# NoCo Recovers

# **Recovery Tracker**

**APRIL 2023** 



#### **INTRODUCTION**

To create a tool to track the economic recovery in Northern Colorado, we selected a set of indicators that represent critical aspects of the Larimer and Weld County economies, are based on data that is accessible in a useable format, and updated frequently with little lag time.

The selected indicators are updated at least monthly with no more than a two-month lag and are primarily available at the county level. They provide almost real-time insights about economic conditions and recovery status.

They address the following questions:

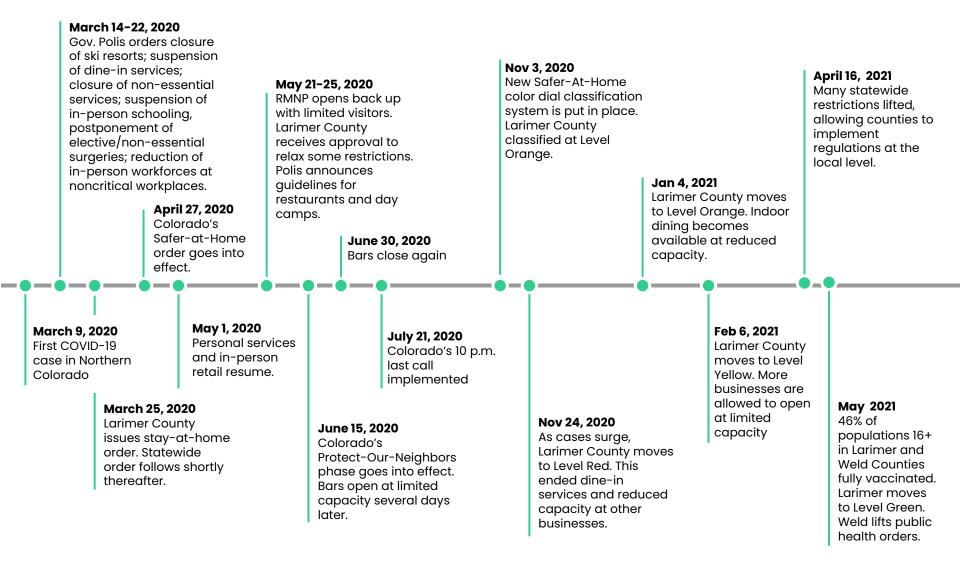
- Are residents engaged in engaged in the labor market and do they have jobs?
- Are regional businesses able to maintain their workforce? Are they hiring?
- Are consumers spending money in our economy?
- Are visitors coming back?
- Is our real estate market stable? Are businesses closing and leaving unoccupied commercial spaces?
- Is the construction industry active and purchasing materials to support future growth?

This list of indicators is not exhaustive, but does represent well-rounded measures that can signal areas of strength or weakness in the recovery from the economic shock induced by the COVID-19 Pandemic.





#### THE PANDEMIC AND BUSINESS CLOSURE TIMELINE IN NORTHERN COLORADO





#### EMPLOYMENT | Unemployment Rate

	CURRENT APR 2023	COMPARISON TO 2019 AVERAGE	LOW	нісн
Northern Colorado	2.3%	-0.1 percentage pts	<b>2.3%</b> Dec 2022	<b>10.3%</b> May 2020
Larimer	2.1%	-0.1 percentage pts	<b>2.1%</b> Dec 2022	<b>10.7%</b> Apr 2020
Weld	2.5%	+0.1 percentage pts	<b>2.5%</b> Jan 2020	<b>10.6%</b> Jun 2020

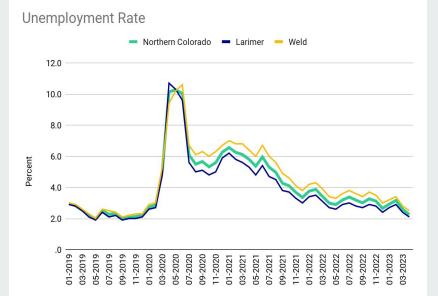
What: The unemployment rate measures the percent of people who are jobless, looking for a job, and available for work as a percent of the labor force. These estimates are derived from a national household survey.

Why: The unemployment rate is an indicator of access to economic opportunity. High unemployment represents a loss of jobs and a loss of income, which impacts economic self-sufficiency and influences consumer expenditures.

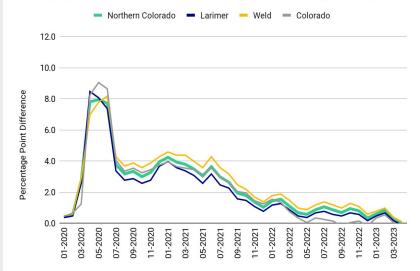
**Summary:** Unemployment rate peaked in Larimer County in April 2020 and Weld County in June. After rising about 8 percentage points higher than the monthly average in 2019, unemployment steadily declined aside from periodic, seasonal upticks. Both counties are now back to pre-Pandemic levels.

ALEXANDER

RESEARCH & CONSULTING



Unemployment Rate: Difference from 2019 Monthly Average



#### EMPLOYMENT | Civilian Labor Force

	CURRENT APR 2023	COMPARISON TO 2019 AVG.	LOW	нісн
Northern Colorado	383,534	+3.4%	<b>353,467</b> Jul 2020	<b>386,682</b> Oct 2022
Larimer	213,835	+5.3%	<b>194,269</b> Apr 2020	<b>215,238</b> Sep 2022
Weld	169,699	+1.1%	<b>158,497</b> Jul 2020	<b>171,311</b> Oct 2022

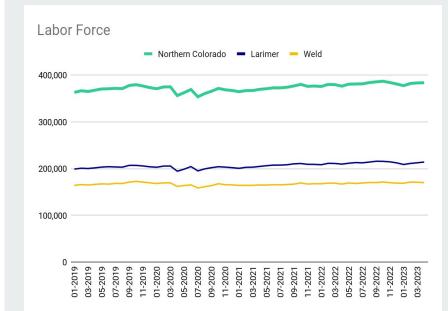
**What:** The labor force consists of the employed (people with jobs) and the unemployed (people who are jobless, looking for a job, and available for work).

