PRESS RELEASE

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COLORADO EMPLOYMENT SITUATION February 2010

Labor Forcei

Colorado's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose three-tenths of one percentage point to 7.7 percent in February, according to Donald J. Mares, Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment. "Moderate fluctuations in the labor market are expected through the first part of the year as we put 2009 behind us," noted Mares. Last February the unemployment rate was 7.3 percent.

The number of working Coloradans declined 3,300 over the month to 2,448,800 out of a civilian labor force of 2,647,700. The number of residents unsuccessfully looking for work increased 6,500 over the month to 202,900. Last February, total employment was 2,535,300, the civilian labor force was 2,734,200 and the number of unemployed was 198,900. Total employment has declined 90,500 since February 2009.

The unemployment rate (not seasonally adjusted) increased in 30 of Colorado's 64 counties, declined in 22 and remained unchanged in 12. The lowest rate was 3.4 percent in Cheyenne County and the highest was 18.7 percent in Dolores County. In February 2009, the unemployment rate increased in 60 counties, declined in two and was unchanged in two. Last year, the lowest rate was 3.4 percent in Cheyenne County and the highest was 13.3 percent in Dolores County.

Wage and Salary Employmentii

The monthly survey of Colorado business establishments indicates the number of nonfarm wage and salary jobs decreased 1,700 in February to 2,205,700.

Employment increased in four of Colorado's eleven major industry sectors over the month. Professional and business services added 2,500 jobs, driven by an increase in

professional, scientific and technical services; education and health increased 2,100, due to an increase in healthcare employment; trade, transportation, and utilities added 1,200 and mining and logging increased 400. Financial activities and leisure and hospitality declined 3,200 and 1,600, respectively, while manufacturing declined 1,100 due to losses in durable goods. Other losses included information (900), other services (700), construction (300), and government (100).

Nonfarm payroll employment decreased over the year by 3.7 percent, or 83,900, from the February 2009 level of 2,289,600.

Employment in two of Colorado's eleven major industry sectors increased over the year. Education and health services added 4,000 jobs and government 2,000. The remaining nine industry sectors all declined over the year. Employment in construction, down 30,300, experienced the largest decline of all industry sectors. Trade, transportation, and utilities and professional and business services declined 14,900 and 12,100, respectively. Manufacturing was down 10,500 and financial activities 7,800. Other losses included leisure and hospitality (5,800), mining and logging (4,300), information (3,700) and other services (500).

Nationaliii

The Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that nonfarm payroll employment was little changed (-36,000) in February, and the unemployment rate held steady at 9.7 percent. Since the start of the recession in December 2007, payroll employment has fallen by 8.4 million. Job losses continued in construction and information, while employment continued to increase in temporary help services.

ⁱ Labor force estimates are calculated from the household survey results, using the Bureau of Labor Statistics Local Area Unemployment Statistics methods. The unadjusted statewide and county level estimates are available at the following link: http://lmigateway.coworkforce.com/lmigateway/gsipub/index.asp?docid=363

ⁱⁱ Wage and salary employment estimates are calculated from the establishment survey results, using the Bureau of Labor Statistics Current Employment Statistics methods. The statewide adjusted and unadjusted, and the unadjusted MSA estimates are available at the following link: http://lmigateway.coworkforce.com/lmigateway/gsipub/index.asp?docid=364

iii The Bureau of Labor Statistics homepage is available at the following link: http://www.bls.gov/

LABOR FORCE SUMMARY COLORADO

Preliminary Estimates for February 2010 (in thousands)

LABOR FORCE DATA										
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED*	Change from last:									
	Feb-10	Jan-10	Feb-09	Month	Year					
Total Civilian Labor Force	2,647.7	2,644.5	2,734.2	3.2	-86.5					
Unemployment	202.9	196.4	198.9	6.5	4.0					
Unemployment Rate (%)	7.7	7.4	7.3							
Employment	2,444.8	2,448.1	2,535.3	-3.3	-90.5					
			-							
UNADJUSTED FOR SEASONALITY:			Change fi	rom last:						
	Feb-10	Jan-10	Feb-09	Month	Year					
Total Civilian Labor Force	2,636.9	2,637.8	2,718.7	-0.9	-81.8					
Unemployment	218.5	218.8	212.9	-0.3	5.6					
Unemployment Rate (%)	8.3	8.3	7.8							
Employment	2,418.4	2,419.0	2,505.8	-0.6	-87.4					

