

**COLORADO OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR
FISCAL YEAR 2021 ANNUAL REPORT**



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A Message from the State Auditor

This annual report provides information about the Office of the State Auditor's (OSA) activities and accomplishments. During Fiscal Year 2021, we issued 43 financial, performance, and IT audits and evaluations, 30 tax expenditure evaluations, and six other work products.



Our work provides the General Assembly, agencies, and the public with thorough and credible information and impartial assessments of the operation of state programs and use of taxpayer resources. We remain focused on addressing high-risk areas for the State, as well as programs and issues that are important for policy makers and the public.

- We issued 11 performance audits, three of which were in response to legislative requests. Our performance audits focused on a range of topics, including operations at the State Court Administrator's Office, the effectiveness of Colorado's Prescription Drug Monitoring Program, turnover of bus and light rail operators at the Regional Transportation District, and programs for suicide prevention and the safety and protection of at-risk adults.
- Our Fiscal Year 2020 audits of the State's financial statements and federal grant program compliance covered \$45.9 billion in total assets, \$39.2 billion in total expenditures, and \$18 billion in federal funds.
- Our 30 tax expenditure evaluation reports covered 45 individual tax expenditures related to excise taxes, severance taxes, insurance premium taxes, income taxes, and sales and use taxes.

- We evaluated web application security at the Statewide Internet Portal Authority, which is responsible for developing and maintaining the official internet portal for the State of Colorado.
- We reviewed 2,233 local government audit and exemption filings to ensure that local governments' financial reporting is in compliance with statutory requirements.

We continue to be recognized nationally for our high-quality work, having received a 2021 Certificate of Impact Award from the National Legislative Program Evaluation Society for our May 2020 performance audit of Adult Protective Services.

Finally, I would like to thank the OSA's employees for their hard work and dedication, especially given the unprecedented challenges that we all have continued to face in 2021. I would also like to thank former State Auditor Dianne Ray, whose term ended on June 30, 2021, for her many years of leadership for the OSA and the people of Colorado.



Kerri L. Hunter, CPA
State Auditor

Legislative Audit Committee

The Legislative Audit Committee (LAC) includes four senators and four representatives with equal representation from the two major political parties. The LAC holds public hearings to review and release audit reports prepared by the State Auditor, proposes special audits, sponsors legislation related to issues identified in audits, and holds agencies accountable for implementing audit recommendations. In addition, every 5 years the LAC recommends a candidate to the General Assembly for appointment as State Auditor.

LAC Members as of June 30, 2021



Representative
Dafna Michaelson Jenet
Chair



Senator
Jim Smallwood
Vice-Chair



Representative
Rod Bockenfeld



Senator
Julie Gonzales



Representative
Colin Larson



Representative
Dylan Roberts



Senator
Robert Rodriguez



Senator
Rob Woodward

About the OSA

The OSA is the State's independent, nonpartisan government watchdog. At the OSA, our mission is to improve government for the people of Colorado. We promote accountability in government by providing the General Assembly, agencies, and the public with thorough and credible information, analyses, and assessments about the operation of state programs and use of taxpayer resources.

Section 2-3-103(1), C.R.S., grants the OSA broad authority and access to records to conduct performance, financial, and IT audits of all state departments and agencies, public colleges and universities, most special purpose authorities, any state entity designated as an enterprise under the Taxpayer's Bill of Rights (TABOR), and other political subdivisions and non-State entities as required by law.

Additionally, the OSA carries out the following major statutory responsibilities:

- Conduct evaluations of all state tax expenditures on a 5-year cycle [Section 39-21-305(1)(d), C.R.S.]
- Monitor local governments for compliance with the Local Government Audit Law [Section 29-1-601, et seq., C.R.S.]
- Administer a statewide fraud reporting hotline [Section 2-3-110.5, C.R.S.]

Financial Benefits

Our audits and evaluations frequently identify financial benefits, which collectively represent the dollar value the OSA provides to the people of Colorado by ensuring the responsible stewardship of public funds.

In Fiscal Year 2021, we identified financial benefits totaling \$147.9 million. For the 5-year period from Fiscal Year 2017 through Fiscal Year 2021, we identified financial benefits totaling approximately \$930.7 million, or an average of about \$186.1 million per year.

