

PRESS RELEASE

Colorado Department of Labor and Employment • 633 17th Street, Suite 1200 • Denver, CO 80202 • (303) 318-8004 • Fax: (303) 318-8070

For Immediate Release

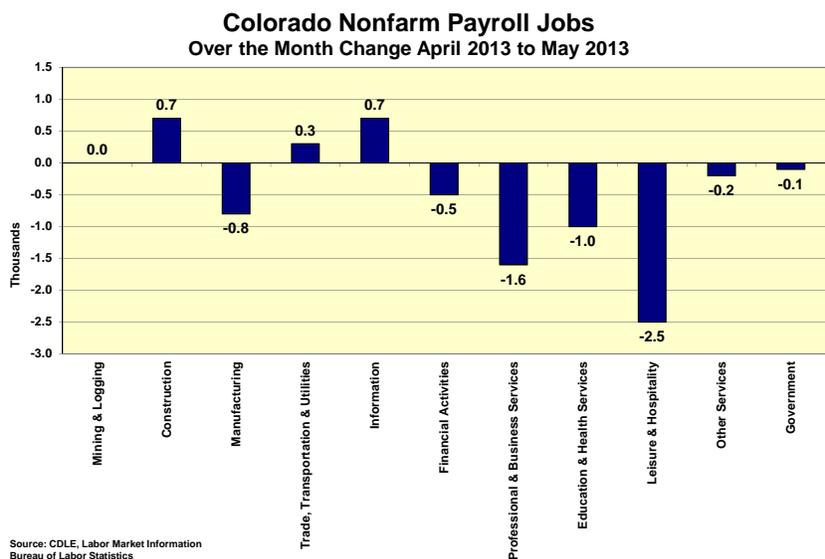
Date: June 21, 2013/ 8:00 A.M.
Contact: Office of Government and Public Relations
Phone: Bill Thoennes at (303) 318-8004 or Cher Haavind at (303) 318-8003
Fax: (303) 318-8070
Web: <http://www.colmigateway.com>

Colorado Employment Situation May 2013

Nonfarm payroll jobs decreased 5,000 from April to May to 2,353,600 jobs, according to the survey of business establishments. Private sector payroll jobs decreased 4,900 and government decreased 100.

According to the survey of households, the unemployment rate was unchanged at 6.9 percent. The number of people participating in the labor force increased 7,800 from April to May and the number of people reporting themselves as employed (total employment) increased 9,000. The larger increase in total employment than in the labor force caused the number of unemployed to decline 1,200. However, due to rounding, the unemployment rate remained unchanged. The national unemployment rate increased one tenth of a percentage point over the month to 7.6 percent.

Over the year, the average workweek for all employees on private nonfarm payrolls increased from 34.6 to 34.7 hours and average hourly earnings increased from \$24.48 to \$25.46.



At the industry sector level there were no significant over the month job gains in May. The largest over the month declines were in leisure and hospitality, professional and business services, and education and health services.

Over the year, nonfarm payroll jobs increased 52,400. Private sector payroll jobs increased 49,500 and government increased 2,900. The largest private sector job gains were in professional

and business services, leisure and hospitality, and education and health services. There were no significant over the year declines.

Over the year, the unemployment rate declined one and three tenths of a percentage point from 8.2 percent in May 2012. The number of Coloradans participating in the labor force increased 31,200, total employment increased 65,000 and the number of unemployed decreased 33,700. The national unemployment rate declined from 8.2 percent in May 2012 to 7.6 percent in May 2013.

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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 June 2013 Colorado Employment Situation will be released on Friday, July 19, 2013. The full schedule of release dates for calendar year 2013 estimates is available at <http://www.colmigateway.com>.

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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 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.

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 employment and unemployment by household, estimates based on these surveys may provide seemingly conflicting results.