



Workforce News

February 2024

Hot off the Press

Paid Family Leave Portal Is Live [CDLEcolorado.gov](https://cdle.colorado.gov)

My FAMILI+ Employer is the online employer services portal Colorado businesses, third-party administrators (TPA's) and local government employers will use to manage their FAMILI accounts.

If you missed our Town Halls, watch the [FAMILI Webinar](#) recording, where we also answer questions that were left in the comment section.

For additional support with the application process, we have a [step-by-step user guide](#), several [how-to videos](#), and an [application checklist](#). If you still need help, give us a call at 1-866-CO-FAMILI (1-866-263-2654) Monday–Friday 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. MT.

Are you interested in receiving our newsletter? We'll be sending separate updates to individuals and families, employers and third party administrators and health care providers across the state. Be sure to [check your subscription preferences](#), so you receive updates on the topics that are most impactful to you in 2024.

Labor-Supply and Demand Report for First Quarter 2024 is available [HERE](#)

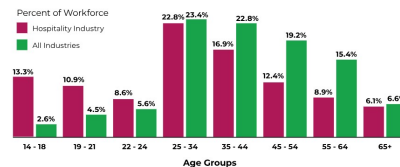
New unemployment claims are up slightly in Colorado at 2,715 for the week ending January 6, 2024. At the same time, note the rather steep upward trend with continued claims growing from just under 19,000 the week of July 8, 2023, to 32,405 the week ending January 6.

Job seeker foot traffic in Arapahoe/Douglas Works! workforce centers has grown by 77% this year,

Sector Spotlight

The [Hospitality Industry](#) employs 288,071 people in 14,378 establishments. Of the 288,071, 13,009 are self-employed. In 2022, the sector had \$33.4B in sales and contributed \$18.2B to the region's GRP.

Retirement risk for the Hospitality Industry is significantly lower than across all industries in the region. The sector has a high supply of workers in the 14 - 24 age grouping, while the 55 and older age grouping is 7% below that for all industries.



2024 Hospitality Industry Projections

demandcalendar.com

The trend of guests as primary marketing agents for hotels is expected to intensify. The reasons behind this shift have to do with increased digital connectivity. As more people become digitally connected and adept at using social media, the reach and impact of user-generated content will grow.

- Electronic reservations for bookings.
- Guests will become the marketing department with favorable reviews.
- There will be a shift in the mix of travelers from business to experiential recreation.

February is Black History Month

suggesting that it is taking more time for unemployed people to find work, though the labor market remains structurally scarce. Also, Coloradans now seem a bit more hesitant about quitting their jobs, with the number of 'quits' going down from 67,000 in October 2023 to 61,000 in November.

2023 Colorado Talent Pipeline Report cfdc.colorado.gov

In 2023 Colorado had one of the top economies in the country, but the demand for qualified workers continues, and opportunities exist to equip Colorado workers and learners with the skills they need to advance and meet the needs of businesses. Key recommendations:

- Strengthen Support for Employers' Talent Development
- Increase the Availability of Career-connected Learning Opportunities
- Establish a Statewide Longitudinal Data System
- Invest in High-impact Opportunities

View the full report [HERE](#).

Small Business Equity Fund Grant Program

CDPHE's [Colorado Green Business Network](#) is now accepting applications for the [Small Business Equity Fund grant program](#) for businesses located in Aurora and Commerce City, Colorado. The program aims to help businesses transition to energy-efficient equipment, which can save money through reduced energy use.

The Colorado Green Business Network will assess applications according to eligibility and application submission on a first-come, first-served basis while funds last. Businesses that meet the following eligibility requirements should fill out an online application. Applications are reviewed as they come in. This opportunity will conclude when funding is no longer available or by August 1, 2024, whichever comes first. Read about the program [HERE](#).

New Arrival Hiring Fair March 6, 2024

Time: 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Location: Emily Griffith Technical College Mosaic Campus, 7150 Montview Blvd, Denver, CO 80220

Support new arrivals as they receive workforce authorization,

[Employer Registration Form](#)

Powering Climate and Infrastructure Careers for All

is a collaborative philanthropic effort to help tackle the serious workforce implementation challenges facing the United States on its path toward a net-zero economy and 21st-century infrastructure. This groundbreaking, \$50 million initiative propels the Fund's total commitments to more than \$110 million, up from an initial \$7 million invested at launch in April 2020. Combining grants and technical assistance to nonprofits, state and local governments, training and education providers, and private sector employer groups, the new initiative aims to help advance at least one million uplifting careers in the booming clean energy and

Black History Month is celebrated every year in the United States during the month of February. This specific month was chosen to coincide with the birthdays of two prominent figures in African American history: Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass. Abraham Lincoln's birthday is on February 12th, and Frederick Douglass's birthday is on February 14th.

This year's celebration acknowledges the role Black and African Americans have historically played in enhancing the health and well-being of all Americans and highlighting health equity promoting policies, programs, and practices focused on addressing the health disparities that affect this population.

Discover ways to raise awareness and promote meaningful discussions surrounding Black history and its significance [HERE](#).

Colorado Department of Early Childhood in partnership with EPIC develop an Employer Based Child Care Lab [Coloradoepic.org](https://coloradoepic.org)

Employers have been hit hard by the childcare deficit, as employees from entry to executive level are leaving the workforce and struggling to return. Employers and entities across the state are taking action to help relieve the pressure on working families, through the development of on or near-site childcare programs and other creative family benefits that aim to offer both access, flexibility, and affordability for their employees, while building critical child care supply in their region.

