



PRESS RELEASE

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

For Immediate Release

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Colorado Employment Situation – March 2025

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs Increase by 6,800 in March;
Unemployment Rate Rises to 4.8 Percent

Household survey data

- According to the survey of households, the **number of unemployed individuals** increased by 1,200 to 156,500 from February to March. Colorado's seasonally adjusted **unemployment rate** increased one-tenth of a percentage point over the same time period to 4.8 percent. The national unemployment rate increased one-tenth of a percentage point to 4.2 percent from February to March.
- Colorado's **labor force** decreased by 2,400 in March to 3,280,800. The share of Coloradans participating in the labor force decreased to 67.8 percent in March, compared to 67.9 percent the month prior. The U.S. labor force participation rate increased one-tenth of a percentage point to 62.5 percent in March.
- The **number of individuals employed** in Colorado decreased by 3,600 in March to 3,124,200, which represents 64.6 percent of the state's 16+ population. Colorado's employment-population ratio of 64.6 in March decreased one-tenth of a percentage point from the month prior. The national employment-population ratio was unchanged at 59.9 percent from February to March.

Establishment survey data

- Employers in Colorado gained 6,800 **nonfarm payroll jobs** from February to March for a total of 2,972,800 jobs, according to the survey of business establishments. Private sector payroll jobs increased by 5,800, while government added 1,000 jobs.
- **February estimates** were revised down to 2,966,000, and the over the month change from January to February was a decrease of 11,600 jobs rather than the originally estimated decrease of 8,900 (monthly revisions are based on additional responses from businesses and government agencies since the last published estimates).
- **The private industry sectors with significant over the month job gains** in March were: trade, transportation, and utilities ($\approx 7,700$); partially reflecting the return of workers from a strike within the retail sector, and professional and business services ($\approx 1,000$). The private industry sectors with significant over the month **job losses** were: education and health services ($\approx 2,400$), and leisure and hospitality ($\approx 1,800$).
- **Since March 2024**, nonfarm payroll jobs have increased 2,300, with the private sector declining by 11,500 and government adding 13,800 jobs. The largest **private sector job gains** were in educational and health services ($\approx 1,500$) and leisure and hospitality ($\approx 1,400$). During that same period, **payroll jobs declined** in professional and business services ($\approx 8,400$), trade, transportation, and utilities ($\approx 1,900$), information ($\approx 1,300$), financial activities ($\approx 1,300$), construction ($\approx 1,100$), and other services ($\approx 1,100$). Colorado's **rate of job growth** over the past year is 0.1 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 32.8 to 33.5 hours, while **average hourly earnings** grew from \$37.74 to \$39.20, three dollars and twenty cents more than the national average hourly earnings of \$36.00.

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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 April 2025 Colorado Employment Situation will be released at 8:00 AM on Friday, May 16, 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 March 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.

Strike Activity during the reference week in February 2025

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. However, these workers returned to work prior to the March reference week and are reflected in payroll job estimates for March. For more information, visit [BLS Current Employment Statistics Strike Report](#).

Supplemental Charts & Tables

Supplemental charts and tables are available on the remaining pages.

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

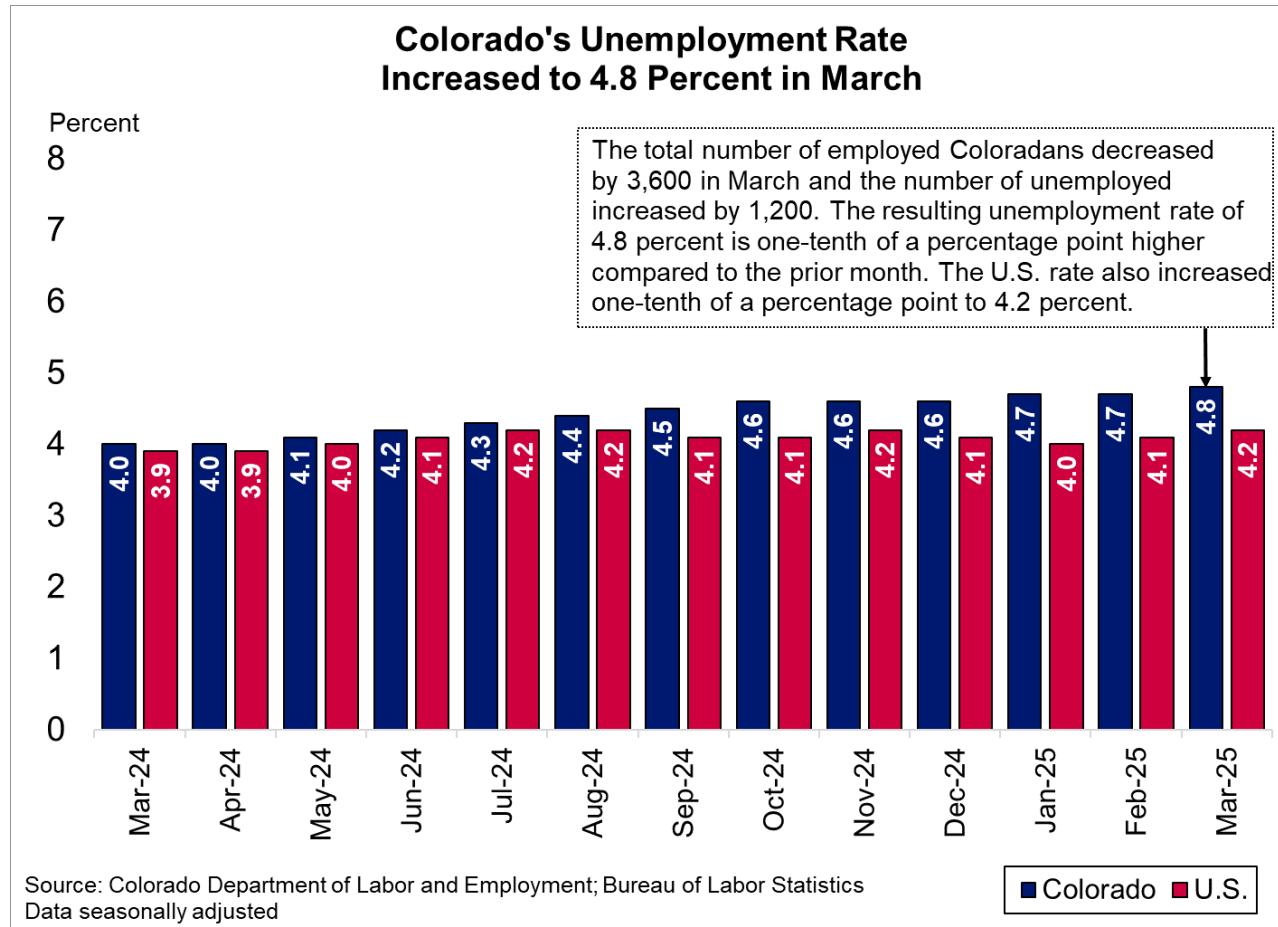


Chart information:

- Colorado's March 2025 unemployment rate was 4.8 percent, six-tenths of a percentage point higher than the U.S. rate of 4.2 percent.
- Prior month rates were 4.7 percent and 4.1 percent, respectively.
- The total number of employed Coloradans decreased by 3,600 in March and the number of unemployed increased by 1,200, resulting in an unemployment rate of 4.8 percent, one-tenth of a percentage point higher than a month prior.
- Number of unemployed Coloradans grew by 1,200 to 156,500.
- Unemployment rate for Colorado has ranged between 4.0 and 4.8 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

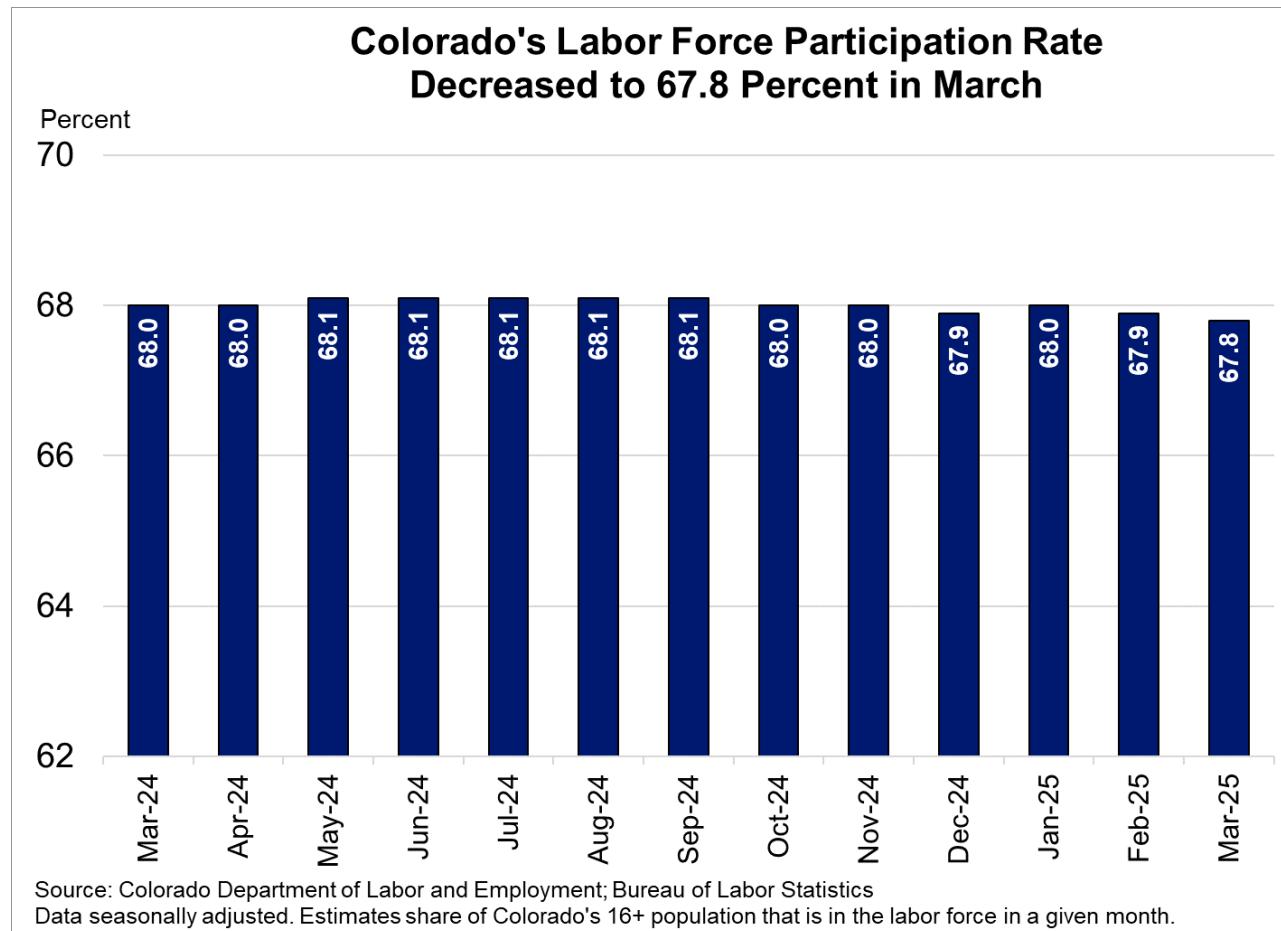


Chart information:

- Colorado's March 2025 labor force participation rate (LFPR) was 67.8 percent, a decrease of one-tenth of a percentage point from February 2025.
- A year prior, Colorado's labor force participation rate was 68.0 percent.
- The labor force participation rate for Colorado has ranged between 67.8 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

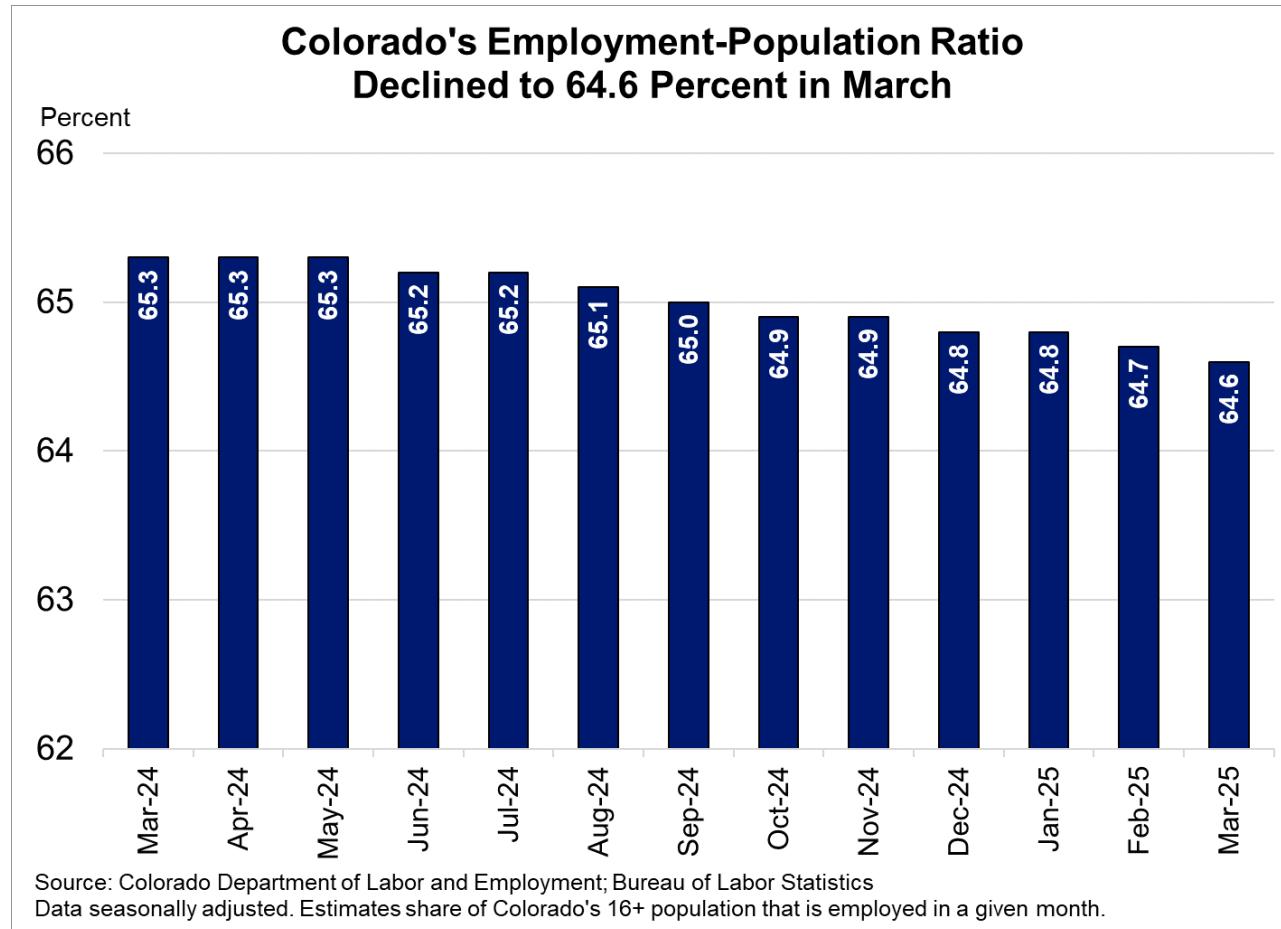


Chart information:

- Colorado's March 2025 employment-population ratio (EPOP) was 64.6 percent, a decrease of one-tenth of a percentage point from February 2025.
- A year prior, Colorado's employment-population ratio was 65.3 percent.
- The employment-population ratio for Colorado has ranged between 64.6 percent and 65.3 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

