



United States Congress

Joint Economic Committee

EST. 1946

Republicans

Representative David Schweikert, *Chairman*



Colorado Employment Update



August 2025 | Released September 19, 2025

United States Employment Snapshot

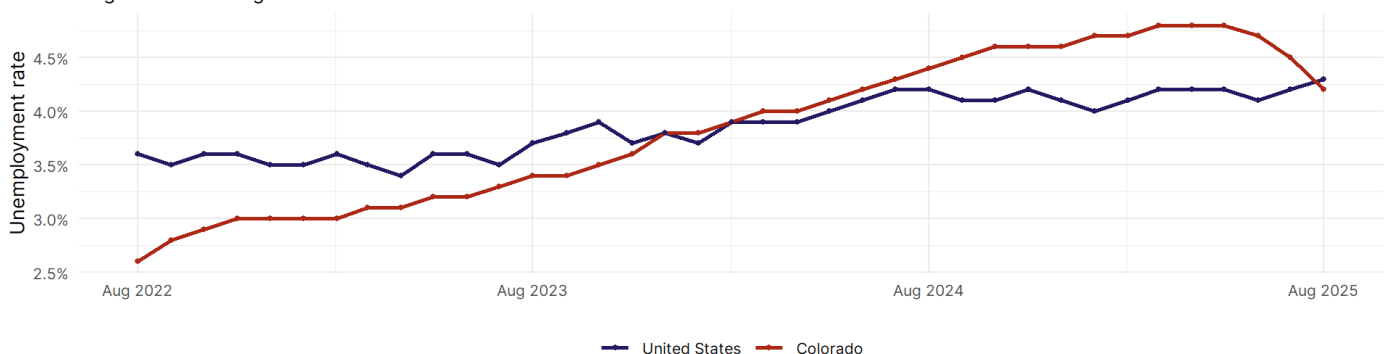
- In August, among the 50 states and the District of Columbia **unemployment fell in 13, rose in 12, and remained unchanged in 26.**
- The highest unemployment rate was 6 percent in **District of Columbia**, and the lowest was 1.9 percent in **South Dakota**. Nationally, the unemployment rate rose by 0.1 percentage point to 4.3 percent.
- In August, **payroll jobs rose in 32 states and fell in 18.** The largest payroll job percent increase was 0.5 percent in **Utah**. The largest payroll job percent decline was 0.7 percent in **District of Columbia**.

Colorado Employment Snapshot

- In August, **Colorado added 3,000 net payroll jobs** and the **unemployment rate fell by 0.3 percentage point to 4.2 percent.** In the prior month, Colorado added 5,100 net payroll jobs.
- Over the past 12 months, **Colorado added 18,300 net payroll jobs** and the **unemployment rate fell by 0.2 percentage points from 4.4 percent.**
- Nationally, nonfarm payrolls **rose by 22,000 in August, or 0 percent.** Colorado **is tied for 33rd** in the nation for percentage gain in nonfarm payroll employment over the past 12 months.
- In August, **Colorado's private sector added 3,300 net private payroll jobs**, and over the past 12 months it added 8,800 private payroll jobs. In the prior month, Colorado added 4,200 net private payroll jobs.
- In August, employment in Colorado **rose by 4,219**, and over the past 12 months it rose by 4,620.
- **Colorado's labor force participation rate fell to 67.4 percent** in August from 67.6 percent and **ranks 8th** in the nation. In the past 12 months, the labor force participation rate has fallen by 0.7 percentage points.

