

TRENDS

Identifying Potential Living-Wage Employment Growth Opportunities in Wyoming

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“Results indicate that, on average, Manufacturing and Finance & Insurance are the most underrepresented industries in Wyoming that pay a living wage.”

Previous research conducted by Research & Planning (R&P) indicates that Wyoming’s economy has grown and become more diversified over time.¹ To sustain the expansion and further diversification of the economy, Wyoming will need to continue creating jobs. It is preferable that a significant proportion of job growth occurs in high wage employment. One potential strategy to diversify and strengthen Wyoming’s economy is to attract jobs in industries paying a living wage that are underrepresented in comparison to bordering states.² High paying industries that are overrepresented can continue to grow, but perhaps not at rates that hinder diversification and leave Wyoming more vulnerable than bordering states to

global economic events. Economic comparisons with bordering states are useful because, in addition to geographic proximity, they share, to some degree, a similar climate, natural resource base, culture, and political environment.

In this article R&P presents employment totals and proportions in Wyoming and bordering states (i.e.,

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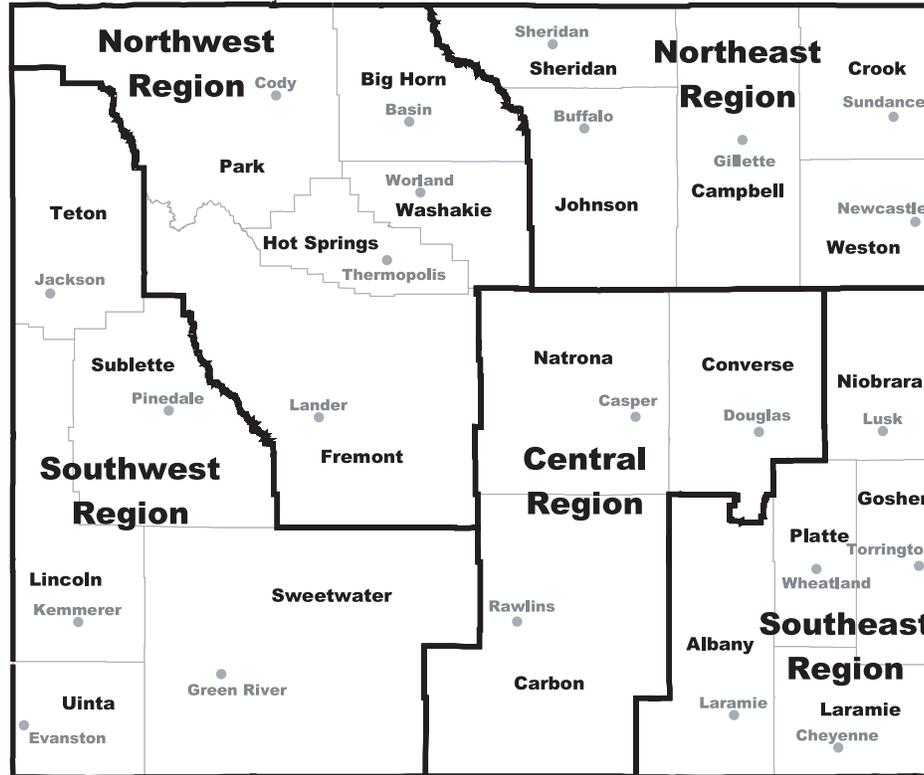
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Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nebraska, South Dakota, and Utah). We then calculate the Wyoming employment change to reach equivalency (ECRE) with industry proportions in bordering states. For industries with a smaller share of employment in Wyoming (i.e., proportionately underrepresented industries), the ECRE measure is an indicator of potential economic development. Additionally, we show the annual average wage by industry and express it as a percentage of the federal poverty guideline³ to identify industries that pay a living wage.

Results indicate that, on average, Manufacturing and Finance & Insurance are the most underrepresented industries in Wyoming that pay a living wage. Retail Trade and Accommodation & Food Services, on the other hand, are the most overrepresented industries paying below a living wage.

Data

Data for this article are derived from the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) Tables SA27 (full- and part-time wage and salary employment) and SA07 (wage and salary disbursements).⁴ This is the first year BEA published data in the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS)⁵ format. The advent of NAICS offers a new way to examine the industry structure of employment. NAICS is the first industry classification system specifically designed to aggregate units that utilize similar production processes. Arguably, NAICS better reflects major changes in technology and the growth and diversification of services than does the older Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) system.⁶

Methods

Our ECRE measure is determined by: 1) comparing the relative share of industry employment in Wyoming with the relative share of industry employment in the bordering state, 2) determining the total industry employment needed in Wyoming to reach the proportion of industry employment equivalent to the industry proportion in the comparison state,⁷ and 3) calculating the difference between employment needed in Wyoming and current industry employment in Wyoming. The difference between these two figures represents the employment change to reach equivalence with industry proportions in the comparison state. Positive ECRE numbers indicate underrepresented industries in Wyoming or areas of potential employment growth.

Poverty guidelines are determined by the Department of Health and Human Services.⁸ The Economic Policy Institute indicates that a minimum “living wage” is often defined as 100 percent of the federal poverty guideline for a full-time, full-year worker in Wyoming supporting a family of four (i.e., \$18,400 for 2003).⁹ The tables in this article show annual average wages by sector relative to 100 percent (i.e., \$18,400) of the federal poverty guideline. A more meaningful “living wage” definition is annual earnings at or above 130 percent of the federal poverty guideline for a family of four (i.e., \$23,920 for 2003). Across most jurisdictions, recipients become ineligible for governmental assistance (e.g., Food Stamps) with earnings at 130 percent of the poverty guideline.¹⁰ As such, industries paying this level of annual average wages to their employees represent a smaller assistance liability to

governmental support programs than industries paying below this level.

Results

Tables 1 through 6 (see pages 4 to 7) show nonagricultural private employment and annual average wage by industry¹¹ for Wyoming and bordering states. The tables also show the percent of total employment, annual average wage¹² expressed in dollars and as a percent of the federal poverty guideline for a family of four, and the ECRE. For the ECRE, negative numbers indicate the amount of employment *reduction* needed in Wyoming to achieve proportional equivalence with the comparison state. Positive numbers on the other hand indicate the amount of employment *growth* needed in Wyoming to achieve proportional equivalence.

Figure 1 (see page 8) shows the percent of total private nonagricultural employment in Wyoming and its bordering states for 14 of the NAICS industries shown in Tables 1 through 6. Utilities; Transportation & Warehousing; Information; and Other Services are not shown in Figure 1 because they are not disclosable due to confidentiality issues. Figure 1 provides a graphical means of identifying over and underrepresented industries relative to bordering states. The predominant pattern for Wyoming is underrepresented industry employment relative to bordering states. Industry employment is underrepresented in comparison to all bordering states in Manufacturing; Wholesale Trade; Finance & Insurance; Administrative & Waste Services; and Educational Services. It is

(Text continued on page 7)

Table 1: Comparison of Nonagricultural Private Employment and Annual Average Wage (AAW) for Wyoming and Colorado by Industry, 2001

Industry Title and Code	Wyoming				Colorado				ECRE**
	Employment Number	Percent	AAW	Percent of Poverty*	Employment Number	Percent	AAW	Percent of Poverty*	
Mining (21)	18,358	9.4%	\$53,466	290.6%	12,985	0.7%	\$75,595	410.8%	-17,182
Utilities (22)	ND	ND	ND	ND	8,054	0.4%	\$65,379	355.3%	NA
Construction (23)	20,666	10.5%	\$31,977	173.8%	176,946	9.0%	\$39,012	212.0%	-3,407
Manufacturing (31-33)	10,174	5.2%	\$36,685	199.4%	183,442	9.3%	\$47,606	258.7%	8,857
Wholesale Trade (42)	6,899	3.5%	\$36,807	200.0%	101,097	5.1%	\$52,601	285.9%	3,305
Retail Trade (44-45)	31,250	15.9%	\$18,703	101.6%	253,711	12.8%	\$23,890	129.8%	-6,960
Transportation & Warehousing (48-49)	ND	ND	ND	ND	69,501	3.5%	\$38,936	211.6%	NA
Information (51)	ND	ND	ND	ND	108,440	5.5%	\$65,971	358.5%	NA
Finance & Insurance (52)	6,497	3.3%	\$37,006	201.1%	105,827	5.4%	\$55,881	303.7%	4,234
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing (53)	3,532	1.8%	\$22,499	122.3%	48,503	2.5%	\$33,485	182.0%	1,315
Professional & Technical Services (54)	8,301	4.2%	\$33,478	181.9%	161,344	8.2%	\$61,164	332.4%	8,400
Management of Companies & Enterprises (55)	814	0.4%	\$41,795	227.1%	18,245	0.9%	\$76,885	417.9%	1,006
Administrative & Waste Services (56)	7,420	3.8%	\$20,063	109.0%	143,086	7.2%	\$26,765	145.5%	7,313
Educational Services (61)	1,382	0.7%	\$18,854	102.5%	27,331	1.4%	\$26,163	142.2%	1,350
Health Care & Social Assistance (62)***	23,408	11.9%	\$27,967	152.0%	193,769	9.8%	\$34,248	186.1%	-4,628
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation (71)	3,408	1.7%	\$14,372	78.1%	44,066	2.2%	\$27,306	148.4%	988
Accommodation & Food Services (72)	27,597	14.1%	\$10,867	59.1%	212,441	10.8%	\$13,789	74.9%	-7,294
Other Services (81)	ND	ND	ND	ND	106,660	5.4%	\$22,840	124.1%	NA
Total	196,086	100.0%	\$28,037	152.4%	1,975,448	100.0%	\$37,937	206.2%	

*Percent of poverty guideline for a family of four (i.e., \$18,400 = 100%).

**This is the employment change to reach equivalency (ECRE) in Wyoming compared to bordering states for the same industry while holding employment in all other industries constant.

***Adjusted to account for NAICS 622 hospital employment in Local Government.

ND = Not disclosable due to confidentiality issues.

NA = Not available. Unable to calculate due to non-disclosable data.

Source Data: Bureau of Economic Analysis Tables SA27 and SA07.

Table 2: Comparison of Nonagricultural Private Employment and Annual Average Wage (AAW) for Wyoming and Idaho by Industry, 2001

Industry Title and Code	Wyoming				Idaho				ECRE**
	Employment		AAW	Percent of Poverty*	Employment		AAW	Percent of Poverty*	
	Number	Percent			Number	Percent			
Mining (21)	18,358	9.4%	\$53,466	290.6%	1,997	0.4%	\$38,807	210.9%	-17,614
Utilities (22)	ND	ND	ND	ND	1,796	0.4%	\$48,037	261.1%	NA
Construction (23)	20,666	10.5%	\$31,977	173.8%	39,944	8.3%	\$31,161	169.4%	-4,714
Manufacturing (31-33)	10,174	5.2%	\$36,685	199.4%	68,965	14.4%	\$37,732	205.1%	21,080
Wholesale Trade (42)	6,899	3.5%	\$36,807	200.0%	25,837	5.4%	\$34,524	187.6%	3,883
Retail Trade (44-45)	31,250	15.9%	\$18,703	101.6%	74,808	15.6%	\$20,264	110.1%	-757
Transportation & Warehousing (48-49)	ND	ND	ND	ND	17,649	3.7%	\$30,028	163.2%	NA
Information (51)	ND	ND	ND	ND	9,705	2.0%	\$32,977	179.2%	NA
Finance & Insurance (52)	6,497	3.3%	\$37,006	201.1%	17,228	3.6%	\$37,047	201.3%	573
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing (53)	3,532	1.8%	\$22,499	122.3%	6,900	1.4%	\$20,831	113.2%	-719
Professional & Technical Services (54)	8,301	4.2%	\$33,478	181.9%	30,874	6.4%	\$42,117	228.9%	4,631
Management of Companies & Enterprises (55)	814	0.4%	\$41,795	227.1%	ND	ND	ND	ND	NA
Administrative & Waste Services (56)	7,420	3.8%	\$20,063	109.0%	31,124	6.5%	\$18,064	98.2%	5,685
Educational Services (61)	1,382	0.7%	\$18,854	102.5%	6,490	1.4%	\$19,766	107.4%	1,291
Health Care & Social Assistance (62)***	23,408	11.9%	\$27,967	152.0%	59,127	12.3%	\$27,726	150.7%	897
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation (71)	3,408	1.7%	\$14,372	78.1%	ND	ND	ND	ND	NA
Accommodation & Food Services (72)	27,597	14.1%	\$10,867	59.1%	47,716	10.0%	\$10,071	54.7%	-8,964
Other Services (81)	ND	ND	ND	ND	22,894	4.8%	\$17,515	95.2%	NA
Total	196,086	100.0%	\$28,037	152.4%	479,195	100.0%	\$27,581	149.9%	

*Percent of poverty guideline for a family of four (i.e., \$18,400 = 100%).

