

TRENDS

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On the Road in Wyoming: Using Commuting Data to Examine Worker Patterns

by: *Douglas W. Leonard, Senior Research Analyst*

Commuting patterns can be used to help assess and predict a variety of effects such as road use, accident rates, and impacts on emergency response service providers. For economic development purposes, commuting data can be used to develop strategies to address housing needs, determine which segments of a county's available labor force work elsewhere, or estimate the flow of wages between counties. Research shows Campbell, Laramie, and Natrona counties all experienced substantial increases in commuting inflow and decreases in commuting outflow over a five-year period.

The commuting pattern project was initiated by the Wyoming Department of Employment's Research & Planning Section (R&P) in 2001 (Gerth, Glover, & Troups). The purpose of the project was to determine the feasibility of a Park-n-Ride facility in Teton County. Once the project's existence became known, other government entities requested commuting pattern data for other areas from 2001-2005. During

this time, the model's methodology was updated.

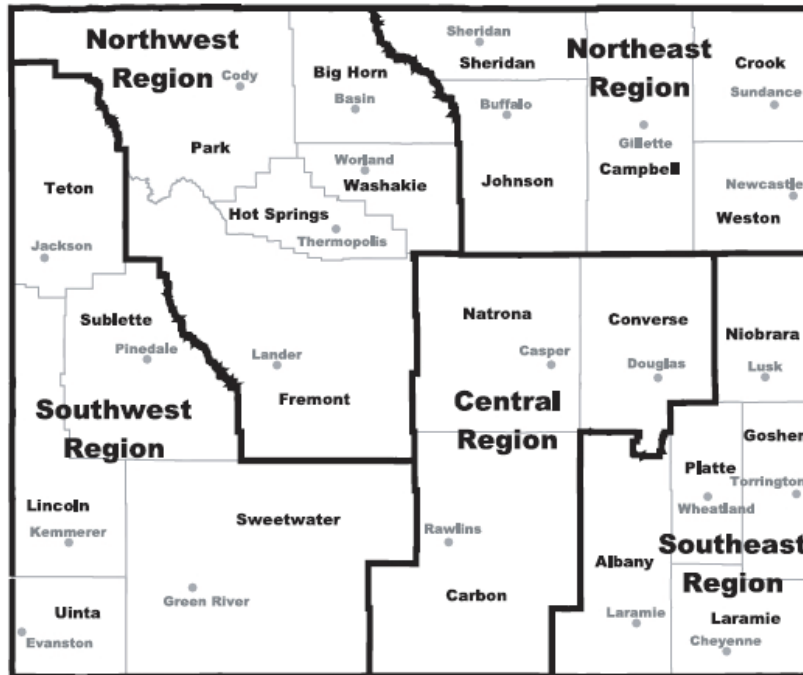
In 2006, the model was again updated following a request and funding to produce new commuting pattern data from the Workforce Development Council (Leonard, 2007a). During this iteration of the model, individual driver's license records were

(Text continued on page 3)

HIGHLIGHTS

- **Prices for crude energy materials rose in May after dropping in the prior month. This upturn is attributable to the natural gas index, which climbed in May following a sharp decrease in April. For the second consecutive month, the coal index inched up slightly....page 14**
- **Construction was the fastest growing sector in March and added the most jobs in Wyoming. Wyoming's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased slightly from February, but remained below its March 2006 level and the U.S. unemployment rate of 4.4%....page 16**

Wyoming Regions, Counties, and County Seats



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assigned latitude and longitude coordinates (see Determination of Residence Location for details) to increase accuracy. The results of the updated model were published online at http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/commuter_flow_2007.pdf in February 2007.

Purpose

The purpose of the commuting pattern project is to estimate worker and wage flows between counties and to analyze flow patterns using a variety of demographic and economic variables such as industry, gender, tenure, age, residency status, and state of origin. The commuting pattern data model consists of several components:

1. Wage Records file. Each employer in the state who has employees covered under Unemployment Insurance by law must submit quarterly tax reports to the State showing each employee's social security number and wages earned in the quarter. The Wage Records database has a two-quarter time lag (e.g., wage information for first quarter 2001 employees is generally not available until third quarter 2001). For more information, see Gosar (1995).
2. Wyoming Department of Transportation (WYDOT) Driver's License file (2006).
3. Department of Employment employer master file. See <http://www.bls.gov/qcew/cewover.htm> for more information on the employer master file.
4. Other administrative data sets as deemed necessary.

The goal of the model is to link where people live to where they work using

administrative data sets. In this article we illustrate how the commuting pattern data model was developed, in addition to how consumers may use the data to analyze and understand worker movement within the state (section taken from Leonard, 2007a).

Determination of Residence Location

Residence location is determined from the Department of Transportation Driver's License file. Each time a person applies for or renews a Wyoming driver's license, a new record is created in the file. Some individuals may not have updated their license data for several years or have left the state. In these cases, residence location is interpolated between known data points and extrapolated before the first data point and after the last data point in the file (see related article, page 5). Residence locations are assigned by processing drivers' physical addresses through Residency Assignment Software (RAS). RAS, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics, processes each physical address supplied on the file and assigns each record a state and county code in addition to latitude and longitude coordinates. People who list post office boxes as a physical address do not receive latitude and longitude assignments; however, a county code is assigned to those records. Social security numbers are removed from the file prior to shipment to RAS to ensure confidentiality. A special sequence number (unrelated to driver social security numbers) added to the driver's license file is used to relink the Department of Transportation driver's license file to Wage Records following RAS processing (section taken from Leonard, 2007a).

Definitions

Transaction – Transactions are the number of employers with whom workers are attached in a specific time period. For example, if Hypothetical Pat (Glover, 2003) works for only XYZ Construction in the second quarter of 2006, then Pat has one transaction in the quarter. However, if Pat works for XYZ Construction and Speed-D Drilling in the second quarter of 2006, this counts as two transactions. The same would be true if Pat changed employers once during the quarter. Each time Pat works for another company during the quarter an additional transaction is generated.

Base County – The base county indicates the county being studied. For example, if Albany County is indicated as the base county, then the subjects studied would be those commuting from the perspective of Albany County.

Source County – Once a base county is indicated, the source county indicates the residence location of people working in the base county. If Albany is the base county and Carbon is the source county, the subjects studied would be commuters traveling from Carbon County to Albany County.

Target County – Once a base county is indicated, the target county indicates the work location of people living in the base county. If Albany is the base county and Carbon County is the target county, the commuters

(Text continued on page 7)

Determination of Work Location

Many Wyoming businesses operate at multiple locations and report separately their employment and wages paid by each location. While the employer master file contains detailed information on business units (if reported), the Wage Records file does not; it only tells which company employed the workers. In these cases, the commuting pattern data model assigns workers using statistical techniques to the most likely employer location based on distance, county of employer unit, and county of residence, among other variables.

Since latitude and longitude coordinates for employer physical addresses are contained in the employer master file, we can calculate distances between residence and likely work locations. In cases where two locations have an equal probability of assignment, a random sorting variable is used to break ties (see related article, page 5). The random variable is most often used when latitude and longitude coordinates could not be assigned to employer physical addresses (section taken from Leonard, 2007a).

Potential Uses of Commuting Data

Because the commuting pattern data model tracks the movement of workers, it has a wide range of potential uses. In areas experiencing large commuting flows, greater traffic densities increase roadway deterioration and the probability of traffic accidents. This increases resource utilization for emergency response entities

including fire departments, law enforcement agencies, paramedics, and medical staff.

The commuting pattern data model also can be used by local economic developers to determine in which industries people work and their average wages. In some cases, the average wage differentials between those who work

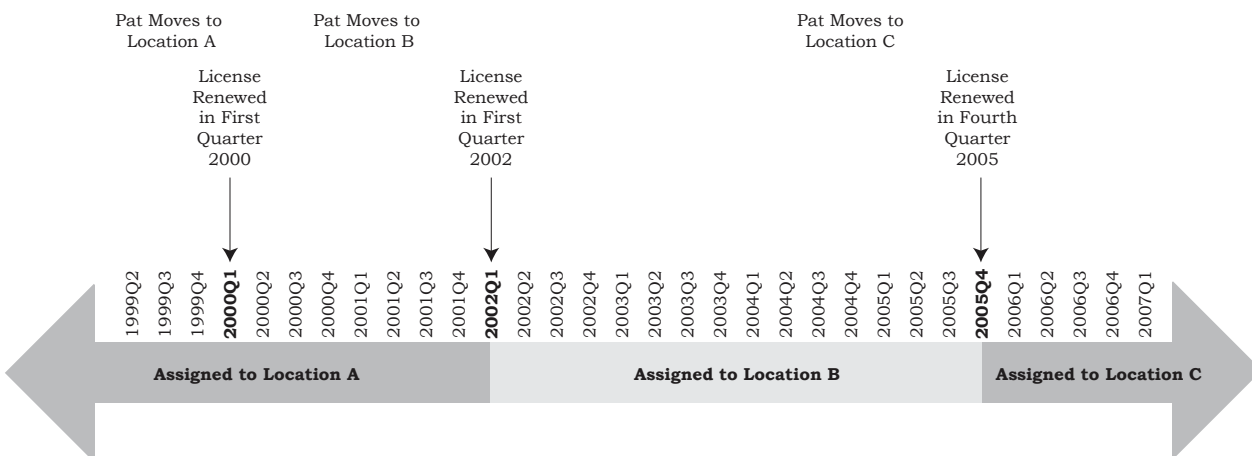
and live in the same county and those who commute to a neighboring county can be in excess of \$10,000 per year. For business managers trying to recruit labor, the commuting pattern data model can identify areas that already experience a net outflow of commuters. Because people from a source county already make the trip to the target county, managers can market their opportunities

Procedure for Determining Work Location

The statistical procedure used to link place of work and place of residence occurs in the following specified order:

1. Assign a random number to each possible work and residence record combination.
2. If residence location and possible work location(s) both have assigned latitude and longitude coordinates, choose the combination resulting in the minimum distance between the two points.
3. If condition (2) does not apply, choose the record where the county code assignments for work and residence locations are the same.
4. If condition (3) does not apply, choose the record combinations where both the residence and work locations are in Wyoming, but their county codes are different.
5. If condition (4) does not apply, place record combination in a residual record file.
6. If ties exist in conditions two through five, assignments are made at random within each condition group according to the random number generated in (1).

