

PRESS RELEASE

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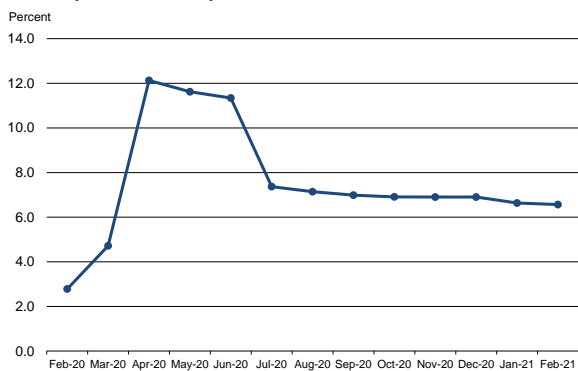
For Immediate Release

Date: March 26, 2021/ 8:00 A.M.
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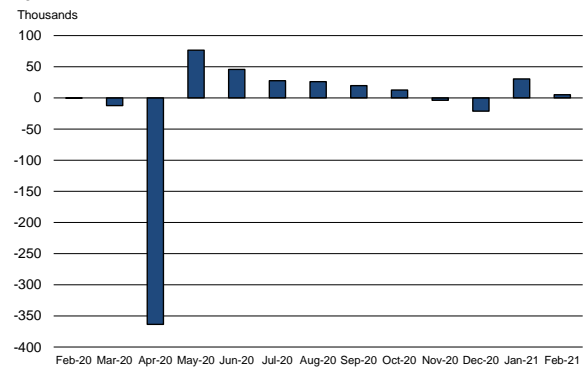
Colorado Employment Situation – February 2021

5,200 Nonfarm Payroll Jobs Added in February; Unemployment Rate Unchanged at 6.6%

Colorado unemployment rate, seasonally adjusted
February 2020 - February 2021



Colorado nonfarm payroll employment over-the-month
change, seasonally adjusted, February 2020 - February
2021



Household survey data

According to the survey of households, Colorado's seasonally adjusted **unemployment rate** was unchanged in February at 6.6 percent. The national unemployment rate declined one-tenth of a percentage point from January to 6.2 percent.

Other highlights from the household survey:

- Colorado's **labor force** grew by 3,800 in February to 3,187,200. The share of Coloradans participating in the labor force in February remained steady at 68.6 percent and slightly lower than the pre-pandemic rate of 68.7 percent.
- The **number of individuals employed** in Colorado increased by 5,700 in February to 2,977,900, which represents 64.1 percent of the state's 16+ population. While Colorado's employment-to-population ratio continues to improve since April, when it was 57.0 percent, it is still well below the pre-pandemic level of 66.8 percent.
- The **Colorado counties** with the highest unemployment rates in February were: Huerfano (10.5%), Pueblo (9.3%), Montezuma (8.8%), Fremont (8.7%), and Costilla (8.3%). County-level unemployment rates are not seasonally adjusted and are directly comparable to Colorado's February unadjusted rate of 6.8 percent.

Establishment survey data

Employers in Colorado added 5,200 **nonfarm payroll jobs** from January to February for a total of 2,662,300 jobs, according to the survey of business establishments. Private sector payroll jobs increased 6,900 and government declined by 1,700. Since May, Colorado has gained back 219,100 of the 375,800 nonfarm payroll jobs lost between February and April of last year. That translates to a job recovery rate of 58.3 percent, which slightly exceeds the U.S. rate of 57.6 percent.

Other highlights from the establishment survey:

- **January estimates** were revised down to 2,657,100, and the over the month change from December to January was a gain of 30,400 rather than the originally estimated increase of 32,000 (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 February were: leisure and hospitality (~9,700), and education and health services (~2,200). Significant over the month private sector **job loss** occurred in professional and business services (~2,900) and financial activities (~1,100).
- **Since February 2020**, nonfarm payroll jobs have decreased 156,700, with losses totaling 130,600 in the private sector and 26,100 in government. The largest **private sector job losses** were in leisure and hospitality (~72,400), education and health services (~12,700), and professional and business services (~11,200). Colorado's **rate of job loss** over the past year is -5.6 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 33.6 to 33.4 hours, while **average hourly earnings** fell from \$31.00 to \$30.83, approximately eighty cents more than the national average hourly earnings of \$30.01.

