



PRESS RELEASE

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

For Immediate Release

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Contact: Office of Government, Policy, and Public Relations - cdle_pr@state.co.us

Colorado Employment Situation – February 2025

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs Decline by 8,900 in February;
Unemployment Rate Remains Unchanged at 4.7 Percent

Strike Activity During the Reference Week in February

Important note: Strike activity at a major retail grocery company lasted for the duration of the February reference week, which was February 9th through February 15th. These workers are not counted in payroll job estimates in the establishment survey for February. Impacts at the industry and substate level are described below. For more information, visit [BLS Current Employment Statistics Strike Report](#).

Household survey data

- According to the survey of households, the **number of unemployed individuals** increased by 2,500 to 155,300 from January to February. Colorado's seasonally adjusted **unemployment rate** remained unchanged over the same time period at 4.7 percent. The national unemployment rate increased one-tenth of a percentage point to 4.1 percent from January to February.
- Colorado's **labor force** decreased by 1,400 in February to 3,283,100. The share of Coloradans participating in the labor force decreased to 67.9 percent in February, compared to 68.0 percent the month prior. The U.S. labor force participation rate decreased two-tenths of a percentage point to 62.4 percent in February.
- The **number of individuals employed** in Colorado decreased by 4,000 in February to 3,127,800, which represents 64.7 percent of the state's 16+ population. Colorado's employment-population ratio of 64.7 in February decreased one-tenth of a percentage point from the month prior. The national employment-population ratio decreased two-tenths of a percentage point to 59.9 percent from January to February.

Establishment survey data

- Employers in Colorado lost 8,900 **nonfarm payroll jobs** from January to February for a total of 2,968,700 jobs, according to the survey of business establishments. Private sector payroll jobs decreased by 10,300, while government added 1,400 jobs.
- **January estimates** were revised down to 2,977,600, and the over the month change from December to January was an increase of 500 jobs rather than the originally estimated increase of 3,900 (monthly revisions are based on additional responses from businesses and government agencies since the last published estimates).
- **The private industry sector with significant over the month job gains** in February was: education and health services ($\approx 1,100$). The private industry sectors with significant over the month **job losses** were: trade, transportation, and utilities ($\approx 11,000$), and other services ($\approx 1,000$). Strike activity at a major retail grocery company in the Denver, Boulder, and Pueblo Metropolitan Statistical Areas contributed to the declines in trade, transportation, and utilities in February.
- **Since February 2024**, nonfarm payroll jobs have increased 500, with the private sector declining by 14,700 and government adding 15,200 jobs. The largest **private sector job gains** were in educational and health services ($\approx 4,800$) and leisure and hospitality ($\approx 4,400$). During that same period, **payroll jobs declined** in professional and business services ($\approx 9,100$), trade, transportation, and utilities ($\approx 8,500$), information ($\approx 2,600$), construction ($\approx 1,900$), and financial activities ($\approx 1,500$). Colorado's **rate of job growth** over the past year is 0.0 percent, below the U.S. rate of 1.2 percent.
- Over the year, the **average workweek** for all Colorado employees on private nonfarm payrolls increased from 33.0 to 33.4 hours, while **average hourly earnings** grew from \$37.42 to \$40.31, four dollars and thirty-eight cents more than the national average hourly earnings of \$35.93.

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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 March 2025 Colorado Employment Situation will be released at 8:00 AM on Friday, April 18, 2025. The full schedule of release dates for calendar year 2025 estimates is available at [Labor Market Information](#).

Technical Notes

This release provides information on industry employment and labor force statistics for February 2025, the most current estimates available from the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment. The reference period for the establishment survey 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

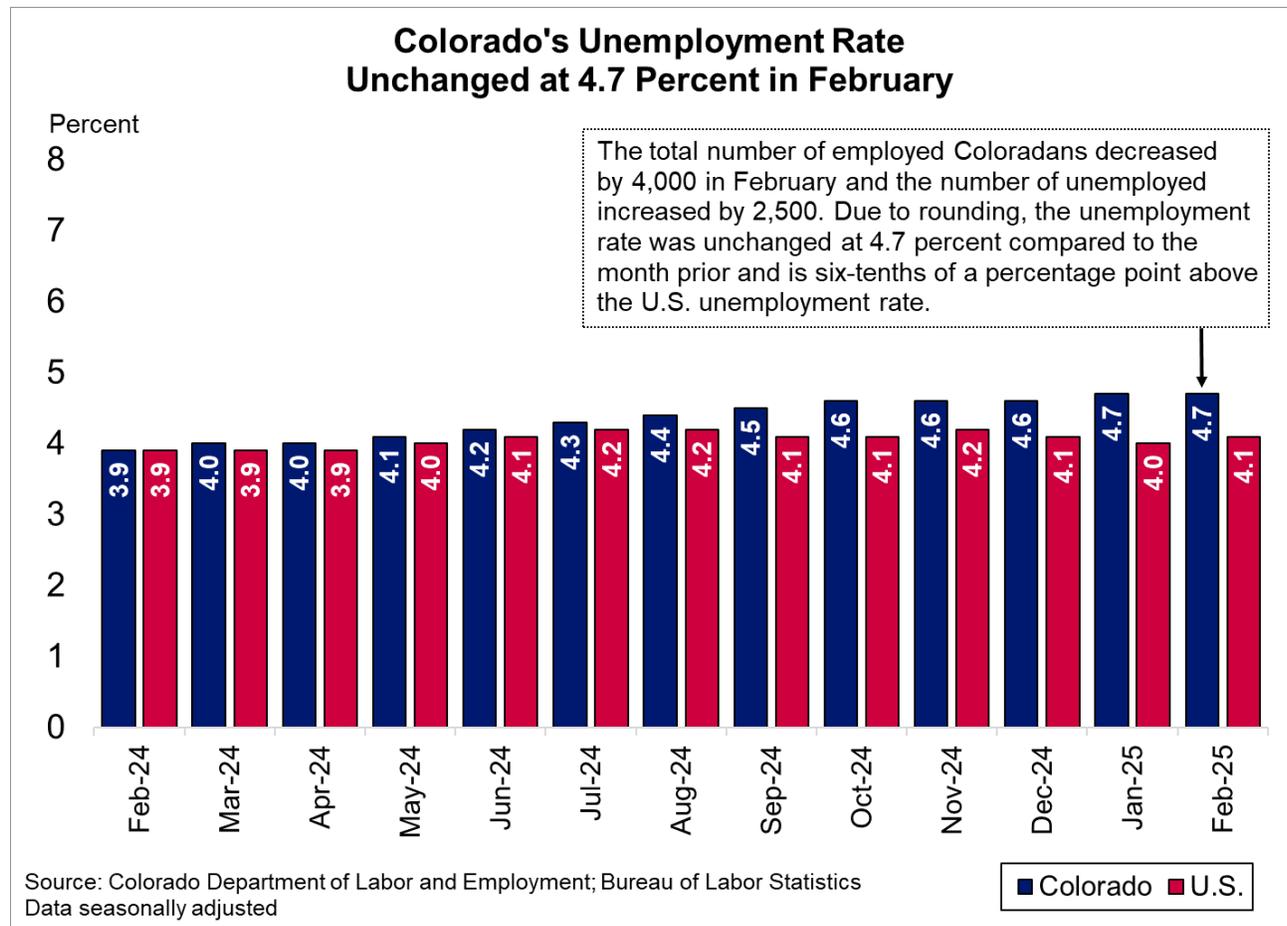


Chart information:

- Colorado's February 2025 unemployment rate was 4.7 percent, six-tenths of a percentage point higher than the U.S. rate of 4.1 percent.
- Prior month rates were 4.7 percent and 4.0 percent, respectively.
- The total number of employed Coloradans decreased by 4,000 in February and the number of unemployed increased by 2,500, though the unemployment rate was unchanged at 4.7 percent due to rounding.
- The number of unemployed Coloradans grew by 2,500 to 155,300.
- Unemployment rate for Colorado has ranged between 3.9 and 4.7 percent over the past year, while the U.S. range has been 3.9 and 4.2 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

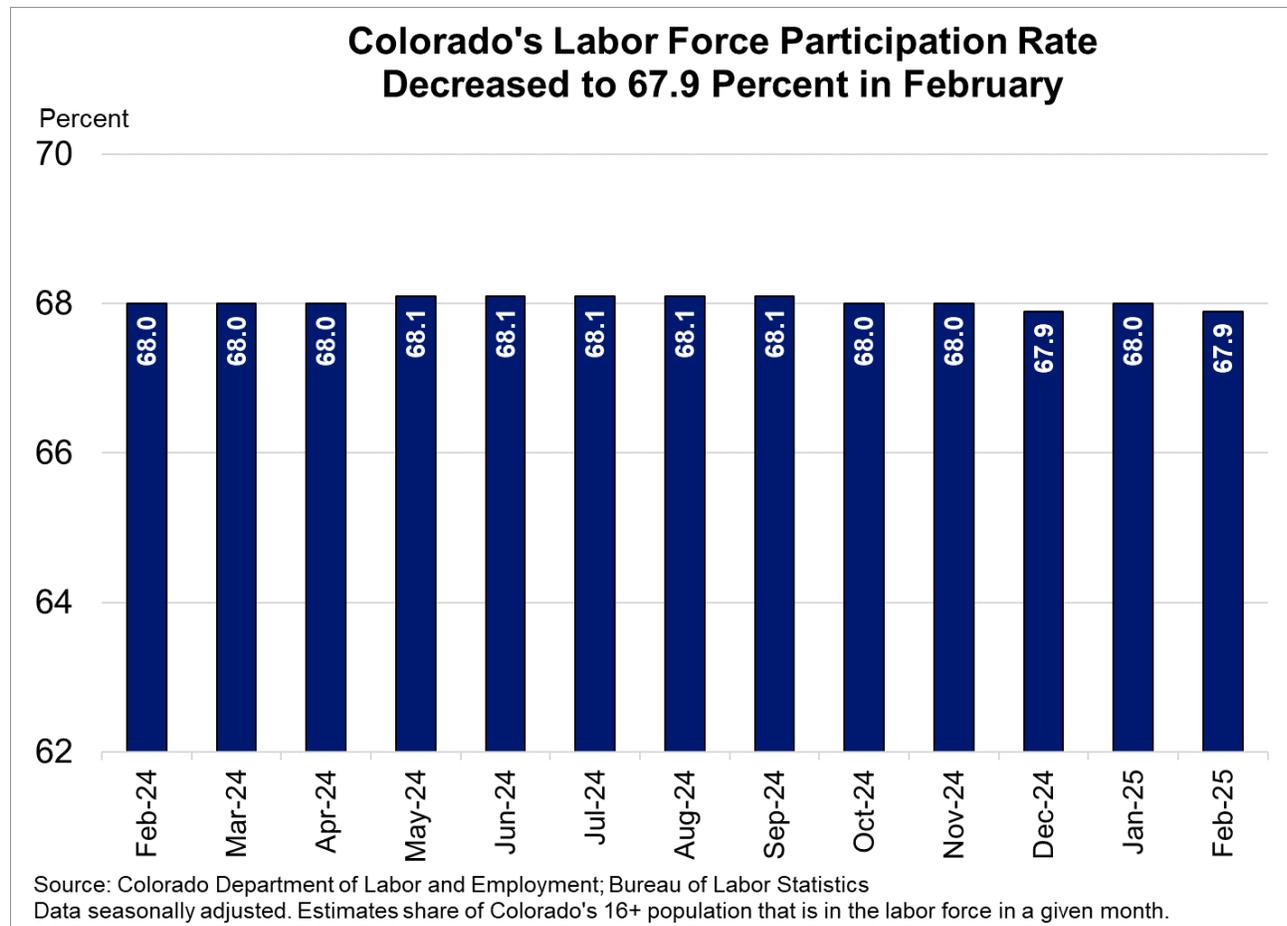


Chart information:

- Colorado's February 2025 labor force participation rate (LFPR) was 67.9 percent, a decrease of one-tenth of a percentage point from January 2025.
- A year prior, Colorado's labor force participation rate was 68.0 percent.
- The labor force participation rate for Colorado has ranged between 67.9 percent and 68.1 percent over the past year.
- 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

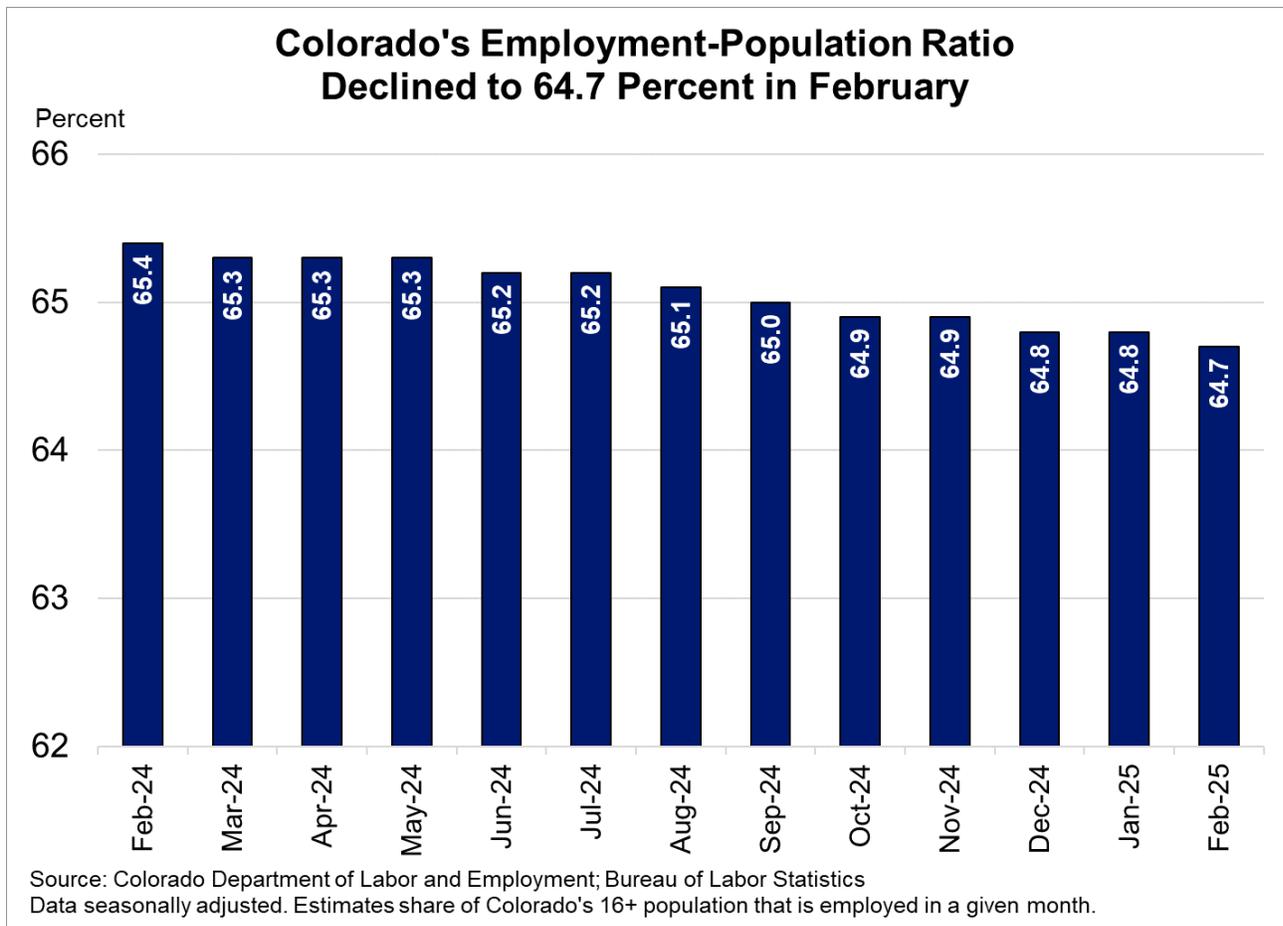


Chart information:

- Colorado's February 2025 employment-population ratio (EPOP) was 64.7 percent, a decrease of one-tenth of a percentage point from January 2025.
- A year prior, Colorado's employment-population ratio was 65.4 percent.
- The employment-population ratio for Colorado has ranged between 64.7 percent and 65.4 percent over the past year.
- 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