Example: Hypothetical Pat moves three times between second quarter 1999 and first quarter 2007.



to additional workers in the source county. Conversely, workers commuting out of a base county to work in another county may be attracted to jobs in the base county that offer shorter commuting times. Economic developers likely will see this as a situation with a double benefit — a ready pool of labor that already has established housing in the base county.

Results for Campbell County

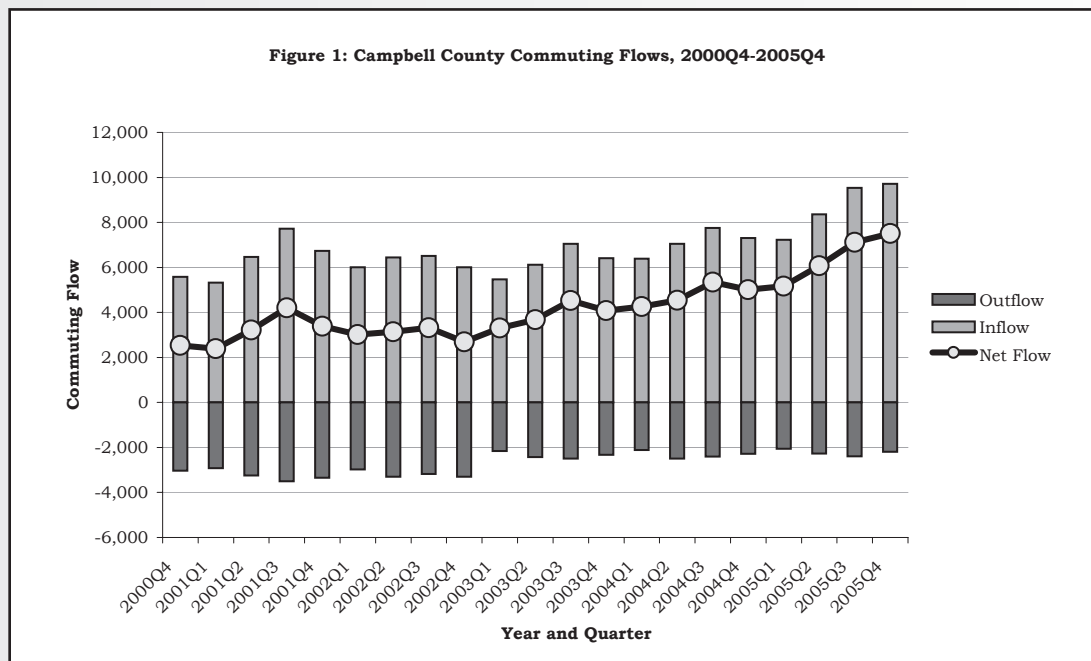
The results described are based on three of Wyoming’s most populous counties, Campbell, Laramie, and Natrona. The following analysis could be repeated for each of the state’s 23 counties.

Figure 1 illustrates the inflow and outflow values over time in Campbell County. The figure shows how commuting into Campbell County nearly doubled from fourth quarter 2000 (2000Q4) to fourth quarter 2005 (2005Q4), with most of the increase occurring since 2005Q1. At the

same time, the net commuting flow (inflow – outflow) also increased dramatically, from a level of 2,534 in 2000Q4 to a level of 7,510 in 2005Q4. Also of note is the decline in outflow transactions from the county, which was most appreciable between 2002Q4 and 2003Q1.

Figure 2 (see page 7) shows the basic elements that compose commuting from the Campbell County perspective. While the majority of commuting in Campbell County consisted of intraflow, we see that the counts of intercounty commuters increased substantially as also described in Figure 1. Meanwhile, the number of workers commuting out of Campbell County decreased by approximately one-third from 2000Q4 to 2005Q4.

While aggregate inflow statistics provide a general idea of how many people commute, we can subdivide inflow by industry to acquire a more detailed view of these commuting patterns (Leonard, 2007b). Figure 3 (see page 8) shows that in 2000Q4,



Mining, Construction, and Leisure & Hospitality were responsible for 3,402 transactions (60.9%) of Campbell County’s commuting inflow. This situation changed considerably by 2005Q4 (see Figure 4, page 8), where the top three inflow industries (to Campbell County) were Mining, Construction, and Professional & Business Services. These three industries accounted for 6,292 inflow transactions (62.9%) of Campbell County commuting inflow.

(Text continued from page 4)

being studied would be those traveling from Albany County to Carbon County.

Inflow – The number of transactions generated in the base county as a result of workers commuting from a particular source county (e.g., workers commuting from Carbon County to Albany County).

Outflow – The number of transactions generated in the target county as a result of workers commuting from the base county (e.g., workers commuting from Albany County to Carbon County).

Intraflow or Intracounty Commuting – The number of transactions generated in the base county as a result of workers both living and working in that county.

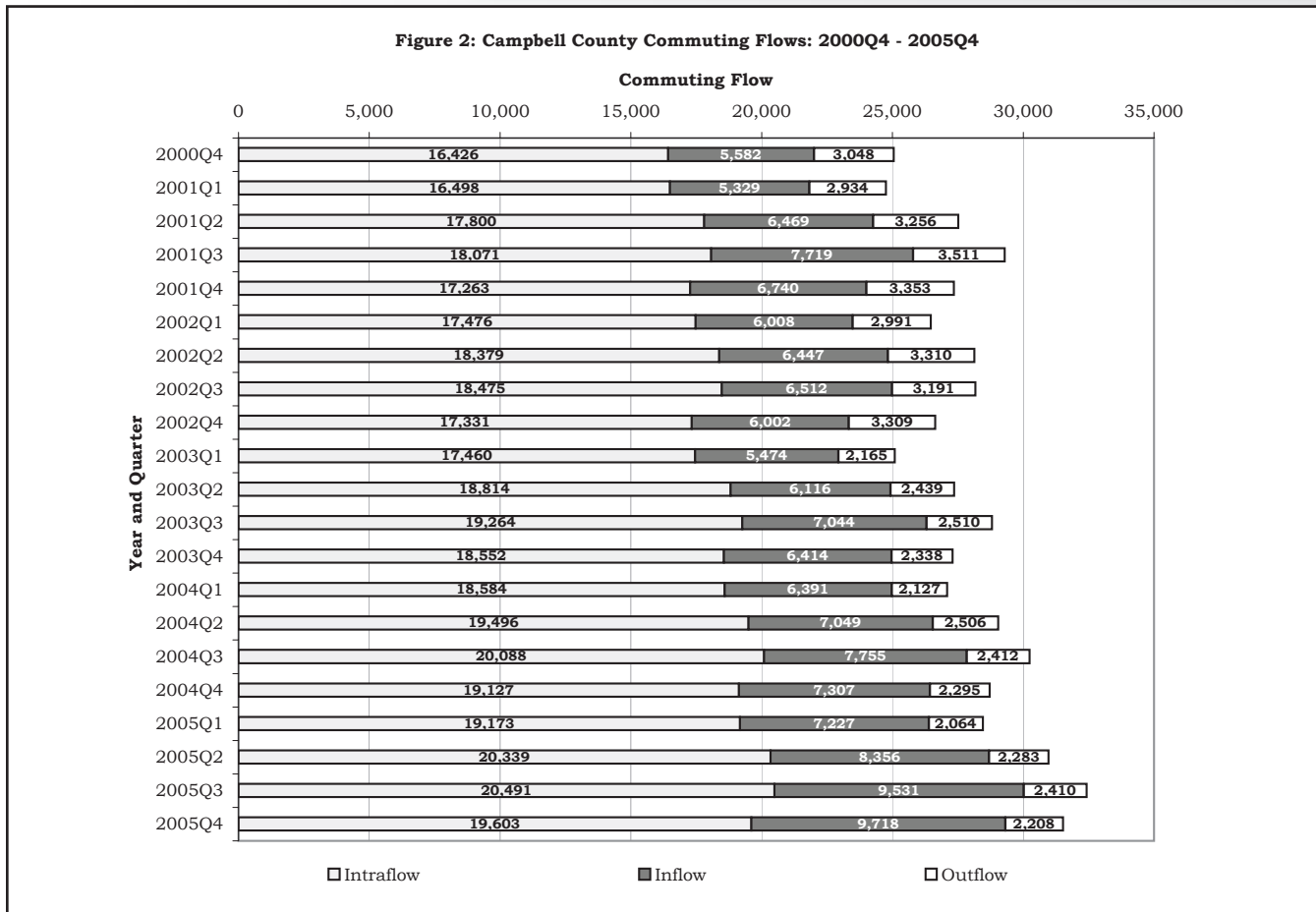
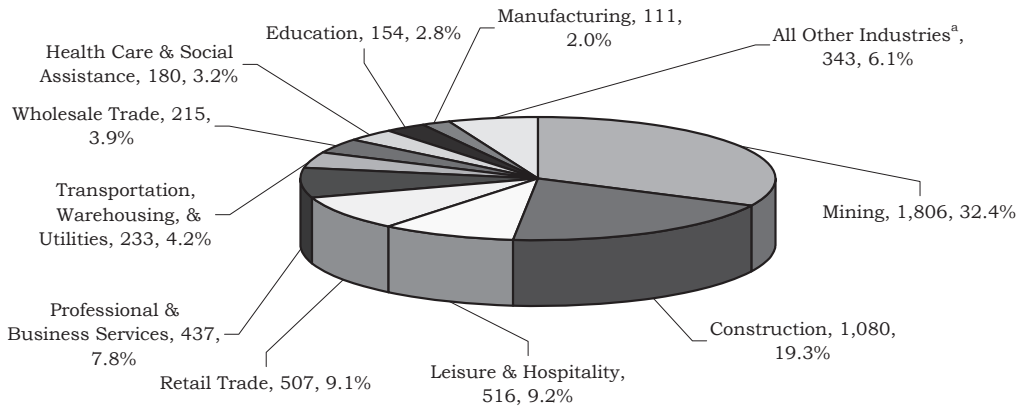