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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 **March 2021 Colorado Employment Situation** will be released at 8:00 AM on Friday, April 16, 2021. 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 February 2021, 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 continuation of the decline in the number of COVID-19 cases across the state, which resulted in loosening restrictions for many establishments. 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**

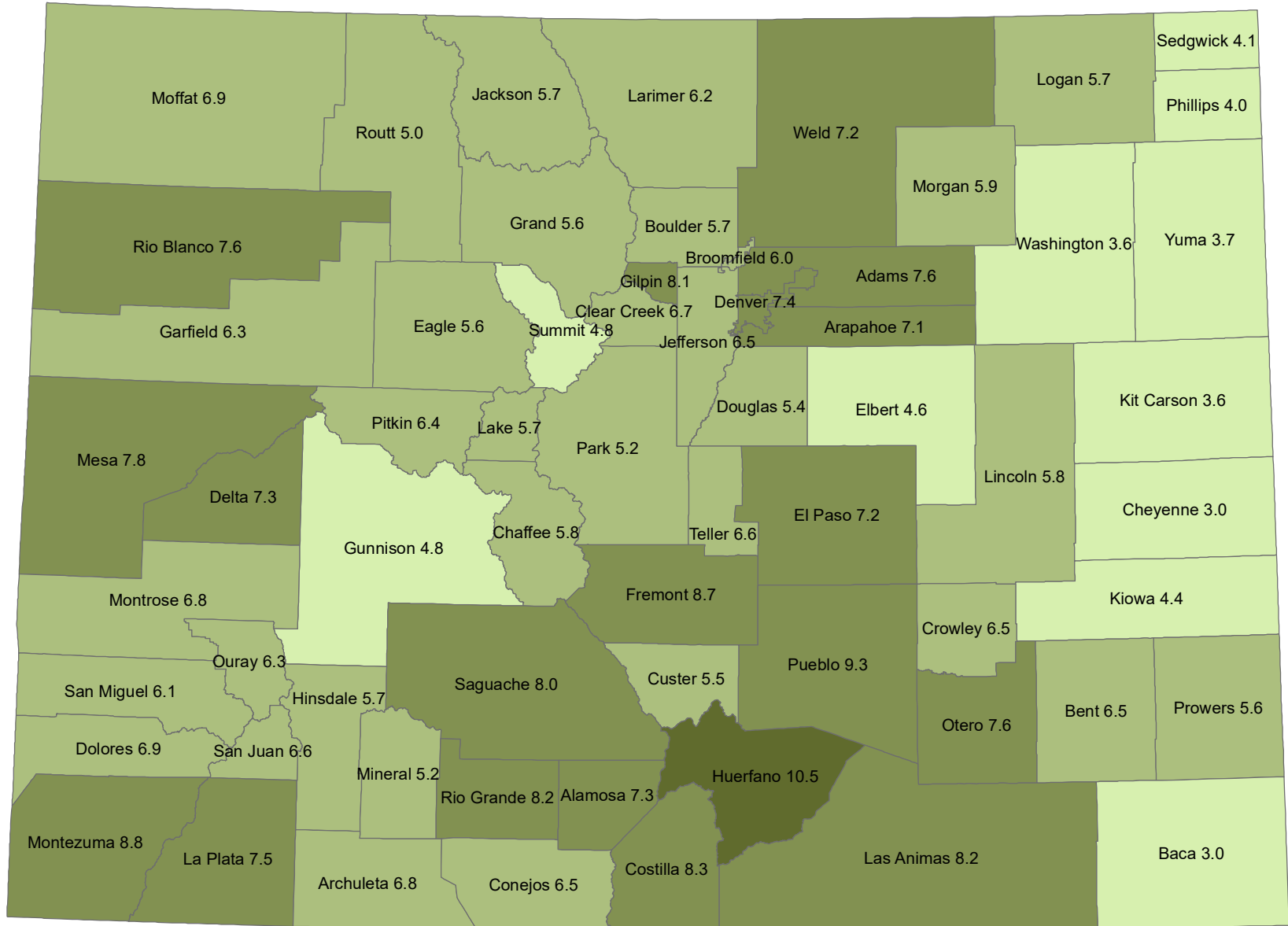
Preliminary Estimates for February 2021

LABOR FORCE DATA (VALUES IN THOUSANDS)					
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED:				Change from last:	
	Feb-21	Jan-21	Feb-20	Month	Year
Total Civilian Labor Force	3,187.2	3,183.4	3,153.6	3.8	33.6
Unemployment	209.3	211.2	87.7	-1.9	121.6
Unemployment Rate (%)	6.6	6.6	2.8	0.0	3.8
Employment	2,977.9	2,972.2	3,065.9	5.7	-88.0
UNADJUSTED FOR SEASONALITY:				Change from last:	
	Feb-21	Jan-21	Feb-20	Month	Year
Total Civilian Labor Force	3,184.1	3,171.4	3,163.1	12.7	21.1
Unemployment	217.4	219.5	91.0	-2.1	126.3
Unemployment Rate (%)	6.8	6.9	2.9	-0.1	3.9
Employment	2,966.8	2,952.0	3,072.0	14.8	-105.2

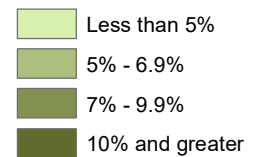
WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT DATA (VALUES IN THOUSANDS)					
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED:				Change from last:	