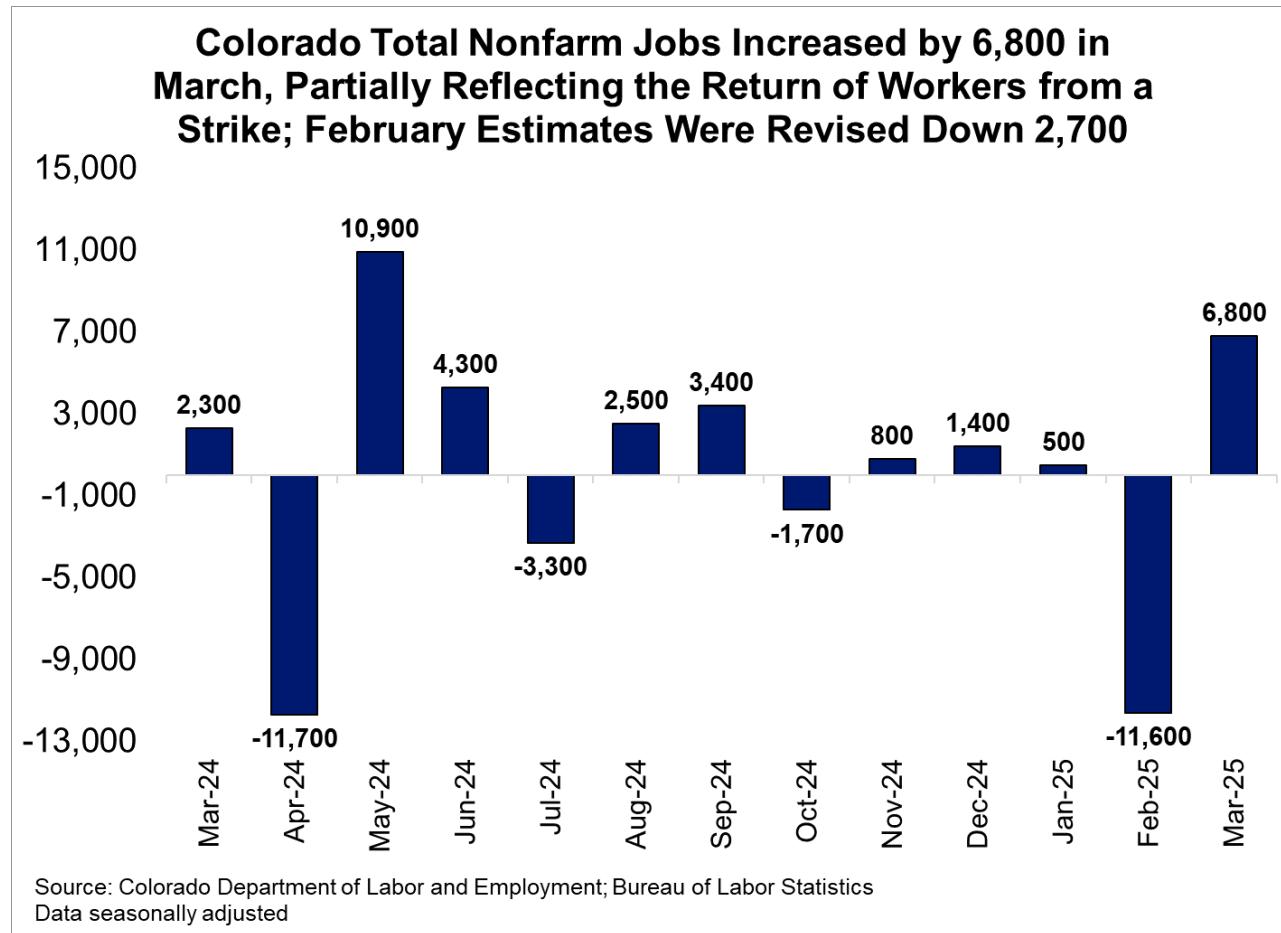


Chart information:

- Colorado gained 6,800 total nonfarm jobs in March 2025 while February numbers were revised down by 2,700. The February revision shows a decrease of 11,600 rather than the previously reported decrease of 8,900 jobs.
- Since March 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 +400.
- 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

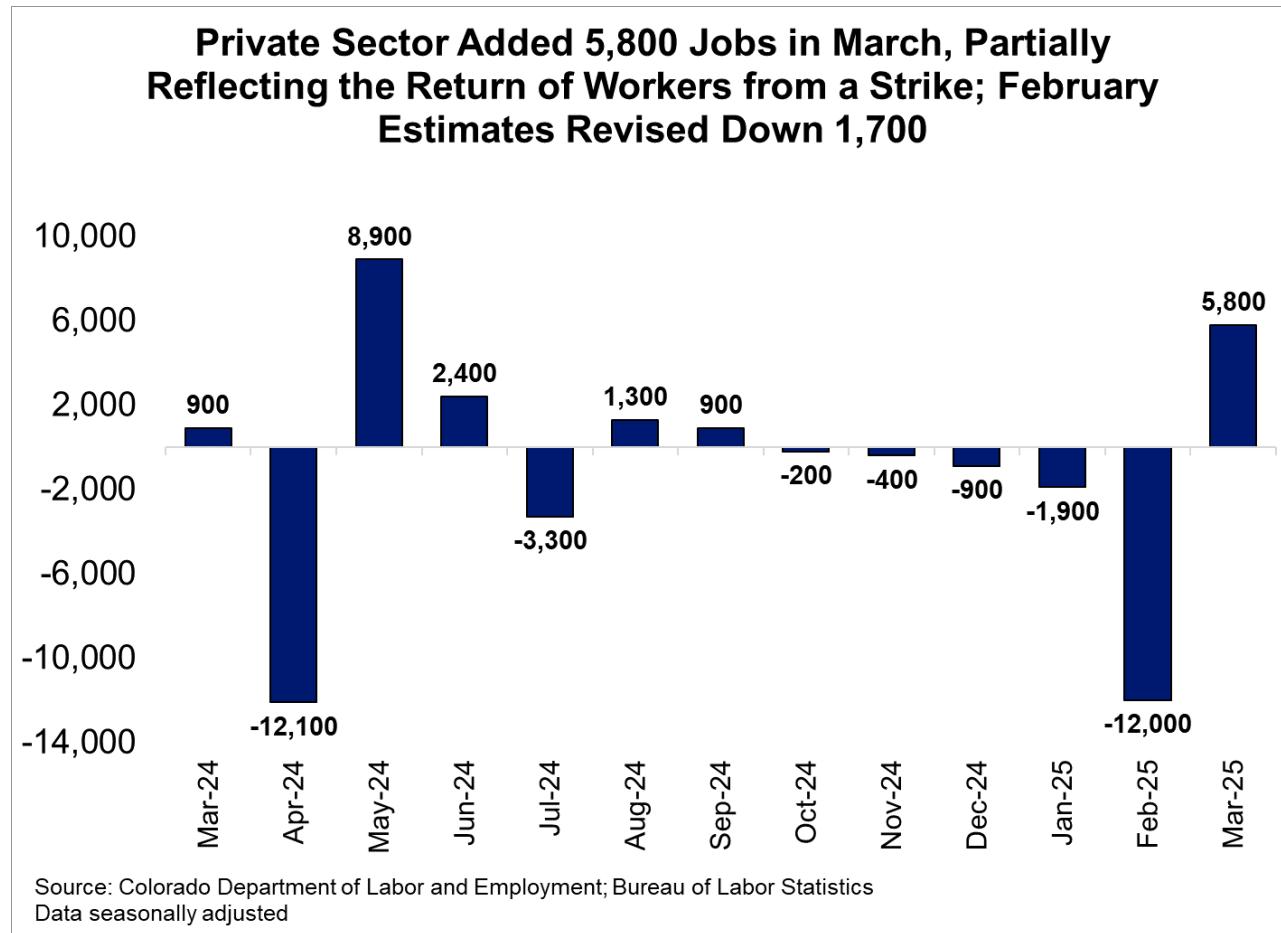


Chart information:

- Colorado private sector jobs increased by 5,800 in March 2025, while February numbers were revised down by 1,700. The February revision shows a decrease of 12,000 rather than the previously reported decrease of 10,300 jobs.
- Since March 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 -800.
- 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

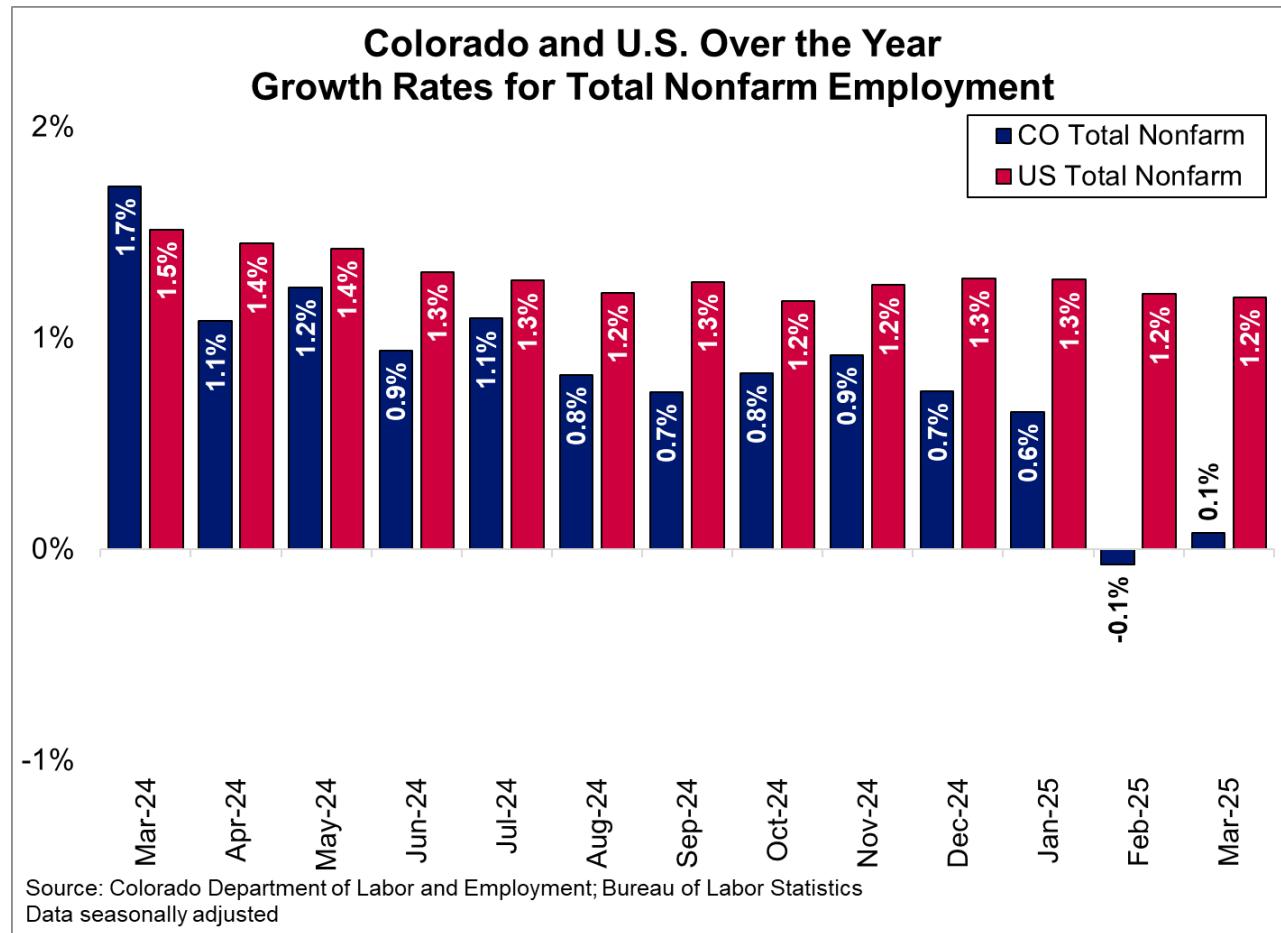


Chart information:

- Colorado's over the year growth rate for total nonfarm employment was 0.1 percent in March 2025, lower than the U.S. rate of 1.2 percent.
- Total nonfarm employment growth rates for Colorado and the U.S. a year prior were 1.7 percent and 1.5 percent, respectively.
- Colorado has lagged the U.S. growth rate in 12 of the past 13 months and has exceeded it in one month. The difference ranged between 1.3 percentage points lower (February 2025) and two-tenths of a percentage point higher (March 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

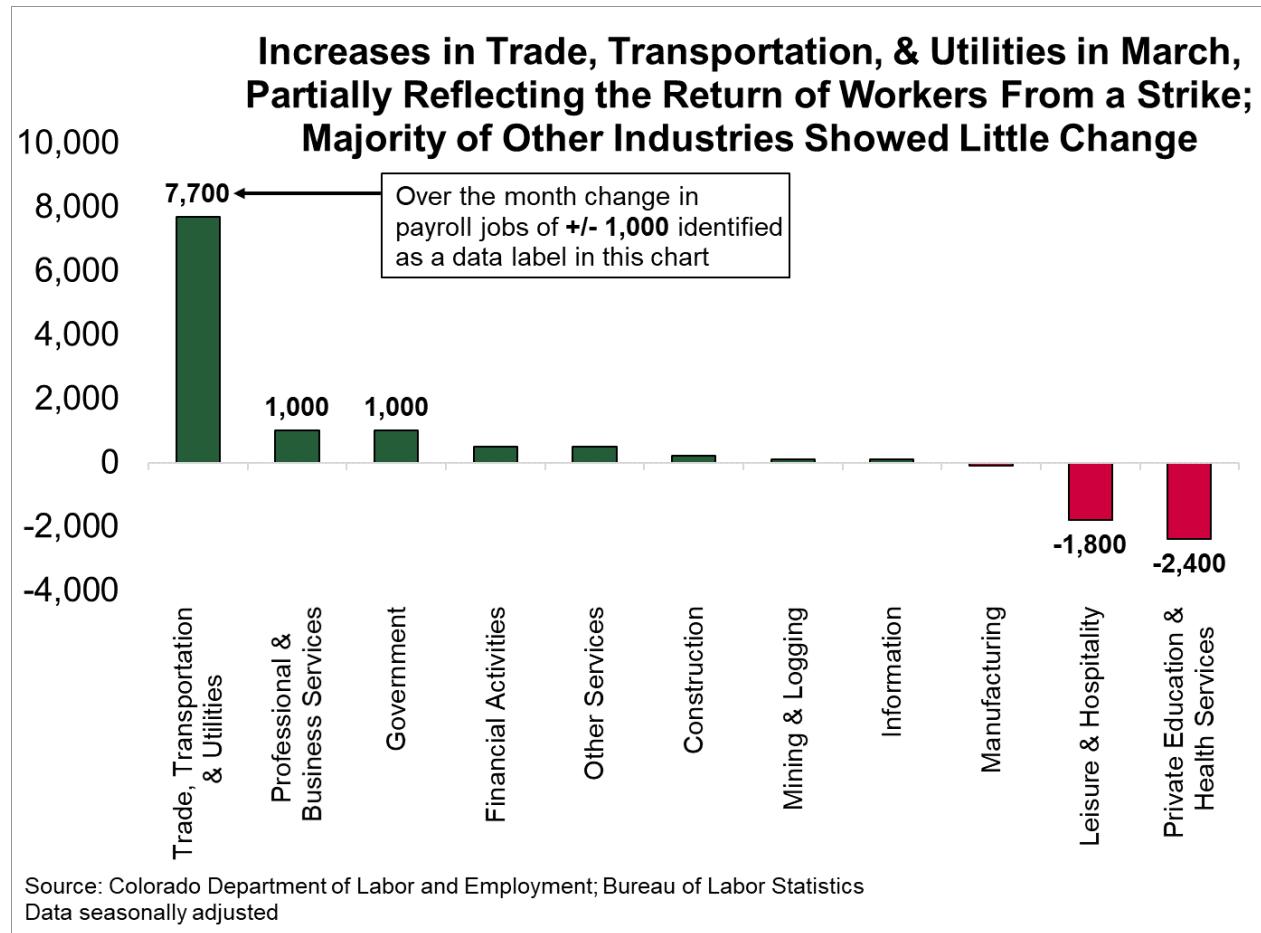


Chart information:

- Eight Colorado industry supersectors gained jobs in March 2025, and three industry supersectors experienced decreases in employment levels.
- Notable over the month increases occurred in trade, transportation, and utilities (+7,700), professional and business services (+1,000), and government (+1,000).
- Notable over the month decreases occurred in private education and health services (-2,400) and leisure and hospitality (-1,800).
- 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

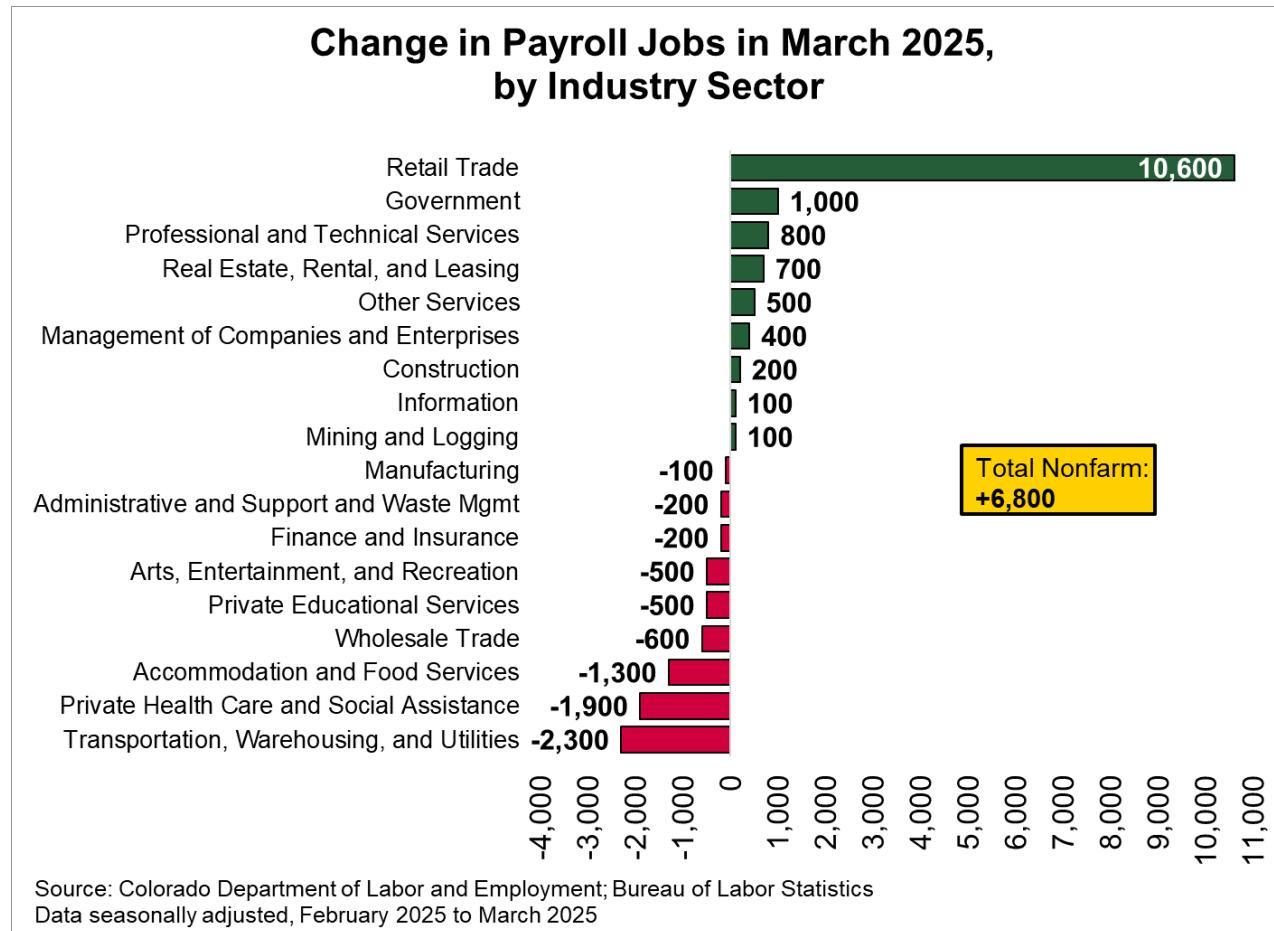


Chart information:

- From February 2025 to March 2025, Colorado gained 6,800 nonfarm payroll jobs.
- Retail trade added the most jobs at 10,600.
- Government added the second most jobs over that period at 1,000.
- Professional and technical services added the third most jobs at 800.
- The industry sectors with the largest declines were transportation, warehousing, and utilities (-2,300), private health care and social assistance (-1,900), and accommodation and food services (-1,300).
- Out of Colorado's 18 industry sectors, nine added jobs in March 2025, and nine 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.

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

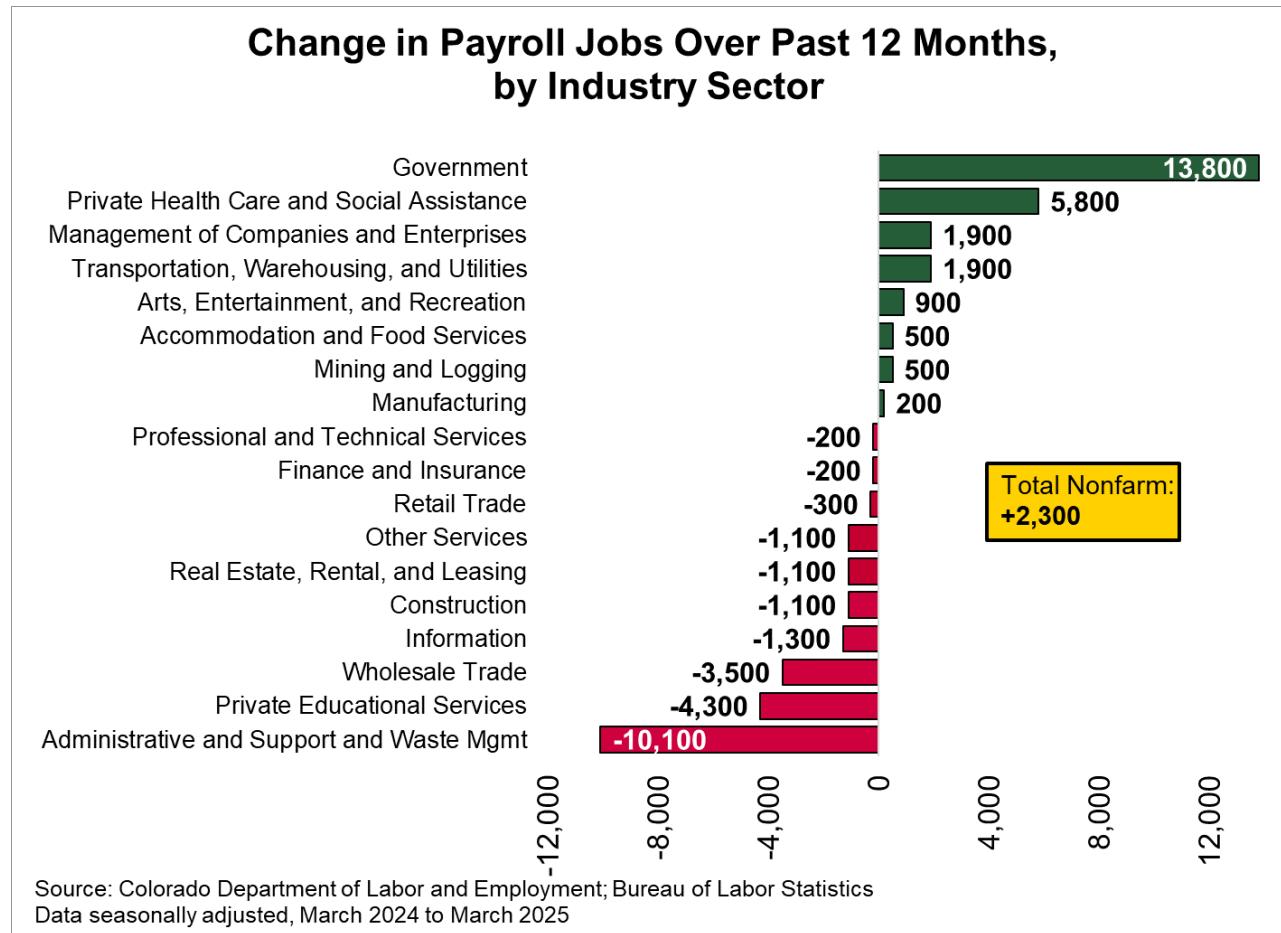


Chart information:

- Over the past 12 months, Colorado has added 2,300 nonfarm payroll jobs.
- Government has added the most jobs at 13,800; this was primarily driven by post-secondary state educational employers (+8.2%, NSA) with other areas of government growing more modestly (circa 1.5%) – *see next slide for context*
- Private health care and social assistance (+5,800) has added the second most jobs.
- Management of companies and enterprises and transportation, warehousing, and utilities added the third most jobs, at 1,900 each.
- The industry sectors with the largest declines over the past year are: administrative and support and waste management (-10,100), private educational services (-4,300), and wholesale trade (-3,500).
- Out of Colorado's 18 industry sectors, eight have added jobs over the past 12 months, while ten 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

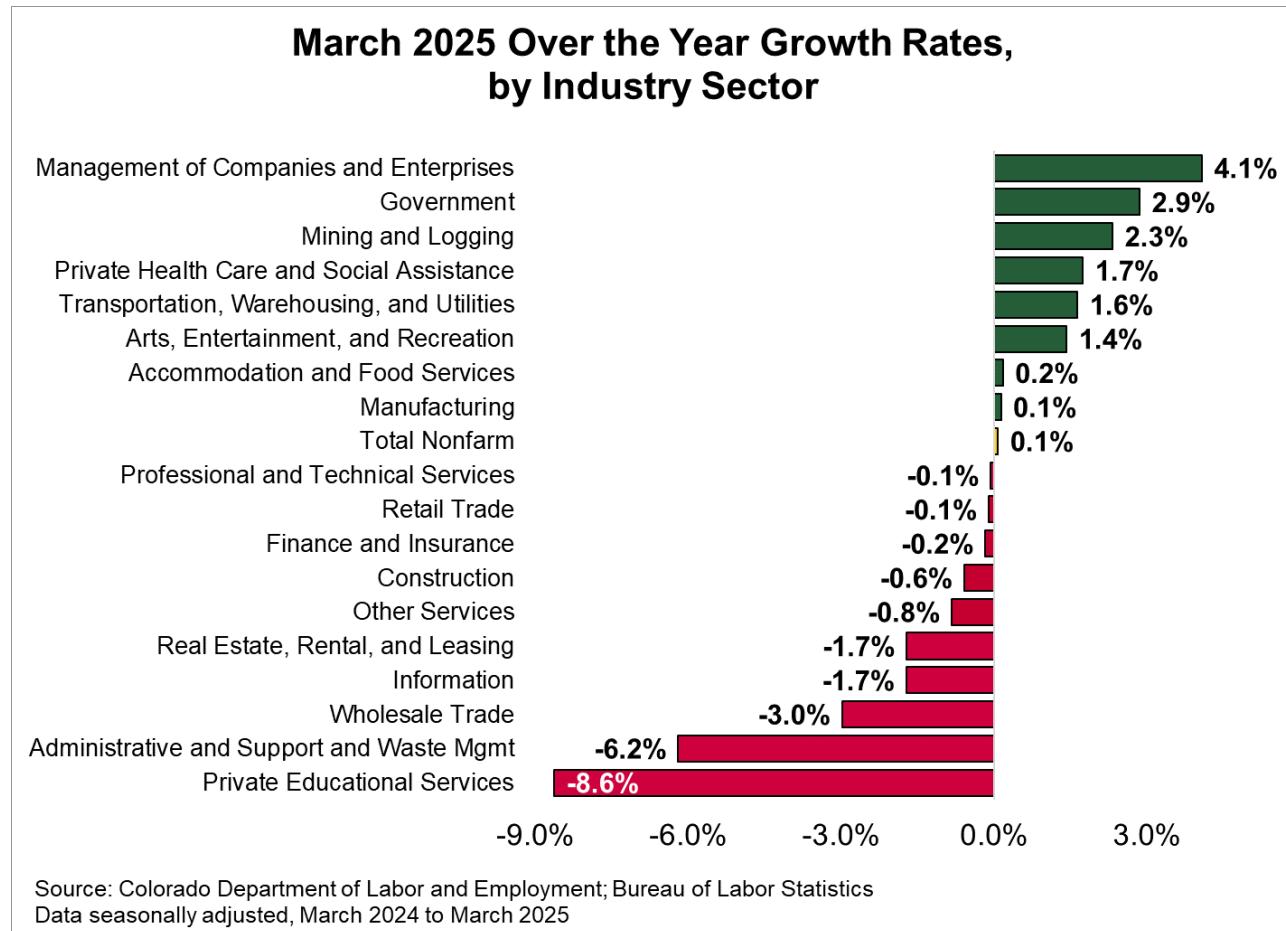
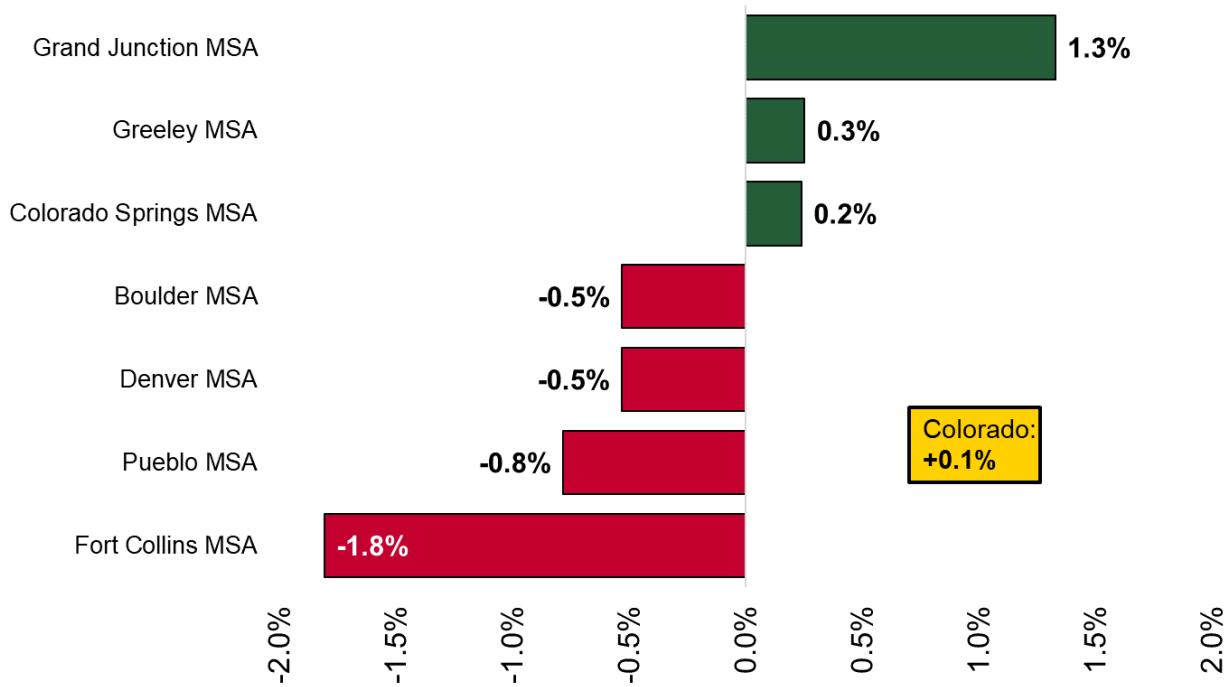


