



# Obama's Broken Promises: Colorado Edition

***Campaigning In Colorado In 2008, Obama Said "I Don't Think There's Anything More Fundamental Than The Ability To Find A Job That Pays The Bills"***

**Obama: "I Don't Know About You, But I Don't Think There's Anything More Fundamental Than The Ability To Find A Job That Pays The Bills."** OBAMA: "Because Pueblo, I don't know about you, but I don't think there's anything more fundamental than the ability to find a job that pays the bills. (Cheers.) What's more fundamental than knowing that your life savings is secure and that you can retire with dignity and respect? What's more fundamental than knowing that you'll have a roof over your head at the end of the day? What's more fundamental than making sure that you can send your child to college and that they can live out their American dream? There's nothing more fundamental than that! That's the measure of whether the economy is strong!" (Senator Barack Obama, [Remarks In Pueblo, CO](#), 9/15/08)

## **COLORADO HAS SUFFERED UNDER OBAMANOMICS**

***Obama Failed To Create The Jobs He Promised Colorado***

**Increasing Unemployment:** Since Obama Took Office, Colorado Has Lost 21,900 Jobs And The Unemployment Rate Has Increased From 6.6 Percent To 8.2 Percent. ([Bureau of Labor Statistics](#), Accessed 7/20/12)

- **Since Obama Took Office, The Number Of Coloradans Unemployed Has Increased By 42,906.** ([Bureau Of Labor Statistics](#), Accessed 8/8/12)
- **Since The Stimulus Passed, Colorado Has Lost 27,600 Construction Jobs And 3,400 Manufacturing Jobs.** ([Bureau of Labor Statistics](#), Accessed 7/20/12)
- **Small-Business Growth In Colorado Inched Up By "An Anemic" 0.11 Percent In July.** "Small-business growth in Colorado inched up by an anemic 0.11 percent in July, the slowest growth recorded by small business in Colorado in 2012, according to Intuit's Payroll's Small Business Indexes." (Howard Pankratz, "Study: Small-Business Growth In Colorado Anemic In July," [The Denver Post](#), 8/1/12)

**Tax Hikes:** Obama's Plan To Raise Taxes Would Cost Colorado 12,200 Jobs. (Drs. Robert Carroll and Gerald

Prante, "Long-Run Macroeconomic Impact Of Increasing Tax Rates On High-Income Taxpayers In 2013," [Ernst & Young LLP](#), 7/12)

- **Obama's Plan To Raise Taxes Would Cost Colorado \$3.5 Billion In Lost Economic Output.** (Drs. Robert Carroll and Gerald Prante, "Long-Run Macroeconomic Impact Of Increasing Tax Rates On High-Income Taxpayers In 2013," [Ernst & Young LLP](#), 7/12)

**Shrinking Labor Force:** Since Obama Took Office, 4,931 People In Colorado Have Dropped Out Of The Labor Force. ([Bureau Of Labor Statistics](#), Accessed 8/8/12)

**National Debt:** Since Obama Took Office, Coloradoans' Share Of The National Debt Has Increased By \$17,107.36. ([U.S. Treasury Department](#), Accessed 8/8/12; [U.S. Census Bureau](#), Accessed 8/8/12)

**Median Household Income:** Since 2008, Colorado's Median Income Has Fallen \$2,947. ([U.S. Census Website](#), Accessed 10/17/11)

**Poverty:** Between 2008 To 2010, 106,897 More People In Colorado Fell Into Poverty. ("Poverty: 2007 And 2008," [U.S. Census Bureau](#), 10/11; "Poverty: 2009 And 2010," [U.S. Census Bureau](#), 10/11)

- **One Out Of Every Three Children In Denver Lives In Poverty.** "The U.S. Census Bureau says one out of every three children in Denver lives in poverty, according to 2010 data released Thursday. The figures show an increase from 30 percent in 2009, to 33 percent in 2010 in the city." ("Census: 1 In 3 Denver Children Live In Poverty," [KDVR](#), 9/22/11)

**Food Stamps:** Since Obama Took Office, The Number Of People In Colorado Receiving Food Stamps Has Increased By 66 Percent. ("Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program: Number Of Persons Participating," [Food Research And Action Center](#), Accessed 8/8/12; "Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program: Number Of Persons Participating," [USDA Food And Nutrition Service](#), Accessed 8/8/12)

### ***Obama Promised Colorado Voters They Would "Have A Roof" Over Their Head***

**In The First Half Of 2012, Colorado Had The Nation's Eighth Highest Foreclosure Rate.**

"California registered the nation's fourth highest state foreclosure rate in the first half of 2012, with 1.56 percent of housing units with a foreclosure filing, and Florida registered the nation's fifth highest state foreclosure rate, with 1.55 percent of housing units with a foreclosure filing. Other states with foreclosure rates among the 10 highest nationwide in the first half of 2012 were Illinois (1.40 percent of housing units with foreclosure filing), Michigan (1.02 percent), Colorado (0.97 percent), Ohio (0.94 percent), and Utah (0.93 percent)." (Press Release, "1 Million Properties With Foreclosure Filings In First Half Of 2012," [RealtyTrac](#), 7/12/12)

- **Last Year, Colorado Had The Ninth Highest Foreclosure Rate In The Nation.** "Other states with 2011 foreclosure rates ranking among the nation's 10 highest were Michigan (2.21 percent), Florida (2.06 percent), Illinois (1.95 percent), Colorado (1.78 percent), and Idaho (1.77 percent)." (RealtyTrac, "2011 Year-End Foreclosure Market Report: Foreclosures On The Retreat," [Press Release](#), 1/12/12)