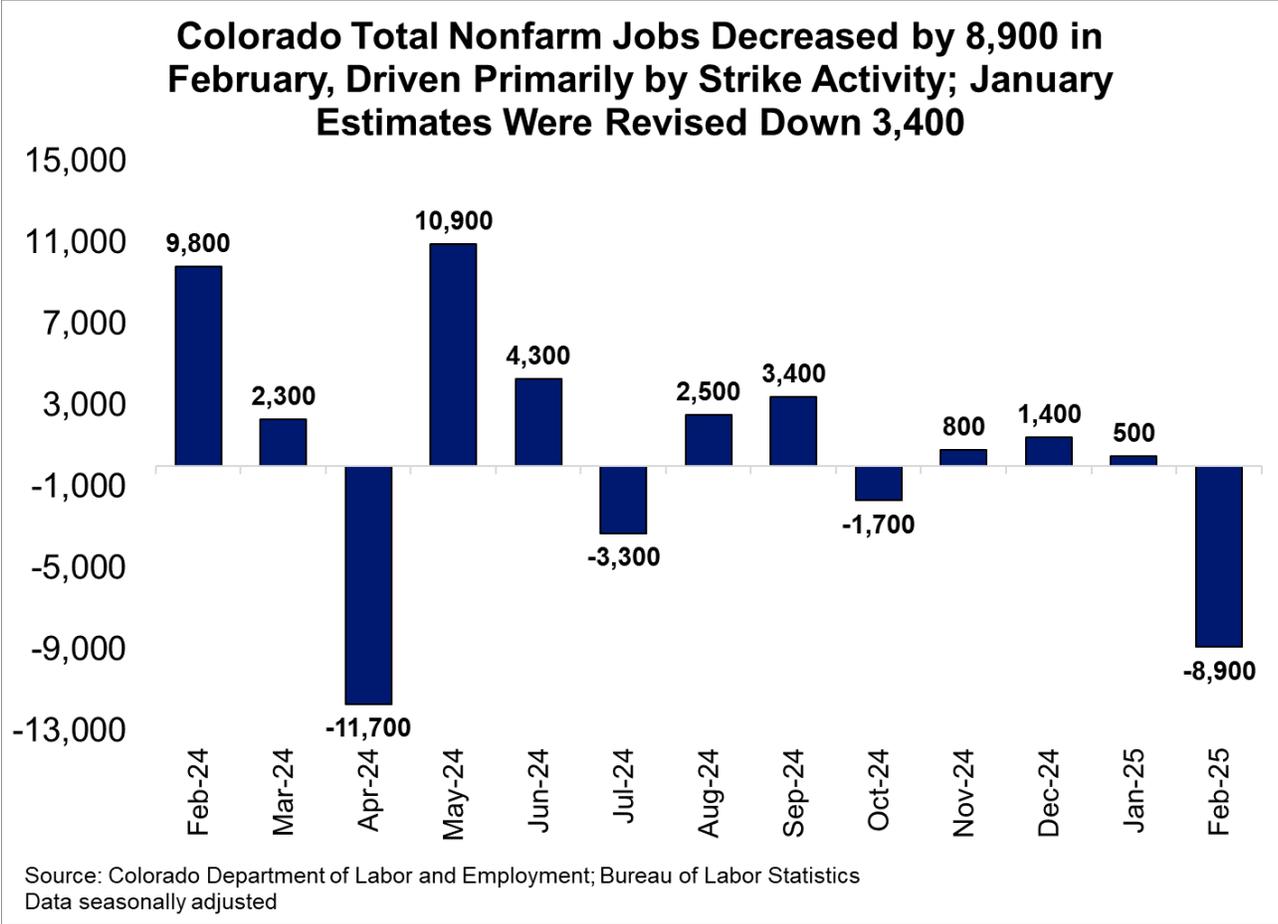


Chart information:

- Colorado lost 8,900 total nonfarm jobs in February 2025, driven primarily by strike activity, while January numbers were revised down by 3,400. The January revision shows an increase of 500 rather than the previously reported increase of 3,900 jobs.
- Since February 2024, the monthly change in Colorado’s total nonfarm jobs has ranged between -11,700 (April 2024) and +10,900 (May 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 total nonfarm jobs over the past year is +800.
- 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

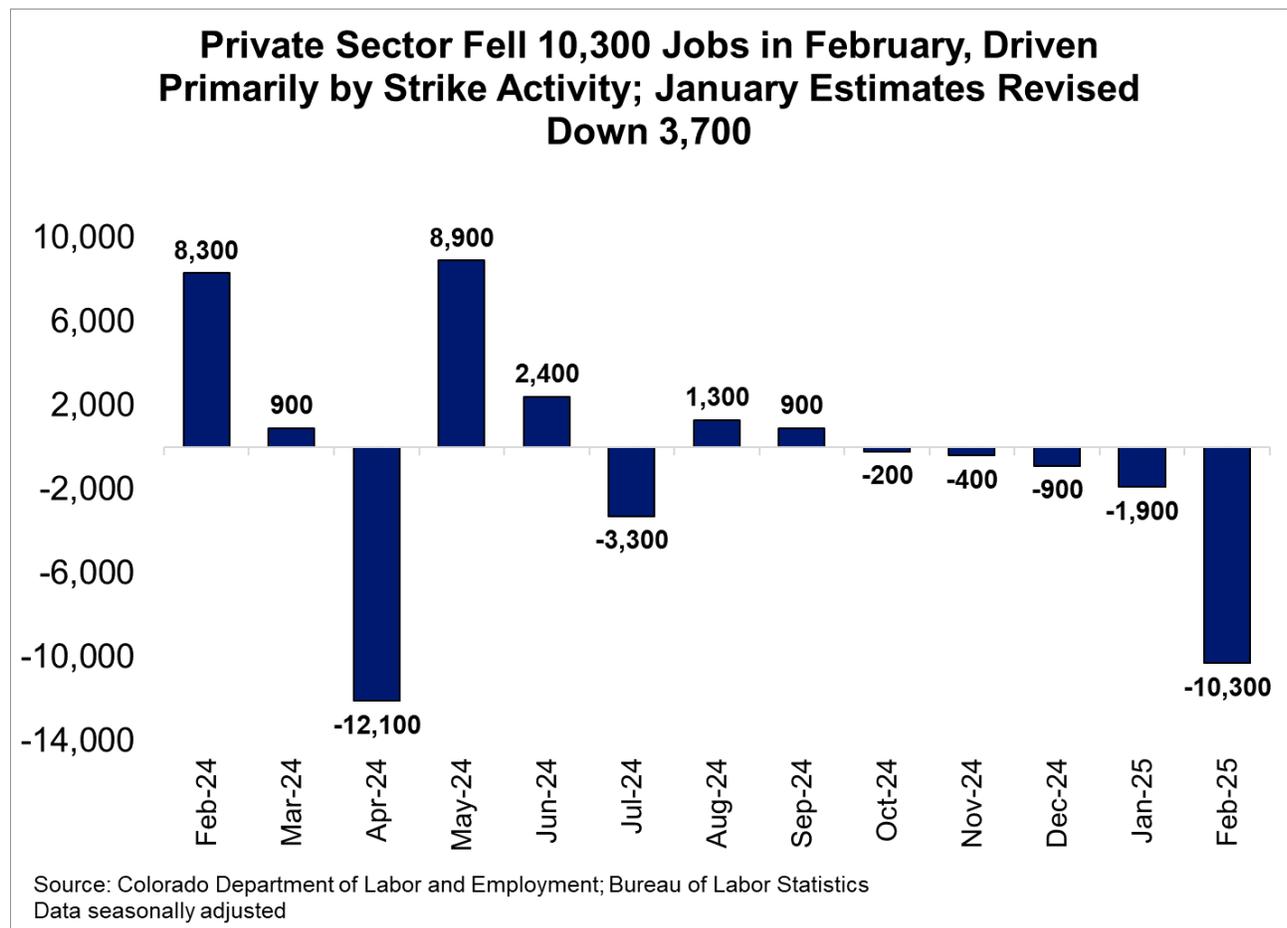


Chart information:

- Colorado private sector jobs decreased by 10,300 in February 2025, driven primarily by strike activity, while January numbers were revised down by 3,700. The January revision shows a decrease of 1,900 rather than the previously reported increase of 1,800 jobs.
- Since February 2024, the monthly change in Colorado's private sector jobs has ranged between -12,100 (April 2024) and +8,900 (May 2024).
- Out of the 13 months displayed, seven have experienced over the month decreases, while over the month increases have occurred in six months.
- The average monthly change in Colorado's private sector jobs over the past year is -500.
- 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

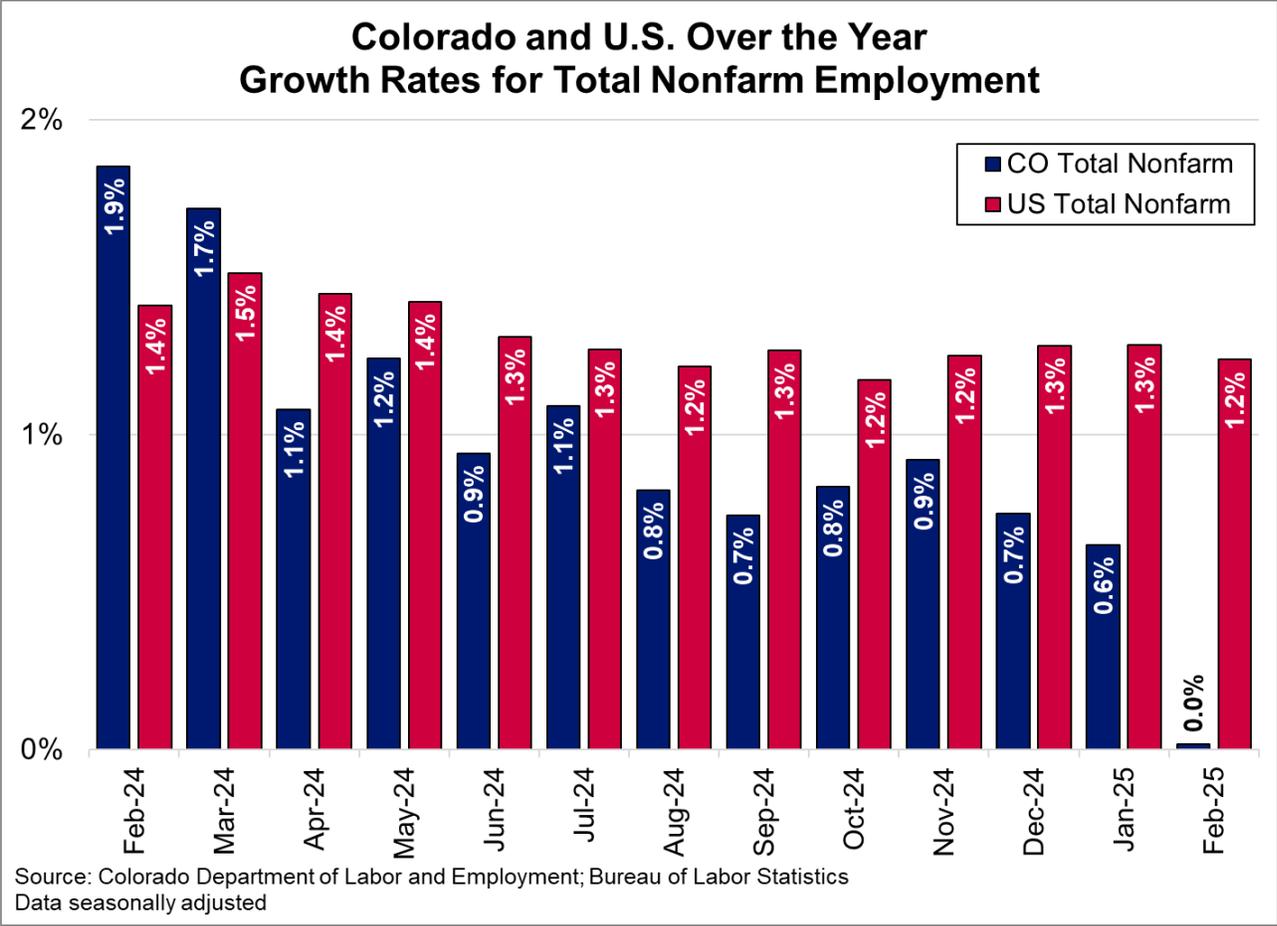


Chart information:

- Colorado’s over the year growth rate for total nonfarm employment was 0.0 percent in February 2025, lower than the U.S. rate of 1.2 percent. Strike activity in Colorado was the primary driver of 0.0% over the year growth in February.
- Total nonfarm employment growth rates for Colorado and the U.S. a year prior were 1.9 percent and 1.4 percent, respectively.
- Colorado has lagged the U.S. growth rate in 11 of the past 13 months and has exceeded it in two months. The difference ranged between 1.2 percentage points lower (February 2025) and five-tenths of a percentage point higher (February 2024).
- 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

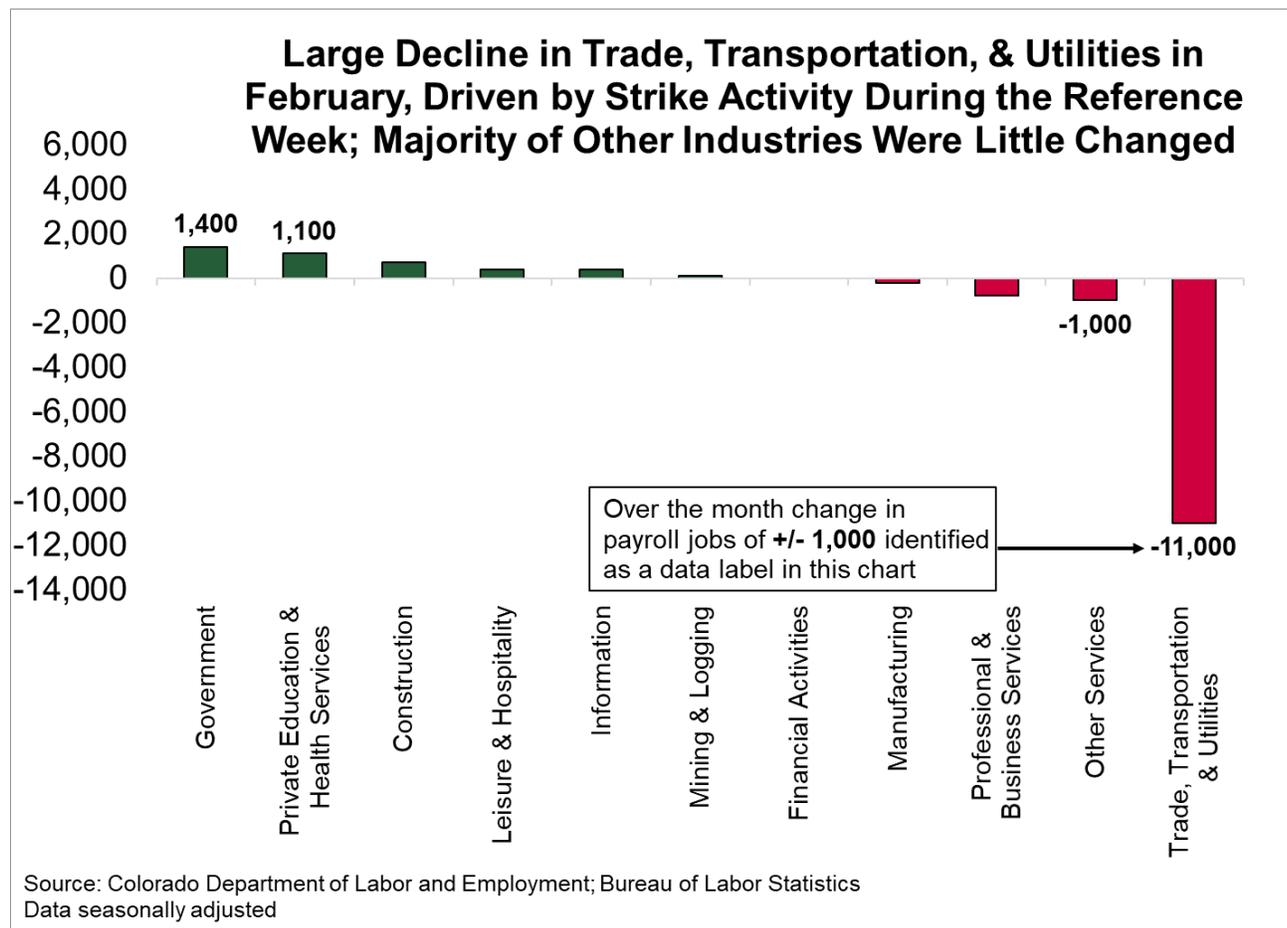


Chart information:

- Six Colorado industry supersectors gained jobs in February 2025, four industry supersectors experienced decreases in employment levels, and one industry supersector was unchanged.
- Notable over the month increases occurred in government (+1,400) and private education and health services (+1,100).
- Notable over the month decreases occurred in trade, transportation, and utilities (-11,000) and other services (-1,000).
- 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

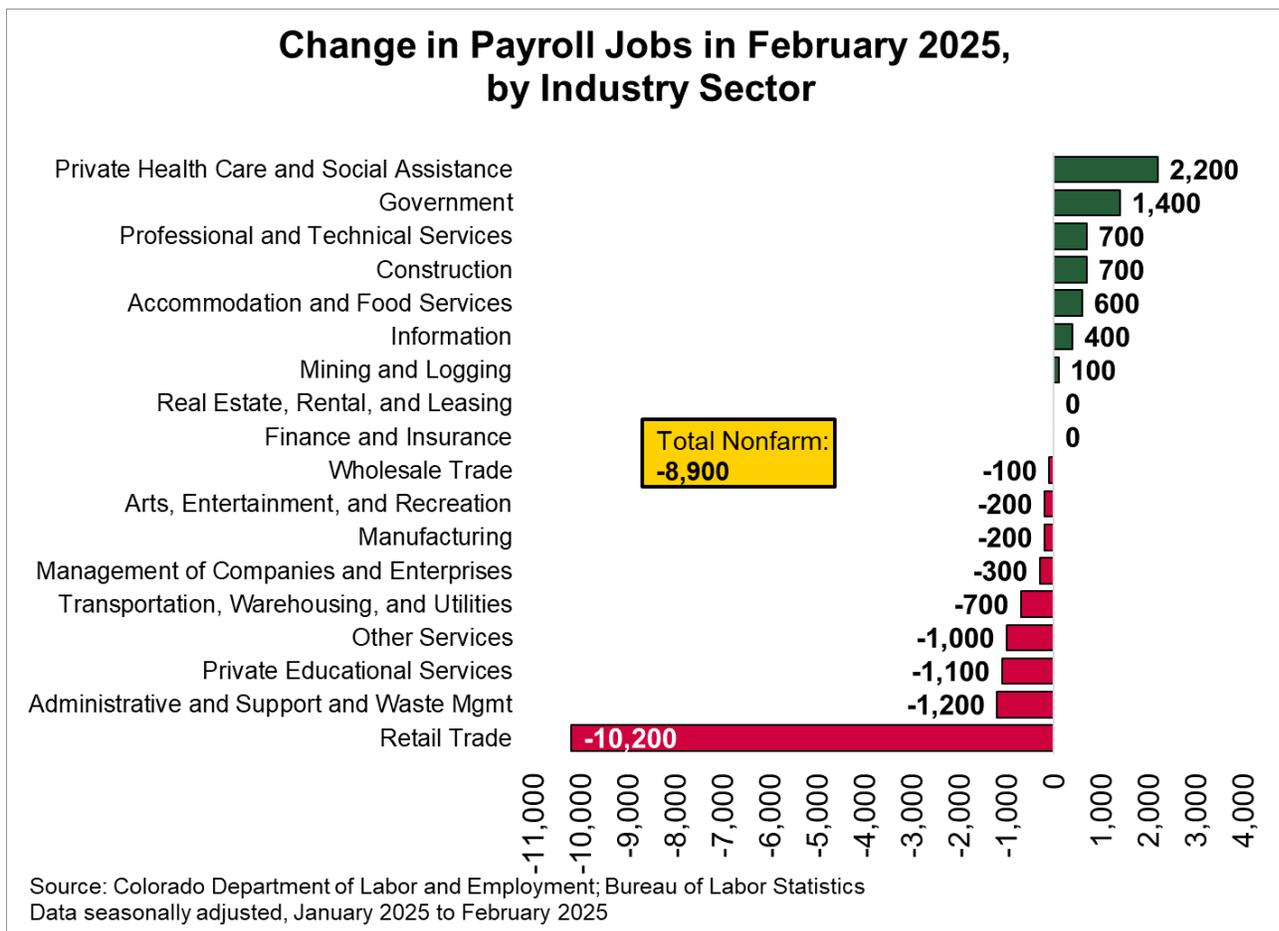


Chart information:

- From January 2025 to February 2025, Colorado lost 8,900 nonfarm payroll jobs.
- Private health care and social assistance added the most jobs at 2,200.
- Government added the second most jobs over that period at 1,400.
- Professional and technical services and construction added the third most jobs at 700 each.
- The industry sectors with the largest declines were retail trade (-10,200), administrative and support and waste management (-1,200), and private educational services (-1,100).
- Out of Colorado's 18 industry sectors, seven added jobs in February 2025, nine experienced job loss, and two were 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

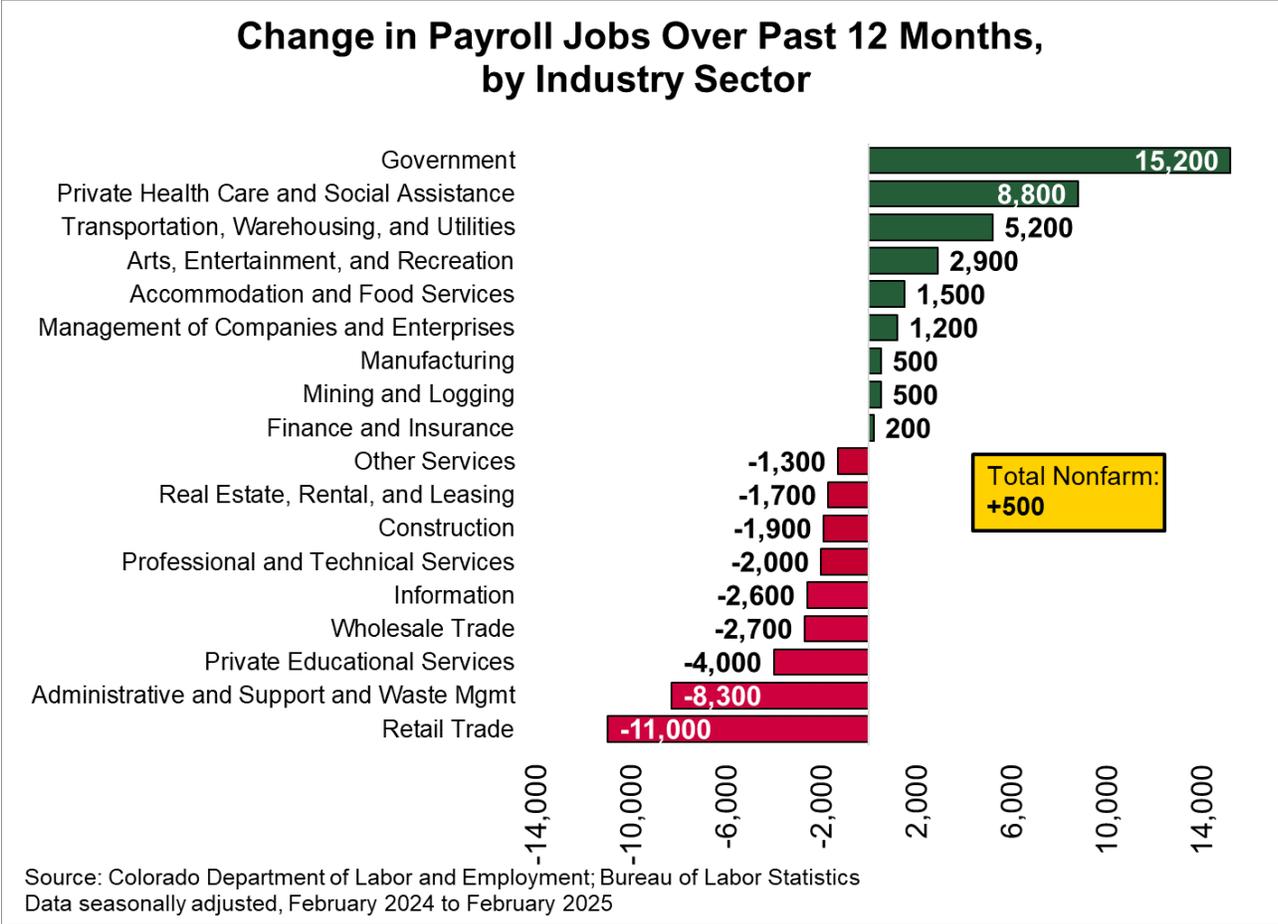


Chart information:

- Over the past 12 months, Colorado has added 500 nonfarm payroll jobs.
- Government has added the most jobs at 15,200.
- Private health care and social assistance (+8,800) and transportation, warehousing, and utilities (+5,200) added the second and third most jobs, respectively, over that period.
- The industry sectors with the largest declines over the past year are: retail trade (-11,000), administrative and support and waste management (-8,300), and private educational services (-4,000).
- Out of Colorado’s 18 industry sectors, nine have added jobs over the past 12 months, while nine 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

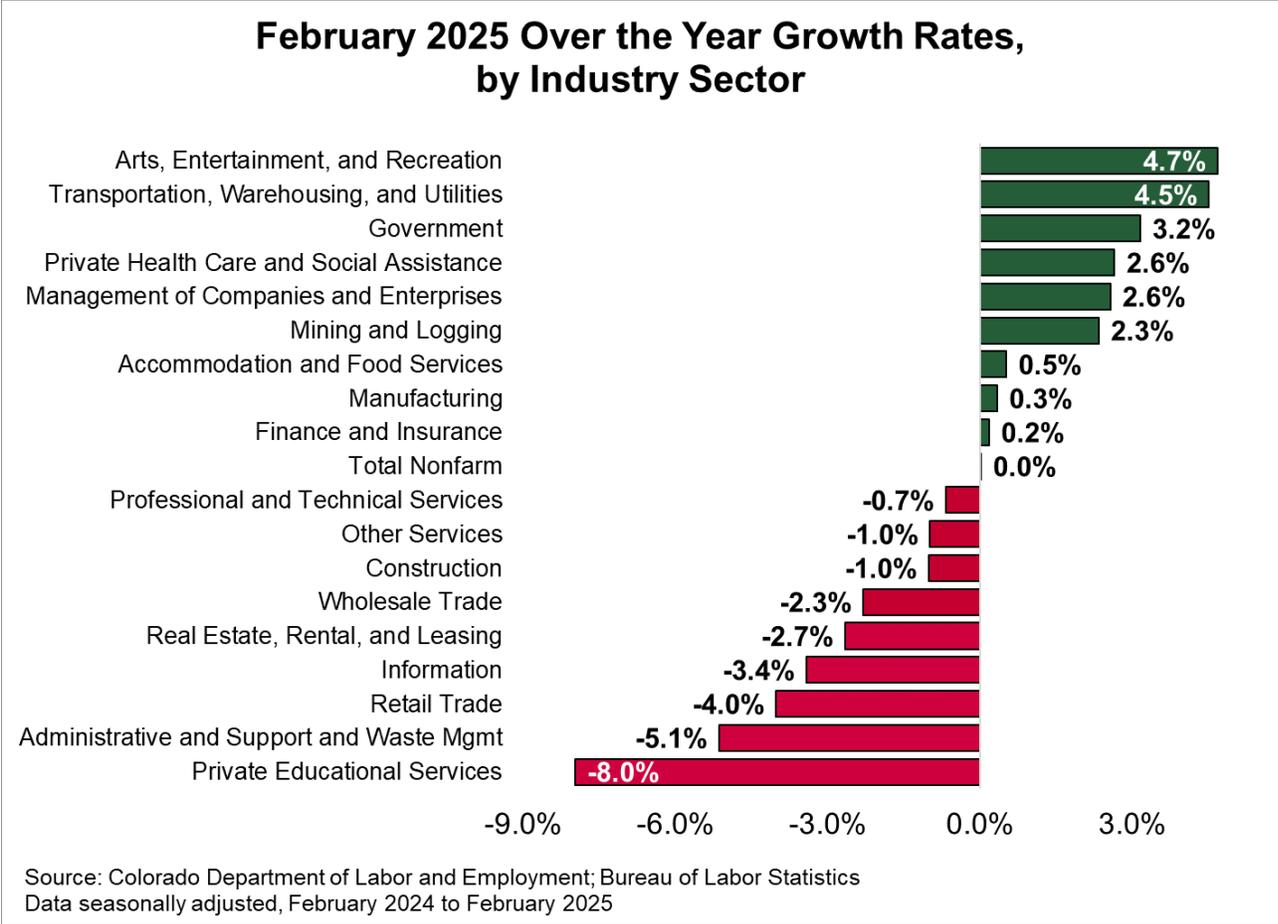


Chart information:

- Colorado’s over the year growth rate for total nonfarm employment was 0.0 percent in February 2025.
- Out of Colorado’s 18 industry sectors, nine had positive over the year growth rates and nine experienced declines over the year.
- The industry sectors with the fastest growth rates over the past year are: arts, entertainment, and recreation (4.7%), transportation, warehousing, and utilities (4.5%), and government (3.2%).
- The industry sectors with the slowest growth rates over the past year are: private educational services (-8.0%), administrative and support and waste management (-5.1%), and retail trade (-4.0%).
- 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 Colorado Metropolitan Statistical Area, for Most Recent Month

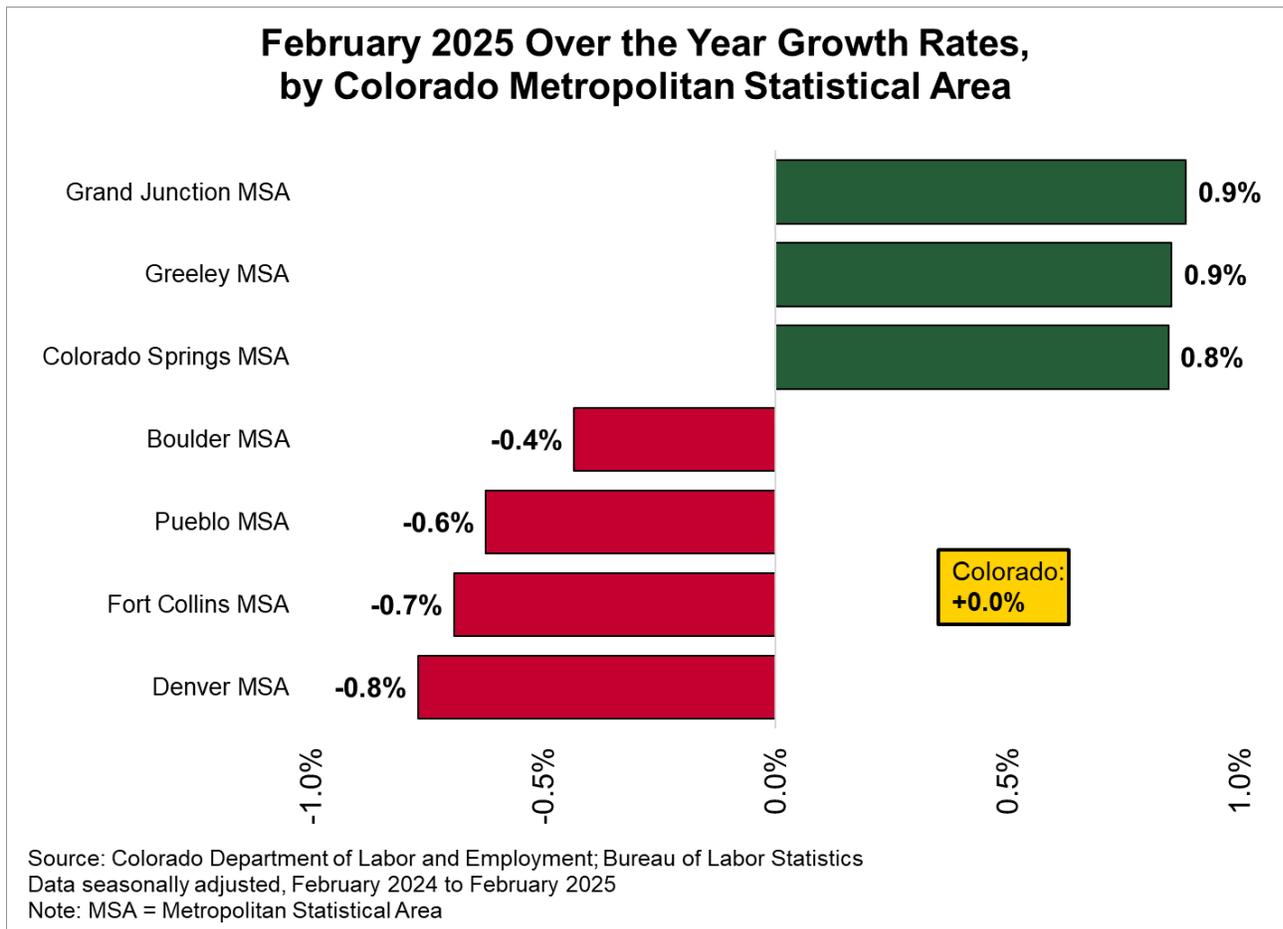


Chart information:

- Colorado's over the year growth rate for total nonfarm employment was 0.0 percent in February 2025.
- Among Colorado's seven metropolitan statistical areas (MSA), the Grand Junction MSA and Greeley MSA had the highest growth rates at 0.9% each. Colorado Springs had the next highest growth rate at 0.8 percent.
- The Denver MSA (-0.8%), Fort Collins MSA (-0.7%), Pueblo MSA (-0.6%), and Boulder MSA (-0.4%) declined 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

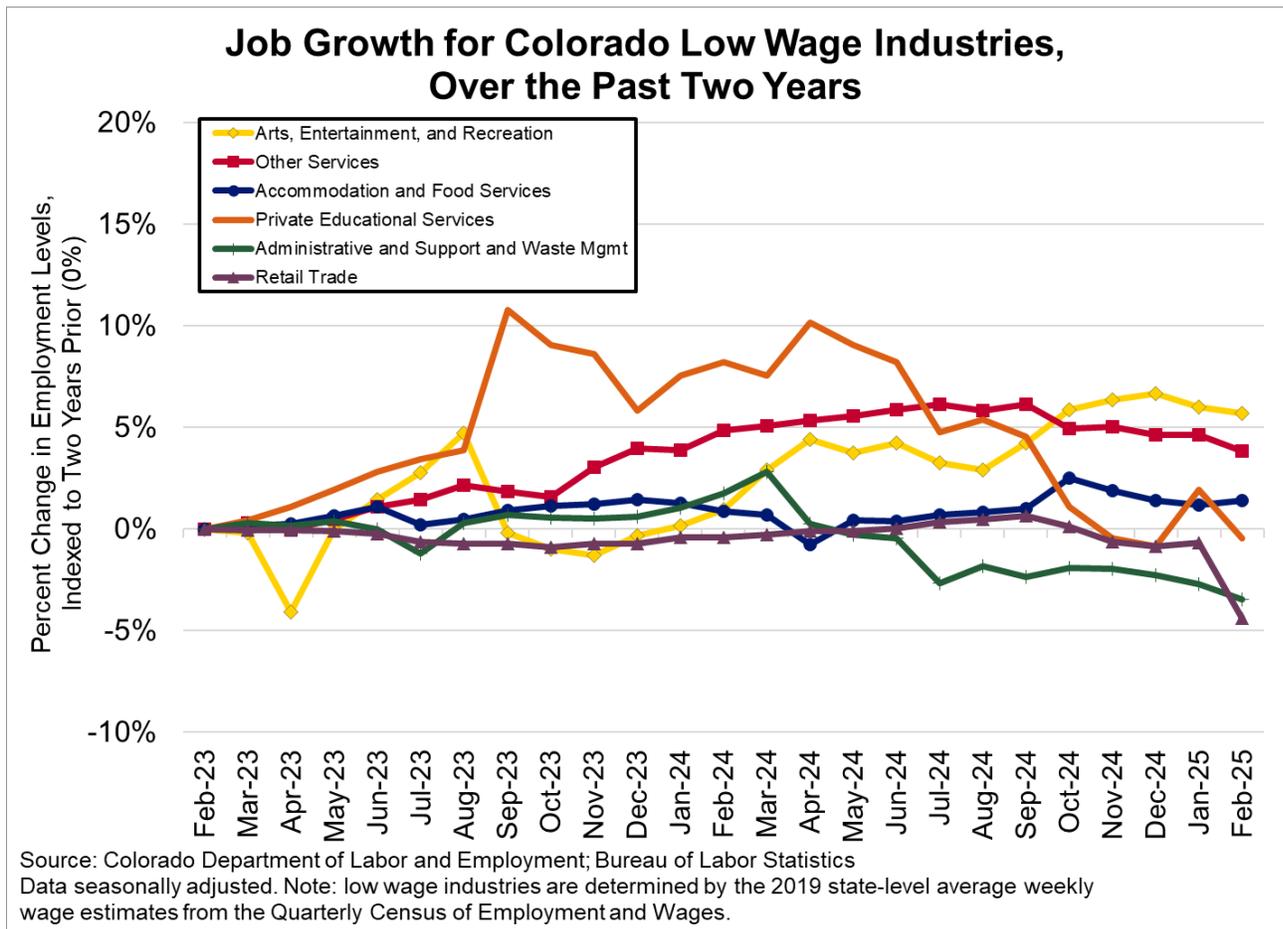


Chart information:

- This chart measures job growth for low wage industries in Colorado over the past two years. The measurement period spans from February 2023 to the most recent month available, February 2025. Values above 0 percent indicate employment levels have increased relative to February 2023, 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 February 2025, three low wage industries have an index value over 0 percent while three have an index value below 0 percent. Retail trade and administrative and support and waste management have the lowest growth rates over the past two years, at -4.4 and -3.5 percent, respectively. Arts, entertainment, and recreation has the fastest growth rate during that period, at 5.7 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

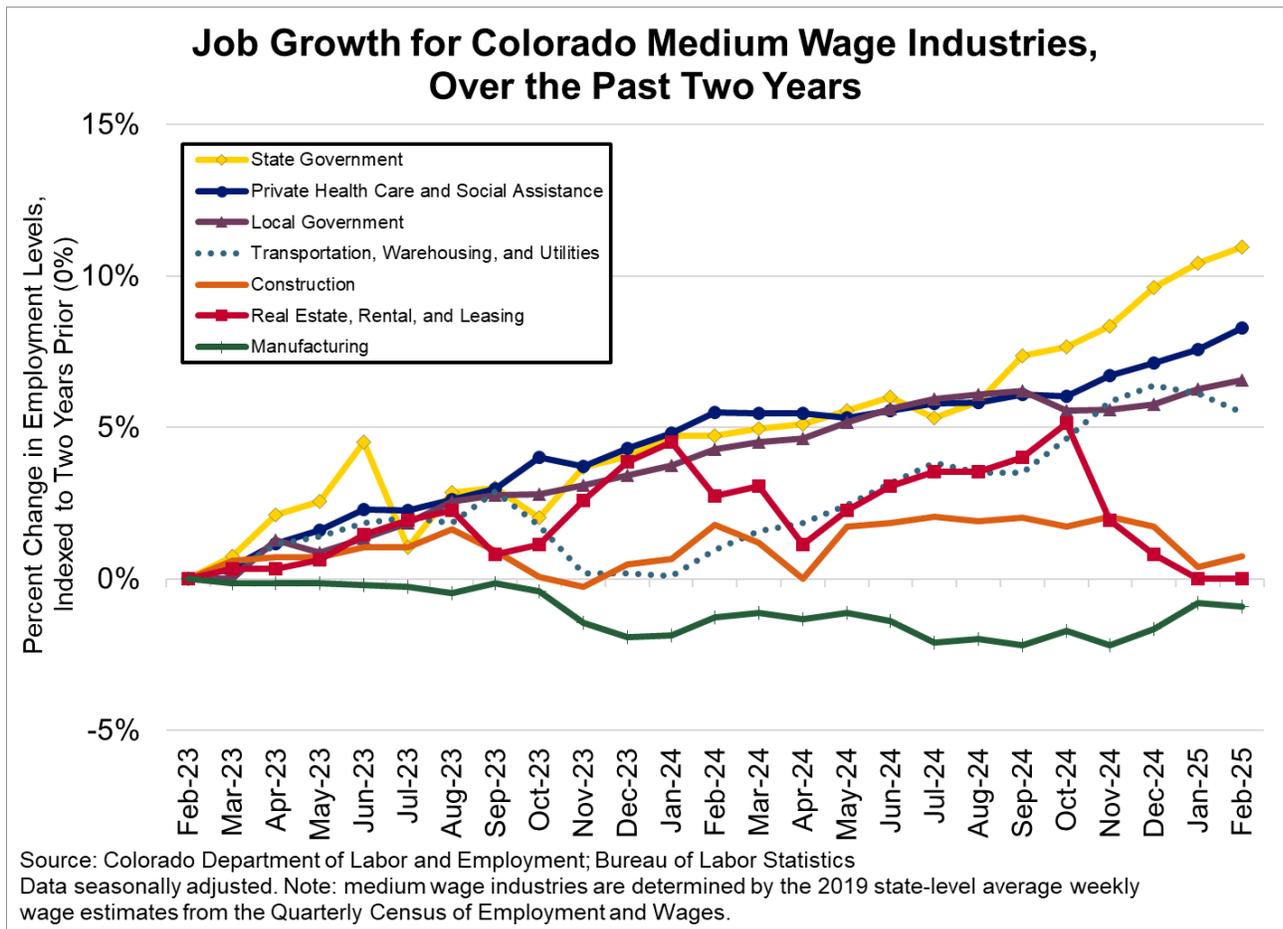


Chart information:

- This chart measures job growth for medium wage industries in Colorado over the past two years. The measurement period spans from February 2023 to the most recent month available, February 2025. Values above 0 percent indicate employment levels have increased relative to February 2023, 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 February 2025, five medium wage industries have an index value over 0 percent, one has an index value at 0 percent, and one has an index value below 0 percent. Manufacturing has the lowest growth rate over the past two years, at -0.9 percent. State government has the fastest growth rate during that period, at 11.0 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

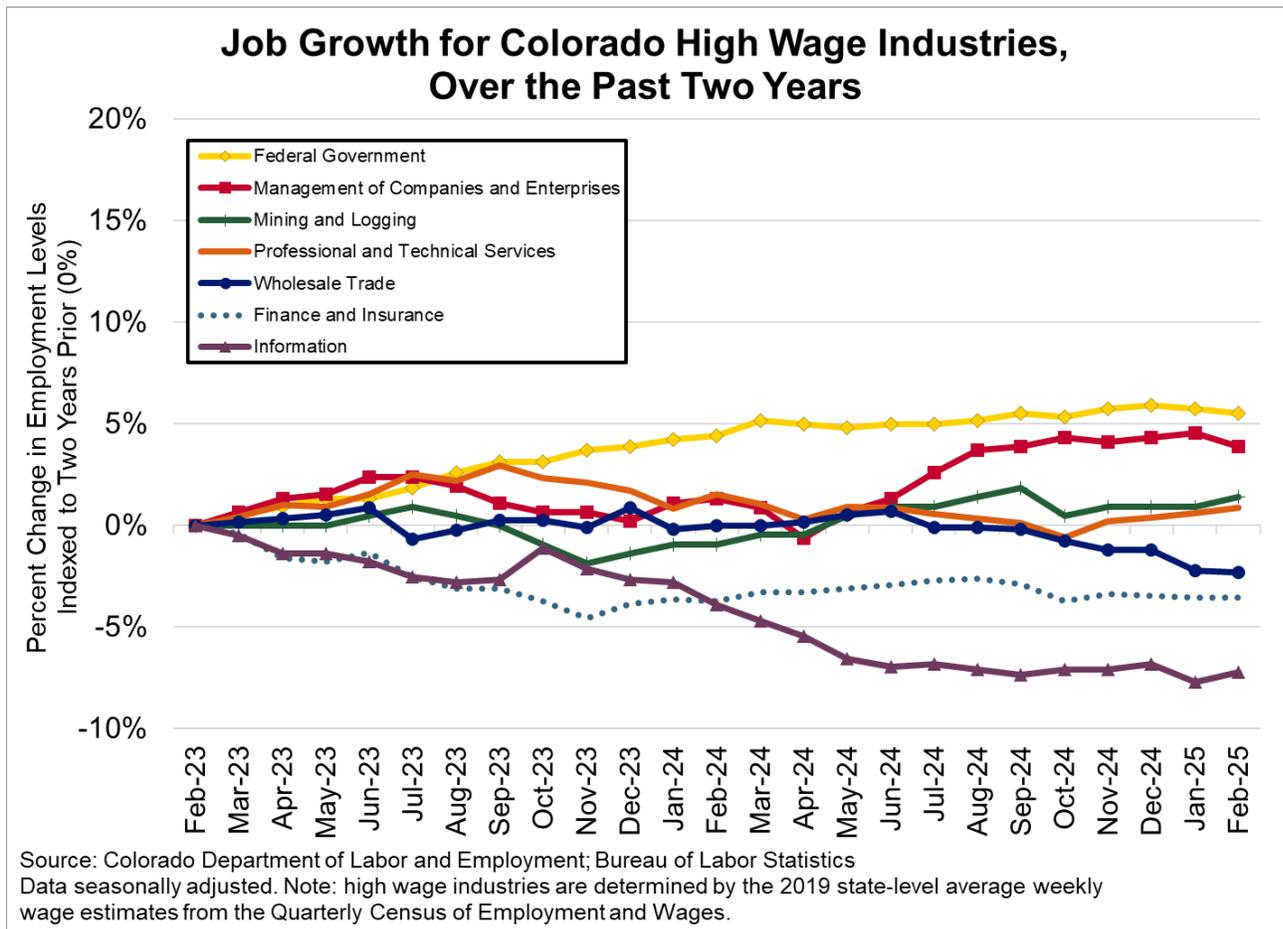


Chart information:

- This chart measures job growth for high wage industries in Colorado over the past two years. The measurement period spans from February 2023 to the most recent month available, February 2025. Values above 0 percent indicate employment levels have increased relative to February 2023, 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 February 2025, four high wage industries have an index value over 0 percent, while three have an index value below 0 percent. Information has the lowest growth rate over the past two years, at -7.2 percent. Federal government has the fastest growth rate during that period, at 5.5 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 Substate Areas, Over Past Two Years