Unemployment Rate in Colorado

August 2022 to August 2025

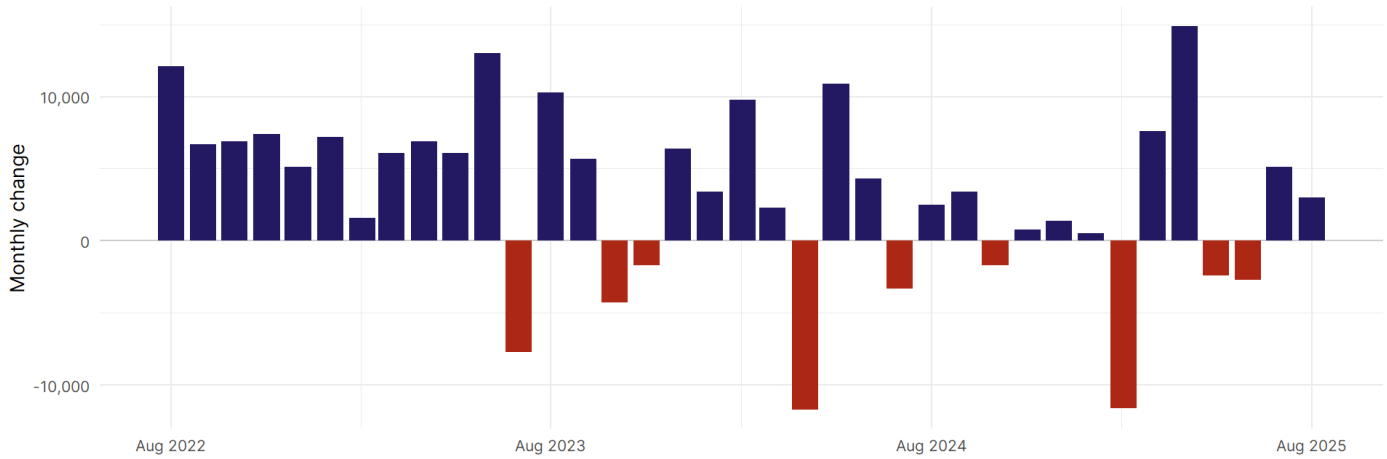


Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, data is seasonally adjusted

Colorado Payroll employment

Change in Nonfarm Payrolls in Colorado

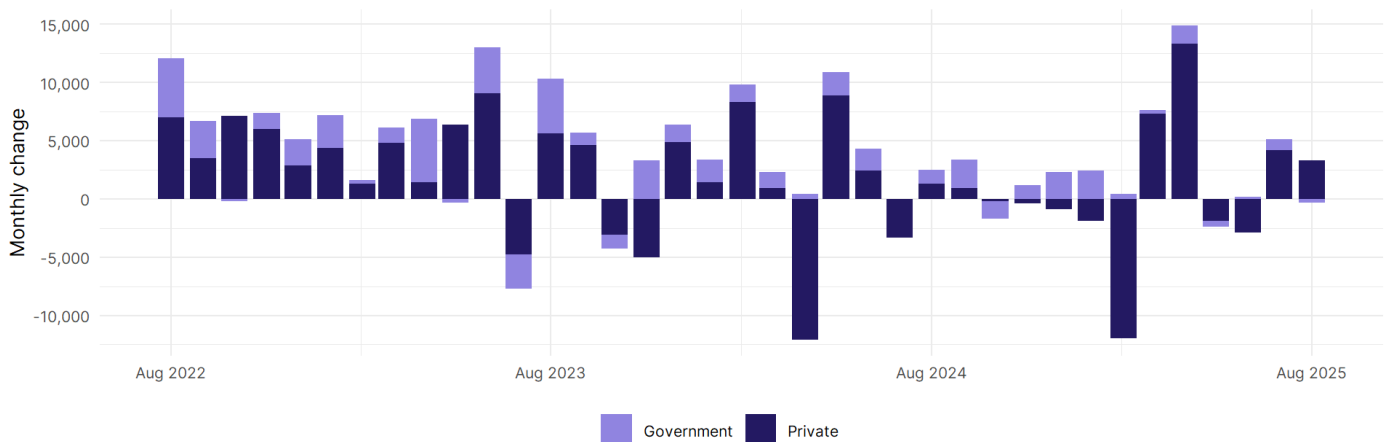
August 2022 to August 2025



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, data is seasonally adjusted