WAGE A	ND SALARY I	EMPLOYME	NT DATA		
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED:	Feb-10	Jan-10	Feb-09	Month	Year
Mining & Logging	23.1	22.7	27.4	0.4	-4.3
Construction	115.0	115.3	145.3	-0.3	-30.3
Manufacturing	124.5	125.6	135.0	-1.1	-10.5
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	398.0	396.8	412.9	1.2	-14.9
Information	72.5	73.4	76.2	-0.9	-3.7
Financial Activities	142.5	145.7	150.3	-3.2	-7.8
Professional & Business Services	326.7	324.2	338.8	2.5	-12.1
Educational & Health Services	259.3	257.2	255.3	2.1	4.0
Leisure & Hospitality	259.2	260.8	265.0	-1.6	-5.8
Other Services	94.1	94.8	94.6	-0.7	-0.5
Government	390.8	390.9	388.8	-0.1	2.0
TOTAL NONAG	2,205.7	2,207.4	2,289.6	-1.7	-83.9
Labor Disputants	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

WAGE AN	WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT DATA											
UNADJUSTED FOR SEASONALITY:	Feb-10	Jan-10	Feb-09	Month	Year							
Mining & Logging	23.0	22.5	27.0	0.5	-4.0							
Construction	106.7	106.0	134.8	0.7	-28.1							
Manufacturing	124.1	125.2	133.7	-1.1	-9.6							
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	390.9	394.4	406.4	-3.5	-15.5							
Information	72.1	73.0	76.2	-0.9	-4.1							
Financial Activities	141.6	144.4	149.8	-2.8	-8.2							
Professional & Business Services	315.1	313.0	330.2	2.1	-15.1							
Educational & Health Services	259.2	255.2	255.8	4.0	3.4							
Leisure & Hospitality	258.4	259.7	261.3	-1.3	-2.9							
Other Services	94.1	95.3	94.5	-1.2	-0.4							
Government	394.8	383.7	392.1	11.1	2.7							
TOTAL NONAG	2,180.0	2,172.4	2,261.8	7.6	-81.8							
Labor Disputants	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0							

LABOR FORCE SUMMARY COLORADO METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS

Preliminary Estimates for February 2010 (in thousands)

DENVER-AURORA-BROOMFIELD MSA (Adams, Arapahoe, Broomfield, Clear Creek,

Denver, Douglas, Elbert, Gilpin, Jefferson, and Park counties)

	LABOR FOR	CE DATA									
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED*				Change from last:							
	Feb-10	Jan-10	Feb-09	Month	Year						
Total Civilian Labor Force	1,357.3	1,356.8	1,397.6	0.5	-40.3						
Unemployment	109.1	106.8	108.6	2.3	0.5						
Unemployment Rate (%)	8.0	7.9	7.8								
Employment	1,248.2	1,250.0	1,289.0	-1.8	-40.8						
WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT DATA											
TOTAL NONAG	1177.9	1175.8	1219.0	2.1	-41.1						
			-								
UNADJUSTED FOR SEASONALITY:				Change from last:							
	Feb-10	Jan-10	Feb-09	Month	Year						
Total Civilian Labor Force	1,347.4	1,347.9	1,387.6	-0.5	-40.2						
Unemployment	112.6	112.6	112.0	0.0	0.6						
Unemployment Rate (%)	8.4	8.4	8.1								
Employment	1,234.8	1,235.3	1,275.6	-0.5	-40.8						
WAGE AN	ND SALARY E	MPLOYMEN'	T DATA								

BOULDER-LONGMONT MSA (Boulder County)

