



COLORADO FISCAL  
POLICY INSTITUTE

## **2009 Recovery Act fact sheet**

Feb. 16, 2010

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, more commonly known as The Recovery Act, has touched the lives of every Coloradan, whether through direct assistance such as tax cuts or indirectly through the offset of broad budget cuts that otherwise would have reduced all government services. Below are some specific examples of the impact The Recovery Act has had on Colorado. Except where noted, all information comes from “The Colorado Story”, produced Feb. 5, 2010 by Gov. Bill Ritter’s Economic Recovery Team. The statistics regarding the numbers of jobs underestimate the actual number created or retained because of incomplete reporting requirements.

### ***Economic boost in Colorado***

#### **At least 33,000 jobs retained or created<sup>i</sup>, including:**

- 13,173 through the Department of Transportation
- 3,397 at colleges and universities
- 1,699 in corrections
- 462 in K-12 education
- 421 in weatherization
- 313 at arts organizations
- 281 in science and research
- 250 for water infrastructure improvement
- 71 in law enforcement

#### **Coloradans directly helped: 3,834,776**

- 1.8 million families, Making Work Pay tax credit
- 500,000 one-time \$250 Social Security payments
- 463,000 people have had the severity of poverty reduced<sup>ii</sup>
- 371,389 people received 13.6 percent increase in food stamps
- 357,767 people received job search assistance
- 306,906 people received extra emergency food assistance
- 196,776 laid-off workers received increased unemployment benefits
- 157,666 homes benefited from upgraded wastewater systems
- 71,904 homes benefited from upgraded drinking-water systems
- 70,000 people lifted above the poverty line<sup>ii</sup>
- 52,000 people received increased Pell Grants for college tuition
- 7,000 low-income seniors received extra meals<sup>ii</sup>
- 1,929 people received job training
- 1,500 homes were weatherized

## *The Recovery Act's expected total impact on Colorado*

### **Health Care and Human Services, \$1.3 billion<sup>iii</sup>**

- \$885.9 million, Medicaid<sup>iii</sup>
- \$183.4 million, food stamps
- \$68 million, Temporary Assistance to Needy Families

### **Public schools, \$327.9 million**

- Schools with low-income students (Title I), \$144.7 million
- Special education programs (IDEA), \$162 million

### **Colleges and Universities, \$986.6 million**

- Pell Grants, \$364.7 million
- University of Colorado, \$204.4 million
- Colorado State University, \$133 million
- Community colleges, \$110.2 million
- Metro State College, \$39.4 million
- University of Northern Colorado, \$38 million
- Mesa State College, \$18.2 million
- Colorado School of Mines, \$19.8 million
- Fort Lewis College, \$14.6 million
- Junior colleges, \$13.9 million
- Adams State College, \$11 million
- Western State College, \$9.9 million
- Vocational schools, \$9.7 million

### **Energy and the environment, \$326.8million<sup>iii</sup>**

- \$176.1 million energy efficiency
- \$66 million, clean water
- \$20.5 million, national parks

### **Transportation, \$544 million**

- \$404 million, highways
- \$103 million, transit
- \$37 million, airports

### **Other areas:**

- Unemployment and job training, \$567.2 million
- Public safety, \$35 million
- Housing, \$107.2 million

---

<sup>i</sup> Council of Economic Advisors, "The Economic Impact of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009," Jan. 13, 2010.

<sup>ii</sup> Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, "State-Level Data Show Recovery Act Protecting Millions From Poverty," Dec. 17, 2009.

<sup>iii</sup> Federal Funds Information For States, Oct. 27, 2009 data