# Recession and Recovery in Colorado and the U.S.

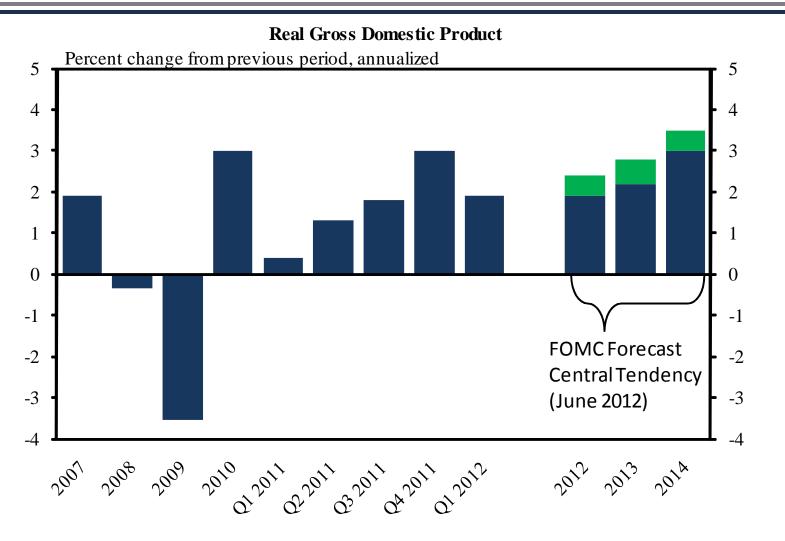


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The views expressed are those of the presenter and do not necessarily reflect the positions of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City or the Federal Reserve System.

# The U.S. economy is expected to continue to grow at a modest pace.

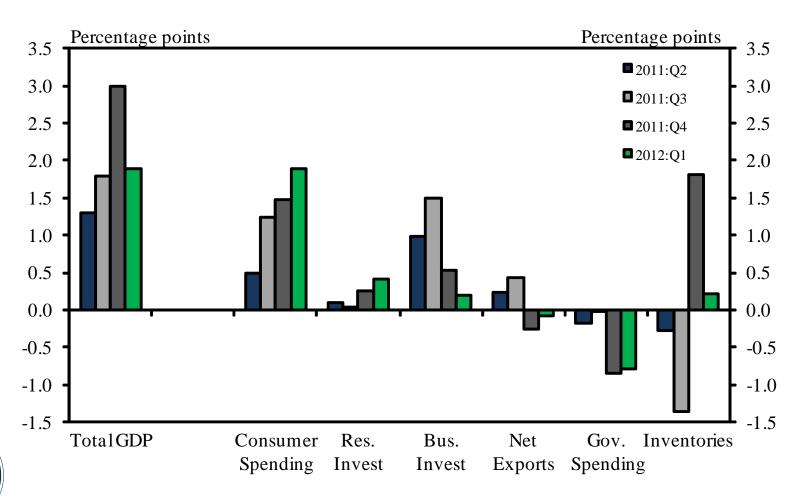




Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis; FOMC

# An increase in consumer spending has led to stronger GDP growth in the U.S.

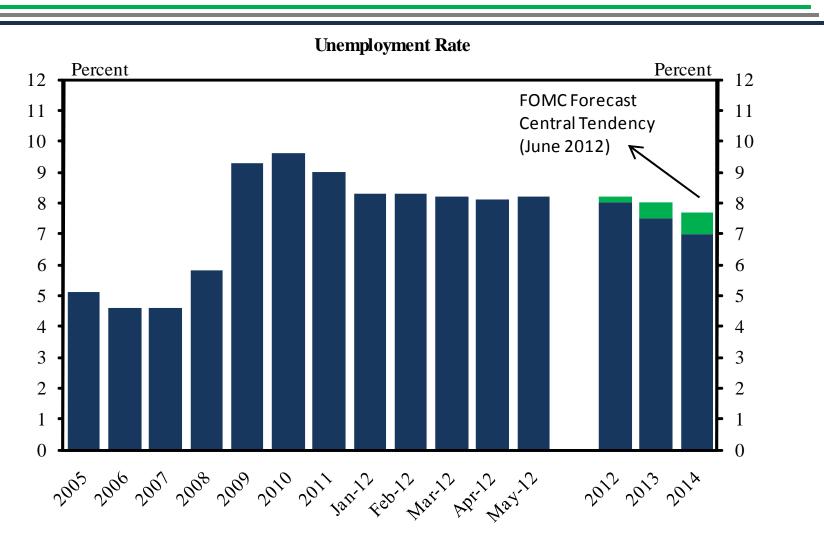
#### **Contributions to Percent Change in Real GDP**





Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis

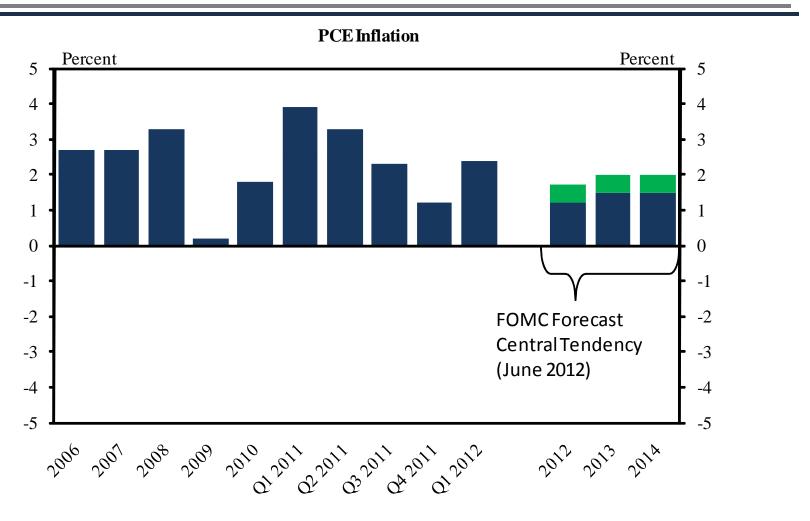
# Unemployment rates have fallen over the past year but remain stubbornly high.





Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics; FOMC

### Inflation increased earlier this year due to higher gas prices, but the increase is expected to be temporary.



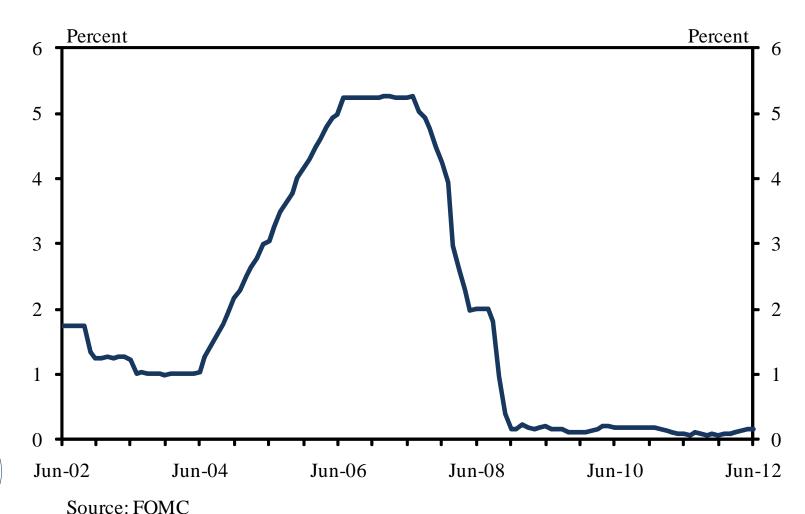


Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis; FOMC

Note: Quarterly inflation shows the compounded annual rate of change.

FOMC June Statement: "the Committee... currently anticipates that economic conditions – including low rates of resource utilization and a subdued outlook for inflation over the medium run – are likely to warrant exceptionally low levels for the federal funds rate at least through late 2014."