**This is the employment change to reach equivalency (ECRE) in Wyoming compared to bordering states for the same industry while holding employment in all other industries constant.

***Adjusted to account for NAICS 622 hospital employment in Local Government.

ND = Not disclosable due to confidentiality issues.

NA = Not available. Unable to calculate due to non-disclosable data.

Source Data: Bureau of Economic Analysis Tables SA27 and SA07.

Table 3: Comparison of Nonagricultural Private Employment and Annual Average Wage (AAW) for Wyoming and Montana by Industry, 2001

Industry Title and Code	Wyoming				Montana				ECRE**
	Employment		AAW	Percent of Poverty*	Employment		AAW	Percent of Poverty*	
	Number	Percent			Number	Percent			
Mining (21)	18,358	9.4%	\$53,466	290.6%	5,271	1.6%	\$52,949	287.8%	-15,396
Utilities (22)	ND	ND	ND	ND	3,170	1.0%	\$53,287	289.6%	NA
Construction (23)	20,666	10.5%	\$31,977	173.8%	22,365	7.0%	\$30,613	166.4%	-7,552
Manufacturing (31-33)	10,174	5.2%	\$36,685	199.4%	21,902	6.8%	\$32,891	178.8%	3,416
Wholesale Trade (42)	6,899	3.5%	\$36,807	200.0%	15,627	4.9%	\$32,409	176.1%	2,766
Retail Trade (44-45)	31,250	15.9%	\$18,703	101.6%	55,400	17.2%	\$18,506	100.6%	3,064
Transportation & Warehousing (48-49)	ND	ND	ND	ND	13,708	4.3%	\$33,268	180.8%	NA
Information (51)	ND	ND	ND	ND	8,040	2.5%	\$31,177	169.4%	NA
Finance & Insurance (52)	6,497	3.3%	\$37,006	201.1%	14,332	4.5%	\$35,284	191.8%	2,348
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing (53)	3,532	1.8%	\$22,499	122.3%	5,238	1.6%	\$18,349	99.7%	-343
Professional & Technical Services (54)	8,301	4.2%	\$33,478	181.9%	16,700	5.2%	\$34,225	186.0%	1,987
Management of Companies & Enterprises (55)	814	0.4%	\$41,795	227.1%	1,279	0.4%	\$35,612	193.5%	-34
Administrative & Waste Services (56)	7,420	3.8%	\$20,063	109.0%	15,398	4.8%	\$17,317	94.1%	2,070
Educational Services (61)	1,382	0.7%	\$18,854	102.5%	4,133	1.3%	\$15,763	85.7%	1,153
Health Care & Social Assistance (62)***	23,408	11.9%	\$27,967	152.0%	48,532	15.1%	\$27,024	146.9%	7,290
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation (71)	3,408	1.7%	\$14,372	78.1%	8,091	2.5%	\$12,650	68.7%	1,566
Accommodation & Food Services (72)	27,597	14.1%	\$10,867	59.1%	43,190	13.4%	\$10,229	55.6%	-1,452
Other Services (81)	ND	ND	ND	ND	19,152	6.0%	\$17,064	92.7%	NA
Total	196,086	100.0%	\$28,037	152.4%	321,528	100.0%	\$24,336	132.3%	

*Percent of poverty guideline for a family of four (i.e., \$18,400 = 100%).

**This is the employment change to reach equivalency (ECRE) in Wyoming compared to bordering states for the same industry while holding employment in all other industries constant.

***Adjusted to account for NAICS 622 hospital employment in Local Government.

ND = Not disclosable due to confidentiality issues.

NA = Not available. Unable to calculate due to non-disclosable data.

Source Data: Bureau of Economic Analysis Tables SA27 and SA07.

Table 4: Comparison of Nonagricultural Private Employment and Annual Average Wage (AAW) for Wyoming and Nebraska by Industry, 2001

Industry Title and Code	Wyoming				Nebraska				ECRE**
	Employment		AAW	Percent of Poverty*	Employment		AAW	Percent of Poverty*	
	Number	Percent			Number	Percent			
Mining (21)	18,358	9.4%	\$53,466	290.6%	1,265	0.2%	\$34,908	189.7%	-18,072
Utilities (22)	ND	ND	ND	ND	1,500	0.2%	\$59,358	322.6%	NA
Construction (23)	20,666	10.5%	\$31,977	173.8%	46,112	5.9%	\$32,242	175.2%	-9,741
Manufacturing (31-33)	10,174	5.2%	\$36,685	199.4%	111,227	14.1%	\$32,486	176.6%	20,449
Wholesale Trade (42)	6,899	3.5%	\$36,807	200.0%	43,109	5.5%	\$36,536	198.6%	4,072
Retail Trade (44-45)	31,250	15.9%	\$18,703	101.6%	114,612	14.6%	\$18,295	99.4%	-3,132
Transportation & Warehousing (48-49)	ND	ND	ND	ND	44,400	5.6%	\$41,168	223.7%	NA
Information (51)	ND	ND	ND	ND	26,127	3.3%	\$41,731	226.8%	NA
Finance & Insurance (52)	6,497	3.3%	\$37,006	201.1%	51,322	6.5%	\$39,621	215.3%	6,738
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing (53)	3,532	1.8%	\$22,499	122.3%	10,208	1.3%	\$23,603	128.3%	-1,000
Professional & Technical Services (54)	8,301	4.2%	\$33,478	181.9%	36,256	4.6%	\$42,305	229.9%	774
Management of Companies & Enterprises (55)	814	0.4%	\$41,795	227.1%	11,646	1.5%	\$51,004	277.2%	2,121
Administrative & Waste Services (56)	7,420	3.8%	\$20,063	109.0%	51,802	6.6%	\$20,841	113.3%	5,883
Educational Services (61)	1,382	0.7%	\$18,854	102.5%	16,486	2.1%	\$21,765	118.3%	2,787
Health Care & Social Assistance (62)***	23,408	11.9%	\$27,967	152.0%	98,382	12.5%	\$29,681	161.3%	1,280
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation (71)	3,408	1.7%	\$14,372	78.1%	10,761	1.4%	\$13,000	70.7%	-735
Accommodation & Food Services (72)	27,597	14.1%	\$10,867	59.1%	68,698	8.7%	\$10,105	54.9%	-11,471
Other Services (81)	ND	ND	ND	ND	42,583	5.4%	\$17,597	95.6%	NA
Total	196,086	100.0%	\$28,037	152.4%	786,496	100.0%	\$28,185	153.2%	

*Percent of poverty guideline for a family of four (i.e., \$18,400 = 100%).

**This is the employment change to reach equivalency (ECRE) in Wyoming compared to bordering states for the same sector while holding employment in all other industries constant.

***Adjusted to account for NAICS 622 hospital employment in Local Government.

ND = Not disclosable due to confidentiality issues.

NA = Not available. Unable to calculate due to non-disclosable data.

Source Data: Bureau of Economic Analysis Tables SA27 and SA07.

Table 5: Comparison of Nonagricultural Private Employment and Annual Average Wage (AAW) for Wyoming and South Dakota by Industry, 2001

Industry Title and Code	Wyoming				South Dakota				ECRE**
	Employment		AAW	Percent of Poverty*	Employment		AAW	Percent of Poverty*	
	Number	Percent			Number	Percent			
Mining (21)	18,358	9.4%	\$53,466	290.6%	1,095	0.3%	\$40,495	220.1%	-17,740
Utilities (22)	ND	ND	ND	ND	2,034	0.6%	\$45,318	246.3%	NA
Construction (23)	20,666	10.5%	\$31,977	173.8%	19,503	6.2%	\$28,999	157.6%	-9,123
Manufacturing (31-33)	10,174	5.2%	\$36,685	199.4%	41,322	13.1%	\$29,833	162.1%	17,806
Wholesale Trade (42)	6,899	3.5%	\$36,807	200.0%	17,763	5.6%	\$34,545	187.7%	4,373
Retail Trade (44-45)	31,250	15.9%	\$18,703	101.6%	49,801	15.8%	\$18,111	98.4%	-399
Transportation & Warehousing (48-49)	ND	ND	ND	ND	10,229	3.2%	\$29,495	160.3%	NA
Information (51)	ND	ND	ND	ND	6,878	2.2%	\$31,710	172.3%	NA
Finance & Insurance (52)	6,497	3.3%	\$37,006	201.1%	24,910	7.9%	\$33,127	180.0%	9,733
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing (53)	3,532	1.8%	\$22,499	122.3%	3,665	1.2%	\$19,325	105.0%	-1,272
Professional & Technical Services (54)	8,301	4.2%	\$33,478	181.9%	9,122	2.9%	\$32,778	178.1%	-2,717
Management of Companies & Enterprises (55)	814	0.4%	\$41,795	227.1%	3,928	1.2%	\$60,474	328.7%	1,645
Administrative & Waste Services (56)	7,420	3.8%	\$20,063	109.0%	12,903	4.1%	\$20,280	110.2%	615
Educational Services (61)	1,382	0.7%	\$18,854	102.5%	6,706	2.1%	\$19,039	103.5%	2,841
Health Care & Social Assistance (62)***	23,408	11.9%	\$27,967	152.0%	48,490	15.4%	\$28,483	154.8%	7,905
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation (71)	3,408	1.7%	\$14,372	78.1%	6,181	2.0%	\$12,651	68.8%	437
Accommodation & Food Services (72)	27,597	14.1%	\$10,867	59.1%	33,786	10.7%	\$9,462	51.4%	-7,418
Other Services (81)	ND	ND	ND	ND	17,572	5.6%	\$16,813	91.4%	NA
Total	196,086	100.0%	\$28,037	152.4%	315,888	100.0%	\$24,903	135.3%	

*Percent of poverty guideline for a family of four (i.e., \$18,400 = 100%).

**This is the employment change to reach equivalency (ECRE) in Wyoming compared to bordering states for the same industry while holding employment in all other industries constant.

***Adjusted to account for NAICS 622 hospital employment in Local Government.

ND = Not disclosable due to confidentiality issues.

NA = Not available. Unable to calculate due to non-disclosable data.

Source Data: Bureau of Economic Analysis Tables SA27 and SA07.

Table 6: Comparison of Nonagricultural Private Employment and Annual Average Wage (AAW) for Wyoming and Utah by Industry, 2001

Industry Title and Code	Wyoming				Utah				ECRE**
	Employment Number	Percent	AAW	Percent of Poverty*	Employment Number	Percent	AAW	Percent of Poverty*	
Mining (21)	18,358	9.4%	\$53,466	290.6%	7,280	0.8%	\$51,338	279.0%	-16,957
Utilities (22)	ND	ND	ND	ND	4,233	0.5%	\$73,888	401.6%	NA
Construction (23)	20,666	10.5%	\$31,977	173.8%	75,511	8.1%	\$30,476	165.6%	-5,174
Manufacturing (31-33)	10,174	5.2%	\$36,685	199.4%	122,122	13.1%	\$36,319	197.4%	17,910
Wholesale Trade (42)	6,899	3.5%	\$36,807	200.0%	41,664	4.5%	\$41,895	227.7%	1,969
Retail Trade (44-45)	31,250	15.9%	\$18,703	101.6%	134,153	14.4%	\$20,244	110.0%	-3,483
Transportation & Warehousing (48-49)	ND	ND	ND	ND	42,799	4.6%	\$35,505	193.0%	NA
Information (51)	ND	ND	ND	ND	32,829	3.5%	\$41,079	223.3%	NA
Finance & Insurance (52)	6,497	3.3%	\$37,006	201.1%	49,458	5.3%	\$39,963	217.2%	4,145
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing (53)	3,532	1.8%	\$22,499	122.3%	14,841	1.6%	\$25,327	137.6%	-411
Professional & Technical Services (54)	8,301	4.2%	\$33,478	181.9%	53,307	5.7%	\$46,504	252.7%	3,110
Management of Companies & Enterprises (55)	814	0.4%	\$41,795	227.1%	20,599	2.2%	\$48,915	265.8%	3,606
Administrative & Waste Services (56)	7,420	3.8%	\$20,063	109.0%	66,328	7.1%	\$20,041	108.9%	7,060
Educational Services (61)	1,382	0.7%	\$18,854	102.5%	25,518	2.7%	\$21,526	117.0%	4,108
Health Care & Social Assistance (62)***	23,408	11.9%	\$27,967	152.0%	87,294	9.4%	\$29,114	158.2%	-5,532
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation (71)	3,408	1.7%	\$14,372	78.1%	16,744	1.8%	\$17,970	97.7%	123
Accommodation & Food Services (72)	27,597	14.1%	\$10,867	59.1%	85,020	9.1%	\$11,177	60.7%	-10,655
Other Services (81)	ND	ND	ND	ND	50,846	5.5%	\$26,660	144.9%	NA
Total	196,086	100.0%	\$28,037	152.4%	930,546	100.0%	\$29,680	161.3%	

*Percent of poverty guideline for a family of four (i.e., \$18,400 = 100%).