Change in Nonfarm Payrolls by Sector in Colorado

August 2022 to August 2025

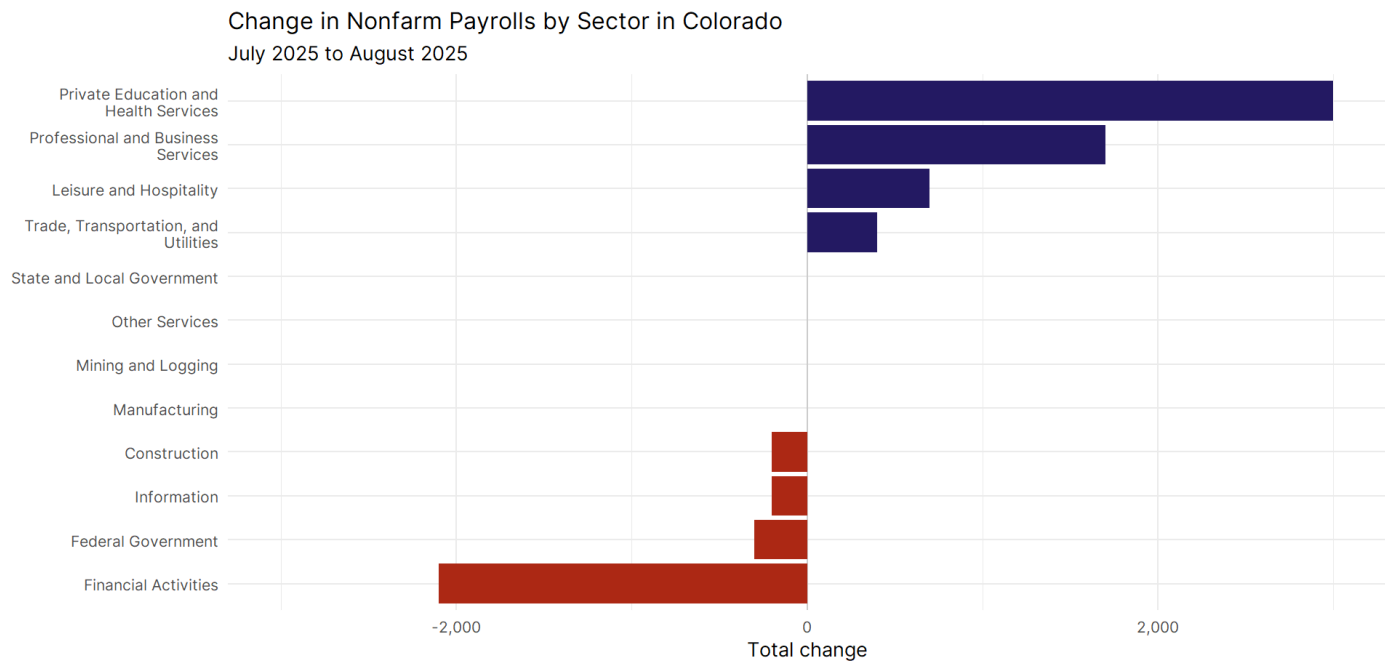


Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, data is seasonally adjusted

- **Colorado added 3,000 net payroll jobs, or 0.1 percent**, on a seasonally adjusted basis during August. In the prior month, Colorado added 5,100 jobs. Colorado nonfarm payroll employment has increased in **8 of the past 12 months**.
- Nationally, nonfarm payrolls **rose by 22,000 in August, or 0 percent**. Colorado is tied for 33rd in the nation for percentage gain in nonfarm payroll employment over the past 12 months.
- **Colorado added 3,300 private sector jobs, or 0.1 percent**, on a seasonally adjusted basis during August. In the prior month, Colorado added 4,200 jobs. Colorado private sector payroll employment has increased in **5 of the past 12 months**.
- Nationally, private sector payroll jobs **rose by 38,000 jobs in August, or 0 percent**. Colorado is tied for 38th in the nation for percentage gain in private sector payroll employment over the past 12 months.

