

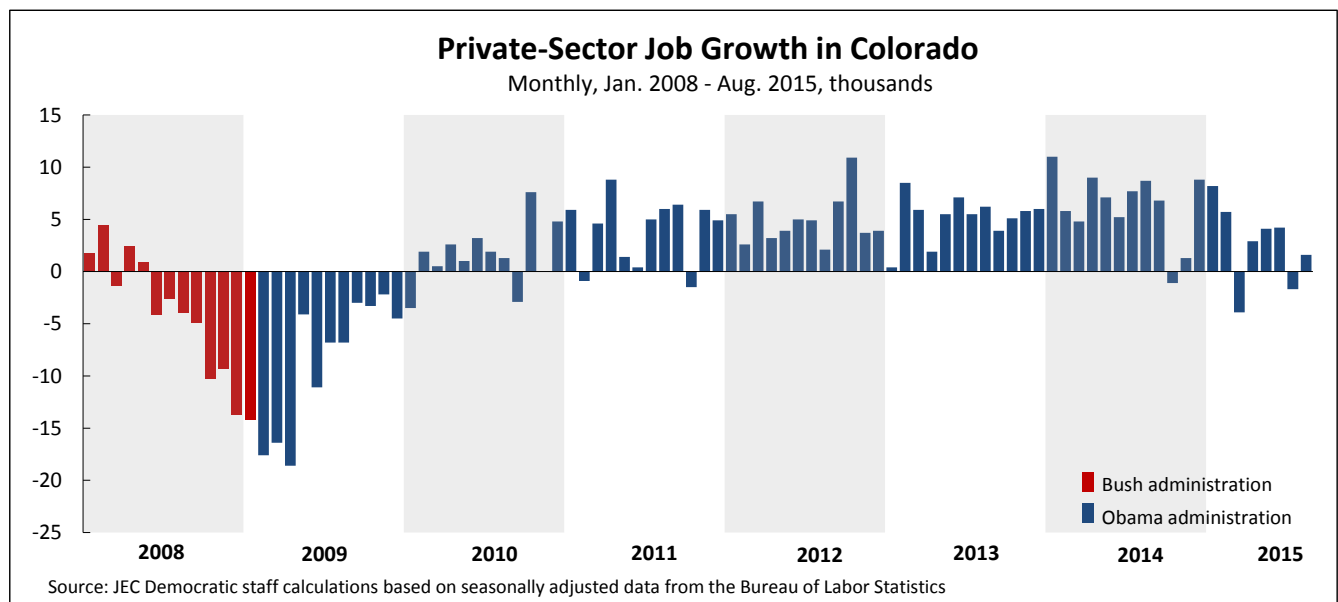


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: COLORADO

***Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs, unemployment and earnings data through August 2015**
Last updated on September 18th; Data update next on October 20th*

JOBS

- In August, private-sector employment in Colorado grew by 1,600 jobs. Over the past year, Colorado businesses have added 36,900 jobs. This compares with an increase of 80,100 jobs over the 12 months through August 2014.
- Since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment, Colorado businesses have added 284,000 jobs (an increase of 15.6 percent). Nationally, private payrolls have increased by 12.2 percent over this time.
- The state sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: mining and logging at 49.8 percent (11,500 jobs), construction at 29.8 percent (35,100 jobs) and education and health services at 21.0 percent (54,800 jobs).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Colorado was 4.2 percent in August 2015, down 0.1 percentage point from July. The rate was 0.9 percentage point below the national rate of 5.1 percent.
- Unemployment is down 0.4 percentage point from one year earlier and is 4.7 percentage points below its recent peak of 8.9 percent in October 2010.
- There were 118,200 Colorado residents unemployed in August 2015.

EARNINGS

- In August 2015, average hourly earnings of private-sector workers in Colorado were \$26.99. The average workweek was 34.8 hours, and average weekly earnings were \$939.25.
- Adjusting for inflation, state average hourly earnings have risen by 3.6 percent over the past year. Nationally, real average hourly earnings have increased by 2.7 percent (not seasonally adjusted).

STATE QUICK FACTS

		Colorado	United States
Private-Sector Jobs Added	Past 12 Months	36,900	2.8 million
	Since Feb. 2010	284,000	13.1 million
Unemployment Rate	August 2015	4.2%	5.1%
	August 2014	4.6%	6.1%
	Recession-Era Peak	8.9%	10.0%
Median Household Income (2014 \$)	2014	\$60,900	\$53,700
	2007 (Pre-Recession)	\$69,800	\$57,400
Poverty Rate	2014	12.3%	14.8%
	2007 (Pre-Recession)	9.8%	12.5%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2014	5.9%	5.3%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2014	8.5%	7.2%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2014	10.3%	11.7%
	2013	14.1%	14.5%

STATE GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT

- Real gross domestic product (GDP) in Colorado grew by 4.7 percent in 2014, above the national average growth rate of 2.2 percent.*
- Since 2009, annual Colorado GDP growth has averaged 2.2 percent, compared with a national average annual growth rate of 1.9 percent.

HOUSING

- Home prices in Colorado increased by 10.6 percent from the second quarter of 2014 to the second quarter of 2015. They are up 38.8 percent since their recent low in the second quarter of 2011.
- In July 2015, builders in Colorado broke ground on 30,970 new housing units (seasonally adjusted annual rate), bringing the average over the past 12 months to 28,851 units. That marks an increase of 4.3 percent from the average over the prior 12 months.

EXPORTS

- In Colorado, goods exports totaled \$684 million in July and \$8.3 billion over the past year, up 4.7 percent from the 12 months ending in July 2014 (inflation-adjusted).
- Exports over the past 12 months are up 34.7 percent from their level in 2009 (inflation-adjusted).

* Note: Because of methodological differences, total U.S. real GDP by state differs slightly from headline national GDP figures

** A list of sources used to compile the Colorado economic snapshot is available at: <http://bit.ly/JEC-state-by-state-sources>

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