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	LABOR FOR	RCE DATA	•	•	·						
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED*				Change fi	Change from last:						
	Feb-10	Jan-10	Feb-09	Month	Year						
Total Civilian Labor Force	172.0	172.4	176.4	-0.4	-4.4						
Unemployment	10.8	10.8	11.1	0.0	-0.3						
Unemployment Rate (%)	6.3	6.2	6.3								
Employment	161.2	161.6	165.3	-0.4	-4.1						
WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT DATA											
TOTAL NONAG	157.8	157.9	162.4	-0.1	-4.6						
UNADJUSTED FOR SEASONALITY:				Change from last:							
	Feb-10	Jan-10	Feb-09	Month	Year						
Total Civilian Labor Force	171.8	170.9	176.1	0.9	-4.3						
Unemployment	11.2	11.4	11.4	-0.2	-0.2						
Unemployment Rate (%)	6.5	6.6	6.5								
Employment	160.6	159.5	164.7	1.1	-4.1						
WAGE AN	ID SALARY I	EMPLOYMEN	NT DATA								
TOTAL NONAG	157.3	155.6	161.5	1.7	-4.2						

COLORADO SPRINGS MSA (El Paso and Teller counties)

	LABOR FOR	RCE DATA									
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED*		Change from last:									
	Feb-10	Jan-10	Feb-09	Month	Year						
Total Civilian Labor Force	307.7	306.0	315.3	1.7	-7.6						
Unemployment	26.3	25.8	26.5	0.5	-0.2						
Unemployment Rate (%)	8.5	8.4	8.4								
Employment	281.4	280.2	288.8	1.2	-7.4						
WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT DATA											
TOTAL NONAG	244.0	244.1	252.7	-0.1	-8.7						
UNADJUSTED FOR SEASONALITY:	ē			Change from last:							
	Feb-10	Jan-10	Feb-09	Month	Year						
Total Civilian Labor Force	304.0	303.8	311.7	0.2	-7.7						
Unemployment	27.0	27.1	27.2	-0.1	-0.2						
- -											
Unemployment Rate (%)	8.9	8.9	8.7								
Unemployment Rate (%) Employment	8.9 277.0	8.9 276.7	8.7 284.5	0.3	 -7.5						
Employment		276.7	284.5	0.3	 -7.5						

FT. COLLINS-LOVELAND MSA (Larimer County)

	LABOR FOR	RCE DATA				
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED*				Change from last:		
	Feb-10	Jan-10	Feb-09	Month	Year	
Total Civilian Labor Force	173.7	174.3	176.4	-0.6	-2.7	
Unemployment	11.8	11.6	11.5	0.2	0.3	
Unemployment Rate (%)	6.8	6.7	6.5			
Employment	161.9	162.7	164.9	-0.8	-3.0	
WAGE A	ND SALARY E	MPLOYMEN'	T DATA			
TOTAL NONAG	132.0	132.2	135.2	-0.2	-3.2	
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UNADJUSTED FOR SEASONALITY:				Change from last:		
	Feb-10	Jan-10	Feb-09	Month	Year	
Total Civilian Labor Force	171.8	170.9	174.4	0.9	-2.6	
Unemployment	12.3	12.5	12.0	-0.2	0.3	
Unemployment Rate (%)	7.2	7.3	6.9			
Employment	159.5	158.4	162.4	1.1	1.1 -2.9	
WAGE A	ND SALARY E	MPLOYMEN'	T DATA			
TOTAL NONAG	129.8	128.6	131.9	1.2	-2.1	

GRAND JUNCTION MSA (Mesa County)

	LABOR FOR	RCE DATA				
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED*			Change from last:			
	Feb-10	Jan-10	Feb-09	Month	Year	
Total Civilian Labor Force	80.0	79.7	84.0	0.3	-4.0	
Unemployment	7.7	7.5	5.9	0.2	1.8	
Unemployment Rate (%)	9.7	9.4	7.1			
Employment	72.3	72.2	78.1	0.1	-5.8	
WAGE A	ND SALARY E	MPLOYMEN	T DATA			
TOTAL NONAG	60.1	59.9	65.1	0.2	-5.0	
UNADJUSTED FOR SEASONALITY:				Change from last:		
	Feb-10	Jan-10	Feb-09	Month	Year	
Total Civilian Labor Force	79.2	78.9	83.2	0.3	-4.0	
Unemployment	8.1	8.1	6.3	0.0	1.8	
Unemployment Rate (%)	10.2	10.2	7.6			
Employment	71.1	70.8	76.9	0.3	-5.8	
WAGE A	ND SALARY E	MPLOYMEN	T DATA			
TOTAL NONAG	59.1	58.5	64.1	0.6	-5.0	

