

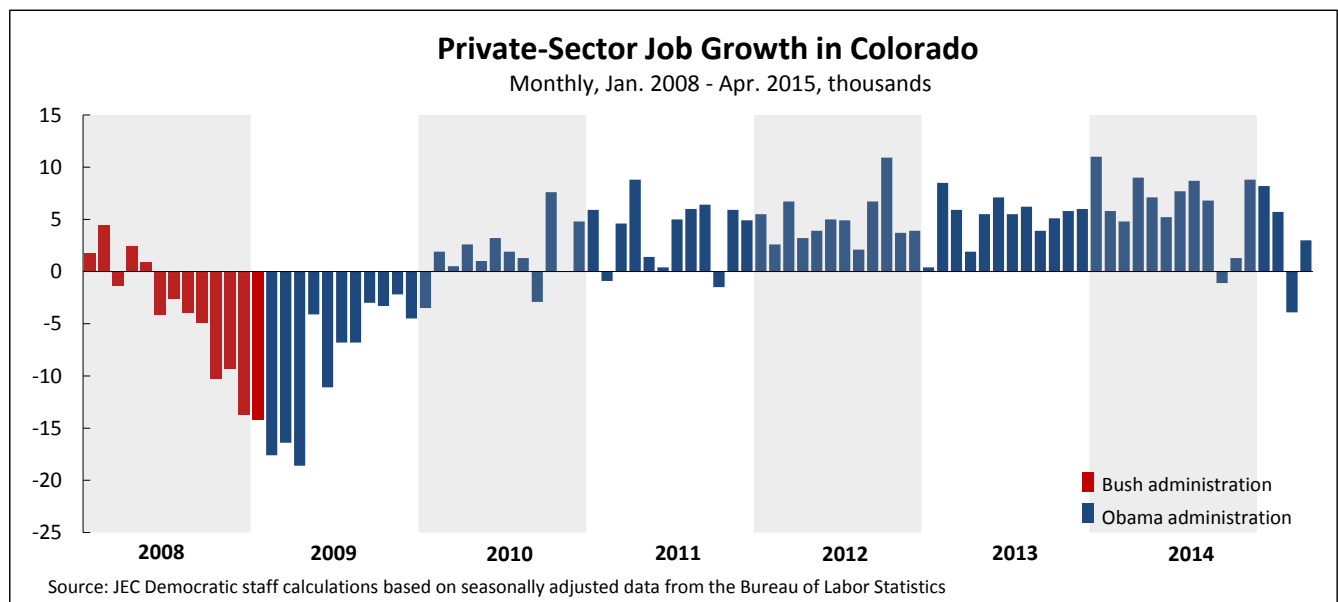


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: COLORADO

***Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs, unemployment and earnings data through April 2015**
Last updated on May 27th; Data update next on June 19th*

JOBS

- In April, private-sector employment in Colorado grew by 3,000 jobs. Over the past year, Colorado businesses have added 57,500 jobs. This compares with an increase of 75,700 jobs over the 12 months through April 2014.
- Since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment, Colorado businesses have added 275,900 jobs (an increase of 15.2 percent). Nationally, private payrolls have increased by 11.5 percent over this time.
- The state sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: mining and logging at 50.7 percent (11,700 jobs), construction at 30.9 percent (36,400 jobs) and leisure and hospitality at 19.5 percent (50,800 jobs).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Colorado was 4.2 percent in April 2015, holding constant from March. The rate was 1.2 percentage points below the national rate of 5.4 percent.
- Unemployment is down 1.2 percentage points from one year earlier and is 4.7 percentage points below its recent peak of 8.9 percent in October 2010.
- There were 120,000 Colorado residents unemployed in April 2015.

EARNINGS

- In April 2015, average hourly earnings of private-sector workers in Colorado were \$26.85. The average workweek was 33.6 hours, and average weekly earnings were \$902.16.
- Adjusting for inflation, state average hourly earnings have risen by 2.1 percent over the past year. Nationally, real average hourly earnings have increased by 2.3 percent (not seasonally adjusted).

STATE QUICK FACTS

		Colorado	United States
Private-Sector Jobs Added	Past 12 Months	57,500	2.9 million
	Since Feb. 2010	275,900	12.3 million
Unemployment Rate	April 2015	4.2%	5.4%
	April 2014	5.4%	6.2%
	Recession-Era Peak	8.9%	10.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$63,400	\$51,900
	2007 (Pre-Recession)	\$68,700	\$56,400
Poverty Rate	2013	10.6%	14.5%
	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	2013	14.1%	14.5%

STATE GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT

- Real gross domestic product (GDP) in Colorado grew by 3.8 percent in 2013 (the most recent year for which data are available), above the national average growth rate of 1.8 percent.*
- Since 2009, annual Colorado GDP growth has averaged 2.5 percent, compared with a national average annual growth rate of 2.0 percent.

HOUSING

- Home prices in Colorado increased by 11.2 percent from the first quarter of 2014 to the first quarter of 2015. They are up 37.9 percent since their recent low in the second quarter of 2011.
- In March 2015, builders in Colorado broke ground on 24,050 new housing units (seasonally adjusted annual rate), bringing the average over the past 12 months to 27,368 units. That marks an increase of 5.1 percent from the average over the prior 12 months.

EXPORTS

- In Colorado, goods exports totaled \$767 million in March and \$8.2 billion over the past year, up 0.6 percent from the 12 months ending in March 2014 (inflation-adjusted).
- Exports over the past 12 months are up 32.1 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>