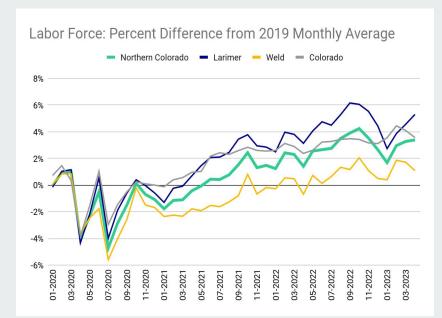
**Why:** Changes in the labor force can measure workers' desire and ability to work. During normal years, the labor force is fairly stable. However, during this pandemic, workers not only face increased uncertainty about their prospects of finding work but also must consider factors such as health risk, vulnerability, and childcare when deciding whether or not to participate in the labor force.

Summary: At the beginning of the pandemic, many workers dropped out of the labor force. Although workers re-entered in June 2020, the labor force contracted again later that summer as it does seasonally. By fall of 2020, the labor force had more or less recovered in Larimer County. In Weld County, the labor force was slower to recover, reaching pre-Pandemic levels in late 2021.

ALEXANDER

RESEARCH & CONSULTING





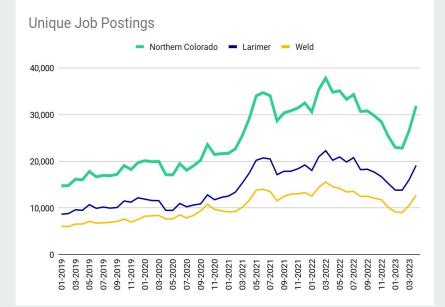
#### **EMPLOYMENT | Unique Job Postings**

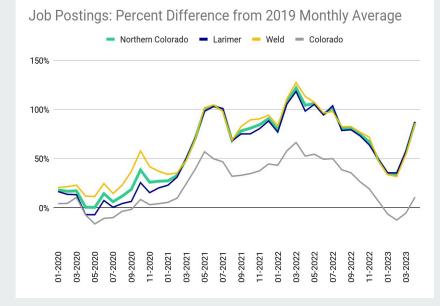
	CURRENT APR 2023	COMPARISON TO 2019 AVERAGE	LOW	нісн
Northern Colorado	31,849	+87.0%	<b>17,092</b> May 2020	<b>37,808</b> Mar 2022
Larimer	19,114	+87.5%	<b>9,471</b> May 2020	<b>22,259</b> Mar 2022
Weld	12,735	+86.3%	<b>7,621</b> May 2020	<b>15,549</b> Mar 2022

What: The job postings in this dataset are those considered to be unique and "active," meaning they are currently available online and are open for applications.

**Why:** Job postings are a leading indicator of emerging labor market trends. They are a measure of recruitment marketing by employers purportedly looking to fill job vacancies. Higher levels of job posting activity can be indicative of heightened hiring activity in a labor market and vice versa.

**Summary:** In May 2020, job posting activity bottomed out. Since then, posting activity has picked up dramatically, accelerating significantly in the first half 2021. Posting activity has remained high in comparison to its pre-Pandemic level. 2022, however, showed a mostly downward trajectory, while 2023 has shown a sharp uptick.





Source: Emsi. Frequency: monthly, no delay Updated: 06/01/2023

#### EMPLOYMENT | Unique Job Postings per Unemployed Worker

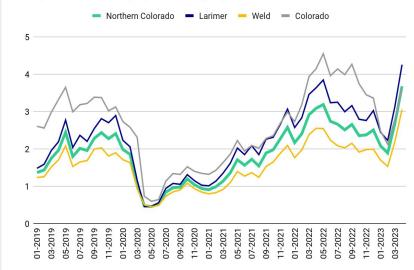
	CURRENT APR 2022	COMPARISON TO 2019 AVERAGE	LOW	нісн
Northern Colorado	3.7	82.8%	<b>0.5</b> May 2020	<b>3.7</b> Apr 2023
Larimer	4.3	85.4%	<b>0.5</b> May 2020	<b>4.3</b> Apr 2023
Weld	3.1	79.8%	<b>0.5</b> May 2020	<b>3.1</b> Apr 2023

**What:** The job postings per unemployed worker is the number of unique active job postings divided by the number of workers who are not employed and actively seeking work.

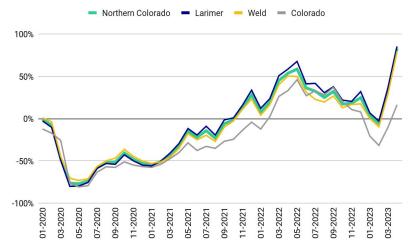
**Why:** Job postings per unemployed worker provides an indicator of the supply of available workers relative to the number of job openings.

Summary: In April 2020, the number of unemployed workers reached its peak, and in May 2020, job posting activity bottomed out. At that time, there were about two unemployed workers for every job posting. Since then, posting activity has rapidly increased and the number of unemployed workers has declined. April 2023 saw a sharp increase, with an average of 3.7 postings per unemployed worker.

