How Big is the Colorado State Budget?

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DATA SOURCES
Amounts represent comparisons for the most recent year for which all data are available.

Colorado’s Economy: 2020 state gross domestic product as measured by the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis.

State Spending: Estimated total state spending based on information from the Colorado Auditor’s Office FY 2020-21 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. Amounts exclude transfers between funds, fund balances carried forward from prior years, and CollegelInvest.

State Budget: Total appropriations from the FY 2020-21 operating and capital budgets. These amounts are determined by the state legislature. Spending outside of the state budget (shown in grey) includes federal funds for food assistance, federal and private funding for higher education institutions, employee benefits under the state retirement program, and transportation funding distributions to local governments.

Central I-70 Project: Construction costs for the widening of I-70 between I-25 and Chambers Road according to the Colorado Department of Transportation.

State Marijuana Taxes: Total revenue from FY 2020-21 taxes on marijuana products based on tax revenue data from the Office of the State Controller.

Cost to Build a School: Based on the average cost of building a school in the U.S. according to the School Planning & Management’s 2018 Annual Construction Report, grown by inflation.

Prepared by Legislative Council Staff and Joint Budget Committee Staff February 2022.