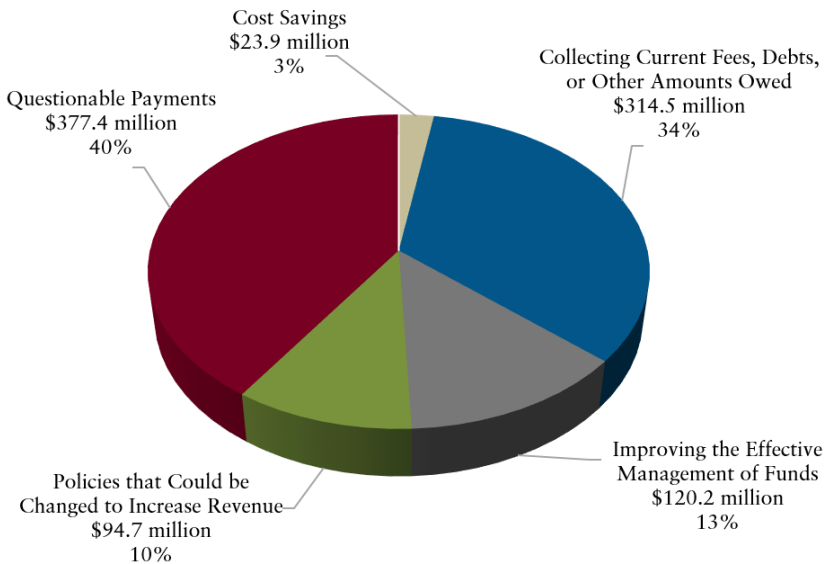
Financial Benefits Identified Fiscal Years 2017–2021 (Dollars In Millions)						
2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Total	Average
\$21.1	\$46.1	\$93.4	\$622.2	\$147.9	\$930.7	\$186.1

Our goal is to achieve at least a 3:1 ratio of benefits to costs over a 5-year period. We have achieved a 23:1 ratio of benefits to costs, which means that the return on investment to the taxpayer is approximately \$23 in financial benefits for every \$1 spent on the OSA’s operations.

Benefit-to-Cost Ratio Fiscal Years 2017–2021	
Average Annual Financial Benefits Identified in Reports	\$186.1 million
Average Annual Net Operating Costs*	\$8.2 million
Ratio of Benefits to Costs	23:1
*Annual net operating costs calculated from General Fund appropriations less General Fund reversions.	

Financial benefits include the identification of potential cost savings, questionable payments, opportunities to improve the effective management of funds, collection of fees or debts owed, policies that could be changed to increase revenue, opportunities to leverage state resources with matching funds, and increases in the value of state assets.

The following chart breaks down the \$930.7 million in financial benefits identified by the OSA for Fiscal Years 2017 through 2021 by category:



Audit Recommendations

Audit recommendations promote positive change in government and are an important part of ensuring that agencies correct the issues identified by our financial, performance, and IT audits.

Each fall, we issue our *Annual Report on the Status of Audit Recommendations Not Fully Implemented*, which compiles and summarizes all audit recommendations made during the prior 5-year period. This report helps us fulfill our statutory reporting responsibilities to the General Assembly under the State Measurement for Accountable, Responsive, and Transparent (SMART) Government Act, and provides information for legislative oversight committees to hold agencies accountable for their use of public resources.

Overall, agencies make the changes they agree or partially agree to make. However, some audit recommendations remain unimplemented. As of June 30, 2020:

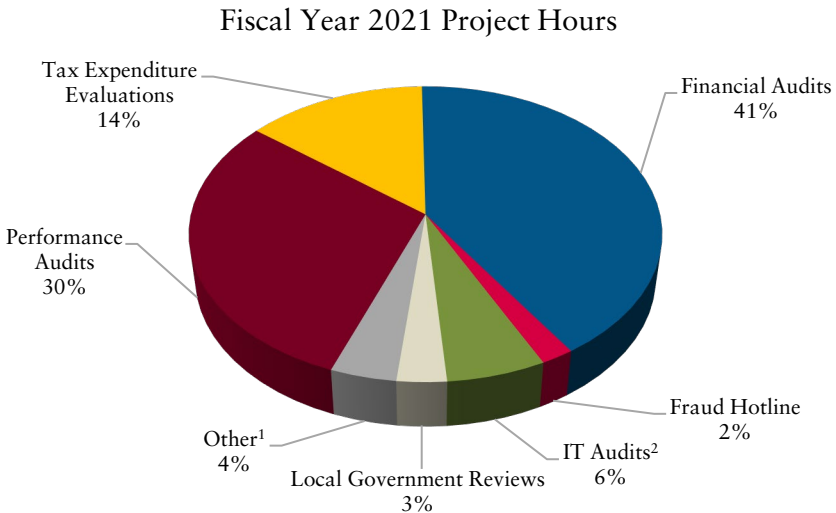
- 95 of the 1,485 audit recommendations (6 percent) that the OSA made from July 2014 through June 2020, and that agencies agreed or partially agreed to implement, remained unimplemented.
- 35 of the 95 unimplemented recommendations (37 percent) are considered high priority due to their seriousness or because they have remained unimplemented for 3 years or more.

Allocation of Resources

During Fiscal Year 2021, the OSA issued 79 financial, performance, and IT audit and evaluation reports, tax expenditure evaluations, and other work products based on the following authority:

- 70 (89 percent) were completed in response to statutory or other legal requirements.
- 6 (7 percent) were completed at the State Auditor’s discretion based on risk, audit coverage, and other considerations.
- 3 (4 percent) were completed in response to requests from state legislators that were approved by the Legislative Audit Committee.

The following chart breaks down where the OSA’s project hours were spent in Fiscal Year 2021:



¹ “Other” includes hours for nonaudit work products (e.g., Annual Report of Audit Recommendations Not Fully Implemented, School District Fiscal Health Report) and other activities such as status reports, audit topic planning and research, legislation, internal quality control monitoring, and external peer review participation.

² The majority of the IT audit team’s work is completed as part of the annual statewide financial and compliance audit.

Performance Audits

Performance audits and evaluations address whether programs are operated in an effective and efficient manner to accomplish their intended goals and are in compliance with laws and regulations.

During Fiscal Year 2021, we issued the following performance audits and evaluations:

Report Name	Report Release Date	Report No.
Adult Protective Services	September 2020	1931P
Annual Compensation Survey	June 2021	2055P
Cash Funds Uncommitted Reserves, Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020	December 2020	2054P
Medicaid Client Correspondence	September 2020	1936P
Prescription Drug Monitoring Program	June 2021	1933P
Regional Transportation District	January 2021	1935P
Sex Offender Management Board	July 2020	1926P
Schedule of TABOR Revenue, Fiscal Year 2020	December 2020	2014P
State Court Administrator's Office	December 2020	2052P
Suicide Prevention	December 2020	1934P
Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act	December 2020	1930P

Financial Audits

Financial audits determine whether financial information is fairly presented, in all material respects, and whether agencies receiving federal grants are complying with applicable grant requirements. Each year, we conduct an audit of the State’s financial statements and federal grant compliance (also known as the Single Audit) on a statewide level, as well as other required standalone financial audits.

During Fiscal Year 2021, we issued the following financial audits and related work products:

Report Name	Report Release Date	Report No.
Adams State University, Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2020 and 2019	December 2020	2002F
Auraria Higher Education Center, Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2020 and 2019	December 2020	2007F
Census Data Attestation for Colorado Public Employees’ Retirement Association (PERA) 2020 Financial Audit	June 2021	2114F-AT
CollegeInvest, College Savings Program Funds, Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2020 and 2019	December 2020	2009F
Colorado Bridge Enterprise, Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2020 and 2019	December 2020	2033F
Colorado Community College System, Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2020 and 2019	March 2021	2011F
Colorado High Performance Transportation Enterprise, Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2020 and 2019	December 2020	2032F
Colorado Mesa University, Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2020 and 2019	February 2021	2012F
Colorado Public Employees’ Retirement Association, Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2019	July 2020	1913F
Colorado School of Mines, Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2020 and 2019	March 2021	2003F