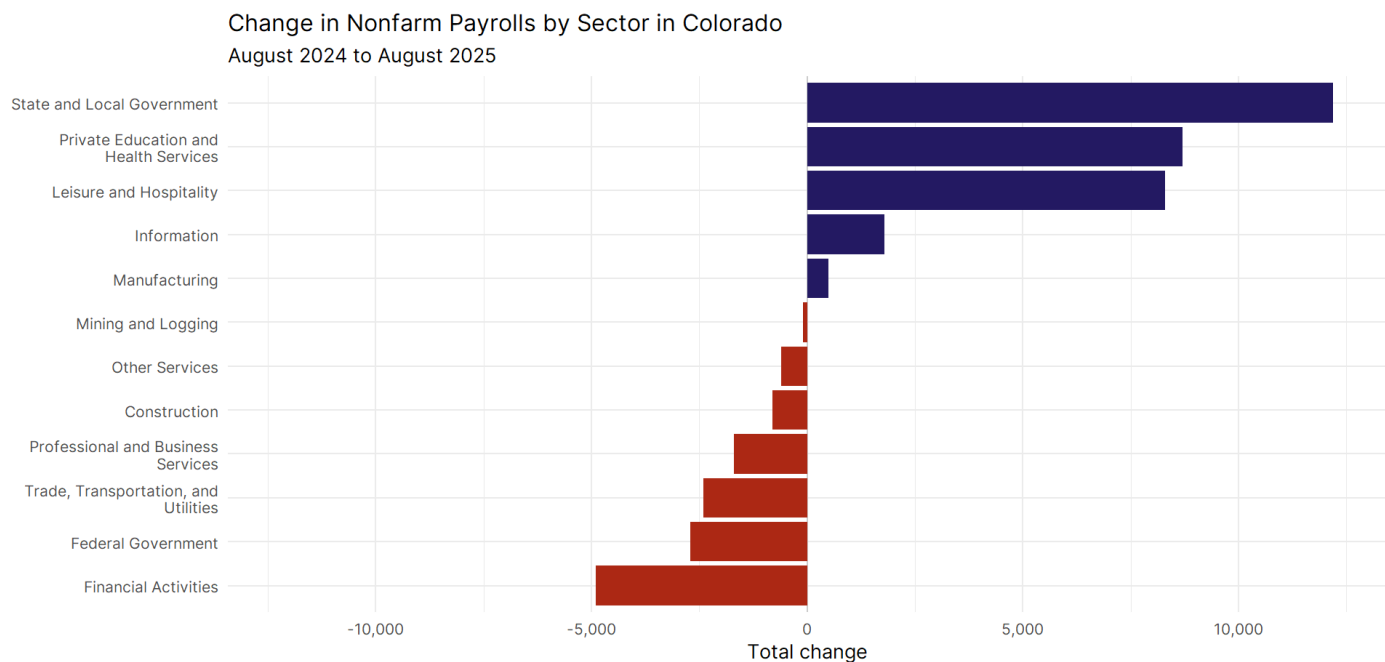
From July 2025 to August 2025:

- The best performing sectors were **Private Education and Health Services** (+3,000) and **Professional and Business Services** (+1,700).
- The worst performing sectors were **Financial Activities** (-2,100) and **Federal Government** (-300).



From August 2024 to August 2025:

- The best performing sectors were **State and Local Government** (+12,200) and **Private Education and Health Services** (+8,700).
- The worst performing sectors were **Financial Activities** (-4,900) and **Federal Government** (-2,700).