	Feb-21	Jan-21	Feb-20	Month	Year
Mining & Logging	19.0	19.2	26.2	-0.2	-7.2
Construction	172.3	172.7	179.3	-0.4	-7.0
Manufacturing	144.9	144.8	151.6	0.1	-6.7
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	484.2	484.4	482.6	-0.2	1.6
Information	73.6	73.7	78.0	-0.1	-4.4
Financial Activities	174.2	175.3	176.1	-1.1	-1.9
Professional & Business Services	436.3	439.2	447.5	-2.9	-11.2
Educational & Health Services	341.2	339.0	353.9	2.2	-12.7
Leisure & Hospitality	274.5	264.8	346.9	9.7	-72.4
Other Services	107.0	107.2	115.7	-0.2	-8.7
Government	435.1	436.8	461.2	-1.7	-26.1
TOTAL NONAG	2,662.3	2,657.1	2,819.0	5.2	-156.7
Labor Disputants	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
UNADJUSTED FOR SEASONALITY:				Change from last:	
	Feb-21	Jan-21	Feb-20	Month	Year
Mining & Logging	18.8	19.2	26.4	-0.4	-7.6
Construction	165.3	167.2	172.8	-1.9	-7.5
Manufacturing	144.5	144.3	151.1	0.2	-6.6
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	481.6	486.2	477.6	-4.6	4.0
Information	73.8	73.5	78.2	0.3	-4.4
Financial Activities	173.6	174.4	175.9	-0.8	-2.3
Professional & Business Services	428.2	429.3	439.8	-1.1	-11.6
Educational & Health Services	344.1	338.2	354.6	5.9	-10.5
Leisure & Hospitality	272.8	263.6	343.7	9.2	-70.9
Other Services	106.9	106.4	114.7	0.5	-7.8
Government	436.9	425.9	462.7	11.0	-25.8
TOTAL NONAG	2,646.5	2,628.2	2,797.5	18.3	-151.0
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 February 2021