### ***Obama Promised Colorado's Parents Their Children Could "Live Out Their American Dream"***

**College Debt:** From 2008 To 2010, College Students' Debt In Colorado Has Risen From \$18,321 To \$22,017, A 20.17 Percent Increase. ([Project On Student Debt](#), Accessed 8/8/12; [Project On Student Debt](#), Accessed 8/8/12)

**Youth Unemployment:** From 2009 To 2011, Colorado Unemployment For 20-24 Year Olds Increased From 11 Percent To 12.6 Percent. ([Bureau Of Labor Statistics](#), Accessed 8/8/12; [Bureau Of Labor Statistics](#), Accessed 8/8/12)

### ***No Wonder Enthusiasm For Obama's Reelection Campaign Among Colorado's College Students "Is Lurching Along"***

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**The Enthusiasm Among College Students In Colorado For Obama's Reelection Campaign "Is Lurching Along."** "When then-junior Sen. Barack Obama came to the University of Denver in 2008, the Democratic presidential hopeful was greeted by long lines and a crowd full of youthful enthusiasm. And while his return to the state for tonight's appearance at the University of Colorado at Boulder more than four years later has produced similarly long waits for tickets, the other response — enthusiasm — is lurching along." (Kristen Leigh Parker, "Anticipation To Hear Obama Great, But Support Not As Evident As In 2008," [The Denver Post](#), 4/24/12)

- **Kenneth Bickers, A Political Science Professor At Colorado University: "There Doesn't Seem To Be The Same Sort Of Visual Excitement" Among College Students.** "What I hear from students is not about student loans but anxiety about jobs," said Kenneth Bickers, a political science professor at CU. "There are just a lot fewer stickers on clothing, computers and backpacks. There doesn't seem to be the same sort of visual excitement as you walk across campus." (Kristen Leigh Parker, "Anticipation To Hear Obama Great, But Support Not As Evident As In 2008," [The Denver Post](#), 4/24/12)

**Political Analyst Eric Sondermann: "You Can Only Run On Hope And Change Once."** "You dial the clock back four years and college campuses were on fire with Obama fever in April '08," said Eric Sondermann, an independent political analyst. "I think reigniting it is going to be a challenge at best. You can only run on hope and change once, and you can only be a political virgin once." (Kristen Leigh Parker, "Anticipation To Hear Obama Great, But Support Not As Evident As In 2008," [The Denver Post](#), 4/24/12)

- **Sondermann: The Students "Have Gone Back To Their Disillusionment."** "It's not like they've left Obama and gone to another candidate," Sondermann said. "They've just gone back to their disillusionment." (Kristen Leigh Parker, "Anticipation To Hear Obama Great, But Support Not As Evident As In 2008," [The Denver Post](#), 4/24/12)

## OBAMA BROKE TOO MANY PROMISES TO COLORADO

### *Colorado Voters Are "Disillusioned" With Obama*

**Focus Group Voters In Colorado Have Grown "Disillusioned" With Obama.** "Listening to the feedback from the group, it was striking how many of them have grown disillusioned from their own expectations set by Obama's soaring rhetoric from 2008, and the less-inspiring reality that transpired." (Josh Kraushaar, "In Colorado Focus Group, Obama Voters Disillusioned," [National Journal](#), 6/13/12)

- **Of The Ten Focus Group Participants Who Voted For Obama In 2008, Only Three Are Considering Voting For Him In November.** "Last night, veteran Democratic pollster Peter Hart conducted a focus group featuring 12 undecided, ticket-splitting voters in Colorado, which illustrated the tough challenge President Obama faces in winning a second term. He's lost significant ground among these swing voters: Ten of the participants voted for Obama in 2008; only three of them said they leaned towards re-electing him in 2012. In an initial survey taking leaners into account, Mitt Romney led Obama 5-3, with four completely undecided." (Josh Kraushaar, "In Colorado Focus Group, Obama Voters Disillusioned," [National Journal](#), 6/13/12)

**The Results Of The Focus Group Explain Why Going Negative Is The Obama Campaign's Only Way To Win.** "The bottom line: The reactions from the focus group explain why Obama is going hard-negative against Romney - it may be the campaign's only way to win. Most of the participants sounded dissatisfied with president and were ready to make a change, but didn't know much about the challenger, either." (Josh Kraushaar, "In Colorado Focus Group, Obama Voters Disillusioned," [National Journal](#), 6/13/12)

- **2008 Colorado Obama Voter Patrick Allen: "I Feel Like I Was Somewhat Lied To."** "I got duped. I fell under his spell. What he's done with the car industry is the only real success," said

Patrick Allen, a 27-year-old health care consultant, who voted for Obama in 2008. 'I feel like I was somewhat lied to.'" (Josh Kraushaar, "In Colorado Focus Group, Obama Voters Disillusioned," [National Journal](#), 6/13/12)

**Colorado "Is Not The Same State" As In 2008.** "The state is not the same one Obama encountered in 2008, when Coloradans lined the streets for miles to witness the presidential candidate accept the Democratic nomination. Nor is it the same state Obama used as a backdrop to sign the stimulus bill into law just after taking office in 2009." (Amie Parnes, Mike Lillis, "Rocky Path For Obama In Colorado," [The Hill](#), 5/23/12)

**Obama Faces "Serious Headwinds" In Colorado.** "President Obama on Wednesday swept through Colorado, where he faces serious headwinds in his effort to retain an evenly split battleground state that went Republican in 2000 and 2004 but heavily supported the president's 2008 campaign." (Amie Parnes, Mike Lillis, "Rocky Path For Obama In Colorado," [The Hill](#), 5/23/12)