Chart information:

- Colorado's over the year growth rate for total nonfarm employment was 0.1 percent in March 2025.
- Out of Colorado's 18 industry sectors, eight had positive over the year growth rates and ten experienced declines over the year.
- The industry sectors with the fastest growth rates over the past year are: management of companies and enterprises (4.1%), government (2.9%), and mining and logging (2.3%).
- The industry sectors with the slowest growth rates over the past year are: private educational services (-8.6%), administrative and support and waste management (-6.2%), and wholesale trade (-3.0%).
- 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

March 2025 Over the Year Growth Rates, by Colorado Metropolitan Statistical Area



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

Data seasonally adjusted, March 2024 to March 2025

Note: MSA = Metropolitan Statistical Area

Chart information:

- Colorado's over the year growth rate for total nonfarm employment was 0.1 percent in March 2025.
- Among Colorado's seven metropolitan statistical areas (MSA), the Grand Junction MSA had the highest growth rate at 1.3 percent. Greeley MSA had the second highest growth rate at 0.3 percent, and Colorado Springs had the third highest growth rate at 0.2 percent.
- The Fort Collins MSA (-1.8%), Pueblo MSA (-0.8%), Denver MSA (-0.5%), and Boulder MSA (-0.5%) 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

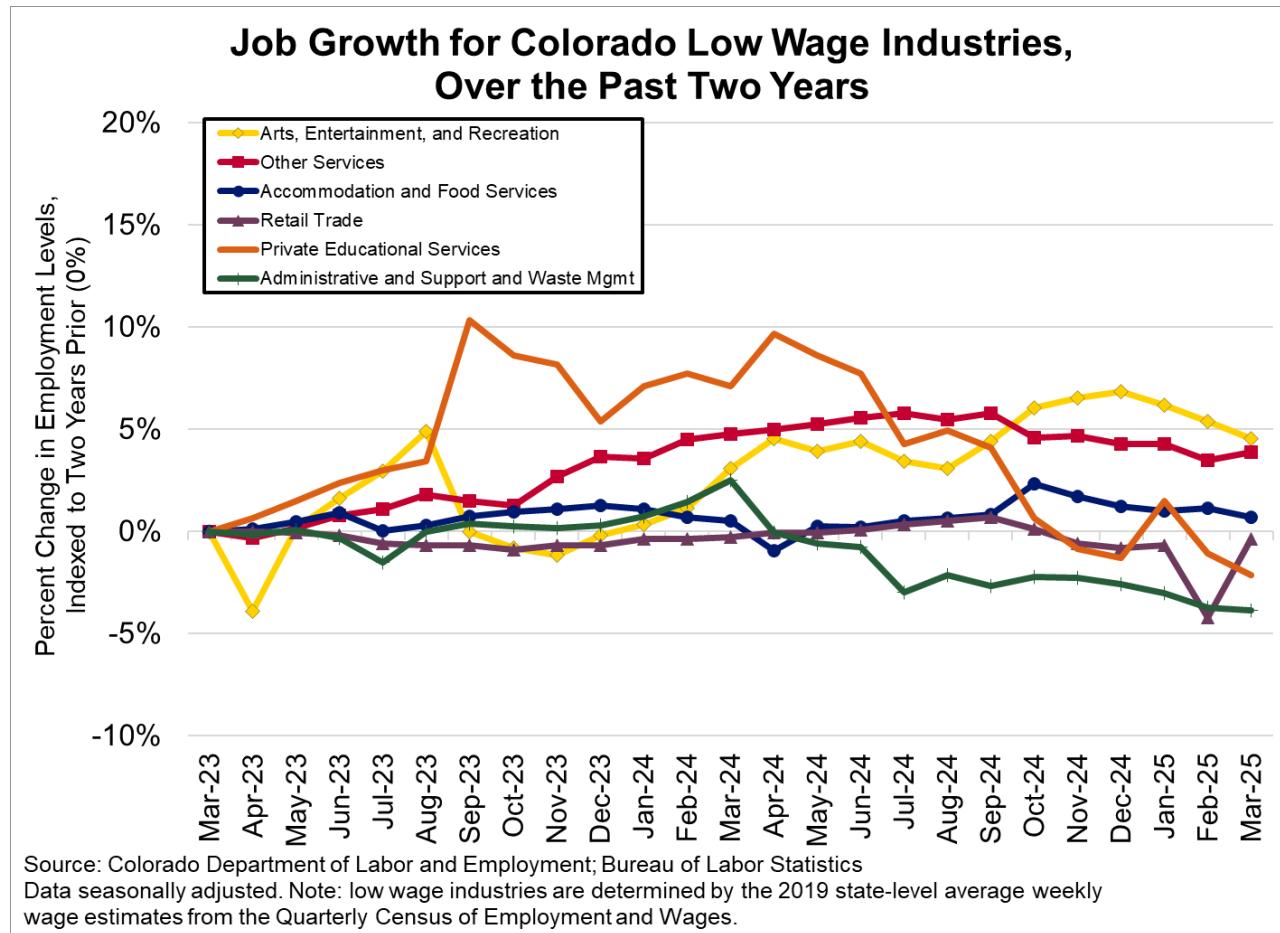


Chart information:

- This chart measures job growth for low wage industries in Colorado over the past two years. The measurement period spans from March 2023 to the most recent month available, March 2025. Values above 0 percent indicate employment levels have increased relative to March 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 March 2025, three low wage industries have an index value over 0 percent while three have an index value below 0 percent. Administrative and support and waste management as well as Private educational services have the lowest growth rates over the past two years, at -3.8 percent and -2.2 percent, respectively. Arts, entertainment, and recreation has the fastest growth rate during that period, at 4.6 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

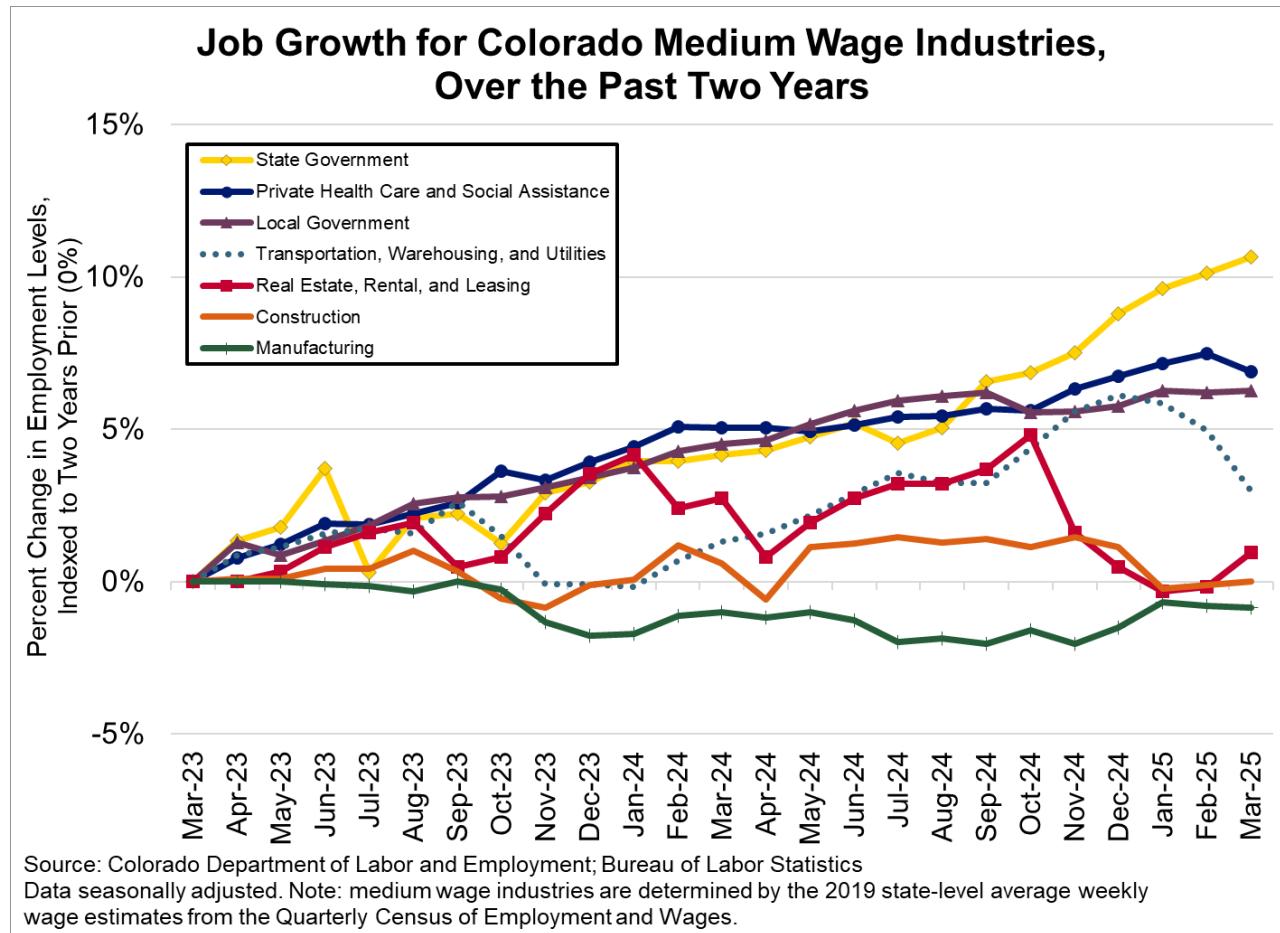


Chart information:

- This chart measures job growth for medium wage industries in Colorado over the past two years. The measurement period spans from March 2023 to the most recent month available, March 2025. Values above 0 percent indicate employment levels have increased relative to March 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 March 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 10.7 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 High Wage Industries, Over Past Two Years

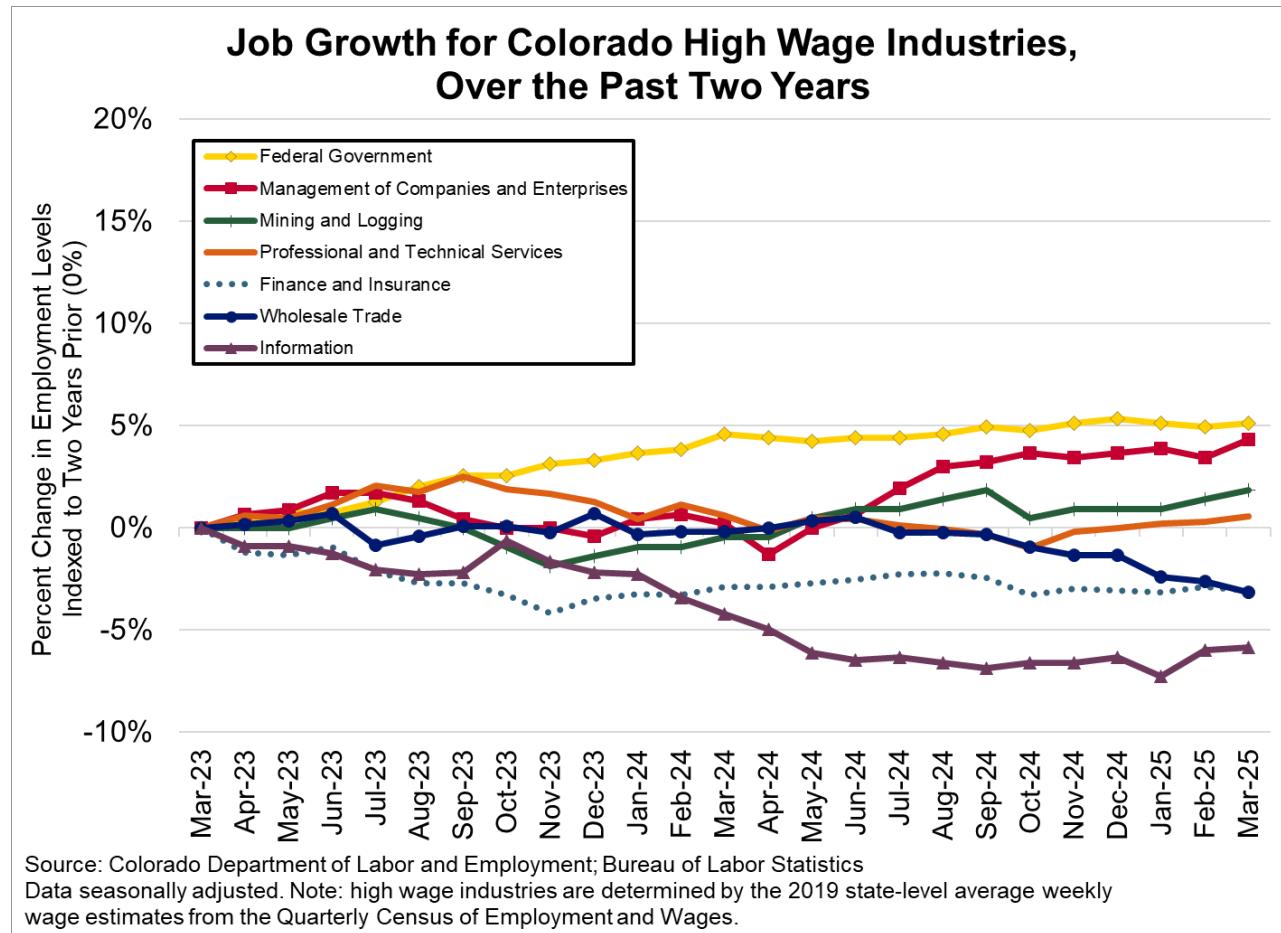


Chart information:

- This chart measures job growth for high wage industries in Colorado over the past two years. The measurement period spans from March 2023 to the most recent month available, March 2025. Values above 0 percent indicate employment levels have increased relative to March 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 March 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 -5.9 percent. Federal government has the fastest growth rate during that period, at 5.1 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