Source: Colorado Department of Labor and Employment
Labor Market Information



Not Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force

	February 2021				January 2021			
	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Rate	Labor force	Employment	Unemployment	Rate
Colorado	3,184,146	2,966,783	217,363	6.8	3,171,425	2,951,964	219,461	6.9
Metropolitan Statistical Area								
Boulder	196,017	184,750	11,267	5.7	193,636	182,085	11,551	6.0
Colorado Springs	363,365	337,400	25,965	7.1	361,723	335,880	25,843	7.1
Denver-Aurora-Lakewood	1,706,397	1,589,022	117,375	6.9	1,690,824	1,571,876	118,948	7.0
Fort Collins	208,485	195,583	12,902	6.2	207,051	193,868	13,183	6.4
Grand Junction	76,002	70,052	5,950	7.8	76,403	70,278	6,125	8.0
Greeley	169,265	157,119	12,146	7.2	169,322	157,205	12,117	7.2
Pueblo	79,095	71,773	7,322	9.3	78,782	71,476	7,306	9.3
Counties								
Adams	280,980	259,510	21,470	7.6	278,740	257,013	21,727	7.8
Alamosa	8,350	7,739	611	7.3	8,458	7,857	601	7.1
Arapahoe	374,309	347,875	26,434	7.1	370,610	343,940	26,670	7.2
Archuleta	7,066	6,588	478	6.8	7,207	6,730	477	6.6
Baca	2,140	2,076	64	3.0	2,279	2,213	66	2.9
Bent	1,871	1,749	122	6.5	1,976	1,825	151	7.6
Boulder	196,017	184,750	11,267	5.7	193,636	182,085	11,551	6.0
Broomfield	41,112	38,639	2,473	6.0	40,674	38,213	2,461	6.1
Chaffee	9,844	9,275	569	5.8	9,944	9,388	556	5.6
Cheyenne	1,079	1,047	32	3.0	1,144	1,111	33	2.9
Clear Creek	6,208	5,791	417	6.7	6,170	5,732	438	7.1
Conejos	4,012	3,752	260	6.5	4,126	3,862	264	6.4
Costilla	1,800	1,650	150	8.3	1,851	1,704	147	7.9
Crowley	1,524	1,425	99	6.5	1,561	1,463	98	6.3
Custer	2,091	1,975	116	5.5	2,124	2,011	113	5.3
Delta	14,097	13,073	1,024	7.3	14,528	13,502	1,026	7.1
Denver	432,463	400,314	32,149	7.4	428,764	395,824	32,940	7.7
Dolores	1,094	1,018	76	6.9	1,142	1,074	68	6.0
Douglas	199,485	188,741	10,744	5.4	197,324	186,663	10,661	5.4
Eagle	36,792	34,727	2,065	5.6	37,760	35,623	2,137	5.7
El Paso	350,218	325,127	25,091	7.2	348,668	323,686	24,982	7.2
Elbert	15,275	14,566	709	4.6	15,265	14,567	698	4.6
Fremont	15,559	14,203	1,356	8.7	15,699	14,418	1,281	8.2
Garfield	32,988	30,913	2,075	6.3	33,461	31,392	2,069	6.2
Gilpin	3,991	3,666	325	8.1	3,945	3,625	320	8.1
Grand	9,871	9,314	557	5.6	10,028	9,477	551	5.5
Gunnison	11,732	11,164	568	4.8	11,619	11,057	562	4.8
Hinsdale	388	366	22	5.7	385	364	21	5.5
Huerfano	2,702	2,417	285	10.5	2,741	2,466	275	10.0
Jackson	880	830	50	5.7	912	876	36	3.9
Jefferson	341,202	319,141	22,061	6.5	338,083	315,613	22,470	6.6
Kiowa	967	924	43	4.4	1,024	988	36	3.5
Kit Carson	4,212	4,062	150	3.6	4,438	4,302	136	3.1
La Plata	31,676	29,295	2,381	7.5	32,076	29,606	2,470	7.7
Lake	5,080	4,790	290	5.7	5,154	4,864	290	5.6
Larimer	208,485	195,583	12,902	6.2	207,051	193,868	13,183	6.4
Las Animas	6,530	5,993	537	8.2	6,643	6,120	523	7.9
Lincoln	2,393	2,255	138	5.8	2,461	2,333	128	5.2
Logan	11,052	10,424	628	5.7	11,300	10,681	619	5.5
Mesa	76,002	70,052	5,950	7.8	76,403	70,278	6,125	8.0
Mineral	519	492	27	5.2	548	525	23	4.2
Moffat	7,446	6,930	516	6.9	7,557	7,090	467	6.2
Montezuma	12,565	11,461	1,104	8.8	12,706	11,721	985	7.8
Montrose	21,516	20,061	1,455	6.8	21,996	20,552	1,444	6.6
Morgan	16,115	15,157	958	5.9	16,708	15,731	977	5.8
Otero	8,213	7,589	624	7.6	8,456	7,849	607	7.2
Ouray	2,432	2,278	154	6.3	2,499	2,336	163	6.5
Park	11,372	10,779	593	5.2	11,249	10,686	563	5.0
Phillips	2,354	2,260	94	4.0	2,544	2,456	88	3.5
Pitkin	11,269	10,549	720	6.4	11,452	10,676	776	6.8
Prowers	6,154	5,811	343	5.6	6,342	5,993	349	5.5
Pueblo	79,095	71,773	7,322	9.3	78,782	71,476	7,306	9.3
Rio Blanco	2,970	2,745	225	7.6	3,003	2,798	205	6.8
Rio Grande	5,366	4,925	441	8.2	5,592	5,168	424	7.6
Routt	17,063	16,214	849	5.0	17,377	16,483	894	5.1
Saguache	3,325	3,059	266	8.0	3,476	3,213	263	7.6
San Juan	470	439	31	6.6	464	438	26	5.6
San Miguel	5,604	5,261	343	6.1	5,619	5,272	347	6.2
Sedgwick	1,122	1,076	46	4.1	1,185	1,143	42	3.5
Summit	24,958	23,766	1,192	4.8	25,307	24,028	1,279	5.1
Teller	13,147	12,273	874	6.6	13,055	12,194	861	6.6
Washington	2,907	2,802	105	3.6	3,073	2,969	104	3.4
Weld	169,265	157,119	12,146	7.2	169,322	157,205	12,117	7.2
Yuma	5,360	5,164	196	3.7	5,735	5,548	187	3.3

