

PRESS RELEASE

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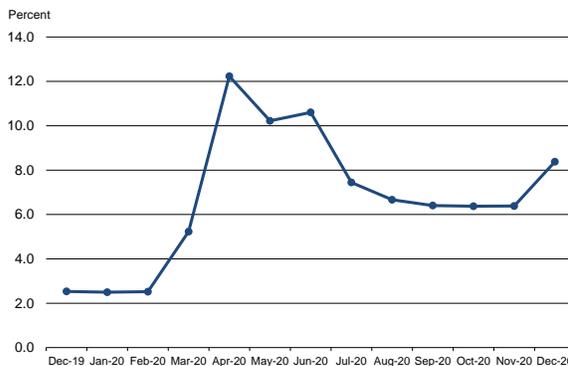
For Immediate Release

Date: January 22, 2021/ 8:00 A.M.
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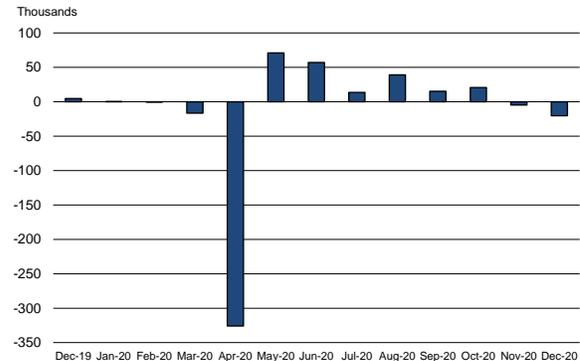
Colorado Employment Situation – December 2020

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs Decline by 20,300 in December; Unemployment Rate Increases to 8.4%

Colorado unemployment rate, seasonally adjusted
December 2019 - December 2020



Colorado nonfarm payroll employment over-the-month
change, seasonally adjusted, December 2019 -
December 2020



Household survey data

According to the survey of households, Colorado's seasonally adjusted **unemployment rate** increased in December to 8.4 percent. The national unemployment rate was unchanged from November at 6.7 percent.

Other highlights from the household survey:

- Colorado's **labor force** grew by 42,400 in December to 3,212,600. The labor force participation rate increased by eight-tenths of a percentage point to 69.0 percent. The share of Coloradans participating in the labor force reached its highest level since February, when it was 69.4 percent.
- The **number of individuals employed** in Colorado decreased by 24,400 in December to 2,943,400, which represents 63.3 percent of the state's 16+ population. Colorado's employment-to-population ratio is relatively flat since September.
- The **Colorado counties** with the highest unemployment rates in December were: Pueblo (11.3%), Huerfano (11.0%), Gilpin (10.6%), Costilla (10.1%), and Clear Creek (9.6%). County-level unemployment rates are not seasonally adjusted and are directly comparable to Colorado's December unadjusted rate of 8.2 percent.

Establishment survey data

Nonfarm payroll jobs in Colorado declined by 20,300 from November to December for a total of 2,662,600 jobs, according to the survey of business establishments. Private sector payroll jobs decreased by 20,600, while government added 300 jobs. With December job losses, Colorado has gained back 191,500 of the 342,300 nonfarm payroll jobs lost between February and April. That translates to a job recovery rate of 55.9 percent, which marginally exceeds the U.S. rate of 55.6 percent.

Other highlights from the establishment survey:

- **November estimates** were revised up to 2,682,900, and the over the month change from October to November was a loss of 4,700 rather than the originally estimated decrease of 6,900 (monthly revisions are based on additional responses from businesses and government agencies since the last published estimates).
- **Private industry sectors with significant job gains** in December were: trade, transportation, and utilities (~10,200), professional and business services (~5,100), education and health services (~1,100), and construction (~1,000). Significant over the month private sector **job loss** occurred in leisure and hospitality (~36,100).
- **Since December 2019**, nonfarm payroll jobs have decreased 150,900, with losses totaling 120,100 in the private sector and 30,800 in government. The largest **private sector job losses** were in leisure and hospitality (~91,500), education and health services (~16,700), and other services (~8,000), and Colorado's **rate of job loss** over the past year is -5.4 percent, compared to the U.S. rate of -6.2 percent.
- Over the year, the **average workweek** for all Colorado employees on private nonfarm payrolls decreased from 33.8 to 33.3 hours, while **average hourly earnings** rose from \$31.00 to \$31.18, over a dollar and thirty cents more than the national average hourly earnings of \$29.81.