Figure 3: Distribution of Campbell County Inflow by Industry, 2000Q4



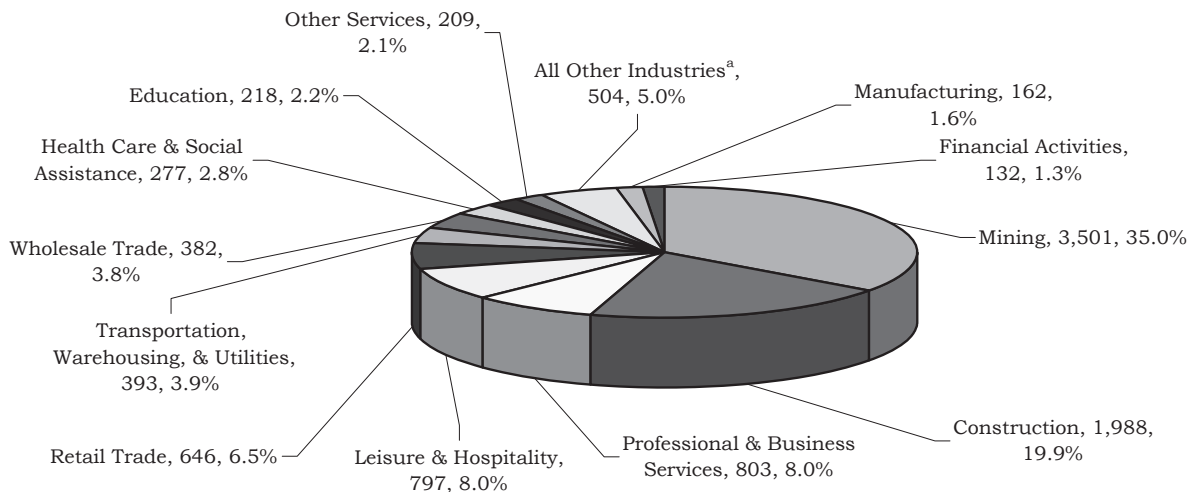
^aAll Other Industries refers to the sum of all industry inflow counts not otherwise specified in the figure. The mix of industries included in this category is both county- and date-specific.

Results for Laramie County

We now repeat our analysis for Laramie County. Figures 5 and 6 (see page 9) show

that net commuting flow has more than doubled in the last five years from 3,537 workers in 2000Q4 to 8,505 workers in 2005Q4. Meanwhile, outflow has declined by nearly 40% during the same period.

Figure 4: Distribution of Campbell County Inflow by Industry, 2005Q4



^aAll Other Industries refers to the sum of all industry inflow counts not otherwise specified in the figure. The mix of industries included in this category is both county- and date-specific.

Note: Totals do not equal 100.0% due to rounding.

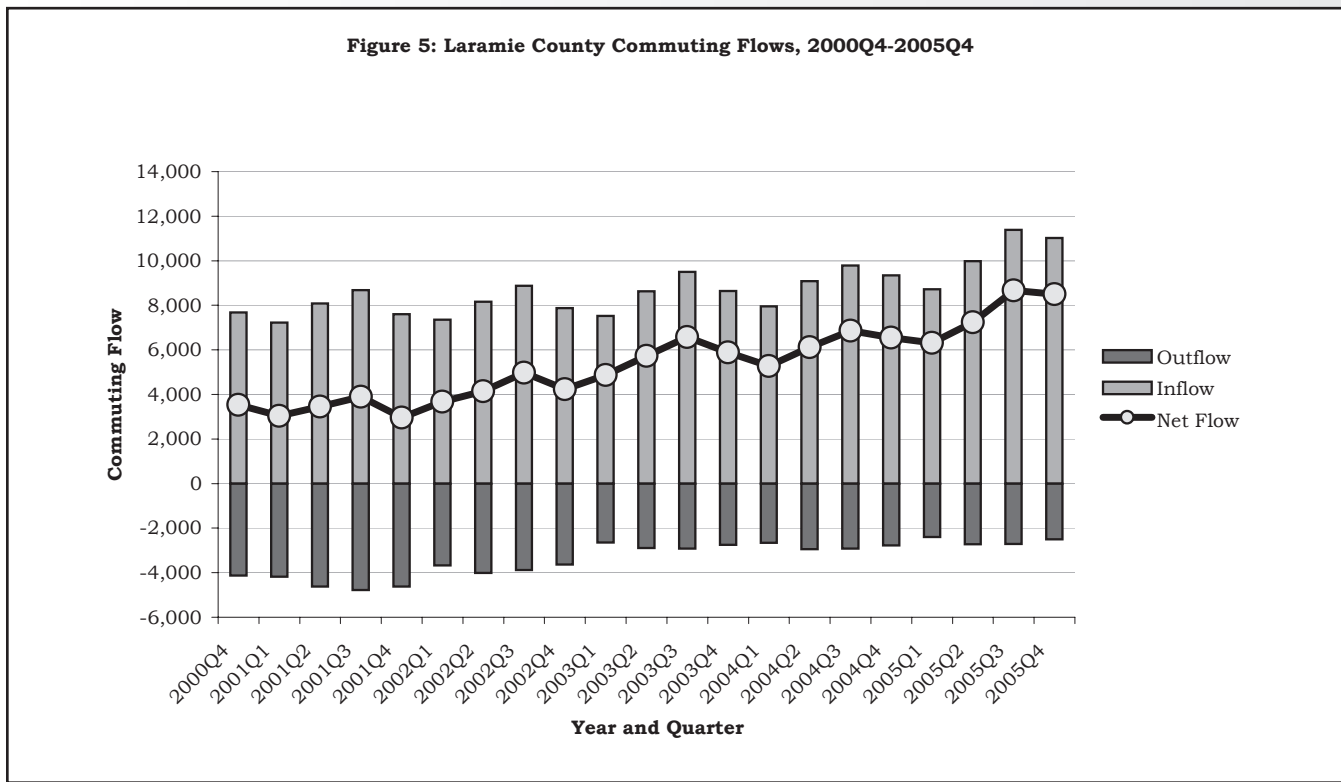


Figure 7 (see page 10) shows that the distribution of workers by industry commuting to Laramie County was quite different from that of Campbell County in 2000Q4 (see Figure 3, page 8). In Laramie County, Retail Trade, Leisure & Hospitality, and Professional & Business Services accounted for 3,928 transactions (51.1%) of the total Laramie County inflow for 2000Q4 compared to 1,460 transactions (26.1%) for these three industries in Campbell County. Laramie County inflow transactions were less confined to the top three industries; this indicates that inflow to Laramie County is more diversified than in Campbell County. The difference is

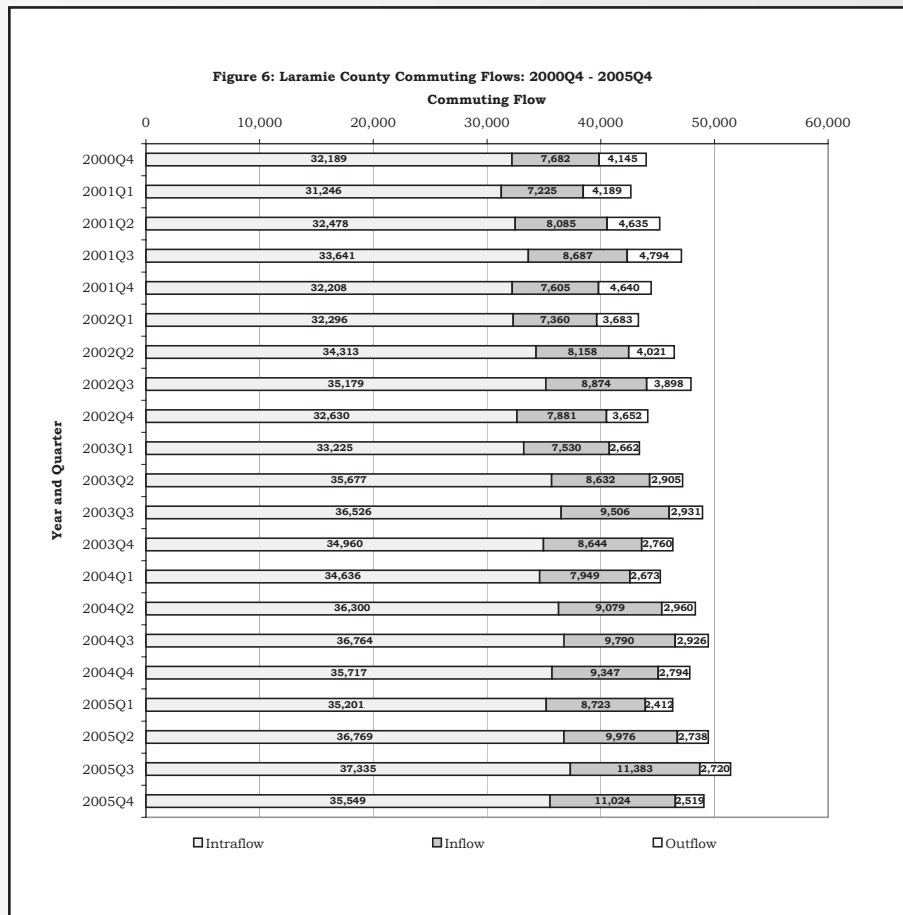
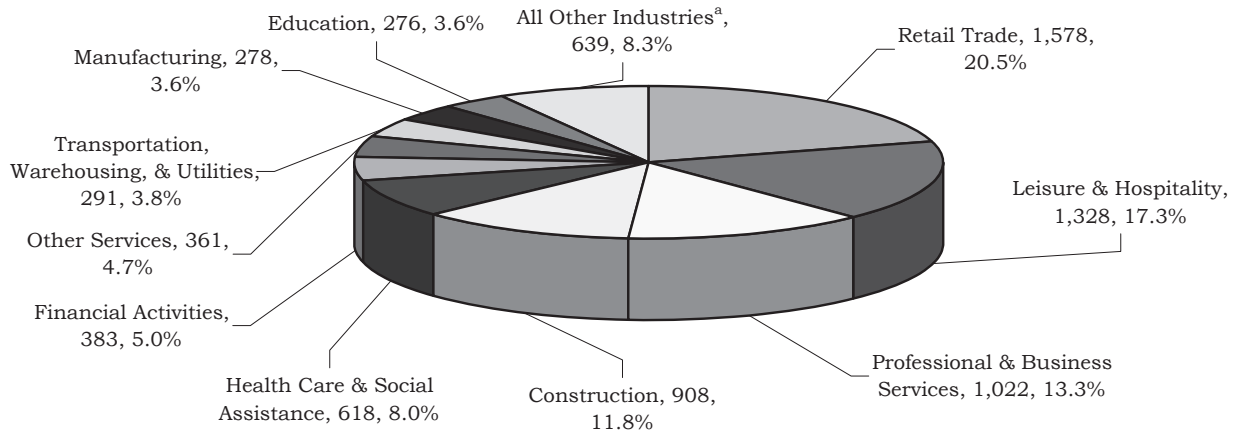