ALEXANDER RESEARCH & CONSULTING Unique Job Postings per Unemployed Worker



Job Postings per Unemployed Worker: Percent Difference from 2019 Monthly Average



Source: Emsi. US Bureau of Labor Statistics. Frequency: monthly, no delay Updated: 06/01/2023

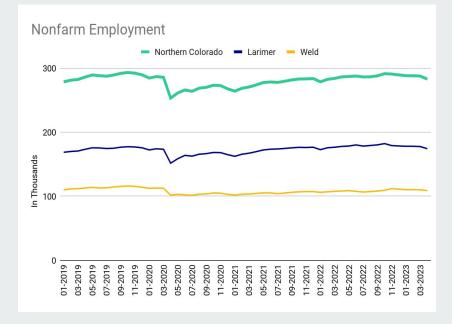
#### EMPLOYMENT | Total Nonfarm Employment

	CURRENT APR 2023	COMPARISON TO 2019 AVERAGE	LOW	нісн
Northern Colorado	283,000	-1.6%	<b>253,300</b> Apr 2020	<b>291,400</b> Oct 2022
Larimer	174,200	0.1%	151,600 Apr 2020	<b>182,200</b> Oct 2022
Weld	108,800	-4.0%	101,300 Jul 2020	<b>112,800</b> Feb 2020

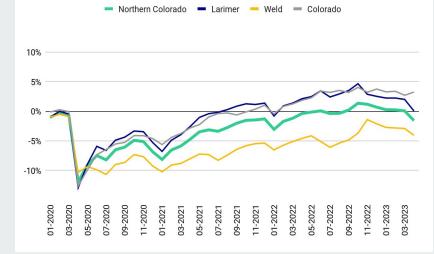
**What:** Total nonfarm employment is a measurement of the total number of workers. These estimates are provided monthly based on national survey of businesses and government agencies.

**Why:** This measure of employment is based on the place of work and provides insights into employment levels at employers based in Larimer and Weld Counties.

Summary: The economic shutdown in the spring of 2020 meant that employers in Northern Colorado shed almost 34,000 jobs, a drop of 12 percent. Since April, employers in Larimer and Weld Counties have recovered many of the jobs - Weld County at a slower rate. Larimer County recovered back to 2019 average employment in August 2021 and Northern Colorado recovered in September 2022. As of April 2023, Weld County employment is 4.0% percent lower.

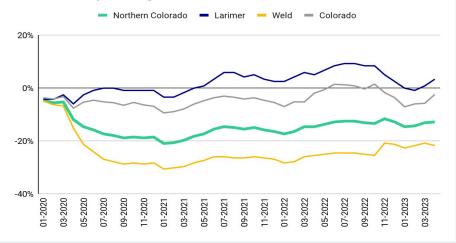


Nonfarm Employment: Percent Difference from 2019 Monthly Average

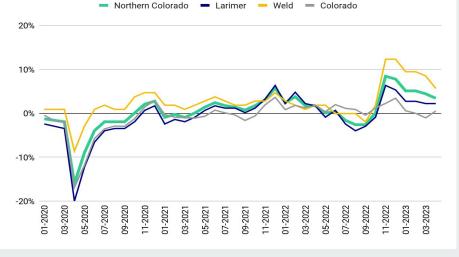




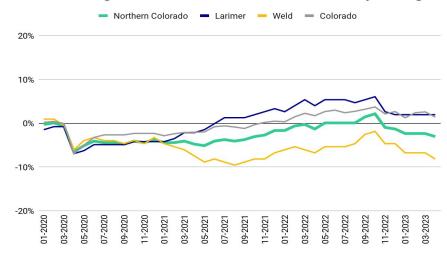
Mining, Logging, and Construction: Percent Difference from 2019 Monthly Average



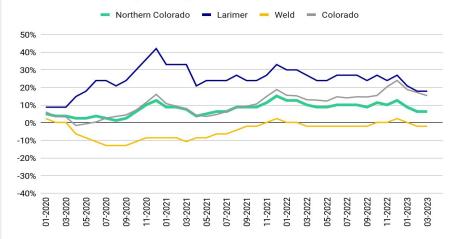
Retail Trade: Percent Difference from 2019 Monthly Average



ALEXANDER RESEARCH & CONSULTING

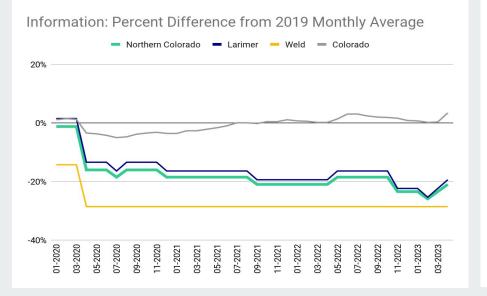


Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities: Percent Difference from 2019 Monthly Average

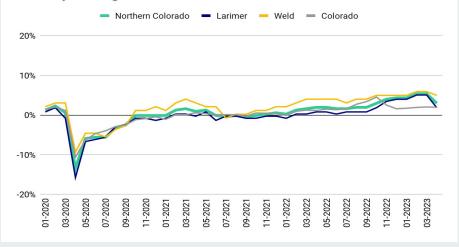


Source: US Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics Frequency: monthly, 1-month delay Updated: 06/01/2023

#### Manufacturing: Percent Difference from 2019 Monthly Average



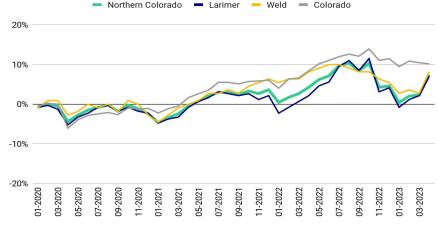
Education and Health Services: Percent Difference from 2019 Monthly Average