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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 **January 2021 Colorado Employment Situation** will be released at 8:00 AM on Monday, March 15, 2021. Revised statewide estimates for 2020 and 2019 and some updated local information will also be released. The full schedule of release dates for calendar year 2021 estimates is available at <http://www.colmigateway.com>.

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Technical Notes

This release provides information on industry employment and labor force statistics for December 2020, the most current estimates available from the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment. The reference period for the establishment and household surveys was the pay period or week that includes the 12th of the month. Therefore, this release provides an estimate of Colorado's employment situation during a rapid increase in the number of COVID-19 cases across the state, which initiated heightened business activity restrictions in several counties, primarily for bars, restaurants, and gyms. For Colorado unemployment insurance claims activity and related statistics, visit www.colmigateway.com. For information regarding impacts to Bureau of Labor Statistics data collection and processing during the pandemic, go to www.bls.gov/bls/bls-covid-19-questions-and-answers.htm.

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.

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Supplemental information available in following pages

LABOR FORCE SUMMARY COLORADO

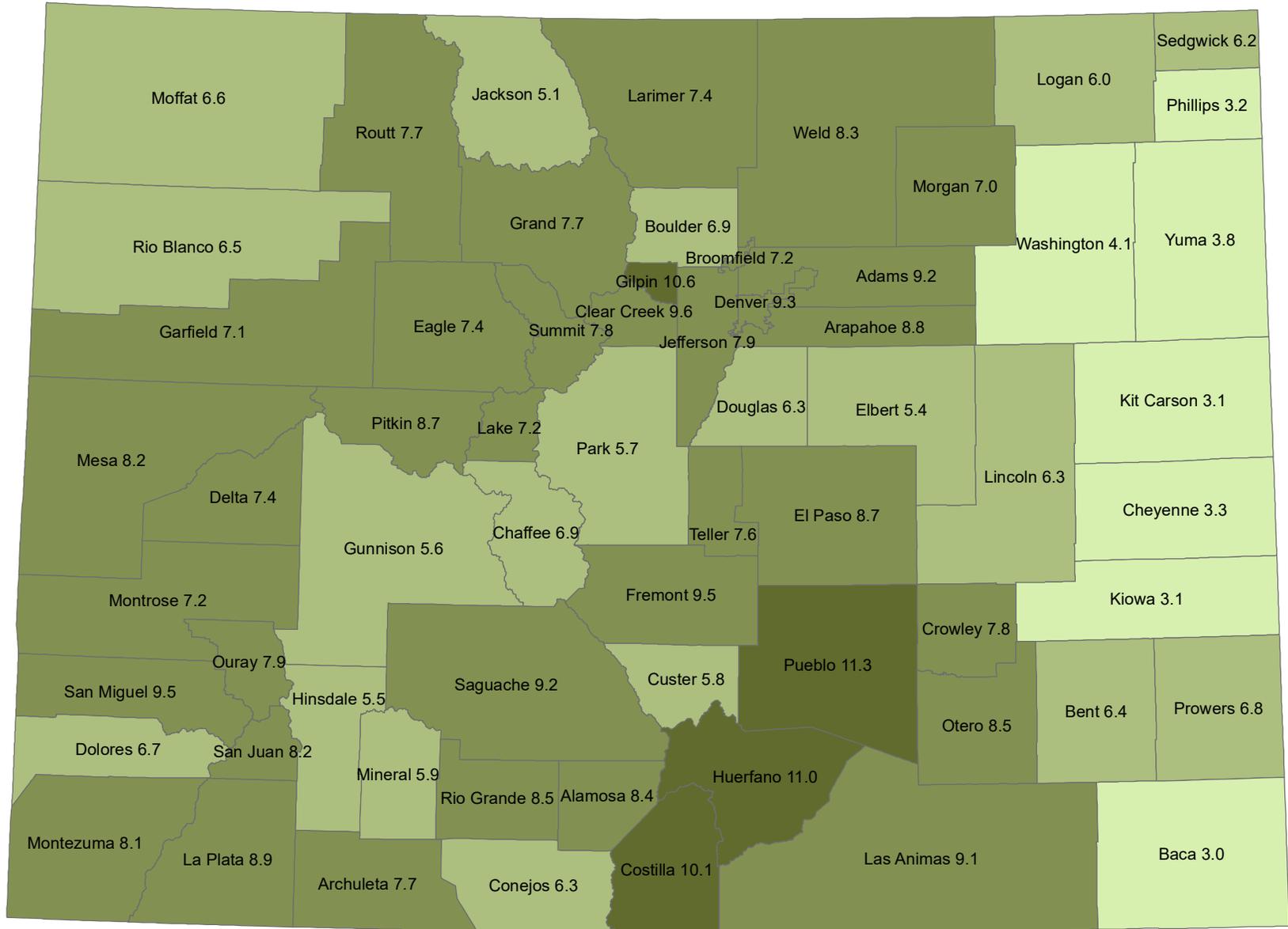
Preliminary Estimates for December 2020

LABOR FORCE DATA (VALUES IN THOUSANDS)					
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED:				Change from last:	
	Dec-20	Nov-20	Dec-19	Month	Year
Total Civilian Labor Force	3,212.6	3,170.2	3,174.5	42.4	38.1
Unemployment	269.2	202.3	80.3	66.8	188.8
Unemployment Rate (%)	8.4	6.4	2.5	2.0	5.9