Figure 7: Distribution of Laramie County Inflow by Industry, 2000Q4

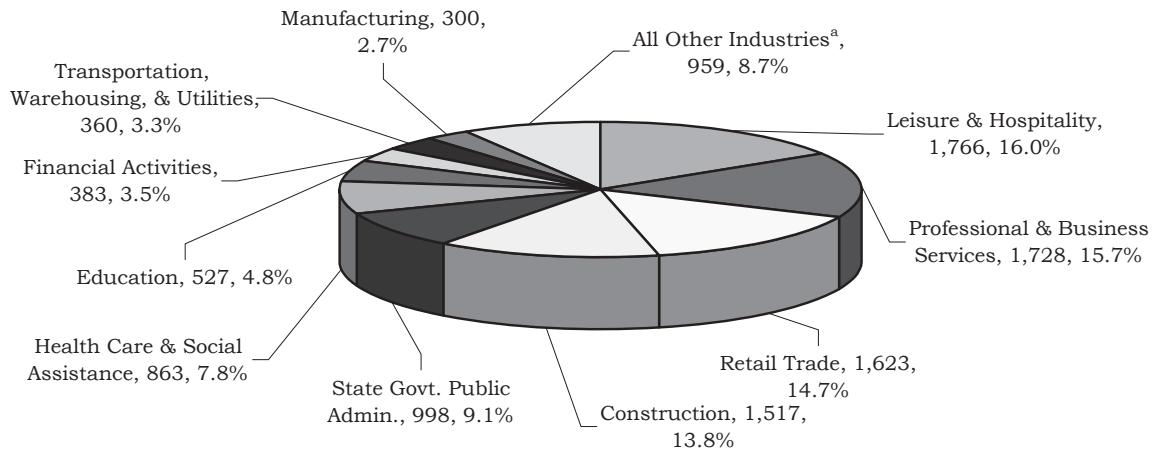


^aAll Other Industries refers to the sum of all industry inflow counts not otherwise specified in the figure. The mix of industries included in this category is both county- and date-specific.
 Note: Totals do not equal 100.0% due to rounding.

not surprising considering the concentration of mineral resource development in Campbell County. Figure 8 shows Laramie County inflow transactions were even more dispersed across industries in 2005Q4

than in 2000Q4. In this case, the top three inflow industries, Leisure & Hospitality, Professional & Business Services, and Retail Trade, produced 5,117 transactions (46.4%) of total inflow in 2005Q4.

Figure 8: Distribution of Laramie County Inflow by Industry, 2005Q4



^aAll Other Industries refers to the sum of all industry inflow counts not otherwise specified in the figure. The mix of industries included in this category is both county- and date-specific.
 Note: Totals do not equal 100.0% due to rounding.

Results for Natrona County

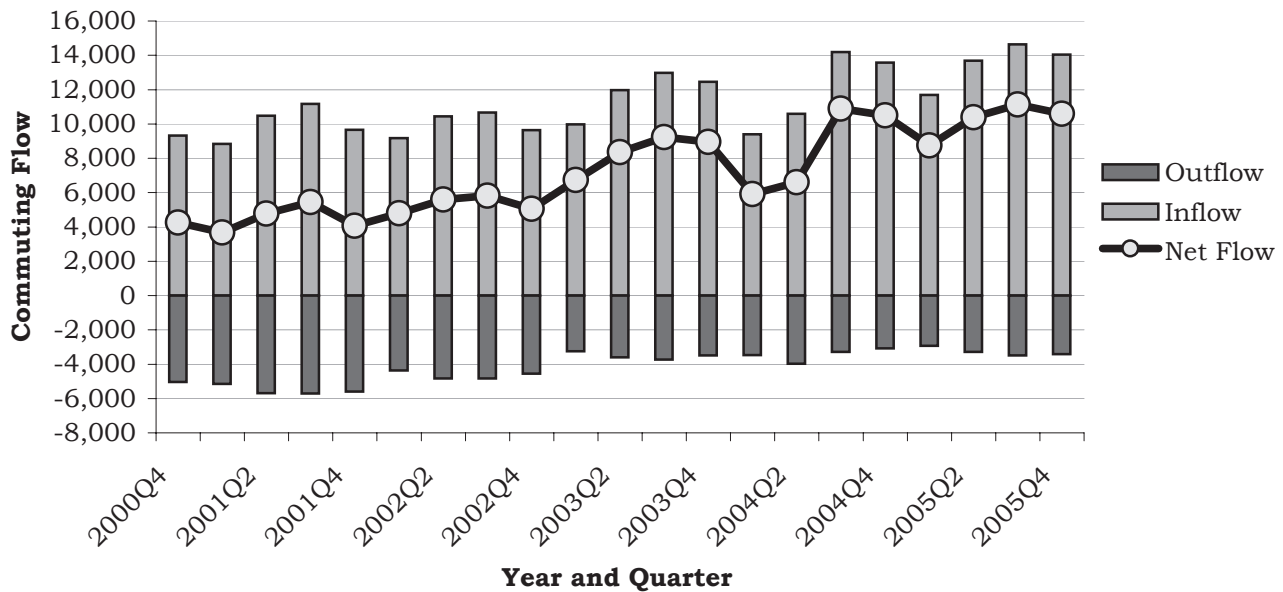
Of the three counties studied, Natrona County had the greatest net commuting flow in 2005Q4 (see Figure 9). Of the three counties' commuting flows (see Figures 1, 5, and 9), Natrona County had a more pronounced seasonal effect than Laramie or Campbell County, particularly as the data approached 2005Q4.

Figure 10 (see page 12) shows Natrona County commuting inflow increased from 9,316 to 14,034 in five years, an 8.5% average annual compound rate of growth. At the same time, intracounty commuting increased at a 2.6% annual rate of growth while outflow commuting declined at an 8.0% annual rate.

Only 39.8% of Natrona County's inflow commuting transactions were concentrated

in the county's top three industries in 2000Q4 (see Figure 11, page 13). Retail Trade, Mining, and Professional & Business Services accounted for 3,703 of the 9,316 inflow transactions. The situation changed considerably by 2005Q4, when the top three industries of Mining, Leisure & Hospitality, and Professional & Business Services accounted for 6,551 inflow transactions (46.7%) of total inflow (see Figure 12, page 13). One common theme across all three counties (see Figures 4, 8, and 12) is that Leisure & Hospitality, Professional & Business Services, Retail Trade, and Construction were the top five inflow industries. The most noticeable difference between Laramie County and the other two counties studied was the absence of a large Mining industry. Also, because Wage Records do not include federal (civilian & military) and most railroad employees, those cohorts are missing from the analysis in each county.

Figure 9: Natrona County Commuting Flows, 2000Q4-2005Q4



Implications for Future Research

This study illustrates the potential power of the commuting pattern data model. The analysis showed that three of Wyoming’s most populous counties experienced large amounts of commuting inflow from other Wyoming locales and out of state. It also demonstrated that the mix of industries attracting those workers varies considerably by county and over time as economic conditions change.

The purpose of this article was to introduce the commuting model to a

wider audience and to provide readers with its development context. Although industry was introduced as a variable for this analysis, the model is certainly not limited to what has been presented. Possibilities for deeper exploration of the data exist and will be pursued. In addition, future iterations of the model will include wage data from partner research states to further quantify out-of-state commuting flows. Studying a small number of variables on just a handful of counties produces a tremendous amount of data. The purpose of the commuting pattern data model is not just to determine the absolute levels of commuting, but to identify and track the