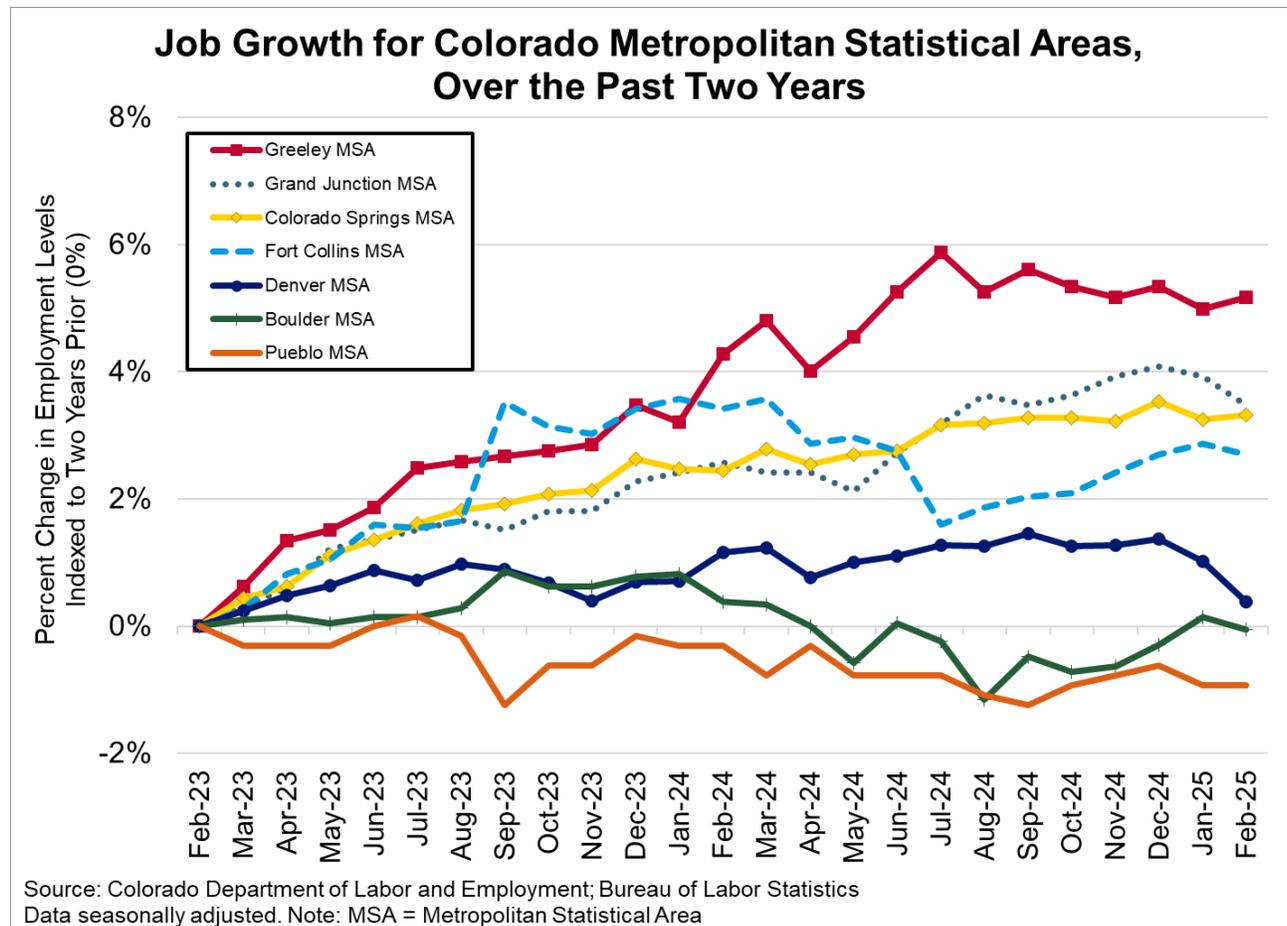


Chart information:

- This chart measures job growth for Colorado substate areas over the past two years. The measurement period spans from February 2023 to the most recent month available, February 2025. Values above 0 percent indicate employment levels have increased relative to February 2023, 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 February 2025, five areas have an index value over 0 percent, one has an index value at 0 percent, and one has an index value below 0 percent. The Pueblo MSA has the lowest growth rate over the past two years, at -0.9 percent. The Greeley MSA has the fastest growth rate during that period, at 5.2 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

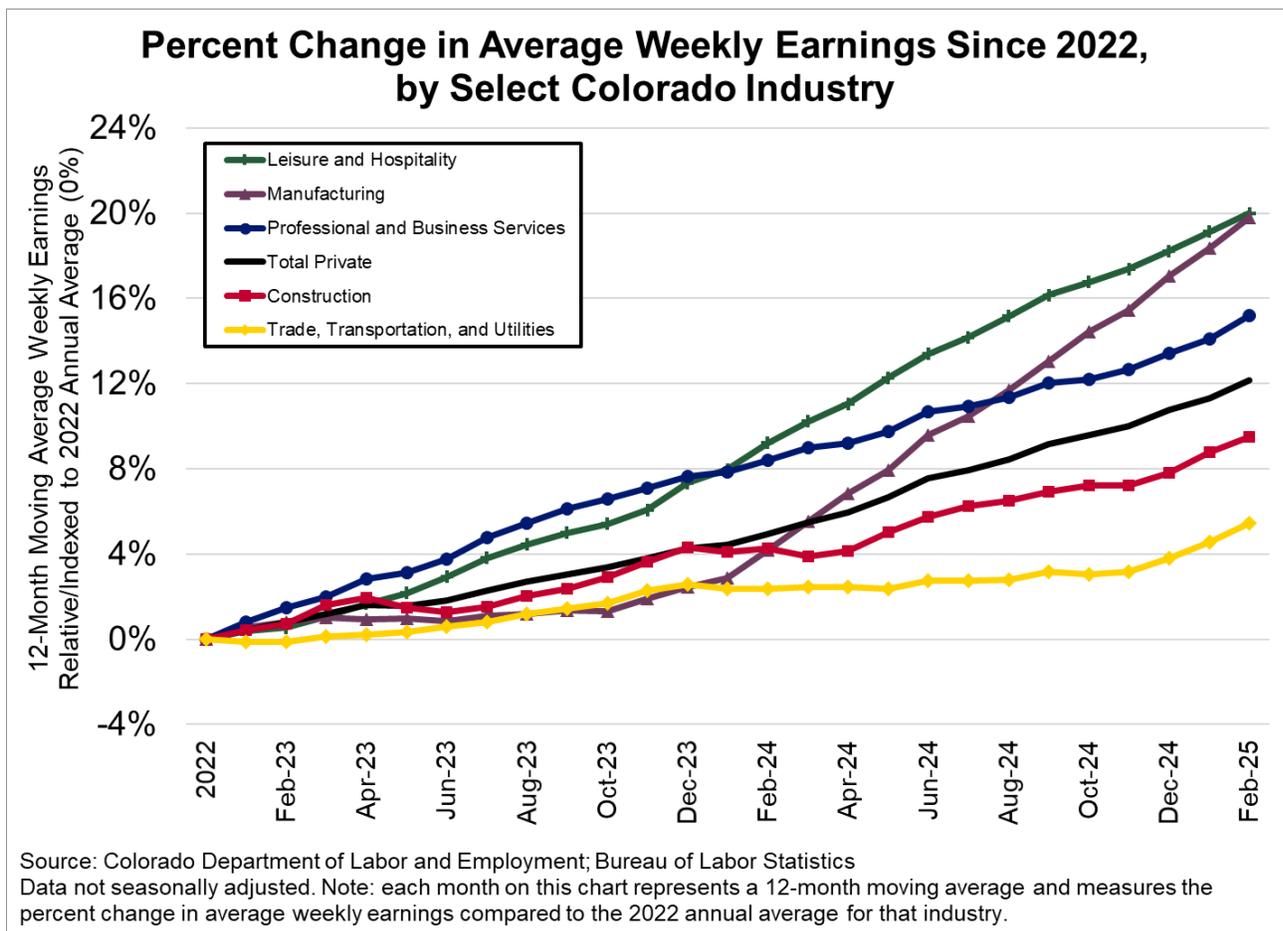


Chart information:

- Each month on this chart represents a 12-month moving average and measures the percent change in average weekly earnings compared to the 2022 annual average for an industry. Values above 0 percent indicate that wages have grown relative to 2022, 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 and manufacturing have the steepest change in earnings, at 20 percent and nearly 20 percent, respectively, using the most recent 12-month average data available.
- Earnings gains for PBS, total private, and construction range between over 9 percent and over 15 percent.
- Wage growth lags for TTU, which is between 5 and 6 percent.
- 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

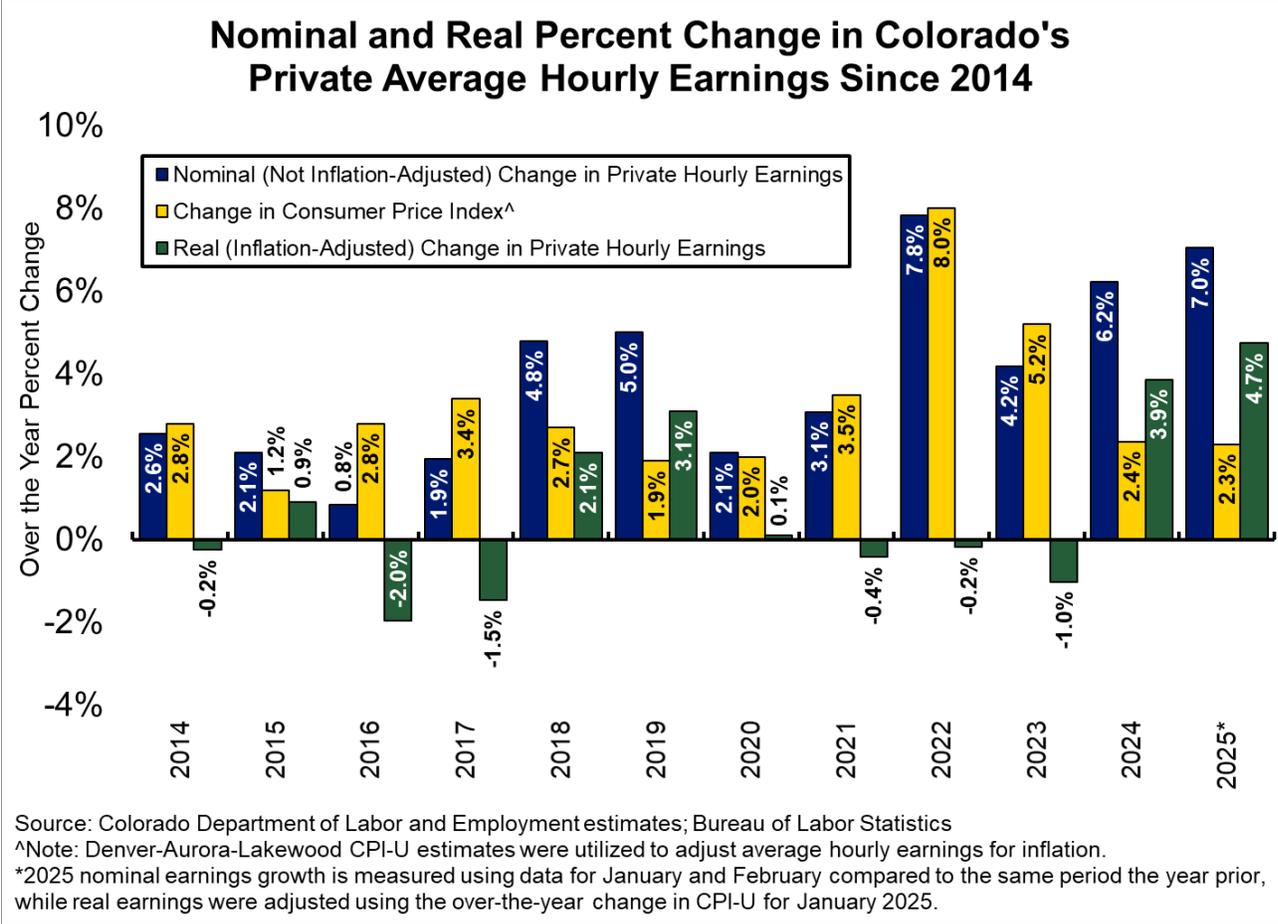
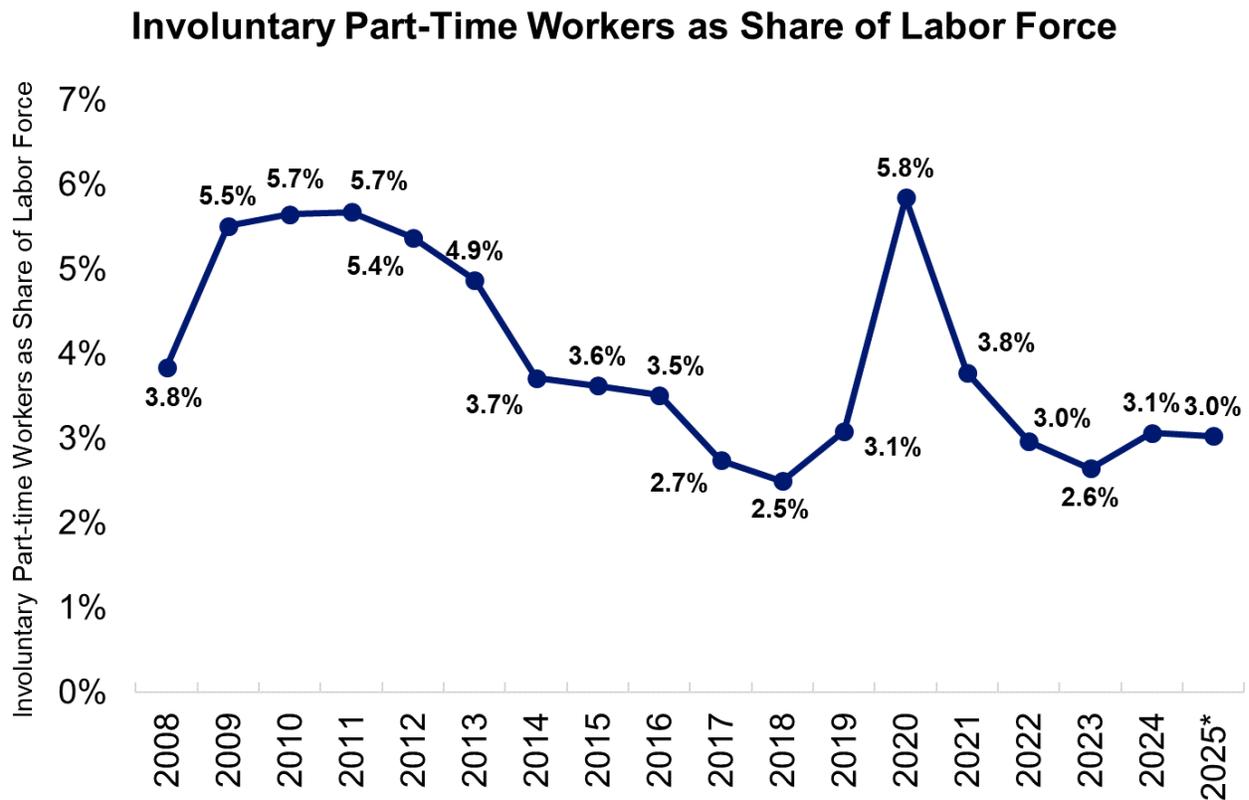


Chart information:

- This chart displays annualized hourly wage data for Colorado from 2014 to 2025.
- 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.
- 2025 nominal earnings growth is measured using data for January and February compared to the same period the year prior, while real earnings were adjusted using the over-the-year change in CPI for January 2025.
- Real earnings have increased by 4.7 percent in 2025, compared to an increase of 3.9 percent in 2024, and a decrease of 1.0 percent in 2023.
- 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



Source: Current Population Survey

Data not seasonally adjusted. Involuntary part-time workers are those individuals who are working part-time hours (34 hours or less), but prefer full-time hours (35+ hours).

*Average through the first two months of 2025.

