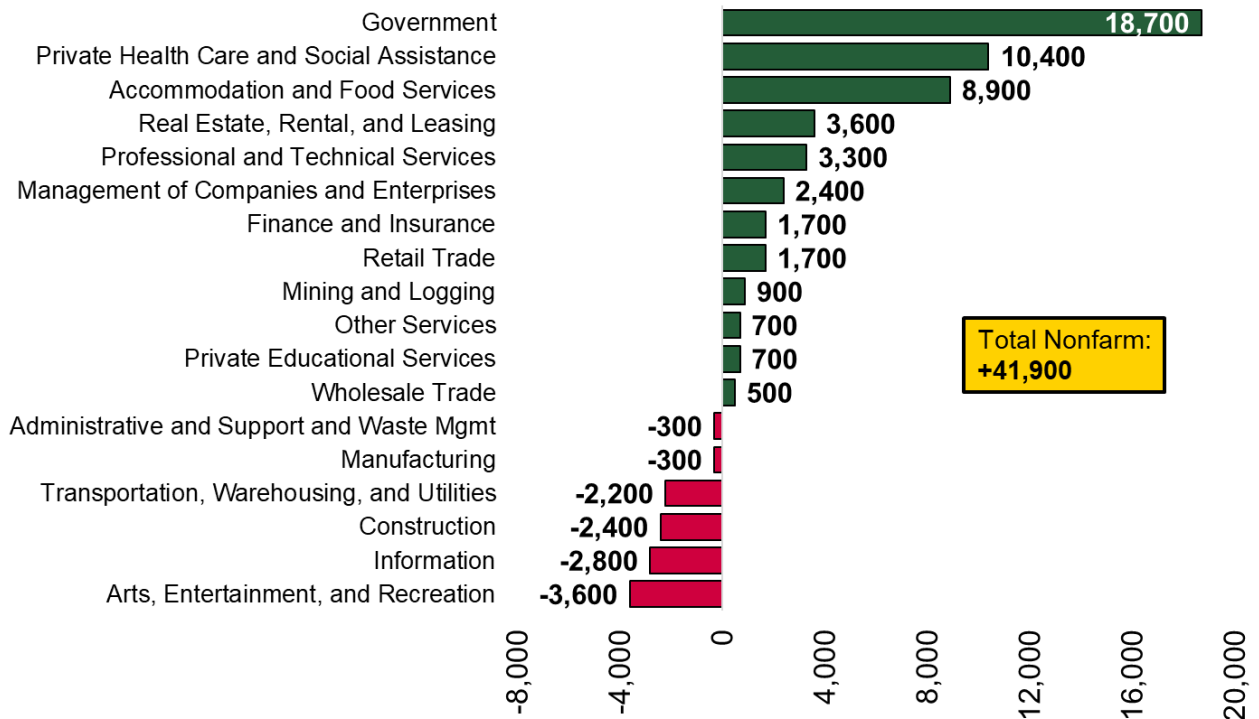
Source: Colorado Department of Labor and Employment; Bureau of Labor Statistics
Data seasonally adjusted, July 2024 to August 2024

Chart information:

- From July 2024 to August 2024, Colorado added 7,400 nonfarm payroll jobs.
- Private health care and social assistance added the most jobs at 2,300.
- Administrative and support and waste management added the second most jobs over that period at 1,900.
- Construction added the third most jobs, at 1,300.
- The industry sectors with the largest declines were finance and insurance and other services at -500 each.
- Out of Colorado's 18 industry sectors, 11 added jobs in August 2024, six experienced job loss, and one was unchanged.
- These data are seasonally adjusted and are produced by the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment and the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Colorado Change in Payroll Jobs Over Past 12 Months, by Industry Sector

Change in Payroll Jobs Over Past 12 Months, by Industry Sector



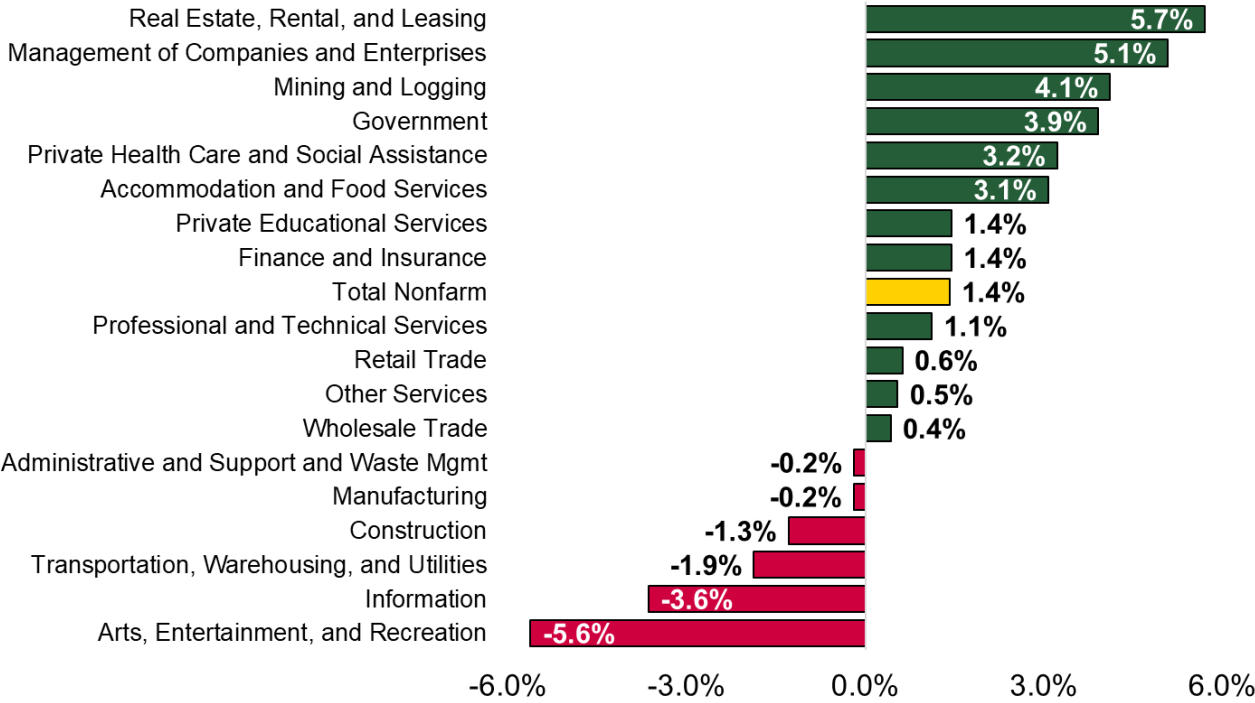
Source: Colorado Department of Labor and Employment; Bureau of Labor Statistics
Data seasonally adjusted, August 2023 to August 2024

Chart information:

- Over the past 12 months, Colorado has added 41,900 nonfarm payroll jobs.
- Government has added the most jobs at 18,700.
- Private health care and social assistance (+10,400) and accommodation and food services (+8,900) added the second and third most jobs, respectively, over that period.
- The industry sectors with the largest declines over the past year are: arts, entertainment, and recreation (-3,600), information (-2,800), and construction (-2,400).
- Out of Colorado's 18 industry sectors, 12 have added jobs over the past 12 months, while six have experienced job loss.
- These data are seasonally adjusted and are produced by the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment and the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Over the Year Growth Rates, by Industry Sector, for Most Recent Month

August 2024 Over the Year Growth Rates, by Industry Sector



Source: Colorado Department of Labor and Employment; Bureau of Labor Statistics
 Data seasonally adjusted, August 2023 to August 2024

Chart information:

- Colorado’s over the year growth rate for total nonfarm employment was 1.4 percent in August 2024.
- Out of Colorado’s 18 industry sectors, six had over the year growth rates that exceeded 1.4 percent, two matched 1.4 percent, and 10 fell short of 1.4 percent.
- The industry sectors with the fastest growth rates over the past year are: real estate, rental, and leasing (5.7%), management of companies and enterprises (5.1%), and mining and logging (4.1%).
- The industry sectors with the slowest growth rates over the past year are: arts, entertainment, and recreation (-5.6%), information (-3.6%), and transportation, warehousing, and utilities (-1.9%).
- These data are seasonally adjusted and are produced by the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment and the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Change in Payroll Jobs Over Past 12 Months, by Colorado Substate Area