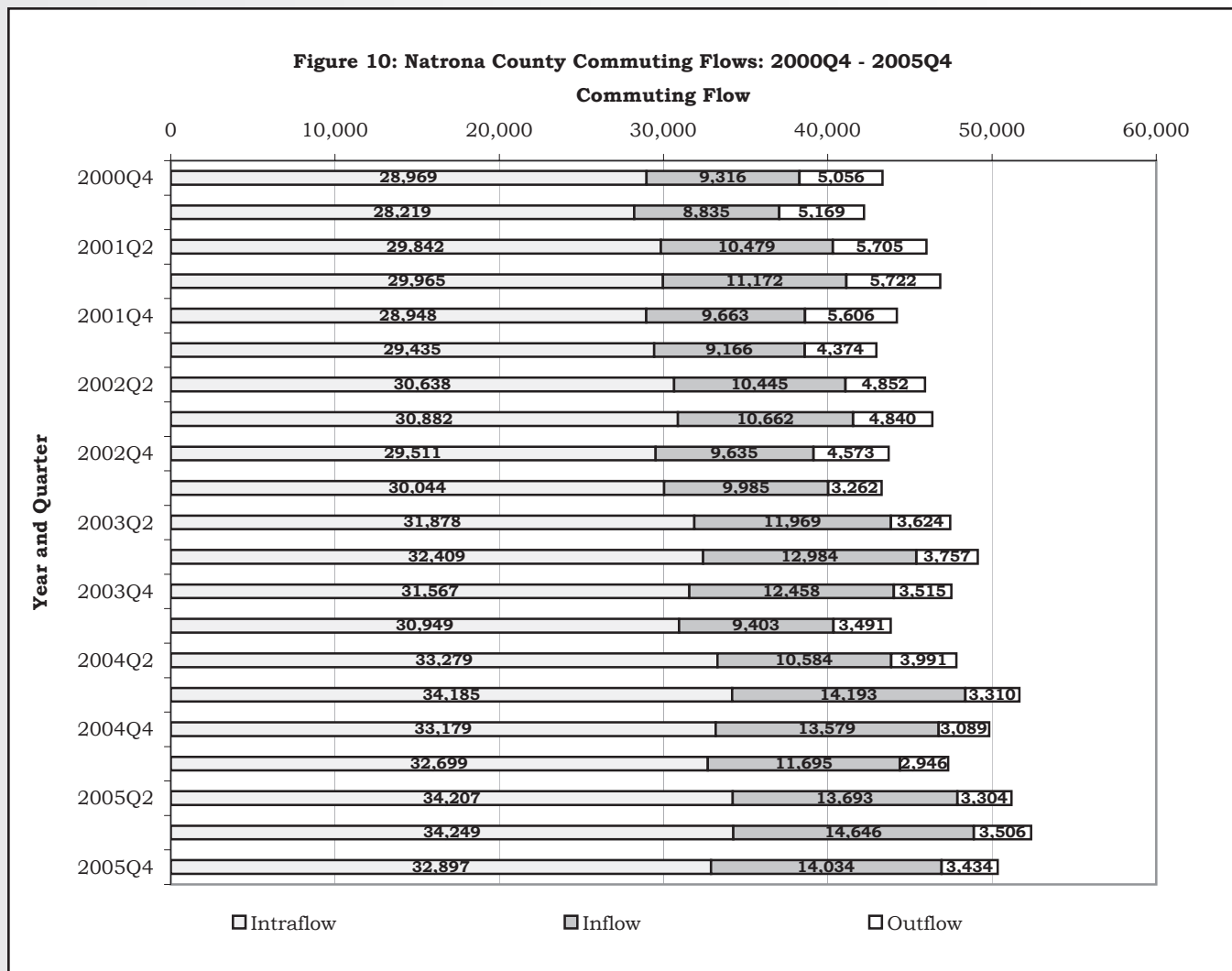
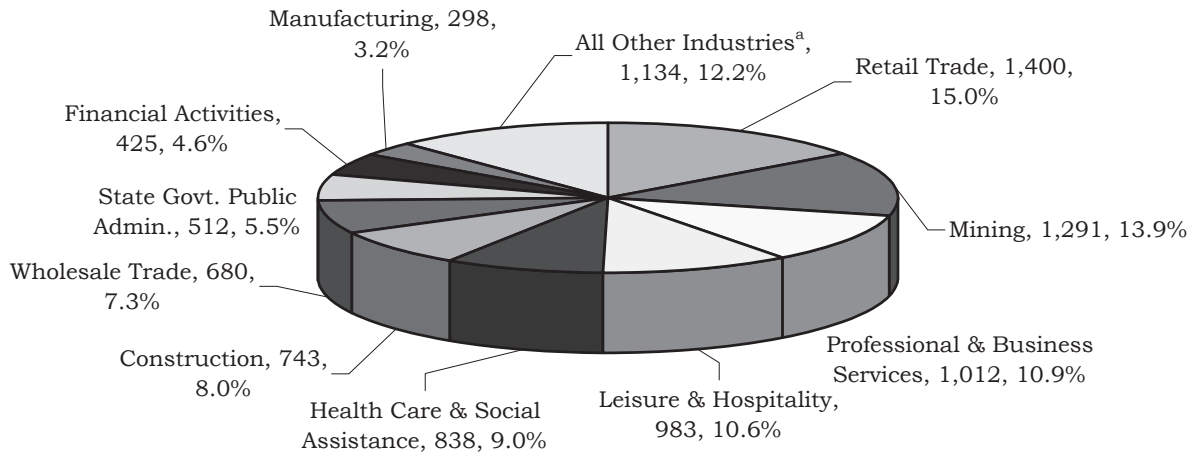


Figure 11: Distribution of Natrona County Inflow by Industry, 2000Q4



^aAll Other Industries refers to the sum of all industry inflow counts not otherwise specified in the figure. The mix of industries included in this category is both county- and date-specific.

Note: Totals do not equal 100.0% due to rounding.

trends taking place in Wyoming counties and how those changes affect the state on both macro and micro levels.

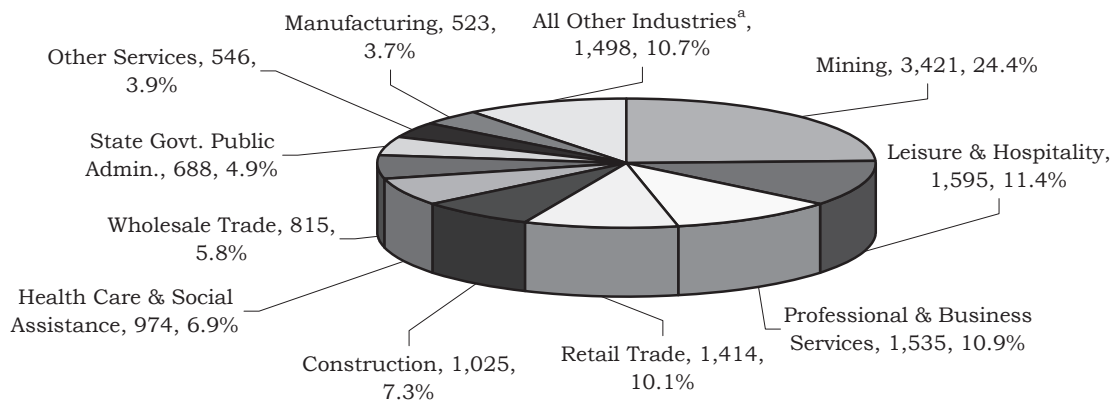
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work to place of residence with administrative data. *Wyoming Labor Force Trends* 38(9). Retrieved March 16, 2007, from <http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/0901/a1.htm>

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Glover, W. (2003). Wage records: Operational definitions of wage groups, tenure & experience, and job holder

Figure 12: Distribution of Natrona County Inflow by Industry, 2005Q4



^aAll Other Industries refers to the sum of all industry inflow counts not otherwise specified in the figure. The mix of industries included in this category is both county- and date-specific.

classifications. Retrieved March 16, 2007, from http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/w_r_research/BLSdocument_simple.pdf

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U.S. Producer Price Index for Energy Materials Rises

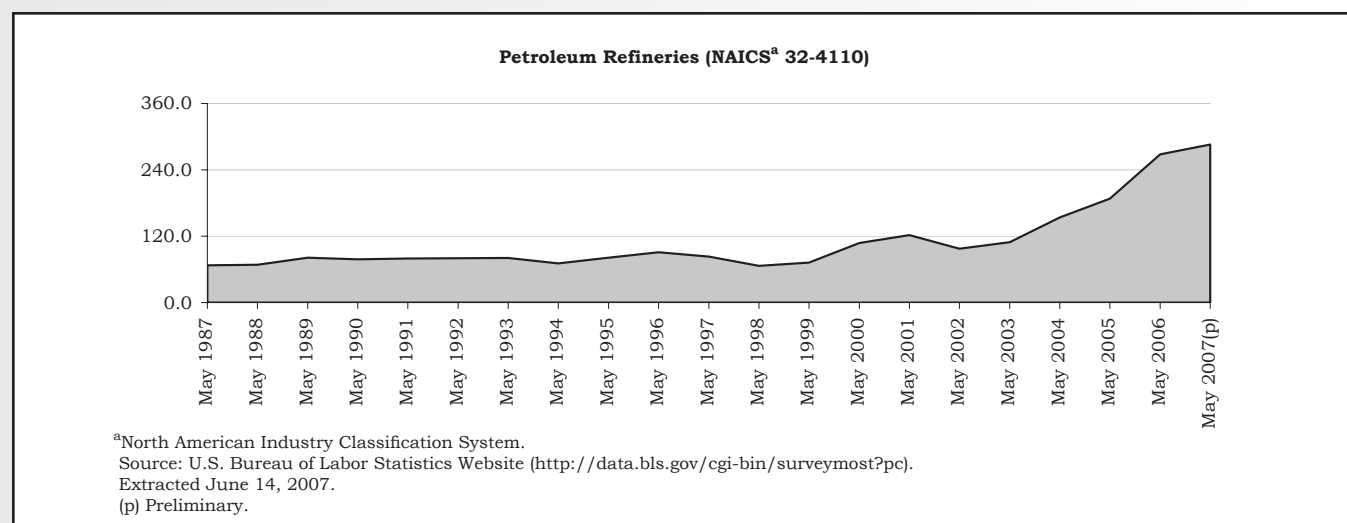
excerpt from U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics website: <ftp://ftp.bls.gov/pub/news.release/ppi.txt>