**This is the employment change to reach equivalency (ECRE) in Wyoming compared to bordering states for the same industry while holding employment in all other industries constant.

***Adjusted to account for NAICS 622 hospital employment in Local Government.

ND = Not disclosable due to confidentiality issues.

NA = Not available. Unable to calculate due to non-disclosable data.

Source Data: Bureau of Economic Analysis Tables SA27 and SA07.

underrepresented in comparison to at least four or five states for Professional & Technical Services; Management of Companies & Enterprises; Health Care & Social Assistance; and Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation. Wyoming has overrepresented employment in several industries, most notably in Mining; Construction; and Accommodation & Food Services. Retail Trade is also overrepresented, except in comparison to Montana.

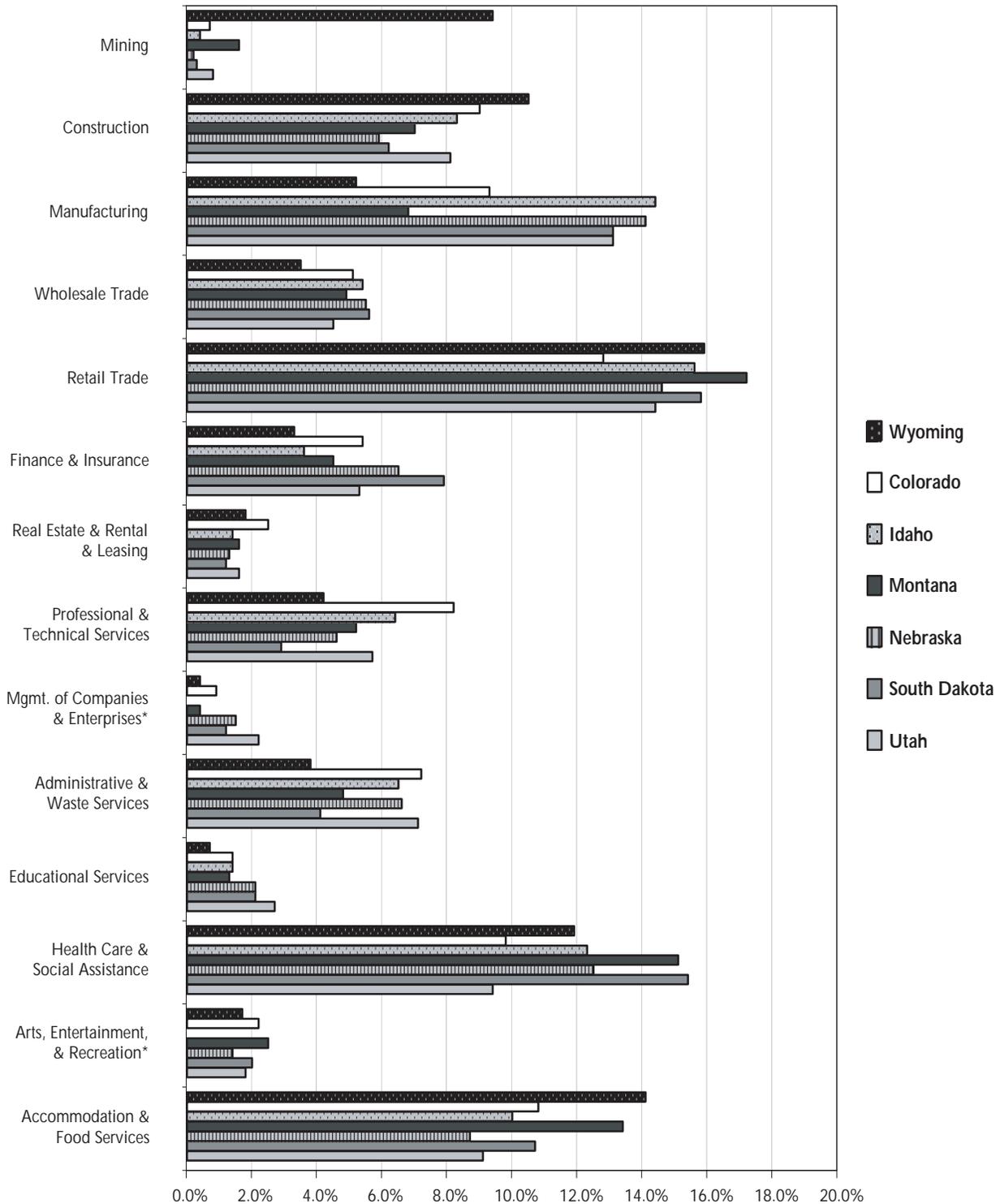
Table 7 (see page 9) summarizes the ECRE numbers across all six bordering states. The average ECRE indicates that underrepresented NAICS industries paying above a living wage (i.e., 130% of the poverty guideline for a family of four) in Wyoming include Manufacturing (+14,920 jobs), Finance & Insurance

(+4,629 jobs), Wholesale Trade (+3,395 jobs), Professional & Technical Services (+2,698 jobs), Management of Companies (+1,669 jobs), and Health Care (+1,202 jobs). Overrepresented industries paying below a living wage include Accommodation & Food Services (-7,876 jobs) and Retail Trade (-1,945 jobs).

Figure 2 (see page 10) simultaneously identifies industry over- or underrepresentation relative to bordering states (i.e., the ECRE scores shown in the upper or lower quadrants) and whether the industry pays above or below a living wage (i.e., annual average wages above and below 130% of the federal poverty guideline shown in the left or right quadrants). It also aids in

(Text continued on page 9)

Figure 1: Percentage of Nonagricultural Private Employment for Wyoming and Bordering States by Industry, 2001



*Data not available for Idaho due to confidentiality.

Table 7: Employment Change to Reach Equivalency (ECRE)* in Wyoming Compared to Bordering States and the Percentage of the Poverty Guideline by Industry, 2001

Industry Title and Code	Colorado	Idaho	Montana	Nebraska	South	Utah	Average	Percent of Poverty**	Percent Poverty Rank
	ECRE	ECRE	ECRE	ECRE	Dakota	ECRE	ECRE		
Mining (21)	-17,182	-17,614	-15,396	-18,072	-17,740	-16,957	-17,160	290.6%	1
Utilities (22)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Construction (23)	-3,407	-4,714	-7,552	-9,741	-9,123	-5,174	-6,618	173.8%	7
Manufacturing (31-33)	8,857	21,080	3,416	20,449	17,806	17,910	14,920	199.4%	5
Wholesale Trade (42)	3,305	3,883	2,766	4,072	4,373	1,969	3,395	200.0%	4
Retail Trade (44-45)	-6,960	-757	3,064	-3,132	-399	-3,483	-1,945	101.6%	12
Transportation & Warehousing (48-49)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Information (51)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Finance & Insurance (52)	4,234	573	2,348	6,738	9,733	4,145	4,629	201.1%	3
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing (53)	1,315	-719	-343	-1,000	-1,272	-411	-405	122.3%	9
Professional & Technical Services (54)	8,400	4,631	1,987	774	-2,717	3,110	2,698	181.9%	6
Management of Companies & Enterprises (55)	1,006		-34	2,121	1,645	3,606	1,669***	227.1%	2
Administrative & Waste Services (56)	7,313	5,685	2,070	5,883	615	7,060	4,771	109.0%	10
Educational Services (61)	1,350	1,291	1,153	2,787	2,841	4,108	2,255	102.5%	11
Health Care & Social Assistance (62)	-4,628	897	7,290	1,280	7,905	-5,532	1,202	152.0%	8
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation (71)	988		1,566	-735	437	123	396***	78.1%	13
Accommodation & Food Services (72)	-7,294	-8,964	-1,452	-11,471	-7,418	-10,655	-7,876	59.1%	14
Other Services (81)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

*This is the employment change to reach equivalency (ECRE) in Wyoming compared to bordering states for the same industry while holding employment in all other industries constant.

**Expressed as a percentage of the federal poverty guideline for a family of four in Wyoming.

***Does not include Idaho.

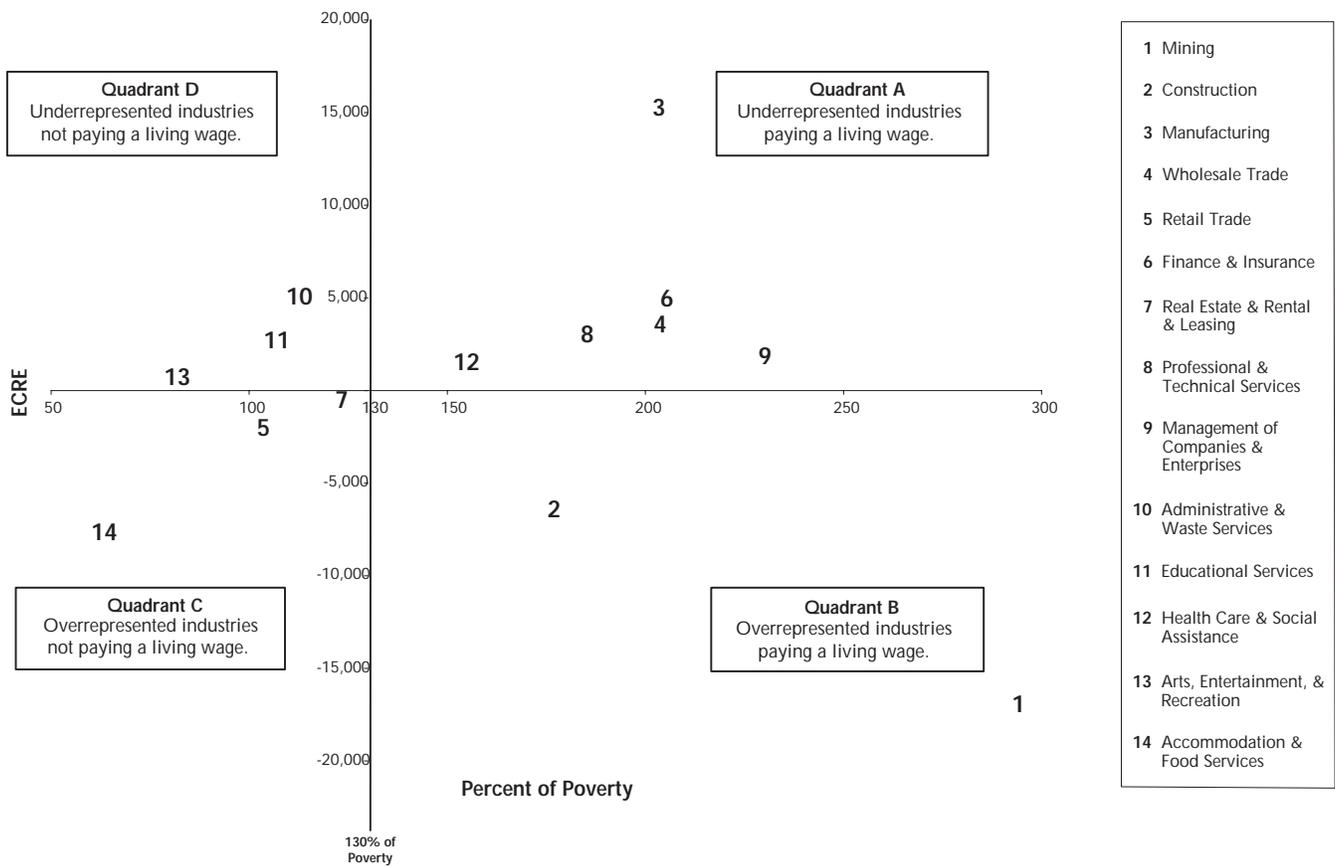
NA = Not available. Unable to calculate due to non-disclosable data.

understanding the consequences of industry growth. Specifically, employment growth in the industries shown in Quadrant A will, all else being equal, lead to both greater industry employment diversity in Wyoming and a higher annual average wage (i.e., a double positive). Employment growth in the industries shown in Quadrant B will, all else being equal, increase the annual average wage but diminish industry employment diversity. Growth in employment in the industries in Quadrant D will, all else being equal, increase industry employment diversity but decrease the annual average wage. Growth in employment in the industries shown in Quadrant C will, all else being equal, decrease industry employment diversity and decrease the annual average wage (i.e., a double negative).

