

TRENDS

Wyoming Labor Market Outcomes for Casper College and Laramie County Community College Graduates

by: *Dr. Mark A. Harris, Sociologist*

When graduates work in Wyoming, employers are able to make use of the educational investment, but when they do not work in Wyoming, the investment is not realized by the state. Research & Planning found that wages for both Casper College and LCCC graduates were higher than those for their respective matched control groups and the difference increased over time.

One of the missions of a community college is to teach skills needed by the local labor market. Ideally, the local labor market compensates adequately for those skills. Provided that graduates supply skills that businesses want and businesses compensate accordingly, the result should be higher rates of subsequent labor market participation for graduates in comparison to similar individuals who did not graduate from a community college. When graduates work in Wyoming, employers are able to make use of the educational investment, but when they do not work in Wyoming, the investment is not realized by the state. We ask whether empirical

evidence demonstrates that graduates have a higher degree of involvement in Wyoming's labor market after graduation when compared to matched control groups. We also seek to determine the dollar value of their contribution to Wyoming's labor market.

Methods

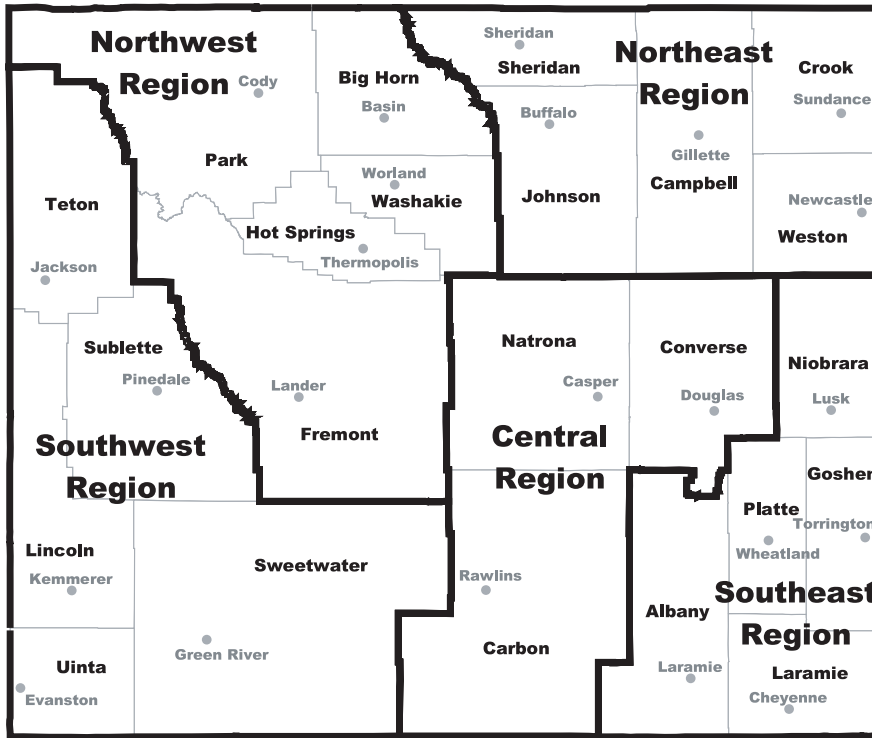
Herein, involvement is defined as the number of graduates who worked in Wyoming during a quarter. In this case, we examined 20 quarters (5 years) of Wage Records (Gosar, 1995) activity

(Text continued on page 3)

HIGHLIGHTS

- **In third quarter 2005, total Unemployment Insurance (UI) covered payroll grew by \$227 million, much higher than its five-year average. The average weekly wage also increased above its five-year average and employment rose at a faster-than-average rate....page 7**
- **Although job growth was seen across many industries, Natural Resources & Mining (including oil & gas) continued to dominate job gains (1,900 new jobs or 8.9%)....page 18**

Wyoming Regions, Counties, and County Seats



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subsequent to graduation for each student and calculated the corresponding hours per quarter (assuming a 40-hour work week). Wages were adjusted to second quarter 2004 (2004Q2) dollars using the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U). These measures demonstrate contributions that community college graduates make to Wyoming's labor market.

Given that a number of graduates take several quarters to find work in which they establish a continuous working relationship with employers (Saulcy, 2004), measures of work activity taken shortly after graduation may be problematic. Therefore, this article examines labor market involvement during the 5-year period after graduation. Available data are limited to academic year 1998-1999 (AY98-99) Casper College and Laramie County Community College

(LCCC) graduates (N = 378 and 272, respectively).

Control groups were drawn by matching age, gender, prior involvement in Wyoming's labor market (the reference quarter for matching occurred two quarters prior to graduation), and geographic location (i.e., controls were restricted to Natrona and Laramie County residents, respectively). All three graduating classes were included (i.e., summer, winter, and spring). The control group methodology used is substantively similar to that elaborated by Glover (2002).

Theoretical Considerations

Given that Casper and Cheyenne have very different social and economic environments, the outcomes were examined separately for each school and

Figure 1: Additional Quarterly Hours Worked by Academic Year 1998-1999 Casper College Graduates Over the Control Group, Third Quarter 1999 (1999Q3) to 2004Q2

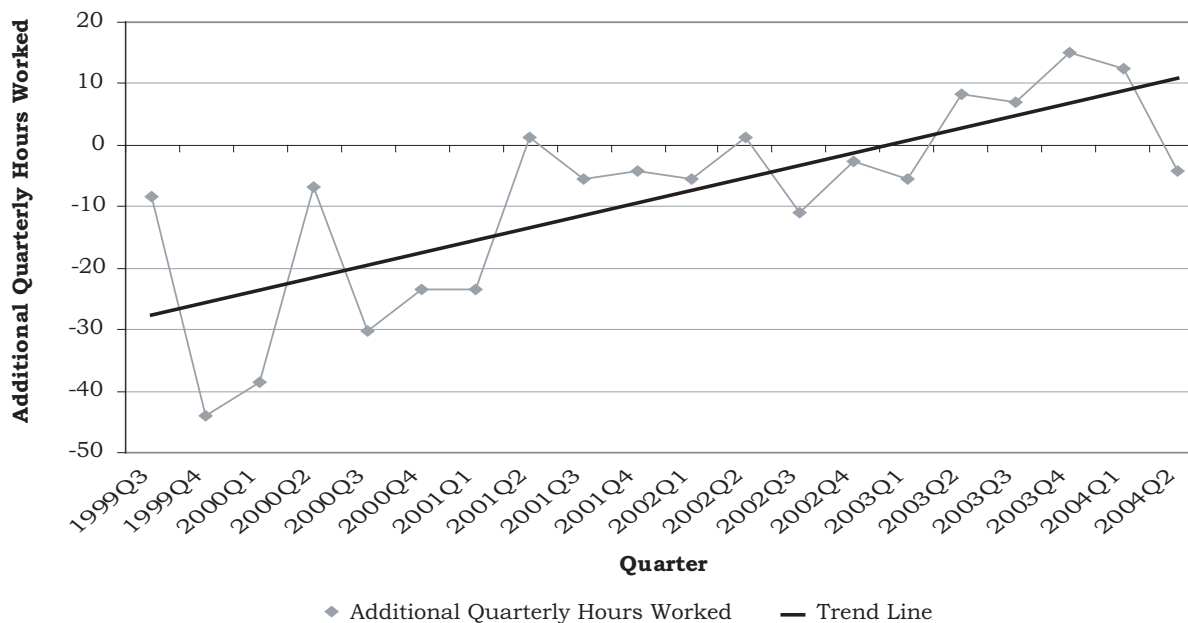
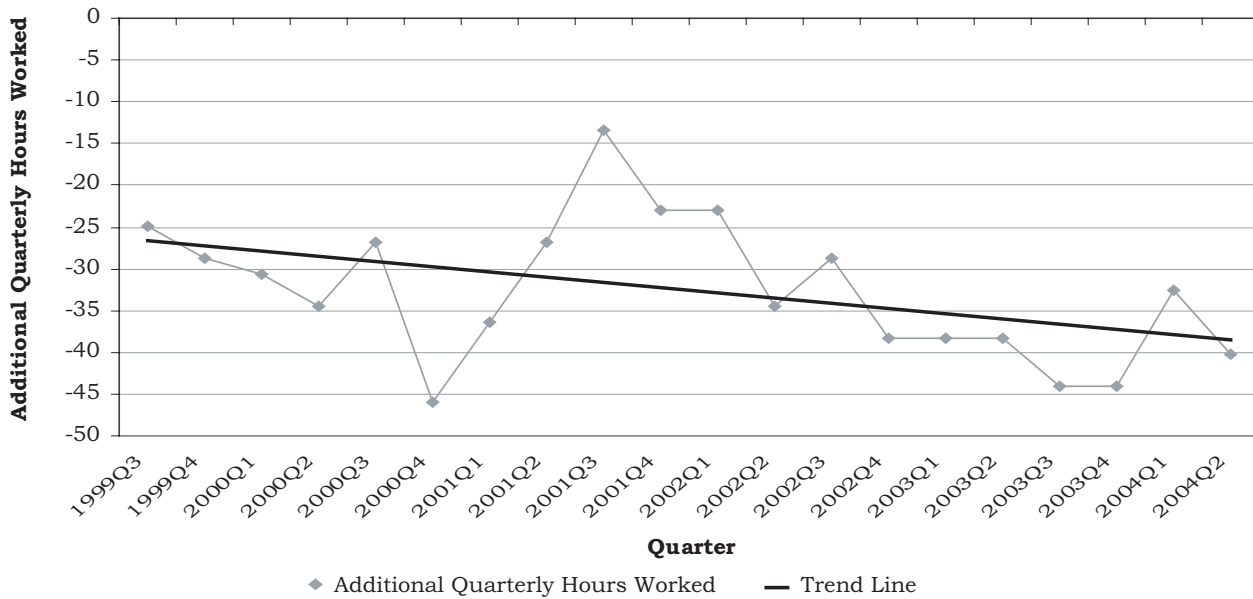


Figure 2: Additional Quarterly Hours Worked by Academic Year 1998-1999 Laramie County Community College Graduates Over the Control Group, Third Quarter 1999 (1999Q3) to 2004Q2



control group members were restricted to Natrona and Laramie County residents, respectively. Casper is located in the center of Wyoming and is geographically distant from major metropolitan areas such as Billings, Denver, and Salt Lake City. Cheyenne, on the other hand, is a border city in close proximity to Colorado's Front Range.