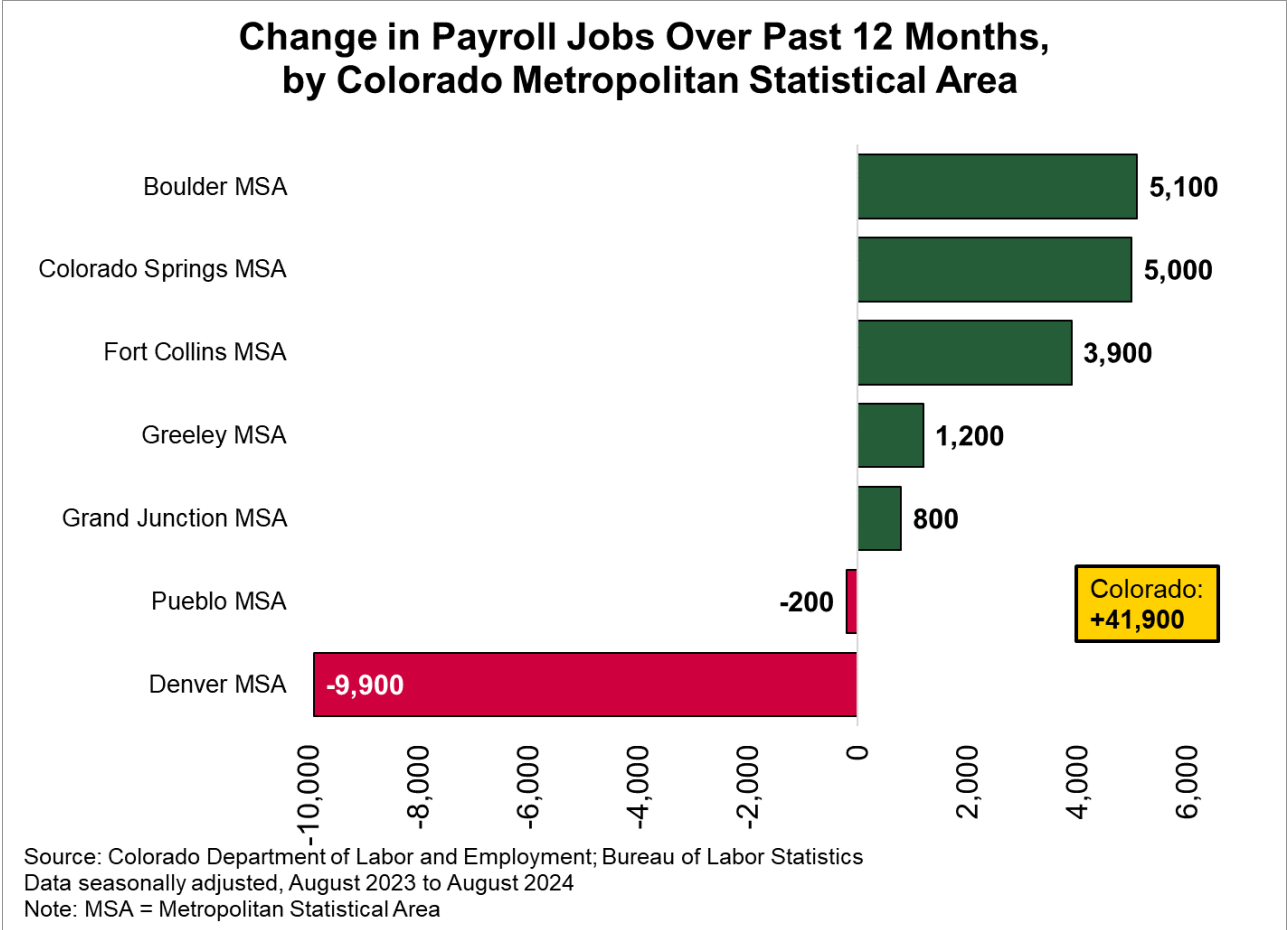
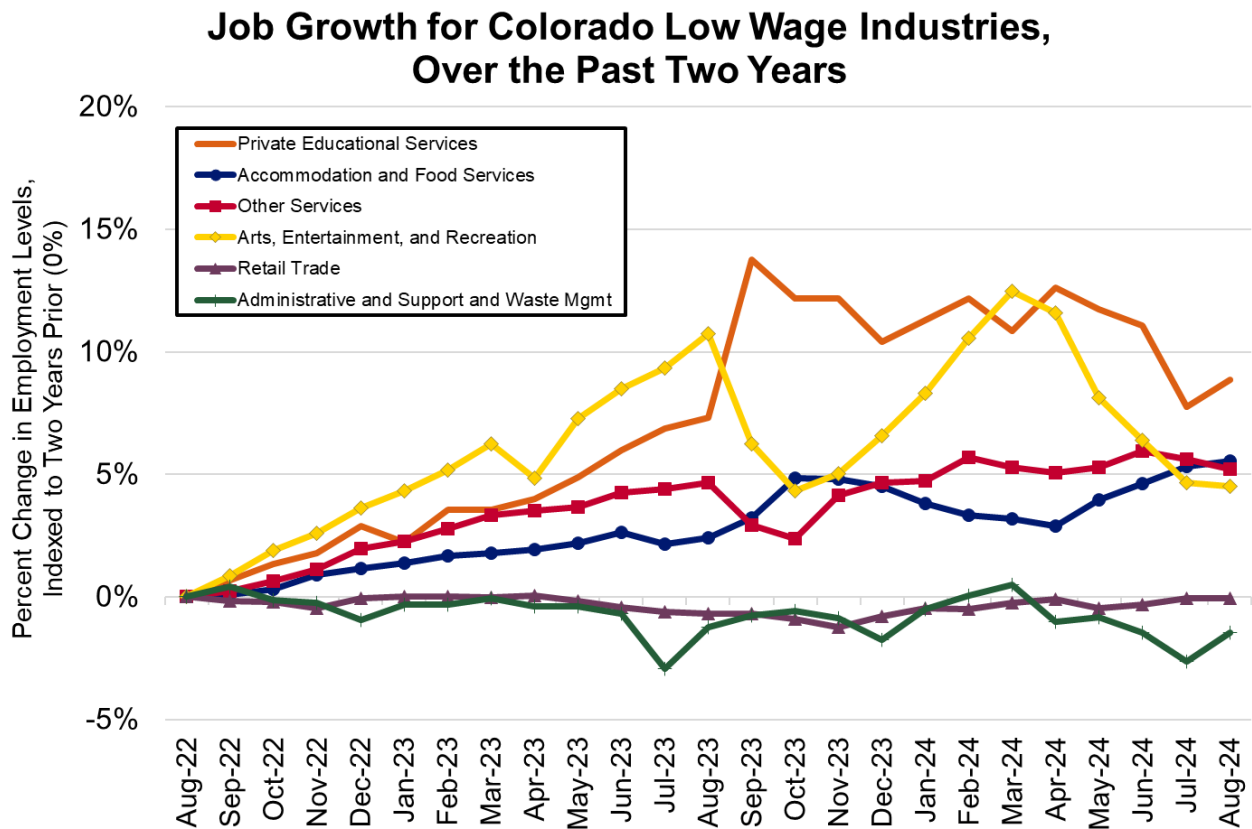


Chart information:

- Over the past 12 months, Colorado has added 41,900 nonfarm payroll jobs.
- Among Colorado’s seven metropolitan statistical areas (MSA), the Boulder MSA added the most jobs (+5,100). Colorado Springs and Fort Collins added the second and third most jobs at 5,000 and 3,900, respectively.
- Greeley (+1,200) and Grand Junction (+800) also added jobs over the past year.
- Denver MSA has declined by 9,900 jobs over the past year.
- Pueblo MSA (-200) also lost jobs over the past year.
- These data are seasonally adjusted and are produced by the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment and the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Job Growth for Colorado Low Wage Industries, Over Past Two Years



Source: Colorado Department of Labor and Employment; Bureau of Labor Statistics
 Data seasonally adjusted. Note: low wage industries are determined by the 2019 state-level average weekly wage estimates from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages.

Chart information:

- This chart measures job growth for low wage industries in Colorado over the past two years. The measurement period spans from August 2022 to the most recent month available, August 2024. Values above 0 percent indicate employment levels have increased relative to August 2022, while values below 0 percent indicate employment levels have decreased.
- Low wage industries include: retail trade; administrative and support and waste management services; private education services; arts, entertainment, and recreation; accommodation and food services; and other services.
- As of August 2024, four low wage industries have an index value over 0 percent while two have an index value below 0 percent. Administrative and support and waste management and retail trade have the lowest growth rates over the past two years, at -1.4 and -0.1 percent, respectively. Private educational services has the fastest growth rate during that period, at 8.9 percent.
- These data are seasonally adjusted and are produced by the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment and the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Job Growth for Colorado Medium Wage Industries, Over Past Two Years

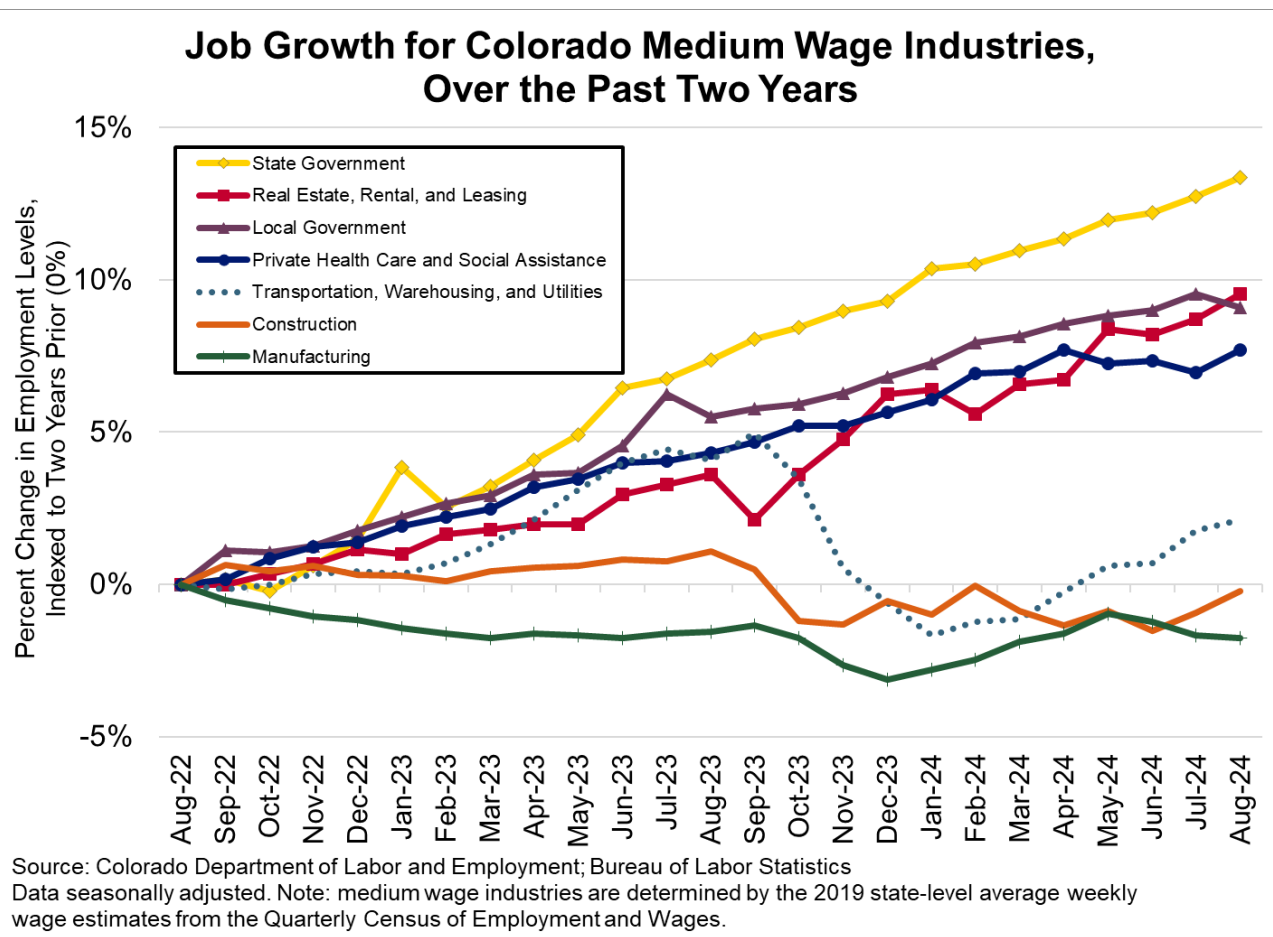
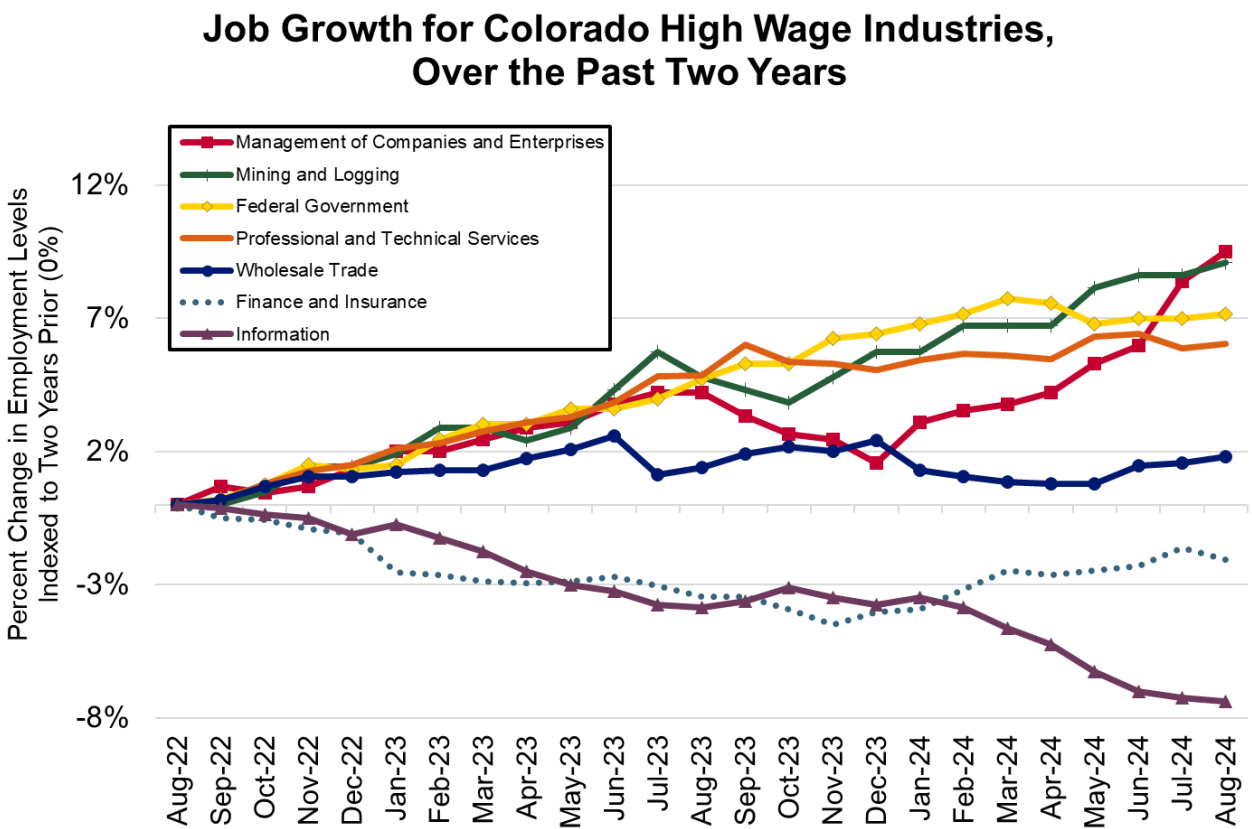


