



Colorado Fiscal Institute Resource List

State Government Resources

Colorado General Assembly

All bills, fiscal notes, committee reports, watch live House and Senate floor action, listen to committee hearings, portal to service agencies like the Joint Budget Committee and Legislative Council Staff.

www.leg.state.co.us

Joint Budget Committee (JBC)

Six-member joint legislative committee that develops the annual state budget. JBC staff assigned to specific areas. Meet year-round. Here you will find the Long Bill (state appropriations bill), budget briefing documents, research documents, supplemental budget requests, figure setting documents.

http://www.tornado.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/jbc/jbchome.htm

Legislative Council (Leg Council or LCS)

Research arm of the state legislature. Legislative Council Staff produces fiscal notes for legislation, research memoranda on potential legislation, ballot initiative voter information books. LCS works directly for members of the General Assembly and staff legislative committees. Here you will find how to testify, how a bill becomes a law, rules of the Senate and the House, ballot initiative information, economic and revenue forecasts, general research. Economists housed in this office.

<http://www.colorado.gov/lcs>

Governor's Office of State Planning and Budgeting (OSPB)

The Governor's budget director and economists. OSPB also has a number of staff members who research fiscal and economic policy for the executive branch. Here you will find the Governor's budget requests, budget actions during interim periods, executive economic and revenue forecasts, and other initiatives of the Governor.

<http://www.colorado.gov/ospb>

Legislative Legal Services (LLS)

In-house legal counsel to the General Assembly. LLS drafts legislation, statutes, provides legal analysis and support to the members of the General Assembly, and provides comment

on ballot initiatives. Typically, members of the public must have permission from a legislator to work directly with a legal services attorney on legislation, but LLS serves as a source of general legal and legislative information for the public.

http://tornado.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/olls/

Colorado State Auditor

The state auditor's office conducts periodic audits and reviews of all programs of state government. The auditor's office ensures the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of the State's critical computer systems and taxpayer data.

<http://www.leg.state.co.us/OSA/coauditor1.nsf/Home?openform>

Colorado Department of Revenue (DOR)

Collects taxes, enforces tax law, produces research on taxes in Colorado. Also oversees the Colorado State Lottery, Motor Vehicle Division and enforces laws and ensures compliance for marijuana, liquor and tobacco, gaming, racing and the auto industry.

<http://www.colorado.gov/revenue>

Colorado Department of Labor and Employment (CDLE)

Oversees wage and hour enforcement, job training and employment services, unemployment insurance, worker's compensation and other business/labor related services. Conducts research on labor, employment, workforce and the economy in Colorado. CDLE possesses an excellent research division.

<https://www.colorado.gov/cdle>

Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA)

DOLA is the state liaison to local governments in Colorado. They pass federal and state grants to local governments, collect information about locally collected property taxes and other taxes (no CO state property tax), provide technical services to counties and municipalities. Here you will find information about property taxes, housing, rental assistance, property tax collection. State demographic data is also available here.

<http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/DOLA-Main/CBON/1251589672852>

Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Affairs (OEDIT)

Economic development, including grants, technical assistance, tax incentives, business relocation and retention services. Produces economic and industry research in Colorado. Houses the Colorado Tourism, Office of Creative Industries, Colorado International Trade Office, Colorado Small Business Development Centers, Film, TV & Media and minority and women-owned business services division.

<http://www.advancecolorado.com>

Colorado State website acts as a portal to other state agencies, such as the Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS), Health Care Policy and Financing (HCPF), Public Health and Environment (CDPHE).

<http://www.colorado.gov>

<http://www.colorado.gov/government/government/state-agencies.html>

Local Government

Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG)

DRCOG is a planning organization and collaboration of metro-regional local governments. They establish guidelines, set policy and allocate funding in the areas of transportation and mobility, growth and development and aging and disability resources. Excellent source of regional data, maps and modeling, including the new Regional Equity Atlas (partnership with Mile High Connects).

<https://www.drcog.org>

Equity Atlas

<http://www.denverregionalequityatlas.org>

National Partners

Center on Budget and Policy Priorities (CBPP or the Center)

One of the nation's premier policy organizations working at the federal and state levels on fiscal policy and public programs that affect low- and moderate-income families and individuals. Subject-matter experts in welfare, nutrition programs, health care, housing, budget process, state and federal budget policy.

<http://www.cbpp.org>

Coordinates the **State Priorities Partnership**, a network of 41 state tax and budget research and advocacy organizations like the Colorado Fiscal Institute.

<http://statepriorities.org>

Economic Policy Institute (EPI)

First and best think tank in Washington D.C. s on the economic condition of low- and middle-income Americans and their families. Labor economics, working conditions, workplace policies, future of work. <http://www.epi.org>

Coordinates the **Economic Analysis and Research Network (EARN)**, a coalition of national, state and local organizations dedicated to improving the lives of working people and their families.