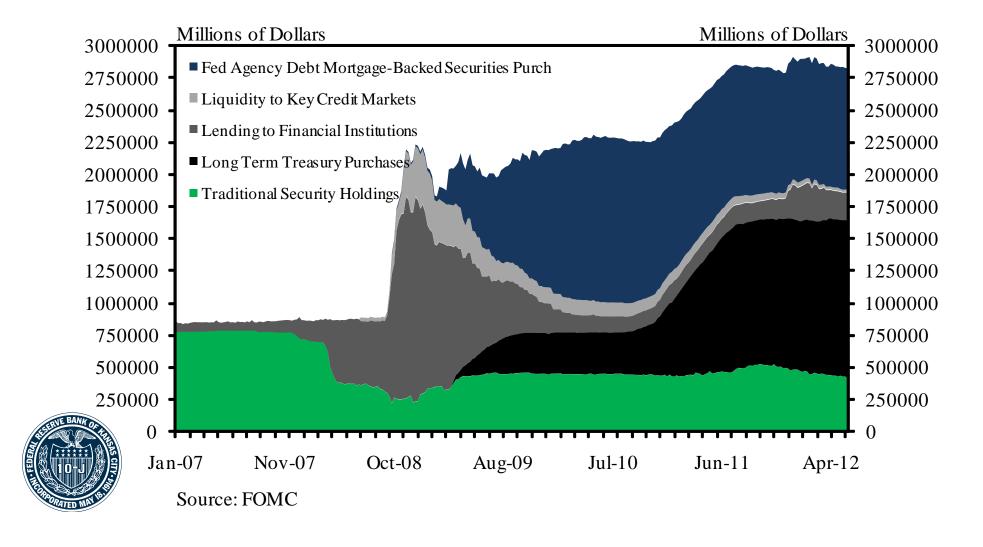
#### **Fed Funds Rate**



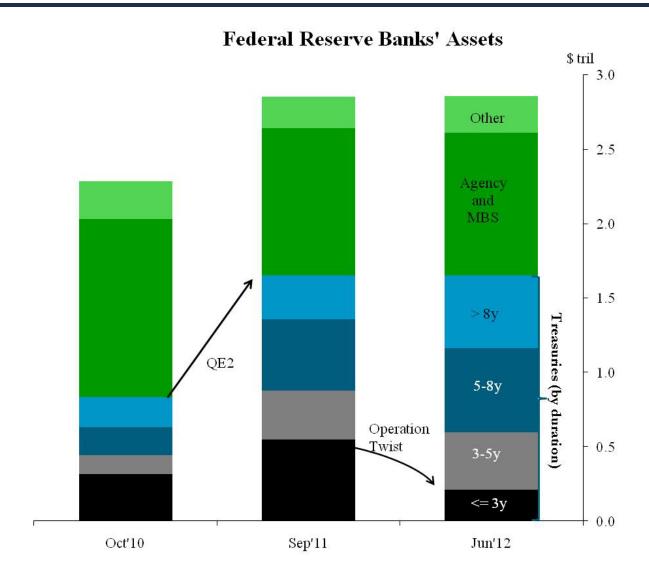


FOMC June Statement: "The Committee is maintaining its existing policy of reinvesting principal payments from its holdings of agency debt and agency mortgage-backed securities in agency mortgage-backed securities."

#### **Federal Reserve Balance Sheet**

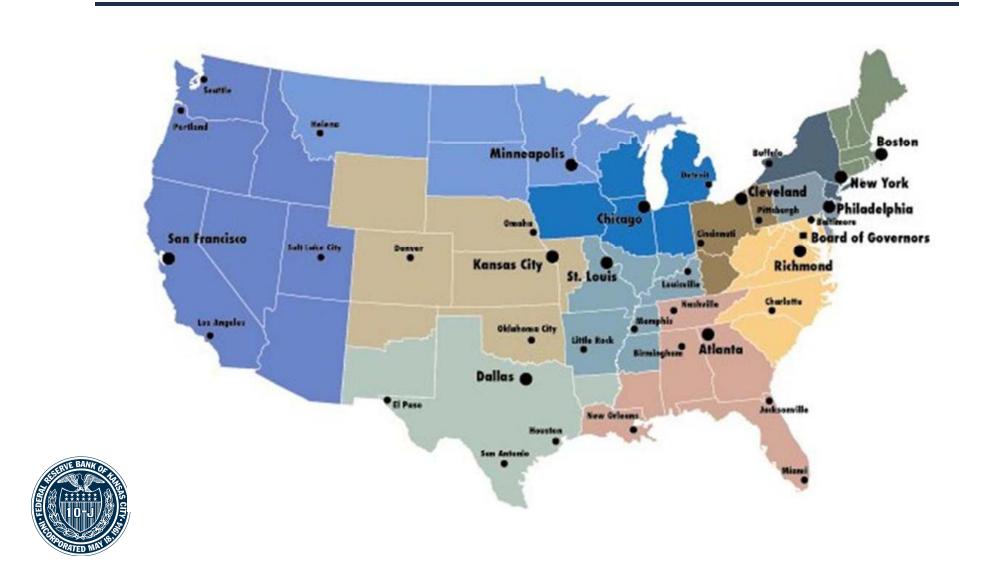


FOMC June Statement: "The Committee also decided to continue through the end of the year its program to extend the average maturity of its holdings of securities. Specifically, the Committee intends to purchase Treasury securities with remaining maturities of 6 to 30 years at the current pace and to sell or redeem an equal amount of Treasury securities with remaining maturities of 3 years or less."