Employment	2,943.4	2,967.8	3,094.2	-24.4	-150.7
UNADJUSTED FOR SEASONALITY:				Change from last:	
	Dec-20	Nov-20	Dec-19	Month	Year
Total Civilian Labor Force	3,204.6	3,171.0	3,176.5	33.6	28.2
Unemployment	264.3	196.6	74.7	67.6	189.6
Unemployment Rate (%)	8.2	6.2	2.4	2.0	5.8
Employment	2,940.3	2,974.4	3,101.8	-34.0	-161.4

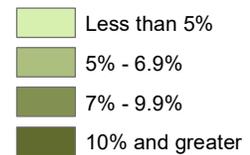
WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT DATA (VALUES IN THOUSANDS)					
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED:				Change from last:	
	Dec-20	Nov-20	Dec-19	Month	Year
Mining & Logging	24.3	24.8	27.9	-0.5	-3.6
Construction	173.3	172.3	181.1	1.0	-7.8
Manufacturing	152.1	153.0	150.1	-0.9	2.0
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	485.3	475.1	484.1	10.2	1.2
Information	72.7	72.9	75.8	-0.2	-3.1
Financial Activities	172.4	172.6	173.7	-0.2	-1.3
Professional & Business Services	456.3	451.2	447.6	5.1	8.7
Educational & Health Services	337.6	336.5	354.3	1.1	-16.7
Leisure & Hospitality	254.9	291.0	346.4	-36.1	-91.5
Other Services	105.2	105.3	113.2	-0.1	-8.0
Government	428.5	428.2	459.3	0.3	-30.8
TOTAL NONAG	2,662.6	2,682.9	2,813.5	-20.3	-150.9
Labor Disputants	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
UNADJUSTED FOR SEASONALITY:				Change from last:	
	Dec-20	Nov-20	Dec-19	Month	Year
Mining & Logging	24.2	25.0	27.7	-0.8	-3.5
Construction	172.6	174.3	179.7	-1.7	-7.1
Manufacturing	152.6	152.5	150.7	0.1	1.9
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	497.9	480.9	495.6	17.0	2.3
Information	72.8	72.7	75.8	0.1	-3.0
Financial Activities	173.9	172.2	175.3	1.7	-1.4
Professional & Business Services	456.4	450.8	447.7	5.6	8.7
Educational & Health Services	339.4	338.5	355.7	0.9	-16.3
Leisure & Hospitality	255.4	278.5	347.1	-23.1	-91.7
Other Services	104.8	104.4	112.9	0.4	-8.1
Government	432.3	436.1	464.0	-3.8	-31.7
TOTAL NONAG	2,682.3	2,685.9	2,832.2	-3.6	-149.9
Labor Disputants	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