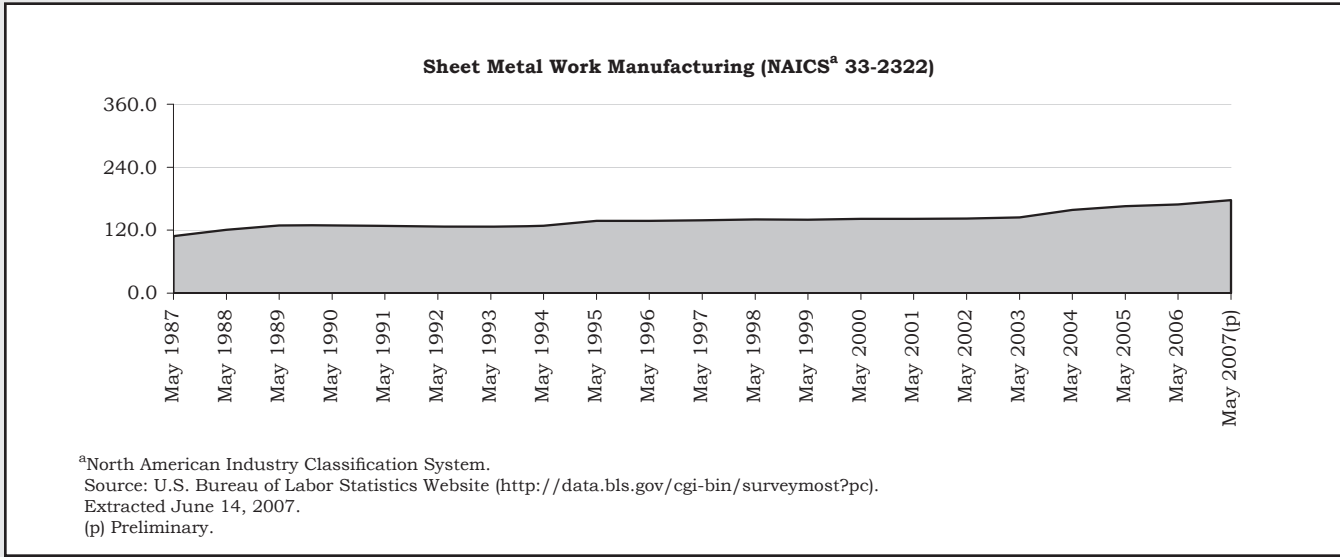
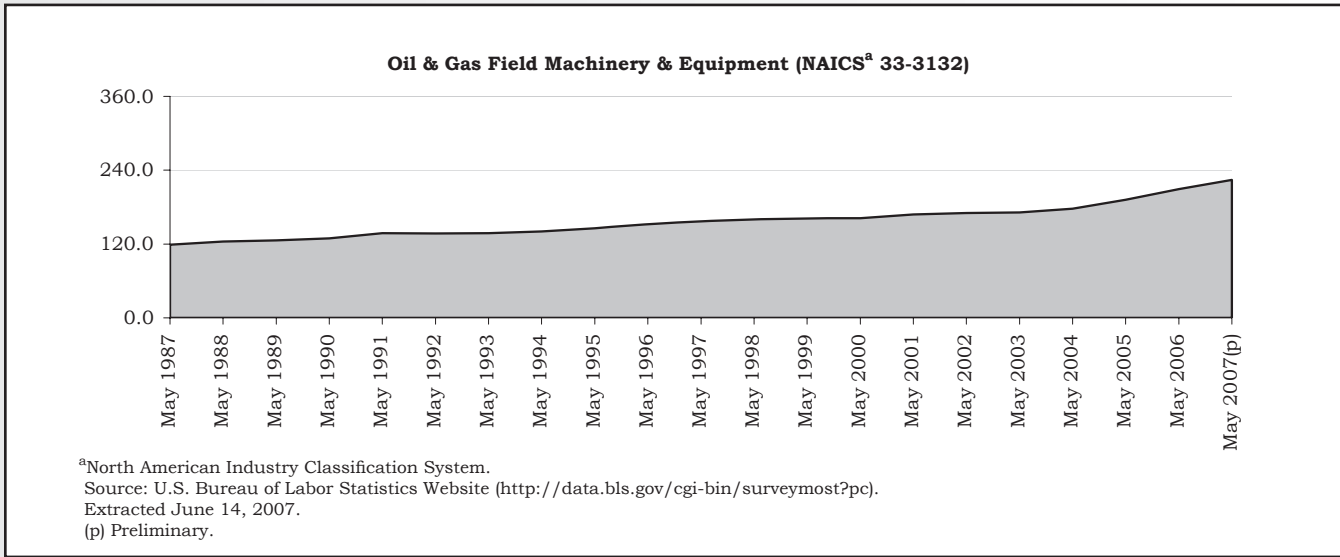
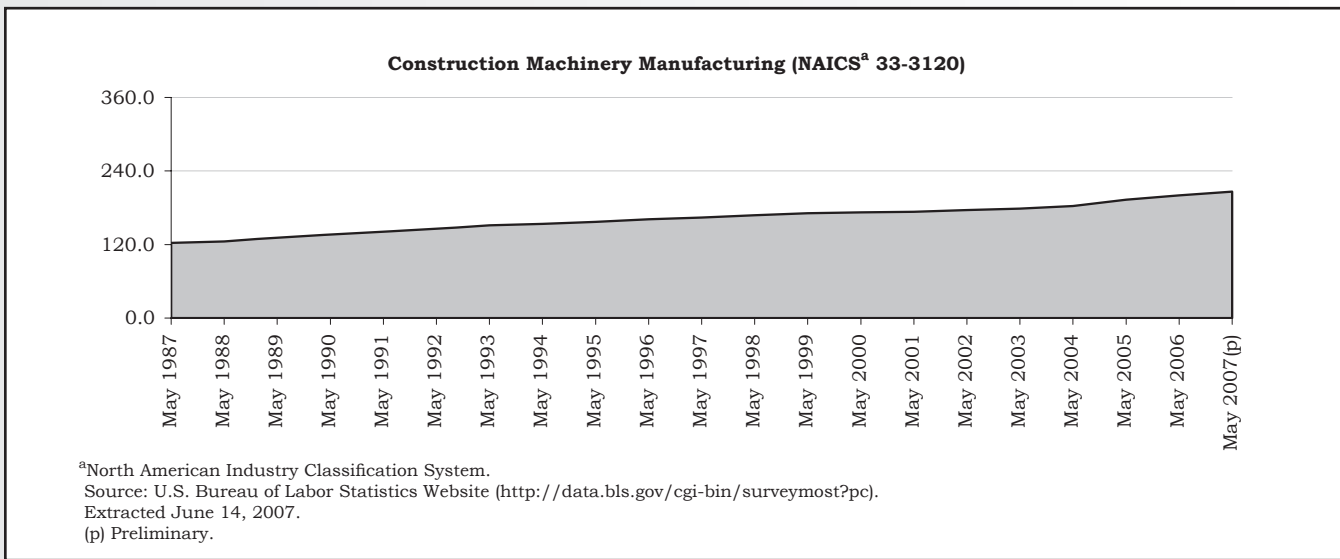
Prices for crude energy materials jumped 4.3% in May after dropping 4.9% in the prior month. This upturn is attributable to the natural gas index, which climbed 6.6% following a 13.0%

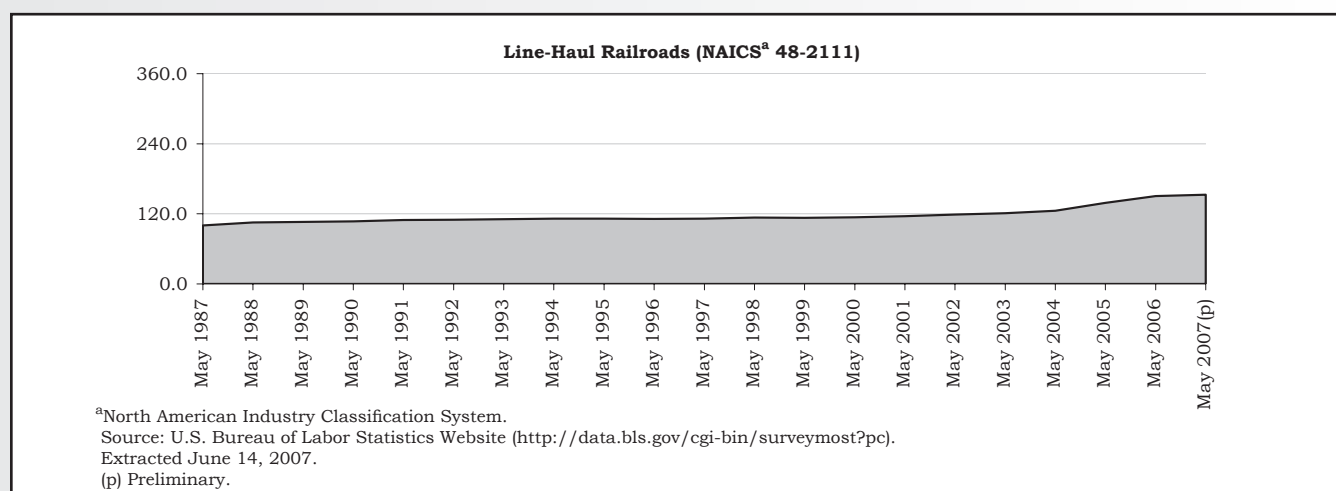
decrease in April. By contrast, crude petroleum prices moved up 1.9% in May compared with a 7.9% rise a month earlier. For the second consecutive month, the coal index inched up at a 0.2% rate.

Changes in U.S. Producer Price Index for Selected Industries, 1987 to 2007

The Producer Price Index measures the average price of an industry's output sold to another industry. Indices reflect changes in prices relative to a reference point equal to 100.0, 1982 for most commodities.