Results

Quarterly Hours Contributed

Casper College graduates initially contributed fewer hours per quarter to Wyoming's economy than their matched control group (see Figure 1). However, the trend line indicates that they gained ground on the Natrona County controls over time and surpassed them at about 2003Q2. Additional hours contributed increased by about 40 hours per graduate per quarter.

LCCC graduates contributed fewer quarterly hours to Wyoming than their matched control group throughout the entire time series. The trend line on Figure 2 indicates that the number of quarterly hours continued to decrease over the 5-year period by about 15 quarterly hours per graduate. The notable exception is the period from 2001Q3 to 2002Q1, a time of significant economic downturn in Colorado, when graduate and control group hours became more similar (i.e., closer to zero).

Wages

Casper College graduates had higher wages than the Natrona County matched control group throughout the 5-year period (see Figure 3, page 5) with the difference increasing considerably over time. LCCC students entered the labor

(Text continued on page 6)

Figure 3: Average Quarterly Wage for Academic Year 1998-1999 Casper College Graduates and Control Group, Third Quarter 1999 (1999Q3) to 2004Q2

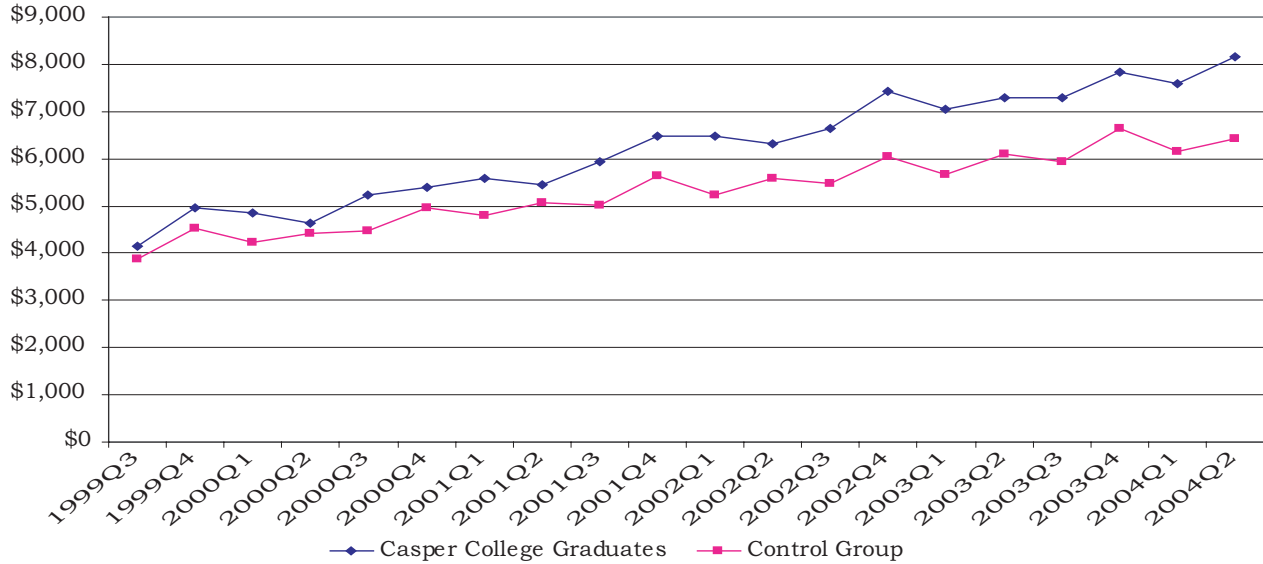
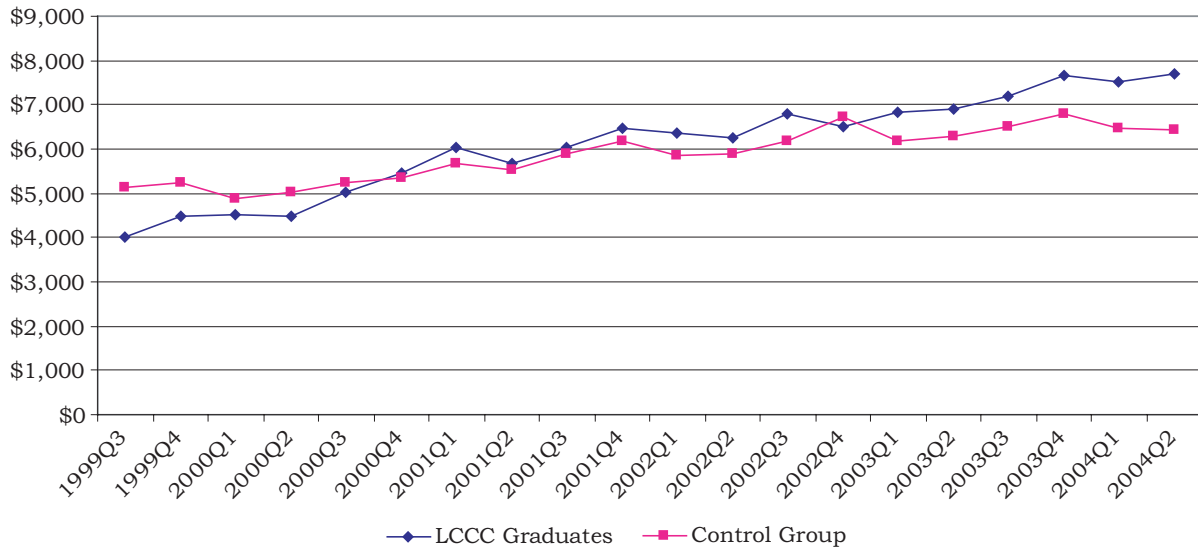


Figure 4: Average Quarterly Wage for Academic Year 1998-1999 Laramie County Community College (LCCC) Graduates and Control Group, Third Quarter 1999 (1999Q3) to 2004Q2



market with lower wages than the Laramie County control group but surpassed the control group by 2001Q1 (see Figure 4, page 5). Over time the gap between LCCC graduates and the control group continued to increase. The wages for Casper College and LCCC graduates were similar. They both started (1999Q3) at about \$4,000 per quarter per graduate (in constant 2004Q4 dollars) and increased to about \$8,000 by 2004Q3.

Discussion and Conclusion

There may be several possible explanations for graduate non-involvement in the labor market. Perhaps a mismatch exists between graduates' skills employers' needs, or there may simply be too few jobs in the local labor market for the added supply from the colleges. Graduates may look elsewhere for employment if employers are not compensating adequately for earned skills. Additionally, graduates may have earned a degree for personal fulfillment with no intention of seeking employment or they may have transferred to another educational institution. Examining the reasons behind non-participation in Wyoming's labor market is beyond the scope of this study.

Results presented here indicate that graduates from Casper College experience higher levels of involvement in Wyoming's labor market in comparison to a Natrona County control group than do students from LCCC in comparison to their matched control group.

It appears that Casper College may prepare students to better compete in the local labor market than their corresponding Natrona County control group. Because the local labor market is more geographically

restricted to Natrona and surrounding counties, they may be more likely to stay in Wyoming. LCCC may also prepare its students to compete well in the labor market, but their local labor market extends into the Front Range of Colorado. Proximity to a large labor market provides additional quality job opportunities to LCCC graduates that many not be as readily available to Laramie County controls without a degree. This competitive disadvantage results in restricting control group members' employment opportunities to Wyoming.

Wages for both Casper College and LCCC graduates are higher than those for their respective matched control groups and the difference increases over time.

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Covered Employment and Wages for Third Quarter 2005: Double-Digit Growth in Total Payroll

by: *David Bullard, Senior Economist*

tables by: *Nancy Brennan, Economist*

In third quarter 2005, total Unemployment Insurance (UI) covered payroll grew by \$227 million or 11.6%, much higher than its five-year average (7.3%, see Table 1). The average weekly wage increased by \$48 or 8.1%, also above its five-year average (5.1%). Employment also rose at a faster-than-average rate (3.2% in third quarter compared to the five-year average growth rate of 2.1%).

The Figure (see page 8) shows that growth in total wages increased from 6.5% in fourth quarter 2004 to 11.6% in third quarter 2005. Employment growth has accelerated from 0.1% in first quarter

2003 to 3.2% in third quarter 2005 (see Table 2, page 8).

Statewide Employment and Wages by Industry

The purpose of this article is to show employment and payroll changes between third quarter 2004 and third quarter 2005. These economic changes help us gauge the strength of Wyoming's economy and identify the fastest and slowest growing industries and geographic areas.