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

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED Unemployment Rates December 2020



Source: Colorado Department of Labor and Employment
Labor Market Information



Not Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force

	December 2020				November 2020			
	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Rate	Labor force	Employment	Unemployment	Rate
Colorado	3,204,625	2,940,340	264,285	8.2	3,171,032	2,974,383	196,649	6.2
Metropolitan Statistical Area								
Boulder	194,238	180,878	13,360	6.9	194,958	185,066	9,892	5.1
Colorado Springs	365,426	333,941	31,485	8.6	363,813	341,907	21,906	6.0
Denver-Aurora-Lakewood	1,720,681	1,575,283	145,398	8.5	1,715,177	1,605,301	109,876	6.4
Fort Collins	205,612	190,294	15,318	7.4	205,877	195,210	10,667	5.2
Grand Junction	79,880	73,344	6,536	8.2	79,580	74,763	4,817	6.1
Greeley	174,099	159,598	14,501	8.3	171,808	160,766	11,042	6.4
Pueblo	79,911	70,886	9,025	11.3	79,093	72,498	6,595	8.3
Counties								
Adams	284,360	258,180	26,180	9.2	282,799	262,833	19,966	7.1
Alamosa	8,984	8,231	753	8.4	8,600	8,103	497	5.8
Arapahoe	379,142	345,764	33,378	8.8	378,262	352,532	25,730	6.8
Archuleta	7,093	6,544	549	7.7	6,946	6,541	405	5.8
Baca	2,299	2,231	68	3.0	2,139	2,090	49	2.3
Bent	2,072	1,940	132	6.4	1,935	1,844	91	4.7
Boulder	194,238	180,878	13,360	6.9	194,958	185,066	9,892	5.1
Broomfield	41,064	38,111	2,953	7.2	41,045	38,859	2,186	5.3
Chaffee	9,208	8,576	632	6.9	8,931	8,460	471	5.3
Cheyenne	1,218	1,178	40	3.3	1,141	1,111	30	2.6
Clear Creek	6,365	5,753	612	9.6	6,278	5,859	419	6.7
Conejos	4,249	3,982	267	6.3	4,085	3,870	215	5.3
Costilla	1,885	1,694	191	10.1	1,781	1,655	126	7.1
Crowley	1,532	1,412	120	7.8	1,503	1,415	88	5.9
Custer	2,145	2,020	125	5.8	2,120	2,029	91	4.3
Delta	15,005	13,901	1,104	7.4	14,443	13,630	813	5.6
Denver	436,113	395,349	40,764	9.3	434,198	403,061	31,137	7.2
Dolores	1,234	1,151	83	6.7	1,175	1,112	63	5.4
Douglas	197,177	184,772	12,405	6.3	197,444	188,351	9,093	4.6
Eagle	34,990	32,403	2,587	7.4	31,383	28,936	2,447	7.8
El Paso	352,383	321,885	30,498	8.7	350,749	329,553	21,196	6.0