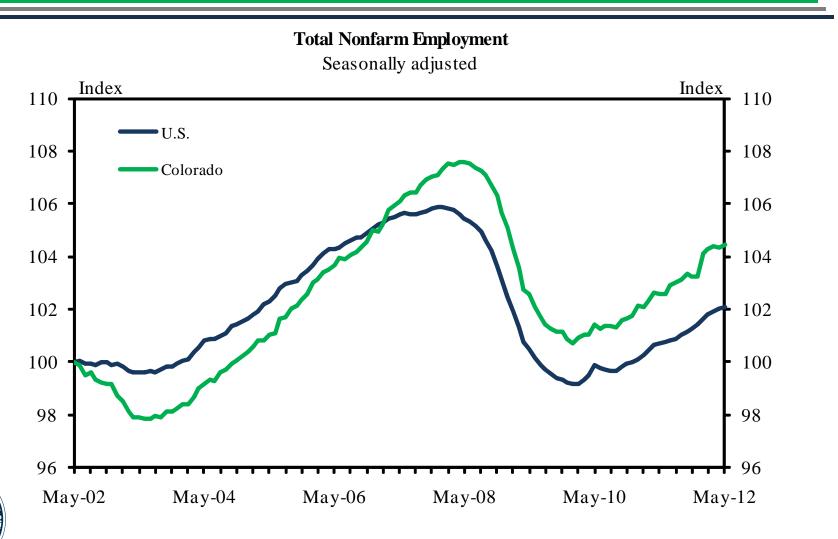




### The Tenth Federal Reserve District



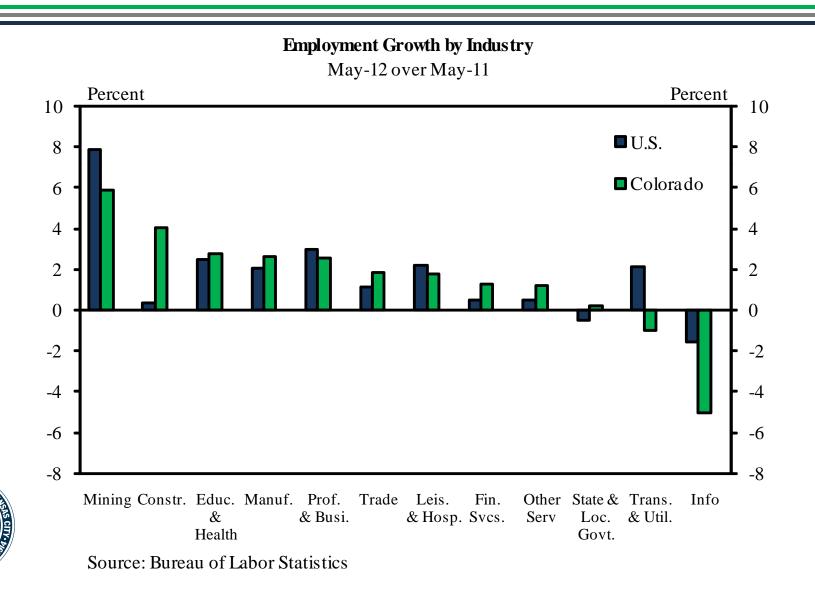
### Colorado employment has increased 3.7% since early 2010 but is still down more than 2.9% from peak levels.