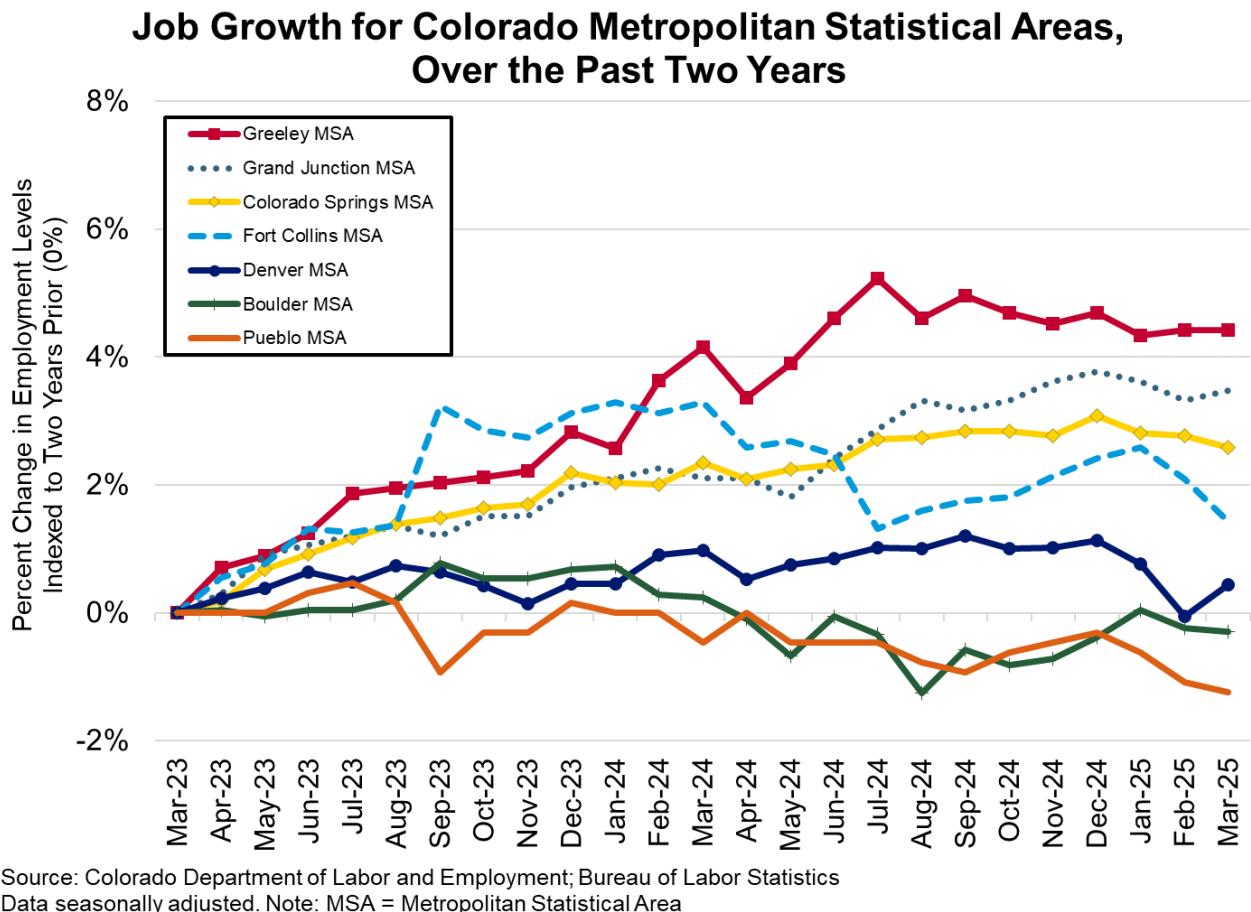


Chart information:

- This chart measures job growth for Colorado substate areas over the past two years. The measurement period spans from March 2023 to the most recent month available, March 2025. Values above 0 percent indicate employment levels have increased relative to March 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 March 2025, five areas have an index value over 0 percent, and two have an index value below 0 percent. The Pueblo MSA has the lowest growth rate over the past two years, at -1.2 percent. The Greeley MSA has the fastest growth rate during that period, at 4.4 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 2022, by Select Colorado Industry

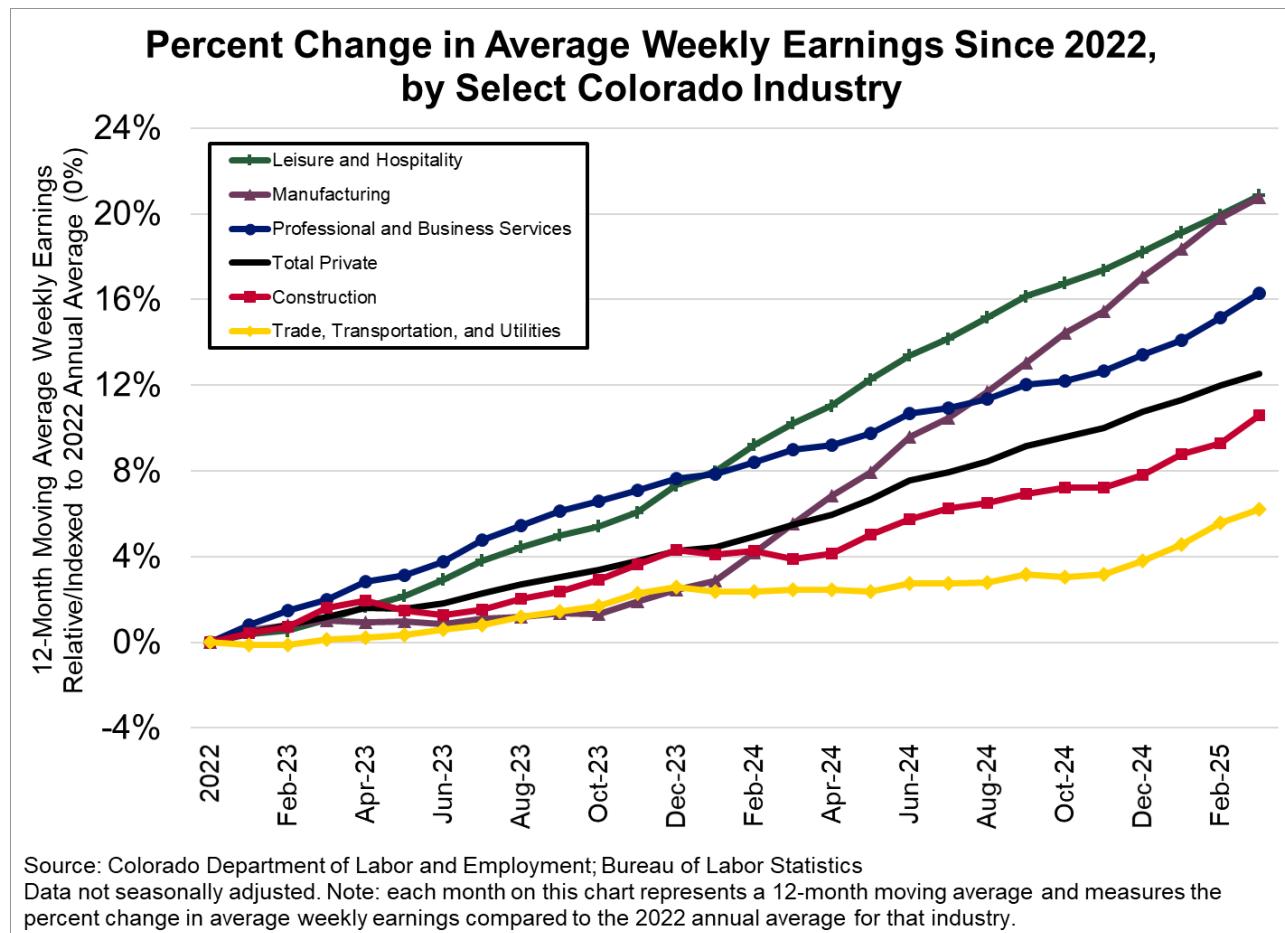
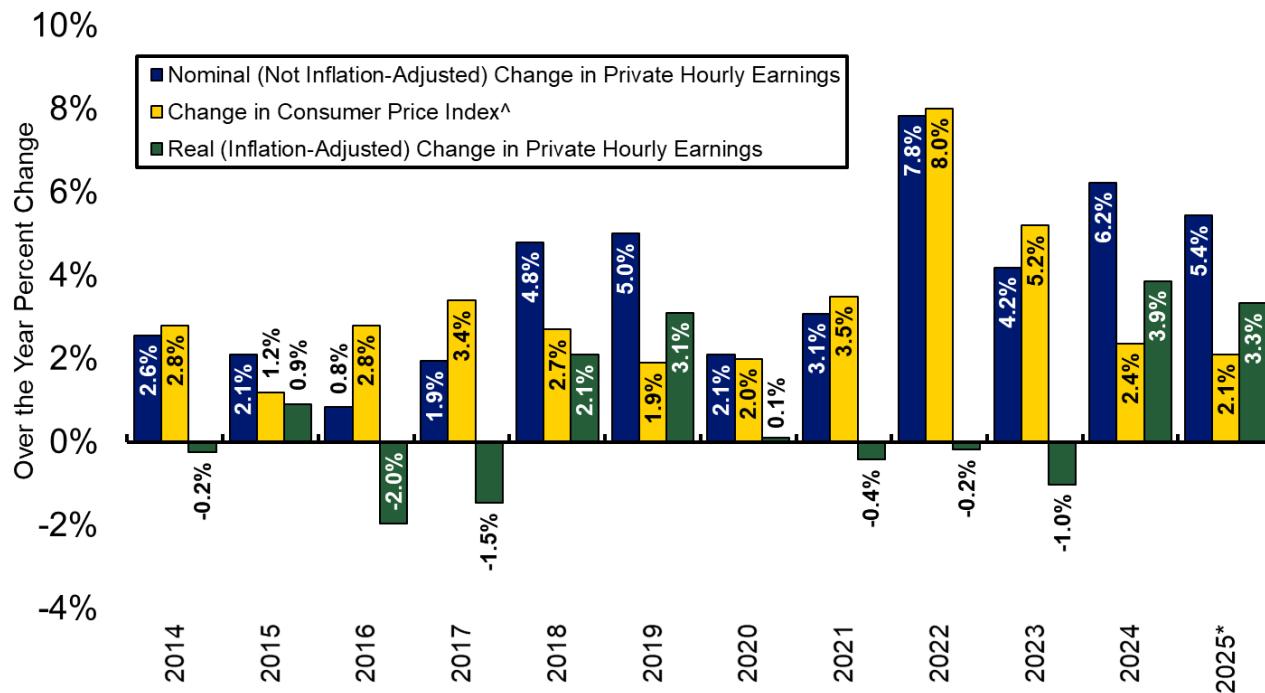


Chart information:

- 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 nearly 20 percent each, using the most recent 12-month average data available.
- Earnings gains for PBS, total private, and construction range between over 10 percent and over 16 percent.
- Wage growth lags for TTU, which is just over 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 2014

Nominal and Real Percent Change in Colorado's Private Average Hourly Earnings Since 2014



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.

*2025 nominal earnings growth is measured using data for January to March compared to the same period the year prior, while real earnings were adjusted using the over-the-year change in CPI-U for January 2025 and March 2025.

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 through March compared to the same period the year prior, while real earnings were adjusted using the over-the-year change in CPI for January 2025 and March 2025.
- Real earnings have increased by 3.3 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

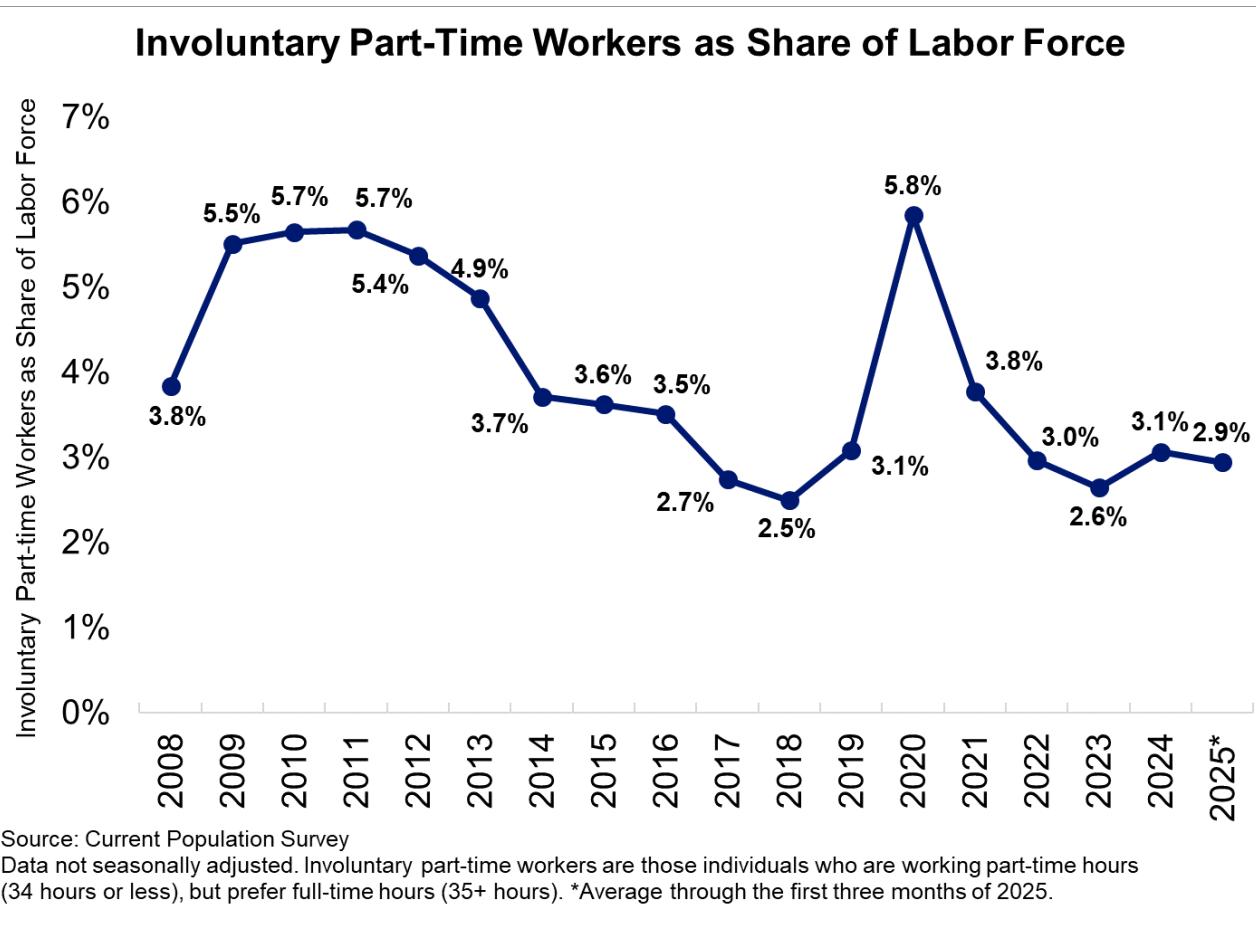


Chart information:

- 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 2.9 percent, a significant improvement from the rate of 5.8 percent in 2020.
- The 2025 rate of 2.9 percent translates to approximately 94,000 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

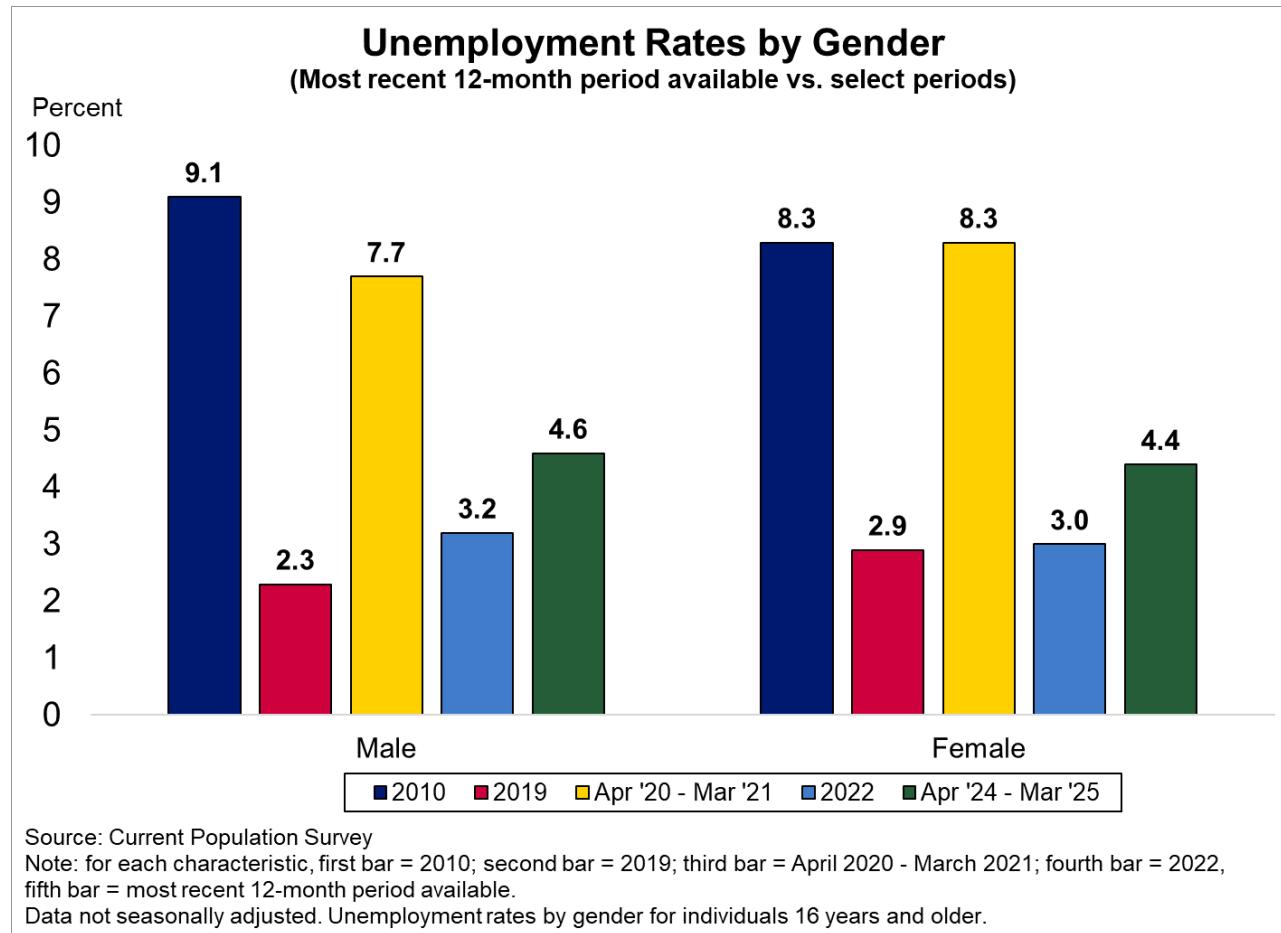


Chart information:

- 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 (April 2024 to March 2025).
- For the most recent 12-month period available, the male unemployment rate is 4.6 percent, and the female unemployment rate is 4.4 percent. The current male unemployment rate is higher than the 2019 rate of 2.3 percent, and the current female unemployment rate is higher than 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

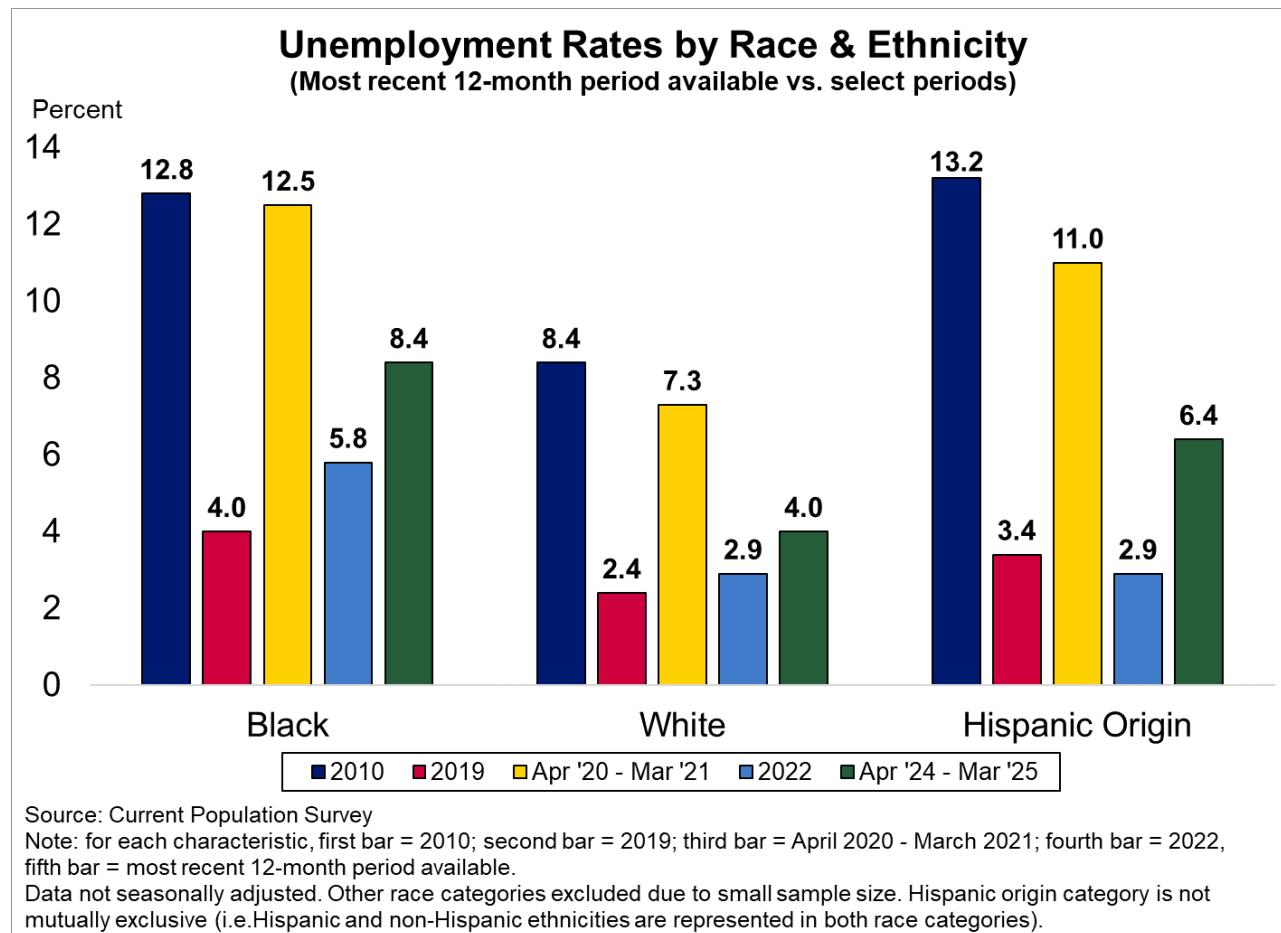


Chart information:

- 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 (April 2024 to March 2025).
- For the most recent 12-month period available, the Black unemployment rate is 8.4 percent, the White unemployment rate is 4.0 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

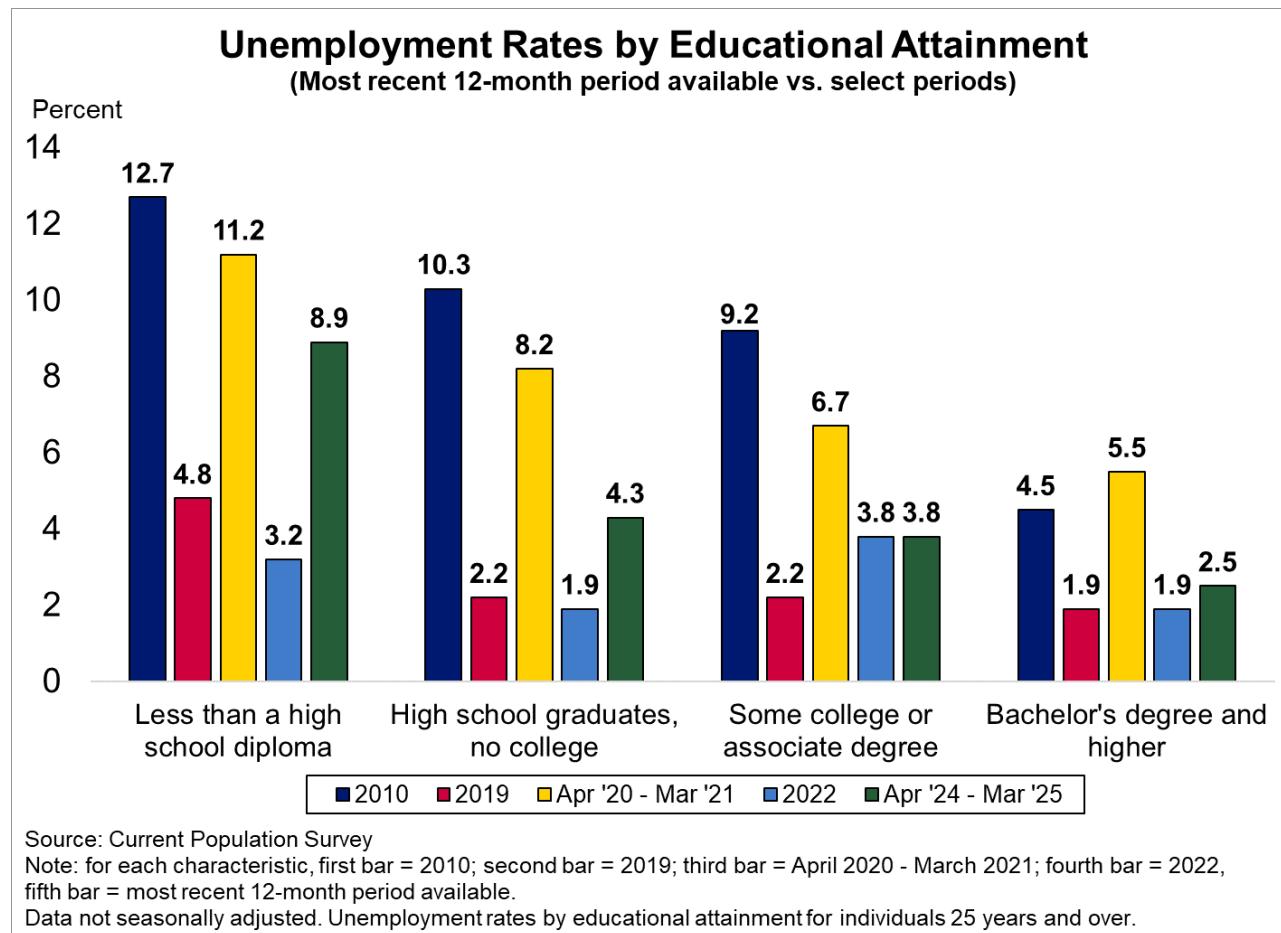


Chart information:

- 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 (April 2024 to March 2025).
- For the most recent 12-month period available, unemployment rates by education level are: less than a high school diploma (8.9 percent); high school graduates, no college (4.3 percent); some college or associate degree (3.8 percent); and bachelor's degree and higher (2.5 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 lower than 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

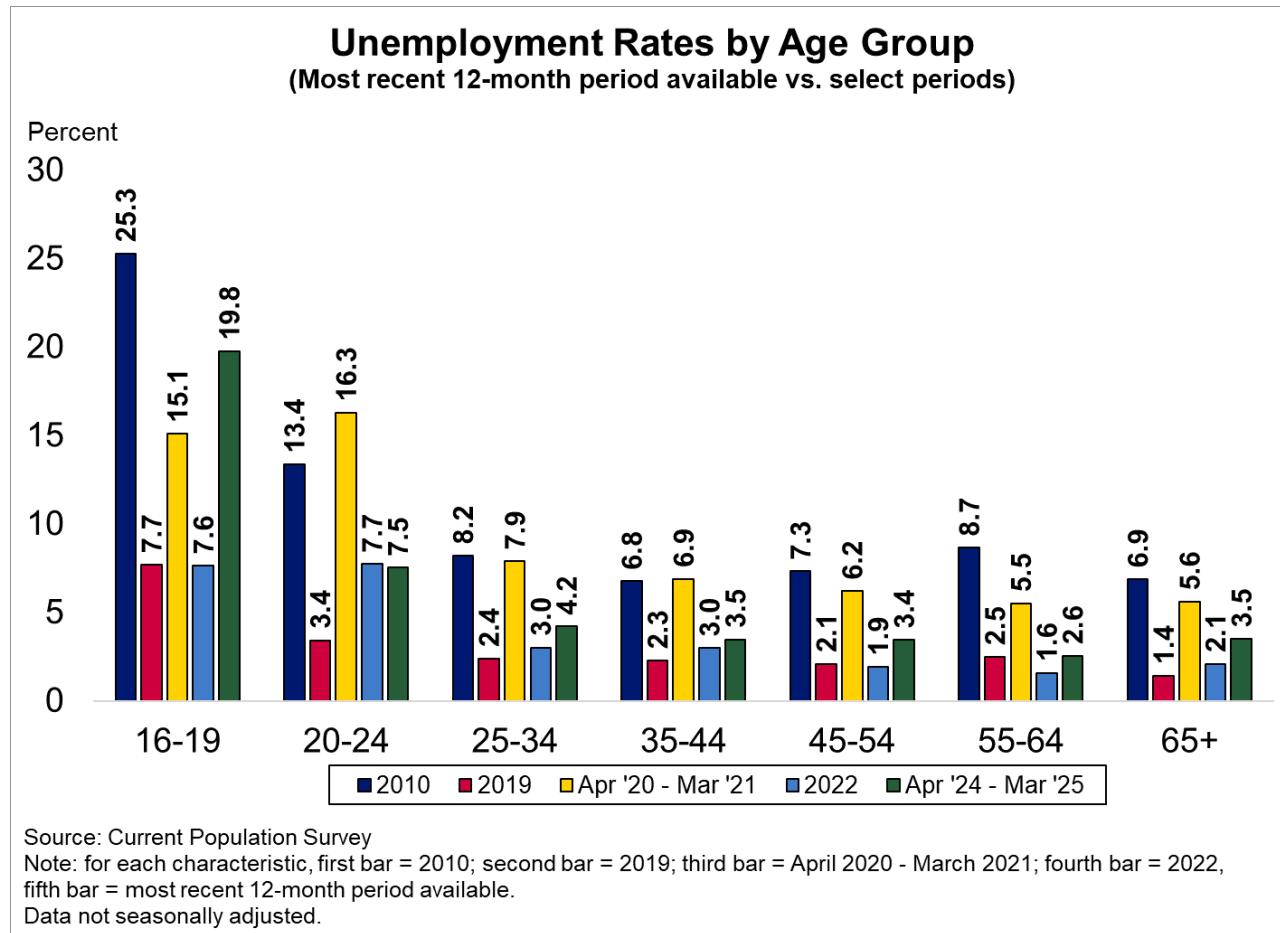


Chart information:

- 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 (April 2024 to March 2025).
- For the most recent 12-month period available, unemployment rates by cohort are: 16-19 (19.8%); 20-24 (7.5%); 25-34 (4.2%); 35-44 (3.5%); 45-54 (3.4%); 55-64 (2.6%); and 65+ (3.5%). 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 lower than 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 (19.8%) 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