Elbert	15,469	14,639	830	5.4	15,333	14,748	585	3.8
Fremont	15,487	14,022	1,465	9.5	15,124	14,004	1,120	7.4
Garfield	32,029	29,743	2,286	7.1	28,919	27,225	1,694	5.9
Gilpin	4,030	3,601	429	10.6	3,923	3,670	253	6.4
Grand	9,177	8,473	704	7.7	8,240	7,693	547	6.6
Gunnison	11,422	10,785	637	5.6	10,386	9,852	534	5.1
Hinsdale	398	376	22	5.5	354	340	14	4.0
Huerfano	2,753	2,449	304	11.0	2,623	2,394	229	8.7
Jackson	968	919	49	5.1	971	935	36	3.7
Jefferson	345,654	318,453	27,201	7.9	344,572	324,562	20,010	5.8
Kiowa	1,066	1,033	33	3.1	972	949	23	2.4
Kit Carson	4,585	4,442	143	3.1	4,363	4,247	116	2.7
La Plata	31,807	28,972	2,835	8.9	30,478	28,651	1,827	6.0
Lake	4,823	4,474	349	7.2	4,433	4,128	305	6.9
Larimer	205,612	190,294	15,318	7.4	205,877	195,210	10,667	5.2
Las Animas	6,638	6,035	603	9.1	6,443	5,959	484	7.5
Lincoln	2,474	2,318	156	6.3	2,373	2,267	106	4.5
Logan	11,473	10,780	693	6.0	11,103	10,607	496	4.5
Mesa	79,880	73,344	6,536	8.2	79,580	74,763	4,817	6.1
Mineral	422	397	25	5.9	335	312	23	6.9
Moffat	7,428	6,940	488	6.6	7,144	6,816	328	4.6
Montezuma	12,712	11,688	1,024	8.1	12,372	11,643	729	5.9
Montrose	22,108	20,509	1,599	7.2	21,332	20,157	1,175	5.5
Morgan	16,651	15,481	1,170	7.0	15,917	15,066	851	5.3
Otero	8,712	7,974	738	8.5	8,422	7,908	514	6.1
Ouray	2,260	2,082	178	7.9	2,233	2,081	152	6.8
Park	11,307	10,661	646	5.7	11,323	10,826	497	4.4
Phillips	2,688	2,603	85	3.2	2,459	2,398	61	2.5
Pitkin	11,219	10,239	980	8.7	10,482	9,410	1,072	10.2
Prowers	6,799	6,334	465	6.8	6,410	6,123	287	4.5
Pueblo	79,911	70,886	9,025	11.3	79,093	72,498	6,595	8.3
Rio Blanco	3,111	2,908	203	6.5	3,009	2,867	142	4.7
Rio Grande	5,757	5,270	487	8.5	5,460	5,102	358	6.6
Routt	16,565	15,285	1,280	7.7	15,141	14,269	872	5.8
Saguache	3,733	3,390	343	9.2	3,499	3,256	243	6.9
San Juan	403	370	33	8.2	355	335	20	5.6
San Miguel	5,285	4,782	503	9.5	4,333	3,843	490	11.3
Sedgwick	1,147	1,076	71	6.2	1,062	1,023	39	3.7
Summit	22,144	20,421	1,723	7.8	19,688	18,344	1,344	6.8
Teller	13,043	12,056	987	7.6	13,064	12,354	710	5.4
Washington	3,005	2,883	122	4.1	2,840	2,753	87	3.1
Weld	174,099	159,598	14,501	8.3	171,808	160,766	11,042	6.4
Yuma	5,616	5,401	215	3.8	5,271	5,121	150	2.8