Report Name	Report Release Date	Report No.
Colorado State Fair Authority, Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2020 and 2019	February 2021	2015F
Colorado State University, NCAA Agreed-Upon Procedures, Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020	January 2021	2016F-C
Colorado State University System, Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2020 and 2019	March 2021	2016F-A
Colorado State University-Global Campus, Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2020 and 2019	January 2021	2016F-B
Colorado Student Loan Program, dba College Assist, Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2020 and 2019	December 2020	2008F
Colorado Veterans Community Living Center at Fitzsimons, Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020	January 2021	2006F
Department of Revenue, Colorado Lottery, Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2020 and 2019	December 2020	2020F
Department of Revenue, Division of Gaming, Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2020 and 2019	December 2020	2019F
Fort Lewis College, Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2020 and 2019	February 2021	2004F
Metropolitan State University of Denver, Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2020 and 2019	March 2021	2023F
Pinnacle Assurance, Fiscal Years Ended December 31, 2019 and 2018	July 2020	1910F
State Board of the Great Outdoors Colorado Trust Fund, Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2020 and 2019	December 2020	2022F
State of Colorado, Statewide Financial Audit, Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020	March 2021	2001F-A
State of Colorado, Statewide Single Audit, Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020	June 2021	2001F-B
Statement of Federal Land Payments, Federal Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2020	March 2021	2151F
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Agreed-Upon Procedures Reporting, Fiscal Year 2020	June 2021	2029F-AT
University of Colorado, Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2020 and 2019	February 2021	2005F

Report Name	Report Release Date	Report No.
University of Colorado at Boulder, NCAA Agreed-Upon Procedures, Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020	January 2021	2005F-A
University of Northern Colorado, Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2020 and 2019	February 2021	2137F
University of Northern Colorado, NCAA Agreed-Upon Procedures, Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020	January 2021	2137F-B
Western Colorado University, Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2020 and 2019	January 2021	2038F

IT Audits

Our IT audit team evaluates information technology (IT) processes related to information security and other IT controls over critical and essential state information systems and applications. The majority of the IT audit team’s work is completed as part of our annual statewide financial and compliance audit where the IT audit team tests controls for information systems that are significant to the State’s financial activities and federal compliance requirements.

The IT team also conducts or oversees standalone IT performance audits and evaluations. During Fiscal Year 2021, we issued the following standalone IT evaluation:

Report Name	Report Release Date	Report No.
Evaluation of Web Application Security at the Colorado Statewide Internet Portal Authority (Public Report) ¹	March 2021	2050P-IT

¹ A separate confidential report was also prepared and presented to the Legislative Audit Committee; however, in accordance with Section 2-3-103(2), C.R.S., it was not publicly released due to the IT security-sensitive nature of its contents.

Tax Expenditure Evaluations

Section 39-21-305(1)(d), C.R.S., requires the State Auditor to evaluate all of the State’s tax expenditures at least once every 5 years. Statute defines a tax expenditure as “a tax provision that provides a gross or taxable income definition, deduction, exemption, credit, or rate for certain persons, types of income, transactions, or property that results in reduced tax revenue.” Tax expenditures reduce the amount of revenue the State collects from sales and use, income, insurance premium, excise, and severance taxes.

During Fiscal Year 2021, we issued the following tax expenditure evaluation reports:

Report Name	Report Release Date	Report No.
2020 Tax Expenditures Compilation Report ¹	September 2020	2020-TE
Alternative Income Tax	July 2020	2020-TE20
Annuities Exemption	July 2020	2020-TE23
Coal Severance Tax Expenditures	September 2020	2020-TE30
Commercial Trucks and Trailers Licensed Out-of-State and Nonresident Motor Vehicle Exemptions	July 2020	2020-TE18
Complimentary Marketing Property to Out-of-State Vendees Exemptions	July 2020	2020-TE-21
Construction and Building Materials Exemption	January 2021	2021-TE4
Corporate Condemnation Capital Gains Income Tax Deduction	July 2020	2020-TE15
Food for Home Consumption Exemption	April 2021	2021-TE11
Food Ingredients Exemption	April 2021	2021-TE10
Impact Assistance Credits	September 2020	2020-TE27
Machinery Used in Manufacturing Exemption	January 2021	2021-TE6
Manufactured Homes Exemptions	April 2021	2021-TE8
Mass Transit and Ridesharing Expenses Deduction	January 2021	2021-TE7
Metallic Minerals Ad Valorem Credit	January 2021	2021-TE2