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 2025. This metric is known as involuntary part-time or part-time for economic reasons.
- The average involuntary part-time share in 2025 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

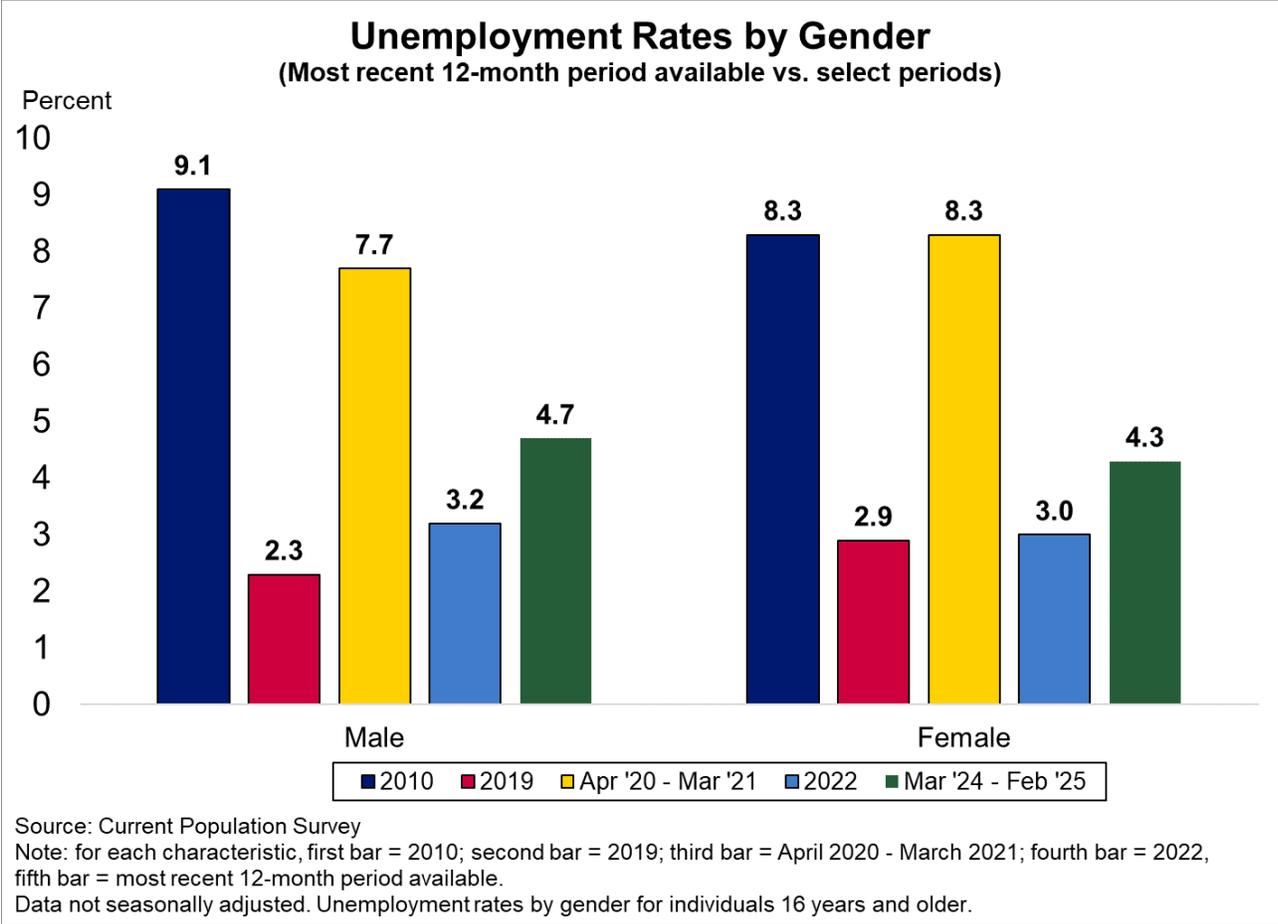


Chart information:

- This chart compares Colorado unemployment rates by gender over five 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); 2022 (a recent period of low unemployment); and the most recent 12-month period available (March 2024 to February 2025).
- For the most recent 12-month period available, the male unemployment rate is 4.7 percent, and the female unemployment rate is 4.3 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

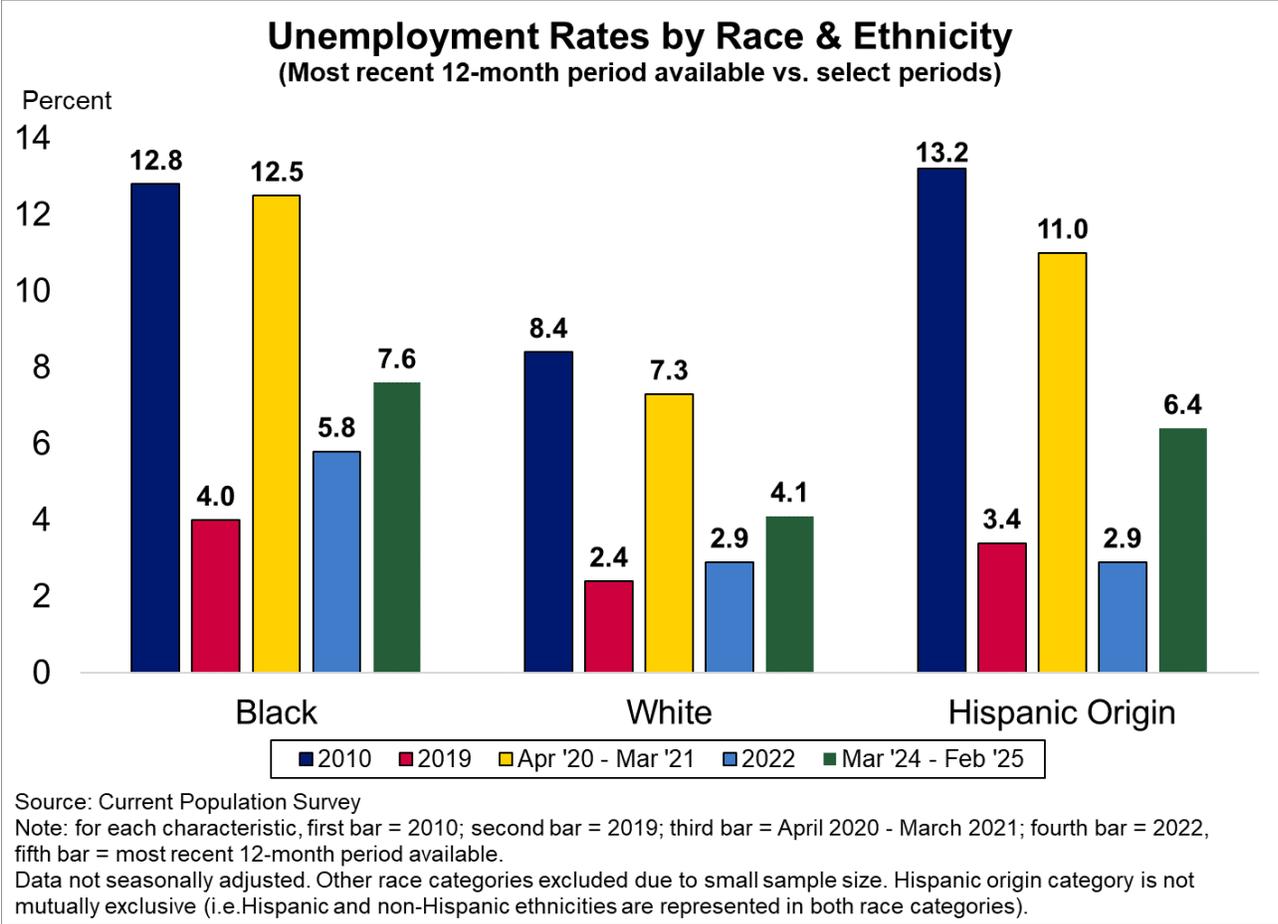


Chart information:

- This chart compares Colorado unemployment rates by race and ethnicity over five 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); 2022 (a recent period of low unemployment); and the most recent 12-month period available (March 2024 to February 2025).
- For the most recent 12-month period available, the Black unemployment rate is 7.6 percent, the White unemployment rate is 4.1 percent, and the Hispanic unemployment rate is 6.4 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

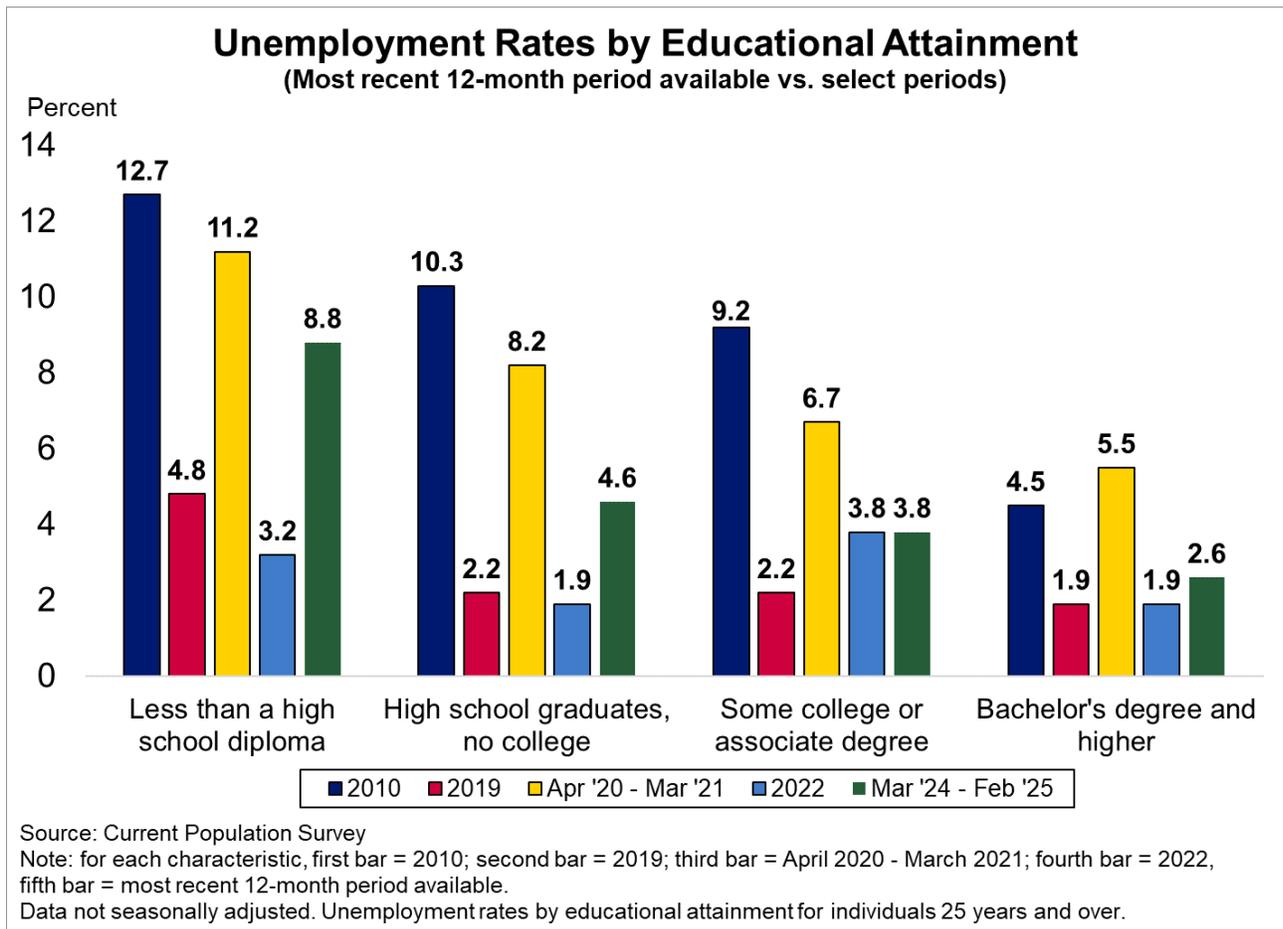


Chart information:

- This chart compares Colorado unemployment rates by levels of education over five 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); 2022 (a recent period of low unemployment); and the most recent 12-month period available (March 2024 to February 2025).
- For the most recent 12-month period available, unemployment rates by education level are: less than a high school diploma (8.8 percent); high school graduates, no college (4.6 percent); some college or associate degree (3.8 percent); and bachelor's degree and higher (2.6 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

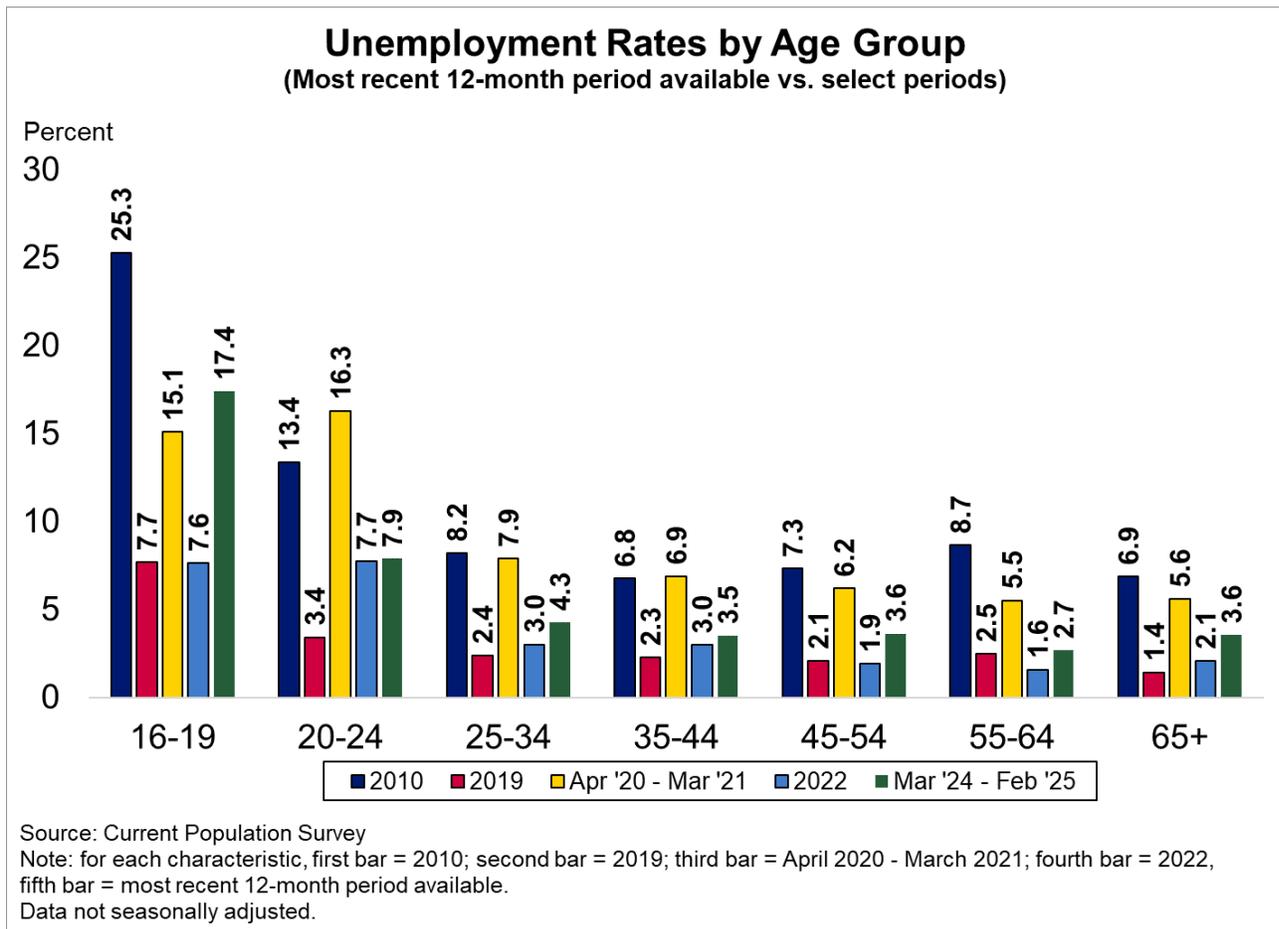


Chart information:

- This chart compares Colorado unemployment rates between seven age cohorts over five 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); 2022 (a recent period of low unemployment); and the most recent 12-month period available (March 2024 to February 2025).
- For the most recent 12-month period available, unemployment rates by cohort are: 16-19 (17.4%); 20-24 (7.9%); 25-34 (4.3%); 35-44 (3.5%); 45-54 (3.6%); 55-64 (2.7%); and 65+ (3.6%). 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 (17.4%) far exceeds 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