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.
 Colorado Department of Labor and Employment 2020

Not Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force

	December 2020				December 2019			
	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Rate	Labor force	Employment	Unemployment	Rate
Colorado	3,204,625	2,940,340	264,285	8.2	3,176,471	3,101,768	74,703	2.4
Metropolitan Statistical Area								
Boulder	194,238	180,878	13,360	6.9	197,746	193,839	3,907	2.0
Colorado Springs	365,426	333,941	31,485	8.6	356,603	346,681	9,922	2.8
Denver-Aurora-Lakewood	1,720,681	1,575,283	145,398	8.5	1,688,220	1,650,053	38,167	2.3
Fort Collins	205,612	190,294	15,318	7.4	209,156	205,003	4,153	2.0
Grand Junction	79,880	73,344	6,536	8.2	76,241	73,867	2,374	3.1
Greeley	174,099	159,598	14,501	8.3	172,545	168,655	3,890	2.3
Pueblo	79,911	70,886	9,025	11.3	76,594	73,860	2,734	3.6
Counties								
Adams	284,360	258,180	26,180	9.2	277,770	270,813	6,957	2.5
Alamosa	8,984	8,231	753	8.4	8,932	8,656	276	3.1
Arapahoe	379,142	345,764	33,378	8.8	370,624	362,076	8,548	2.3
Archuleta	7,093	6,544	549	7.7	6,783	6,600	183	2.7
Baca	2,299	2,231	68	3.0	2,285	2,255	30	1.3
Bent	2,072	1,940	132	6.4	2,025	1,981	44	2.2
Boulder	194,238	180,878	13,360	6.9	197,746	193,839	3,907	2.0
Broomfield	41,064	38,111	2,953	7.2	40,845	40,001	844	2.1
Chaffee	9,208	8,576	632	6.9	9,651	9,447	204	2.1
Cheyenne	1,218	1,178	40	3.3	1,274	1,257	17	1.3
Clear Creek	6,365	5,753	612	9.6	6,135	6,016	119	1.9
Conejos	4,249	3,982	267	6.3	4,327	4,194	133	3.1
Costilla	1,885	1,694	191	10.1	1,927	1,864	63	3.3
Crowley	1,532	1,412	120	7.8	1,534	1,480	54	3.5
Custer	2,145	2,020	125	5.8	2,110	2,054	56	2.7
Delta	15,005	13,901	1,104	7.4	14,730	14,296	434	2.9
Denver	436,113	395,349	40,764	9.3	423,917	414,090	9,827	2.3
Dolores	1,234	1,151	83	6.7	1,210	1,180	30	2.5
Douglas	197,177	184,772	12,405	6.3	197,525	193,632	3,893	2.0
Eagle	34,990	32,403	2,587	7.4	38,840	38,137	703	1.8
El Paso	352,383	321,885	30,498	8.7	343,832	334,234	9,598	2.8
Elbert	15,469	14,639	830	5.4	15,602	15,321	281	1.8
Fremont	15,487	14,022	1,465	9.5	14,865	14,274	591	4.0
Garfield	32,029	29,743	2,286	7.1	33,835	33,012	823	2.4
Gilpin	4,030	3,601	429	10.6	3,834	3,761	73	1.9
Grand	9,177	8,473	704	7.7	10,483	10,302	181	1.7
Gunnison	11,422	10,785	637	5.6	12,000	11,774	226	1.9
Hinsdale	398	376	22	5.5	389	375	14	3.6
Huerfano	2,753	2,449	304	11.0	2,545	2,416	129	5.1
Jackson	968	919	49	5.1	1,050	1,031	19	1.8
Jefferson	345,654	318,453	27,201	7.9	340,652	333,266	7,386	2.2
Kiowa	1,066	1,033	33	3.1	1,059	1,048	11	1.0
Kit Carson	4,585	4,442	143	3.1	4,562	4,496	66	1.4
La Plata	31,807	28,972	2,835	8.9	32,030	31,343	687	2.1
Lake	4,823	4,474	349	7.2	5,265	5,181	84	1.6
Larimer	205,612	190,294	15,318	7.4	209,156	205,003	4,153	2.0
Las Animas	6,638	6,035	603	9.1	6,714	6,491	223	3.3
Lincoln	2,474	2,318	156	6.3	2,467	2,411	56	2.3
Logan	11,473	10,780	693	6.0	11,355	11,139	216	1.9
Mesa	79,880	73,344	6,536	8.2	76,241	73,867	2,374	3.1
Mineral	422	397	25	5.9	557	546	11	2.0
Moffat	7,428	6,940	488	6.6	7,431	7,192	239	3.2
Montezuma	12,712	11,688	1,024	8.1	12,866	12,346	520	4.0
Montrose	22,108	20,509	1,599	7.2	22,175	21,614	561	2.5
Morgan	16,651	15,481	1,170	7.0	16,949	16,573	376	2.2
Otero	8,712	7,974	738	8.5	8,631	8,344	287	3.3
Ouray	2,260	2,082	178	7.9	2,355	2,278	77	3.3
Park	11,307	10,661	646	5.7	11,316	11,077	239	2.1
Phillips	2,688	2,603	85	3.2	2,810	2,776	34	1.2
Pitkin	11,219	10,239	980	8.7	11,629	11,300	329	2.8
Prowers	6,799	6,334	465	6.8	6,667	6,534	133	2.0
Pueblo	79,911	70,886	9,025	11.3	76,594	73,860	2,734	3.6
Rio Blanco	3,111	2,908	203	6.5	3,009	2,922	87	2.9
Rio Grande	5,757	5,270	487	8.5	5,738	5,505	233	4.1
Routt	16,565	15,285	1,280	7.7	17,200	16,903	297	1.7
Saguache	3,733	3,390	343	9.2	3,808	3,668	140	3.7
San Juan	403	370	33	8.2	507	488	19	3.7
San Miguel	5,285	4,782	503	9.5	6,448	6,284	164	2.5
Sedgwick	1,147	1,076	71	6.2	1,318	1,297	21	1.6
Summit	22,144	20,421	1,723	7.8	25,565	25,224	341	1.3
Teller	13,043	12,056	987	7.6	12,771	12,447	324	2.5
Washington	3,005	2,883	122	4.1	3,061	3,010	51	1.7
Weld	174,099	159,598	14,501	8.3	172,545	168,655	3,890	2.3
Yuma	5,616	5,401	215	3.8	6,394	6,313	81	1.3