Observations

Growth in Manufacturing, Finance & Insurance, Wholesale Trade, Professional & Technical Services, Management of Companies & Enterprises, and Health Care & Social Assistance will lead to higher wages for Wyoming workers and decrease vulnerability to economic change by increasing the level of industry employment diversity. Among these six industries, Manufacturing offers the greatest employment growth potential (+14,920 jobs) above a living wage. Growth in Mining and Construction will lead to higher wages for Wyoming workers but will likely increase vulnerability to the economy by diminishing the level of industry employment diversity. Growth in Administrative & Waste Services;

Figure 2: Wyoming Industry Employment Change to Reach Equivalency (ECRE) Scores by Percent of Poverty



Note: Quadrants A and B on the right side represent industries paying a living wage (i.e., 130% of the federal poverty guideline for a family of four). Quadrants C and D on the left side represent industries not paying a living wage.

Educational Services; and Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation will lead to greater industry employment but will, unfortunately, decrease the annual average wage. Growth in Retail Trade and Accommodation & Food Services has the double disadvantage of both decreasing industry employment diversity and reducing the annual average wage.

Future Research

In the future R&P will examine the industry and wage structure for jobs

created from new businesses in the state to see whether employment growth is occurring in underrepresented industries that pay a living wage.

¹Mark Harris, “Is Wyoming’s Economy Diversifying and is Economic Diversity in Wyoming Desirable?” *Wyoming Labor Force Trends*, September 2002, pp. 1-9.

²Specifically, we define a living wage as 130% of the 2003 federal poverty guideline for a family of four (i.e., \$23,920).

³Department of Health and Human Services, *Federal Register*, January 7, 2003, 68(26), pp. 6456-6458.

⁴Bureau of Economic Analysis, *SA27 - Full-Time and Part-Time Wage and Salary Employment by Industry, 2001* and *SA07 - Wage and Salary Disbursements by Industry, 2001*, 2002, <<http://bea.gov>> (May 9, 2003). The vast majority of earnings and employment data utilized by the Bureau of Economic Analysis are originally produced by state research offices, such as Research & Planning, as part of the Bureau of Labor Statistics' Covered Employment and Wages program.

⁵Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, *North American Industry Classification System United States*, 2002. The structure of NAICS is hierarchical. The first two digits of the structure designate the 20 NAICS sectors into which all industries are classified. The analysis in this article focuses on nonagricultural private employment. As such, Agriculture, Forestry, & Fishing (11) and Public Administration (92) are excluded. For a full listing of NAICS codes with associated titles and linked descriptions see <<http://www.census.gov/epcd/naics02/naico602.htm>>.

⁶Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, *North American Industry Classification System United States*, 2002.

⁷For any given sector the algebraic equation needed to solve for the sector in question is $x / (t+x) = p$, where t = total employment in all sectors in Wyoming minus the sector in question, p = the proportion of employment in the sector in question in the comparison state (e.g., Colorado),

and x = sector employment total needed in Wyoming to match the relative share in the comparison state. Solving for x in the above equation produces the total needed to obtain proportional equivalence. The reader should understand that the level and distribution of employment for all other sectors in Wyoming are held constant while solving for x .

⁸Department of Health and Human Services, *Federal Register*, January 7, 2003, 68(26), pp. 6456-6458.

⁹Economic Policy Institute, Living Wage Frequently Asked Questions, n.d., <<http://www.epinet.org/Issueguides/livingwage/livingwagefaq.html>> (February 13, 2003).

¹⁰Ibid.

¹¹Not all NAICS sector employment can be disclosed due to confidentiality issues. Non-disclosure can be caused by having less than three employers in a given sector or where a single employer makes up more than 80 percent of employment in a given sector. For these sectors, we are unable to determine their relative representation. However, the fact that they are not disclosable is, to some degree, an indicator of underrepresentation in the state.

¹²Bureau of Economic Analysis data report a count of jobs rather than persons. The "job specific" annual average wage presented here overestimates the "person specific" annual average wage when more than one person occupies a given job in a single year. Additionally, no distinction is made between full- and part-time employment.



Did You Know?

Wyoming Labor Force Trends is also found on the Internet (along with many other Research & Planning publications). The Internet version and the hard copy of *Trends* are coordinated to be released simultaneously. So, you do not have to wait for your hard copy to come in the mail. You can access the most recent issue online.

You can request an e-mail notification when *Trends* becomes available on our Internet site. Contact Krista Shinkle at kshink@state.wy.us to take advantage of this service.

Wyoming's Labor Market in 2002

by: *David Bullard, Senior Economist*

data prepared by: *David Bullard, Senior Economist and Brad Payne, Economist*

“[In 2002,] job growth, which had averaged over 2.0 percent annually from 1999 to 2001, slowed to 0.9 percent, its lowest level since 1996.”

During 2002, economic growth slowed in Wyoming. The unemployment rate crept up from 3.9 percent to 4.2 percent and labor force (the sum of all employed and unemployed individuals) fell slightly. Job growth, which had averaged over 2.0 percent annually from 1999 to 2001, slowed to 0.9 percent, its lowest level since 1996. However, both of Wyoming's metropolitan areas (Natrona County and Laramie County) grew much faster than the statewide average.

Current Employment Statistics

Wyoming total nonagricultural wage and salary employment increased from 245,400 jobs in 2001 to 247,500 jobs in 2002 (see Tables 1 and 2, pages 13 and 14). This represents an increase of 2,100 jobs or 0.9 percent. Job gains were spread across many industries, but the strongest growth was seen in Construction (500 jobs), Financial Activities (500 jobs), Education & Health Services (600 jobs), Leisure & Hospitality (600 jobs), and Government (1,000 jobs). Within Government, State Government added 400 jobs. Local Government, which includes public schools added, 500 jobs.

Only a few industries suffered job losses in 2002, including Natural Resources & Mining (down 400 jobs), Manufacturing (down 500 jobs), Retail Trade (down 200 jobs), and

Transportation & Warehousing (down 200 jobs). However, even within these broad sectors, some industries grew. For example, within Mining, coal mining added 500 jobs, while support activities for mining lost 600 jobs. Within Retail Trade, building materials & garden supplies dealers grew rapidly, adding 400 jobs, but other areas of Retail Trade, especially grocery stores and gasoline stations, lost jobs (200 jobs and 300 jobs, respectively). In Manufacturing, four-fifths of the job losses occurred in non-durable goods manufacturing.

During 2002, Natrona County added 800 jobs (see Tables 3 and 4, page 15) giving it a growth rate of 2.4 percent. In the goods-producing sector, Natrona County followed the statewide pattern, losing jobs in Natural Resources & Mining (down 200 jobs), gaining jobs in Construction (200 jobs), and losing jobs in Manufacturing (down 100 jobs). In the service-providing sector, Natrona County added jobs in Retail Trade (200 jobs), Financial Activities (400 jobs), and Educational & Health Services (200 jobs). Government employment remained unchanged from 2001.

Employment in Laramie County grew by 4.0 percent (or 1,500 jobs) during 2002 (see Tables 5 and 6, page 16). The largest job gains were in Professional &

(Text continued on page 18)

Table 1: Wyoming Statewide Final Current Employment Statistics (CES) Data (In Thousands), 2001

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	ANNUAL AVERAGE
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	233.1	233.5	236.8	239.4	247.2	256.6	252.8	254.5	251.4	248.8	245.5	245.3	245.4
TOTAL PRIVATE	172.3	172.1	174.6	177.4	184.1	193.3	195.4	196.6	190.2	186.1	182.8	181.9	183.9
GOODS PRODUCING	43.0	43.0	43.9	45.6	47.7	49.9	50.6	51.3	50.4	51.2	50.3	48.1	47.9
Natural Resources & Mining	16.6	16.8	17.3	17.4	18.0	18.8	19.0	19.3	19.3	19.5	19.3	19.1	18.4
Mining	16.3	16.6	17.1	17.3	17.8	18.7	18.9	19.2	19.2	19.5	19.3	19.1	18.3
Oil & Gas Extraction	2.9	3.0	3.2	3.2	3.3	3.4	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.4	3.5	3.3
Mining except Oil & Gas	6.8	6.8	6.9	6.9	7.0	7.3	7.3	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.5	7.5	7.2
Coal Mining	4.0	4.0	4.1	4.1	4.2	4.4	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.6	4.6	4.7	4.3
Support Activities for Mining	6.6	6.8	7.0	7.2	7.5	8.0	8.1	8.3	8.3	8.6	8.4	8.1	7.7
Support Activities for Oil & Gas	4.4	4.5	4.6	4.8	4.9	5.2	5.4	5.5	5.6	5.7	5.6	5.5	5.1
Construction	16.1	16.0	16.5	18.2	19.9	21.2	21.6	22.0	21.2	21.4	20.9	19.3	19.5
Construction of Buildings	4.2	4.1	4.1	4.4	4.6	5.0	5.1	5.2	5.0	5.1	5.1	5.0	4.7
Heavy & Civil Engineering Construction	3.8	3.8	4.0	4.8	5.5	6.0	6.3	6.3	6.1	6.4	6.0	4.9	5.3
Specialty Trade Contractors	8.1	8.1	8.4	9.0	9.8	10.2	10.2	10.5	10.1	9.9	9.8	9.4	9.5
Manufacturing	10.3	10.2	10.1	10.0	9.8	9.9	10.0	10.0	9.9	10.3	10.1	9.7	10.0
Durable Goods	5.1	5.0	5.1	5.1	5.0	5.0	5.1	5.1	5.0	5.0	5.0	4.9	5.0
Non-Durable Goods	5.2	5.2	5.0	4.9	4.8	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.9	5.3	5.1	4.8	5.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	190.1	190.5	192.9	193.8	199.5	206.7	202.2	203.2	201.0	197.6	195.2	197.2	197.5
Trade, Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	47.5	46.9	47.3	47.8	49.0	50.2	50.2	50.1	49.1	48.1	48.1	48.6	48.6
Wholesale Trade	6.5	6.5	6.6	6.8	6.9	7.0	7.0	7.1	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.1	6.9
Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods	3.9	3.9	4.0	4.1	4.1	4.2	4.1	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.1	4.1
Retail Trade	29.5	29.2	29.5	29.7	30.8	31.7	31.6	31.4	30.6	29.7	29.8	30.2	30.3
Motor Vehicle & Parts Dealers	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1
Building Material & Garden Supplies Dealers	1.9	2.0	2.2	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.3	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2
Food & Beverage Stores	5.3	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.3	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.2
Grocery Stores	4.3	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.3	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.2
Gasoline Stations	4.4	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.6	4.8	4.8	4.9	4.7	4.4	4.4	4.3	4.6
General Merchandise Stores	5.4	5.4	5.5	5.5	6.1	6.3	6.2	6.0	5.9	5.6	5.8	5.8	5.8
Miscellaneous Store Retailers	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.8	1.9	2.1	2.1	2.0	1.9	1.8	1.8	1.9	1.9
Transportation, Warehouse, & Utilities	11.5	11.2	11.2	11.3	11.3	11.5	11.6	11.6	11.5	11.4	11.3	11.3	11.4
Utilities	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1
Transportation & Warehousing	9.4	9.1	9.1	9.2	9.2	9.4	9.5	9.5	9.4	9.3	9.2	9.2	9.3
Truck Transportation	3.2	3.1	3.2	3.3	3.3	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.4	3.4	3.4
Information	4.0	3.9	3.9	3.9	4.0	4.1	4.1	4.2	4.2	4.1	4.2	4.2	4.1
Financial Activities	9.0	9.0	9.1	9.3	9.4	9.7	9.7	9.9	9.7	9.6	9.6	9.6	9.5
Finance & Insurance	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.1	6.1	6.2	6.2	6.3	6.2	6.3	6.4	6.4	6.2
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	3.0	3.0	3.1	3.2	3.3	3.5	3.5	3.6	3.5	3.3	3.2	3.2	3.3
Professional & Business Services	14.9	15.0	15.3	15.8	16.0	16.3	16.4	16.5	15.9	15.6	15.4	15.1	15.7
Professional, Scientific & Technical Services	7.3	7.4	7.5	7.6	7.5	7.5	7.7	7.7	7.5	7.6	7.6	7.5	7.5
Architectural, Engineering & Rel. Services	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	2.0	2.1	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.1
Management of Companies & Enterprises	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.8
Administrative & Support & Waste Services	6.8	6.8	7.0	7.4	7.7	8.0	7.9	8.0	7.6	7.3	7.1	6.9	7.4
Educational & Health Services	18.8	18.9	19.2	19.1	19.2	19.2	19.3	19.6	19.3	19.5	19.8	19.6	19.3
Educational Services	1.9	1.9	2.0	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.9	2.0	1.8	1.9	2.1	1.8	1.9
Health Care & Social Assistance	16.9	17.0	17.2	17.2	17.3	17.4	17.4	17.6	17.5	17.6	17.7	17.8	17.4
Ambulatory Health Care Services	6.0	6.1	6.1	6.2	6.2	6.3	6.4	6.5	6.4	6.4	6.4	6.5	6.3
Offices of Physicians	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.8	2.8	2.7	2.8	2.8	2.7
Hospitals	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8
Nursing & Residential Care Facilities	4.1	4.1	4.2	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.2	4.2	4.1
Social Assistance	4.0	4.0	4.1	4.1	4.2	4.2	4.1	4.2	4.2	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.2
Leisure & Hospitality	26.3	26.5	26.9	26.8	29.5	34.5	35.7	35.5	32.2	28.6	26.0	27.2	29.6
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.2	3.1	3.6	3.9	3.9	3.5	2.9	2.5	3.1	3.3
Accommodation & Food Services	23.0	23.2	23.6	23.6	26.4	30.9	31.8	31.6	28.7	25.7	23.5	24.1	26.3
Accommodation	7.2	7.3	7.4	7.2	9.4	12.6	13.1	12.5	10.7	8.5	7.2	7.4	9.2
Food Services & Drinking Places	15.8	15.9	16.2	16.4	17.0	18.3	18.7	19.1	18.0	17.2	16.3	16.7	17.1
Other Services	8.8	8.9	9.0	9.1	9.3	9.4	9.4	9.5	9.4	9.4	9.4	9.5	9.3
Repair & Maintenance	2.8	2.9	2.9	2.9	3.0	3.1	3.0	3.1	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.0
Government	60.8	61.4	62.2	62.0	63.1	63.3	57.4	57.9	61.2	62.7	62.7	63.4	61.5
Federal Government	6.7	6.6	6.7	6.7	7.2	8.1	8.2	8.1	8.1	7.3	7.0	7.6	7.4
State Government	14.0	14.0	14.1	14.2	14.3	14.0	13.6	13.3	13.5	14.4	14.5	14.5	14.0
State Govt. Education	5.3	5.3	5.5	5.5	5.4	5.1	4.6	4.4	4.7	5.6	5.7	5.7	5.2
Local Government	40.1	40.8	41.4	41.1	41.6	41.2	35.6	36.5	39.6	41.0	41.2	41.3	40.1
Local Govt Education	21.6	22.2	22.6	22.2	22.2	20.6	15.1	15.8	20.2	21.8	22.0	22.1	20.7
Hospitals	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.4