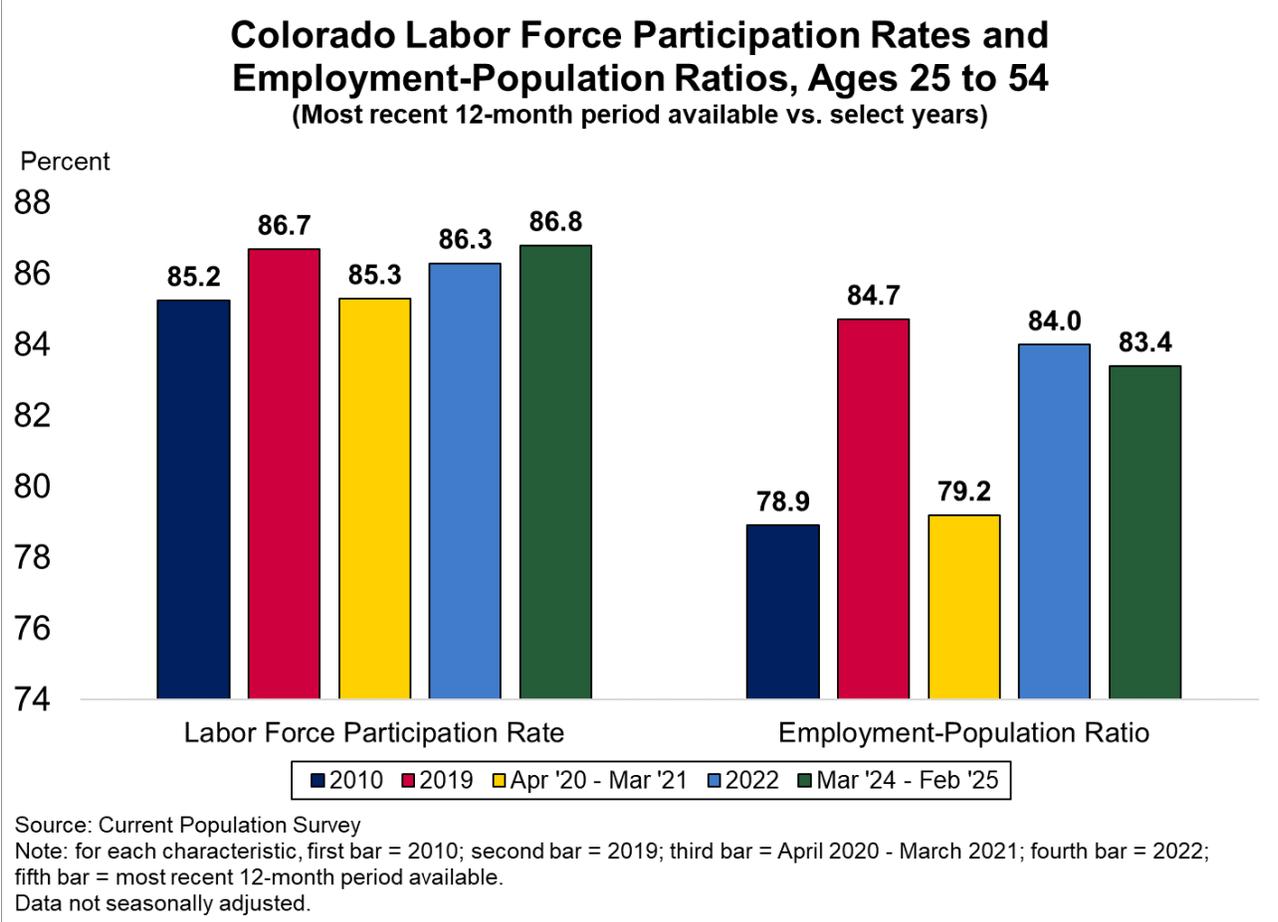


Chart information:

- This chart compares Colorado labor force participation rates (LFPR) and employment-population (EPOP) ratios for individuals between the ages of 25 and 54, over five 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); 2022 (a recent period of low unemployment); and the most recent 12-month period available (March 2024 to February 2025).
- For the most recent 12-month period available, the 25-54 LFPR is 86.8 percent, while the 25-54 EPOP is 83.4 percent. The current LFPR surpasses all reference periods, while EPOP has dropped six-tenths of a percentage point below the 2022 period and 1.3 percentage points below 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

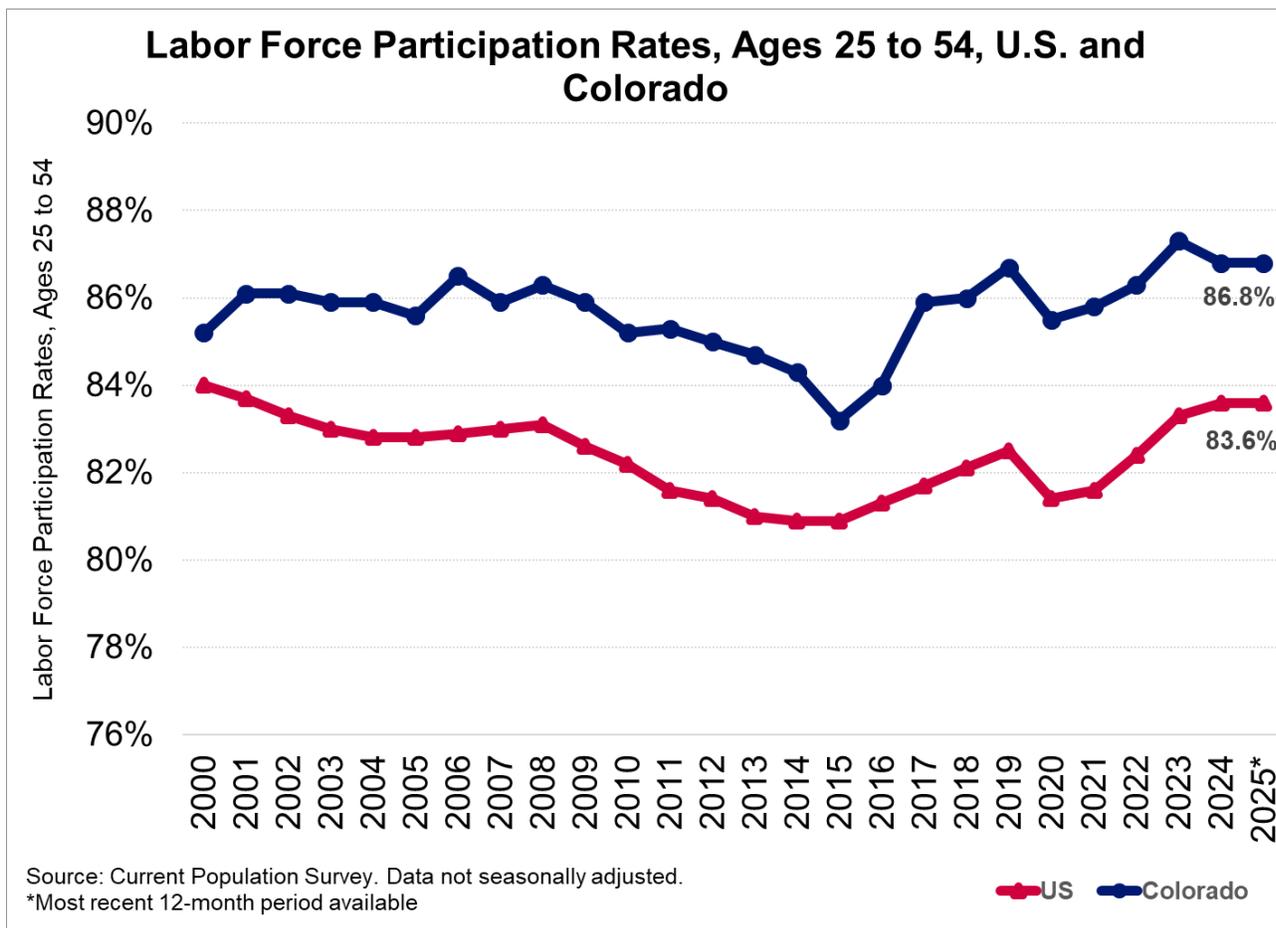


Chart information:

- 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 (March 2024 to February 2025).
- For the most recent 12-month period available, the labor force participation rates for prime age workers in the United States and Colorado were 83.6 percent and 86.8 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	Feb-25	Jan-25	Feb-24	Change From Last Month	Change From Last Year
Total Civilian Labor Force	3,283.1	3,284.5	3,251.0	-1.4	32.1
Unemployment	155.3	152.8	126.9	2.5	28.4
Unemployment Rate (%)	4.7	4.7	3.9	0.0	0.8
Employment	3,127.8	3,131.8	3,124.2	-4.0	3.7

Not Seasonally Adjusted Data from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program

Labor Force Component	Feb-25	Jan-25	Feb-24	Change From Last Month	Change From Last Year
Total Civilian Labor Force	3,266.8	3,281.3	3,248.1	-14.4	18.8
Unemployment	170.2	162.9	136.6	7.3	33.6
Unemployment Rate (%)	5.2	5.0	4.2	0.2	1.0
Employment	3,096.7	3,118.4	3,111.4	-21.8	-14.8

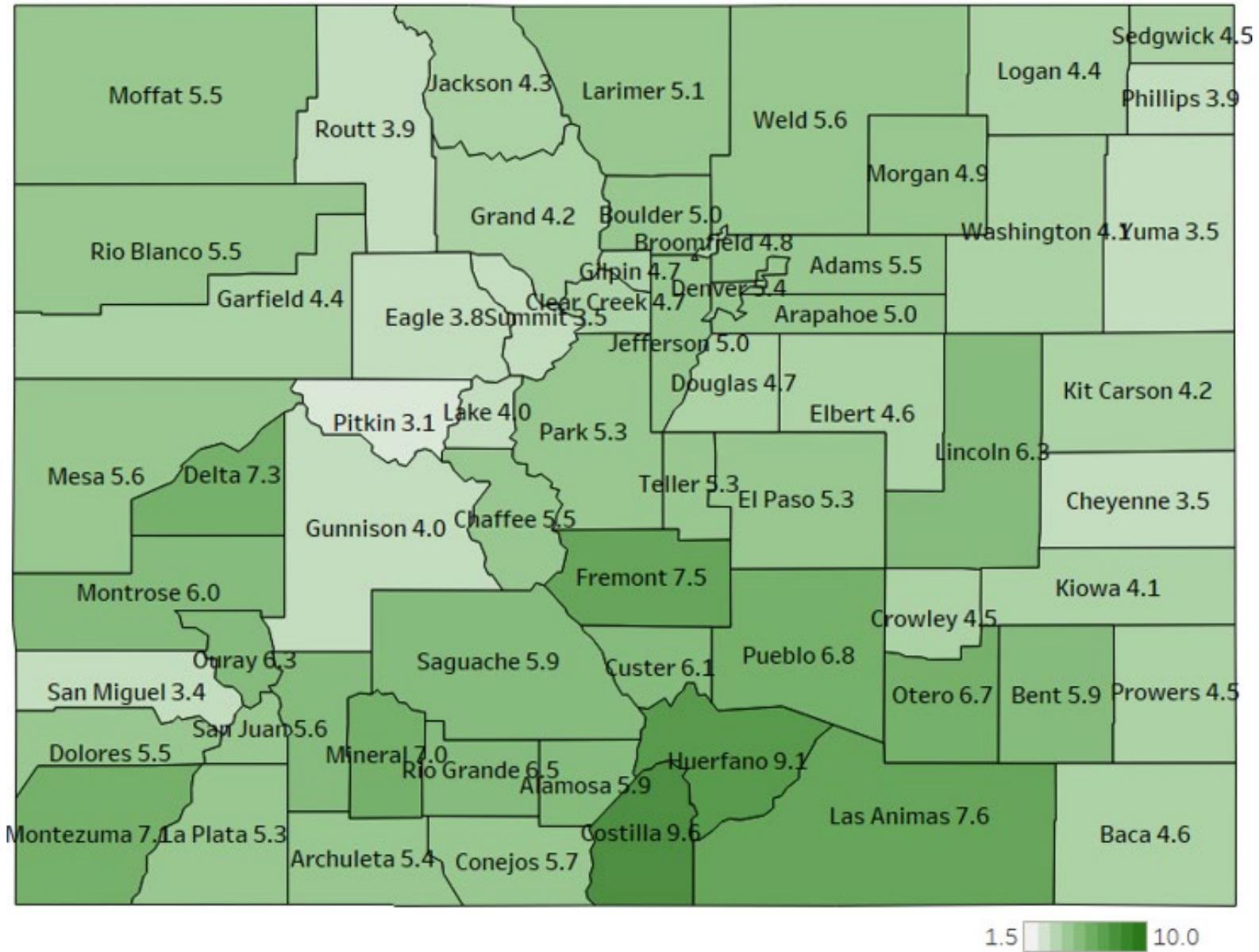
Seasonally Adjusted Data from the Current Employment Statistics Program

Industry	Feb-25	Jan-25	Feb-24	Change From Last Month	Change From Last Year
Mining & Logging	21.9	21.8	21.4	0.1	0.5
Construction	185.0	184.3	186.9	0.7	-1.9
Manufacturing	150.2	150.4	149.7	-0.2	0.5
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	497.7	508.7	506.2	-11.0	-8.5
Information	73.3	72.9	75.9	0.4	-2.6
Financial Activities	176.3	176.3	177.8	0.0	-1.5
Professional & Business Services	493.0	493.8	502.1	-0.8	-9.1
Educational & Health Services	387.5	386.4	382.7	1.1	4.8
Leisure & Hospitality	356.3	355.9	351.9	0.4	4.4
Other Services	130.4	131.4	131.7	-1.0	-1.3
Government	497.1	495.7	481.9	1.4	15.2
Total Nonfarm Employment	2,968.7	2,977.6	2,968.2	-8.9	0.5

Not Seasonally Adjusted Data from the Current Employment Statistics Program

Industry	Feb-25	Jan-25	Feb-24	Change From Last Month	Change From Last Year
Mining & Logging	21.4	21.6	21.1	-0.2	0.3
Construction	178.5	177.2	180.9	1.3	-2.4
Manufacturing	150.1	149.4	148.8	0.7	1.3
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	495.3	508.9	503.1	-13.6	-7.8
Information	73.3	73.0	76.3	0.3	-3.0
Financial Activities	175.7	176.3	177.4	-0.6	-1.7
Professional & Business Services	488.2	487.1	495.2	1.1	-7.0
Educational & Health Services	390.2	384.7	384.2	5.5	6.0
Leisure & Hospitality	351.8	351.9	345.0	-0.1	6.8
Other Services	129.0	129.6	130.8	-0.6	-1.8
Government	497.6	487.4	482.7	10.2	14.9
Total Nonfarm Employment	2,951.1	2,947.1	2,945.5	4.0	5.6

County Unemployment Rates February 2025



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 Forced 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.

Estimates are subject to further revision through April 18, 2025 as the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics completes annual processing for 2024 estimates.

Table 1. Statewide

Statewide	February 2025 Labor Force	February 2025 Employment	February 2025 Unemployment	February 2025 Rate	January 2025 Labor force	January 2025 Employment	January 2025 Unemployment	January 2025 Rate
Colorado	3,266,834	3,096,657	170,177	5.2	3,281,283	3,118,418	162,865	5.0

Table 2. By Metropolitan Statistical Area

Metropolitan Statistical Area	February 2025 Labor Force	February 2025 Employment	February 2025 Unemployment	February 2025 Rate	January 2025 Labor force	January 2025 Employment	January 2025 Unemployment	January 2025 Rate
Boulder	193,730	184,074	9,656	5.0	194,187	185,008	9,179	4.7
Colorado Springs	397,523	376,523	21,000	5.3	398,235	378,260	19,975	5.0
Denver-Aurora-Lakewood	1,768,145	1,677,028	91,117	5.2	1,781,882	1,694,185	87,697	4.9
Fort Collins	207,630	197,072	10,558	5.1	207,722	197,737	9,985	4.8
Grand Junction	80,330	75,814	4,516	5.6	80,271	75,921	4,350	5.4
Greeley	177,959	168,063	9,896	5.6	177,493	168,205	9,288	5.2
Pueblo	73,627	68,596	5,031	6.8	73,796	68,947	4,849	6.6

