

## Colorado Employment Situation November 2016

For Immediate Release

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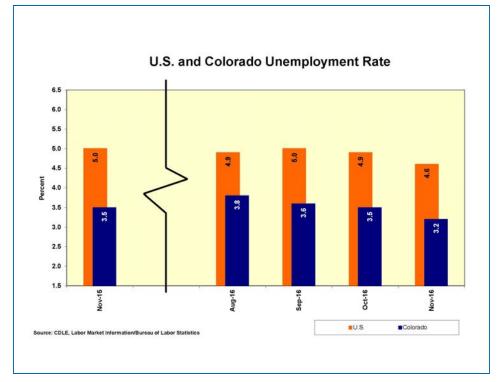
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Total nonfarm payroll jobs declined 12,500 from October to November to 2,620,200 jobs, according to the survey of business establishments. Private sector payroll jobs decreased 12,600 and government increased 100.



According to the survey of households, the unemployment rate decreased three-tenths of a percentage point in November to 3.2 percent. The number of people actively participating in the labor force increased 10,100 over the month to 2,920,100 and the number of people reporting themselves as employed increased 17,300 to

2,826,500. The larger increase in total employment than in labor force caused the number of unemployed to decline 7,200 and the unemployment rate to decrease to 3.2 percent. The national unemployment rate decreased three-tenths of a percentage point in November to 4.6 percent.

Over the year, the average workweek for all employees on private nonfarm payrolls decreased from 34.0 to 33.4 hours and average hourly earnings decreased from \$27.27 to \$27.03.

The largest over the month private sector job gain was in education and health services. The largest over the month declines were in leisure and hospitality, trade, transportation, and utilities, and financial activities.

Over the year, nonfarm payroll jobs increased 55,300 with an increase of 47,800 in the private sector and an increase of 7,500 in government. The largest private sector job gains were in education and health services, construction, and professional and business services. Mining and logging, manufacturing, and financial activities declined over the year.

Over the year, the unemployment rate is down three-tenths of a percentage point from 3.5 percent. The number of Coloradans participating in the labor force increased 91,000, total employment increased 97,000 and the number of unemployed decreased 6,000. The national unemployment rate declined from 5.0 percent in November 2015 to 4.6 percent in November 2016.

All Colorado estimates from the establishment and household surveys, including greater geographic detail, are available at: <u>http://www.colmigateway.com</u>. Estimates for all states and the nation are available at: <u>http://www.bls.gov</u>.

The December 2016 Colorado Employment Situation will be released at 8:00 AM on Tuesday, January 24, 2017. The full schedule of release dates for calendar year 2016 estimates is available at <a href="http://www.colmigateway.com">http://www.colmigateway.com</a>.

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 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.

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.