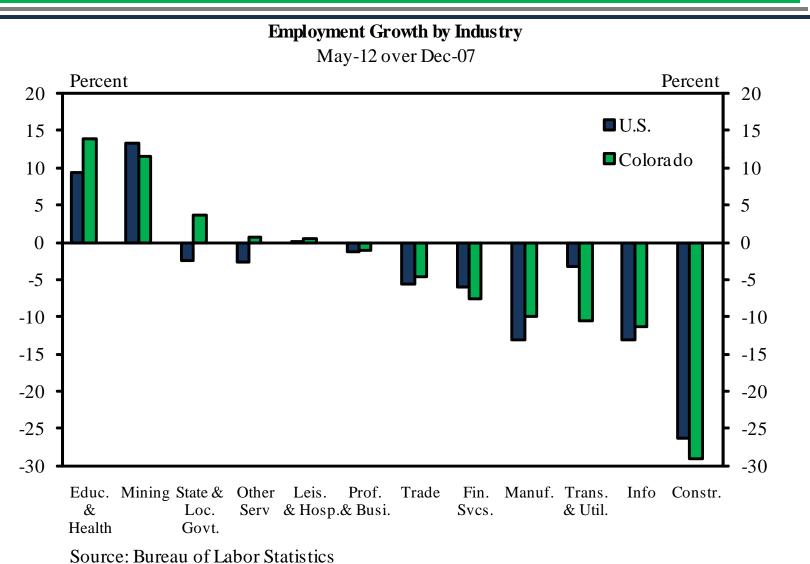


Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

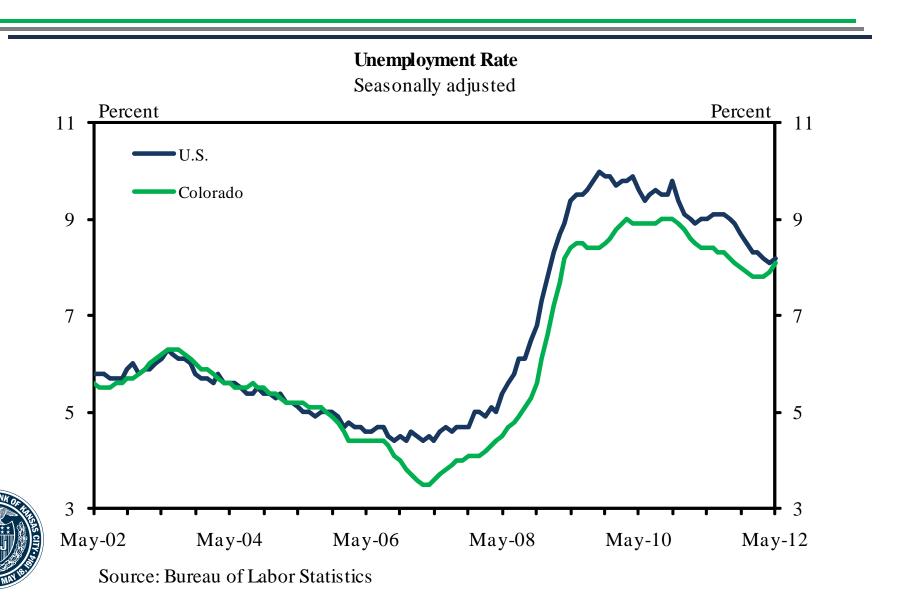
# Most industries experienced employment gains over the past year in Colorado and the U.S.



# Colorado employment is still down more than 10% in the information, manufacturing, transportation, and construction industries.



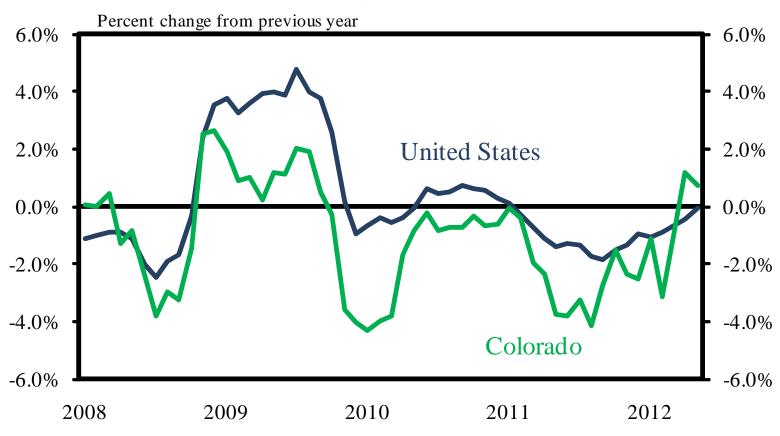
### The Colorado unemployment rate is below its peak rate but has increased over last two months.



# After real wage declines in 2010 and 2011, real earnings are now above year-ago levels.

### Real Average Hourly Earnings, Private Employment

Seasonally Adjusted (Current \$)