Report Name	Report Release Date	Report No.
Metallic Minerals Threshold Exemption	January 2021	2021-TE1
Molybdenum Ore Tonnage Exemption	January 2021	2021-TE3
Oil and Gas Severance Tax Ad Valorem Credit	July 2020	2020-TE24
Oil and Gas Severance Tax Deduction for Transportation Costs & Oil and Gas Severance Tax for Manufacturing and Processing Costs	July 2020	2020-TE16
Oil and Gas Severance Tax Stripper Well Exemption	July 2020	2020-TE22
Oil Shale Tax Expenditures	July 2020	2020-TE19
Old and New Investment Tax Credits	September 2020	2020-TE26
Plastic Recycling Credit	April 2021	2021-TE12
Previously Taxed Income Deduction	April 2021	2021-TE9
Railroad: Equipment Sales and Use Tax and Construction Materials Sales Tax Exemptions	September 2020	2020-TE28
Residential Power Sales and Use Tax Exemption	September 2020	2020-TE29
Restaurant Employee Meals Exemption	April 2021	2021-TE13
School Sales Exemptions	January 2021	2021-TE5
Short-Term Testing of Property for Use in Out-of-State Manufacturing Exemption	July 2020	2020-TE25
State-Employed Chaplains Housing Allowance	July 2020	2020-TE17
¹ The 2020 Tax Expenditure Compilation Report includes all of the individual tax expenditure evaluation reports issued from October 2019 through September 2020.		

Other Work Products

In addition to our audits and evaluations, we issue other work products that provide important information and analysis for the General Assembly, state and local government agencies, and the public.

During Fiscal Year 2021, we issued the following other work products:

Report Name	Report Release Date	Report No.
Annual Report: Status of Audit Recommendations Not Fully Implemented as of June 30, 2020	December 2020	2056S
Colorado Education and Cultural Facilities Authority Memo, Calendar Year 2020	February 2021	2151S
Fiscal Health Analysis of Colorado School Districts, Fiscal Years 2017-2019	September 2020	2053S
Higher Education TABOR Enterprise Status Memo, Fiscal Year 2020	December 2020	2035S
National Collegiate Athletic Association Athletic Programs Financial Data Compilation, Fiscal Year 2019	July 2020	2057S
School Capital Construction Memo, Fiscal Year 2020	January 2021	2150S

Local Government Audit Division

The OSA's Local Government Audit Division (Division) tracks Colorado's local governments for compliance with the Local Government Audit Law [Section 29-1-601, et seq., C.R.S.], which requires every local government in the state to undergo an annual financial audit conducted by an independent certified public accountant and submit it to the State Auditor for review. Local governments with revenues or expenditures for any fiscal year that are not more than \$750,000 may apply to the State Auditor for an exemption from audit.

The Division examines annual financial audits submitted by local governments to determine compliance with governmental accounting standards and other statutory requirements. The Division also reviews and approves Exemption from Audit applications and provides technical assistance to local governments and their independent auditors. In Fiscal Year 2021, we completed reviews of 2,233 local government audit and exemption filings.

One of the Division's award-winning work products is the annual *Fiscal Health Analysis of Colorado School Districts*. This report provides a set of financial indicators for each school district that can warn district officials and the Department of Education about financial stress that may require further examination and remedial action.

The OSA provides a similar fiscal health analysis tool on its website for use by Colorado counties and municipalities. The Division uses this fiscal analysis tool when reviewing the independent financial audit reports that Colorado counties and municipalities submit to the OSA.