To continue guiding this incredible effort to success, the Colorado Department of Early Childhood (CDEC) has partnered with Executives Partnering to Invest In Children (EPIC) to bring back the Employer-Based Child Care Design Lab, a unique opportunity for employers to gain the knowledge necessary to plan an on-site or near-site child care facility through direct support and community partnerships while developing a competitive grant application for up to \$800,000 in state funding for their projects. The Design Lab 3.0 will run from February 2024 through May 2024. Apply [HERE](#).

CDLE Launches New Teacher Externship Program [CDLE.gov](https://cdle.gov)

The Colorado Department of Labor and Employment (CDLE) announced the launch of a new Teacher Externship Program today. Envisioned in the spirit of innovation, equity, and authentic collaboration, [Colorado House Bill 23-1198](#) created a new, statewide K-12 Teacher Externship Program focused on Science, Technology, Engineering and Math-focused (STEM) occupations.

Community College of Denver Registered Veterinary Technology Apprenticeship Program

Your employees can train to become a Registered Veterinary Technician in less than 3 years while maintaining their employment with you! For more information contact: Jennifer Gunther at 720-841-8633 or Jennifer.Gunther@ccd.edu.

Highlights from our Workforce Development Board

Would you like to be considered for membership?

If you are interested in receiving more information, participating with, or applying to serve on the Workforce Development Board, please complete the [FORM](#) at the bottom of the web page.

The Arapahoe/Douglas Workforce Board meets on the first Thursday, bi-monthly from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm.

Next meeting: April 4, 2024 • 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Location to be announced.

Host a Workforce Development Board meeting at your business. Please contact Sydney at (303) 636-1178 or by email at sgolditch@arapahogov.com.

Arapahoe County Board of County Commissioners arapahoe.gov

Grant funds available to nonprofit agencies with food programs in Arapahoe County

Arapahoe County Human Services has created an opportunity for nonprofit agencies with food programs to be a potential partner in our American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) COVID-19 Nonprofit Impact Assistance Grant program. Food banks and Meals on Wheels programs are among the organizations that experienced increased service demands since the COVID-19 pandemic began. Read the full article [HERE](#).

Douglas County Board of County Commissioners Douglas.Co.US

Douglas County Commissioners unanimously adopt the 2024 Budget featuring a historic return of \$37.8 million in tax relief to property owners

Property taxpayers in Douglas County will receive \$37.8 million in tax relief in 2024, the result of a historic County mill levy reduction of 3.679 mills – the equivalent to 18.6% of the County mill levy.

This historic tax relief is one central outcome of the Board of Douglas County Commissioners' budget process concluding with the adoption of the 2024 Budget at a public hearing on Tuesday, Jan. 9...[Read More](#)

More Business News

CWDC Programs and Business Support CWDC.gov

Attracting and growing good jobs is key to building a strong economy and creating opportunity for all Coloradans. CWDC offers resources that can help employers, workforce professionals, and other stakeholders increase the supply of good jobs in the state, resulting in greater satisfaction for workers and more competitive businesses.

Rocky Mountain MicroFinance Institute Business Idea Lab and Business Launch Boot Camp

Do you want to start or grow your business? We can help! Rocky Mountain MicroFinance Institute (RMMFI) is accepting applications for our next cohorts of Business Idea Lab and Business Launch Boot Camp in both English and Spanish. RMMFI believes that all people deserve the investment to achieve their dreams, and we provide that investment through classroom, coaching, capital, and community. Click [HERE](#) to learn more and sign up!

Emergency Winter Night Shelter for Adults [Severe Weather Shelter Network](#)

SWSN provides emergency overnight shelter on life-threatening winter nights for single individuals living on the streets in West Arapahoe and Jefferson counties. Volunteers welcome guests by name and provide a hot meal and a bed roll on severe weather nights from October through April each year. On severe weather days, the unhoused may call 720-398-4041 to reserve a spot for shelter.

Build a Thriving Workplace With The Fair Chance Corporate Cohort

Join Jobs for the Future (JFF) on the first Wednesday of each month for an exclusive sneak peek into our **Fair Chance Corporate Cohort**, a virtual training program that guides employers on their journey of adopting and implementing fair chance hiring (also known as "second chance" hiring) practices in their organizations.

Save the Dates!

Business Events

Discovering A/D Works! Business Services

Recruiting Opportunities

Connect 2 Impress Career Fair for Experienced Professionals. Wednesday, March 13, 2024; 10:00

Hear about the many no-cost services that the Business Services Team has to offer you. Held virtually from 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month: March 20th, April 17th, and May 15th. Interested businesses should email sgarno@arapahoegov.com.

What information do you want us to include in the newsletter?

Email us: business.solutions@arapahoegov.com

a.m. to 12:00 p.m., Arapahoe Boardroom. Interested businesses should email rmccormick@arapahoegov.com for details.

Inclusive Career Mixer Focus your hiring on Coloradoans who have been left behind! Thursday, March 28, 2024, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., Arapahoe Boardroom. Interested Businesses should email rmccormick@arapahoegov.com for details.

Need help with your recruiting goals? Connect with a Business Development Representative today!

Call **303-636-1359** or fill out a [request form](#) and one of our representatives will contact you.

Read copies of past newsletters [HERE](#).

Produced exclusively for
Arapahoe & Douglas County Businesses.



ARAPAHOE COUNTY



Arapahoe/Douglas Works! is an equal opportunity employer/program.
Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

Arapahoe/Douglas Works! | 6974 S. Lima St., Centennial, CO 80112

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