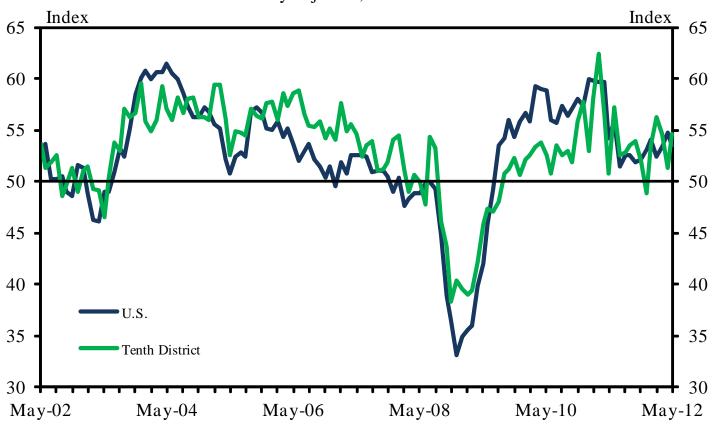


Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

# The manufacturing sector has been expanding for over two years.

#### **Manufacturing Activity**

Seasonally adjusted; month-over-month

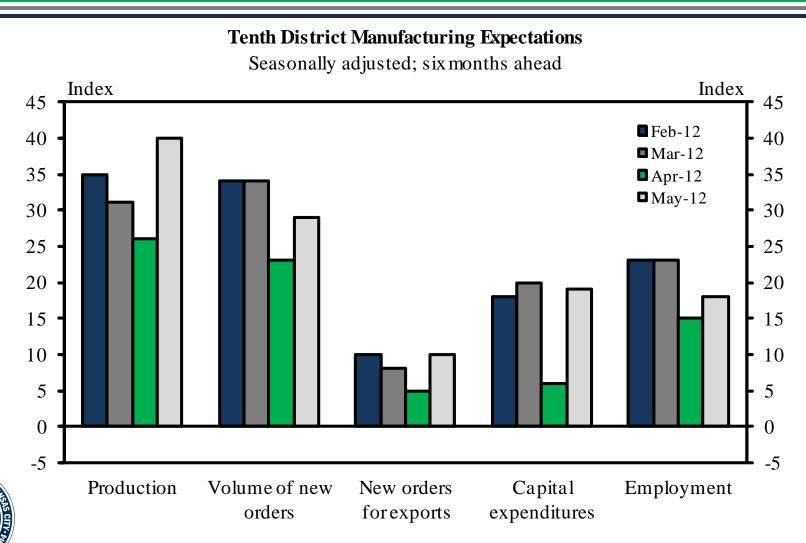




Sources: ISM, FRBKC Manufacturing Survey

Note: 10J index is computed on ISM basis (50 = zero change)

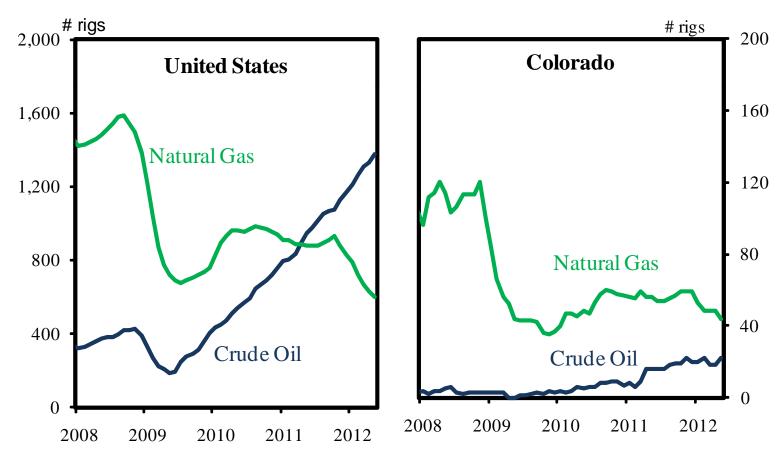
### Manufacturers in the Tenth District expect higher levels of activity over the next six months.





# Drilling activity is responding to prices with oil drilling up and natural gas drilling down.

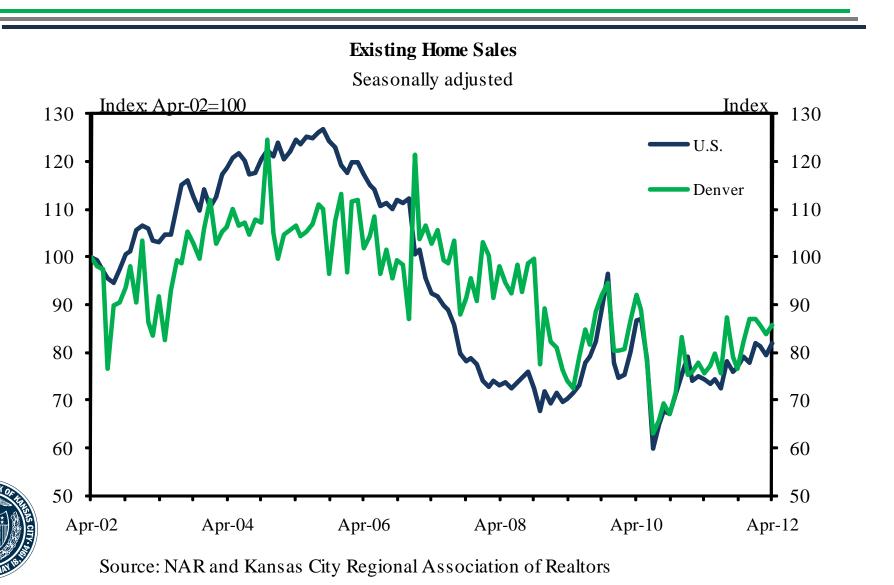
### U.S. and Colorado Drilling Rig Counts