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.
 Colorado Department of Labor and Employment 2020



Colorado LMI Data Overview

December 2020

Employment					
	Dec-20	Nov-20	Dec-19	Change from previous:	
				Period	Year
Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment (SA)	2,662,600	2,682,900	2,813,500	(20,300)	(150,900)
Total Resident Employment (SA)	2,943,422	2,967,841	3,094,165	(24,419)	(150,743)
	Q2 2020	Q1 2020	Q2 2019		
UI Covered Total Employment	2,465,917	2,732,544	2,732,783	(266,627)	(266,866)
UI Covered Private Employment	2,047,290	2,301,497	2,300,720	(254,207)	(253,430)

Unemployment					
	Dec-20	Nov-20	Dec-19	Change from previous:	
				Period	Year
Unemployment (SA)	269,179	202,338	80,339	66,841	188,840
Percent Unemployed (SA)	8.4%	6.4%	2.5%	2.0	5.9
	Dec-20	Nov-20	Dec-19		
Initial Claims	123,845	54,909	10,316	68,936	113,529
Continued Weeks Claimed	424,290	410,528	96,240	13,762	328,050

Wages and Earnings					
	Q2 2020	Q1 2020	Q2 2019	Change from previous:	
				Period	Year
Total Average Weekly Wage	\$1,227	\$1,283	\$1,128	(\$56)	\$99
Private Average Weekly Wage	\$1,238	\$1,309	\$1,138	(\$71)	\$100
	Dec-20	Nov-20	Dec-19		
Average Weekly Earnings (Construction)	\$1,184.82	\$1,215.50	\$1,210.12	(\$30.68)	(\$25.30)
Average Weekly Earnings (Manufacturing)	\$1,057.09	\$1,059.25	\$1,094.55	(\$2.16)	(\$37.46)

CO Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund					
	Nov-20	Oct-20	Nov-19	Change from previous:	
				Period	Year
Employer Contributions	\$42,069,774	\$26,691,577	\$48,043,864	\$15,378,196	(\$5,974,091)
Benefits Paid	\$145,965,879	\$171,754,035	\$27,277,096	(25,788,156)	\$118,688,783
Average Weekly Benefit Amount	\$371.86	\$368.69	\$451.51	\$3.17	(\$79.65)
Duration (weeks)	30.81	35.33	11.95	(4.52)	18.86
End of Month Balance	(\$698,666,954)	(\$553,587,505)	\$1,150,671,549	(\$145,079,450)	(\$1,849,338,503)

Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers					
	Nov-20	Sep-20	Nov-19	% Change from previous:	
				Period	Year
Not seasonally adjusted					
Denver-Aurora-Lakewood	271.837	273.860	271.142	-0.7%	0.3%
US City Average	260.229	260.280	257.208	0.0%	1.2%

(Most current data available for all categories)