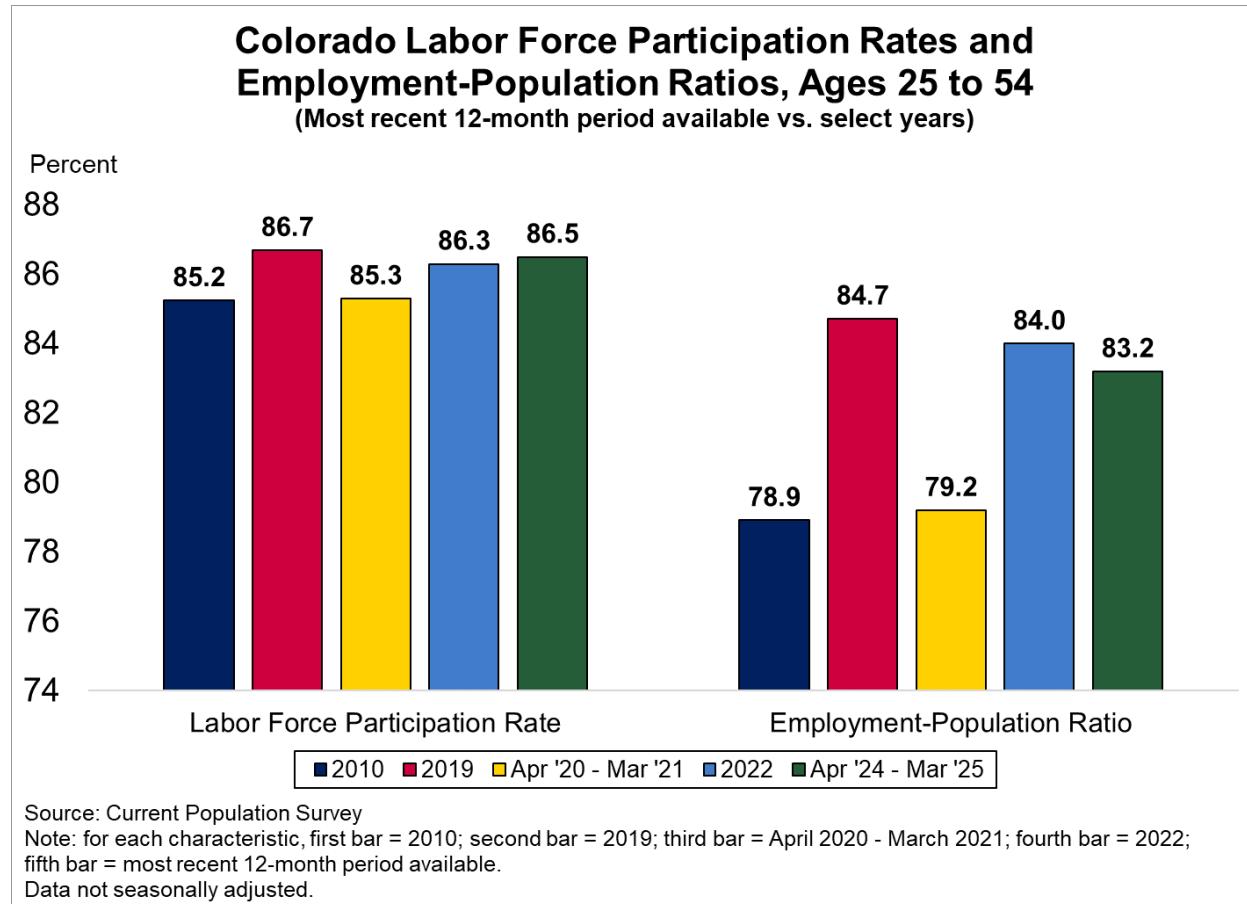


Chart information:

- 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 (April 2024 to March 2025).
- For the most recent 12-month period available, the 25-54 LFPR is 86.5 percent, while the 25-54 EPOP is 83.2 percent. The current LFPR has dropped two-tenths of a percentage point below the 2019 period, while EPOP has dropped eight-tenths of a percentage point below the 2022 period and 1.5 percentage points below 2019.
- The current 25-54 LFPR and EPOP rates are higher than their 2020 levels, which were at 85.5 percent and 79.9 percent, respectively (see next slide).
- 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

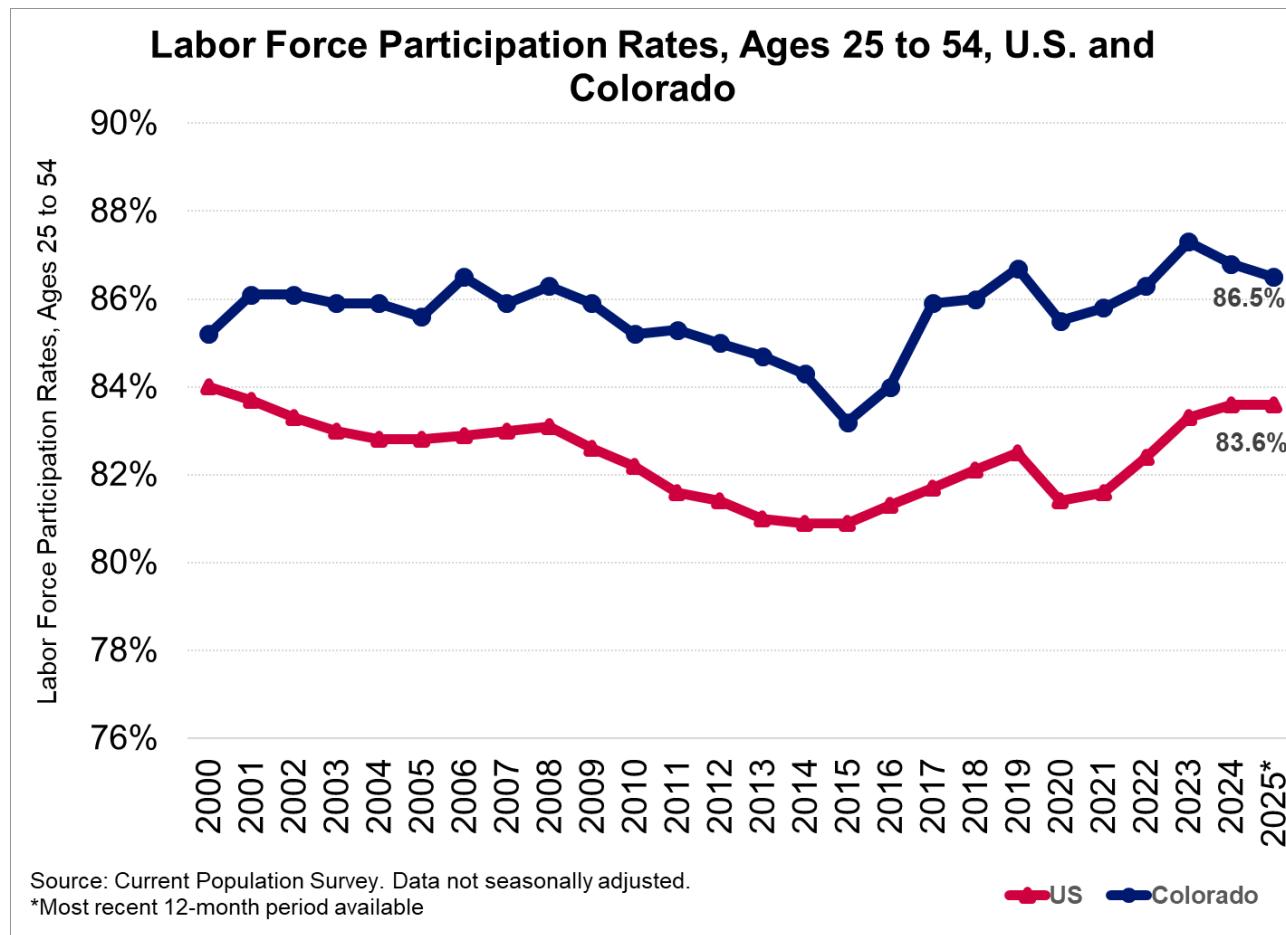


Chart information:

- 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 (April 2024 to March 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 86.5 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	Mar-25	Feb-25	Mar-24	Change From Last Month	Change From Last Year
Total Civilian Labor Force	3,280.8	3,283.1	3,254.5	-2.4	26.3
Unemployment	156.5	155.3	129.1	1.2	27.5
Unemployment Rate (%)	4.8	4.7	4.0	0.1	0.8
Employment	3,124.2	3,127.8	3,125.4	-3.6	-1.2

Not Seasonally Adjusted Data from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program

Labor Force Component	Mar-25	Feb-25	Mar-24	Change From Last Month	Change From Last Year
Total Civilian Labor Force	3,256.3	3,266.9	3,241.1	-10.7	15.2
Unemployment	151.0	170.2	122.1	-19.2	28.9
Unemployment Rate (%)	4.6	5.2	3.8	-0.6	0.8
Employment	3,105.3	3,096.7	3,119.0	8.5	-13.7

Seasonally Adjusted Data from the Current Employment Statistics Program

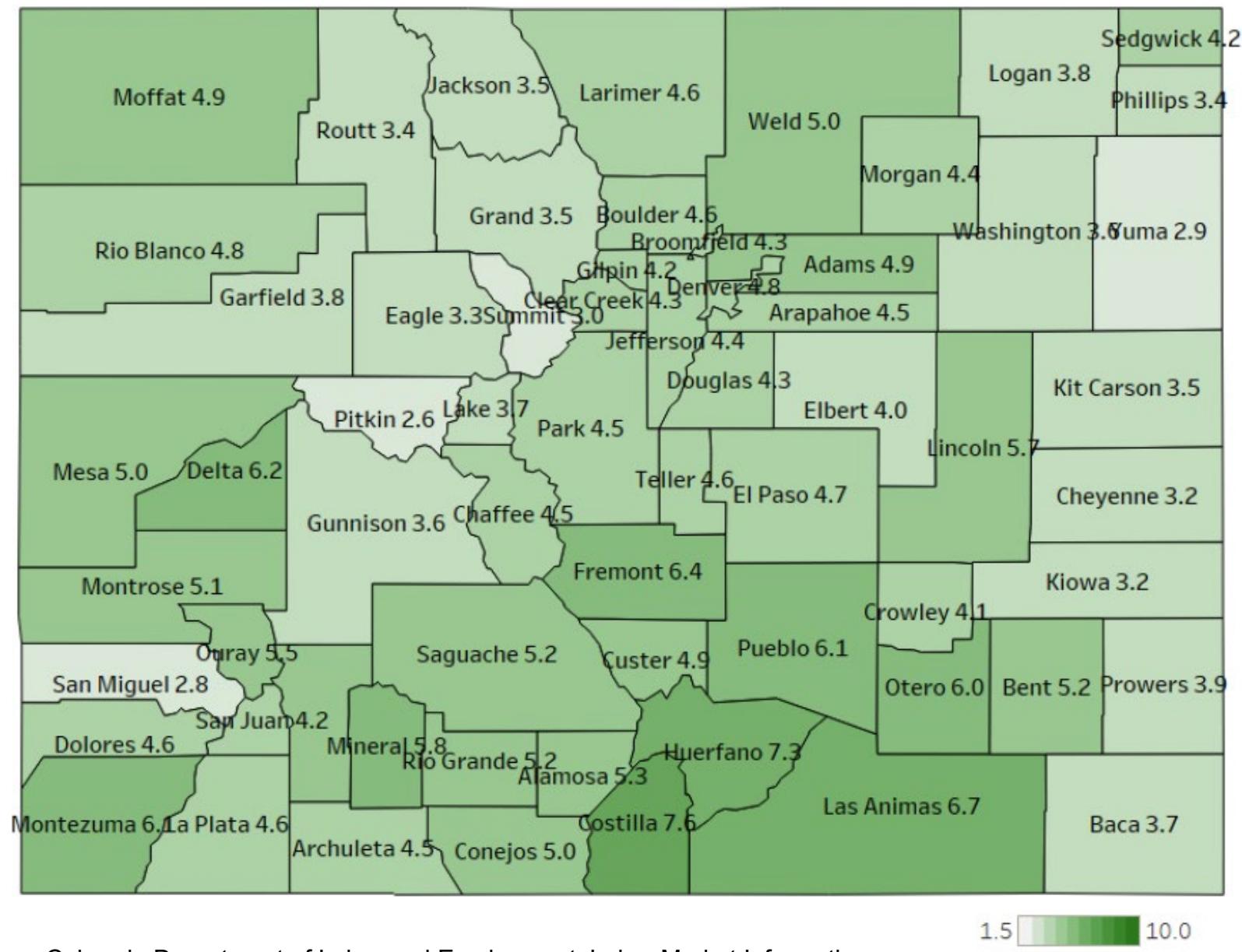
Industry	Mar-25	Feb-25	Mar-24	Change From Last Month	Change From Last Year
Mining & Logging	22.0	21.9	21.5	0.1	0.5
Construction	184.7	184.5	185.8	0.2	-1.1
Manufacturing	150.1	150.2	149.9	-0.1	0.2
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	505.3	497.6	507.2	7.7	-1.9
Information	74.0	73.9	75.3	0.1	-1.3
Financial Activities	177.2	176.7	178.5	0.5	-1.3
Professional & Business Services	493.7	492.7	502.1	1.0	-8.4
Educational & Health Services	383.8	386.2	382.3	-2.4	1.5
Leisure & Hospitality	354.0	355.8	352.6	-1.8	1.4
Other Services	130.9	130.4	132.0	0.5	-1.1
Government	497.1	496.1	483.3	1.0	13.8
Total Nonfarm Employment	2,972.8	2,966.0	2,970.5	6.8	2.3

Not Seasonally Adjusted Data from the Current Employment Statistics Program

Industry	Mar-25	Feb-25	Mar-24	Change From Last Month	Change From Last Year
Mining & Logging	21.8	21.4	21.3	0.4	0.5
Construction	179.4	177.9	180.9	1.5	-1.5
Manufacturing	150.1	150.1	149.3	0.0	0.8
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	501.2	495.7	502.7	5.5	-1.5
Information	73.9	74.0	75.4	-0.1	-1.5
Financial Activities	176.9	175.9	178.1	1.0	-1.2
Professional & Business Services	487.4	488.1	494.3	-0.7	-6.9
Educational & Health Services	384.4	389.2	383.0	-4.8	1.4
Leisure & Hospitality	349.4	352.4	349.1	-3.0	0.3
Other Services	130.5	129.0	132.0	1.5	-1.5
Government	499.9	496.7	487.1	3.2	12.8
Total Nonfarm Employment	2,954.9	2,950.4	2,953.2	4.5	1.7

County Unemployment Rates

March 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 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	March 2025 Labor Force	March 2025 Employment	March 2025 Unemployment	March 2025 Rate	February 2025 Labor Force	February 2025 Employment	February 2025 Unemployment	February 2025 Rate
Colorado	3,256,250	3,105,256	150,994	4.6	3,266,949	3,096,722	170,227	5.2

Table 2. By Metropolitan Statistical Area

Metropolitan Statistical Area	March 2025 Labor Force	March 2025 Employment	March 2025 Unemployment	March 2025 Rate	February 2025 Labor Force	February 2025 Employment	February 2025 Unemployment	February 2025 Rate
Boulder	193,880	184,958	8,922	4.6	193,654	183,999	9,655	5.0
Colorado Springs	394,726	376,277	18,449	4.7	397,787	376,785	21,002	5.3
Denver-Aurora-Lakewood	1,760,236	1,679,289	80,947	4.6	1,767,561	1,676,424	91,137	5.2
Fort Collins	206,251	196,771	9,480	4.6	207,625	197,068	10,557	5.1
Grand Junction	80,380	76,378	4,002	5.0	80,413	75,887	4,526	5.6
Greeley	177,974	169,162	8,812	5.0	178,057	168,153	9,904	5.6
Pueblo	73,049	68,620	4,429	6.1	73,642	68,603	5,039	6.8

