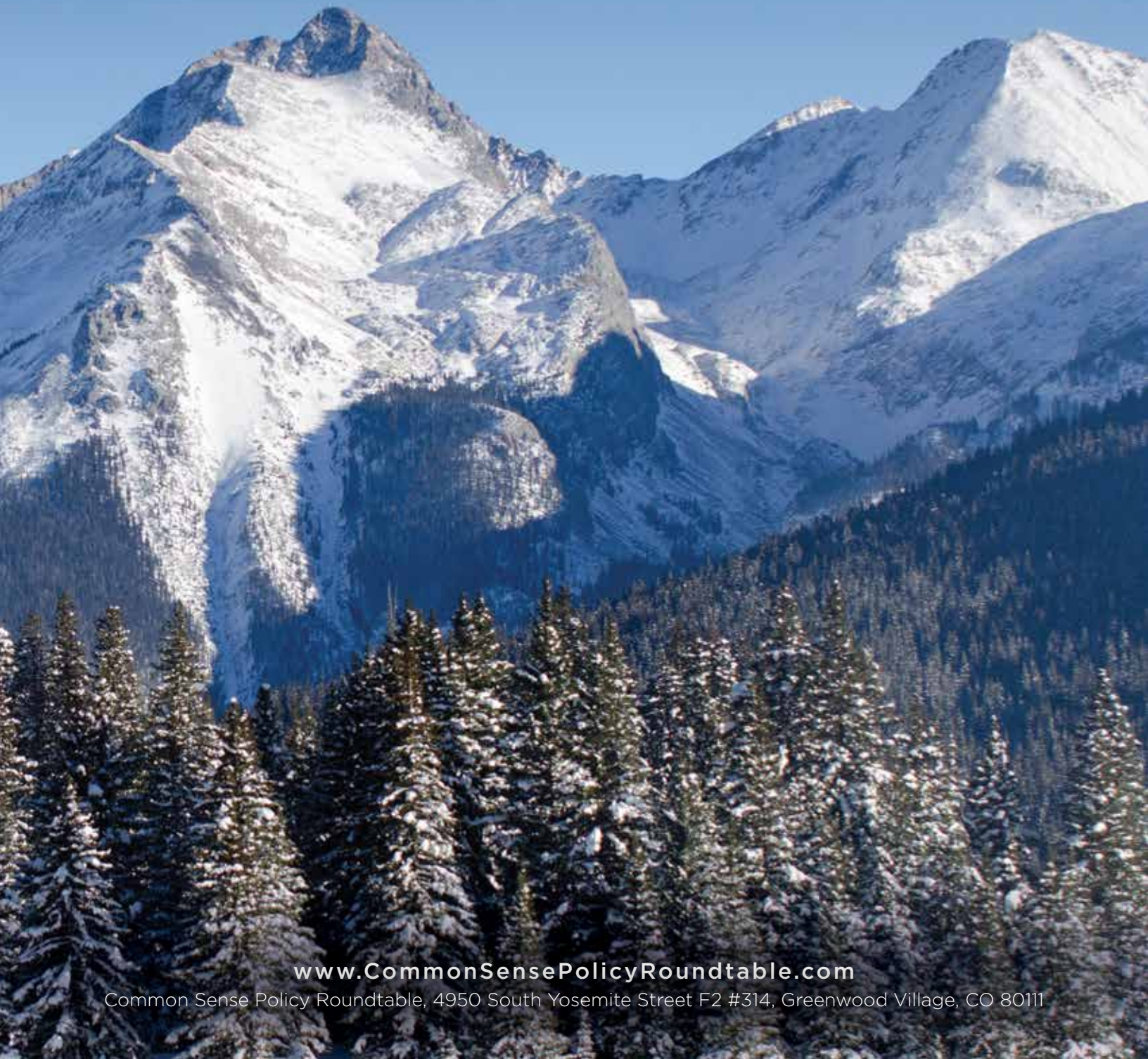




COMMON
SENSE
Policy Roundtable

2016
ANNUAL
REPORT

5 YEAR ANNIVERSARY



www.CommonSensePolicyRoundtable.com

Common Sense Policy Roundtable, 4950 South Yosemite Street F2 #314, Greenwood Village, CO 80111

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MESSAGE FROM BOARD CHAIR

EARL L. WRIGHT

Dear Common Sense Stakeholder,

Five Years! It is hard to believe that Common Sense Policy Roundtable (CSPR) is celebrating our five-year anniversary. To those of you who stepped up and supported our vision for the last five years, “Thank you.” We have done what we promised.