Chart information:

- This chart measures job growth for medium wage industries in Colorado over the past two years. The measurement period spans from August 2022 to the most recent month available, August 2024. Values above 0 percent indicate employment levels have increased relative to August 2022, while values below 0 percent indicate employment levels have decreased.
- Medium wage industries include: construction; manufacturing; transportation, warehousing, and utilities; real estate, rental, and leasing; private health care and social assistance; state government; and local government.
- As of August 2024, five medium wage industries have an index value over 0 percent, while two have an index value below 0 percent. Manufacturing and construction have the lowest growth rates over the past two years, at -1.8 percent and -0.2 percent, respectively. State government has the fastest growth rate during that period, at 13.4 percent.
- These data are seasonally adjusted and are produced by the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment and the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Job Growth for Colorado High Wage Industries, Over Past Two Years

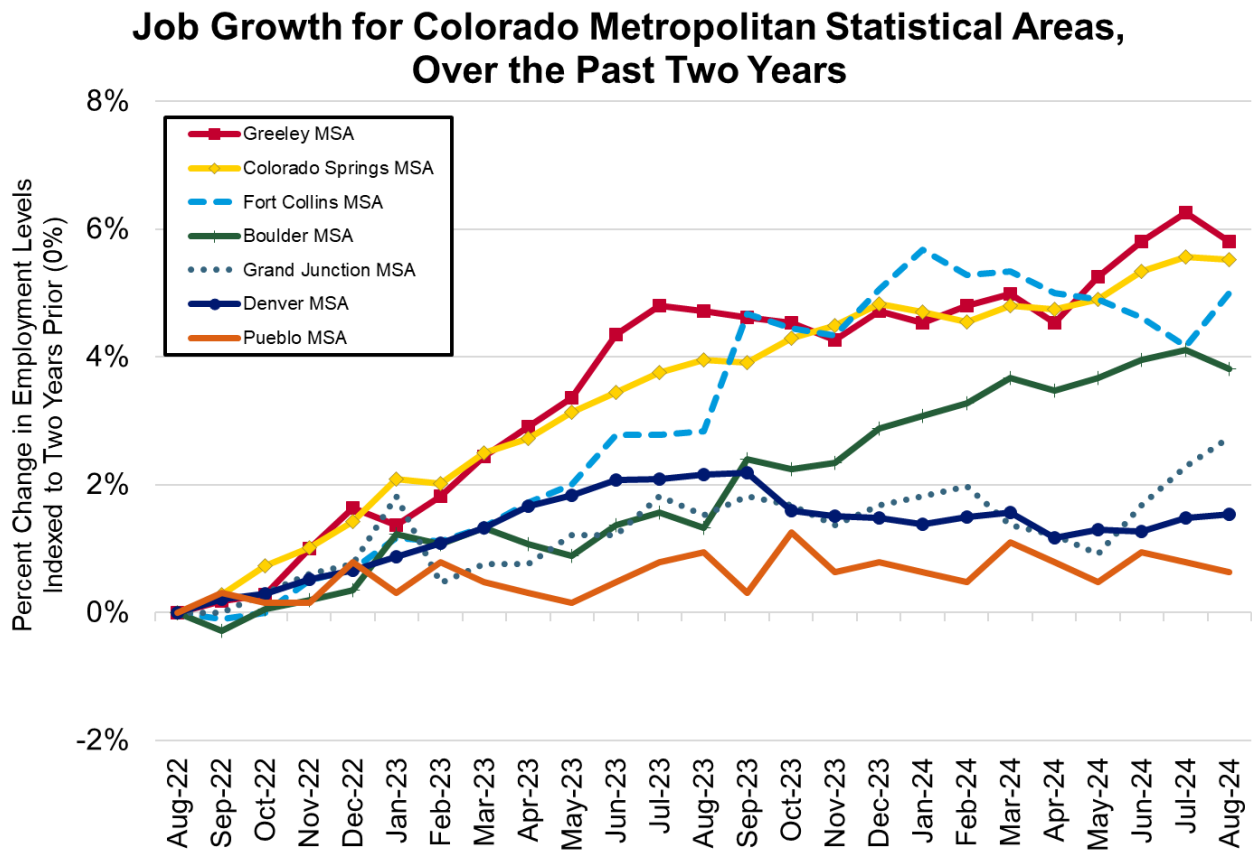


Source: Colorado Department of Labor and Employment; Bureau of Labor Statistics
 Data seasonally adjusted. Note: high wage industries are determined by the 2019 state-level average weekly wage estimates from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages.

Chart information:

- This chart measures job growth for high wage industries in Colorado over the past two years. The measurement period spans from August 2022 to the most recent month available, August 2024. Values above 0 percent indicate employment levels have increased relative to August 2022, while values below 0 percent indicate employment levels have decreased.
- High wage industries include: mining and logging; wholesale trade; information; finance and insurance; professional, scientific, and technical services; management of companies and enterprises; and federal government.
- As of August 2024, five high wage industries have an index value over 0 percent, while two have an index value below 0 percent. Information has the lowest growth rate over the past two years, at -7.4 percent. Management of companies and enterprises and mining and logging have the fastest growth rates during that period, at 9.5 and 9.1 percent, respectively.
- These data are seasonally adjusted and are produced by the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment and the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Job Growth for Colorado Substate Areas, Over Past Two Years

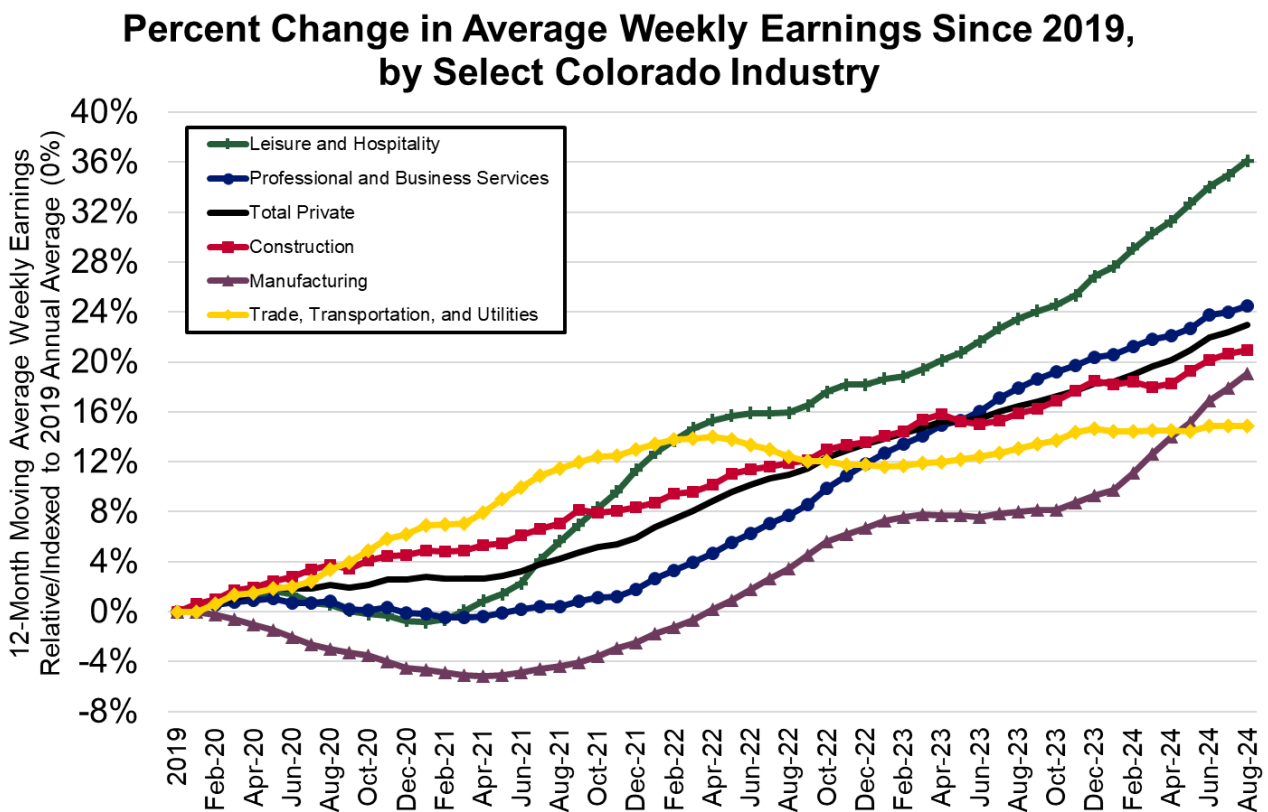


Source: Colorado Department of Labor and Employment; Bureau of Labor Statistics
Data seasonally adjusted. Note: MSA = Metropolitan Statistical Area

Chart information:

- This chart measures job growth for Colorado substate areas over the past two years. The measurement period spans from August 2022 to the most recent month available, August 2024. Values above 0 percent indicate employment levels have increased relative to August 2022, while values below 0 percent indicate employment levels have decreased.
- Areas included are Colorado’s seven metropolitan statistical areas (MSA). Boulder, Colorado Springs, Denver, Fort Collins, Grand Junction, Greeley, and Pueblo are MSAs.
- As of August 2024, all seven areas have an index value over 0 percent. Pueblo MSA has the lowest growth rate over the past two years, at 0.6 percent. Greeley MSA has the fastest growth rate during that period, at 5.8 percent.
- These data are seasonally adjusted and are produced by the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment and the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Percent Change in Average Weekly Earnings Since 2019, by Select Colorado Industry