The largest job gains occurred in Mining, Construction, Local Government, Accommodation & Food Services, and

Table 1: Percentage Change in Wyoming Covered Employment and Wages for Third Quarter 2001 to Third Quarter 2005 (2001Q3 to 2005Q3)

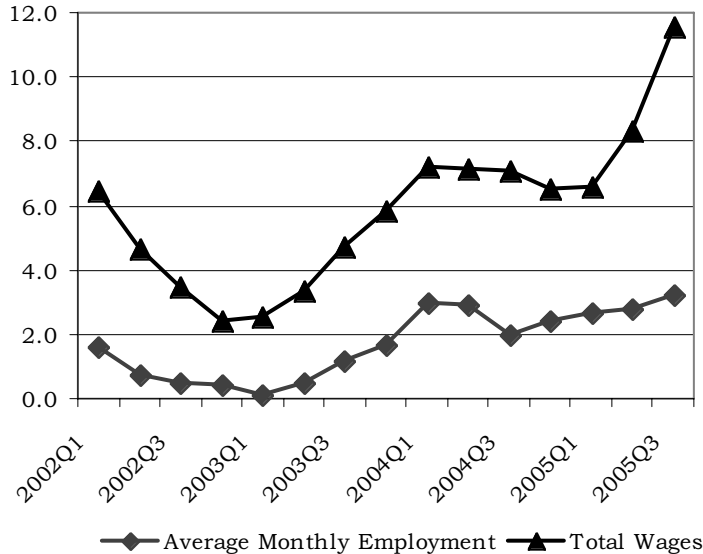
	Average Monthly Employment Percent Change		Total Wages Percent Change		Average Weekly Wage Percent Change	
	Over the Previous Year	Over the Previous Quarter	Over the Previous Year	Over the Previous Quarter	Over the Previous Year	Over the Previous Quarter
2001Q3	3.1	2.2	9.3	2.6	5.7	0.1
2002Q3	0.8	2.0	3.5	1.3	3.0	-0.7
2003Q3	1.2	2.6	4.8	2.6	3.5	0.0
2004Q3	2.0	1.7	7.1	2.6	5.0	0.8
2005Q3^a	3.2	2.1	11.6	5.6	8.1	3.4
5-Year Average for Q3	2.1	2.1	7.3	2.9	5.1	0.7

^aPreliminary

Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, developed through a cooperative program between Research & Planning and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Extract Date: January 2006

Figure: Over-the-Year Percentage Change in Wyoming Covered Employment and Wages For First Quarter 2002 (2002Q1) to Third Quarter 2005 (2005Q3)



Note: Preliminary.

Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, developed through a cooperative program between Research & Planning and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Extract Date: January 2006

Table 2: Over-the-Year Percentage Change in Wyoming Covered Employment and Wages for First Quarter 2002 (2002Q1) to Third Quarter 2005 (2005Q3)

	Average Monthly Employment	Total Wages
2002Q1	1.6	6.5
2002Q2	0.7	4.7
2002Q3	0.5	3.5
2002Q4	0.4	2.4
2003Q1	0.1	2.6
2003Q2	0.5	3.3
2003Q3	1.2	4.7
2003Q4	1.7	5.9
2004Q1	3.0	7.2
2004Q2	2.9	7.1
2004Q3	2.0	7.1
2004Q4	2.4	6.5
2005Q1	2.6	6.6
2005Q2	2.8	8.4
2005Q3 ^a	3.2	11.6

^aPreliminary.

Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, developed through a cooperative program between Research & Planning and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Extract Date: January 2006

Professional & Technical Services (see Table 3, page 10).

Mining (including oil & gas) added 2,413 jobs or 11.6%. It appears that high energy prices and increased drilling for natural gas are driving the growth in Wyoming's Mining industry. Job gains were reported in all three subindustries: oil & gas extraction added almost 400 jobs, mining (except oil & gas) added about 300 jobs, and support activities for mining added 1,700 jobs.

Employment in Wyoming's Construction industry grew by 1,783 jobs or 8.5%. All three subindustries added jobs, but the

largest gains were in heavy & civil engineering construction.

Local Government added 889 jobs or 2.6% during third quarter. Employment increased in Educational Services (including public school districts), Health Care & Social Assistance (including public hospitals), and Public Administration (including cities, towns, & counties).

In third quarter, Accommodation & Food Services grew by 576 jobs or 1.8%. Employment increased by about 200 jobs in full-service restaurants, while it decreased in limited-service restaurants.

Employment in Professional & Technical Services increased by 407 jobs or 5.2%. The largest gains were in architectural, engineering, & related services, computer systems design & related services, and management, scientific, & technical consulting services.

Employment in ambulatory health care services, the sector which includes doctor's offices, was essentially unchanged in the third quarter (-5 jobs or -0.1%). Private hospitals added 138 jobs (5.1%) and nursing & residential care facilities gained 92 jobs (2.1%).

Modest job losses occurred in Agriculture, Information, Finance & Insurance, and Federal Government.

Employment and Wages by County

As shown in Table 4 (see page 11), employment increased in all but two of Wyoming's 23 counties during third quarter.

Campbell County added 2,078 jobs or 9.6%. Rapid employment growth occurred in Mining (including oil & gas), Construction, Transportation & Warehousing, and Administrative & Waste Services. More modest growth was seen in Manufacturing, Retail Trade, Accommodation & Food Services, and Government.

In third quarter, Sweetwater County posted a gain of 1,336 jobs or 6.4%. Mining; Construction; Manufacturing; Transportation & Warehousing; and Real Estate & Rental & Leasing all saw notable employment increases. Slight job losses occurred in Health Care & Social Assistance and Accommodation & Food Services.

Table 5 (see page 12) shows that Natrona County added 657 jobs (1.8%) in the third quarter. Mining grew by 422 jobs or 13.2% and Accommodation & Food

Services added 170 jobs (5.5%). Administrative & Waste Services employment fell by 156 jobs (9.0%) because of layoffs by telemarketing firms.

Laramie County grew by 1,047 jobs or 2.6% in the third quarter (see Table 6, page 13). Local Government (including public schools and hospitals) added 414 jobs or 7.4% and Retail Trade gained 227 jobs or 4.1%. Job gains also occurred in Construction (119 jobs or 4.2%), Health Care & Social Assistance (100 jobs or 3.2%), and Professional & Technical Services (79 jobs or 5.5%). Employment fell in Administrative & Waste Services and Information.

Sublette County was the fastest growing county in third quarter, adding 640 jobs or 19.1%. Mining (including oil & gas) and Construction were responsible for well over half of the new jobs. Other job gains were spread throughout many sectors such as Retail Trade; Information; Professional & Technical Services; and Accommodation & Food Services.

Employment in Uinta County increased by 529 jobs or 6.1% in third quarter. Mining and Construction experienced the largest job gains, but growth was also seen in Manufacturing, Wholesale Trade, Finance & Insurance, and Accommodation & Food Services.

Teton County added 479 jobs or 2.5%. Construction; Arts, Entertainment & Recreation; and Accommodation & Food Services gained the most new jobs. Growth was also seen in Real Estate & Rental & Leasing; Professional & Technical Services; Management of Companies & Enterprises; and Educational Services. Jobs were lost in Manufacturing, Transportation & Warehousing; Information; and Administrative & Waste Services.

(Text continued on page 15)

Table 3: Wyoming Average Monthly Employment, Total Payroll, and Average Weekly Wage for Third Quarter by Industry, 2004 and 2005^a

Industry Title and NAICS ^b Code	Average Monthly Employment		Total Payroll		Average Weekly Wage	
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
Total, All Industries	255,078	263,315	\$1,958,379,343	\$2,185,433,747	\$19.68	\$20.55
Total Private (11-99)	197,788	205,339	\$1,480,984,552	\$1,680,874,494	\$19.92	\$20.55
Agriculture (11)	2,626	2,590	14,369,393	14,626,090	256,697	1.8
Mining (21)	20,852	23,265	298,845,368	363,175,176	64,329,808	21.5
Utilities (22)	2,227	2,290	35,272,364	40,868,205	5,595,841	15.9
Construction (23)	20,878	22,661	171,658,800	206,162,361	34,503,561	20.1
Manufacturing (31-33)	9,552	9,731	95,378,958	99,183,300	3,804,342	4.0
Wholesale Trade (42)	7,435	7,880	73,496,796	85,015,301	11,518,505	15.7
Retail Trade (44-45)	30,953	31,447	161,284,897	170,334,007	9,049,110	5.6
Transportation & Warehousing (48-49)	7,517	7,898	62,050,741	72,815,837	10,765,096	17.3
Information (51)	4,399	4,281	33,112,314	33,718,111	605,797	1.8
Finance & Insurance (52)	6,861	6,825	60,415,755	64,109,812	3,694,057	6.1
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing (53)	3,748	4,101	24,501,187	30,914,866	6,413,679	26.2
Professional & Technical Services (54)	7,890	8,297	73,033,748	83,966,192	10,932,444	15.0
Mgmt. of Companies & Enterprises (55)	769	771	11,726,405	20,595,610	8,869,205	75.6
Administrative & Waste Services (56)	7,524	7,616	40,729,426	43,798,170	3,068,744	7.5
Educational Services (61)	1,356	1,385	8,378,167	8,861,958	483,791	5.8
Health Care & Social Assistance (62)	19,441	19,777	152,089,154	162,347,865	10,258,711	6.7
Ambulatory health care services (621)	7,421	7,416	79,500,850	82,342,449	2,841,599	3.6
Hospitals (622)	2,727	2,865	27,374,694	30,725,421	3,350,727	12.2
Nursing & residential care facilities (623)	4,320	4,412	24,519,158	26,257,174	1,738,016	7.1
Social assistance (624)	4,973	5,083	20,694,452	23,022,821	2,328,369	11.3
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation (71)	3,350	3,462	12,736,916	14,190,686	1,453,770	11.4
Accommodation & Food Services (72)	32,655	33,231	109,491,258	119,760,345	10,269,087	9.4
Other Services (81)	7,753	7,831	42,412,905	46,416,515	4,003,610	9.4
Total Government	57,290	57,976	\$477,394,791	\$504,559,253	\$27,164,462	5.7
Federal Government	8,283	8,041	101,546,378	101,588,682	42,304	0.0
State Government	14,380	14,419	126,175,222	127,680,669	1,505,447	1.2
Local Government	34,627	35,516	249,673,191	275,289,902	25,616,711	10.3
Average Monthly Employment Change	7,227	8,237	7,551	3.2	\$227,054,404	11.6
Total Payroll Change	\$227,054,404	\$227,054,404	\$227,054,404	\$227,054,404	\$227,054,404	\$227,054,404
Average Weekly Wage Change	\$48	\$48	\$48	\$48	\$48	\$48

Note: Preliminary.

^aNorth American Industry Classification System.

^bCorporate officer received executive salary of over \$8 million.

Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, developed through a cooperative program between Research & Planning and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Extract Date: January 2006

Table 4: Wyoming Average Monthly Employment, Total Payroll, and Average Weekly Wage for Third Quarter by County, 2004 and 2005

County	Average Monthly Employment Third Quarter		Change		Total Payroll Third Quarter		Change		Average Weekly Wage Third Quarter		Change	
	2004	2005	#	%	2004	2005	\$	%	2004	2005	\$	%
Total	255,078	263,315	8,237	3.2	\$1,958,379,343	\$2,185,433,747	\$227,054,404	11.6	\$591	\$638	\$48	8.1
Albany	16,664	16,810	146	0.9	\$112,430,753	\$112,737,544	\$306,791	0.3	\$519	\$516	-3	-0.6
Big Horn	4,400	4,539	138	3.1	30,759,617	34,769,035	4,009,418	13.0	538	589	52	9.6
Campbell	21,604	23,682	2,078	9.6	224,182,768	255,414,607	31,231,839	13.9	798	830	31	3.9
Carbon	6,548	6,754	206	3.1	43,846,871	48,871,005	5,024,134	11.5	515	557	42	8.1
Converse	4,502	4,771	269	6.0	34,177,775	38,546,054	4,368,279	12.8	584	622	38	6.4
Crook	2,238	2,270	32	1.4	14,508,951	15,550,539	1,041,588	7.2	499	527	28	5.7
Fremont	14,894	15,252	358	2.4	96,896,286	106,879,740	9,983,454	10.3	500	539	39	7.7
Goshen	3,887	3,899	12	0.3	22,560,720	23,839,414	1,278,694	5.7	446	470	24	5.3
Hot Springs	1,899	1,904	5	0.2	10,308,241	11,534,967	1,226,726	11.9	417	466	49	11.6
Johnson	3,185	3,381	196	6.2	18,431,593	21,456,426	3,024,833	16.4	445	488	43	9.7
Laramie	39,983	41,030	1,047	2.6	309,635,159	338,356,664	28,721,505	9.3	596	634	39	6.5
Lincoln	6,007	6,002	-5	-0.1	45,076,650	46,716,701	1,640,051	3.6	577	599	21	3.7
Natrona	35,954	36,612	657	1.8	283,908,552	317,509,313	33,600,761	11.8	607	667	60	9.8
Niobrara	751	758	7	1.0	3,885,163	4,141,294	256,131	6.6	398	420	22	5.6
Park	14,101	14,316	215	1.5	90,454,654	97,835,191	7,380,537	8.2	493	526	32	6.5
Platte	3,304	3,266	-37	-1.1	24,145,853	23,702,762	-443,091	-1.8	562	558	-4	-0.7
Sheridan	12,006	12,214	207	1.7	81,922,447	87,837,096	5,914,649	7.2	525	553	28	5.4
Sublette	3,347	3,987	640	19.1	25,198,243	37,170,563	11,972,320	47.5	579	717	138	23.8
Sweetwater	20,752	22,089	1,336	6.4	198,273,195	229,460,760	31,187,565	15.7	735	799	64	8.7
Teton	19,497	19,976	479	2.5	142,683,646	167,051,776	24,368,130	17.1	563	643	80	14.3
Uinta	8,725	9,254	529	6.1	61,465,973	72,854,592	11,388,619	18.5	542	606	64	11.7
Washakie	3,741	3,887	146	3.9	26,985,652	28,396,189	1,410,537	5.2	555	562	7	1.3
Weston	2,178	2,209	31	1.4	13,944,651	14,017,169	72,518	0.5	492	488	-4	-0.9
Nonclassified ^a	4,910	4,454	-456	-9.3	42,695,930	50,784,346	8,088,416	18.9	669	877	208	31.1

Note: Preliminary.

^aThe employer may be located statewide or in more than one county.

Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, developed through a cooperative program between Research & Planning and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Extract Date: January 2006

Table 5: Natrona County Average Monthly Employment, Total Payroll, and Average Weekly Wage for Third Quarter by Industry, 2004 and 2005^a

Industry Title and NAICS ^b Sector	Average Monthly Employment		Total Payroll		Average Weekly Wage							
	Third Quarter 2004	Change # %	Third Quarter 2004	Change \$ %	Third Quarter 2004	Change \$ %						
Total, All Industries	35,954	36,612	657	1.8	\$283,908,552	\$317,509,313	\$33,600,761	11.8	\$607	\$667	\$60	9.8
Total Private (11-99)	31,061	31,713	653	2.1	\$244,117,753	\$277,716,326	\$33,598,573	13.8	\$605	\$674	\$69	11.4
Agriculture (11)	123	131	9	7.1	614,121	589,710	-24,411	-4.0	385	345	-40	-10.3
Mining (21)	3,199	3,620	422 ^c	13.2	40,707,408	55,572,044	14,864,636	36.5	979	1,181	202	20.6
Utilities (22)	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
Construction (23)	2,631	2,606	-24	-0.9	22,353,824	24,882,883	2,529,059	11.3	654	734	81	12.4
Manufacturing (31-33)	1,622	1,782	159	9.8	16,005,801	16,774,959	769,158	4.8	759	724	-35	-4.6
Wholesale Trade (42)	2,365	2,453	88	3.7	23,901,437	26,897,288	2,995,851	12.5	777	843	66	8.5
Retail Trade (44-45)	4,941	4,867	-74	-1.5	26,873,946	28,101,911	1,227,965	4.6	418	444	26	6.2
Transportation & Warehousing (48-49)	954	993	39	4.1	8,844,094	10,203,870	1,359,776	15.4	713	790	78	10.9
Information (51)	578	575	-2	-0.4	4,461,887	4,741,932	280,045	6.3	594	634	40	6.7
Finance & Insurance (52)	1,033	1,002	-31	-3.0	10,371,625	10,810,710	439,085	4.2	772	830	58	7.5
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing (53)	855	917	62	7.3	6,420,615	7,798,595	1,377,980	21.5	578	654	76	13.2
Professional & Technical Services (54)	1,255	1,278	23	1.8	12,126,126	13,097,483	971,357	8.0	743	788	45	6.1
Mgmt. of Companies & Enterprises (55)	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
Administrative & Waste Services (56)	1,728	1,572	-156 ^d	-9.0	8,447,442	8,203,020	-244,422	-2.9	376	401	25	6.7
Educational Services (61)	100	85	-15	-15.1	379,998	369,640	-10,358	-2.7	293	336	43	14.5
Health Care & Social Assistance (62)	4,514	4,532	18	0.4	40,111,827	43,855,814	3,743,987	9.3	683	744	61	8.9
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation (71)	568	509	-59	-10.4	1,895,156	2,029,464	134,308	7.1	257	307	50	19.6
Accommodation & Food Services (72)	3,070	3,240	170	5.5	8,954,551	10,097,445	1,142,894	12.8	224	240	15	6.8
Other Services (81)	1,352	1,398	46	3.4	8,759,611	10,311,958	1,552,347	17.7	499	568	69	13.8
Total Government	4,894	4,898	5	0.1	\$39,790,799	\$39,792,987	\$2,188	0.0	\$625	\$625	-\$1	-0.1
Federal Government	743	700	-43	-5.7	11,392,382	10,404,774	-987,608	-8.7	1,180	1,143	-37	-3.1
State Government	697	712	14	2.1	6,548,455	7,135,837	587,382	9.0	722	771	49	6.8
Local Government	3,454	3,487	33	1.0	21,849,962	22,252,376	402,414	1.8	487	491	4	0.9

^aPreliminary.^bNorth American Industry Classification System.^cSeveral "new" employers. One large employer merged from statewide classification to Natrona County. Many slight employee increases. Many projects continuing.^dIncrease in percentage of higher paid employees.^eLoss of telemarketing jobs.

ND - Not discloseable due to confidentiality of information.

Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, developed through a cooperative program between Research & Planning and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Extract Date: January 2006

Table 6: Laramie County Average Monthly Employment, Total Payroll, and Average Weekly Wage for Third Quarter by Industry, 2004 and 2005^a

Industry Title and NAICS ^b Sector	Average Monthly Employment			Total Payroll			Average Weekly Wage		
	Third Quarter		Change	Third Quarter		Change	Third Quarter		Change
	2004	2005	#	2004	2005	\$	2004	2005	\$
Total, All Industries	39,983	41,030	1,047	\$309,635,159	\$338,356,664	\$28,721,505	\$596	\$634	\$39
Total Private (11-99)	28,016	28,655	640	\$191,514,549	\$206,781,407	\$15,266,858	\$526	\$555	\$29
Agriculture (11)	164	165	2	997,710	1,008,134	10,424	469	469	0
Mining (21)	74	76	2	784,717	1,352,959	568,242	819	1,369	550 ^c
Utilities (22)	118	134	16	1,654,503	2,037,299	382,796	1,082	1,172	91
Construction (23)	2,804	2,923	119	21,644,660	24,384,188	2,739,528	594	642	48
Manufacturing (31-33)	1,578	1,618	40	15,565,387	16,467,170	901,783	759	783	24
Wholesale Trade (42)	700	767	67	6,693,636	7,810,642	1,117,006	736	784	48
Retail Trade (44-45)	5,471	5,698	227	30,230,007	32,878,018	2,648,011	425	444	19
Transportation & Warehousing (48-49)	1,649	1,637	-11	11,725,267	13,591,686	1,866,419	547	639	91
Information (51)	1,043	984	-59	9,880,176	9,290,833	-589,343	729	726	-3
Finance & Insurance (52)	1,505	1,514	9	13,475,210	14,762,413	1,287,203	689	750	61
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing (53)	480	510	30	3,267,625	3,543,711	276,086	524	534	11
Professional & Technical Services (54)	1,418	1,496	79	14,898,574	17,169,584	2,271,010	808	883	74
Mgmt. of Companies & Enterprises (55)	166	198	32	1,599,304	2,068,678	469,374	741	804	63
Administrative & Waste Services (56)	1,705	1,613	-92 ^d	9,445,199	8,108,057	-1,337,142	426	387	-39
Educational Services (61)	100	134	34	495,857	739,240	243,383	381	425	44
Health Care & Social Assistance (62)	3,077	3,176	100	27,372,032	28,761,055	1,389,023	684	697	12
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation (71)	247	254	7	801,985	813,332	11,347	249	246	-3
Accommodation & Food Services (72)	4,377	4,434	57	13,545,248	14,546,689	1,001,441	238	252	14
Other Services (81)	1,341	1,323	-18	7,437,452	7,447,719	10,267	427	433	6
Total Government	11,967	12,375	408	\$118,120,610	\$131,575,257	\$13,454,647	\$759	\$818	\$59
--Federal Government	2,653	2,570	-83	32,291,414	35,883,928	3,592,514	936	1,074	138
--State Government	3,756	3,832	77	39,433,203	41,798,322	2,365,119	808	839	31
--Local Government	5,559	5,973	414	46,395,993	53,893,007	7,497,014	642	694	52

^aPreliminary.^bNorth American Industry Classification System.^cNew employer. One corporate officer had executive pay in excess of \$0.4 million.^dDecrease of employment & wages due to project finished & business closing in employment & business support services.

Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, developed through a cooperative program between Research & Planning and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Extract Date: January 2006

Quality Improvement in the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) Program and Its Implications for Comparability Over Time

Each year, approximately one-third of employers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) in Wyoming are contacted by mail questionnaire to confirm that they have been assigned to the correct industry category (e.g., Mining, Construction, Manufacturing) based on the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS; U.S. Census Bureau, 2002). If it is found that an employer has changed primary business activity, a different NAICS code is assigned to reflect that change. This is known as a noneconomic code change. Research staff also review employers' NAICS codes if the business is sold, becomes incorporated, or otherwise changes ownership. In this manner, Research & Planning continuously ensures that employers are assigned to the correct industry category. However, these noneconomic code changes also make it difficult for data users to make direct comparisons across years. Sometimes, large employers may move from one NAICS sector to another. For example, in Table 3 (see page 10), several employers were moved into Manufacturing from Mining and Construction explaining part of the employment increase in Manufacturing.

In a separate initiative to increase data quality, the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages unit has contacted many employers with *nonclassified* geographic codes in order to place them within appropriate counties. This data quality effort has resulted in a significant decrease in employment in the nonclassified geographic designation, and corresponding employment increases in many counties throughout the state. While

the long-run result will be higher-quality data, initially some of the employment increases at the county level may simply be the result of more accurate reporting, rather than actual increases in the number of jobs in those counties.

QCEW data is usually published about six to nine months after the end of the reference quarter. The deadline for employers to file their quarterly unemployment insurance contributions report is one month after the end of the quarter (third quarter ended September 30 and the taxes were due on October 31). Then the data must be imaged, edited, and cleaned-up. Missing reports must be researched and errors corrected. Despite the time lag, QCEW provides employment and wage data at the county and industry level that is not available from any other source.

Each quarter, QCEW data is revised to reflect the receipt of late reports and corrections from employers. At the total level, these revisions are usually quite small. For example, when data for third quarter 2004 was first published in April 2005 Trends, total employment was shown in the tables as 254,916, but the tables accompanying this article show third quarter 2004 total employment as 255,078, a revision of 162 jobs or 0.1%.

References

- U.S. Census Bureau. (2002, September 10). *2002 NAICS Codes and Titles*. Retrieved December 18, 2003, from <http://www.census.gov/epcd/naics02/naicod02.htm>

In third quarter, Fremont County gained 358 jobs or 2.4%. Healthy growth was seen in Mining (including oil & gas); Wholesale Trade; Real Estate & Rental & Leasing; and Accommodation & Food Services. Modest job losses occurred in Utilities, Manufacturing, and Administrative & Waste Services.

Platte County lost 37 jobs or 1.1% in third quarter. Slight job losses were spread across many sectors, including Agriculture, Manufacturing, Retail Trade, and Transportation & Warehousing. Modest job gains occurred in Construction, Wholesale Trade, and Information.

In Lincoln County, employment fell by 5 jobs (0.1%). Job losses in Construction were partially offset by gains in Local Government; Transportation & Warehousing; and Accommodation & Food Services.

In summary, employment increased at a faster-than-average pace during third quarter 2005. Job gains appeared in many industries and in almost every county of the state. The largest gains were seen in Mining and Construction.



Ask an Economist*

Adapted from the South Dakota Labor Bulletin

What's the difference between personal income and per capita personal income?

Personal income is an economic statistic used to measure the economic well-being of a particular area. Estimates for personal income are released by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, the statistical branch of the U.S. Department of Commerce. The BEA releases personal income estimates on an annual or quarterly basis for states. For local areas such as counties however, only annual estimates are available.

Before examining personal income trends, it may be helpful to have a basic understanding of what personal income is and how it is calculated. Personal income is generally defined as income received by individuals for engaging in productive activities in both the private and public sectors within a particular area such as a state or county. It is calculated by summing wage and salary income, other labor income, proprietors' income, personal dividend and interest income, and transfer

payments. Personal contributions for social insurance such as government sponsored retirement and medical insurance are then subtracted from this total.

Per capita income provides a different perspective of economic well-being since it takes into consideration the size and growth in the population for a particular area. Per capita income is calculated by dividing personal income by the population of a specific geographical area.

Some sources of income are not calculated as per capita income. Examples would include barter or services provided by family members. Because per capita income includes all income levels, it can be influenced by a small number of wealthy people within a geographic area, and may not reflect the income level of the population majority.

*Originally published in the November 2003 issue of the *South Dakota Labor Bulletin*, a monthly publication of the South Dakota Department of Labor, Labor Market Information Center.



Wyoming Unemployment Falls to 3.2% in December 2005

by: *David Bullard, Senior Economist*

Wyoming's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell from 3.9% in November to 3.2% in December. Although U.S. unemployment also fell in December, it remained at a much higher level (4.9%) than in Wyoming. Job growth in Wyoming (measured on an over-the-year basis) stood at 6,200 jobs or 2.4%. For the past 14 months, Wyoming job growth has outpaced the nation, often by a comfortable margin.

Wyoming employment fell by 700 jobs or 0.3% from November to December. This level of decrease is consistent with normal seasonal patterns. Seasonal decreases in Construction (-1,200 jobs or -5.9%), Manufacturing (-300 jobs or -3.0%), and Professional & Business Services (-500 jobs or -3.2%) were partially offset by gains in Natural Resources & Mining (300 jobs or 1.3%) and Leisure & Hospitality (700 jobs or 2.4%).

From December 2004, Wyoming added 6,200 jobs or 2.4%. Natural Resources &

Mining (including oil & gas) was responsible for the largest number of new jobs in the state (2,400 jobs or 11.2%). Wyoming's Construction industry added 700 jobs or 3.8%. Notable job growth also occurred in Wholesale Trade (400 jobs or 5.3%), Transportation & Utilities (600 jobs or 5.0%), and Professional & Business Services (400 jobs or 2.7%). Employment remained stable in Information, Financial Activities, and Other Services. Manufacturing employment fell slightly (-100 jobs or -1.0%).

From November to December, unemployment fell in each of Wyoming's 23 counties. The largest decrease occurred in Teton County (4.9% in November, 2.6% in December). Platte County had the highest unemployment rate (4.6%) in December and Sublette County (1.6%) the lowest. Compared to December 2004, unemployment fell in 22 counties and remained unchanged in Washakie County (3.8%).



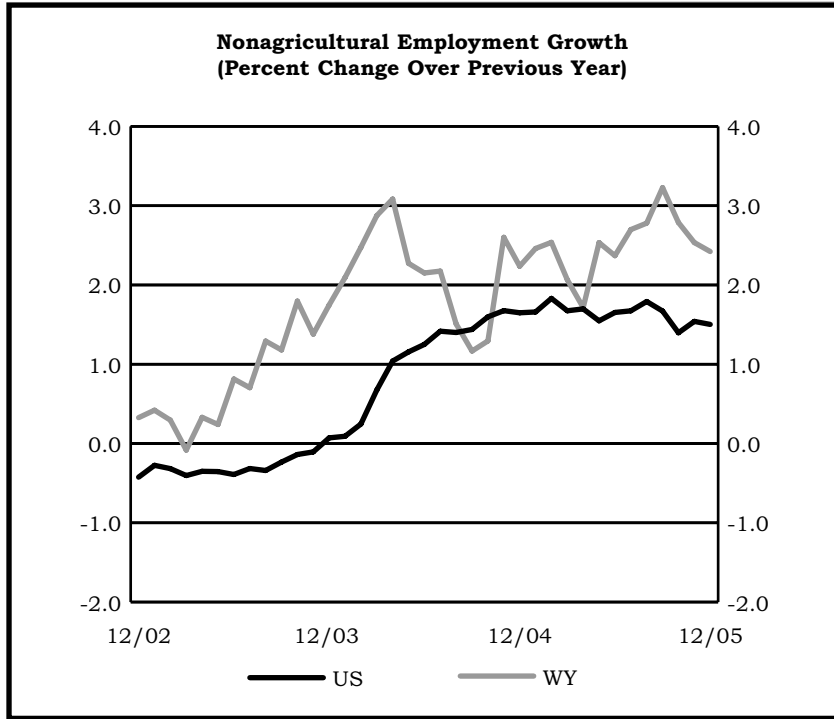
Research & Planning's Website Redesigned

Research & Planning's redesigned home page is an improved, easier-to-use gateway to the same important information that businesses, government agencies, economic developers, and other people have come to depend upon to make informed decisions involving Wyoming's Labor Market. On it you'll find links to information about:

- Benefits
- Bureau of Labor Statistics
- Commuting Patterns
- County Fact Sheets
- Earnings
- Educational Outcomes
- Industries
- Occasional Papers
- Occupations and Wages
- Program Outcomes
- Safety and Health
- Turnover
- Unemployment Insurance
- Wage Records
- Wyoming Labor Force Trends

