

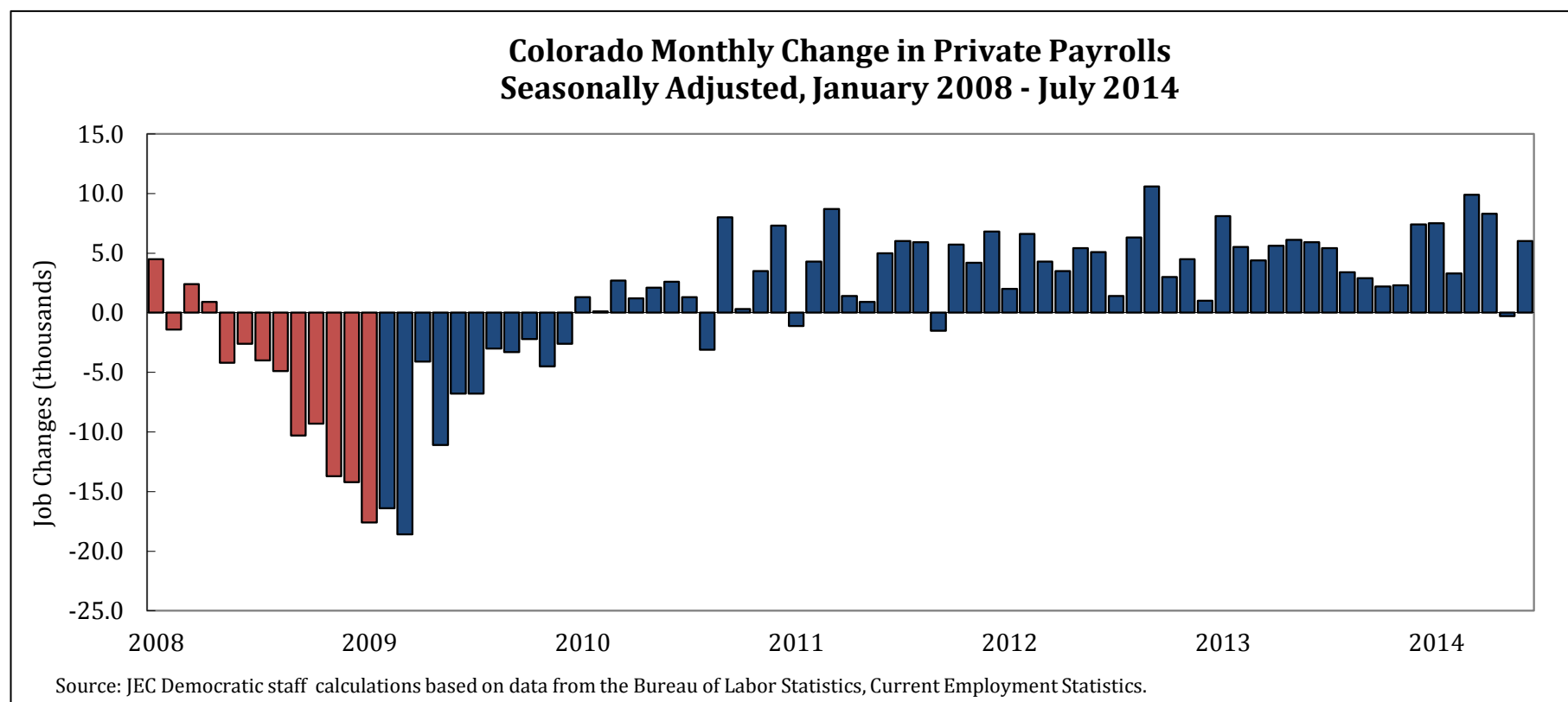


## ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: COLORADO

*\*\*Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through July 2014\*\**

### JOBS

- In July, private-sector employment in Colorado grew by 6,000 jobs. Over the past year, the Colorado private sector has added 58,300 jobs. This compares with an increase of 62,400 jobs over the 12 months ending in July 2013.
- Colorado private-sector employers have added 219,900 jobs (an increase of 12.1 percent) since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment.
- In Colorado, the following sectors have posted the largest job gains since February 2010: professional and business services (59,000 jobs), leisure and hospitality (40,800 jobs) and education and health services (40,200 jobs).
- The Colorado sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: mining and logging (48.5 percent), professional and business services (17.9 percent) and leisure and hospitality (15.7 percent).



### UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Colorado was 5.3 percent in July 2014, down 0.2 percentage point from June. The rate is down 1.5 percentage points from one year earlier and is below its recent peak of 9.1 percent in October 2010.
- 148,900 Colorado residents were unemployed during July 2014, down from a recent high of 246,700 in October 2010. There are still 37,800 more people unemployed in Colorado than when the recession began.
- In Colorado, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 12,122 during June, down 5.1 percent from the previous month. Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 7.1 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

### EXPORTS

- In Colorado, exports totaled \$741 million in June and \$8.6 billion over the past year, up 2.5 percent from the 12 months ending in June 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- Colorado exports over the past 12 months are up 28.4 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

### HOUSING

- Home prices in Colorado increased by 7.0 percent from the first quarter of 2013 to the first quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 13.3 percent since their recent low in the second quarter of 2011 and are now 2.7 percent above their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in Colorado totaled 23,550 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in June 2014, an increase of 23.8 percent from May.
- Within the West census region, which includes Colorado, sales of new single-family homes totaled 106,000 units in June 2014, a decrease of 1.9 percent from May. Sales of existing single-family homes increased by 3.1 percent to 990,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from May to June 2014.