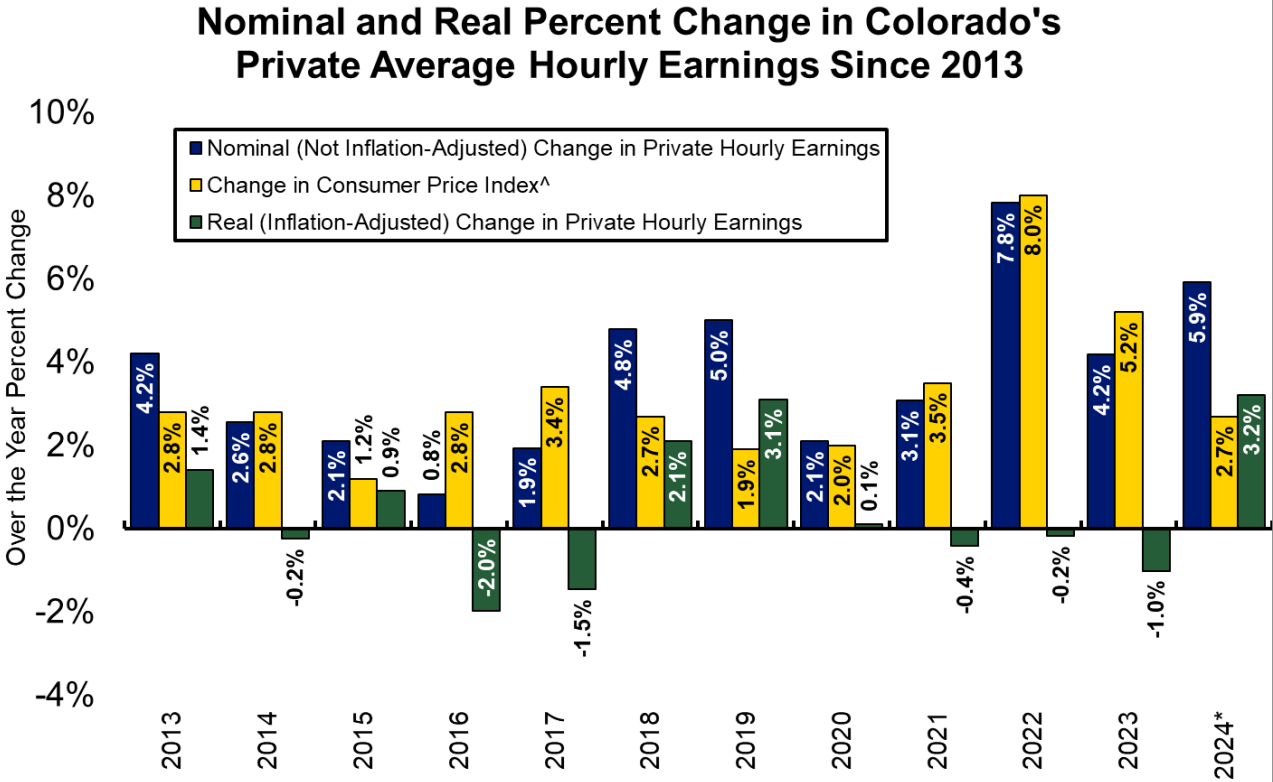
Source: Colorado Department of Labor and Employment; Bureau of Labor Statistics

Data not seasonally adjusted. Note: each month on this chart represents a 12-month moving average and measures the percent change in average weekly earnings compared to the 2019 annual average for that industry.

Chart information:

- Each month on this chart represents a 12-month moving average and measures the percent change in average weekly earnings compared to the 2019 annual average for an industry. Values above 0 percent indicate that wages have grown relative to 2019, while values below 0 percent indicate wages have declined.
- The five Colorado industries displayed in this chart, along with total private sector, are: construction; manufacturing; trade, transportation, and utilities (TTU); professional and business services (PBS); and leisure and hospitality.
- Leisure and hospitality has the steepest change in earnings, at just over 36 percent, using the most recent 12-month average data available.
- Earnings gains for PBS, total private, and construction range between 21 and over 24 percent.
- Wage growth lags for TTU and manufacturing, at just under 15 percent and 19 percent, respectively.
- These data are not seasonally adjusted and are produced by the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment and the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Nominal and Real Percent Change in Colorado's Private Average Hourly Earnings Since 2013



Source: Colorado Department of Labor and Employment estimates; Bureau of Labor Statistics
[^]Note: Denver-Aurora-Lakewood CPI-U estimates were utilized to adjust average hourly earnings for inflation.
 *2024 nominal earnings growth is measured using data for January to August compared to the same period the year prior, while real earnings were adjusted using the over-the-year change in CPI-U for January, March, May, and July 2024.

Chart information:

- This chart displays annualized hourly wage data for Colorado from 2013 to 2024.
- Each year contains three key data points: 1) the nominal (not inflation-adjusted) change in private hourly earnings; 2) the change in the consumer price index (CPI) for the Denver-Aurora-Lakewood area, which is used as an inflation measure; and 3) the real (inflation-adjusted) change in private hourly earnings, which simply takes the difference of the first two data points.
- 2024 nominal earnings growth is measured using data for January to August compared to the same period the year prior, while real earnings were adjusted using the over-the-year change in CPI for January, March, May, and July 2024.
- Real earnings have increased by 3.2 percent in 2024, compared to a drop of 1.0 percent in 2023, and a decrease of 0.2 percent in 2022.
- These data are produced by the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment and the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Colorado Involuntary Part-Time Workers as Share of Labor Force, Since 2008

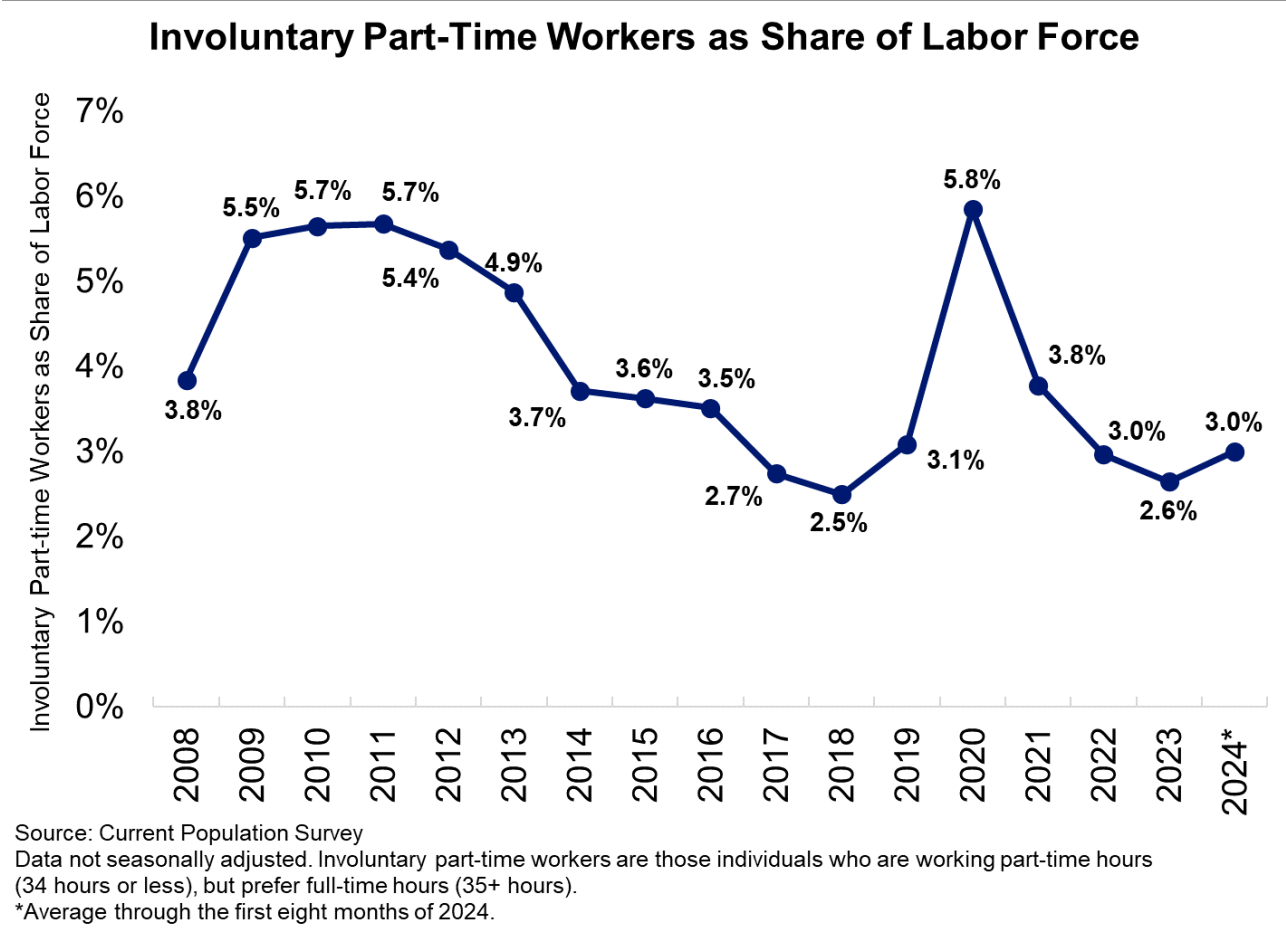
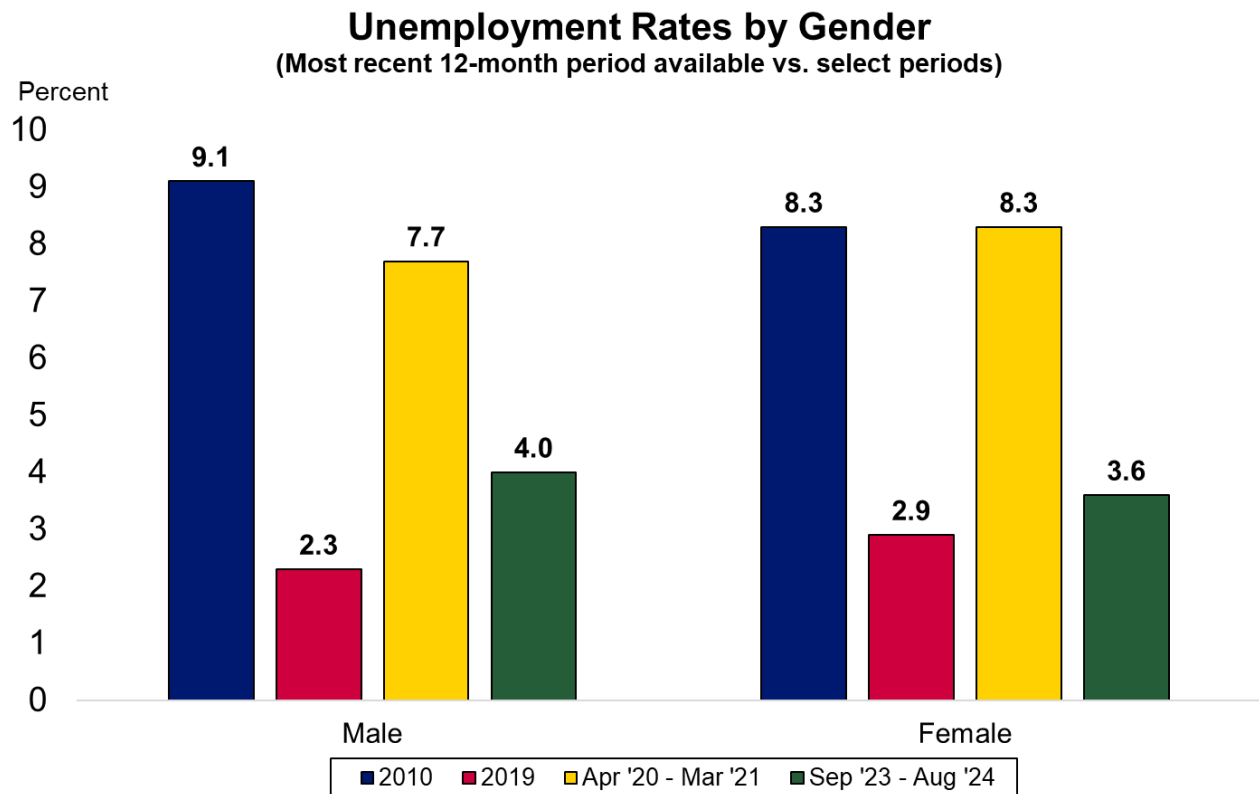