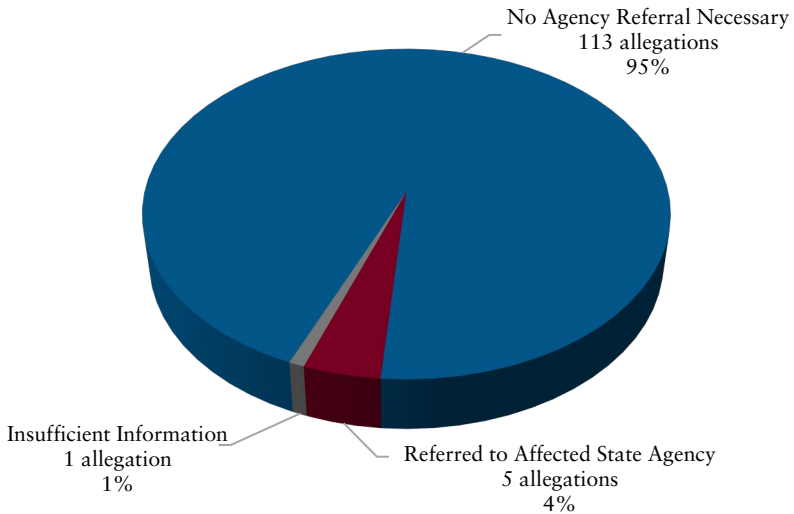
Fraud Hotline

The purpose of the OSA’s Fraud Hotline is to receive reports about occupational fraud, which is a situation in which a state employee or contracted individual may be using their position or access as an employee or contractor to commit fraud against the State or others.

Statute requires the OSA to determine whether allegations reported to the Hotline constitute possible occupational fraud against the State. When applicable, we refer occupational fraud allegations to the affected state agencies for further investigation [see Section 2-3-110.5, C.R.S.]. Under certain circumstances, the State Auditor has statutory authority to investigate allegations reported to the Hotline.

HOTLINE REPORTS

During Fiscal Year 2021, the OSA’s Fraud Hotline received a total of 119 reported allegations, which was a 109 percent increase over the prior year. We handled the 119 reported allegations as follows:



We did not refer the majority of reported allegations to an affected state agency because the allegation did not fall within the Hotline’s jurisdiction (e.g., did not constitute an allegation of occupational fraud or involved a local government).

AGENCY REFERRALS

State agencies affected by the five occupational fraud allegations that we referred during Fiscal Year 2021 reported the following dispositions:

- 4 allegations were not substantiated.
- 1 allegation involving misappropriation of assets was substantiated. The agency investigated the allegation and referred the matter to law enforcement. In July 2021, the alleged perpetrator was arrested and charged with stealing about \$770,000 from the State.

Affected state agencies also reported final dispositions for two allegations that we referred to them for further investigation in a prior fiscal year. The agencies determined that both allegations were unsubstantiated.

Finally, two allegations that we referred to affected state agencies in a prior fiscal year remained under investigation by the OSA. The affected state agencies requested that the OSA conduct the investigations.

Legislation

Issues raised in our audits and evaluations often prompt members of the General Assembly to seek statutory change. Legislation can originate as a committee bill sponsored by the Legislative Audit Committee, or as a bill sponsored by other committees or individual legislators.

During the 2021 Legislative Session, 16 bills were enacted into law related to issues raised in the OSA’s audits and evaluations or the OSA’s audit authority and statutory responsibilities. Five of these bills were sponsored by the Legislative Audit Committee.

2021 Legislation	
Bill and Bill Title	Related Audit, Work Product, or Authority/Requirement
House Bill 21-071* Colorado Department of Transportation Financial Reporting	Operational Risk Areas, Performance Audit, May 2019, Department of Transportation
House Bill 21-1123* CAPS Checks for Substantiated Mistreatment of Adults	Adult Protective Services, Performance Audit, May 2020, Department of Human Services
House Bill 21-1148* Colorado State Fair Annual Report Submission Date Change	Colorado State Fair Authority, Performance Audit, October 2019, Department of Agriculture
House Bill 21-1249* Repeal Gaming City Audit Requirement	Gaming Cities, Performance Audit, December 2017
Senate Bill 21-198* Repeal Capital Construction Education Fund Report Requirement	Annual School Capital Construction Reports
House Bill 21-1077 Legislative Oversight Committee Concerning Tax Policy	Permanently establishes and designates the Legislative Oversight Committee Concerning Tax Policy as the appropriate entity to review the OSA’s tax expenditure evaluation reports.