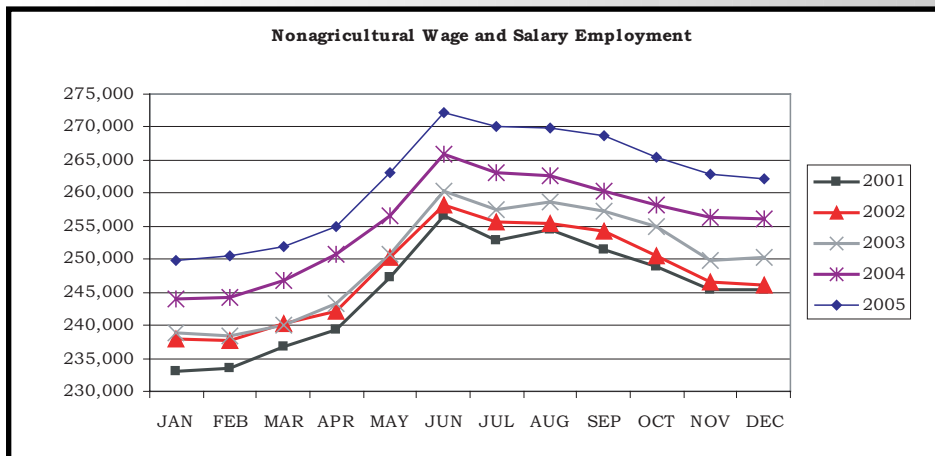
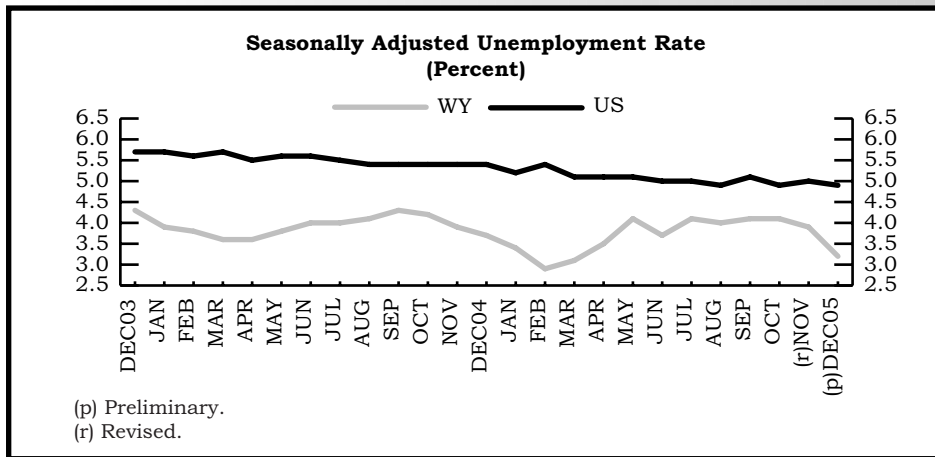
To ensure that this site best meets the needs of its users, we'd like to hear your comments regarding this redesign, either via e-mail to doeerd_r&p_web@state.wy.us or by contacting us directly at (307) 473-3807.

<http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/>



State Unemployment Rates December 2005 (Seasonally Adjusted)

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	11.9
Mississippi	9.9
South Carolina	7.0
Alaska	6.9
Michigan	6.7
Louisiana	6.4
Kentucky	6.3
District of Columbia	6.0
Ohio	5.9
Oregon	5.7
Illinois	5.5
Indiana	5.5
Tennessee	5.4
Washington	5.3
Georgia	5.2
Rhode Island	5.2
California	5.1
Missouri	5.1
New York	5.1
Texas	5.1
Kansas	4.9
Massachusetts	4.9
North Carolina	4.9
Pennsylvania	4.9
United States	4.9
Connecticut	4.8
Maine	4.8
New Mexico	4.8
Wisconsin	4.8
New Jersey	4.7
West Virginia	4.7
Arizona	4.6
Colorado	4.6
Arkansas	4.5
Iowa	4.5
Delaware	4.4
Minnesota	4.1
Oklahoma	4.1
Maryland	3.9
South Dakota	3.9
Nevada	3.8
Utah	3.8
Montana	3.7
Nebraska	3.7
Vermont	3.6
Alabama	3.5
New Hampshire	3.5
Idaho	3.4
Florida	3.3
North Dakota	3.3
Virginia	3.3
Wyoming	3.2
Hawaii	2.7



Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

(Continued)

	Employment in		Percent Change		
	Thousands		Total Employment		
	Dec05(p)	Nov05(r)	Dec04(b)	Dec05	Dec05
CAMPBELL COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	23.6	23.8	22.2	-0.8	6.3
TOTAL PRIVATE	19.7	19.9	18.3	-1.0	7.7
GOODS PRODUCING	9.6	9.7	8.8	-1.0	9.1
Natural Resources & Mining	6.8	6.8	6.4	0.0	6.2
Construction	2.2	2.3	1.9	-4.3	15.8
Manufacturing	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.0	20.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	14.0	14.1	13.4	-0.7	4.5
Trade, Transport., & Utilities	4.4	4.4	4.1	0.0	7.3
Information	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	0.5	0.6	0.5	-16.7	0.0
Professional & Bus. Services	1.6	1.6	1.4	0.0	14.3
Educational & Health Serv.	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality	1.8	1.8	1.7	0.0	5.9
Other Services	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.0
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	3.9	3.9	3.9	0.0	0.0
SWEETWATER COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	23.0	23.1	21.6	-0.4	6.5
TOTAL PRIVATE	18.6	18.8	17.3	-1.1	7.5
GOODS PRODUCING	8.0	8.2	7.1	-2.4	12.7
Natural Resources & Mining	5.0	5.0	4.4	0.0	13.6
Construction	1.8	2.0	1.6	-10.0	12.5
Manufacturing	1.2	1.2	1.1	0.0	9.1
SERVICE PROVIDING	15.0	14.9	14.5	0.7	3.4
Trade, Transport., & Utilities	4.8	4.7	4.6	2.1	4.3
Information	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.0	14.3
Professional & Bus. Services	1.1	1.1	1.0	0.0	10.0
Educational & Health Serv.	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.0	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality	2.2	2.3	2.2	-4.3	0.0
Other Services	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	4.4	4.3	4.3	2.3	2.3
TETON COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	16.3	14.9	15.9	9.4	2.5
TOTAL PRIVATE	14.0	12.7	13.7	10.2	2.2
GOODS PRODUCING	2.2	2.3	2.1	-4.3	4.8
Nat. Res., Mining & Const.	2.0	2.1	1.9	-4.8	5.3
Manufacturing	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	14.1	12.6	13.8	11.9	2.2
Trade, Transport., & Utilities	2.4	2.2	2.4	9.1	0.0
Information	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.0	-33.3
Financial Activities	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.0	12.5
Professional & Bus. Services	1.5	1.6	1.4	-6.3	7.1
Educational & Health Serv.	0.9	0.8	0.8	12.5	12.5
Leisure & Hospitality	5.4	4.2	5.5	28.6	-1.8
Other Services	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.0	25.0
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	2.3	2.2	2.2	4.5	4.5

State Unemployment Rates December 2005 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	10.8
Mississippi	9.3
Alaska	7.0
South Carolina	6.7
Michigan	6.4
Kentucky	6.0
District of Columbia	5.9
Louisiana	5.9
Ohio	5.6
Oregon	5.5
Illinois	5.3
Indiana	5.3
Washington	5.3
Tennessee	5.1
New York	5.0
Georgia	4.9
Missouri	4.9
California	4.8
Rhode Island	4.8
Texas	4.8
Maine	4.7
North Carolina	4.7
Iowa	4.6
United States	4.6
Colorado	4.5
Massachusetts	4.5
Wisconsin	4.5
New Jersey	4.4
New Mexico	4.4
Pennsylvania	4.4
Arkansas	4.3
Connecticut	4.3
Kansas	4.3
Arizona	4.2
West Virginia	4.2
Delaware	4.0
Minnesota	4.0
Oklahoma	4.0
Montana	3.8
South Dakota	3.8
Maryland	3.6
Nevada	3.6
Nebraska	3.5
Utah	3.5
Vermont	3.4
Idaho	3.3
New Hampshire	3.3
Wyoming	3.3
Alabama	3.2
North Dakota	3.2
Florida	3.0
Virginia	3.0
Hawaii	2.4

Economic Indicators

by: Margaret Hiatt, Administrative/Survey Support Specialist

The Baker Hughes North American Rotary Rig Count for Wyoming was 90 in December 2005, up from 75 in December 2004.