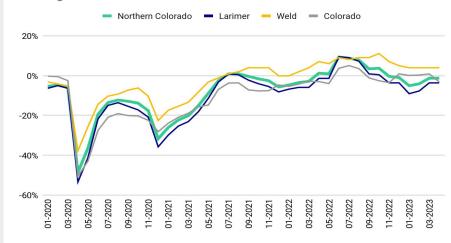
ALEXANDER

RESEARCH & CONSULTING

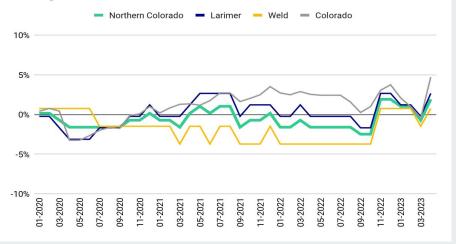
Professional and Business Services: Percent Difference from 2019 Monthly Average



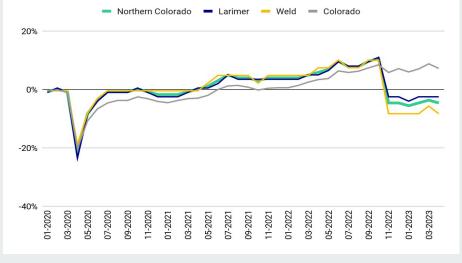
Leisure and Hospitality: Percent Difference from 2019 Monthly Average



Financial Activities: Percent Difference from 2019 Monthly Average



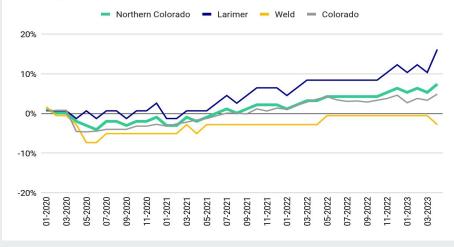
Other Services: Percent Difference from 2019 Monthly Average



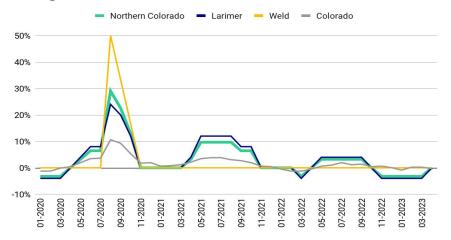
ALEXANDER

RESEARCH & CONSULTING

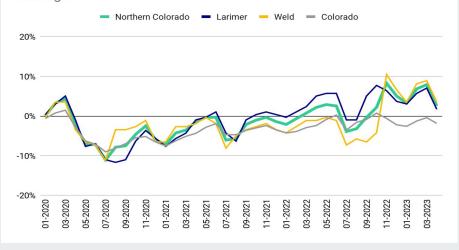
Wholesale Trade: Percent Difference from 2019 Monthly Average



Federal Government: Percent Difference from 2019 Monthly Average



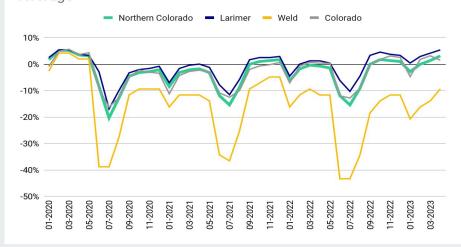
Local Government: Percent Difference from 2019 Monthly Average



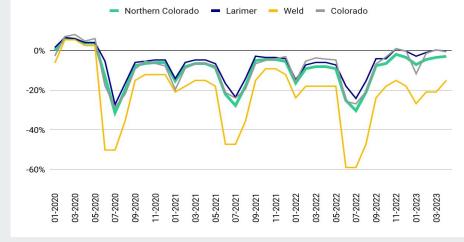
ALEXANDER

RESEARCH & CONSULTING

State Government: Percent Difference from 2019 Monthly Average



State Government Educational Services: Percent Difference from 2019 Monthly Average



## EMPLOYMENT | Change in Nonfarm Employment by Industry, Feb 2020 to Apr 2023

	Larimer		Weld		Northern Colorado		Colorado	
Sector	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Total Nonfarm	4,500	2.60%	-3,200	-2.80%	1,300	0.50%	67,900	2.40%
Professional and Business Services	1,500	7.40%	800	7.20%	2,300	7.30%	43,800	10.00%
Retail Trade	1,000	5.30%	500	4.70%	1,500	5.10%	6,000	2.20%
Mining, Logging and Construction	900	8.00%	-3,300	-16.50%	-2,400	-7.70%	3,600	1.80%
Wholesale Trade	800	15.40%	-100	-2.30%	700	7.30%	4,500	4.00%
Manufacturing	400	2.80%	-1,300	-9.00%	-900	-3.10%	1,500	1.00%
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	400	11.10%	200	4.30%	600	7.30%	12,100	12.30%
Leisure and Hospitality	300	1.40%	800	8.50%	1,100	3.60%	-9,100	-2.60%
Financial Activities	200	2.90%	0	0.00%	200	1.80%	6,900	3.90%
Federal Government	100	4.20%	0	0.00%	100	3.30%	500	1.00%
Education and Health Services	0	0.00%	200	1.90%	200	0.70%	-300	-0.10%
State Government	0	0.00%	-600	-13.00%	-600	-2.00%	-4,400	-3.20%
Other Services	-200	-3.00%	-300	-7.90%	-500	-4.80%	8,400	7.30%
Local Government	-200	-1.30%	0	0.00%	-200	-0.70%	-7,100	-2.60%
Information	-700	-20.60%	-100	-16.70%	-800	-20.00%	1,500	1.90%
State Government Educational Services	-1,100	-6.50%	-700	-19.40%	-1,800	-8.70%	-6,100	-7.20%



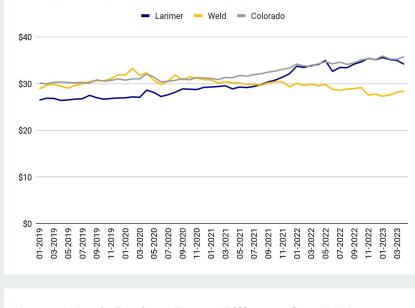
#### EMPLOYMENT | Average Hourly Earnings