From day one, our first promise was to find an econometric model that uniquely assesses Colorado’s economy as various public issues came before the legislature and the public. Our board and supporters knew that dynamic modeling, for which Lawrence Klein got the Noble Prize, was the best way to assess the economic impact of public policy issues. Thanks to the Metro Denver EDC, Denver South EDP, and CSPR we cobbled together the monies for the purchase of the best model already being used in other states—The REMI model.

On a nonpartisan basis we weighed in on public policy issues ranging from the economic impact of educational reform at the local level to the impact of raising taxes for additional spending for K-12 education. CSPR even identified the educational outcomes which could result in more jobs and higher state growth to economically justify the additional spending.

PERA’s financial challenges have continuously been on our radar screen. Most everyone knows about the pension funding deficit relative to current obligations. There is a deficit ranging from \$25B to \$29B. This is staggering for a state whose annual budget is similar in size. There has been much criticism of PERA so we decided to investigate. What we found was that PERA programs are generous when compared to private retirement plan opportunities for equivalent positions. Additionally, the other surrounding state’s programs, generally, were not as robust. Then we asked and answered the issue of investment management. Here we saw a well-diversified portfolio managed as well as one could hope but unlikely to achieve the actuarial return in the 7% plus range. This year’s updated assessment once again concludes, structural changes are needed, and I encourage you to see to see CSPR’s website for the report.

Where CSPR research and modeling may have had the biggest impact over the past five years has been in the energy setback studies. Without CSPR’s econometric modeling via our customized REMI model, clarity as to the economic impact of the various proposed setbacks for drilling around the state would have lacked solid economic analysis. Thus, with CSPR’s REMI model and the steady hand of CU Leeds School of Business team, lead by Rich Wobbekind and Brian Lewandowski, the possible job impact as well as the economic consequences of the various proposals was made public and became a foundation for the public debate on this issue. See more on the following pages.

MESSAGE FROM BOARD CHAIR

EARL L. WRIGHT

Beyond the heavy lifting CSPR did with setback studies in 2016, the Minimum Wage Referendum needed an objective source to assess the economic impact on Colorado’s job and economic growth. As far as we know, CSPR’s study was the only econometric study done on the referendum and made available to the public. Other analysis was done but without dynamic modeling.

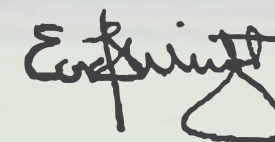
Now for the future. Past success and future demands encourage positive change. Requests and public policy issues we need to address dictate that we move to expand and hire a full-time staff. When we asked members of our community and partners what future issues CSPR needs to address and how we could be even more impactful, the response was overwhelming. Thus, mandating the need for expansion and a broader base of support.

The next 24 months will be challenging but should be rewarding. Our partnership base has expanded. The Colorado Association of Realtors and Colorado Concern have joined as REMI partners. They will replace the Metro Denver EDC, which was a superb partner. Our Board is expanding with Jack Graham as our newest member. Jack brings his entrepreneurial success from business and education as a welcome addition to our board. These developments have made our working environment even more vibrant.

Public policy issues facing Colorado and challenging our analytical capabilities include, State Infrastructure, PERA deficit, challenges to TABOR, more efficient methods of taxation, affordable housing, and economic benefits that lead to more successful educational outcomes. As always, the “elephant in the room” is the growing Medicaid costs within our state budget. As CSPR approaches the analytics of these and other issues we will partner with others to effectively share our results with the public and our state offices.

Thank you again for your continued support. Our incredible state deserves thoughtful conversation and contemplation about issues facing us. It is our hope that CSPR’s objective economic analysis of the prominent public policy issues continues to contribute in making a positive impact.

Sincerely,



Earl L. Wright
Chairman of Board

2016 POLICY STUDIES

2,000-foot oil and gas setbacks could cost Colorado up to \$11 billion in GDP a year and 62,000 jobs

REMI Study

Published: January 26, 2016

Conducted By: University of Colorado Leeds School of Business, BRD



Setback could lower Colorado's gross domestic product by an average of \$6 billion to \$11 billion each year and result in 33,000 to 62,000 fewer jobs between 2015 and 2030.

"A setback of 2,000 feet would move Colorado's economy in the wrong direction. It would have significant impact on reducing growth of jobs, and it is absolutely the wrong time to have a negative impact on our ability to fund schools and roads."