Note: Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 2: Wyoming Statewide Preliminary Current Employment Statistics (CES) Data (In Thousands), 2002

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	ANNUAL AVERAGE
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	237.9	237.7	240.2	242.5	250.4	258.1	254.6	254.5	253.2	249.4	245.9	245.3	247.5
TOTAL PRIVATE	176.0	175.4	176.8	179.5	186.3	194.0	196.4	196.2	190.8	185.4	181.9	181.6	185.0
GOODS PRODUCING	45.5	44.2	44.7	46.0	48.2	49.1	49.1	50.0	49.2	49.3	48.2	46.9	47.5
Natural Resources & Mining	18.4	18.1	17.9	17.7	17.9	18.2	18.2	18.3	17.9	18.1	17.7	17.7	18.0
Mining	18.2	17.9	17.8	17.6	17.7	18.2	18.1	18.2	17.8	17.9	17.6	17.6	17.9
Oil & Gas Extraction	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.1	3.1	3.2
Mining except Oil & Gas	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.5	7.5	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.6	7.6	7.5	7.6	7.6
Coal Mining	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.8	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.8	4.8	4.8
Support Activities for Mining	7.5	7.2	7.1	6.9	7.0	7.3	7.2	7.3	7.0	7.1	7.0	6.9	7.1
Support Activities for Oil & Gas	5.4	5.2	5.2	5.0	4.9	5.1	5.0	5.1	5.0	5.0	5.0	4.9	5.1
Construction	17.6	17.0	17.5	19.1	20.9	21.4	21.4	22.1	21.8	21.4	20.6	19.7	20.0
Construction of Buildings	4.6	4.4	4.5	4.6	4.8	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.0	5.2	5.1	5.1	4.9
Heavy & Civil Engineering Construction	4.3	4.0	4.1	5.1	5.9	5.7	5.8	6.3	6.5	6.1	5.6	5.0	5.4
Specialty Trade Contractors	8.7	8.6	8.9	9.4	10.2	10.6	10.5	10.7	10.3	10.1	9.9	9.6	9.8
Manufacturing	9.5	9.1	9.3	9.2	9.4	9.5	9.5	9.6	9.5	9.8	9.9	9.5	9.5
Durable Goods	4.9	4.7	4.8	4.8	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.1	5.0	4.9	4.9	4.8	4.9
Non-Durable Goods	4.6	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.9	5.0	4.7	4.6
SERVICE PROVIDING	192.4	193.5	195.5	196.5	202.2	209.0	205.5	204.5	204.0	200.1	197.7	198.4	199.9
Trade, Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	47.0	46.4	46.7	47.2	48.5	49.6	49.8	49.8	48.9	48.1	48.2	48.2	48.2
Wholesale Trade	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.0	6.9	6.8	6.9	7.0
Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1
Retail Trade	28.9	28.4	28.7	29.1	30.4	31.2	31.4	31.4	30.7	30.0	30.2	30.3	30.1
Motor Vehicle & Parts Dealers	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.3	4.3	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.2
Building Material & Garden Supplies Dealers	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.5	2.7	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.7	2.6	2.6	2.6
Food & Beverage Stores	5.0	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.9	5.0	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.0	5.0	5.0
Grocery Stores	4.0	3.9	3.9	3.9	4.0	4.0	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0
Gasoline Stations	4.3	4.2	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.5	4.5	4.6	4.4	4.2	4.2	4.1	4.3
General Merchandise Stores	5.3	5.2	5.4	5.4	6.0	6.2	6.2	6.1	6.0	6.2	6.3	6.2	5.9
Miscellaneous Store Retailers	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.7	1.9	2.0	2.0	1.9	1.9	1.7	1.8	1.9	1.8
Transportation, Warehouse, & Utilities	11.1	11.0	11.0	11.1	11.1	11.3	11.3	11.3	11.2	11.2	11.2	11.0	11.2
Utilities	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1
Transportation & Warehousing	9.0	8.9	8.9	9.0	9.0	9.2	9.2	9.2	9.1	9.1	9.1	8.9	9.1
Truck Transportation	3.2	3.1	3.2	3.2	3.3	3.3	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.3
Information	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.0	4.0	4.1	4.2	4.1
Financial Activities	9.6	9.7	9.7	9.8	10.0	10.3	10.4	10.3	10.2	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.0
Finance & Insurance	6.4	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.7	6.7	6.6
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.3	3.5	3.7	3.8	3.7	3.6	3.5	3.4	3.4	3.5
Professional & Business Services	14.5	14.8	15.0	15.5	15.8	16.2	16.5	16.5	15.8	15.5	15.4	15.0	15.5
Professional, Scientific & Technical Services	7.4	7.4	7.5	7.5	7.4	7.5	7.5	7.6	7.4	7.3	7.3	7.2	7.4
Architectural, Engineering & Rel. Services	2.1	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.2	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.0	2.2
Management of Companies & Enterprises	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
Administrative & Support & Waste Services	6.4	6.7	6.8	7.3	7.8	8.0	8.3	8.2	7.7	7.5	7.4	7.1	7.4
Educational & Health Services	19.3	19.7	19.8	19.6	19.9	20.0	19.9	20.0	19.9	20.0	20.1	20.2	19.9
Educational Services	1.8	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.8	1.9	2.1	2.1	2.0	2.0	1.9	1.9	1.9
Health Care & Social Assistance	17.5	17.8	17.9	17.8	18.1	18.1	17.8	17.9	17.9	18.0	18.2	18.3	17.9
Ambulatory Health Care Services	6.4	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.7	6.7	6.6
Offices of Physicians	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.8
Hospitals	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.7	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8
Nursing & Residential Care Facilities	4.1	4.2	4.3	4.2	4.2	4.3	4.2	4.3	4.2	4.2	4.3	4.3	4.2
Social Assistance	4.2	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.5	4.4	4.2	4.2	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.5	4.3
Leisure & Hospitality	26.6	27.0	27.2	27.6	30.0	35.0	36.7	35.7	33.2	29.1	26.6	27.6	30.2
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.5	3.1	3.3	3.2	3.0	2.6	2.2	2.2	2.5
Accommodation & Food Services	24.6	24.9	25.1	25.4	27.5	31.9	33.4	32.5	30.2	26.5	24.4	25.4	27.7
Accommodation	8.4	8.6	8.5	8.5	10.0	13.3	13.9	13.4	11.7	8.9	7.7	8.8	10.1
Food Services & Drinking Places	16.2	16.3	16.6	16.9	17.5	18.6	19.5	19.1	18.5	17.6	16.7	16.6	17.5
Other Services	9.3	9.4	9.5	9.6	9.8	9.7	9.9	9.8	9.6	9.3	9.2	9.4	9.5
Repair & Maintenance	3.1	3.2	3.2	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.2	3.1	3.0	3.1	3.0	3.2
Government	61.9	62.3	63.4	63.0	64.1	64.1	58.2	58.3	62.4	64.0	64.0	63.7	62.5
Federal Government	6.8	6.7	6.8	6.8	7.2	8.2	8.3	8.2	8.2	7.5	7.3	7.2	7.4
State Government	14.3	14.3	14.6	14.6	14.8	14.5	14.0	13.7	14.1	14.8	14.8	14.8	14.4
State Govt. Education	5.5	5.4	5.7	5.6	5.6	5.2	4.7	4.6	5.0	5.8	5.9	5.9	5.4
Local Government	40.8	41.3	42.0	41.6	42.1	41.4	35.9	36.4	40.1	41.7	41.9	41.7	40.6
Local Govt Education	21.7	22.2	22.7	22.2	22.3	20.3	15.0	15.6	20.2	22.1	22.3	22.3	20.7
Hospitals	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.6	5.7	5.7	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.6

Note: Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 3: Natrona County Final Current Employment Statistics (CES) Data (In Thousands), 2001

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	ANNUAL AVERAGE
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	31.5	31.6	32.1	32.6	33.1	33.5	32.9	32.9	33.1	33.0	33.0	33.2	32.7
TOTAL PRIVATE	26.0	26.0	26.3	27.0	27.4	27.9	28.1	27.9	27.7	27.3	27.4	27.4	27.2
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	5.3	5.4	5.4	5.6	5.7	5.9	6.0	6.0	6.0	5.9	5.9	5.7	5.7
Natural Resources & Mining	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.2	2.2
Construction	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.9	1.9	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.0	2.0	1.9	1.9
Manufacturing	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6
TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING	26.2	26.2	26.7	27.0	27.4	27.6	26.9	26.9	27.1	27.1	27.1	27.5	27.0
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	7.7	7.5	7.6	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.9	7.8	7.9	7.7	7.9	8.0	7.8
Wholesale Trade	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2
Retail Trade	4.4	4.3	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.3	4.4	4.3	4.5	4.6	4.4
Trans, Warehouse, & Utilities	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2
Information	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6
Financial Activities	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.5
Professional & Business Services	2.7	2.7	2.8	2.9	3.0	3.1	3.0	3.0	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9
Educational & Health Services	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.1	4.0	4.1	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0
Leisure & Hospitality	2.7	2.8	2.9	3.0	3.1	3.2	3.3	3.2	3.1	2.9	2.8	2.9	3.0
Other Services	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.8	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7
Government	5.5	5.6	5.8	5.6	5.7	5.6	4.8	5.0	5.4	5.7	5.6	5.8	5.5
Federal Government	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
State Government	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
Local Government	4.2	4.3	4.5	4.3	4.4	4.2	3.4	3.6	4.0	4.3	4.2	4.4	4.2
Local Education	2.9	3.0	3.1	3.0	3.1	2.7	1.8	2.2	2.7	3.0	2.9	3.0	2.8