	CURRENT APR 2023	COMPARISON TO 2019 AVERAGE	LOW	нісн
Northern Colorado	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Larimer	\$34.14	+27.5%	<b>\$26.95</b> Jan 2020	<b>\$35.58</b> JAN 2023
Weld	\$28.39	-5.6%	<b>\$27.30</b> JAN 2023	<b>\$33.22</b> Feb 2020

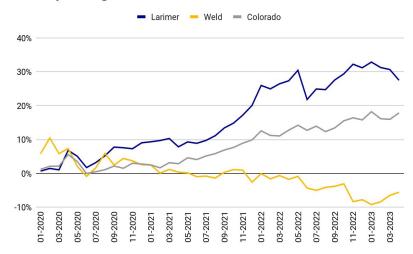
What: Average hourly earnings are collected as "gross" earnings per the average hours for which pay was received. Earnings include overtime and regular bonuses, but not benefits, irregular bonuses, or retroactive pay.

**Why:** They reflect changes in basic hourly and incentive wage rates as well as premium pay. They also reflect shifts in the number of employees between relatively high-paid and low-paid work.

Summary: The Pandemic-related recession had a marked impact on the leisure and hospitality sector, which resulted in the shedding of many lower-wage jobs and a corresponding uptick in average hourly earnings. The re-opening of the economy in summer 2020 led to an adjustment in the average hourly earnings. Since then, Larimer Co. has seen a significant uptick in average hourly earnings. Weld Co. has been on a mostly downward trajectory. Average Hourly Earnings of All Employees



Average Hourly Earnings: Percent Difference from 2019 Monthly Average



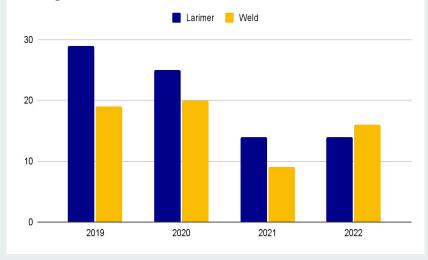
#### SMALL & LOCAL BUSINESS | Bankruptcy Filings

What: The number of business and non-business cases filed in US Bankruptcy Courts measures the volume of bankruptcy filings in a 12-month period. The cases include those related to all chapters of the Bankruptcy Code - Chapter 7, Chapter 11, or Other.

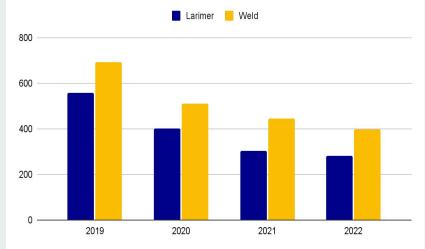
Why: Bankruptcies are a measure of financial distress.

Summary: In the 12 months ending December 31, 2022 Weld County saw an uptick in business bankruptcies compared to 2021. In contrast, non-business bankruptcies declined. In Larimer County, the number of business bankruptcies stayed flat from 2021 to 2022 and non-business bankruptcies declined slightly. The level of both business and non-business cases in both counties that were filed in 2021 and in 2022 is lower than it was in both 2019 and 2020.

The data shows that the Pandemic supports did seem to stabilize business and personal finances. Even with the uptick in business bankruptcies in Weld County, the level is still below pre-Pandemic levels. Business Bankruptcies: Cases Filed During the 12-Month Period Ending December 31



Non-Business Bankruptcies: Cases Filed During the 12-Month Period Ending December 31



Source: U.S. Bankruptcy Courts. Frequency: quarterly, 3-month lag Updated: 04/26/2023

#### **RETAIL & HOSPITALITY | Retail Sales**

	CURRENT FEB 2023 (MILLIONS)	COMPARISON TO SAME MONTH IN 2019	LOW	НІСН
Northern Colorado	\$2,382.5	+23.6%	<b>\$1,682.5</b> Apr 2020	<b>\$4,023.5.0</b> Dec 2022
Larimer	\$1,137.5	+26.3%	<b>\$806.2</b> Apr 2020	<b>\$2,017.9</b> Dec 2022
Weld	\$1,245.0	+21.2%	<b>\$843.7</b> Feb 2021	<b>\$2,005.6</b> Dec 2022

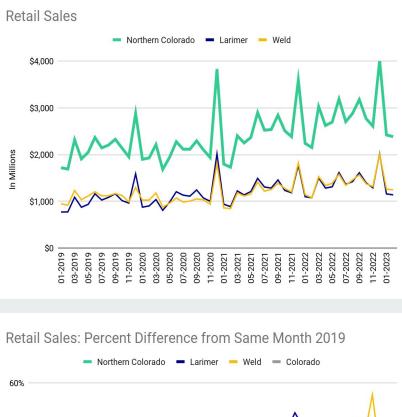
What: Retail sales are an indicator of consumer spending. As of 2019, retail sales are reported as of the location of the purchaser, which would include any online purchases shipped to locations in Larimer and Weld Counties.

Why: Consumer spending accounts for about 70% of the US economy; thus, retail sales can be an important indicator of the general health of an economy. In addition, local governments derive much of their tax revenue from retail sales. In this way, retail sales are an indicator of the health of the public sector.

Summary: In Larimer County, retail sales bottomed out in April 2020 and have been above 2019 levels since June 2020. In Weld County, retail sales also bottomed out in April 2020 but were slower to recover. Currently, retail sales in both counties are well above 2019 levels, even when adjusted for inflation.