Chart information:

- This chart displays the estimated share of Colorado’s labor force that works part-time hours (34 hours or less), but prefer full-time hours (35+ hours), from 2008 to 2024. This metric is known as involuntary part-time or part-time for economic reasons.
- The average involuntary part-time share in 2024 is 3.0 percent, a significant improvement from the rate of 5.8 percent in 2020.
- The 2024 rate of 3.0 percent translates to approximately 97,000 individuals in Colorado.
- For historical context, the involuntary part-time rate exceeded 5.0 percent from 2009 to 2012, during the height of the Great Recession. The rate reached a low 2.5 percent in 2018.
- These data are produced by the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment and the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Colorado Unemployment Rates by Gender, Most Recent 12-Month Period Available vs. Select Periods



Source: Current Population Survey

Note: for each characteristic, first bar = 2010; second bar = 2019; third bar = April 2020 - March 2021; fourth bar = most recent 12-month period available.

Data not seasonally adjusted. Unemployment rates by gender for individuals 16 years and older.

Chart information:

- This chart compares Colorado unemployment rates by gender over four select periods. The periods are: 2010 (the height of the Great Recession); 2019 (marking the last year of a long economic expansion); the 12-month period spanning April 2020 to March 2021 (the height of the pandemic); and the most recent 12-month period available (September 2023 to August 2024).
- For the most recent 12-month period available, the male unemployment rate is 4.0 percent, and the female unemployment rate is 3.6 percent. The current male unemployment rate is higher than the 2019 rate of 2.3 percent, and the current female unemployment rate is higher the 2019 rate of 2.9 percent.
- Unemployment rates by gender are vastly improved from their pandemic peaks, which ranged between 7.7 percent and 8.3 percent.
- These data are produced by the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment and come from the Current Population Survey.

Colorado Unemployment Rates by Race and Ethnicity, Most Recent 12-Month Period Available vs. Select Periods

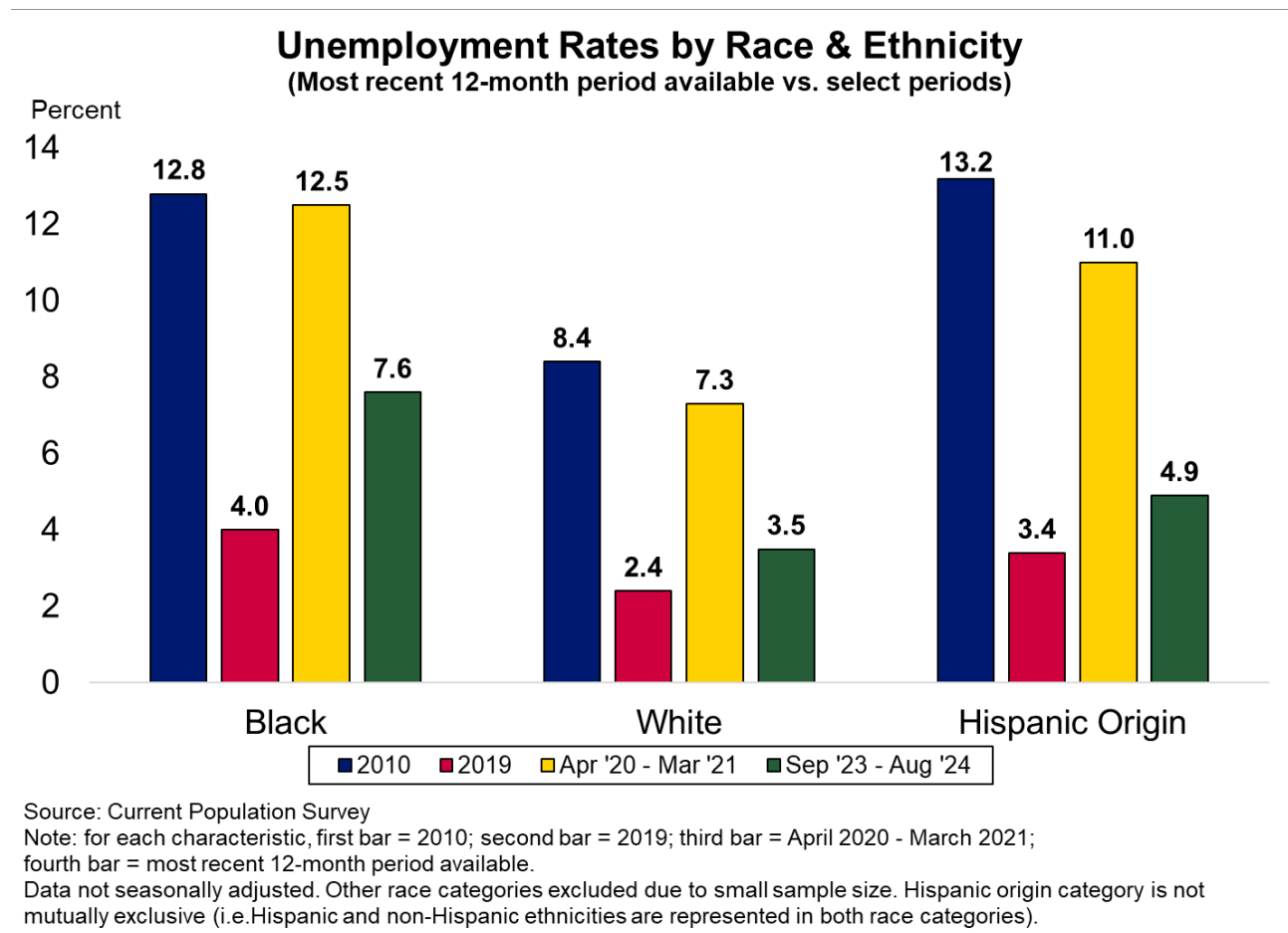


Chart information:

- This chart compares Colorado unemployment rates by race and ethnicity over four select periods. The periods are: 2010 (the height of the Great Recession); 2019 (marking the last year of a long economic expansion); the 12-month period spanning April 2020 to March 2021 (the height of the pandemic); and the most recent 12-month period available (September 2023 to August 2024).
- For the most recent 12-month period available, the Black unemployment rate is 7.6 percent, the White unemployment rate is 3.5 percent, and the Hispanic unemployment rate is 4.9 percent. The 2019 rates for those groups were 4.0 percent, 2.4 percent, and 3.4 percent, respectively.
- Unemployment rates by race and ethnicity are vastly improved from their pandemic peaks, which ranged between 7.3 percent and 12.5 percent.
- These data are produced by the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment and come from the Current Population Survey.

Colorado Unemployment Rates by Educational Attainment, Most Recent 12-Month Period Available vs. Select Periods

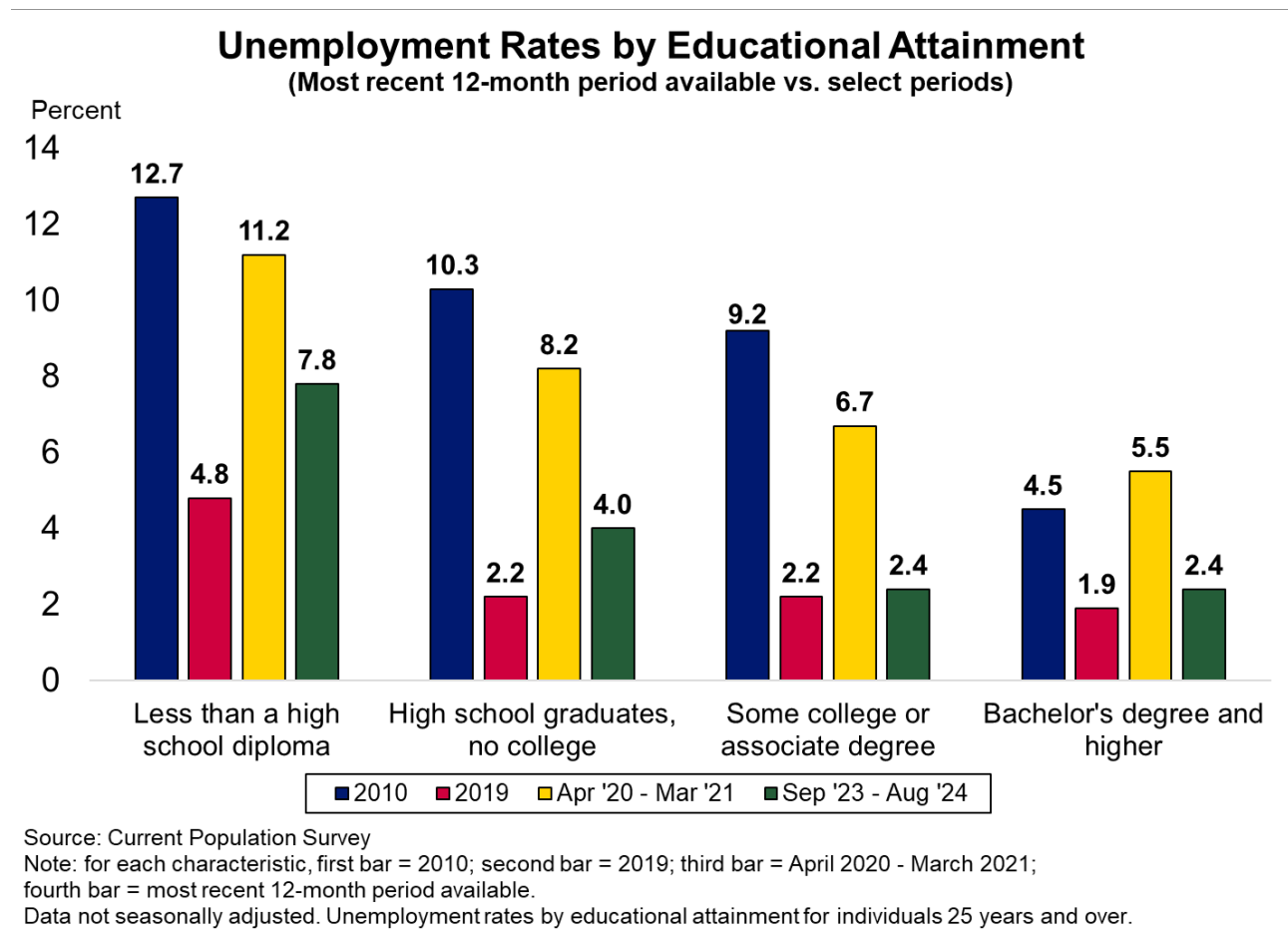


Chart information:

- This chart compares Colorado unemployment rates by levels of education over four select periods. The periods are: 2010 (the height of the Great Recession); 2019 (marking the last year of a long economic expansion); the 12-month period spanning April 2020 to March 2021 (the height of the pandemic); and the most recent 12-month period available (September 2023 to August 2024).
- For the most recent 12-month period available, unemployment rates by education level are: less than a high school diploma (7.8 percent); high school graduates, no college (4.0 percent); some college or associate degree (2.4 percent); and bachelor's degree and higher (2.4 percent). Respectively, those rates in 2019 were: 4.8 percent; 2.2 percent; 2.2 percent; and 1.9 percent.
- All of the unemployment rates by levels of education are vastly improved from their pandemic peaks, which ranged between 5.5 percent and 11.2 percent.
- These data are produced by the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment and come from the Current Population Survey.