Note: Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 4: Natrona County Preliminary Current Employment Statistics (CES) Data (In Thousands), 2002

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	ANNUAL AVERAGE
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	32.4	32.5	32.9	33.2	33.7	34.5	33.6	34.0	33.7	34.2	33.6	33.8	33.5
TOTAL PRIVATE	26.9	26.9	27.2	27.6	28.0	28.8	28.7	29.0	28.4	28.4	27.9	27.9	28.0
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	5.5	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.6	5.9	5.8	6.0	5.8	5.7	5.5	5.6	5.6
Natural Resources & Mining	2.1	2.0	1.9	1.8	1.9	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
Construction	1.8	1.9	2.0	2.1	2.3	2.4	2.3	2.4	2.2	2.2	2.0	2.1	2.1
Manufacturing	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5
TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING	26.9	27.1	27.5	27.8	28.1	28.6	27.8	28.0	27.9	28.5	28.1	28.2	27.9
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	7.9	7.7	7.8	8.0	8.0	8.1	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.1	8.1	8.0	8.0
Wholesale Trade	2.3	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.2	2.3
Retail Trade	4.5	4.4	4.4	4.6	4.6	4.7	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.6
Trans, Warehouse, & Utilities	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1
Information	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6
Financial Activities	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.8	1.9	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9
Professional & Business Services	2.7	2.8	2.9	3.0	3.0	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.0	3.0	2.9	2.8	3.0
Educational & Health Services	4.1	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.1	4.2	4.1	4.1	4.2
Leisure & Hospitality	2.8	2.8	2.9	3.0	3.1	3.2	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.2	3.2	3.1
Other Services	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.7
Government	5.5	5.6	5.7	5.6	5.7	5.7	4.9	5.0	5.3	5.8	5.7	5.9	5.5
Federal Government	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
State Government	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
Local Government	4.2	4.3	4.4	4.3	4.4	4.3	3.4	3.6	3.8	4.4	4.3	4.5	4.2
Local Education	2.9	3.0	3.1	2.9	3.1	2.8	1.9	2.2	2.4	3.0	3.0	3.1	2.8

Note: Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 5: Laramie County Final Current Employment Statistics (CES) Data (in Thousands), 2001

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	ANNUAL AVERAGE
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	36.7	36.7	37.2	37.3	37.8	38.6	38.0	37.9	37.8	37.5	37.4	37.5	37.5
TOTAL PRIVATE	24.9	24.8	25.2	25.3	25.7	26.3	26.2	26.4	26.0	25.6	25.5	25.5	25.6
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	3.6	3.6	3.7	3.7	3.8	4.0	4.0	4.1	4.0	4.1	4.0	3.8	3.9
Natural Resources, Mining, & Construction	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.5	2.5	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.4	2.3	2.3
Manufacturing	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.6
TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING	33.1	33.1	33.5	33.6	34.0	34.6	34.0	33.8	33.8	33.4	33.4	33.7	33.7
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	8.1	8.0	8.0	8.1	8.2	8.3	8.2	8.1	8.0	7.8	8.0	7.9	8.0
Wholesale Trade	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
Retail Trade	5.3	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.3	5.2	5.1	5.3	5.2	5.3
Information	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Financial Activities	1.8	1.7	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8
Professional & Business Services	2.8	2.9	3.0	2.9	2.9	3.0	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.8	2.7	2.7	2.9
Educational & Health Services	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.3
Leisure & Hospitality	3.6	3.6	3.7	3.7	3.8	3.9	4.1	4.2	4.0	3.8	3.7	3.8	3.8
Other Services	1.8	1.8	1.9	1.9	1.9	2.0	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	2.0	1.9
Government	11.8	11.9	12.0	12.0	12.1	12.3	11.8	11.5	11.8	11.9	11.9	12.0	11.9
Federal Government	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.5
State Government	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.5	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6
Local Government	5.8	5.9	6.0	6.1	6.0	6.2	5.7	5.4	5.7	5.9	5.9	5.9	5.9

Table 6: Laramie County Preliminary Current Employment Statistics (CES) Data (in Thousands), 2002

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	ANNUAL AVERAGE
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	37.4	37.5	37.9	38.6	39.2	39.9	39.9	39.4	39.7	39.6	39.4	39.2	39.0
TOTAL PRIVATE	25.4	25.5	25.7	26.6	27.2	27.7	28.1	27.6	27.6	27.5	27.2	27.0	26.9
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	3.6	3.6	3.8	4.0	4.2	4.3	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.1	4.1	4.0
Natural Resources, Mining, & Construction	2.1	2.1	2.3	2.5	2.7	2.8	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.6	2.6	2.5
Manufacturing	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5
TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING	33.8	33.9	34.1	34.6	35.0	35.6	35.7	35.2	35.5	35.4	35.3	35.1	34.9
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	7.7	7.6	7.6	7.8	8.1	8.3	8.3	8.3	8.3	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.1
Wholesale Trade	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.7
Retail Trade	5.2	5.0	5.0	5.2	5.4	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.7	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.5
Information	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Financial Activities	1.9	1.8	1.8	1.9	1.8	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.9	1.8	1.8
Professional & Business Services	3.1	3.3	3.3	3.5	3.5	3.6	3.7	3.6	3.5	3.4	3.3	3.3	3.4
Educational & Health Services	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.6	2.7	2.6	2.7	2.6
Leisure & Hospitality	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.2	4.4	4.4	4.9	4.5	4.5	4.2	4.1	4.0	4.3
Other Services	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.6
Government	12.0	12.0	12.2	12.0	12.0	12.2	11.8	11.8	12.1	12.1	12.2	12.2	12.1
Federal Government	2.5	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.6	2.5
State Government	3.7	3.8	3.8	3.7	3.7	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8
Local Government	5.8	5.8	6.0	5.9	5.9	5.9	5.5	5.5	5.8	5.8	5.9	5.8	5.8

Table 7: Wyoming Local Area Unemployment (LAUS) Annual Averages, 2000-2002

	2000	2001	2002		2000	2001	2002
WYOMING				LINCOLN COUNTY			
Labor Force	268,059	272,408	270,290	Labor Force	6,596	6,798	6,695
Employment	257,699	261,694	258,943	Employment	6,253	6,433	6,283
Unemployment	10,360	10,714	11,347	Unemployment	343	365	412
Unemployment Rate	3.9	3.9	4.2	Unemployment Rate	5.2	5.4	6.2
ALBANY COUNTY				NATRONA COUNTY			
Labor Force	18,740	19,279	19,005	Labor Force	34,475	35,367	35,241
Employment	18,441	18,898	18,634	Employment	32,984	33,932	33,634
Unemployment	299	381	371	Unemployment	1,491	1,435	1,607
Unemployment Rate	1.6	2.0	2.0	Unemployment Rate	4.3	4.1	4.6
BIG HORN COUNTY				NIOBRARA COUNTY			
Labor Force	6,017	5,980	5,747	Labor Force	1,303	1,245	1,187
Employment	5,683	5,683	5,441	Employment	1,268	1,203	1,141
Unemployment	334	297	306	Unemployment	35	42	46
Unemployment Rate	5.6	5.0	5.3	Unemployment Rate	2.7	3.4	3.9
CAMPBELL COUNTY				PARK COUNTY			
Labor Force	20,704	22,355	22,806	Labor Force	15,505	15,571	15,418
Employment	20,011	21,701	22,026	Employment	14,877	14,887	14,719
Unemployment	693	654	780	Unemployment	628	684	699
Unemployment Rate	3.3	2.9	3.4	Unemployment Rate	4.1	4.4	4.5
CARBON COUNTY				PLATTE COUNTY			
Labor Force	8,357	8,275	8,038	Labor Force	4,685	4,464	4,415
Employment	8,020	7,909	7,672	Employment	4,516	4,291	4,219
Unemployment	337	366	366	Unemployment	169	173	196
Unemployment Rate	4.0	4.4	4.6	Unemployment Rate	3.6	3.9	4.4
CONVERSE COUNTY				SHERIDAN COUNTY			
Labor Force	6,802	6,628	6,252	Labor Force	14,186	14,182	14,303
Employment	6,499	6,349	5,976	Employment	13,600	13,614	13,745
Unemployment	303	279	276	Unemployment	586	568	558
Unemployment Rate	4.5	4.2	4.4	Unemployment Rate	4.1	4.0	3.9
CROOK COUNTY				SUBLETTE COUNTY			
Labor Force	3,166	2,994	2,930	Labor Force	3,246	3,377	3,501
Employment	3,037	2,880	2,823	Employment	3,166	3,307	3,411
Unemployment	129	114	107	Unemployment	80	70	90
Unemployment Rate	4.1	3.8	3.7	Unemployment Rate	2.5	2.1	2.6
FREMONT COUNTY				SWEETWATER COUNTY			
Labor Force	18,263	18,760	18,555	Labor Force	20,295	20,592	19,790
Employment	17,094	17,564	17,398	Employment	19,318	19,646	18,851
Unemployment	1,169	1,196	1,157	Unemployment	977	946	939
Unemployment Rate	6.4	6.4	6.2	Unemployment Rate	4.8	4.6	4.7
GOSHEN COUNTY				TETON COUNTY			
Labor Force	6,651	6,437	6,190	Labor Force	12,340	12,674	12,362
Employment	6,451	6,204	5,964	Employment	12,127	12,388	11,986
Unemployment	200	233	226	Unemployment	213	286	376
Unemployment Rate	3.0	3.6	3.7	Unemployment Rate	1.7	2.3	3.0
HOT SPRINGS COUNTY				UINTA COUNTY			
Labor Force	2,460	2,470	2,355	Labor Force	10,621	11,048	11,345
Employment	2,377	2,364	2,245	Employment	10,041	10,495	10,695
Unemployment	83	106	110	Unemployment	580	553	650
Unemployment Rate	3.4	4.3	4.7	Unemployment Rate	5.5	5.0	5.7
JOHNSON COUNTY				WASHAKIE COUNTY			
Labor Force	3,973	3,915	3,982	Labor Force	4,759	4,631	4,529
Employment	3,860	3,795	3,872	Employment	4,511	4,422	4,291
Unemployment	113	120	110	Unemployment	248	209	238
Unemployment Rate	2.8	3.1	2.8	Unemployment Rate	5.2	4.5	5.3
LARAMIE COUNTY				WESTON COUNTY			
Labor Force	41,510	42,020	42,361	Labor Force	3,403	3,350	3,287
Employment	40,313	40,524	40,758	Employment	3,252	3,206	3,162
Unemployment	1,197	1,496	1,603	Unemployment	151	144	125
Unemployment Rate	2.9	3.6	3.8	Unemployment Rate	4.4	4.3	3.8

Business Services (500 jobs), Leisure & Hospitality (500 jobs), Educational & Health Services (300 jobs), and Retail Trade (200 jobs). Modest job losses were seen in Manufacturing (down 100 jobs), Other Services (down 300 jobs), and Local Government (down 100 jobs).

Local Area Unemployment Statistics

At the statewide level, the labor force decreased from 2001 to 2002 (-2,118 individuals or -0.8%), while unemployment increased slightly (633 individuals or 5.9%). Table 7 (see page 17) shows that the labor force decreased in 17 Wyoming counties. However, six counties (Campbell, Johnson, Laramie, Sheridan, Sublette, and Uinta) bucked the statewide trend and saw growth in labor force from 2001 to 2002.

The statewide unemployment rate increased from 3.9 percent in 2001 to 4.2 percent in 2002. The unemployment rate

also increased in 17 Wyoming counties. It was unchanged in Albany County (2.0% in both 2001 and 2002). The unemployment rate decreased in Crook County (down from 3.8% to 3.7%), Fremont County (down from 6.4% to 6.2%), Johnson County (down from 3.1% to 2.8%), Sheridan County (down from 4.0% to 3.9%), and Weston County (down from 4.3% to 3.8%).

Albany County posted the lowest unemployment rate (2.0%) in 2002. It was followed by Sublette County (2.6%) and Johnson County (2.8%). In 2002, Fremont County and Lincoln County recorded the highest unemployment rates (both 6.2%).

In 2001 Albany County had the lowest unemployment rate (2.0%), followed by Sublette County (2.1%) and Teton County (2.3%). Fremont County (6.4%) reported the highest 2001 unemployment rate.



Wyoming Unemployment Unchanged in March

by: *David Bullard, Senior Economist*

Wyoming job growth (measured on an over-the-year basis) slowed slightly in March (200 jobs or 0.1%), while the U.S. continued to lose jobs (-301,000 jobs or -0.2%). Wyoming's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate held steady at 4.1 percent, almost two percentage points below the U.S. rate (5.8%).