	Dec	Nov	Dec	Percent Change	
	2005	2005	2004	Month	Year
	(p)	(r)	(b)		
Wyoming Total Civilian Labor Force	283,364	286,843	282,277	-1.2	0.4
Unemployed	9,317	10,954	10,974	-14.9	-15.1
Employed	274,047	275,889	271,303	-0.7	1.0
Wyoming Unemp. Rate/Seasonally Adjusted	3.3%/3.2%	3.8%/3.9%	3.9%/3.7%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Unemployment Rate/Seasonally Adjusted	4.6%/4.9%	4.8%/5.0%	5.1%/5.4%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Multiple Jobholders	7,665,000	7,586,000	7,834,000	1.0	-2.2
As a percent of all workers	5.4%	5.3%	5.6%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Discouraged Workers	451,000	404,000	442,000	11.6	2.0
U.S. Part-Time for Economic Reasons	4,183,000	4,067,000	4,516,000	2.9	-7.4
Hours & Earnings for Production Workers					
Wyoming Mining					
Average Weekly Earnings	\$1,147.68	\$1,109.59	\$1,022.39	3.4	12.3
Average Weekly Hours	48.0	46.7	45.5	2.8	5.5
U.S. Mining Hours & Earnings					
Average Weekly Earnings	\$885.65	\$882.20	\$873.74	0.4	1.4
Average Weekly Hours	46.2	45.9	46.5	0.7	-0.6
Wyoming Manufacturing Hours & Earnings					
Average Weekly Earnings	\$713.30	\$732.17	\$675.67	-2.6	5.6
Average Weekly Hours	40.9	42.2	40.9	-3.1	0.0
U.S. Manufacturing Hours & Earnings					
Average Weekly Earnings	\$694.67	\$687.19	\$678.15	1.1	2.4
Average Weekly Hours	41.3	41.1	41.2	0.5	0.2
Wyoming Unemployment Insurance					
Weeks Compensated	13,182	10,823	16,229	21.8	-18.8
Benefits Paid	\$3,156,293	\$2,526,533	\$3,823,514	24.9	-17.5
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	\$239.44	\$233.44	\$235.60	2.6	1.6
State Insured Covered Jobs	237,584	237,397	233,818	0.1	1.6
Insured Unemployment Rate	1.5%	1.0%	1.7%	N/A	N/A
Consumer Price Index (U) for All U.S. Urban Consumers (1982 to 1984 = 100) - All Items					
Food & Beverages	196.8	197.6	190.3	-0.4	3.4
Housing	193.2	192.8	188.9	0.2	2.3
Apparel	198.3	198.5	190.7	-0.1	4.0
Apparel	117.5	121.5	118.8	-3.3	-1.1
Transportation	172.7	175.6	164.8	-1.7	4.8
Medical Care	328.4	328.1	314.9	0.1	4.3
Recreation (Dec. 1997=100)	109.7	109.8	108.5	-0.1	1.1
Education & Comm. (Dec. 1997=100)	115.3	115.3	112.6	0.0	2.4
Other Goods & Services	317.3	316.2	307.8	0.3	3.1
Producer Prices (1982 to 1984 = 100) - All Commodities	163.0	163.6	150.2	-0.4	8.5
Wyoming Building Permits (New Privately Owned Housing Units Authorized)					
Total Units	161	264	201	-39.0	-19.9
Valuation	\$22,919,000	\$37,832,000	\$24,373,000	-39.4	-6.0
Single Family Homes	129	228	163	-43.4	-20.9
Valuation	\$20,590,000	\$35,234,000	\$21,657,000	-41.6	-4.9
Baker Hughes North American Rotary Rig Count for WY	90	90	75	0.0	20.0

(p) Preliminary. (r) Revised. (b) Benchmarked.

Wyoming County Unemployment Rates

by: Roy Azar, Economist

From November to December, unemployment fell in each of Wyoming's 23 counties. The largest decrease occurred in Teton County (4.9% in November, 2.6% in December).

REGION County	Labor Force			Employed			Unemployed			Unemployment Rates		
	Dec 2005 (p)	Nov 2005 (r)	Dec 2004 (b)	Dec 2005 (p)	Nov 2005 (r)	Dec 2004 (b)	Dec 2005 (p)	Nov 2005 (r)	Dec 2004 (b)	Dec 2005 (p)	Nov 2005 (r)	Dec 2004 (b)
NORTHWEST	44,669	45,254	44,651	42,807	43,186	42,623	1,862	2,068	2,028	4.2	4.6	4.5
Big Horn	5,530	5,625	5,439	5,306	5,381	5,176	224	244	263	4.1	4.3	4.8
Fremont	18,319	18,639	18,323	17,512	17,735	17,429	807	904	894	4.4	4.9	4.9
Hot Springs	2,386	2,417	2,362	2,295	2,312	2,271	91	105	91	3.8	4.3	3.9
Park	13,990	14,096	14,095	13,418	13,473	13,485	572	623	610	4.1	4.4	4.3
Washakie	4,444	4,477	4,432	4,276	4,285	4,262	168	192	170	3.8	4.3	3.8
NORTHEAST	49,387	50,042	48,227	47,958	48,393	46,523	1,429	1,649	1,704	2.9	3.3	3.5
Campbell	23,565	23,858	22,482	23,012	23,191	21,807	553	667	675	2.3	2.8	3.0
Crook	3,221	3,309	3,266	3,125	3,194	3,139	96	115	127	3.0	3.5	3.9
Johnson	3,766	3,830	3,694	3,647	3,693	3,549	119	137	145	3.2	3.6	3.9
Sheridan	15,618	15,739	15,528	15,071	15,142	14,905	547	597	623	3.5	3.8	4.0
Weston	3,217	3,306	3,257	3,103	3,173	3,123	114	133	134	3.5	4.0	4.1
SOUTHWEST	60,333	60,517	59,322	58,648	58,317	57,292	1,685	2,200	2,030	2.8	3.6	3.4
Lincoln	7,857	7,956	7,909	7,564	7,630	7,591	293	326	318	3.7	4.1	4.0
Sublette	5,220	5,352	4,566	5,137	5,249	4,469	83	103	97	1.6	1.9	2.1
Sweetwater	23,053	23,365	22,443	22,435	22,627	21,679	618	738	764	2.7	3.2	3.4
Teton	13,430	12,847	13,569	13,083	12,220	13,146	347	627	423	2.6	4.9	3.1
Uinta	10,773	10,997	10,835	10,429	10,591	10,407	344	406	428	3.2	3.7	4.0
SOUTHEAST	73,753	74,868	75,130	71,220	71,918	71,973	2,533	2,950	3,157	3.4	3.9	4.2
Albany	20,491	20,853	20,601	19,973	20,230	19,978	518	623	623	2.5	3.0	3.0
Goshen	5,956	6,125	6,162	5,736	5,861	5,906	220	264	256	3.7	4.3	4.2
Laramie	42,088	42,606	43,140	40,514	40,799	41,139	1,574	1,807	2,001	3.7	4.2	4.6
Niobrara	1,140	1,159	1,106	1,105	1,115	1,061	35	44	45	3.1	3.8	4.1
Platte	4,078	4,125	4,121	3,892	3,913	3,889	186	212	232	4.6	5.1	5.6
CENTRAL	55,223	56,159	54,949	53,415	54,073	52,894	1,808	2,086	2,055	3.3	3.7	3.7
Carbon	7,580	7,782	7,587	7,288	7,441	7,258	292	341	329	3.9	4.4	4.3
Converse	6,962	7,125	6,625	6,717	6,856	6,340	245	269	285	3.5	3.8	4.3
Natrona	40,681	41,252	40,737	39,410	39,776	39,296	1,271	1,476	1,441	3.1	3.6	3.5
STATEWIDE	283,364	286,843	282,277	274,047	275,889	271,303	9,317	10,954	10,974	3.3	3.8	3.9
Statewide Seasonally Adjusted										3.2	3.9	3.7
U.S.....										4.6	4.8	5.1
U.S. Seasonally Adjusted.....										4.9	5.0	5.4

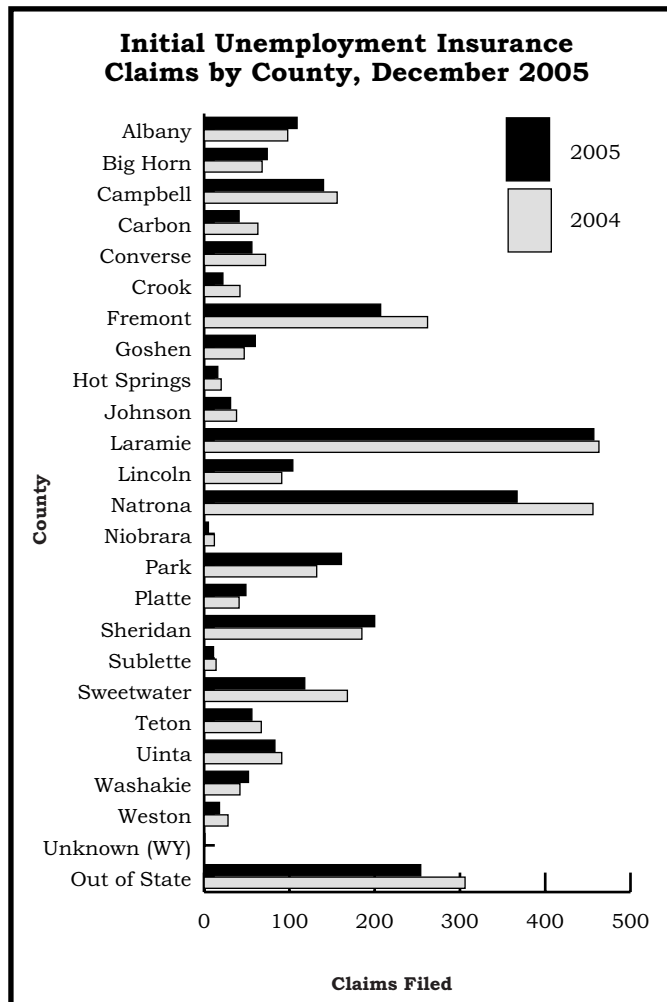
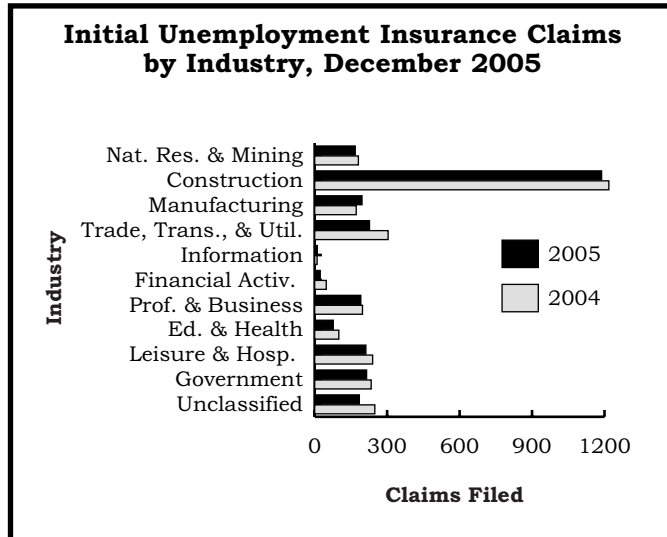
Prepared in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Benchmarked 06/05. Run Date 01/06.
Data are not seasonally adjusted except where otherwise specified.