– EARL L. WRIGHT
Chairman CSPR

Source: <http://commonsensepolicyroundtable.com/immediate-release-2000-foot-oil-gas-setbacks-cost-colorado-11-billion-gdp-year-62000-jobs>

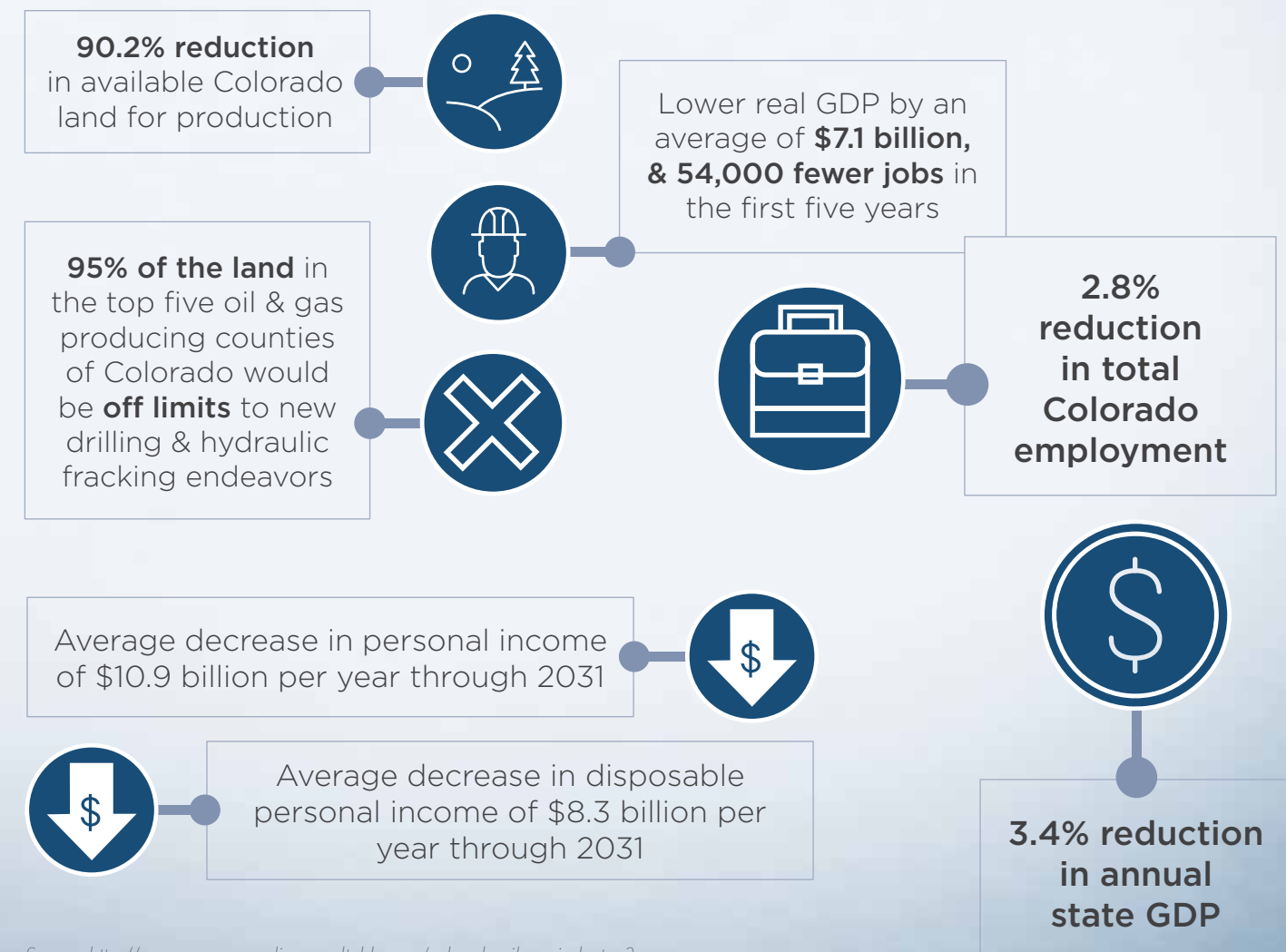
2016 POLICY STUDIES

Economic Assessment of 2,500-Foot Oil and Gas Setback Proposal: Initiative 78

REMI Study

Published: June 2016

Published By: University of Colorado Leeds School of Business, BRD



Source: <http://commonsensepolicyroundtable.com/colorado-oil-gas-industry-3>

Impacts of Increasing Colorado's Minimum Wage

Published: June 4, 2016

Conducted By: Eric Fruits, Ph.D., Economics International Corp.

DENVER BUSINESS JOURNAL BY ED SEALOVER ON JUNE 21, 2016.

"Would Colorado minimum-wage hike lead to big job losses?"

\$3.9 Billion

Decrease in Wage and Salary Income

Higher minimum wage decreases wage and salary incomes by as much as \$3.9 billion per year due to unemployment.