From February to March, Wyoming added 1,200 jobs or 0.5 percent. This

increase is considerably lower than the average gain during the past four years (3,300 jobs). Construction employment fell by 200 jobs and Retail Trade fell by 100 jobs. In most years, these industries add jobs in March. This year's changes are not outside of the normal error ranges for the estimates. Wholesale Trade added 200 jobs (2.9%), Professional & Business Services added 400 jobs (2.7%) and Government added 600 jobs (0.9%). The below-average employment increase in

March may be related to a severe winter storm which struck the state March 18th and 19th.

Wyoming employment grew by 200 jobs or 0.1 percent when compared to March 2002. This growth rate falls toward the lower end of the range seen during the past six months (0.0% to 0.6%). Job losses continued in Natural Resources & Mining (-400 jobs or -2.2%), Manufacturing (-500 jobs or -5.4%), and Transportation & Utilities (-200 jobs or -1.8%). Modest job gains were reported in Construction (100 jobs or 0.6%), Wholesale Trade (100 jobs or 1.4%), Retail Trade (100 jobs or 0.3%), Information (100 jobs or 2.4%), and Educational & Health Services (100 jobs or 0.5%). Financial Activities (400 jobs or 4.1%) and Government (500 jobs or 0.8%) experienced more substantial job growth.

Lincoln and Fremont counties continued to post the highest unemployment rates in March (both 7.7%). They were followed by Carbon (6.8%) and Uinta (6.1%) counties. From February to March, unemployment fell in 21 of Wyoming's 23 counties. Teton County was the only county where unemployment increased from February to March (up from 3.9% to 4.0%). On an over-the-year basis, unemployment rates were mixed. The largest decreases were seen in Hot Springs County (down from 6.6% to 3.6%), Washakie County (down from 7.1% to 5.1%), and Big Horn County (down from 7.2% to 5.7%). It appears that a large part of these decreases was related to layoffs in Natural Resources & Mining that occurred during 2002, but were not repeated in 2003.



Attention: Readers

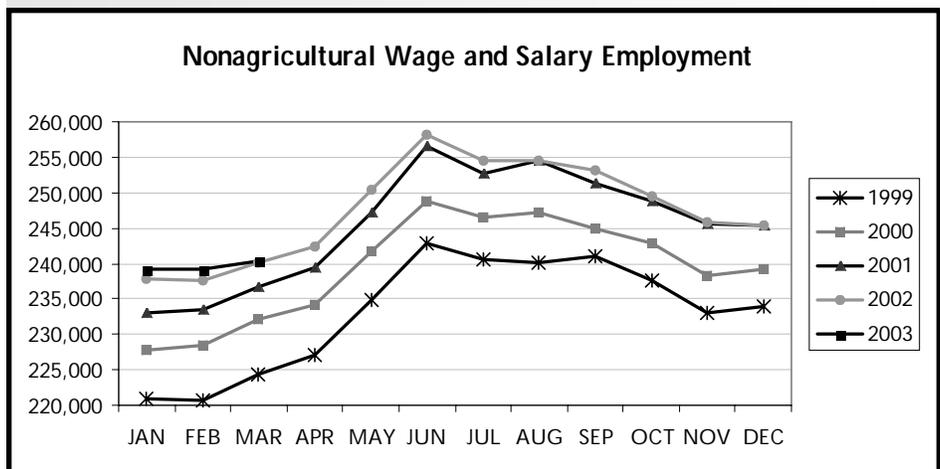
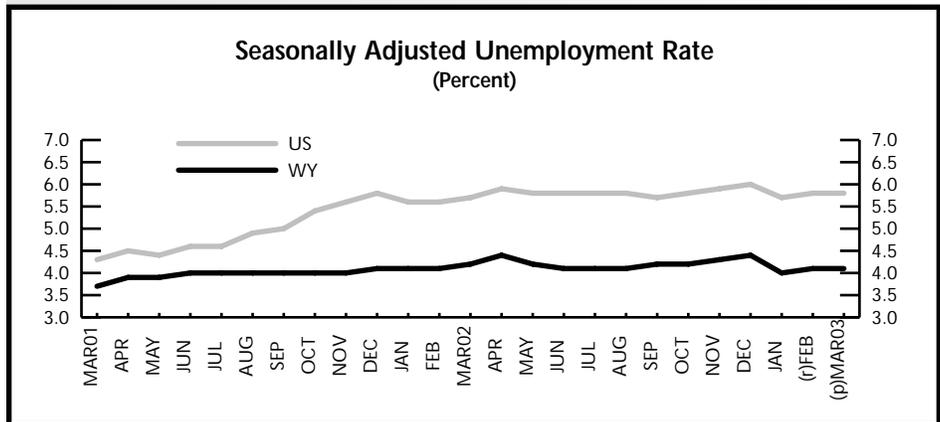
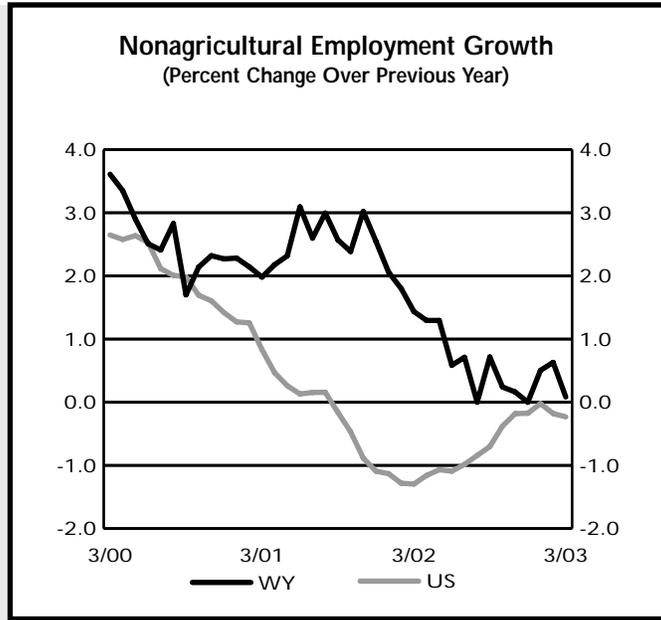
Due to circumstances beyond our control, the Initial and Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims data are not included in this month's issue. Please look for the return of these regular features soon. We are sorry for any inconvenience. - **ed.**

State Unemployment Rates March 2003 (Seasonally Adjusted)

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	12.2
Oregon	7.6
Washington	7.0
Alaska	6.8
Michigan	6.7
Texas	6.7
California	6.6
Illinois	6.6
District of Columbia	6.4
Louisiana	6.3
Ohio	6.1
New York	6.0
North Carolina	6.0
Arizona	5.9
Mississippi	5.9
New Jersey	5.9
New Mexico	5.9
South Carolina	5.9
Pennsylvania	5.8
United States	5.8
Utah	5.8
Alabama	5.7
Colorado	5.7
Kentucky	5.7
Massachusetts	5.7
West Virginia	5.7
Idaho	5.5
Nevada	5.5
Wisconsin	5.5
Florida	5.3
Rhode Island	5.3
Connecticut	5.2
Oklahoma	5.1
Arkansas	5.0
Missouri	4.8
Tennessee	4.8
Indiana	4.7
Kansas	4.7
Georgia	4.6
Maine	4.5
Maryland	4.5
Minnesota	4.4
Montana	4.2
Virginia	4.2
Delaware	4.1
New Hampshire	4.1
Vermont	4.1
Wyoming	4.1
Iowa	4.0
Hawaii	3.7
Nebraska	3.7
North Dakota	3.7
South Dakota	3.2

**State Unemployment Rates
March 2003
(Not Seasonally Adjusted)**

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	12.1
Oregon	8.4
Alaska	7.8
Michigan	7.4
Washington	7.4
Illinois	7.0
California	6.8
Idaho	6.5
Ohio	6.5
Texas	6.5
Wisconsin	6.5
District of Columbia	6.3
New York	6.3
West Virginia	6.3
Mississippi	6.2
Pennsylvania	6.2
United States	6.2
Massachusetts	6.1
North Carolina	6.1
Colorado	6.0
Kentucky	6.0
Louisiana	6.0
New Jersey	6.0
Utah	5.9
New Mexico	5.8
Rhode Island	5.6
South Carolina	5.6
Arizona	5.5
Nevada	5.5
Connecticut	5.4
Alabama	5.3
Arkansas	5.3
Maine	5.3
Oklahoma	5.2
Indiana	5.1
Montana	5.1
Missouri	5.0
Florida	4.9
Kansas	4.9
Minnesota	4.9
Tennessee	4.9
Iowa	4.8
Wyoming	4.8
North Dakota	4.7
Vermont	4.7
Georgia	4.6
Maryland	4.4
New Hampshire	4.4
Delaware	4.2
Virginia	4.1
Nebraska	3.9
South Dakota	3.8
Hawaii	3.4



Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment¹

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

“Job losses continued in Natural Resources & Mining, Manufacturing, and Transportation & Utilities.”

