

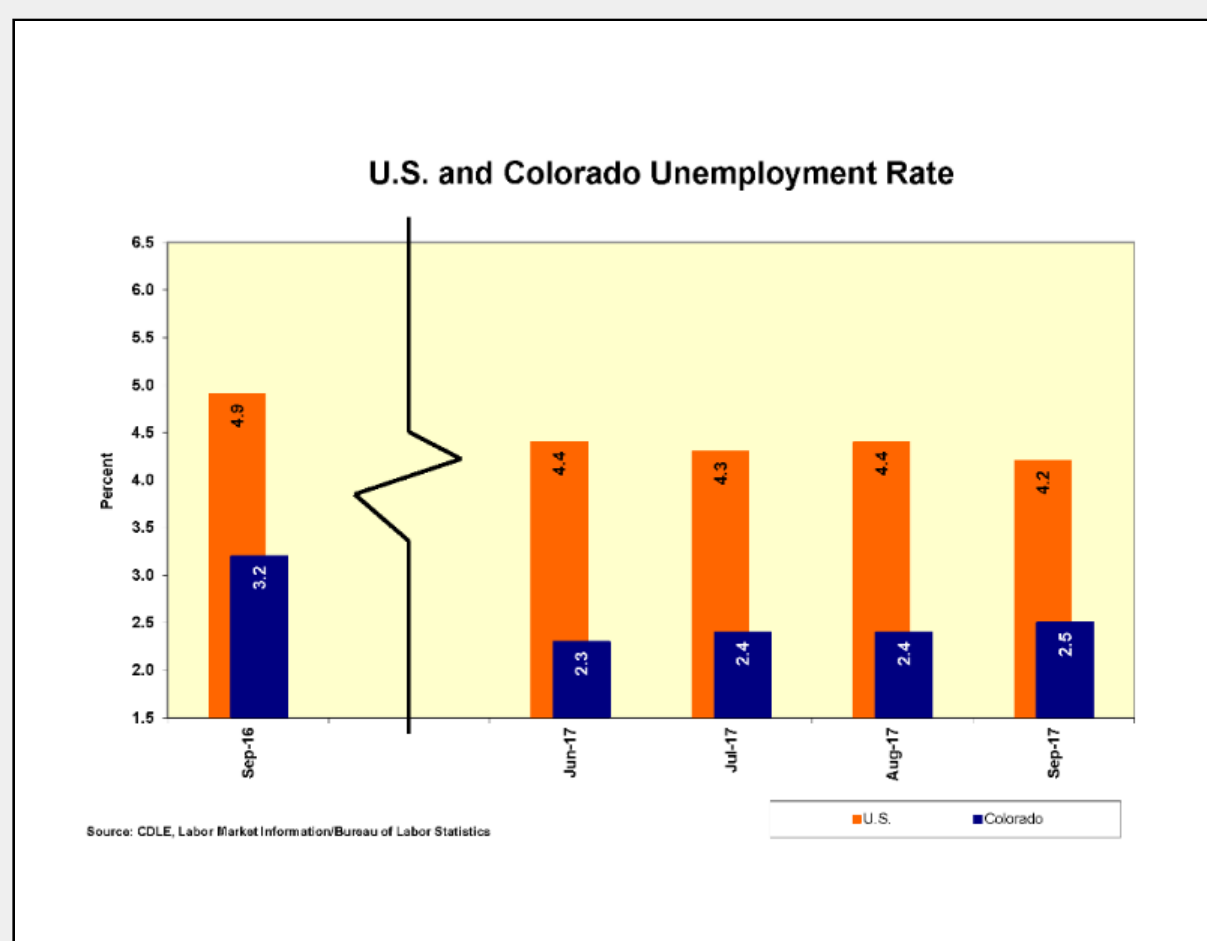


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Colorado Employment Situation in September 2017

For immediate release

Date: October 20, 2017
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Employers in Colorado added 4,000 nonfarm payroll jobs from August to September for a total of 2,656,200 jobs, according to the survey of business establishments. Private sector payroll jobs increased 8,100 and government decreased 4,100.

According to the survey of households, the unemployment rate increased one-tenth of a percentage point from August to September to 2.5 percent. The number of people actively participating in the labor force increased 18,700 over the month to 3,010,600 and the number of people reporting themselves as employed increased 14,800 to 2,934,100, causing the number of unemployed to increase 4,000. The national unemployment rate decreased two-tenths of a percentage point in September to 4.2 percent.

Over the year, the average workweek for all employees on private nonfarm payrolls decreased from 33.7 to 33.5 hours and average

hourly earnings increased from \$26.76 to \$27.68.

The largest over the month private sector job gains were in professional and business services, and education and health services. The largest over the month declines were in trade, transportation, and utilities, other services, and financial activities.

Over the year, nonfarm payroll jobs increased 41,300, with an increase of 41,600 in the private sector and a decrease of 300 in government. The largest private sector job gains were in professional and business services, education and health services, and trade, transportation, and utilities. Construction and manufacturing declined over the year.

Over the year, the unemployment rate is down seven-tenths of a percentage point from 3.2 percent. The number of Coloradans participating in the labor force increased 108,800, total employment increased 125,700 and the number of unemployed decreased 16,900. The national unemployment rate declined from 4.9 percent in September 2016 to 4.2 percent in September 2017.

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

The October 2017 Colorado Employment Situation will be released at 8:00 AM on Friday, November 17, 2017. The full schedule of release dates for calendar year 2017 estimates is available at <http://www.colmigateway.com>.

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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.

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