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. Estimates are subject to further revision through April 16, 2021 as the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics completes the benchmarking process for 2020 estimates.
 Colorado Department of Labor and Employment 2021

Not Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force

	February 2021				February 2020			
	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Rate	Labor force	Employment	Unemployment	Rate
Colorado	3,184,146	2,966,783	217,363	6.8	3,163,054	3,072,024	91,030	2.9
Metropolitan Statistical Area								
Boulder	196,017	184,750	11,267	5.7	198,994	194,289	4,705	2.4
Colorado Springs	363,365	337,400	25,965	7.1	358,726	346,794	11,932	3.3
Denver-Aurora-Lakewood	1,706,397	1,589,022	117,375	6.9	1,685,611	1,639,387	46,224	2.7
Fort Collins	208,485	195,583	12,902	6.2	206,916	201,519	5,397	2.6
Grand Junction	76,002	70,052	5,950	7.8	76,322	73,251	3,071	4.0
Greeley	169,265	157,119	12,146	7.2	170,316	165,488	4,828	2.8
Pueblo	79,095	71,773	7,322	9.3	77,437	74,252	3,185	4.1
Counties								
Adams	280,980	259,510	21,470	7.6	276,716	267,878	8,838	3.2
Alamosa	8,350	7,739	611	7.3	8,360	8,024	336	4.0
Arapahoe	374,309	347,875	26,434	7.1	368,989	358,844	10,145	2.7
Archuleta	7,066	6,588	478	6.8	6,755	6,516	239	3.5
Baca	2,140	2,076	64	3.0	2,091	2,048	43	2.1
Bent	1,871	1,749	122	6.5	1,845	1,798	47	2.5
Boulder	196,017	184,750	11,267	5.7	198,994	194,289	4,705	2.4
Broomfield	41,112	38,639	2,473	6.0	40,931	39,879	1,052	2.6
Chaffee	9,844	9,275	569	5.8	9,482	9,231	251	2.6
Cheyenne	1,079	1,047	32	3.0	1,097	1,080	17	1.5
Clear Creek	6,208	5,791	417	6.7	6,130	5,973	157	2.6
Conejos	4,012	3,752	260	6.5	4,084	3,903	181	4.4
Costilla	1,800	1,650	150	8.3	1,839	1,762	77	4.2
Crowley	1,524	1,425	99	6.5	1,524	1,456	68	4.5
Custer	2,091	1,975	116	5.5	2,061	1,997	64	3.1
Delta	14,097	13,073	1,024	7.3	14,017	13,441	576	4.1
Denver	432,463	400,314	32,149	7.4	424,776	412,964	11,812	2.8
Dolores	1,094	1,018	76	6.9	1,089	1,051	38	3.5
Douglas	199,485	188,741	10,744	5.4	199,481	194,736	4,745	2.4
Eagle	36,792	34,727	2,065	5.6	38,638	37,857	781	2.0
El Paso	350,218	325,127	25,091	7.2	345,732	334,198	11,534	3.3