Colorado Unemployment Rates by Age Group, Most Recent 12-Month Period Available vs. Select Periods

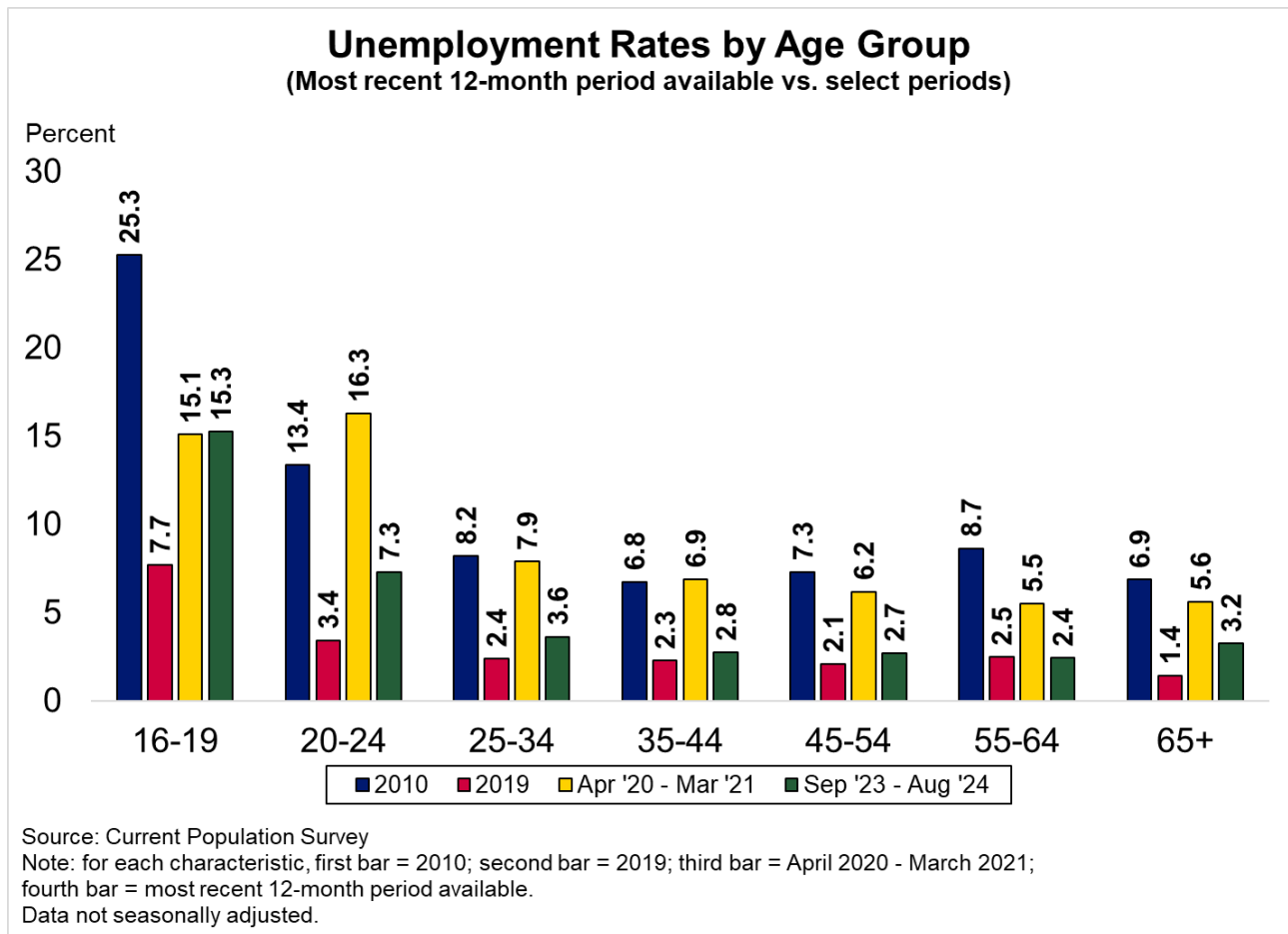
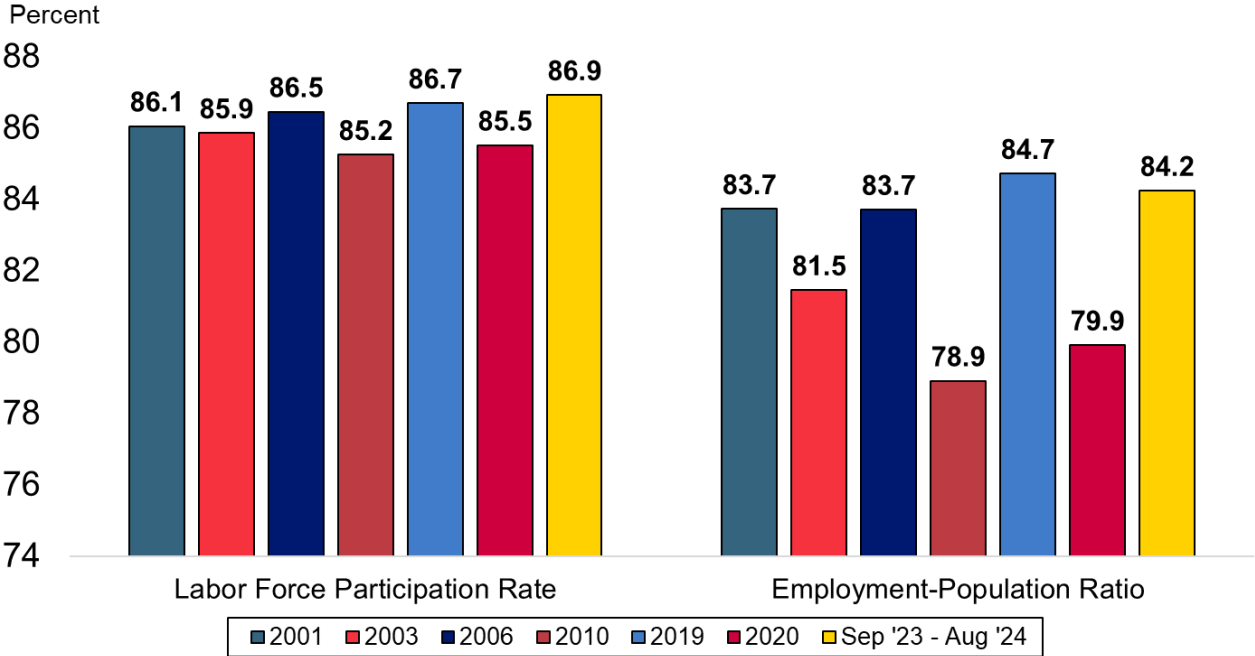


Chart information:

- This chart compares Colorado unemployment rates between seven age cohorts over four select periods. The periods are: 2010 (the height of the Great Recession); 2019 (marking the last year of a long economic expansion); the 12-month period spanning April 2020 to March 2021 (the height of the pandemic); and the most recent 12-month period available (September 2023 to August 2024).
- For the most recent 12-month period available, unemployment rates by cohort are: 16-19 (15.3%); 20-24 (7.3%); 25-34 (3.6%); 35-44 (2.8%); 45-54 (2.7%); 55-64 (2.4%); and 65+ (3.2%). Respectively, those rates in 2019 were: 7.7 percent; 3.4 percent; 2.4 percent; 2.3 percent; 2.1 percent; 2.5 percent; and 1.4 percent.
- All of the unemployment rates by age cohort aside from 16-19 are vastly improved from their pandemic peaks, which ranged between 5.5 percent and 16.3 percent. For the most recent 12-month period, the 16-19 unemployment rate (15.3%) has exceeded its pandemic peak of 15.1%.
- These data are produced by the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment and come from the Current Population Survey.

Colorado Ages 25 to 54 Labor Force Participation Rates and Employment-Population Ratios, Most Recent 12-Month Period Available vs. Select Periods

Colorado Labor Force Participation Rates and Employment-Population Ratios, Ages 25 to 54
(Most recent 12-month period available vs. select years)



Source: Current Population Survey
 Note: for each characteristic, first bar = 2001; second bar = 2003; third bar = 2006; fourth bar = 2010; fifth bar = 2019; sixth bar = 2020; seventh bar = most recent 12-month period available.
 Data not seasonally adjusted.

Chart information:

- This chart compares Colorado labor force participation rates (LFPR) and employment-population (EPOP) ratios for individuals between the ages of 25 and 54, over seven select periods. The periods were selected by years with growing state economies (2001, 2006, and 2019), years with economic downturns (2003, 2010, and 2020), and the most recent 12-month period available (September 2023 to August 2024).
- For the most recent 12-month period available, the 25-54 LFPR is 86.9 percent, while the 25-54 EPOP is 84.2 percent. LFPR currently is historically high, surpassing the 2001, 2006, and 2019 periods, while EPOP exceeds 2001 and 2006 rates and is five-tenths of a percentage point lower than 2019.
- The current 25-54 LFPR and EPOP rates are vastly improved from their 2020 levels, which were at 85.5 percent and 79.9 percent, respectively.
- These data are produced by the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment and come from the Current Population Survey.