GREELEY MSA (Weld County)

	LABOR FOI	RCE DATA					
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED*				Change fr	Change from last:		
	Feb-10	Jan-10	Feb-09	Month	Year		
Total Civilian Labor Force	117.2	117.1	121.1	0.1	-3.9		
Unemployment	10.9	10.6	9.9	0.3	1.0		
Unemployment Rate (%)	9.3	9.1	8.2				
Employment	106.3	106.5	111.2	-0.2	-4.9		
WAGE AT	ND SALARY E	EMPLOYMEN	T DATA				
TOTAL NONAG	77.0	77.1	81.5	-0.1	-4.5		
UNADJUSTED FOR SEASONALITY:			Change from last:				
	Feb-10	Jan-10	Feb-09	Month	Year		
Total Civilian Labor Force	116.5	116.1	120.5	0.4	-4.0		
Unemployment	11.4	11.3	10.5	0.1	0.9		
Unemployment Rate (%)	9.8	9.7	8.7				
Employment	105.1	104.8	110.0	0.3	-4.9		
WAGE A	ND SALARY E	EMPLOYMEN	T DATA				
TOTAL NONAG	76.3	75.5	80.3	0.8	-4.0		

PUEBLO MSA (Pueblo County)

	LABOR FOR	RCE DATA									
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED*			Change from last:								
	Feb-10	Jan-10	Feb-09	Month	Year						
Total Civilian Labor Force	73.6	73.5	74.7	0.1	-1.1						
Unemployment	6.6	6.4	6.4	0.2	0.2						
Unemployment Rate (%)	8.9	8.7	8.6								
Employment	67.0	67.1	68.3	-0.1	-1.3						
WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT DATA											
TOTAL NONAG	56.9	56.6	57.9	0.3	-1.0						
UNADJUSTED FOR SEASONALITY:				Change from last:							
	Feb-10	Jan-10	Feb-09	Month	Year						
Total Civilian Labor Force	73.2	73.0	74.4	0.2	-1.2						
Unemployment	6.9	6.9	6.8	0.0	0.1						
Unemployment Rate (%)	9.5	9.5	9.1								
Employment	66.3	66.1	67.6	0.2	-1.3						
WACEAN				-							
WAGE A	ND SALARY E	<u>MPLOYMEN</u>	T DATA								

Seasonally Adjusted MSA Labor Force Data not official BLS series

Labor force estimates are adjusted to Current Population Survey data. Estimates made in cooperation with the U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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 $Please\ reference,\ "Colorado\ Department\ of\ Labor\ and\ Employment,\ Labor\ Market\ Information".$

 $^{1/\,}Residents$ unemployed during the week including the 12th of the month.

^{2/} Total resident employment includes nonagricultural wage and salary workers; self-employed, unpaid family and domestic workers; agricultural workers and persons involved in labor disputes.

^{3/}Due to rounding, sum of individual items may not equal total. Industry data represents jobs by place of work coded under the 2002 North American Industry Classification System