ALEXANDER

RESEARCH & CONSULTING





Source: Colorado Department of Revenue Frequency: monthly, 2-month delay Updated: 06/01/2023

#### RETAIL & HOSPITALITY | Retail Sales by Select Industry

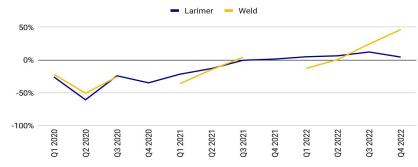
interesting				
	CURRENT Q4 2022 (MILLIONS)	COMPARISON TO SAME Q 2019	LOW	нісн
Larimer:				
Arts	\$20.9	+12.1%	-60.8%	+12.1%
Clothing	\$97.2	+9.9%	-41.9%	+22.7%
Food Svcs	\$264.4	+21.1%	-36.5%	+26.0%
Weld:				
Arts	\$4.5	+24.3%	-50.8%	+46.3%
Clothing	\$51.7	+30.5%	-8.9%	+60.7%
Food Svcs	\$143.2	+24.3%	-20.8%	+26.7%

**What:** Retail sales are an indicator of consumer spending as well as an indicator of business revenues. In this capacity, retail sales can reflect the health of businesses.

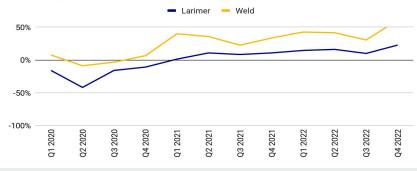
**Why:** These three industries were selected because many consumer-oriented, locally-owned businesses are in these sectors.

**Summary:** All three sectors were particularly hard it in the second quarter 2020 when stay-at-home orders where in effect and business capacity was severely limited. Arts, entertainment, and recreation sales were the most negatively impacted by COVID and were the slowest to recover. Clothing and clothing accessories and food services have been more resilient and surpassed 2019 levels in both counties by the second quarter of 2021.

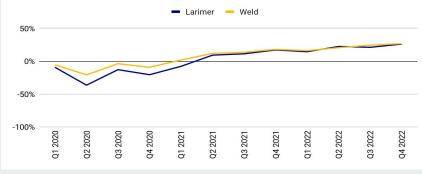
ALEXANDER RESEARCH & CONSULTING Retail Sales: Comparison vs Same Quarter 2019 Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation



Retail Sales: Comparison vs Same Quarter 2019 Clothing and Clothing Accessories



Retail Sales: Comparison vs Same Quarter 2019 Food Services and Drinking Places



Source: Colorado Department of Revenue Frequency: quarterly, 2-month delay Updated: 06/01/2023

#### **RETAIL & HOSPITALITY | Community Mobility**

	CURRENT (SEP 30, 2022) COMPARISON TO JAN 2020 BASELINE	LOW	нісн
Larimer:			
Retail & Rec	-4%	-53%	+9%
Workplace	-23%	-53%	+4%
Weld:			
Retail & Rec	-3%	-42%	+8%
Workplace	-11%	-46%	+5%

**What:** Google's community mobility tracks aggregated, anonymized data to provide insights into movement trends. It shows the percent difference from the January 2020 baseline.

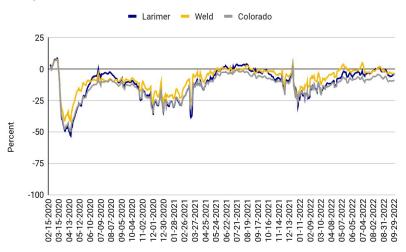
**Why:** Policies and individual responses related to the Pandemic greatly influence people's movement and spending. People's visits to retail and recreation destination and the workplace provide insights into the flow of customers and workers.

**Summary:** Community mobility dropped by as much as 50 percent during the April stay-at-home order. Mobility has recovered to retail and recreation places, but for workplaces, it is significantly lower than baseline levels in Larimer County but is closer to recovery in Weld County.

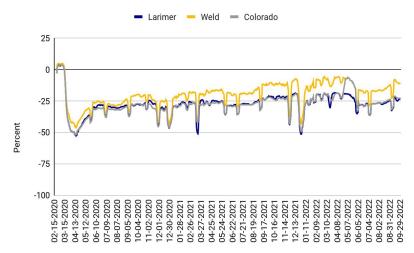
ALEXANDER

RESEARCH & CONSULTING

Community Mobility, Retail & Recreation: 7-day Average Comparison to Baseline



Community Mobility, Workplace: 7-day Average Comparison to Baseline



Source: Google Frequency: daily Updated: 10/10/2022

#### RETAIL & HOSPITALITY | Hotel Occupancy

	CURRENT APR 2023	COMPARISON TO SAME MONTH IN 2019	LOW	нісн
Estes Park	31.6%	-4.0%	<b>7.0%</b> Apr 2020	<b>87.8%</b> Jul 2022
Fort Collins	61.3%	-9.5%	<b>14.8%</b> Apr 2020	<b>79.7%</b> Jun 2022
Greeley	74.0%	-10.2%	<b>31.9%</b> Apr 2020	<b>86.9%</b> Jul 2021
Longmont	62.8%	+16.5%	<b>14.4%</b> Apr 2020	<b>79.2%</b> Jul 2022
Loveland	66.2%	-1.8%	<b>19.7%</b> Apr 2020	<b>81.6%</b> Jul 2021

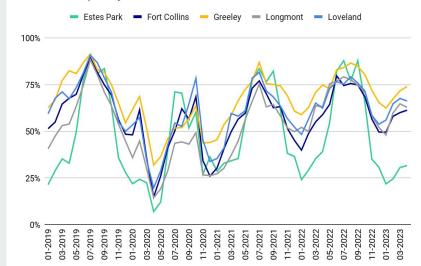
**What:** The hotel occupancy shows the percent of open hotel rooms that are occupied.