Source: U.S. Department of Energy, Energy Information Administration and Baker Hughes

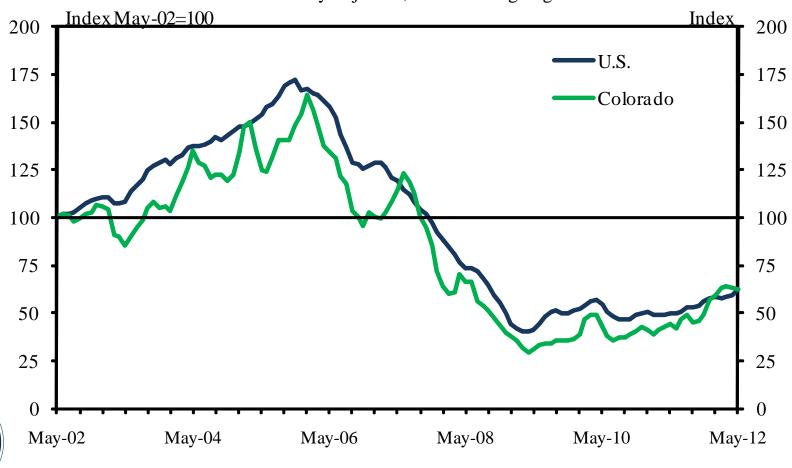
# Home sales continue to increase but remain below pre-recession levels.



### Residential construction activity is increasing from weak levels.

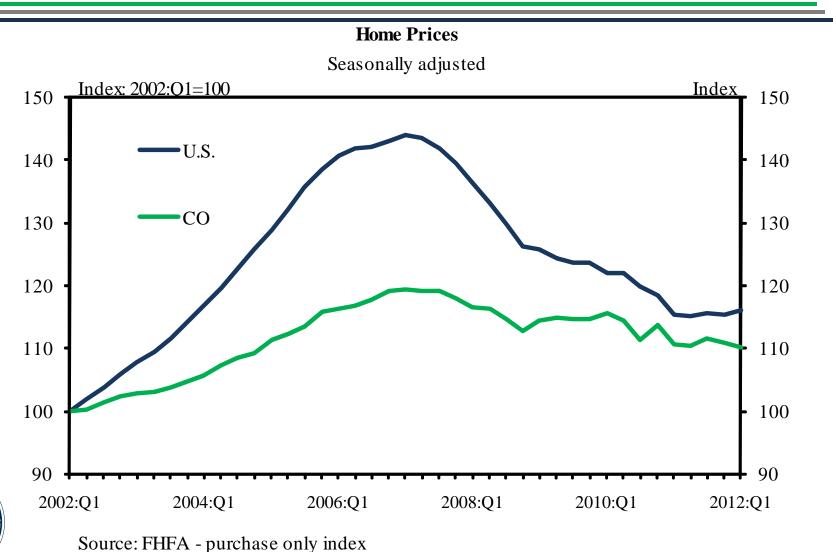
#### **Value of Residential Construction Contracts**

Seasonally adjusted, 3 mo. moving avg.



Source: FW Dodge

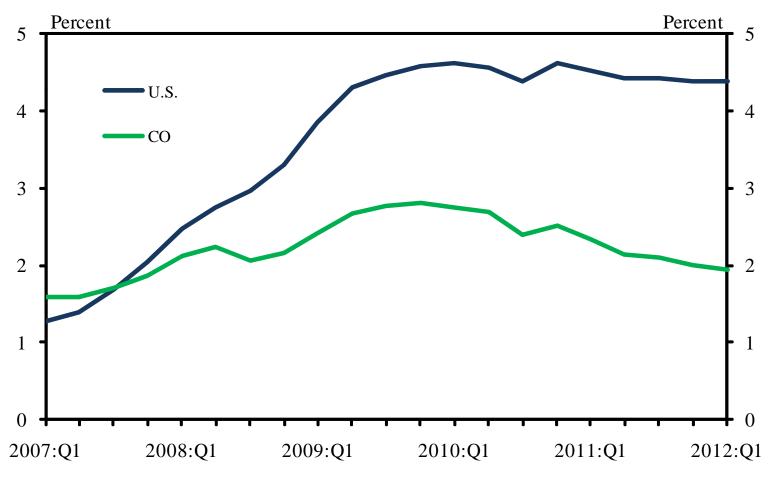
### Home prices in Colorado have held up much better than in the nation over the past few years.