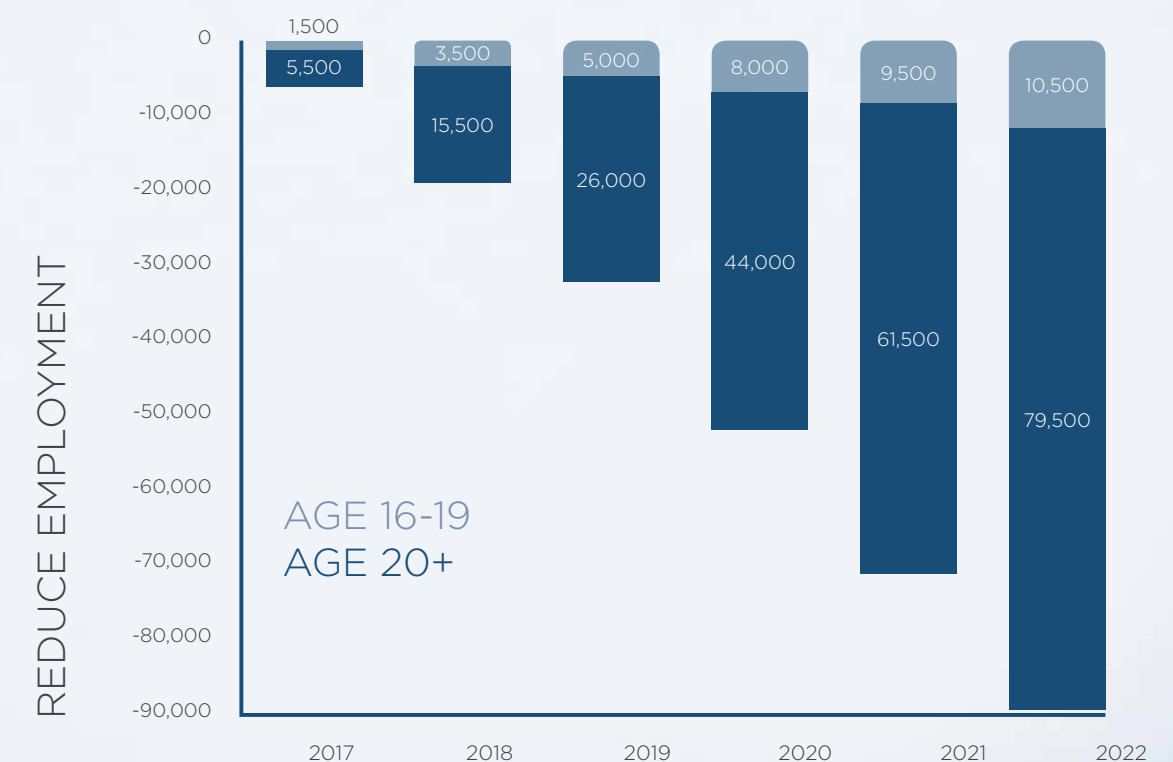
The groups mainly affected are teens and unskilled, low wage workers, since they will be the ones losing their jobs to an unaffordable minimum wage.



The reduced employment would result from some workers losing their jobs and some workers being unable to find a job. Others may get discouraged by the reduced employment opportunities and exit the labor force.

Minimum wage initiatives would raise the state's minimum wage \$12.65 per hour by 2022. This increase would likely harm the Coloradans who need the most help with employment and income opportunities.

HIGHER MINIMUM WAGE WOULD DESTROY 90,000 COLORADO JOBS



By 2022, the minimum wage would be 31% higher than under current law & employment would be 90,000 lower.

p.13 "Impacts of Increasing Colorado's Minimum Wage"

IN THE NEWS

IN THE NEWS

The Gazette
gazette.com

June 23, 2016

"Minimum wage plan is smoke and mirrors"

BUSINESS JOURNAL

July 14, 2015

"1000s of oil & gas jobs at stake with Colorado ballot proposal, says CU study"

THE COMPLETE COLORADO
ORIGINAL REPORTING & COMMENTARY

August 19, 2016

"Beware unintended consequences of minimum wage hike"

THE DENVER POST

"Drilling setbacks carry big price tag for Colorado economy"

THE DAILY SENTINEL
GRAND JUNCTION, COLORADO

October 24, 2016

"Amendment 70: Economists disagree about effect of raising minimum wage"

The Gazette
gazette.com

August 29, 2016

"GUEST COLUMN: Raising the minimum wage in Colorado will hurt, not help"

BUSINESS JOURNAL

June 21, 2016

"Would Colorado minimum-wage hike lead to big job losses?"