Elbert	15,275	14,566	709	4.6	15,416	15,055	361	2.3
Fremont	15,559	14,203	1,356	8.7	14,723	13,992	731	5.0
Garfield	32,988	30,913	2,075	6.3	33,609	32,527	1,082	3.2
Gilpin	3,991	3,666	325	8.1	3,861	3,780	81	2.1
Grand	9,871	9,314	557	5.6	10,350	10,125	225	2.2
Gunnison	11,732	11,164	568	4.8	11,890	11,631	259	2.2
Hinsdale	388	366	22	5.7	393	382	11	2.8
Huerfano	2,702	2,417	285	10.5	2,567	2,382	185	7.2
Jackson	880	830	50	5.7	904	874	30	3.3
Jefferson	341,202	319,141	22,061	6.5	337,920	329,173	8,747	2.6
Kiowa	967	924	43	4.4	934	921	13	1.4
Kit Carson	4,212	4,062	150	3.6	4,238	4,160	78	1.8
La Plata	31,676	29,295	2,381	7.5	31,589	30,660	929	2.9
Lake	5,080	4,790	290	5.7	5,274	5,167	107	2.0
Larimer	208,485	195,583	12,902	6.2	206,916	201,519	5,397	2.6
Las Animas	6,530	5,993	537	8.2	6,391	6,129	262	4.1
Lincoln	2,393	2,255	138	5.8	2,350	2,280	70	3.0
Logan	11,052	10,424	628	5.7	10,935	10,660	275	2.5
Mesa	76,002	70,052	5,950	7.8	76,322	73,251	3,071	4.0
Mineral	519	492	27	5.2	545	531	14	2.6
Moffat	7,446	6,930	516	6.9	7,351	7,046	305	4.1
Montezuma	12,565	11,461	1,104	8.8	12,509	11,821	688	5.5
Montrose	21,516	20,061	1,455	6.8	21,532	20,781	751	3.5
Morgan	16,115	15,157	958	5.9	16,200	15,763	437	2.7
Otero	8,213	7,589	624	7.6	8,136	7,775	361	4.4
Ouray	2,432	2,278	154	6.3	2,370	2,290	80	3.4
Park	11,372	10,779	593	5.2	11,391	11,105	286	2.5
Phillips	2,354	2,260	94	4.0	2,470	2,430	40	1.6
Pitkin	11,269	10,549	720	6.4	11,348	11,079	269	2.4
Prowers	6,154	5,811	343	5.6	6,222	6,062	160	2.6
Pueblo	79,095	71,773	7,322	9.3	77,437	74,252	3,185	4.1
Rio Blanco	2,970	2,745	225	7.6	2,922	2,818	104	3.6
Rio Grande	5,366	4,925	441	8.2	5,286	5,012	274	5.2
Routt	17,063	16,214	849	5.0	17,319	16,968	351	2.0
Saguache	3,325	3,059	266	8.0	3,424	3,259	165	4.8
San Juan	470	439	31	6.6	510	493	17	3.3
San Miguel	5,604	5,261	343	6.1	6,262	6,151	111	1.8
Sedgwick	1,122	1,076	46	4.1	1,150	1,123	27	2.3
Summit	24,958	23,766	1,192	4.8	25,779	25,387	392	1.5
Teller	13,147	12,273	874	6.6	12,994	12,596	398	3.1
Washington	2,907	2,802	105	3.6	2,862	2,799	63	2.2
Weld	169,265	157,119	12,146	7.2	170,316	165,488	4,828	2.8
Yuma	5,360	5,164	196	3.7	5,507	5,404	103	1.9

