



Impact of Federal Labs in Colorado

- Colorado’s federal research facilities and their affiliates had a \$2.6 billion economic impact on the state’s economy in Fiscal Year (FY) 2015 and \$2.5 billion each in FY 2013 and 2014.
- The state’s federal labs directly supported nearly 7,800 jobs and indirectly supported 9,820 jobs in FY 2015. The labs’ compensation (including wages and benefits) for direct workers totaled \$783 million that year.
- The federal labs stimulate technology transfer between local educational faculties and companies, collaborate with Colorado universities on cutting-edge research, provide experience for higher-education students through internships and part-time jobs, conduct world-renowned research in the state, and support new and existing high-tech firms that locate near the facilities.
- The federal labs provide significant support to Metro Denver’s industry clusters, which are aerospace, aviation, beverage production, bioscience, broadcasting and telecommunications, energy, financial services, healthcare and wellness, and information technology-software.

Federal Labs Impact, FY 2015

	Direct Jobs	Indirect Jobs	Total Employment	Economic Impact (Millions)
Boulder County	3,883	3,744	7,627	\$1,099
<i>Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences (CIRES, cires.colorado.edu)</i> <i>Institute of Arctic and Alpine Research (INSTAAR, instar.colorado.edu)</i> <i>JILA (jila.colorado.edu)</i> <i>Laboratory for Atmospheric and Space Physics (LASP, lasp.colorado.edu)</i> <i>National Ecological Observatory Network (NEON, www.neonscience.org)</i> <i>National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA, www.noaa.gov)</i> <i>Earth System Research Laboratory (ESRL, www.esrl.noaa.gov)</i> <i>National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service (NESDIS, www.nesdis.noaa.gov)</i> <i>National Geophysical Data Center (NGDC, www.ngdc.noaa.gov)</i> <i>National Weather Service (NWS, www.weather.gov)</i> <i>Space Weather Prediction Center (SWPC, www.swpc.noaa.gov)</i> <i>National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST, www.nist.gov)</i> <i>National Solar Observatory (NSO, www.nso.edu)</i> <i>National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA, www.ntia.doc.gov)</i> <i>University Corporation for Atmospheric Research (UCAR, www2.ucar.edu)</i> <i>National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR, ncar.ucar.edu)</i> <i>UNAVCO (www.unavco.org)</i>				
Jefferson County	2,823	1,797	4,620	\$654
<i>Bureau of Reclamation Technical Services Center, U.S. Department of the Interior (BUREC TSC, www.usbr.gov/tsc)</i> <i>National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL, www.nrel.gov)</i> <i>U.S. Geological Survey (USGS, www.usgs.gov)</i>				

	Direct Jobs	Indirect Jobs	Total Employment	Economic Impact (Millions)
Larimer County	889	703	1,592	\$195
<i>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Division of Vector-Borne Diseases (CDC-DVBD), www.cdc.gov/ncezid/dvbd)</i>				
<i>Cooperative Institute for Research in the Atmosphere (CIRA, www.cira.colostate.edu)</i>				
<i>Department of the Interior North Central Climate Science Center (NC CSC, www.nccwsc.usgs.gov/northcentralcsc)</i>				
<i>U.S. Department of Agriculture - Agricultural Research Service (ARS, www.ars.usda.gov)</i>				
<i>Central Great Plains Research Station (CGPRS)</i>				
<i>Crops Research Laboratory (CRL)</i>				
<i>Natural Resources Research Center (NRRRC)</i>				
<i>National Center for Genetic Resources Preservation (NCGRP)</i>				
<i>U.S. Department of Agriculture - Rocky Mountain Research Station (RMRS, www.fs.fed.us/rmrs)</i>				
<i>U.S. Department of Agriculture - National Wildlife Research Center (NWRC, www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/wildlifedamage/programs/nwrc)</i>				
Other Colorado			3,768	\$658
<i>Pueblo: Federal Railroad Administration – Transportation Technology Center (TTC, www.fra.dot.gov)</i>				
<i>Colorado Springs: National Cybersecurity Center (NCC, www.nationalcybersecuritycenter.org)</i>				
<i>Colorado Springs: U.S. Air Force Academy (USAFA, www.usafa.af.mil/)</i>				
<i>Akron: U.S. Department of Agriculture-Agricultural Research Service (ARS, www.ars.usda.gov)</i>				
<i>Central Great Plains Research Station (CGPRS)</i>				
Colorado Total	7,787	9,820	17,607	\$2,606

Notes:

Based on IMPLAN, federal non-military multipliers for selected areas.

Direct and Indirect Jobs = Annual Operations only

Total Employment = Annual Operations + Construction

Economic Impact = Annual Operations + Construction

Colorado is home to 33 federally-funded labs. Please visit the CO-LABS web site (www.co-labs.org) for more information and complete descriptions of the labs.

Source: Economic Contribution of Federally Funded Research Facilities in Colorado, FY2013-FY2015. Business Research Division, Leeds School of Business, University of Colorado Boulder. February 2017.

*Metro Denver EDC
Updated March 2017*