		Not Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force February 2010 January 2010							February 2009			
	Labor Force		Unemployment	Rate	Labor force	January Employment	Unemployment	Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Rat
Colorado	2,636,913		218,496	8.3	2,637,771	2,419,004	218,767	8.3	2,718,663	2,505,801	212,862	
Alamosa-Conejos LMA	11,695		934	8.0	11,802	10,846	956	8.1	12,232	11,180	1,052	8.
Alamosa	8,159	7,550	609	7.5	8,221	7,609	612	7.4	8,497	7,844	653	7.
Conejos	3,536	3,211	325	9.2	3,581	3,237	344	9.6	3,735	3,336	399	10.
Archuleta	5,969	5,331	638	10.7	5,957	5,346	611	10.3	6,035	5,483	552	9.
Baca Bent	2,156 2,127	2,061 1,950	95 177	4.4 8.3	2,255 2,214	2,154 2,031	101 183	4.5 8.3	2,315 2,470	2,220 2,283	95 187	4.
Cañon City MCA (Fremont)	19,363	17,495	1,868	9.6	19,420	17,505	1,915	9.9	19,545	17,616	1,929	
Chaffee	8,125	7,497	628	7.7	8,052	7,428	624	7.7	8,093	7,461	632	7.
Cheyenne	1,199	1,158	41	3.4	1,219	1,179	40	3.3	1,305	1,261	44	
Colorado Springs MSA	304,008		26,985	8.9	303,833	276,724	27,109	8.9	311,657	284,485	27,172	
El Paso	292,105	266,119	25,986	8.9	291,949	265,832	26,117	8.9	299,375	273,287	26,088	8.
Teller	11,903	10,904	999	8.4	11,884	10,892	992	8.3	12,282	11,198	1,084	8.
Costilla Custer	1,147 1,843	1,014 1,713	133 130	11.6 7.1	1,163 1,827	1,030 1,692	133 135	11.4 7.4	1,329 1,912	1,185 1,758	144 154	10.
Delta	15,684	14,224	1,460	9.3	15,931	14,489	1,442	9.1	16,454	15,232	1,222	7.
Denver-Aurora-Boulder CSA	1.635.603		135,155	8.3	1.634.900	1.499.648	135,252	8.3	1,684,218	1,550,303	133,915	
Boulder-Longmont MSA	171,710		11,153	6.5	170,858	159,505	11,353	6.6	176,105	164,682	11,423	
Denver-Aurora MSA	1,347,368		112,567	8.4	1,347,934	1,235,338	112,596	8.4	1,387,682	1,275,642	112,040	
Adams	220,853	199,218	21,635	9.8	220,749	199,304	21,445	9.7	226,509	205,807	20,702	9.
Arapahoe	301,346	277,236	24,110	8.0	301,519	277,357	24,162	8.0	310,514	286,406	24,108	
Broomfield	29,614	27,457	2,157	7.3	29,714	27,469	2,245	7.6	30,571	28,365	2,206	
Clear Creek	5,419	5,028	391	7.2	5,413	5,030	383	7.1	5,608	5,194	414	
Denver	313,748 153,946	285,241 143,816	28,507 10,130	9.1 6.6	313,860 154,097	285,365 143,878	28,495 10,219	9.1 6.6	323,291 159,234	294,675 148,573	28,616 10,661	8.9 6.
Douglas Elbert	12,581	11,556	1,025	8.1	12,601	11,561	1,040	8.3	12,996	11,938	1,058	
Gilpin	3,351	3,097	254	7.6	3,345	3,099	246	7.4	3,435	3,200	235	6.8
Jefferson	297,115	273,560	23,555	7.9	297,243	273,679	23,564	7.9	305,949	282,608	23,341	7.6
Park	9,395	8,593	802	8.5	9,392	8,596	796	8.5	9,577	8,877	700	
Greeley MSA	116,525	105,090	11,435	9.8	116,108	104,805	11,303	9.7	120,431	109,979	10,452	8.7
Dolores	924	751	173	18.7	928	760	168	18.1	963	835	128	
Durango MCA (La Plata)	29,998		2,086	7.0	30,246	28,154	2,092	6.9	31,031	29,197	1,834	
Edwards MCA	35,608		2,715	7.6	35,515	32,849	2,666	7.5	38,141	35,818	2,323	
Eagle	31,446	29,157	2,289	7.3	31,385	29,118	2,267	7.2	33,731	31,750	1,981	5.9