WYOMING STATEWIDE*	Employment in Thousands			Percent Change Total Employment		LARAMIE COUNTY	Employment in Thousands			Percent Change Total Employment	
	Mar03(p)	Feb03(r)	Mar02	Feb 03	Mar 02		Mar03(p)	Feb03(r)	Mar02	Mar 03	Mar 02
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	240.4	239.2	240.2	0.5	0.1	TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	38.3	38.3	37.9	0.0	1.1
TOTAL PRIVATE	176.5	175.9	176.8	0.3	-0.2	TOTAL PRIVATE	25.9	26.0	25.7	-0.4	0.8
GOODS PRODUCING	43.9	44.0	44.7	-0.2	-1.8	GOODS PRODUCING	3.6	3.7	3.8	-2.7	-5.3
Natural Resources & Mining	17.5	17.3	17.9	1.2	-2.2	Nat. Res., Mining, & Construction	2.2	2.3	2.3	-4.3	-4.3
Mining	17.5	17.2	17.8	1.7	-1.7	Manufacturing	1.4	1.4	1.5	0.0	-6.7
Oil & Gas Extraction	3.2	3.1	3.3	3.2	-3.0	SERVICE PROVIDING	34.7	34.6	34.1	0.3	1.8
Mining Except Oil & Gas	7.5	7.5	7.4	0.0	1.4	Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	8.1	8.2	7.6	-1.2	6.6
Coal Mining	4.8	4.8	4.7	0.0	2.1	Wholesale Trade	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.0	16.7
Support Activities for Mining	6.8	6.6	7.1	3.0	-4.2	Retail Trade	5.3	5.4	5.0	-1.9	6.0
Support Activities for Oil & Gas	4.9	4.7	5.2	4.3	-5.8	Information	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0
Construction	17.6	17.8	17.5	-1.1	0.6	Financial Activities	1.8	1.8	1.8	0.0	0.0
Construction of Buildings	4.4	4.4	4.5	0.0	-2.2	Professional & Business Services	3.2	3.2	3.3	0.0	-3.0
Heavy & Civil Engineering Constr.	4.3	4.3	4.1	0.0	4.9	Educational & Health Services	2.6	2.5	2.6	4.0	0.0
Specialty Trade Contractors	8.9	9.1	8.9	-2.2	0.0	Leisure & Hospitality	4.0	4.0	4.0	0.0	0.0
Manufacturing	8.8	8.9	9.3	-1.1	-5.4	Other Services	1.6	1.6	1.6	0.0	0.0
Durable Goods	4.6	4.7	4.8	-2.1	-4.2	TOTAL GOVERNMENT	12.4	12.3	12.2	0.8	1.6
Non-Durable Goods	4.2	4.2	4.5	0.0	-6.7	Federal Government	2.6	2.6	2.4	0.0	8.3
SERVICE PROVIDING	196.5	195.2	195.5	0.7	0.5	State Government	3.9	3.9	3.8	0.0	2.6
Trade, Trans., Warehousing, & Util.	46.7	46.6	46.7	0.2	0.0	Local Government	5.9	5.8	6.0	1.7	-1.7
Wholesale Trade	7.1	6.9	7.0	2.9	1.4	NATRONA COUNTY*					
Merchant Whlsr., Durable Goods	4.2	4.1	4.1	2.4	2.4	TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	33.3	33.0	32.9	0.9	1.2
Retail Trade	28.8	28.9	28.7	-0.3	0.3	TOTAL PRIVATE	27.5	27.3	27.2	0.7	1.1
Motor Vehicle & Parts Dealers	4.1	4.1	4.0	0.0	2.5	GOODS PRODUCING	5.4	5.3	5.4	1.9	0.0
Bldg. Material & Garden Supplies	2.4	2.4	2.2	0.0	9.1	Natural Resources & Mining	2.0	1.9	1.9	5.3	5.3
Food & Beverage Stores	4.9	4.9	4.9	0.0	0.0	Construction	1.9	1.9	2.0	0.0	-5.0
Grocery Stores	3.8	3.9	3.9	-2.6	-2.6	Manufacturing	1.5	1.5	1.5	0.0	0.0
Gasoline Stations	3.9	3.9	4.3	0.0	-9.3	SERVICE PROVIDING	27.9	27.7	27.5	0.7	1.5
General Merchandise Stores	5.3	5.3	5.4	0.0	-1.9	Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	7.8	7.7	7.8	1.3	0.0
Miscellaneous Store Retailers	1.7	1.9	1.7	-10.5	0.0	Wholesale Trade	2.3	2.2	2.3	4.5	0.0
Transportation, Warehouse, & Util.	10.8	10.8	11.0	0.0	-1.8	Retail Trade	4.5	4.5	4.4	0.0	2.3
Utilities	2.1	2.1	2.1	0.0	0.0	Transportation, Warehouse, & Util.	1.0	1.0	1.1	0.0	-9.1
Transportation & Warehousing	8.7	8.7	8.9	0.0	-2.2	Information	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0
Truck Transportation	3.3	3.3	3.2	0.0	3.1	Financial Activities	1.9	1.9	1.7	0.0	11.8
Information	4.3	4.2	4.2	2.4	2.4	Professional & Business Services	2.8	2.9	2.9	-3.4	-3.4
Financial Activities	10.1	10.1	9.7	0.0	4.1	Educational & Health Services	4.2	4.2	4.2	0.0	0.0
Finance & Insurance	6.7	6.7	6.5	0.0	3.1	Leisure & Hospitality	3.1	3.0	2.9	3.3	6.9
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	3.4	3.4	3.2	0.0	6.2	Other Services	1.7	1.7	1.7	0.0	0.0
Professional & Business Services	15.0	14.6	15.0	2.7	0.0	TOTAL GOVERNMENT	5.8	5.7	5.7	1.8	1.8
Prof., Scientific & Technical Services	7.4	7.2	7.5	2.8	-1.3	Federal Government	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0
Architectural, Engineering & Rel.	2.2	2.1	2.2	4.8	0.0	State Government	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
Mngt. of Companies & Enterprises	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0	Local Government	4.5	4.4	4.4	2.3	2.3
Admin. & Support & Waste Svcs.	6.9	6.7	6.8	3.0	1.5	Local Education	3.1	3.0	3.1	3.3	0.0
Educational & Health Services	19.9	19.8	19.8	0.5	0.5						
Educational	1.8	1.8	1.9	0.0	-5.3						
Health Care & Social Assistance	18.1	18.0	17.9	0.6	1.1						
Ambulatory Health Care	6.7	6.7	6.5	0.0	3.1						
Offices of Physicians	2.9	2.9	2.8	0.0	3.6						
Hospitals	2.7	2.7	2.8	0.0	-3.6						
Nursing & Residential Care Fac.	4.2	4.2	4.3	0.0	-2.3						
Social Assistance	4.5	4.4	4.3	2.3	4.7						
Leisure & Hospitality	27.2	27.3	27.2	-0.4	0.0						
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	2.4	2.3	2.1	4.3	14.3						
Accommodation & Food Services	24.8	25.0	25.1	-0.8	-1.2						
Accommodation	8.4	8.6	8.5	-2.3	-1.2						
Food Serv. & Drinking Places	16.4	16.4	16.6	0.0	-1.2						
Other Services	9.4	9.3	9.5	1.1	-1.1						
Repair & Maintenance	3.0	3.0	3.2	0.0	-6.3						
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	63.9	63.3	63.4	0.9	0.8						
Federal Government	6.8	6.9	6.8	-1.4	0.0						
State Government	14.8	14.6	14.6	1.4	1.4						
State Govt. Education	5.8	5.6	5.7	3.6	1.8						
Local Government	42.3	41.8	42.0	1.2	0.7						
Local Govt. Education	22.7	22.4	22.7	1.3	0.0						
Hospitals	5.6	5.6	5.5	0.0	1.8						

¹Current Employment Statistics (CES) estimates include all full- and part-time wage and salary workers in nonagricultural establishments who worked or received pay during the week which includes the 12th of the month. Self-employed, domestic services, and personnel of the armed forces are excluded. Data are not seasonally adjusted.

*Published in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

(p) Subject to revision. (r) Revised.

Economic Indicators

by: *David Bullard, Senior Economist*

“The number of building permits issued in March 2003 was 8.6 percent higher than a year ago.”

	Mar 2003 (p)	Feb 2003 (r)	Mar 2002 (b)	Percent Change Month	Year
Wyoming Total Civilian Labor Force(1)	273,507	271,520	269,598	0.7	1.4
Unemployed	13,129	14,086	13,291	-6.8	-1.2
Employed	260,378	257,434	256,307	1.1	1.6
Wyoming Unemployment Rate/Seas. Adj.	4.8%/4.1%	5.2%/4.1%	4.9%/4.2%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Unemployment Rate/Seas. Adj.	6.2%/5.8%	6.4%/5.8%	6.1%/5.7%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Multiple Jobholders	7,385,000	7,620,000	7,466,000	-3.1	-1.1
As a percent of all workers	5.4%	5.6%	5.5%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Discouraged Workers	474,000	450,000	330,000	5.3	43.6
U.S. Part Time for Economic Reasons	4,748,000	5,061,000	4,225,000	-6.2	12.4
Hours & Earnings for Production Workers					
Wyoming Mining					
Average Weekly Earnings	\$977.18	\$955.28	\$916.98	2.3	6.6
Average Weekly Hours	43.8	43.7	43.5	0.2	0.7
U.S. Mining Hours & Earnings					
Average Weekly Earnings	\$778.32	\$765.24	\$757.07	1.7	2.8
Average Weekly Hours	42.3	42.0	42.7	0.7	-0.9
Wyoming Manufacturing Hours & Earnings					
Average Weekly Earnings	\$699.94	\$746.82	\$655.46	-6.3	6.8
Average Weekly Hours	39.5	40.5	37.2	-2.5	6.2
U.S. Manufacturing Hours & Earnings					
Average Weekly Earnings	\$632.95	\$628.22	\$620.04	0.8	2.1
Average Weekly Hours	40.6	40.4	40.9	0.5	-0.7
Wyoming Unemployment Insurance					
Weeks Compensated (2)	23,029	23,866	18,643	-3.5	23.5
Benefits Paid	\$5,376,589	\$5,548,822	\$4,154,550	-3.1	29.4
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	\$233.47	\$232.50	\$222.85	0.4	4.8
State Insured Covered Jobs (1)	217,909	215,747	217,075	1.0	0.4
Insured Unemployment Rate	2.8%	2.9%	2.4%	N/A	N/A
Consumer Price Index (U) for All U.S. Urban Consumers (1982 to 1984 = 100)					
All Items	184.2	183.1	178.8	0.6	3.0
Food & Beverages	179.2	178.9	176.6	0.2	1.5
Housing	184.3	183.2	179.1	0.6	2.9
Apparel	123.6	120.6	128.2	2.5	-3.6
Transportation	161.0	158.9	150.5	1.3	7.0
Medical Care	294.2	293.7	282.0	0.2	4.3
Recreation (Dec. 1997=100)	107.4	107.2	106.1	0.2	1.2
Edu. & Communication (Dec. 1997=100)	109.4	109.7	106.6	-0.3	2.6
Other Goods & Services	297.3	297.5	288.5	-0.1	3.1
Producer Prices (1982 to 1984 = 100)					
All Commodities	141.4	137.8	129.8	2.6	8.9
Wyoming Building Permits					
New Privately Owned Housing Units Authorized	164	105	151	56.2	8.6
Valuation	\$22,080,000	\$16,466,000	\$20,407,000	34.1	8.2
Baker Hughes North American Rotary Rig Count for WY	40	41	38	-2.4	5.3

(p) Preliminary. (r) Revised. (b) Benchmarked. ¹Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program Estimates. ²Not Normalized.

Wyoming County Unemployment Rates

by: *Brad Payne, Economist*

“Lincoln and Fremont counties continued to post the highest unemployment rates in March (both 7.7%).”

REGION County	Labor Force			Employed			Unemployed			Unemployment Rate		
	Mar 2003 (p)	Feb 2003 (r)	Mar 2002 (b)									
NORTHWEST	46,272	45,834	45,985	43,369	42,813	42,801	2,903	3,021	3,184	6.3	6.6	6.9
Big Horn	5,782	5,765	5,722	5,455	5,407	5,311	327	358	411	5.7	6.2	7.2
Fremont	19,014	18,727	18,809	17,558	17,251	17,425	1,456	1,476	1,384	7.7	7.9	7.4
Hot Springs	2,257	2,233	2,378	2,175	2,124	2,222	82	109	156	3.6	4.9	6.6
Park	14,742	14,615	14,547	13,934	13,790	13,637	808	825	910	5.5	5.6	6.3
Washakie	4,477	4,494	4,529	4,247	4,241	4,206	230	253	323	5.1	5.6	7.1
NORTHEAST	48,149	47,700	47,326	45,890	45,275	45,298	2,259	2,425	2,028	4.7	5.1	4.3
Campbell	23,281	23,159	23,284	22,287	22,064	22,420	994	1,095	864	4.3	4.7	3.7
Crook	2,898	2,857	2,710	2,736	2,696	2,558	162	161	152	5.6	5.6	5.6
Johnson	3,936	3,887	3,807	3,771	3,696	3,679	165	191	128	4.2	4.9	3.4
Sheridan	14,671	14,423	14,306	13,893	13,623	13,578	778	800	728	5.3	5.5	5.1
Weston	3,363	3,374	3,219	3,203	3,196	3,063	160	178	156	4.8	5.3	4.8
SOUTHWEST	53,955	53,462	52,469	51,257	50,586	49,688	2,698	2,876	2,781	5.0	5.4	5.3
Lincoln	6,659	6,605	6,343	6,148	6,084	5,836	511	521	507	7.7	7.9	8.0
Sublette	3,358	3,335	3,252	3,263	3,234	3,148	95	101	104	2.8	3.0	3.2
Sweetwater	20,183	19,911	20,266	19,287	18,908	19,200	896	1,003	1,066	4.4	5.0	5.3
Teton	12,224	12,106	11,435	11,733	11,631	11,039	491	475	396	4.0	3.9	3.5
Uinta	11,531	11,505	11,173	10,826	10,729	10,465	705	776	708	6.1	6.7	6.3
SOUTHEAST	74,537	74,279	73,921	71,885	71,306	71,166	2,652	2,973	2,755	3.6	4.0	3.7
Albany	19,711	19,422	20,038	19,344	18,993	19,570	367	429	468	1.9	2.2	2.3
Goshen	6,162	6,163	6,091	5,892	5,851	5,838	270	312	253	4.4	5.1	4.2
Laramie	43,095	43,207	42,483	41,348	41,283	40,716	1,747	1,924	1,767	4.1	4.5	4.2
Niobrara	1,155	1,133	1,113	1,100	1,072	1,065	55	61	48	4.8	5.4	4.3
Platte	4,414	4,354	4,196	4,201	4,107	3,977	213	247	219	4.8	5.7	5.2
CENTRAL	50,593	50,242	49,898	47,976	47,454	47,353	2,617	2,788	2,545	5.2	5.5	5.1
Carbon	7,975	7,912	7,877	7,435	7,336	7,424	540	576	453	6.8	7.3	5.8
Converse	6,265	6,236	6,086	5,894	5,845	5,781	371	391	305	5.9	6.3	5.0
Natrona	36,353	36,094	35,935	34,647	34,273	34,148	1,706	1,821	1,787	4.7	5.0	5.0
STATEWIDE	273,507	271,520	269,598	260,378	257,434	256,307	13,129	14,086	13,291	4.8	5.2	4.9
Statewide Seasonally Adjusted										4.1	4.1	4.2
U.S.....										6.2	6.4	6.1
U.S. Seasonally Adjusted.....										5.8	5.8	5.7

Prepared in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Benchmarked 03/03. Run Date 4/03.

Data are not seasonally adjusted except where otherwise specified.

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

NOTE: The Current Population Survey (CPS) estimated the 2002 annual average Wyoming unemployment rate at 4.2 percent.

The 90 percent confidence interval for this estimate suggests that in 9 of 10 cases, the interval 3.7 to 4.7 percent would contain the actual rate.

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