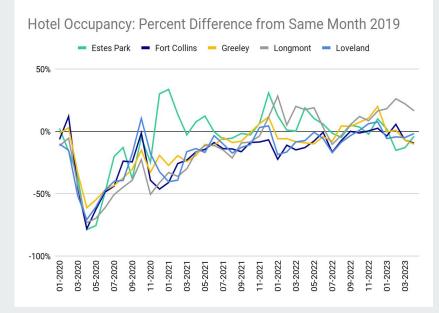
Why: The hotel occupancy rate is an indicator of the performance of the hospitality sector. It shows capacity utilization and reflects the visitation level to these destinations. The hospitality sector, a major employment sector, also generates visitor spending which supports other sectors.

**Summary:** The hotel occupancy rate declined dramatically in April 2020 in all the Northern Colorado markets. Estes Park and Longmont were the first markets to recover while the other markets experienced more gradual progress toward recovery.

ALEXANDER RESEARCH & CONSULTING

#### Hotel Occupancy





Source: Rocky Mountain Lodging Report, Colorado Hotel and Lodging Association Frequency: monthly, 1-month delay 19 Updated: 06/01/2023

#### RETAIL & HOSPITALITY | Revenue per Available Room

	CURRENT APR 2023	COMPARISON TO SAME MONTH IN 2019	LOW	нісн
Estes Park	\$42.04	-5.8%	<b>\$9.31</b> Apr 2020	<b>\$232.12</b> Jul 2022
Fort Collins	\$75.62	-2.5%	<b>\$11.32</b> Apr 2020	<b>\$124.78</b> Jun 2022
Greeley	\$72.28	-15.0%	<b>\$24.67</b> May 2020	<b>\$96.52</b> Jun 2022
Longmont	\$63.04	4.8%	<b>\$11.91</b> Apr 2020	<b>\$123.09</b> Jun 2022
Loveland	\$82.03	8.5%	<b>\$17.56</b> Apr 2020	<b>\$122.38</b> Jul 2021

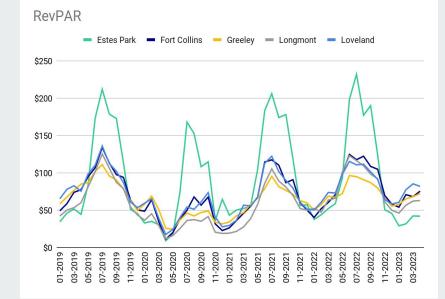
**What:** Revenue per Available Room (RevPAR) is another key performance indicator of the hospitality industry that is calculated by multiplying the average daily room rate by the occupancy rate.

Why: RevPAR is an indicator of profitability in the hospitality sector.

Summary: All of the five regional markets saw extreme drops in RevPAR in April. With the exception of Estes Park, the markets saw gradual improvement reaching seasonal peaks each summer. Estes Park, however, saw a strong improvement in the summer of 2020 and experienced an exceptional winter and spring season before normalizing to 2019 levels in the summers of 2021 and 2022.

ALEXANDER

RESEARCH & CONSULTING



RevPAR: Percent Difference from Same Month 2019



Source: Rocky Mountain Lodging Report, Colorado Hotel and Lodging Association Frequency: monthly, 1-month delay Updated: 06/01/2023

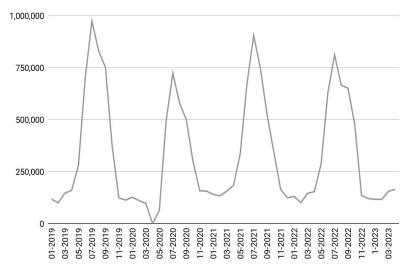
#### RETAIL & HOSPITALITY | Visitors to Rocky Mountain National Park

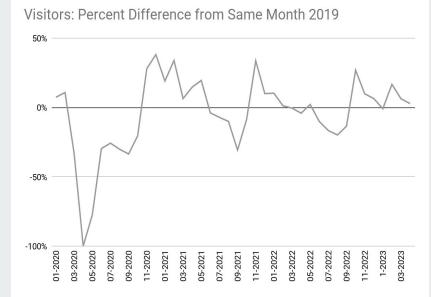
	CURRENT APR 2023	COMPARISON TO SAME MONTH IN 2019	LOW	HIGH
Recreation Visitors	164,809	+2.8%	<b>0</b> Apr 2020	<b>904,767</b> Jul 2021

**What:** Monthly recreation visitors to Rocky Mountain National Park is the number of individuals that enter the park for recreational purposes.

**Why:** The number of monthly recreation visitors is an indicator of the health of the tourism sector in the region as it captures the visitors to one of the largest tourist destinations in Northern Colorado.

Summary: Rocky Mountain National Park closed completely at the beginning of the Pandemic but opened back up for the summer tourism season. However, visitation over the summer and fall remained about 30 percent below 2019 levels due to the reservation system that limited visitation to the park. Although the East Troublesome and Cameron Peak Fires impacted the park significantly in October and November 2020, visitation was 38 percent higher in December 2020 than it was in December 2019 and continued to be elevated through spring 2021. The reservation system was back in place in 2021 and 2022 from June to October, which held the number of visitors to lower-than-average levels. Visitors to Rocky Mountain National Park





Source: National Park Service Frequency: monthly, 1-month delay Updated: 06/01/2023

## REAL ESTATE & CONSTRUCTION | Median Home Price

	CURRENT APR 2023	COMPARISON TO SAME MONTH IN 2019	LOW	нісн
Northern Colorado	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Larimer	\$584,990	+39.3%	<b>\$412,155</b> Feb 2020	<b>\$610,000</b> Apr 2022
Weld	\$489,875	+36.5%	<b>\$358,900</b> Jan 2020	<b>\$507,036</b> May 2022

What: The median price is where half homes sold for more and half homes sold for less.