(p) Preliminary. (r) Revised. (b) Benchmarked.

Wyoming Normalized Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Initial Claims

by: Douglas W. Leonard, Senior Research Analyst

December 2005 Initial Claims increased by 2.4 percent over the month and declined by 9.0% over the year. Manufacturing claims increased by 14.0% over the year.



WYOMING STATEWIDE	Claims Filed		Percent Change		
	Dec05	Nov05	Dec05	Dec04	
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	2,693	2,631	2,960	2.4	-9.0
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	1,552	1,051	1,571	47.7	-1.2
Natural Resources and Mining	168	128	181	31.3	-7.2
Mining	154	102	152	51.0	1.3
Oil & Gas Extraction	15	7	17	114.3	-11.8
Construction	1,188	840	1,218	41.4	-2.5
Manufacturing	196	83	172	136.1	14.0
TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING	768	1,084	933	-29.2	-17.7
Trade, Trans., Storage, & Util.	227	217	304	4.6	-25.3
Wholesale Trade	32	22	35	45.5	-8.6
Retail Trade	118	136	182	-13.2	-35.2
Trans., Storage, & Utilities	77	59	87	30.5	-11.5
Information	11	16	10	-31.3	10.0
Financial Activities	23	36	48	-36.1	-52.1
Professional & Business Serv.	191	255	198	-25.1	-3.5
Educational & Health Services	77	98	100	-21.4	-23.0
Leisure & Hospitality	212	424	240	-50.0	-11.7
Other Services	27	38	33	-28.9	-18.2
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	215	307	234	-30.0	-8.1
Federal Government	121	201	131	-39.8	-7.6
State Government	17	23	20	-26.1	-15.0
Local Government	77	83	83	-7.2	-7.2
Local Education	19	13	13	46.2	46.2
UNCLASSIFIED	158	189	222	-16.4	-28.8

LARAMIE COUNTY

TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	453	313	464	44.7	-2.4
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	292	150	277	94.7	5.4
Construction	223	141	223	58.2	0.0
TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING	130	125	140	4.0	-7.1
Trade, Trans., Storage, & Util.	33	29	51	13.8	-35.3
Financial Activities	3	7	9	-57.1	-66.7
Professional & Business Serv.	43	48	41	-10.4	4.9
Educational & Health Services	11	17	13	-35.3	-15.4
Leisure & Hospitality	32	19	18	68.4	77.8
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	17	17	25	0.0	-32.0
UNCLASSIFIED	14	21	22	-33.3	-36.4

NATRONA COUNTY

TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	364	346	458	5.2	-20.5
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	240	194	300	23.7	-20.0
Construction	192	169	249	13.6	-22.9
TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING	109	118	131	-7.6	-16.8
Trade, Trans., Storage, & Util.	33	35	40	-5.7	-17.5
Financial Activities	4	9	14	-55.6	-71.4
Professional & Business Serv.	42	38	26	10.5	61.5
Educational & Health Services	6	11	17	-45.5	-64.7
Leisure & Hospitality	16	19	28	-15.8	-42.9
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	11	20	12	-45.0	-8.3
UNCLASSIFIED	4	14	15	-71.4	-73.3

Wyoming Normalized Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Continued Claims

by: Douglas W. Leonard, Senior Research Analyst

Continued claims increased by 38.7 percent over the month and declined by 13.7 percent over the year. Construction accounted for a large proportion of the over the month increase.

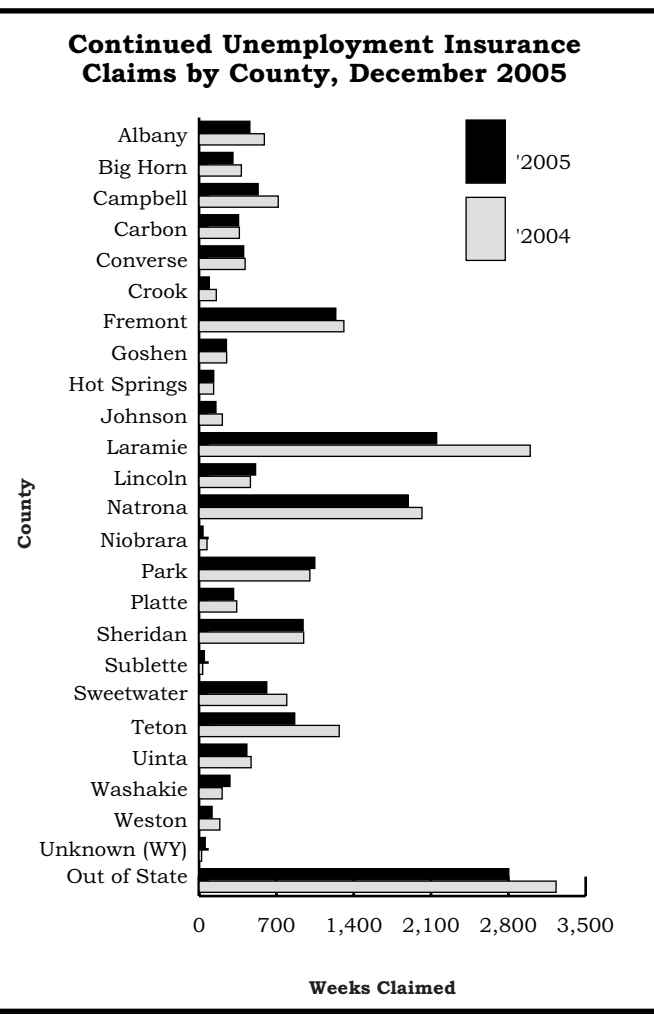
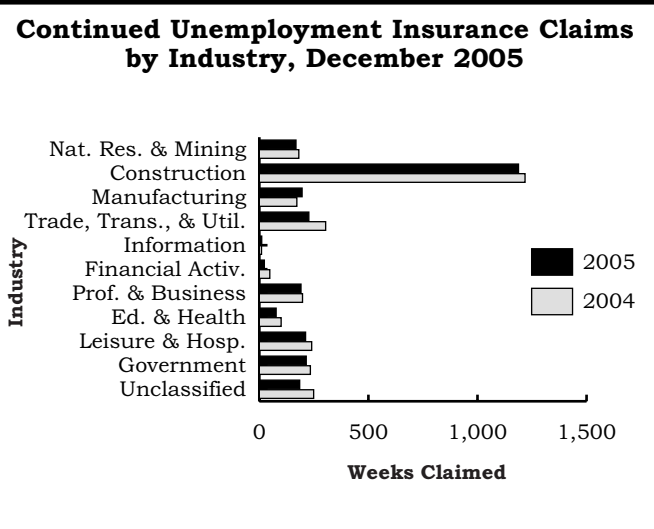
WYOMING STATEWIDE	Percent Change				
	Weeks Claimed		Weeks Claimed		
	Dec05	Nov05	Dec04	Dec05	Dec05
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	16,041	11,565	18,595	38.7	-13.7
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	5,160	3,228	4,965	59.9	3.9
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	5,670	2,730	6,134	107.7	-7.6
Natural Resources and Mining	797	621	990	28.3	-19.5
Mining	652	543	705	20.1	-7.5
Oil & Gas Extraction	52	70	101	-25.7	-48.5
Construction	4,346	1,778	4,631	144.4	-6.2
Manufacturing	527	331	513	59.2	2.7
TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING	7,250	6,403	8,714	13.2	-16.8
Trade, Trans., Storage, & Util.	1,635	1,426	1,951	14.7	-16.2
Wholesale Trade	247	226	378	9.3	-34.7
Retail Trade	1,013	914	1,091	10.8	-7.1
Trans., Storage, & Utilities	375	286	482	31.1	-22.2
Information	132	124	447	6.5	-70.5
Financial Activities	311	281	388	10.7	-19.8
Professional & Business Serv.	1,450	917	1,828	58.1	-20.7
Educational & Health Serv.	665	651	685	2.2	-2.9
Leisure & Hospitality	2,764	2,738	3,134	0.9	-11.8
Other Services	293	266	281	10.2	4.3
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	2,163	1,729	2,340	25.1	-7.6
Federal Government	1,238	900	1,418	37.6	-12.7
State Government	245	221	233	10.9	5.2
Local Government	680	608	689	11.8	-1.3
Local Education	170	170	126	0.0	34.9
UNCLASSIFIED	958	703	1,407	36.3	-31.9

LARAMIE COUNTY

TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	2,150	1,418	2,999	51.6	-28.3
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	711	392	802	81.4	-11.3
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	890	326	1,101	173.0	-19.2
Construction	804	271	1,001	196.7	-19.7
TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING	946	830	1,536	14.0	-38.4
Trade, Trans., Storage, & Util.	258	217	390	18.9	-33.8
Financial Activities	69	77	97	-10.4	-28.9
Professional & Business Serv.	236	170	448	38.8	-47.3
Educational & Health Services	163	166	158	-1.8	3.2
Leisure & Hospitality	160	134	130	19.4	23.1
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	205	191	275	7.3	-25.5
UNCLASSIFIED	109	71	87	53.5	25.3

NATRONA COUNTY

TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	1,889	1,215	2,017	55.5	-6.3
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	609	356	558	71.1	9.1
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	911	398	863	128.9	5.6
Construction	723	249	695	190.4	4.0
TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING	827	675	958	22.5	-13.7
Trade, Trans., Storage, & Util.	271	232	302	16.8	-10.3
Financial Activities	65	68	87	-4.4	-25.3
Professional & Business Serv.	223	126	282	77.0	-20.9
Educational & Health Services	61	67	98	-9.0	-37.8
Leisure & Hospitality	130	106	144	22.6	-9.7
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	94	91	114	3.3	-17.5
UNCLASSIFIED	57	51	82	11.8	-30.5



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