2021 Legislation

Bill and Bill Title	Related Audit, Work Product, or Authority/Requirement
House Bill 21-1186 Regional Transportation District Operation	Regional Transportation District, Performance Audit, December 2020
House Bill 21-1187 Long-Term Services and Support Case Management Redesign	Grants the State Auditor authority to conduct performance audits of case management agencies that receive more than 75 percent of their funding from governmental sources.
House Bill 21-1236 State Information Technology	Removes the State Auditor or designee as a nonvoting member of the Colorado Cybersecurity Council.
House Bill 21-1261 Extend Beetle Kill Wood Products Sales Tax Exemption	Wood from Trees Killed by or Infested by Certain Beetles Sales Tax Exemption (January 2020)
House Bill 21-1266 Environmental Justice Act	Requires the State Auditor to conduct a performance audit of the Public Utilities Commission’s implementation of the “best value” employment metrics requirements.
House Bill 21-1294 K-12 Education Accountability Systems Performance Audit	Requires the State Auditor to contract for a performance audit of Colorado’s K-12 Education Accountability Systems to be completed by November 2022.
House Bill 21-1312 Insurance Premium Property Sales Severance Tax	Regional Home Office Insurance Premium Tax Rate Reduction (January 2020); Oil and Gas Severance Tax Deduction for Transportation Costs & Oil and Gas Severance Tax Deduction for Manufacturing and Processing Costs (July 2020); Annuities Exemption (July 2020); Coal Severance Tax Expenditures (September 2020)
Senate Bill 21-072 Public Utilities Commission Modernize Electric Transmission Infrastructure	Grants the State Auditor authority to conduct performance audits of the newly created Colorado Electric Transmission Authority.

2021 Legislation

Bill and Bill Title	Related Audit, Work Product, or Authority/Requirement
Senate Bill 21-118 Alternative Response Mistreatment At-Risk Adults	Adult Protective Services, Performance Audit, May 2020, Department of Human Services
Senate Bill 21-238 Create Front Range Passenger Rail District	If voters of the District approve and the District levies a tax throughout the District, the State Auditor is required to conduct a financial audit of the District every 2 years.
*Denotes bill sponsored by the Legislative Audit Committee.	

About the State Auditor

Kerri L. Hunter was appointed unanimously by the General Assembly to the position of State Auditor in May 2021 for a 5-year term starting July 1, 2021. As Colorado’s State Auditor, Kerri leads the Office of the State Auditor (OSA) and its staff of approximately 80 professionals and \$11 million annual budget. With more than 25 years of governmental auditing experience at the OSA, Kerri has dedicated her career to promoting government accountability and seeking positive change in government for the people of Colorado. She possesses in-depth knowledge of Colorado’s state and local governments and is highly regarded as a subject matter expert in internal control, the federal Single Audit Act, and auditing standards.

Prior to her appointment as State Auditor, Kerri served as the OSA’s Deputy State Auditor for Financial Audits, responsible for overseeing various financial and performance audits, including the State’s annual statewide financial and compliance audit, as well as the OSA’s Local Government Audit Division, quality assurance program, and accounting, budgeting, contracting, and financial reporting functions.

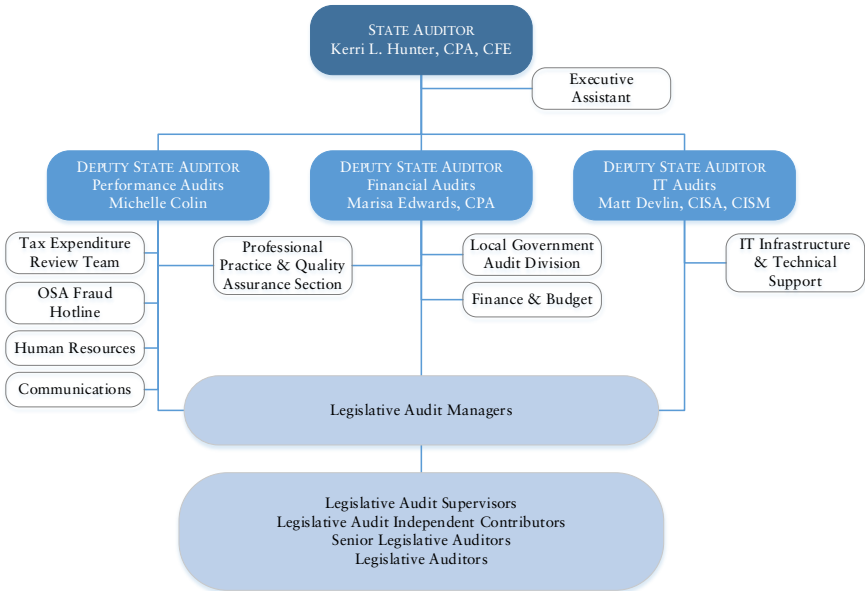
Kerri participates in professional organizations, including the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the Colorado Society of Certified Public Accountants, the National State Auditors Association, and State Employees Leading Colorado. Kerri serves as a Board member and Audit Committee Chair for the Colorado Housing and Finance Authority. In 2016, Kerri was named by the Colorado Society of Certified Public Accountants and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants as one of three “Women to Watch” in the Emerging Leader category. In 2008, she was awarded the Rotary Foundation Paul Harris Award for exceptional service. As one of Colorado’s select Boettcher Foundation Scholars, Kerri earned a degree in Accounting with honors from the University of Denver. Kerri is a Certified Public Accountant licensed to practice in Colorado and a Certified Fraud Examiner. A fifth-generation Coloradan, Kerri grew up on Colorado’s eastern plains.

