

# PRESS RELEASE

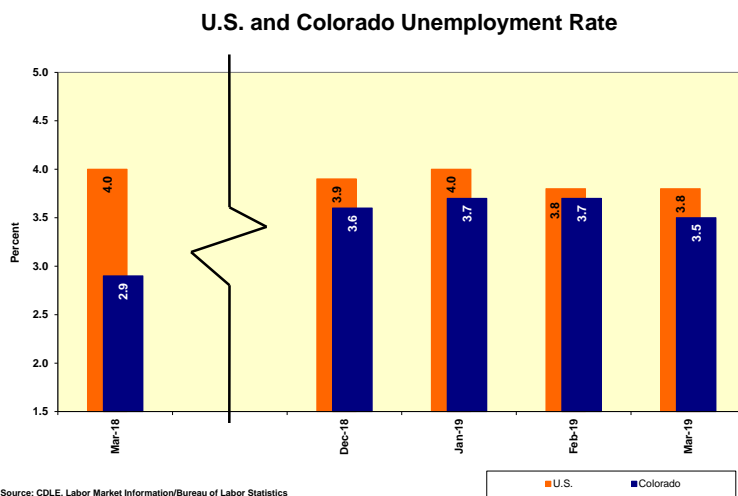
Colorado Department of Labor and Employment • 633 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 1200 • Denver, CO 80202 • (303) 318-8004 • Fax: (303) 318-8070

## For Immediate Release

Date: April 19, 2019/ 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 March 2019

Employers in Colorado added 6,100 nonfarm payroll jobs from February to March for a total of 2,755,300 jobs, according to the survey of business establishments. Private sector payroll jobs increased 5,300 and government increased 800. February estimates were revised down to 2,749,200, and the over the month change from January to February was an increase of 300 rather than the originally estimated increase of 700.



According to the survey of households, the unemployment rate decreased two-tenths of a percentage point from February to March to 3.5 percent. The number of people actively participating in the labor force increased 800 over the month to 3,139,700 and the number of people reporting themselves as employed increased 5,400 to 3,029,100, causing the number of unemployed to decrease 4,600 and the unemployment rate to decline to 3.5 percent. The national unemployment rate

was unchanged over the same period at 3.8 percent.

Over the year, the average workweek for all employees on private nonfarm payrolls decreased from 33.5 to 32.6 hours and average hourly earnings increased from \$28.39 to \$30.27.

The largest over the month private sector job gains were in professional and business services and educational and health services. The largest over the month decline was in leisure and hospitality.

Over the year, nonfarm payroll jobs increased 45,100, with an increase of 42,000 in the private sector and an increase of 3,100 in government. The largest private sector job gains were in professional and business services, educational and health services, and trade, transportation, and utilities. Financial activities declined over the year.

Over the year, the unemployment rate is up six-tenths of a percentage point from 2.9 percent. The number of Coloradans participating in the labor force increased 76,000, total employment increased 54,700 and the number of unemployed increased 21,300. The national unemployment rate declined from 4.0 percent in March 2018 to 3.8 percent in March 2019.

###

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 April 2019 Colorado Employment Situation will be released at 8:00 AM on Friday, May 17, 2019. The full schedule of release dates for calendar year 2019 estimates is available at <http://www.colmigateway.com>.

###

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 persons employed and unemployed by household, estimates based on these surveys may provide seemingly conflicting results.