Construction Leads Job Growth in Wyoming

by: *David Bullard, Senior Economist*

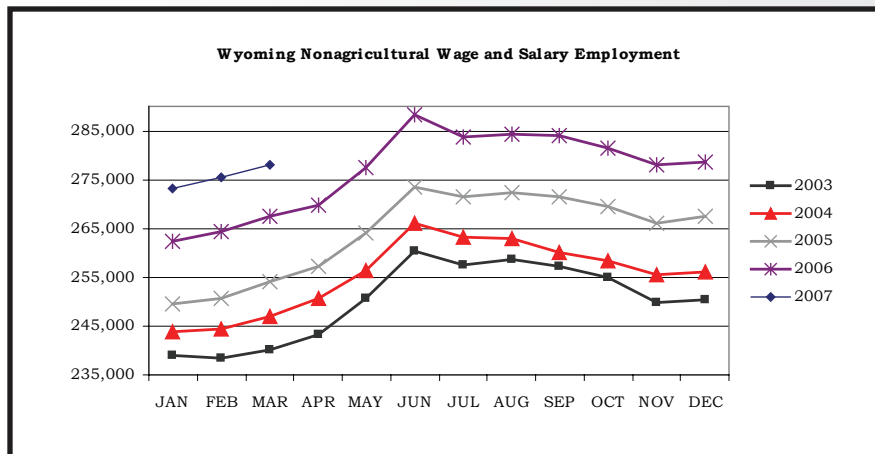
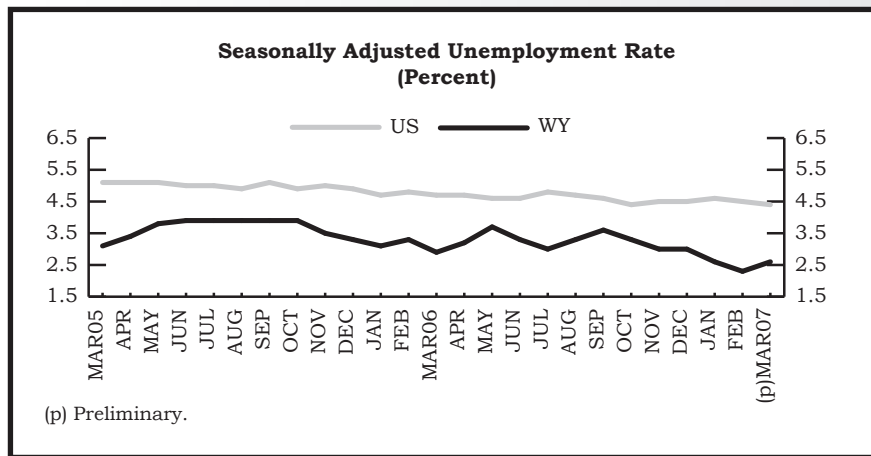
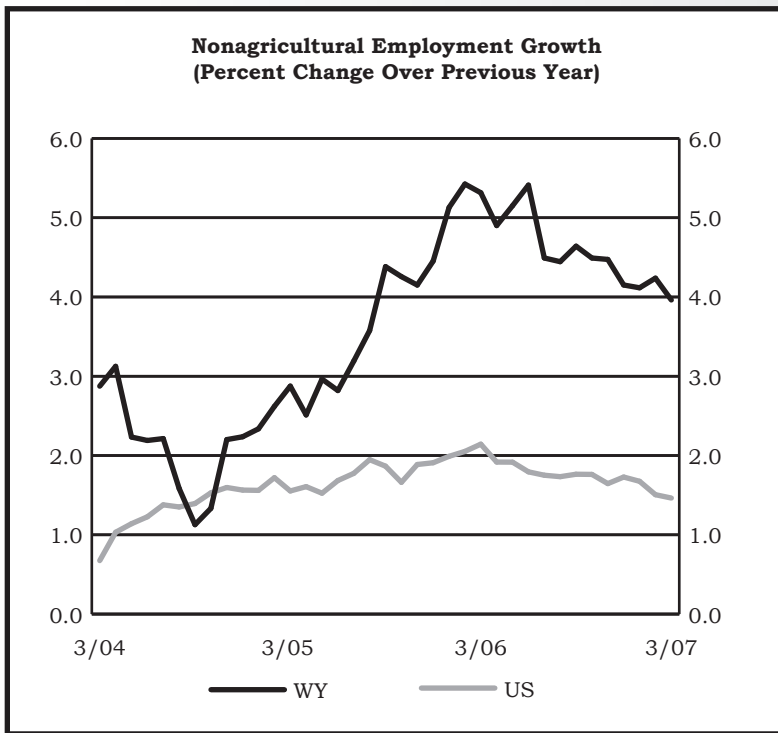
Construction was the fastest growing sector and added the most jobs in Wyoming (up 2,300 jobs, or 11.2%, from March 2006). Wyoming's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased slightly from 2.3% in February to 2.6% in March, but remained below its March 2006 level of 2.8% and the U.S. unemployment rate of 4.4%. Wyoming's labor force (the sum of employed and unemployed individuals) increased by 5,776, or 2.1%, from its March 2006 level.

From February to March, Wyoming added 2,600 jobs (0.9%). This level of increase is consistent with normal seasonal patterns. Seasonal job gains were seen in Construction (500 jobs, or 2.2%), Retail Trade (500 jobs, or 1.7%), Professional & Business Services (600 jobs, or 3.6%), Leisure & Hospitality (500 jobs, or 1.7%), and Government (300 jobs, or 0.4%).

From March 2006 to March 2007, the state gained 10,600 jobs (4.0%). Construction was the fastest growing sector (2,300 jobs, or 11.2%) in March. Other rapidly growing sectors included

Natural Resources & Mining (1,900 jobs, or 7.5%), Wholesale Trade (700 jobs, or 8.8%), Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities (700 jobs, or 5.3%), and Professional & Business Services (1,300 jobs, or 8.2%). More modest employment growth occurred in Manufacturing (200 jobs, or 2.1%), Retail Trade (600 jobs, or 2.0%), Financial Activities (200 jobs, or 1.8%), Educational & Health Services (600 jobs, or 2.7%), and Leisure & Hospitality (500 jobs, or 1.7%). Employment in Wyoming's Information sector, which includes newspapers, radio and television stations, and telephone companies, was unchanged from its March 2006 level.

Across Wyoming's 23 counties, most unemployment rates followed their normal seasonal pattern and increased slightly from February to March. Big Horn County posted the highest unemployment rate (4.7%) and was followed by Fremont County (4.6%) and Washakie & Platte counties (both 4.5%). Sublette County had the lowest unemployment rate (1.8%), followed by Campbell (2.3%) and Teton (2.5%) counties.



State Unemployment Rates March 2007 (Seasonally Adjusted)

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	10.1
Mississippi	6.9
Michigan	6.5
Alaska	5.9
South Carolina	5.9
District of Columbia	5.5
Kentucky	5.4
Ohio	5.2
Oregon	5.2
Arkansas	4.9
California	4.8
Wisconsin	4.8
Missouri	4.7
Tennessee	4.7
Indiana	4.6
Washington	4.6
North Carolina	4.5
Massachusetts	4.4
United States	4.4
Maine	4.3
Nevada	4.3
New Jersey	4.3
Texas	4.3
West Virginia	4.3
Illinois	4.2
Minnesota	4.2
Rhode Island	4.2
Connecticut	4.1
Georgia	4.1
Kansas	4.1
Louisiana	4.1
Oklahoma	4.1
New York	4.0
Arizona	3.9
New Hampshire	3.8
Pennsylvania	3.8
Vermont	3.8
New Mexico	3.7
Colorado	3.6
Maryland	3.6
Alabama	3.4
Delaware	3.4
Florida	3.3
Iowa	3.2
North Dakota	3.1
South Dakota	3.1
Virginia	3.0
Idaho	2.8
Nebraska	2.6
Wyoming	2.6
Hawaii	2.5
Utah	2.4
Montana	2.0

Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

Employment in Wyoming's Information sector, which includes newspapers, radio and television stations, and telephone companies, was unchanged from its March 2006 level.