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 Colorado Department of Labor and Employment 2021



Colorado LMI Data Overview

February 2021

Employment					
	Feb-21	Jan-21	Feb-20	Change from previous:	
				Period	Year
Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment (SA)	2,662,300	2,657,100	2,819,000	5,200	(156,700)
Total Resident Employment (SA)	2,977,934	2,972,204	3,065,913	5,730	(87,979)
	Q3 2020	Q2 2020	Q3 2019		
UI Covered Total Employment	2,590,498	2,465,917	2,761,346	124,581	(170,848)
UI Covered Private Employment	2,179,182	2,047,290	2,337,320	131,892	(158,138)

Unemployment					
	Feb-21	Jan-21	Feb-20	Change from previous:	
				Period	Year
Unemployment (SA)	209,258	211,191	87,669	(1,933)	121,589
Percent Unemployed (SA)	6.6%	6.6%	2.8%	0.0	3.8
	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					
	Q3 2020	Q2 2020	Q3 2019	Change from previous:	
				Period	Year
Total Average Weekly Wage	\$1,234	\$1,227	\$1,170	\$7	\$64
Private Average Weekly Wage	\$1,233	\$1,238	\$1,166	(\$5)	\$67
	Feb-21	Jan-21	Feb-20		
Average Weekly Earnings (Construction)	\$1,096.45	\$1,165.60	\$1,140.00	(\$69.15)	(\$43.55)
Average Weekly Earnings (Manufacturing)	\$1,029.42	\$1,075.04	\$1,080.95	(\$45.62)	(\$51.53)

CO Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund					
	Dec-20	Nov-20	Dec-19	Change from previous:	
				Period	Year
Employer Contributions	\$12,840,179	\$42,069,774	\$2,788,248	(\$29,229,594)	\$10,051,931
Benefits Paid	\$177,026,736	\$145,965,879	\$36,934,495	\$31,060,857	\$140,092,241
Average Weekly Benefit Amount	\$390.38	\$371.86	\$447.90	\$18.52	(\$57.52)
Duration (weeks)	12.84	30.81	12.82	(17.97)	0.02
End of Month Balance	(\$839,300,789)	(\$698,666,954)	\$1,121,026,752	(\$140,633,835)	(\$1,960,327,541)

Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers					
	Jan-21	Nov-20	Jan-20	% Change from previous:	
				Period	Year
Not seasonally adjusted					
Denver-Aurora-Lakewood	272.156	271.837	270.952	0.1%	0.4%
US City Average	261.582	260.229	257.971	0.5%	1.4%

(Most current data available for all categories)