Table 3. By County

Counties	March 2025 Labor Force	March 2025 Employment	March 2025 Unemployment	March 2025 Rate	February 2025 Labor Force	February 2025 Employment	February 2025 Unemployment	February 2025 Rate
Adams	300,448	285,631	14,817	4.9	301,651	285,063	16,588	5.5
Alamosa	7,919	7,498	421	5.3	7,750	7,287	463	6.0
Arapahoe	373,863	356,910	16,953	4.5	375,368	356,428	18,940	5.0
Archuleta	6,901	6,591	310	4.5	6,735	6,371	364	5.4
Baca	1,714	1,650	64	3.7	1,643	1,568	75	4.6
Bent	1,779	1,687	92	5.2	1,740	1,638	102	5.9
Boulder	193,880	184,958	8,922	4.6	193,654	183,999	9,655	5.0
Broomfield	45,260	43,295	1,965	4.3	45,496	43,316	2,180	4.8
Chaffee	9,598	9,168	430	4.5	9,543	9,015	528	5.5
Cheyenne	999	967	32	3.2	957	924	33	3.4
Clear Creek	5,675	5,433	242	4.3	5,672	5,404	268	4.7
Conejos	3,407	3,237	170	5.0	3,321	3,130	191	5.8
Costilla	1,300	1,201	99	7.6	1,288	1,165	123	9.5
Crowley	1,763	1,691	72	4.1	1,728	1,651	77	4.5
Custer	2,098	1,996	102	4.9	2,072	1,946	126	6.1
Delta	12,367	11,604	763	6.2	12,202	11,309	893	7.3
Denver	446,312	425,047	21,265	4.8	448,851	424,706	24,145	5.4
Dolores	1,052	1,004	48	4.6	1,041	984	57	5.5
Douglas	221,941	212,449	9,492	4.3	222,637	212,098	10,539	4.7
Eagle	36,779	35,547	1,232	3.3	37,109	35,695	1,414	3.8
El Paso	381,775	363,920	17,855	4.7	384,765	364,453	20,312	5.3
Elbert	16,122	15,472	650	4.0	16,064	15,322	742	4.6
Fremont	15,614	14,617	997	6.4	15,703	14,524	1,179	7.5
Garfield	34,694	33,383	1,311	3.8	34,681	33,148	1,533	4.4
Gilpin	3,689	3,535	154	4.2	3,702	3,526	176	4.8
Grand	10,053	9,701	352	3.5	10,055	9,638	417	4.1
Gunnison	11,291	10,881	410	3.6	11,246	10,793	453	4.0
Hinsdale	319	303	16	5.0	322	303	19	5.9
Huerfano	2,491	2,308	183	7.3	2,495	2,267	228	9.1
Jackson	690	666	24	3.5	682	653	29	4.3
Jefferson	337,423	322,443	14,980	4.4	338,622	321,570	17,052	5.0
Kiowa	742	718	24	3.2	714	685	29	4.1
Kit Carson	3,787	3,655	132	3.5	3,642	3,487	155	4.3
La Plata	29,681	28,316	1,365	4.6	29,475	27,917	1,558	5.3
Lake	5,003	4,820	183	3.7	5,030	4,830	200	4.0
Larimer	206,251	196,771	9,480	4.6	207,625	197,068	10,557	5.1
Las Animas	5,959	5,559	400	6.7	5,866	5,422	444	7.6
Lincoln	1,690	1,594	96	5.7	1,645	1,541	104	6.3
Logan	10,547	10,141	406	3.8	10,497	10,031	466	4.4
Mesa	80,380	76,378	4,002	5.0	80,413	75,887	4,526	5.6
Mineral	466	458	28	5.8	470	437	33	7.0
Moffat	6,573	6,250	323	4.9	6,614	6,253	361	5.5
Montezuma	11,068	10,396	672	6.1	11,085	10,296	789	7.1
Montrose	20,299	19,254	1,045	5.1	20,237	19,030	1,207	6.0
Morgan	14,754	14,100	654	4.4	14,602	13,883	719	4.9
Otero	7,266	6,828	438	6.0	7,157	6,679	478	6.7
Ouray	2,287	2,161	126	5.5	2,322	2,175	147	6.3
Park	9,503	9,074	429	4.5	9,498	8,991	507	5.3
Phillips	2,315	2,236	79	3.4	2,199	2,113	86	3.9
Pitkin	13,727	13,365	362	2.6	13,802	13,369	433	3.1
Prowers	5,814	5,585	229	3.9	5,673	5,419	254	4.5
Pueblo	73,049	68,620	4,429	6.1	73,642	68,603	5,039	6.8
Rio Blanco	2,913	2,774	139	4.8	2,908	2,749	159	5.5
Rio Grande	5,175	4,905	270	5.2	5,148	4,813	335	6.5
Routt	15,585	15,054	531	3.4	15,700	15,092	608	3.9
Saguache	3,245	3,077	168	5.2	3,163	2,976	187	5.9
San Juan	476	456	20	4.2	498	470	28	5.6
San Miguel	6,031	5,863	168	2.8	6,051	5,846	205	3.4
Sedgwick	1,058	1,014	44	4.2	1,030	984	46	4.5
Summit	22,742	22,064	678	3.0	22,991	22,189	802	3.5
Teller	12,951	12,357	594	4.6	13,022	12,332	690	5.3
Washington	2,388	2,301	87	3.6	2,305	2,208	97	4.2
Weld	177,974	169,162	8,812	5.0	178,057	168,153	9,904	5.6
Yuma	5,309	5,154	155	2.9	5,078	4,901	177	3.5

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	March 2025 Labor Force	March 2025 Employment	March 2025 Unemployment	March 2025 Rate	March 2024 Labor force	March 2024 Employment	March 2024 Unemployment	March 2024 Rate
Colorado	3,256,250	3,105,256	150,994	4.6	3,241,076	3,119,003	122,073	3.8

Table 2. By Metropolitan Statistical Area

Metropolitan Statistical Area	March 2025 Labor Force	March 2025 Employment	March 2025 Unemployment	March 2025 Rate	March 2024 Labor force	March 2024 Employment	March 2024 Unemployment	March 2024 Rate
Boulder	193,880	184,958	8,922	4.6	194,213	187,139	7,074	3.6
Colorado Springs	394,726	376,277	18,449	4.7	391,692	376,942	14,750	3.8
Denver-Aurora-Lakewood	1,760,236	1,679,289	80,947	4.6	1,760,401	1,694,917	65,484	3.7
Fort Collins	206,251	196,771	9,480	4.6	207,828	200,259	7,569	3.6
Grand Junction	80,380	76,378	4,002	5.0	79,011	75,771	3,240	4.1
Greeley	177,974	169,162	8,812	5.0	175,844	168,773	7,071	4.0
Pueblo	73,049	68,620	4,429	6.1	73,292	69,504	3,788	5.2

Table 3. By County

Counties	March 2025 Labor Force	March 2025 Employment	March 2025 Unemployment	March 2025 Rate	March 2024 Labor force	March 2024 Employment	March 2024 Unemployment	March 2024 Rate
Adams	300,448	285,631	14,817	4.9	299,956	287,952	12,004	4.0
Alamosa	7,919	7,498	421	5.3	7,626	7,279	347	4.6
Arapahoe	373,863	356,910	16,953	4.5	374,090	360,379	13,711	3.7
Archuleta	6,901	6,591	310	4.5	6,604	6,338	266	4.0
Baca	1,714	1,650	64	3.7	1,593	1,543	50	3.1
Bent	1,779	1,687	92	5.2	1,727	1,657	70	4.1
Boulder	193,880	184,958	8,922	4.6	194,213	187,139	7,074	3.6
Broomfield	45,260	43,295	1,965	4.3	45,345	43,700	1,645	3.6
Chaffee	9,598	9,168	430	4.5	9,773	9,429	344	3.5
Cheyenne	999	967	32	3.2	915	892	23	2.5
Clear Creek	5,675	5,433	242	4.3	5,660	5,471	189	3.3
Conejos	3,407	3,237	170	5.0	3,287	3,141	146	4.4
Costilla	1,300	1,201	99	7.6	1,286	1,204	82	6.4
Crowley	1,763	1,691	72	4.1	1,743	1,677	66	3.8
Custer	2,098	1,996	102	4.9	2,109	2,029	80	3.8
Delta	12,367	11,604	763	6.2	11,728	11,113	615	5.2
Denver	446,312	425,047	21,265	4.8	446,470	429,269	17,201	3.9
Dolores	1,052	1,004	48	4.6	1,042	993	49	4.7
Douglas	221,941	212,449	9,492	4.3	222,017	214,406	7,611	3.4
Eagle	36,779	35,547	1,232	3.3	35,908	34,908	1,000	2.8
El Paso	381,775	363,920	17,855	4.7	378,855	364,580	14,275	3.8
Elbert	16,122	15,472	650	4.0	16,012	15,480	532	3.3
Fremont	15,614	14,617	997	6.4	15,289	14,446	843	5.5
Garfield	34,694	33,383	1,311	3.8	33,534	32,419	1,115	3.3
Gilpin	3,689	3,535	154	4.2	3,701	3,574	127	3.4
Grand	10,053	9,701	352	3.5	9,628	9,349	279	2.9
Gunnison	11,291	10,881	410	3.6	10,842	10,542	300	2.8
Hinsdale	319	303	16	5.0	335	322	13	3.9
Huerfano	2,491	2,308	183	7.3	2,406	2,241	165	6.9
Jackson	690	666	24	3.5	646	623	23	3.6
Jefferson	337,423	322,443	14,980	4.4	337,611	325,510	12,101	3.6
Kiowa	742	718	24	3.2	687	664	23	3.3
Kit Carson	3,787	3,655	132	3.5	3,630	3,519	111	3.1
La Plata	29,681	28,316	1,365	4.6	28,909	27,790	1,119	3.9
Lake	5,003	4,820	183	3.7	4,717	4,582	135	2.9
Larimer	206,251	196,771	9,480	4.6	207,828	200,259	7,569	3.6
Las Animas	5,959	5,559	400	6.7	5,823	5,502	321	5.5
Lincoln	1,690	1,594	96	5.7	1,611	1,546	65	4.0
Logan	10,547	10,141	406	3.8	10,394	10,073	321	3.1
Mesa	80,380	76,378	4,002	5.0	79,011	75,771	3,240	4.1
Mineral	466	458	28	5.8	476	460	16	3.4
Moffat	6,573	6,250	323	4.9	6,427	6,130	297	4.6
Montezuma	11,068	10,396	672	6.1	10,919	10,332	587	5.4
Montrose	20,299	19,254	1,045	5.1	19,584	18,742	842	4.3
Morgan	14,754	14,100	654	4.4	13,813	13,285	528	3.8
Otero	7,266	6,828	438	6.0	7,193	6,862	331	4.6
Ouray	2,287	2,161	126	5.5	2,303	2,213	90	3.9
Park	9,503	9,074	429	4.5	9,539	9,176	363	3.8
Phillips	2,315	2,236	79	3.4	2,173	2,112	61	2.8
Pitkin	13,727	13,365	362	2.6	12,976	12,675	301	2.3
Prowers	5,814	5,585	229	3.9	5,661	5,468	193	3.4
Pueblo	73,049	68,620	4,429	6.1	73,292	69,504	3,788	5.2
Rio Blanco	2,913	2,774	139	4.8	2,877	2,765	112	3.9
Rio Grande	5,175	4,905	270	5.2	5,105	4,841	264	5.2
Routt	15,585	15,054	531	3.4	15,360	14,921	439	2.9
Saguache	3,245	3,077	168	5.2	3,027	2,907	120	4.0
San Juan	476	456	20	4.2	444	426	18	4.1
San Miguel	6,031	5,863	168	2.8	5,865	5,730	135	2.3
Sedgwick	1,058	1,014	44	4.2	1,020	984	36	3.5
Summit	22,742	22,064	678	3.0	22,614	22,061	553	2.4
Teller	12,951	12,357	594	4.6	12,837	12,362	475	3.7
Washington	2,388	2,301	87	3.6	2,222	2,149	73	3.3
Weld	177,974	169,162	8,812	5.0	175,844	168,773	7,071	4.0
Yuma	5,309	5,154	155	2.9	4,945	4,813	132	2.7

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	March 2025 Labor Force	March 2025 Employed	March 2025 Unemployed	March 2025 Rate	February 2025 Labor Force	February 2025 Employed	February 2025 Unemployed	February 2025 Rate
Arvada	72,117	68,909	3,208	4.4	72,361	68,724	3,637	5.0
Aurora	219,488	209,141	10,347	4.7	220,354	208,841	11,513	5.2
Boulder	63,062	59,968	3,094	4.9	62,810	59,657	3,153	5.0
Brighton	23,347	22,200	1,147	4.9	23,447	22,156	1,291	5.5
Castle Rock	46,656	44,634	2,022	4.3	46,785	44,560	2,225	4.8
Centennial	60,495	57,858	2,637	4.4	60,724	57,780	2,944	4.8
Colorado Springs	264,066	251,986	12,080	4.6	266,178	252,355	13,823	5.2
Commerce City	37,577	35,646	1,931	5.1	37,734	35,579	2,159	5.7
Englewood	22,247	21,231	1,016	4.6	22,327	21,203	1,124	5.0
Erie	19,262	18,420	842	4.4	19,269	18,317	952	4.9
Fort Collins	100,903	96,441	4,462	4.4	101,411	96,587	4,824	4.8
Fountain	13,667	13,016	651	4.8	13,756	13,035	721	5.2
Grand Junction	35,886	34,175	1,711	4.8	35,907	33,955	1,952	5.4
Greeley	52,791	49,869	2,922	5.5	52,765	49,571	3,194	6.1
Lafayette	19,026	18,276	750	3.9	19,038	18,181	857	4.5
Lakewood	92,221	87,984	4,237	4.6	92,605	87,746	4,859	5.2
Littleton	26,401	25,258	1,143	4.3	26,514	25,223	1,291	4.9
Longmont	58,445	55,715	2,730	4.7	58,461	55,426	3,035	5.2
Loveland	42,070	39,990	2,080	4.9	42,375	40,050	2,325	5.5
Northglenn	22,409	21,280	1,129	5.0	22,510	21,237	1,273	5.7
Parker	37,710	36,159	1,551	4.1	37,813	36,099	1,714	4.5
Pueblo	46,977	43,940	3,037	6.5	47,387	43,929	3,458	7.3
Thornton	83,336	79,398	3,938	4.7	83,583	79,240	4,343	5.2
Westminster	70,282	67,157	3,125	4.4	70,527	67,003	3,524	5.0
Wheat Ridge	18,922	17,989	933	4.9	19,011	17,940	1,071	5.6
Windsor	19,808	18,947	861	4.3	19,847	18,866	981	4.9

Table 2. Over the Year

Area	March 2025 Labor Force	March 2025 Employed	March 2025 Unemployed	March 2025 Rate	March 2024 Labor Force	March 2024 Employment	March 2024 Unemployed	March 2024 Rate
Arvada	72,117	68,909	3,208	4.4	72,160	69,563	2,597	3.6
Aurora	219,488	209,141	10,347	4.7	219,541	211,129	8,412	3.8
Boulder	63,062	59,968	3,094	4.9	63,021	60,676	2,345	3.7
Brighton	23,347	22,200	1,147	4.9	23,296	22,379	917	3.9
Castle Rock	46,656	44,634	2,022	4.3	46,657	45,045	1,612	3.5
Centennial	60,495	57,858	2,637	4.4	60,543	58,421	2,122	3.5
Colorado Springs	264,066	251,986	12,080	4.6	262,015	252,443	9,572	3.7
Commerce City	37,577	35,646	1,931	5.1	37,424	35,936	1,488	4.0
Englewood	22,247	21,231	1,016	4.6	22,241	21,438	803	3.6
Erie	19,262	18,420	842	4.4	19,160	18,488	672	3.5
Fort Collins	100,903	96,441	4,462	4.4	101,681	98,151	3,530	3.5
Fountain	13,667	13,016	651	4.8	13,546	13,040	506	3.7
Grand Junction	35,886	34,175	1,711	4.8	35,301	33,903	1,398	4.0
Greeley	52,791	49,869	2,922	5.5	52,002	49,754	2,248	4.3
Lafayette	19,026	18,276	750	3.9	19,162	18,491	671	3.5
Lakewood	92,221	87,984	4,237	4.6	92,240	88,821	3,419	3.7
Littleton	26,401	25,258	1,143	4.3	26,371	25,504	867	3.3
Longmont	58,445	55,715	2,730	4.7	58,519	56,359	2,160	3.7
Loveland	42,070	39,990	2,080	4.9	42,378	40,699	1,679	4.0
Northglenn	22,409	21,280	1,129	5.0	22,337	21,453	884	4.0
Parker	37,710	36,159	1,551	4.1	37,762	36,492	1,270	3.4
Pueblo	46,977	43,940	3,037	6.5	47,073	44,506	2,567	5.5
Thornton	83,336	79,398	3,938	4.7	83,143	80,043	3,100	3.7
Westminster	70,282	67,157	3,125	4.4	70,519	67,741	2,778	3.9
Wheat Ridge	18,922	17,989	933	4.9	18,902	18,160	742	3.9
Windsor	19,808	18,947	861	4.3	19,678	18,988	690	3.5