OSA Employees

Our employees are dedicated public servants. Collectively, we possess 509 years of auditing experience. Fifty-six percent of our auditors hold a graduate degree (e.g., Master’s degree, Juris Doctorate, Ph.D.), and 36 percent hold a professional license or certification, including:

- Certified Public Accountant
- Certified Fraud Examiner
- Certified Government Auditing Professional
- Certified Government Finance Officer
- Certified Information Systems Auditor
- Certified Information Security Manager
- Certified Internal Auditor
- Colorado Bar Association (Licensed Attorney)

OSA Organizational Structure



Audit Industry Leadership

The OSA and its employees continue to be active participants in the government auditing and accountability community.

Peer Organizations

We participate in national and regional organizations that provide opportunities to share best practices, exchange ideas, and better understand the unique and changing demands facing state audit organizations:

- The National State Auditors Association (NSAA) is an organization specifically dedicated to state audit organizations. Members of our senior management team and audit managers serve on several NSAA standing committees and workgroups. Some of our audit managers also participate on or lead teams assigned to conduct external quality control peer reviews of other state audit organizations through the NSAA's External Peer Review Program.
- The National Legislative Program Evaluation Society (NLPES) is a professional staff association of the National Conference of State Legislatures that is dedicated to strengthening state legislatures through the performance auditing and program evaluation function and supporting the legislative staff who perform this work. We attend professional development conferences and one of our audit managers served on the NLPES Executive Committee for 10 years.
- The Mountain and Plains Intergovernmental Audit Forum (MPIAF) is one of 10 regional audit forums sponsored by the U.S. Government Accountability Office that connect and support government auditors at the federal, state, and local levels. The OSA's Deputy State Auditor for Performance Audits serves on the MPIAF Executive Committee.

External Presentations

We routinely speak at professional conferences, training events, and with higher education classrooms about our work and role in state government. During Fiscal Year 2021, we gave nine presentations for the following organizations:

- Colorado Society of Certified Public Accountants
- Colorado Government Finance Officers Association
- National Association of State Auditors, Comptrollers, and Treasurers
- National Intergovernmental Audit Forum
- The Graduate School USA/Pacific & Virgin Islands Training Initiatives
- University of Colorado at Boulder, Faculty Council
- University of Colorado-Denver, MPA Program

Professional Associations

We are active members in the following professional associations:

- American Institute of Certified Public Accountants
- Association of Certified Fraud Examiners
- Colorado Government Finance Officers Association
- Colorado Society of Certified Public Accountants
- Information Systems Audit and Control Association
- Institute of Internal Auditors
- State Employees Leading Colorado

Community Service

The OSA's employees give back to our local communities. In Fiscal Year 2021, we donated nearly \$7,350 through the annual Colorado Combined Campaign, which is a charitable donation program coordinated across all departments of state government.

We also participated in volunteer events through the OSA's Community Service Program or raised funds to benefit the following organizations:

- Rocky Mountain Feline Rescue
- University of Colorado, President's Leadership Class

The OSA's reports are available online at:
www.colorado.gov/auditor



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