For Immediate Release

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Colorado Employment Situation
July 2013

Nonfarm payroll jobs increased 7,600 over the month from June to July reaching 2,374,300 jobs, according to the survey of business establishments. Private sector payroll jobs increased 10,900 and government decreased 3,300.

According to the survey of households, the unemployment rate increased one tenth of a percentage point to 7.1 percent. The number of people participating in the labor force decreased 6,500 over the month and the number of people reporting themselves as employed decreased 7,100. The larger decline in total employment than in the labor force caused the number of unemployed to increase 600 and the unemployment rate to increase to 7.1 percent. The national unemployment rate decreased to 7.4 percent.

Over the year, the average workweek for all employees on private nonfarm payrolls decreased from 35.6 to 34.6 hours and average hourly earnings increased from $24.72 to $25.55.

The largest over the month private sector job gains were in leisure and hospitality, trade, transportation and utilities, construction, and other services. The largest over the month decline was in government.

Over the year, nonfarm payroll jobs increased 63,400. Private sector payroll jobs increased 60,800 and government increased 2,600. The largest private sector job gains were in leisure and hospitality, professional and business services, and construction. The largest over the year decline was in financial activities.
Over the year, the unemployment rate declined one percentage point from 8.1 percent in July 2012. The number of Coloradans participating in the labor force increased 30,400, total employment increased 56,500 and the number of unemployed decreased 26,100. The national unemployment rate declined from 8.2 percent in July 2012 to 7.4 percent in July 2013.

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The August 2013 Colorado Employment Situation will be released on Friday, September 20, 2013. The full schedule of release dates for calendar year 2013 estimates is available at [http://www.colmigateway.com](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.