Labor Force Participation Rates, Ages 25 to 54, U.S. and Colorado

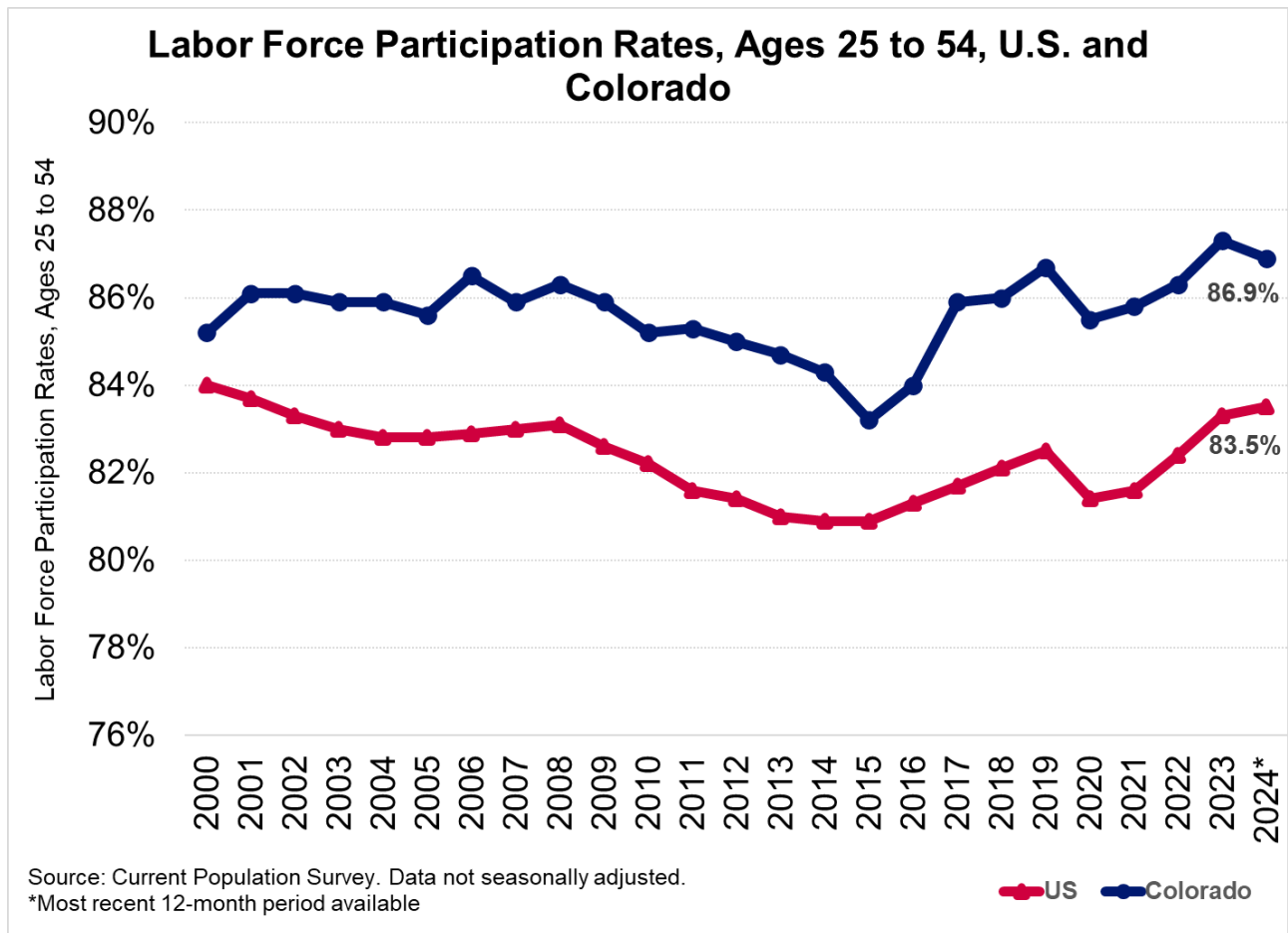


Chart information:

- This chart displays the labor force participation rate of the United States and Colorado for individuals between the ages of 25 and 54 (also known as prime age) from 2000 to the most recent 12-month period available (September 2023 to August 2024).
- For the most recent 12-month period available, the labor force participation rates for prime age workers in the United States and Colorado were 83.5 percent and 86.9 percent, respectively.
- Colorado's prime age labor force participation rate is consistently higher than that of the United States, ranging between 1.2 percentage points higher (2000) and 4.2 percentage points higher (2017, 2019, and 2021).
- These data are not seasonally adjusted and are produced by the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment and the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Colorado Labor Force Summary

Source: Colorado Department of Labor & Employment; Bureau of Labor Statistics

Values in Thousands.

Seasonally Adjusted Data from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program

Labor Force Component	Aug-24	Jul-24	Aug-23	Change From Last Month	Change From Last Year
Total Civilian Labor Force	3,247.0	3,242.9	3,237.2	4.1	9.9
Unemployment	128.5	126.3	104.6	2.2	23.9
Unemployment Rate (%)	4.0	3.9	3.2	0.1	0.8
Employment	3,118.6	3,116.6	3,132.6	2.0	-14.0

Not Seasonally Adjusted Data from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program

Labor Force Component	Aug-24	Jul-24	Aug-23	Change From Last Month	Change From Last Year
Total Civilian Labor Force	3,269.4	3,272.1	3,255.6	-2.7	13.8
Unemployment	141.5	138.1	110.4	3.4	31.1
Unemployment Rate (%)	4.3	4.2	3.4	0.1	0.9
Employment	3,127.9	3,134.0	3,145.1	-6.1	-17.3

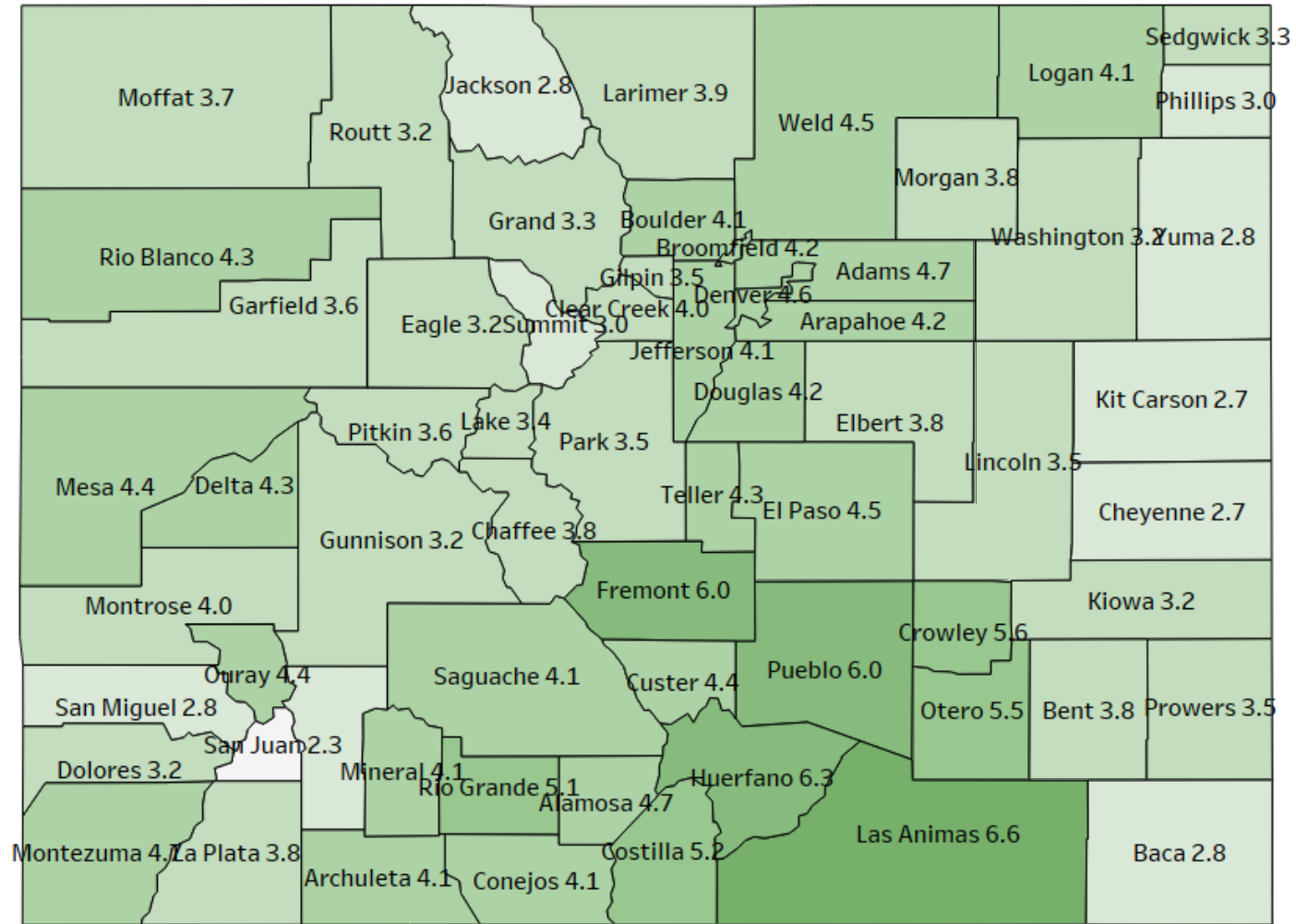
Seasonally Adjusted Data from the Current Employment Statistics Program

Industry	Aug-24	Jul-24	Aug-23	Change From Last Month	Change From Last Year
Mining & Logging	22.8	22.7	21.9	0.1	0.9
Construction	183.3	182.0	185.7	1.3	-2.4
Manufacturing	151.3	151.4	151.6	-0.1	-0.3
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	507.7	507.0	507.7	0.7	0.0
Information	74.0	74.1	76.8	-0.1	-2.8
Financial Activities	186.0	186.0	180.7	0.0	5.3
Professional & Business Services	506.0	503.1	500.6	2.9	5.4
Educational & Health Services	382.3	379.5	371.2	2.8	11.1
Leisure & Hospitality	358.8	358.2	353.5	0.6	5.3
Other Services	129.1	129.6	128.4	-0.5	0.7
Government	496.1	496.4	477.4	-0.3	18.7
Total Nonfarm Employment	2,997.4	2,990.0	2,955.5	7.4	41.9

Not Seasonally Adjusted Data from the Current Employment Statistics Program

Industry	Aug-24	Jul-24	Aug-23	Change From Last Month	Change From Last Year
Mining & Logging	23.1	23.1	22.1	0.0	1.0
Construction	188.8	187.3	189.4	1.5	-0.6
Manufacturing	151.2	152.2	151.8	-1.0	-0.6
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	505.1	506.3	504.8	-1.2	0.3
Information	73.9	74.4	76.6	-0.5	-2.7
Financial Activities	186.9	187.1	181.0	-0.2	5.9
Professional & Business Services	510.8	509.3	506.4	1.5	4.4
Educational & Health Services	380.0	377.9	370.5	2.1	9.5
Leisure & Hospitality	374.7	377.2	368.1	-2.5	6.6
Other Services	130.7	131.1	129.5	-0.4	1.2
Government	484.9	480.3	467.0	4.6	17.9
Total Nonfarm Employment	3,010.1	3,006.2	2,967.2	3.9	42.9

County Unemployment Rates August 2024



Source: Colorado Department of Labor and Employment, Labor Market Information

Note: Data is not seasonally adjusted. For an accessible data table of the county unemployment rates, go to the [Not Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force by Metro Area and County Table 3. By County](#) on the following page.



Not Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force by Metro Area and County

Note: All estimates made in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics and adjusted to Current Population Survey data. Estimates have been revised to incorporate population data from the American Community Survey.