THE JOURNAL

September 24, 2016

"Ballot battle over minimum wage intensifies in Colorado"

THE DENVER POST

May 27, 2016

"Proposed ballot measure would put most of Colorado off-limits to drilling, commission says"

THE DURANGO HERALD

September 24, 2016

"Ballot battle intensifies in fight to raise Colorado minimum wage"

THE COLORADO STATESMAN

October 15, 2016

"Zitti: A forced minimum wage increase is risky business"

The Gazette
gazette.com

August 29, 2016

"GUEST COLUMN: Raising the minimum wage in Colorado will hurt, not help"



September 28, 2016

"Denver7 breaks down what Amendment 70 would change, who is funding the pro and con campaigns"

THE DENVER POST

August 15, 2016

"\$12 minimum wage measure makes Colorado ballot"

PUBLIC OUTREACH & EDUCATION

CSPR Launches New Partnership

LEARN HOW GOVERNMENT POLICIES AFFECT YOU,
YOUR JOB, AND YOUR FAMILY!

Common Sense Policy Roundtable is proud to partner with the Job Creators Network – a nonpartisan organization founded by entrepreneurs like Home Depot co-founder Bernie Marcus that believes the best defense against bad government policies is a well-informed public.



REMI Partnership: A partnership of public and private organizations announced in July 2013 the formation of a collaboration to provide Colorado lawmakers, policy makers, and business leaders with greater insight into the economic impact of public policy decisions that face the state and surrounding regions. The parties involved include the Common Sense Policy Roundtable, the Metro Denver Economic Development Corporation, and the Denver South Economic Development Partnership. The Business Research Division (BRD) of the Leeds School of Business at the University of Colorado Boulder was contracted by the consortium to provide third-party, nonbiased research that objectively analyzes the economic impacts of public policy.



PUBLIC OUTREACH & EDUCATION

Website Statistics

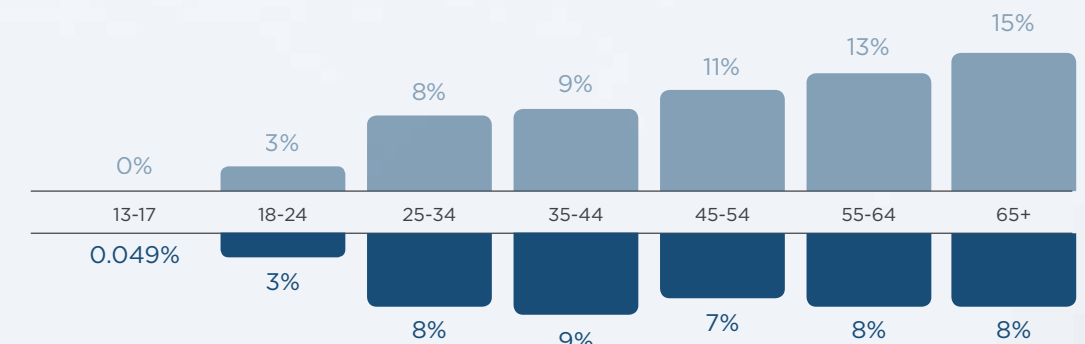
Reported Period First Visit / Last Visit	Unique Visitors	Number of Visits	Pages	Hits
Viewed Traffic*	19,959	31,561 (1.58 visits/visor)	295,143 (9.3 5 Pages/Visit)	413,179 (1 3.09 Hits/Visit)

Facebook Statistics

People Who Like Your Page

Women
58%
Your Fans

Men
42%
Your Fans



New Likes (Followers):	1,825	f f
Total Page Likes:	4,083	f f f f f
Total Impressions:	196,795	f f f f f f f f f f f f f f f

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



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FOUNDER
Camp Bow Wow
Superior, CO



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PRESIDENT & OWNER
Resource West Inc.
Grand Junction, CO



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Jake@CommonSensePolicyRoundtable.com

Common Sense Policy Roundtable

is a free-enterprise think tank dedicated to the protection and promotion of Colorado's economy.

CSPR researches and promotes **common sense** solutions for economic issues facing the state.

We are **THE SOURCE** for **FACTS** on all free enterprise issues in Colorado.

CSPR is a nonpartisan, nonprofit, 501(c)(3) educational organization. CSPR owns the The REMI Tax-PI dynamic model, which was built for Colorado and calibrated with Colorado revenues, expenditures, employment and population. We are supported by our board of directors and private donations from foundations, individuals and corporations. We do not accept any government funding.

For more information about CSPR please visit:
www.commonsempolicyroundtable.com



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