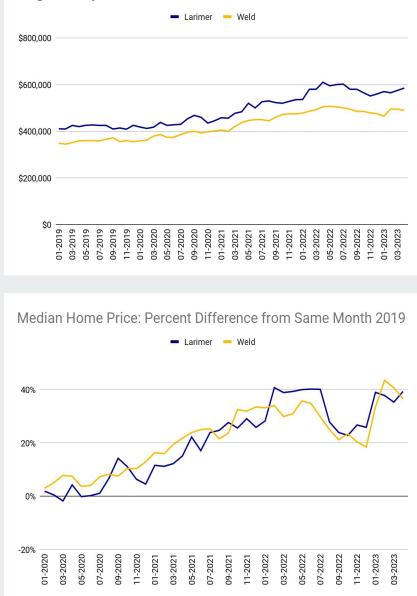
**Why:** The median home price is a good indicator of the conditions of the residential real estate market as well as housing affordability.

**Summary:** In spite of the Pandemic, the residential real estate market has continued to be strong. In both counties, the median home price has continued to be on an upward trajectory. Though there has been quite a bit of variability, particularly in Larimer County, the median home prices remained more than 30 percent higher than the same month in 2019 for the first half of 2022. In the last quarter of 2022, the housing market showed signs of slowing with the rise of interest rates impact the mortgage market, but prices seemed to stabilize in the first quarter of 2023.

ALEXANDER

RESEARCH & CONSULTING

Single Family Median Home Price



Source: Colorado Association of Realtors Frequency: monthly, 1-month delay Updated: 06/01/2023

## REAL ESTATE & CONSTRUCTION | Commercial Vacancy Rates

	CURRENT APR 2022	COMPARISON TO FEB 2020 MONTHLY AVERAGE	LOW	нісн
Larimer:				
Larimer.				
Retail	3.9%	-10.0%	3.2%	4.7%
Office	5.4%	+21.8%	4.5%	7.4%
Industrial	4.3%	+81.8%	2.2%	4.5%
Weld:				
Retail	3.4%	+54.6%	1.9%	3.9%
Office	7.3%	+159.2%	2.6%	7.4%
Industrial	3.1%	+18.2%	2.3%	4.2%

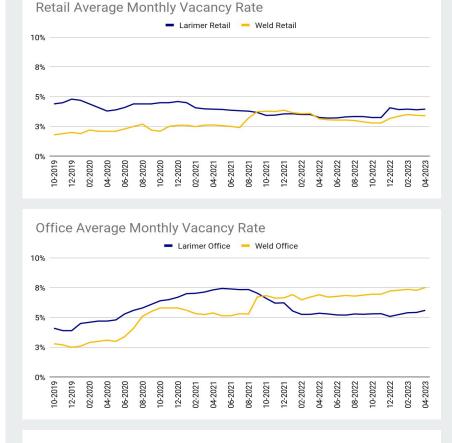
**What:** The average monthly vacancy rate is the average of the daily vacancy rate, which is the amount of space vacant divided by the rentable building area.

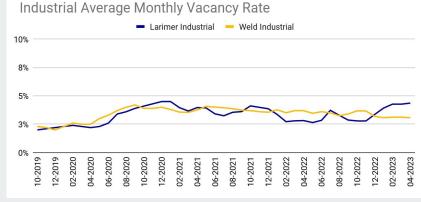
Why: Commercial vacancy rates are indicators of conditions of the commercial real estate market. Changes in the vacancy rate can reflect changes in the region's rentable building area or changes in the amount of space being leased.

**Summary:** The average monthly vacancy rate for retail were the most stable in both counties until a recent uptick of the retail vacancy rate in Weld County. The office and industrial rates in both have increased dramatically during the Pandemic and have remained elevated. Larimer office vacancy has been declining since mid 2021 while Weld's office vacancy has risen significantly.

ALEXANDER

RESEARCH & CONSULTING





Source: CoStar Frequency: daily, no delay Updated: 06/01/2023

#### REAL ESTATE & CONSTRUCTION | Building Material Use Tax

	CURRENT APR 2023	COMPARISON TO SAME MONTH IN 2019	LOW	НІСН
Larimer	\$606,814.18	+34.4%	<b>\$320,110</b> Jan 2020	<b>\$488,727</b> May 2022

What: Larimer County collects an estimated deposit of building material use tax at the time a building permit is issued. It is a prepayment of sales tax on building material used for a permitted project and is reconciled upon completion of the project. The 12-month moving average provides a smoothed trend line to better gauge general directional change.

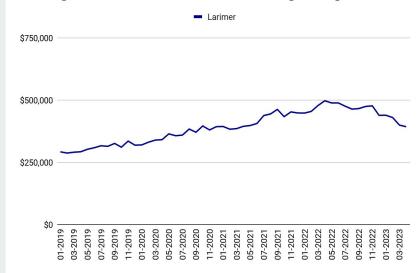
**Why:** Building permits and building material purchases are important indicators of the health of the construction industry.

**Summary:** The 12-month average for the building materials use tax has been steadily climbing. Even during the pandemic, 2020 levels are more than 10 percent higher than the 2019 12-month moving average. By April 2022, the 12-month average was more than 70 percent higher than the average in April 2019. While this is a reflection of the level of activity, it also encompasses the growth in the prices of construction materials. Since May 2022, the 12-month moving average has been on the decline, but still remains above pre-Pandemic levels.

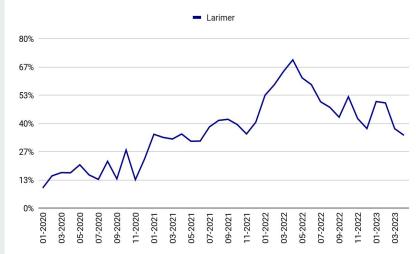
ALEXANDER

RESEARCH & CONSULTING

Building Materials Use Tax: 12-Month Moving Average



Building Materials Use Tax: Percent Difference from Same Month 2019



Source: Larimer County Frequency: monthly, no delay Updated: 06/01/2023