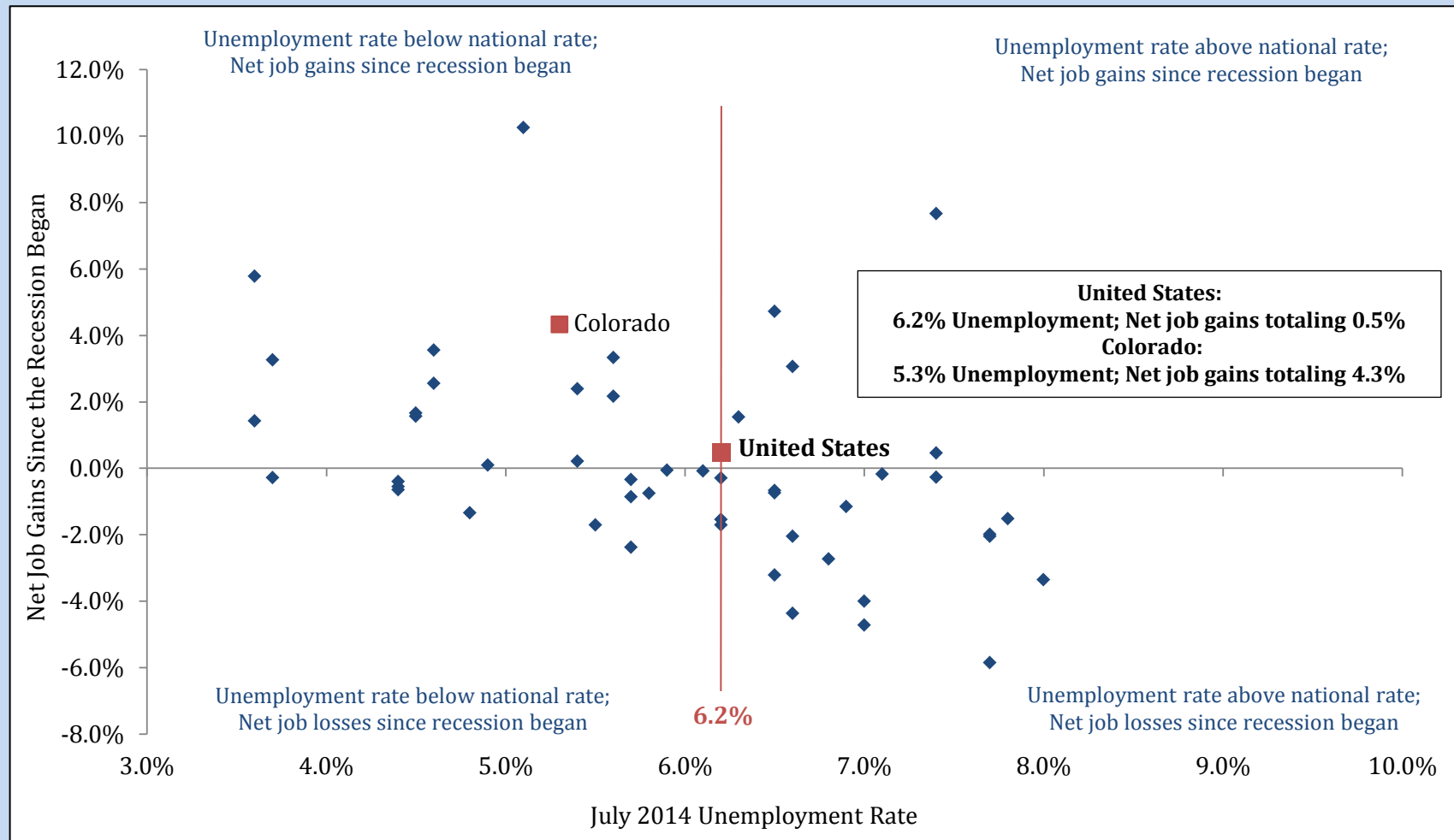
\* For Colorado-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Colorado office: <http://www.colmigateway.com/default.asp>

## How Does Colorado Compare to Other States?

Workers across the country were hit hard during the recent recession. Since then, employment in some states has returned to pre-recession levels, while employment in other states remains below pre-recession levels. The chart below allows for a comparison of Colorado to other states using two metrics.

The unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor-market conditions in Colorado, while net job gains since the recession began (current nonfarm jobs as a share of jobs prior to the recession) measures progress toward labor-market recovery (vertical axis).

States falling in the upper left quadrant have net job gains since the start of the recession and unemployment rates lower than the national unemployment rate. States falling in the lower right quadrant have higher unemployment rates than the United States overall and are still experiencing net job losses relative to pre-recession levels.



Note: The figure above excludes North Dakota, which has a current unemployment rate of 2.8% and net job gains totaling 28.5% since the start of the recession.

### STATE QUICK FACTS

		Colorado	United States
<b>Unemployment Rates</b> .....	July 2014	5.3%	6.2%
	July 2013	6.8%	7.3%
	July 2012	7.9%	8.2%
	July 2011	8.6%	9.0%
<b>Percent of Population Who Are Veterans</b> .....	2013	10.3%	9.0%
<b>All Veterans' Unemployment Rate</b> .....	2013	7.1%	6.6%
<b>Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate</b> .....	2013	7.0%	9.0%
<b>Median Household Income</b> .....	2012	\$ 57,255	\$ 51,017
	(2012 \$) 2007	\$ 67,707	\$ 55,627
<b>Poverty Rate</b> .....	2012	11.9%	15.0%
	2007	9.8%	12.5%
<b>No Health Insurance</b> .....	2012	13.7%	15.4%
	2007	16.0%	14.7%