Lake Fort Collins-Loveland MSA	4,162 171,782	3,736 159,471	426 12,311	10.2 7.2	4,130 170,917	3,731 158.398	399 12,519	9.7 7.3	4,410 174,477	4,068 162,436	342 12,041	7.8 6.9
Fort Morgan MCA (Morgan)	14,385	13,480	905	6.3	14,670	13,747	923	6.3	14,506	13,672	834	
Garfield	33,436	30,306	3,130	9.4	33,504	30,496	3,008	9.0	36,140	33,704	2,436	6.7
Grand	9,572	8,887	685	7.2	9,792	9,119	673	6.9	9,615	8,953	662	
Grand Junction MSA	79,185	71,106	8,079	10.2	78,817	70,762	8,055	10.2	83,224	76,938	6,286	
Gunnison	9,625	9,048	577	6.0	9,646	9,073	573	5.9	9,744	9,174	570	
Hinsdale	564	535	29	5.1	564	539	25	4.4	534	511	23	
Huerfano	3,496	3,138	358	10.2	3,515	3,138	377	10.7	3,345	2,993	352	10.5
Jackson	1,109	1,030	79	7.1	1,135	1,065	70	6.2	1,130	1,069	61	
Kiowa	4,299	762 4,110	50 189	6.2 4.4	831 4,414	779	52 203	6.3 4.6	911	855	56 218	
Kit Carson Las Animas	8,167	7,416	751	9.2	8,099	4,211 7,340	759	9.4	4,530 8,703	4,312 7,989	714	
Lincoln	2,833	2,697	136	4.8	2,884	2,743	141	4.9	2,910	2,763	147	
Mineral	520	486	34	6.5	536	502	34	6.3	538	492	46	
Moffat	8,951	8,140	811	9.1	8,978	8,201	777	8.7	9,041	8,410	631	7.0
Montezuma	12,400	11,176	1,224	9.9	12,356	11,162	1,194	9.7	12,929	11,746	1,183	
Montrose MCA	19,699	17,572	2,127	10.8	20,212	18,144	2,068	10.2	20,928	18,992	1,936	
Otero-Crowley LMA	10,200		891	8.7	10,375	9,480	895	8.6	11,018	10,119	899	
Crowley	1,762	1,590	172	9.8	1,798	1,619	179	10.0	1,910	1,728	182	
Ourav	8,438 2,423	7,719 2,225	719 198	8.5 8.2	8,577 2,493	7,861 2,292	716 201	8.3 8.1	9,108 2,711	8,391 2,544	717 167	7.9
Ouray Phillips	2,423	2,225	110	4.9	2,493	2,292	109	4.7	2,711	2,544	98	
Pitkin	11,666	11,075	591	5.1	11,749	11,150	599	5.1	12,243	11,712	531	4.3
Prowers	6,225	5,826	399	6.4	6,383	5,967	416	6.5	6,642	6,178	464	
Pueblo MSA	73,269		6,932	9.5	72,999	66,062	6,937	9.5	74,422	67,631	6,791	
Rio Blanco	4,225	3,941	284	6.7	4,248	3,980	268	6.3	4,458	4,224	234	5.2
Rio Grande	5,776		510	8.8	5,919	5,394	525	8.9	6,418	5,892	526	
Routt	15,844		1,109	7.0	15,659	14,590	1,069	6.8	16,395	15,465	930	
Saguache	2,577		286	11.1	2,646	2,350	296	11.2	3,106	2,821	285	
San Juan San Miguel	485 5,337	428 5,048	57 289	11.8 5.4	499 5,341	5,049	52 292	10.4 5.5	450 5,977	396 5,687	54 290	
Sedgwick	1,517		66	4.4	1,578	1,505	73	4.6	1,571	1,505	290	
Silverthorne MCA (Summit)	18,488		1,009	5.5	18,643	17,633	1,010	5.4	18,980	18,012		
Sterling MCA (Logan)	11,587		664	5.7	11,737	11,025	712	6.1	11,703	11,090		
Washington	2,642	2,498	144	5.5	2,718	2,562	156	5.7	2,746	2,613	133	
Yuma	6,111	5,847	264	4.3	6,325	6,044	281	4.4	6,580	6,342	238	
CSA is Combined Statistical Area; t The Fort Collins-Loveland MSA is L MCA stands for Micropolitan Statisti All multi-county areas have their res	arimer County; ical Area; LMA	the Greeley MS is Labor Market	SA is Weld Count Area.	y; the G	rand Junction M	ISA is Mesa C	ounty					
All estimates made in cooperation v Estimates have been revised to inco Colorado Department of Labor and	vith the U.S. De	epartment of Lal ation data from t	oor, Bureau of La	bor Stati		ted to Current	Population Survey	data.				