Table 1. Statewide

Statewide	August 2024 Labor Force	August 2024 Employment	August 2024 Unemployment	August 2024 Rate	July 2024 Labor Force	July 2024 Employment	July 2024 Unemployment	July 2024 Rate
Colorado	3,269,396	3,127,885	141,511	4.3	3,272,112	3,134,003	138,109	4.2

Table 2. By Metropolitan Statistical Area

Metropolitan Statistical Area	August 2024 Labor Force	August 2024 Employment	August 2024 Unemployment	August 2024 Rate	July 2024 Labor Force	July 2024 Employment	July 2024 Unemployment	July 2024 Rate
Boulder	202,872	194,543	8,329	4.1	203,863	195,731	8,132	4.0
Colorado Springs	386,446	369,076	17,370	4.5	388,179	371,033	17,146	4.4
Denver-Aurora-Lakewood	1,750,010	1,673,351	76,659	4.4	1,750,849	1,676,332	74,517	4.3
Fort Collins	217,880	209,340	8,540	3.9	216,600	208,433	8,167	3.8
Grand Junction	77,328	73,911	3,417	4.4	76,795	73,287	3,508	4.6
Greeley	175,773	167,864	7,909	4.5	175,221	167,536	7,685	4.4
Pueblo	75,389	70,884	4,505	6.0	76,051	71,619	4,432	5.8

Table 3. By County

Counties	August 2024 Labor Force	August 2024 Employment	August 2024 Unemployment	August 2024 Rate	July 2024 Labor Force	July 2024 Employment	July 2024 Unemployment	July 2024 Rate
Adams	286,838	273,323	13,515	4.7	286,751	273,533	13,218	4.6
Alamosa	7,969	7,592	377	4.7	7,849	7,465	384	4.9
Arapahoe	379,569	363,495	16,074	4.2	379,944	364,237	15,707	4.1
Archuleta	6,971	6,684	287	4.1	6,912	6,633	279	4.0
Baca	2,146	2,086	60	2.8	2,136	2,081	55	2.6
Bent	2,010	1,934	76	3.8	1,934	1,865	69	3.6
Boulder	202,872	194,543	8,329	4.1	203,863	195,731	8,132	4.0
Broomfield	43,334	41,505	1,829	4.2	43,319	41,535	1,784	4.1
Chaffee	10,840	10,431	409	3.8	11,037	10,653	384	3.5
Cheyenne	1,109	1,079	30	2.7	1,100	1,075	25	2.3
Clear Creek	6,211	5,965	246	4.0	6,225	5,981	244	3.9
Conejos	3,928	3,766	162	4.1	3,855	3,692	163	4.2
Costilla	1,926	1,826	100	5.2	1,927	1,837	90	4.7
Crowley	1,379	1,302	77	5.6	1,348	1,278	70	5.2
Custer	2,125	2,031	94	4.4	2,181	2,087	94	4.3
Delta	14,423	13,796	627	4.3	14,528	13,909	619	4.3
Denver	443,142	422,714	20,428	4.6	443,410	423,520	19,890	4.5
Dolores	1,142	1,105	37	3.2	1,127	1,090	37	3.3
Douglas	211,637	202,649	8,988	4.2	211,611	202,968	8,643	4.1
Eagle	35,556	34,415	1,141	3.2	35,675	34,539	1,136	3.2
El Paso	372,659	355,881	16,778	4.5	374,301	357,723	16,578	4.4
Elbert	16,316	15,698	618	3.8	16,297	15,697	600	3.7
Fremont	14,845	13,949	896	6.0	14,858	13,975	883	5.9
Garfield	33,141	31,951	1,190	3.6	33,508	32,370	1,138	3.4
Gilpin	3,941	3,805	136	3.5	3,946	3,819	127	3.2
Grand	10,154	9,821	333	3.3	10,329	9,993	336	3.3
Gunnison	11,839	11,465	374	3.2	11,975	11,614	361	3.0
Hinsdale	490	476	14	2.9	527	514	13	2.5
Huerfano	2,588	2,425	163	6.3	2,640	2,468	172	6.5
Jackson	1,000	972	28	2.8	981	954	27	2.8
Jefferson	347,417	333,000	14,417	4.1	347,693	333,780	13,913	4.0
Kiowa	939	909	30	3.2	903	875	28	3.1
Kit Carson	4,476	4,356	120	2.7	4,425	4,305	120	2.7
La Plata	31,860	30,650	1,210	3.8	31,939	30,759	1,180	3.7
Lake	5,141	4,967	174	3.4	5,101	4,924	177	3.5
Larimer	217,880	209,340	8,540	3.9	216,600	208,433	8,167	3.8
Las Animas	5,801	5,416	385	6.6	5,879	5,489	390	6.6
Lincoln	2,401	2,317	84	3.5	2,397	2,316	81	3.4
Logan	10,220	9,805	415	4.1	10,164	9,755	409	4.0
Mesa	77,328	73,911	3,417	4.4	76,795	73,287	3,508	4.6
Mineral	513	492	21	4.1	524	506	18	3.4
Moffat	7,151	6,884	267	3.7	7,182	6,921	261	3.6
Montezuma	12,201	11,633	568	4.7	12,270	11,733	537	4.4
Montrose	22,406	21,507	899	4.0	22,254	21,332	922	4.1
Morgan	16,124	15,505	619	3.8	15,903	15,306	597	3.8
Otero	7,886	7,453	433	5.5	7,726	7,321	405	5.2
Ouray	2,635	2,520	115	4.4	2,670	2,555	115	4.3
Park	11,605	11,197	408	3.5	11,653	11,262	391	3.4
Phillips	2,645	2,565	80	3.0	2,596	2,521	75	2.9
Pitkin	11,213	10,804	409	3.6	11,375	10,982	393	3.5
Prowers	6,572	6,341	231	3.5	6,526	6,289	237	3.6
Pueblo	75,389	70,884	4,505	6.0	76,051	71,619	4,432	5.8
Rio Blanco	2,740	2,622	118	4.3	2,770	2,646	124	4.5
Rio Grande	5,563	5,280	283	5.1	5,530	5,242	288	5.2
Routt	17,278	16,727	551	3.2	17,519	16,963	556	3.2
Saguache	3,604	3,458	146	4.1	3,547	3,390	157	4.4
San Juan	732	715	17	2.3	767	751	16	2.1
San Miguel	6,080	5,910	170	2.8	6,199	6,021	178	2.9
Sedgwick	1,224	1,183	41	3.3	1,222	1,182	40	3.3
Summit	22,209	21,538	671	3.0	22,384	21,741	643	2.9
Teller	13,787	13,195	592	4.3	13,878	13,310	568	4.1
Washington	2,754	2,667	87	3.2	2,712	2,628	84	3.1
Weld	175,773	167,864	7,909	4.5	175,221	167,536	7,685	4.4
Yuma	5,751	5,591	160	2.8	5,631	5,483	148	2.6

Not Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force for Select Cities in Colorado

All estimates made in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, and Bureau of Labor Statistics and adjusted to Current Population Survey data. Estimates have been revised to incorporate population data from the American Community Survey.

Table 1. Over the Month

Area	August 2024 Labor Force	August 2024 Employment	August 2024 Unemployment	August 2024 Rate	July 2024 Labor Force	July 2024 Employment	July 2024 Unemployment	July 2024 Rate
Arvada	71,973	68,917	3,056	4.2	71,991	69,075	2,916	4.1
Aurora	212,665	202,991	9,674	4.5	212,823	203,377	9,446	4.4
Boulder	68,128	65,220	2,908	4.3	68,449	65,618	2,831	4.1
Brighton	21,188	20,134	1,054	5.0	21,143	20,147	996	4.7
Castle Rock	40,018	38,308	1,710	4.3	40,035	38,368	1,667	4.2
Centennial	65,749	63,178	2,571	3.9	65,855	63,307	2,548	3.9
Colorado Springs	258,371	247,092	11,279	4.4	259,463	248,371	11,092	4.3
Commerce City	31,561	29,995	1,566	5.0	31,552	30,018	1,534	4.9
Englewood	22,128	21,192	936	4.2	22,102	21,235	867	3.9
Erie	19,020	18,274	746	3.9	19,009	18,304	705	3.7
Fort Collins	105,580	101,501	4,079	3.9	104,967	101,061	3,906	3.7
Fountain	14,119	13,476	643	4.6	14,230	13,546	684	4.8
Grand Junction	31,263	29,793	1,470	4.7	31,045	29,541	1,504	4.8
Greeley	54,134	51,398	2,736	5.1	53,927	51,298	2,629	4.9
Lafayette	18,136	17,414	722	4.0	18,196	17,521	675	3.7
Lakewood	90,739	86,703	4,036	4.4	90,894	86,906	3,988	4.4
Littleton	26,113	25,035	1,078	4.1	26,127	25,086	1,041	4.0
Longmont	57,445	54,980	2,465	4.3	57,733	55,311	2,422	4.2
Loveland	48,270	46,298	1,972	4.1	47,991	46,097	1,894	3.9
Northglenn	22,069	21,047	1,022	4.6	22,060	21,063	997	4.5
Parker	35,476	33,986	1,490	4.2	35,476	34,039	1,437	4.1
Pueblo	48,086	44,997	3,089	6.4	48,492	45,463	3,029	6.2
Thornton	85,399	81,679	3,720	4.4	85,446	81,741	3,705	4.3
Westminster	69,110	66,069	3,041	4.4	69,148	66,163	2,985	4.3
Wheat Ridge	17,865	17,037	828	4.6	17,853	17,077	776	4.3
Windsor	16,106	15,485	621	3.9	16,059	15,447	612	3.8

Table 2. Over the Year

Area	August 2024 Labor Force	August 2024 Employment	August 2024 Unemployment	August 2024 Rate	August 2023 Labor Force	August 2023 Employment	August 2023 Unemployment	August 2023 Rate
Arvada	71,973	68,917	3,056	4.2	72,048	69,825	2,223	3.1
Aurora	212,665	202,991	9,674	4.5	213,290	205,577	7,713	3.6
Boulder	68,128	65,220	2,908	4.3	67,485	65,258	2,227	3.3
Brighton	21,188	20,134	1,054	5.0	21,195	20,365	830	3.9
Castle Rock	40,018	38,308	1,710	4.3	40,103	38,784	1,319	3.3
Centennial	65,749	63,178	2,571	3.9	66,141	63,990	2,151	3.3
Colorado Springs	258,371	247,092	11,279	4.4	255,064	246,219	8,845	3.5
Commerce City	31,561	29,995	1,566	5.0	31,560	30,351	1,209	3.8
Englewood	22,128	21,192	936	4.2	22,210	21,464	746	3.4
Erie	19,020	18,274	746	3.9	18,842	18,295	547	2.9
Fort Collins	105,580	101,501	4,079	3.9	104,423	101,223	3,200	3.1
Fountain	14,119	13,476	643	4.6	13,963	13,428	535	3.8
Grand Junction	31,263	29,793	1,470	4.7	31,098	29,926	1,172	3.8
Greeley	54,134	51,398	2,736	5.1	53,496	51,477	2,019	3.8
Lafayette	18,136	17,414	722	4.0	17,955	17,424	531	3.0
Lakewood	90,739	86,703	4,036	4.4	90,988	87,850	3,138	3.4
Littleton	26,113	25,035	1,078	4.1	26,219	25,358	861	3.3
Longmont	57,445	54,980	2,465	4.3	56,950	55,013	1,937	3.4
Loveland	48,270	46,298	1,972	4.1	47,682	46,171	1,511	3.2
Northglenn	22,069	21,047	1,022	4.6	22,114	21,297	817	3.7
Parker	35,476	33,986	1,490	4.2	35,537	34,408	1,129	3.2
Pueblo	48,086	44,997	3,089	6.4	48,249	45,726	2,523	5.2
Thornton	85,399	81,679	3,720	4.4	85,453	82,649	2,804	3.3
Westminster	69,110	66,069	3,041	4.4	69,285	66,891	2,394	3.5
Wheat Ridge	17,865	17,037	828	4.6	17,935	17,262	673	3.8
Windsor	16,106	15,485	621	3.9	16,058	15,495	563	3.5