Table 3. By County

Counties	February 2025 Labor Force	February 2025 Employment	February 2025 Unemployment	February 2025 Rate	January 2025 Labor force	January 2025 Employment	January 2025 Unemployment	January 2025 Rate
Adams	301,741	285,165	16,576	5.5	303,886	287,971	15,915	5.2
Alamosa	7,736	7,280	456	5.9	7,608	7,156	452	5.9
Arapahoe	375,495	356,557	18,938	5.0	378,396	360,252	18,144	4.8
Archuleta	6,731	6,366	365	5.4	6,779	6,432	347	5.1
Baca	1,641	1,566	75	4.6	1,608	1,541	67	4.2
Bent	1,738	1,636	102	5.9	1,724	1,620	104	6.0
Boulder	193,730	184,074	9,656	5.0	194,187	185,008	9,179	4.7
Broomfield	45,510	43,332	2,178	4.8	45,902	43,774	2,128	4.6
Chaffee	9,534	9,007	527	5.5	9,654	9,157	497	5.1
Cheyenne	956	923	33	3.5	945	915	30	3.2
Clear Creek	5,674	5,406	268	4.7	5,726	5,459	267	4.7
Conejos	3,316	3,127	189	5.7	3,291	3,109	182	5.5
Costilla	1,287	1,164	123	9.6	1,273	1,154	119	9.3
Crowley	1,726	1,649	77	4.5	1,712	1,638	74	4.3
Custer	2,070	1,944	126	6.1	2,060	1,949	111	5.4
Delta	12,194	11,299	895	7.3	12,165	11,314	851	7.0
Denver	449,005	424,862	24,143	5.4	452,763	429,288	23,475	5.2
Dolores	1,041	984	57	5.5	1,024	969	55	5.4
Douglas	222,710	212,175	10,535	4.7	224,419	214,338	10,081	4.5
Eagle	37,075	35,663	1,412	3.8	37,466	36,138	1,328	3.5
El Paso	384,510	364,200	20,310	5.3	385,208	365,884	19,324	5.0
Elbert	16,073	15,327	746	4.6	16,147	15,440	707	4.4
Fremont	15,688	14,510	1,178	7.5	15,635	14,509	1,126	7.2
Garfield	34,652	33,118	1,534	4.4	34,808	33,364	1,444	4.1
Gilpin	3,702	3,528	174	4.7	3,734	3,564	170	4.6
Grand	10,049	9,630	419	4.2	10,206	9,819	387	3.8
Gunnison	11,238	10,783	455	4.0	11,214	10,792	422	3.8
Hinsdale	322	303	19	5.9	343	325	18	5.2
Huerfano	2,493	2,265	228	9.1	2,502	2,277	225	9.0
Jackson	682	653	29	4.3	668	641	27	4.0
Jefferson	338,736	321,683	17,053	5.0	341,327	325,005	16,322	4.8
Kiowa	713	684	29	4.1	685	658	27	3.9
Kit Carson	3,638	3,484	154	4.2	3,614	3,472	142	3.9
La Plata	29,450	27,891	1,559	5.3	29,535	28,043	1,492	5.1
Lake	5,024	4,825	199	4.0	5,025	4,835	190	3.8
Larimer	207,630	197,072	10,558	5.1	207,722	197,737	9,985	4.8
Las Animas	5,862	5,417	445	7.6	5,718	5,259	459	8.0
Lincoln	1,644	1,540	104	6.3	1,625	1,527	98	6.0
Logan	10,487	10,022	465	4.4	10,184	9,735	449	4.4
Mesa	80,330	75,814	4,516	5.6	80,271	75,921	4,350	5.4
Mineral	470	437	33	7.0	498	465	33	6.6
Moffat	6,608	6,247	361	5.5	6,587	6,251	336	5.1
Montezuma	11,076	10,286	790	7.1	11,095	10,311	784	7.1
Montrose	20,218	19,013	1,205	6.0	20,175	19,015	1,160	5.7
Morgan	14,589	13,870	719	4.9	14,433	13,757	676	4.7
Otero	7,150	6,673	477	6.7	6,974	6,525	449	6.4
Ouray	2,320	2,173	147	6.3	2,389	2,245	144	6.0
Park	9,499	8,993	506	5.3	9,582	9,094	488	5.1
Phillips	2,197	2,111	86	3.9	2,166	2,104	82	3.8
Pitkin	13,790	13,357	433	3.1	13,907	13,483	424	3.0
Prowers	5,668	5,414	254	4.5	5,535	5,296	239	4.3
Pueblo	73,627	68,596	5,031	6.8	73,796	68,947	4,849	6.6
Rio Blanco	2,905	2,746	159	5.5	2,811	2,669	142	5.1
Rio Grande	5,142	4,809	333	6.5	5,126	4,788	338	6.6
Routt	15,689	15,079	610	3.9	15,902	15,315	587	3.7
Saguache	3,160	2,973	187	5.9	3,079	2,903	176	5.7
San Juan	498	470	28	5.6	492	471	21	4.3
San Miguel	6,046	5,841	205	3.4	6,032	5,839	193	3.2
Sedgwick	1,030	984	46	4.5	1,031	988	43	4.2
Summit	22,974	22,169	805	3.5	23,065	22,314	741	3.2
Teller	13,013	12,323	690	5.3	13,027	12,376	651	5.0
Washington	2,301	2,206	95	4.1	2,294	2,204	90	3.9
Weld	177,959	168,063	9,896	5.6	177,493	168,205	9,288	5.2
Yuma	5,073	4,896	177	3.5	5,022	4,859	163	3.2

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.

Estimates are subject to further revision through April 18, 2025 as the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics completes annual processing for 2024 estimates.

Table 1. Statewide

Statewide	February 2025 Labor Force	February 2025 Employment	February 2025 Unemployment	February 2025 Rate	February 2024 Labor force	February 2024 Employment	February 2024 Unemployment	February 2024 Rate
Colorado	3,266,834	3,096,657	170,177	5.2	3,248,056	3,111,447	136,609	4.2

Table 2. By Metropolitan Statistical Area

Metropolitan Statistical Area	February 2025 Labor Force	February 2025 Employment	February 2025 Unemployment	February 2025 Rate	February 2024 Labor force	February 2024 Employment	February 2024 Unemployment	February 2024 Rate
Boulder	193,730	184,074	9,656	5.0	194,216	186,624	7,592	3.9
Colorado Springs	397,523	376,523	21,000	5.3	391,967	375,407	16,560	4.2
Denver-Aurora-Lakewood	1,768,145	1,677,028	91,117	5.2	1,764,432	1,691,140	73,292	4.2
Fort Collins	207,630	197,072	10,558	5.1	208,012	199,687	8,325	4.0
Grand Junction	80,330	75,814	4,516	5.6	79,230	75,571	3,659	4.6
Greeley	177,959	168,063	9,896	5.6	175,948	168,072	7,876	4.5
Pueblo	73,627	68,596	5,031	6.8	73,539	69,274	4,265	5.8

Table 3. By County

Counties	February 2025 Labor Force	February 2025 Employment	February 2025 Unemployment	February 2025 Rate	February 2024 Labor force	February 2024 Employment	February 2024 Unemployment	February 2024 Rate
Adams	301,741	285,165	16,576	5.5	300,538	287,282	13,256	4.4
Alamosa	7,736	7,280	456	5.9	7,591	7,215	376	5.0
Arapahoe	375,495	356,557	18,938	5.0	374,848	359,582	15,266	4.1
Archuleta	6,731	6,366	365	5.4	6,614	6,307	307	4.6
Baca	1,641	1,566	75	4.6	1,588	1,531	57	3.6
Bent	1,738	1,636	102	5.9	1,722	1,646	76	4.4
Boulder	193,730	184,074	9,656	5.0	194,216	186,624	7,592	3.9
Broomfield	45,510	43,332	2,178	4.8	45,369	43,593	1,776	3.9
Chaffee	9,534	9,007	527	5.5	9,790	9,373	417	4.3
Cheyenne	956	923	33	3.5	912	885	27	3.0
Clear Creek	5,674	5,406	268	4.7	5,674	5,461	213	3.8
Conejos	3,316	3,127	189	5.7	3,279	3,126	153	4.7
Costilla	1,287	1,164	123	9.6	1,293	1,197	96	7.4
Crowley	1,726	1,649	77	4.5	1,730	1,659	71	4.1
Custer	2,070	1,944	126	6.1	2,112	2,017	95	4.5
Delta	12,194	11,299	895	7.3	11,745	11,038	707	6.0
Denver	449,005	424,862	24,143	5.4	447,828	428,307	19,521	4.4
Dolores	1,041	984	57	5.5	1,050	1,001	49	4.7
Douglas	222,710	212,175	10,535	4.7	222,338	213,924	8,414	3.8
Eagle	37,075	35,663	1,412	3.8	36,281	35,148	1,133	3.1
El Paso	384,510	364,200	20,310	5.3	379,103	363,094	16,009	4.2
Elbert	16,073	15,327	746	4.6	16,026	15,441	585	3.7
Fremont	15,686	14,510	1,176	7.5	15,458	14,479	979	6.3
Garfield	34,652	33,118	1,534	4.4	33,655	32,380	1,275	3.8
Gilpin	3,702	3,528	174	4.7	3,710	3,566	144	3.9
Grand	10,049	9,630	419	4.2	9,683	9,352	331	3.4
Gunnison	11,238	10,783	455	4.0	10,850	10,517	333	3.1
Hinsdale	322	303	19	5.9	347	332	15	4.3
Huerfano	2,493	2,265	228	9.1	2,436	2,240	196	8.0
Jackson	682	653	29	4.3	657	632	25	3.8
Jefferson	338,736	321,683	17,053	5.0	338,509	324,820	13,689	4.0
Kiowa	713	684	29	4.1	683	658	25	3.7
Kit Carson	3,638	3,484	154	4.2	3,611	3,492	119	3.3
La Plata	29,450	27,891	1,559	5.3	29,009	27,702	1,307	4.5
Lake	5,024	4,825	199	4.0	4,757	4,601	156	3.3
Larimer	207,630	197,072	10,558	5.1	208,012	199,687	8,325	4.0
Las Animas	5,862	5,417	445	7.6	5,793	5,426	367	6.3
Lincoln	1,644	1,540	104	6.3	1,623	1,550	73	4.5
Logan	10,487	10,022	465	4.4	10,426	10,073	353	3.4
Mesa	80,330	75,814	4,516	5.6	79,230	75,571	3,659	4.6
Mineral	470	437	33	7.0	460	444	16	3.5
Moffat	6,608	6,247	361	5.5	6,516	6,183	333	5.1
Montezuma	11,076	10,286	790	7.1	11,010	10,310	700	6.4
Montrose	20,218	19,013	1,205	6.0	19,749	18,745	1,004	5.1
Morgan	14,589	13,870	719	4.9	13,928	13,321	607	4.4
Otero	7,150	6,673	477	6.7	7,173	6,800	373	5.2
Ouray	2,320	2,173	147	6.3	2,357	2,250	107	4.5
Park	9,499	8,993	506	5.3	9,592	9,164	428	4.5
Phillips	2,197	2,111	86	3.9	2,164	2,095	69	3.2
Pitkin	13,790	13,357	433	3.1	13,096	12,747	349	2.7
Prowers	5,668	5,414	254	4.5	5,653	5,452	201	3.6
Pueblo	73,627	68,596	5,031	6.8	73,539	69,274	4,265	5.8
Rio Blanco	2,905	2,746	159	5.5	2,888	2,763	125	4.3
Rio Grande	5,142	4,809	333	6.5	5,152	4,845	307	6.0
Routt	15,689	15,079	610	3.9	15,504	14,989	515	3.3
Saguache	3,160	2,973	187	5.9	3,053	2,909	144	4.7
San Juan	498	470	28	5.6	468	449	19	4.1
San Miguel	6,046	5,841	205	3.4	5,905	5,760	145	2.5
Sedgwick	1,030	984	46	4.5	1,028	984	44	4.3
Summit	22,974	22,169	805	3.5	22,804	22,165	639	2.8
Teller	13,013	12,323	690	5.3	12,864	12,313	551	4.3
Washington	2,301	2,206	95	4.1	2,211	2,132	79	3.6
Weld	177,959	168,063	9,896	5.6	175,948	168,072	7,876	4.5
Yuma	5,073	4,896	177	3.5	4,898	4,750	148	3.0

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.

Estimates are subject to further revision through April 18, 2025 as the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics completes annual processing for 2024 estimates.

Table 1. Over the Month

Area	February 2025 Labor Force	February 2025 Employed	February 2025 Unemployed	February 2025 Rate	January 2025 Labor Force	January 2025 Employment	January 2025 Unemployed	January 2025 Rate
Arvada	72,375	68,747	3,628	5.0	72,906	69,457	3,449	4.7
Aurora	220,438	208,916	11,522	5.2	222,106	211,066	11,040	5.0
Boulder	62,841	59,682	3,159	5.0	62,932	59,985	2,947	4.7
Brighton	23,455	22,164	1,291	5.5	23,641	22,381	1,260	5.3
Castle Rock	46,803	44,576	2,227	4.8	47,169	45,030	2,139	4.5
Centennial	60,741	57,801	2,940	4.8	61,179	58,400	2,779	4.5
Colorado Springs	266,014	252,180	13,834	5.2	266,468	253,346	13,122	4.9
Commerce City	37,743	35,588	2,155	5.7	38,018	35,938	2,080	5.5
Englewood	22,329	21,210	1,119	5.0	22,466	21,430	1,036	4.6
Erie	19,265	18,314	951	4.9	19,275	18,363	912	4.7
Fort Collins	101,403	96,589	4,814	4.7	101,462	96,915	4,547	4.5
Fountain	13,745	13,026	719	5.2	13,790	13,087	703	5.1
Grand Junction	35,875	33,922	1,953	5.4	35,835	33,970	1,865	5.2
Greeley	52,733	49,545	3,188	6.0	52,580	49,587	2,993	5.7
Lafayette	19,043	18,188	855	4.5	19,105	18,281	824	4.3
Lakewood	92,631	87,776	4,855	5.2	93,341	88,683	4,658	5.0
Littleton	26,520	25,232	1,288	4.9	26,715	25,494	1,221	4.6
Longmont	58,483	55,447	3,036	5.2	58,622	55,725	2,897	4.9
Loveland	42,386	40,051	2,335	5.5	42,399	40,186	2,213	5.2
Northglenn	22,513	21,245	1,268	5.6	22,711	21,454	1,257	5.5
Parker	37,825	36,112	1,713	4.5	38,137	36,480	1,657	4.3
Pueblo	47,381	43,925	3,456	7.3	47,511	44,150	3,361	7.1
Thornton	83,614	79,269	4,345	5.2	84,206	80,049	4,157	4.9
Westminster	70,547	67,027	3,520	5.0	71,041	67,699	3,342	4.7
Wheat Ridge	19,019	17,946	1,073	5.6	19,138	18,132	1,006	5.3
Windsor	19,836	18,858	978	4.9	19,810	18,885	925	4.7

Table 2. Over the Year

Area	February 2025 Labor Force	February 2025 Employed	February 2025 Unemployed	February 2025 Rate	February 2024 Labor Force	February 2024 Employment	February 2024 Unemployed	February 2024 Rate
Arvada	72,375	68,747	3,628	5.0	72,300	69,415	2,885	4.0
Aurora	220,438	208,916	11,522	5.2	219,970	210,659	9,311	4.2
Boulder	62,841	59,682	3,159	5.0	62,912	60,509	2,403	3.8
Brighton	23,455	22,164	1,291	5.5	23,325	22,327	998	4.3
Castle Rock	46,803	44,576	2,227	4.8	46,694	44,943	1,751	3.7
Centennial	60,741	57,801	2,940	4.8	60,648	58,292	2,356	3.9
Colorado Springs	266,014	252,180	13,834	5.2	262,152	251,414	10,738	4.1
Commerce City	37,743	35,588	2,155	5.7	37,497	35,852	1,645	4.4
Englewood	22,329	21,210	1,119	5.0	22,293	21,390	903	4.1
Erie	19,265	18,314	951	4.9	19,176	18,423	753	3.9
Fort Collins	101,403	96,589	4,814	4.7	101,654	97,870	3,784	3.7
Fountain	13,745	13,026	719	5.2	13,562	12,987	575	4.2
Grand Junction	35,875	33,922	1,953	5.4	35,380	33,813	1,567	4.4
Greeley	52,733	49,545	3,188	6.0	52,012	49,548	2,464	4.7
Lafayette	19,043	18,188	855	4.5	19,175	18,440	735	3.8
Lakewood	92,631	87,776	4,855	5.2	92,547	88,632	3,915	4.2
Littleton	26,520	25,232	1,288	4.9	26,438	25,447	991	3.7
Longmont	58,483	55,447	3,036	5.2	58,575	56,203	2,372	4.0
Loveland	42,386	40,051	2,335	5.5	42,434	40,582	1,852	4.4
Northglenn	22,513	21,245	1,268	5.6	22,354	21,403	951	4.3
Parker	37,825	36,112	1,713	4.5	37,832	36,410	1,422	3.8
Pueblo	47,381	43,925	3,456	7.3	47,264	44,359	2,905	6.1
Thornton	83,614	79,269	4,345	5.2	83,304	79,857	3,447	4.1
Westminster	70,547	67,027	3,520	5.0	70,599	67,589	3,010	4.3
Wheat Ridge	19,019	17,946	1,073	5.6	18,977	18,121	856	4.5
Windsor	19,836	18,858	978	4.9	19,660	18,915	745	3.8