### Foreclosure rates in Colorado are much lower than national rates.

#### **Foreclosure Rate**



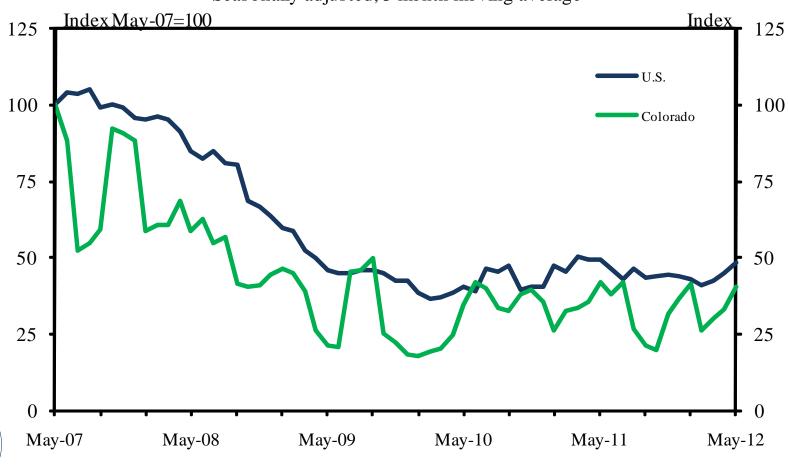


Source: Mortgage Bankers Association

# Commercial construction activity has been slow to recovery in Colorado and the U.S.

#### **Value of Commercial Construction Contracts**

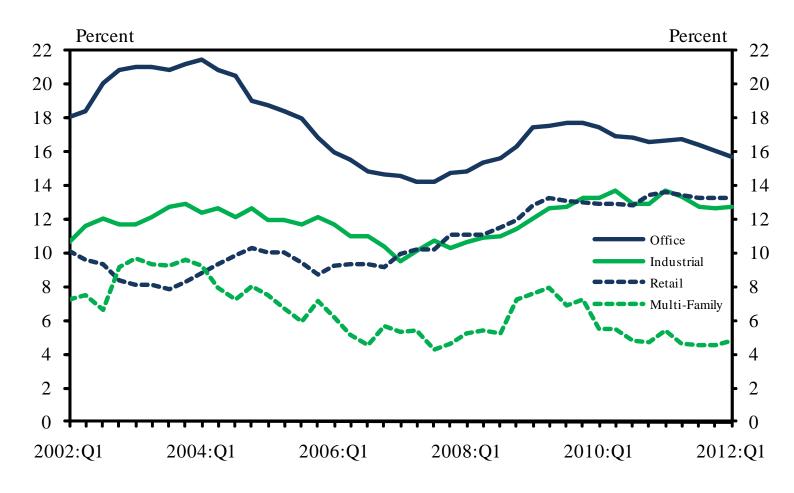
Seasonally adjusted, 3-month moving average



Source: FW Dodge

# Commercial vacancy rates have fallen over the past year in Denver.

### **Denver Commercial Vacancy Rates**

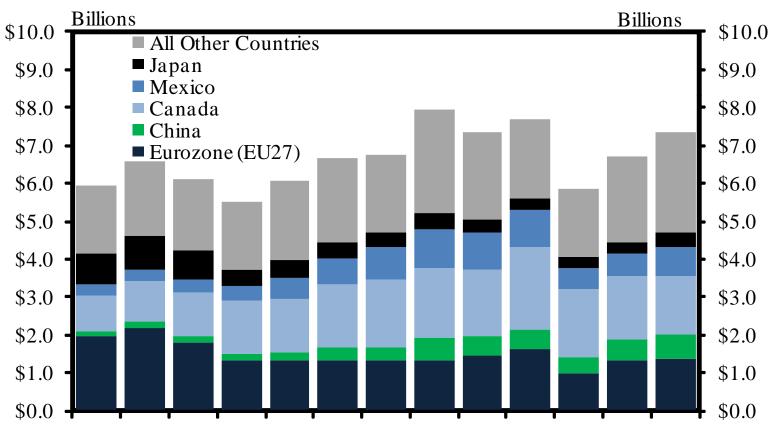




Source: Torto-Wheaton Research

# Exports to Europe make up almost 19% of all Colorado exports.

### Colorado Exports





### Conclusions

- The U.S. and Colorado economies are expected to continue to recover at a moderate pace with broad-based employment gains and rebounding housing market activity.
- However, there continue to be risks to the recovery including uncertainty about the European debt crisis and fiscal contraction at the Federal level.