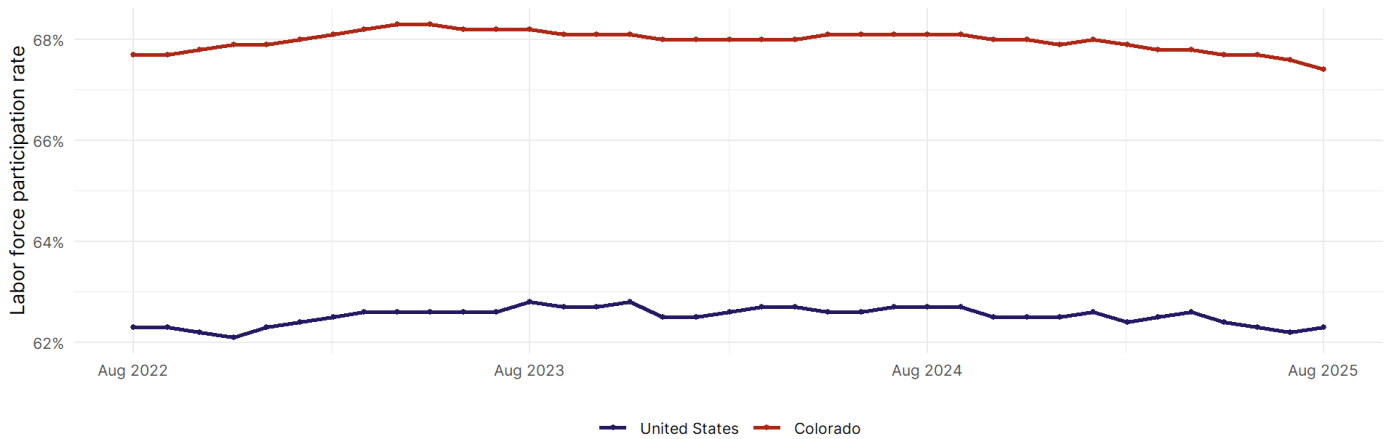


Colorado Labor force

The labor force participation rate is the percentage of the civilian noninstitutionalized population age 16 and older who are employed or actively looking for work.

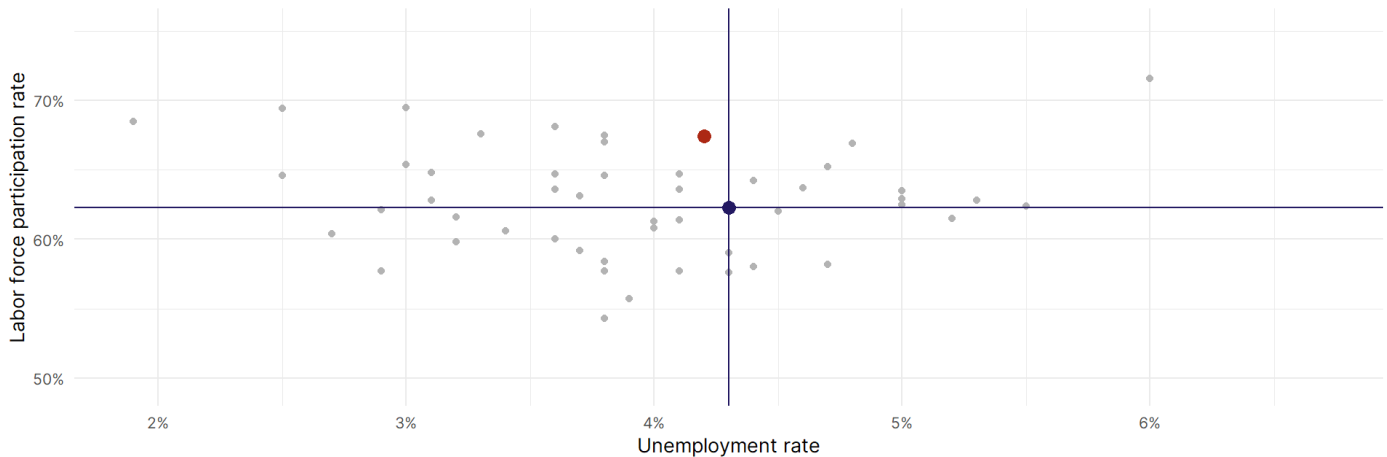
- The labor force participation rate in **Colorado fell to 67.4 percent in August from 67.6 percent in the prior month.**
- **Colorado ranks 8th** in the nation.
- The 10-year high for the labor force participation rate in Colorado was **68.8 percent** occurring in January 2020, and the 10-year low was **65.4 percent** in July 2020.
- The national labor force participation rate **rose by 0.1 percentage points to 62.3 percent** in August.

Labor Force Participation Rate in Colorado
August 2022 to August 2025



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, data is seasonally adjusted

Unemployment and Labor Force Participation Rates by State
August 2025



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, data is seasonally adjusted