<http://earncentral.org/about.htm>

Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy (ITEP)

A non-profit, non-partisan research organization that works on federal, state, and local tax policy issues. ITEP provides elected officials, the media, and the general public with accurate, timely and clear information that allows them to understand the effects of current and proposed tax policies. ITEP's work focuses particularly on issues of tax fairness and sustainability. ITEP can model effects of changes in state tax policy.

<http://itep.org>

Citizens for Tax Justice (CTJ)

Founded in 1979, is a 501(c)(4) public interest research and advocacy organization focusing on federal, state and local tax policies and their impact upon our nation. Federal and state tax expertise.

<http://www.ctj.org>

National Employment Law Project (NELP)

Worker rights, immigrant worker rights, unemployment insurance and other worker safety nets. NELP provides research, legal analysis, policy development and other technical assistance to states on issues that protect and benefit working people.

<http://www.nelp.org>

Demos

Think tank founded to advocate for open government, civic participation, new economy, economic prosperity, good governance. Uses research, communications, litigation and advocacy to advance a healthy democracy. Coordinates the Genuine Progress Indicator (GPI) work across the country.

<http://www.demos.org>

Good Jobs First

Provides data on economic development subsidies, high-road transit development, good government disclosure, local tax increment financing and other issues around sustainable and accountable development.

<http://www.goodjobsfirst.org>

Economics Resources

Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), U.S. Department of Commerce

Gross Domestic Product, wealth, income, consumer spending, corporate profits, trade and all things involving the U.S. economy.

<http://www.bea.gov>

National Bureau On Economic Research (NBER)

National research on economic issues in US. In-depth, scientific research reports without policy recommendations.

<http://www.nber.org>

Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)

Comparison of world economies; research and data to promote policies that improve the social and economic well-being of people around the world. Tax, trade, industry, education, income, finance and other facets of world, regional economies and their interaction.

<http://oecd.org>

For world rankings and comparisons, OECD Statistics

<http://stats.oecd.org>

Colorado Fiscal Institute Counties by the Numbers

Colorado Fiscal Institute has compiled fact sheets for Colorado and all 64 counties. Fact sheets include figures for unemployment, poverty, race, education, Earned Income Tax Credit, school finance and much more.

<http://www.coloradofiscal.org/countyfactsheets>

Federal Government Sources

Labor/Economics/Demographics

U.S. Census Bureau

Everything you ever wanted to know about the people and places of the United States – income, population, demographics, poverty, immigration status, commute times, government expenditures, government revenues.

<http://www.census.gov>

U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL)

All things labor related, job training, workforce development, etc.

<http://www.dol.gov>

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Data on unemployment, employment, labor force participation, productivity, pay and benefits, other labor and industry data. Also, produces information on the consumer price index (CPI), consumer expenditure survey, producer price index, time use and other statistical data.

<http://www.bls.gov>

Other National Policy Research Organizations

Tax Policy Center (A joint project of the Brookings Institution and Urban Institute)
Provides timely commentary, analysis and nonpartisan data on taxes and tax policy.
<http://www.taxpolicycenter.org>

Brookings Institution (Brookings)

Nonpartisan research institute on a variety of issues and topics that affect families and the economy.

<http://www.brookings.edu>

An excellent source of information and data on the earned income tax credit and child tax credit. <http://www.brookings.edu/research/interactives/eitc>

Urban Institute (Urban)

Nonpartisan, multi-issue Washington D.C.-based think tank. Good source of information on programs that serve children and families (education, welfare, health care).

<http://www.urban.org>

Institute for Women's Policy Research (IWPR)

Conducts rigorous research and disseminates its findings to address the needs of women, promote public dialogue, and strengthen families, communities, and societies. Gender economics, policy development, family support.

<http://www.iwpr.org>

CLASP

Research and advocacy organization devoted to improving the lives of low-income people. Experts in poverty law and policy, including around programs like welfare (TANF), child care, child welfare, education, family care.

<http://www.clasp.org>

PolicyLink

Economic and social equity – focus on race, gender, disparity, sustainable development. Access the Equity Atlas here for data by local geographic area, race and gender.

www.policylink.org

Center for American Progress (CAP)

Multi-issue progressive policy think tank in Washington, D.C.

<http://www.americanprogress.org>

Pew Charitable Trusts

Pew Center on the States

Provides data on consumer and state initiatives.

<http://www.pewstates.org>

Pew Research Center

Pew's research arm, providing polling and other data on media, religion, politics and other aspects of U.S. culture.

<http://www.pewresearch.org>

Pew Charitable Trusts

Provides links to all Pew initiatives, polling, research and other data.

<http://www.pewtrusts.org>

Immigration Resources

National Immigration Law Center (NILC)

Litigates immigrant rights issues and advocates at the state level for pro-immigrant policies.

www.nilc.org

Immigration Policy Center (IPC)

Provides data on state and federal immigration policy.

www.immigrationpolicy.org

New York Fiscal Policy Institute

NY State Priorities Partnership member. Fiscal and economic research for the NY area, including in-depth research on immigration policy and issues involving new Americans.

<http://fiscalspolicy.org>

Pew Hispanic Center

Provides excellent data on immigrants, Hispanic populations.

www.pewhispanic.org