WYOMING STATEWIDE	Employment in Thousands			Percent Change Total Employment		LARAMIE COUNTY	Employment in Thousands			Percent Change Total Employment	
	Mar07(p)	Feb07(r)	Mar06	Feb07	Mar06		Mar07(p)	Feb07(r)	Mar06	Feb07	Mar06
				Mar07	Mar07					Mar07	Mar07
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	278.1	275.5	267.5	0.9	4.0	TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	43.3	42.8	42.2	1.2	2.6
TOTAL PRIVATE	210.7	208.4	201.3	1.1	4.7	TOTAL PRIVATE	30.2	29.6	29.3	2.0	3.1
GOODS PRODUCING	60.1	59.6	55.7	0.8	7.9	GOODS PRODUCING	4.7	4.5	4.7	4.4	0.0
Natural Resources & Mining	27.3	27.3	25.4	0.0	7.5	Nat. Res., Mining, & Construction	3.1	2.9	3.1	6.9	0.0
Mining	27.1	27.2	25.3	-0.4	7.1	Manufacturing	1.6	1.6	1.6	0.0	0.0
Oil & Gas Extraction	4.3	4.3	3.9	0.0	10.3						
Mining Except Oil & Gas	9.0	9.0	8.4	0.0	7.1	SERVICE PROVIDING	38.6	38.3	37.5	0.8	2.9
Coal Mining	6.2	6.1	5.6	1.6	10.7	Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	9.2	9.2	9.1	0.0	1.1
Support Activities for Mining	13.8	13.9	13.0	-0.7	6.2	Wholesale Trade	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.0
Support Act. for Oil & Gas	9.9	9.9	8.9	0.0	11.2	Retail Trade	5.5	5.4	5.5	1.9	0.0
Construction	22.9	22.4	20.6	2.2	11.2	Trans, Warehouse, & Utilities	2.9	3.0	2.8	-3.3	3.6
Construction of Buildings	4.3	4.4	4.5	-2.3	-4.4	Information	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0
Heavy & Engineering Constr.	7.4	7.3	5.5	1.4	34.5	Financial Activities	2.0	2.0	2.0	0.0	0.0
Specialty Trade Contractors	11.2	10.7	10.6	4.7	5.7	Professional & Business Services	3.5	3.3	3.2	6.1	9.4
Manufacturing	9.9	9.9	9.7	0.0	2.1	Educational & Health Services	3.6	3.6	3.4	0.0	5.9
Durable Goods	5.4	5.3	5.3	1.9	1.9	Leisure & Hospitality	4.5	4.3	4.2	4.7	7.1
Nondurable Goods	4.5	4.6	4.4	-2.2	2.3	Other Services	1.7	1.7	1.7	0.0	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	218.0	215.9	211.8	1.0	2.9	TOTAL GOVERNMENT	13.1	13.2	12.9	-0.8	1.6
Trade, Trans., Warehouse, & Util.	53.1	52.4	51.1	1.3	3.9	Federal Government	2.5	2.5	2.5	0.0	0.0
Wholesale Trade	8.7	8.6	8.0	1.2	8.7	State Government	4.0	4.0	3.9	0.0	2.6
Merchant Whlsrns., Durable	5.2	5.2	4.8	0.0	8.3	Local Government	6.6	6.7	6.5	-1.5	1.5
Retail Trade	30.4	29.9	29.8	1.7	2.0	Local Education	3.4	3.5	3.4	-2.9	0.0
Motor Vehicle & Parts Dealers	4.5	4.5	4.4	0.0	2.3						
Food & Beverage Stores	4.5	4.6	4.4	-2.2	2.3	NATRONA COUNTY					
Grocery Stores	3.8	3.8	3.7	0.0	2.7	TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	39.8	39.3	38.4	1.3	3.6
Gasoline Stations	3.9	3.9	3.9	0.0	0.0	TOTAL PRIVATE	33.8	33.4	32.5	1.2	4.0
General Merchandise Stores	6.6	6.3	5.9	4.8	11.9	GOODS PRODUCING	9.0	8.7	8.5	3.4	5.9
Miscellaneous Store Retailers	1.7	1.8	1.8	-5.6	-5.6	Natural Resources & Mining	4.3	4.3	4.1	0.0	4.9
Transport., Warehouse, & Util.	14.0	13.9	13.3	0.7	5.3	Construction	2.7	2.5	2.5	8.0	8.0
Utilities	2.3	2.3	2.3	0.0	0.0	Manufacturing	2.0	1.9	1.9	5.3	5.3
Transportation & Warehousing	11.7	11.6	11.0	0.9	6.4	SERVICE PROVIDING	30.8	30.6	29.9	0.7	3.0
Truck Transportation	4.2	4.2	3.8	0.0	10.5	Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	8.8	8.7	8.5	1.1	3.5
Information	4.2	4.2	4.2	0.0	0.0	Wholesale Trade	2.6	2.5	2.4	4.0	8.3
Financial Activities	11.2	11.2	11.0	0.0	1.8	Retail Trade	5.0	5.0	4.9	0.0	2.0
Finance & Insurance	7.0	7.0	6.9	0.0	1.4	Transport., Warehouse, & Util.	1.2	1.2	1.2	0.0	0.0
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	4.2	4.2	4.1	0.0	2.4	Information	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0
Professional & Business Services	17.2	16.6	15.9	3.6	8.2	Financial Activities	2.1	2.1	2.0	0.0	5.0
Prof., Scientific & Tech. Services	9.5	9.3	8.7	2.2	9.2	Professional & Business Services	2.9	3.0	2.8	-3.3	3.6
Architect., Engineering & Rel.	2.5	2.5	2.4	0.0	4.2	Educational & Health Services	4.8	4.8	4.7	0.0	2.1
Mgmt. of Companies & Enterpr.	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.0	12.5	Leisure & Hospitality	3.7	3.6	3.6	2.8	2.8
Admin., Support & Waste Svcs.	6.8	6.4	6.4	6.2	6.2	Other Services	1.9	1.9	1.8	0.0	5.6
Educational & Health Services	23.1	23.2	22.5	-0.4	2.7	TOTAL GOVERNMENT	6.0	5.9	5.9	1.7	1.7
Educational	2.6	2.6	2.5	0.0	4.0	Federal Government	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.0	-14.3
Health Care & Social Assistance	20.5	20.6	20.0	-0.5	2.5	State Government	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
Ambulatory Health Care	7.7	7.8	7.6	-1.3	1.3	Local Government	4.7	4.6	4.5	2.2	4.4
Offices of Physicians	3.1	3.1	3.0	0.0	3.3	Local Education	3.2	3.1	3.1	3.2	3.2
Hospitals	2.9	2.9	2.8	0.0	3.6						
Nursing & Res. Care Facilities	4.5	4.5	4.4	0.0	2.3	Note: Current 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. Wyoming, Laramie County, and Natrona County are published in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics.					
Social Assistance	5.4	5.4	5.2	0.0	3.8	(p) Preliminary. (r) Revised.					
Leisure & Hospitality	30.7	30.2	30.2	1.7	1.7						
Arts, Entertainment, & Rec.	2.4	2.3	2.4	4.3	0.0						
Accommodation & Food Services	28.3	27.9	27.8	1.4	1.8						
Accommodation	10.3	10.2	10.2	1.0	1.0						
Food Serv. & Drinking Places	18.0	17.7	17.6	1.7	2.3						
Other Services	11.1	11.0	10.7	0.9	3.7						
Repair & Maintenance	3.8	3.8	3.5	0.0	8.6						
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	67.4	67.1	66.2	0.4	1.8						
Federal Government	6.8	6.7	6.8	1.5	0.0						
State Government	15.8	15.7	15.6	0.6	1.3						
State Govt. Education	6.5	6.5	6.7	0.0	-3.0						
Local Government	44.8	44.7	43.8	0.2	2.3						
Local Govt. Education	23.6	23.5	23.1	0.4	2.2						
Hospitals	6.0	6.0	6.0	0.0	0.0						

Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

(Continued)

	Employment in Thousands			Percent Change Total Employment	
	Mar07(p)	Feb07(r)	Mar06	Feb07	Mar06
				Mar07	Mar07
CAMPBELL COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	26.3	26.0	25.1	1.2	4.8
TOTAL PRIVATE	22.2	22.0	21.1	0.9	5.2
GOODS PRODUCING	10.9	10.8	10.5	0.9	3.8
Natural Resources & Mining	7.8	7.8	7.4	0.0	5.4
Construction	2.5	2.4	2.5	4.2	0.0
Manufacturing	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	15.4	15.2	14.6	1.3	5.5
Trade, Transport., & Utilities	5.1	5.1	4.6	0.0	10.9
Information	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.0	16.7
Professional & Bus. Services	1.7	1.7	1.7	0.0	0.0
Educational & Health Serv.	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality	1.9	1.8	1.8	5.6	5.6
Other Services	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.0	0.0
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	4.1	4.0	4.0	2.5	2.5
SWEETWATER COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	24.6	24.6	23.1	0.0	6.5
TOTAL PRIVATE	20.4	20.4	18.9	0.0	7.9
GOODS PRODUCING	9.1	9.1	8.0	0.0	13.8
Natural Resources & Mining	5.9	5.9	5.2	0.0	13.5
Construction	2.0	2.0	1.6	0.0	25.0
Manufacturing	1.2	1.2	1.2	0.0	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	15.5	15.5	15.1	0.0	2.6
Trade, Transport., & Utilities	4.9	4.9	4.9	0.0	0.0
Information	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.0
Professional & Bus. Services	1.2	1.2	1.0	0.0	20.0
Educational & Health Serv.	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.0	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality	2.3	2.3	2.3	0.0	0.0
Other Services	1.0	1.0	0.8	0.0	25.0
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	4.2	4.2	4.2	0.0	0.0
TETON COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	17.1	17.1	16.8	0.0	1.8
TOTAL PRIVATE	14.9	14.9	14.6	0.0	2.1
GOODS PRODUCING	2.3	2.3	2.1	0.0	9.5
Nat. Res., Mining & Const.	2.1	2.1	1.9	0.0	10.5
Manufacturing	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	14.8	14.8	14.7	0.0	0.7
Trade, Transport., & Utilities	2.5	2.5	2.4	0.0	4.2
Information	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.0	0.0
Professional & Bus. Services	1.5	1.5	1.5	0.0	0.0
Educational & Health Serv.	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.0	12.5
Leisure & Hospitality	6.0	6.0	6.1	0.0	-1.6
Other Services	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.0
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	2.2	2.2	2.2	0.0	0.0

State Unemployment Rates March 2007 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	10.0
Michigan	7.2
Mississippi	6.8
Alaska	6.6
Kentucky	5.8
Oregon	5.8
South Carolina	5.8
Wisconsin	5.6
Ohio	5.5
District of Columbia	5.4
Arkansas	5.1
California	5.1
Indiana	5.0
Maine	5.0
Missouri	5.0
Tennessee	5.0
Washington	5.0
Minnesota	4.9
West Virginia	4.9
Massachusetts	4.8
New Jersey	4.6
Rhode Island	4.6
Illinois	4.5
North Carolina	4.5
United States	4.5
Vermont	4.4
Connecticut	4.3
Kansas	4.3
Nevada	4.3
New York	4.3
Oklahoma	4.3
New Hampshire	4.2
Pennsylvania	4.2
Texas	4.2
Colorado	4.0
Georgia	4.0
North Dakota	4.0
Arizona	3.8
Louisiana	3.8
Idaho	3.7
Iowa	3.7
South Dakota	3.7
Delaware	3.6
Maryland	3.6
New Mexico	3.6
Wyoming	3.4
Alabama	3.3
Florida	3.2
Virginia	3.1
Nebraska	2.9
Montana	2.8
Utah	2.5
Hawaii	2.4

Economic Indicators

by: *Margaret Hiatt, Administrative/Survey Support Specialist*

The Baker Hughes Rig Count for Wyoming rose slightly from February to March (up from 73 to 76) but remained well below its March 2006 level (98).

	Mar 2007 (p)	Feb 2007 (r)	Mar 2006 (b)	Percent Change Month Year	
Wyoming Total Civilian Labor Force	286,527	283,874	280,751	0.9	2.1
Unemployed	9,619	8,972	9,664	7.2	-0.5
Employed	276,908	274,902	271,087	0.7	2.1
Wyoming Unemp. Rate/Seasonally Adjusted	3.4%/2.6%	3.2%/2.3%	3.4%/2.8%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Unemployment Rate/Seasonally Adjusted	4.5%/4.4%	4.9%/4.5%	4.8%/4.7%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Multiple Jobholders	7,808,000	7,753,000	7,589,000	0.7	2.9
As a percent of all workers	5.4%	5.4%	5.3%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Discouraged Workers	381,000	375,000	451,000	1.6	-15.5
U.S. Part-Time for Economic Reasons	4,384,000	4,417,000	4,097,000	-0.7	7.0
Hours & Earnings for Production Workers					
Wyoming Mining					
Average Weekly Earnings	\$1,195.74	\$1,190.32	\$1,087.64	0.5	9.9
Average Weekly Hours	46.8	46.9	46.5	-0.2	0.6
U.S. Mining Hours & Earnings					
Average Weekly Earnings	\$979.66	\$973.10	\$903.28	0.7	8.5
Average Weekly Hours	45.8	45.6	45.3	0.4	1.1
Wyoming Manufacturing Hours & Earnings					
Average Weekly Earnings	\$678.02	\$665.93	\$669.02	1.8	1.3
Average Weekly Hours	40.6	39.9	40.4	1.8	0.5
U.S. Manufacturing Hours & Earnings					
Average Weekly Earnings	\$701.17	\$689.31	\$684.29	1.7	2.5
Average Weekly Hours	41.1	40.5	41.0	1.5	0.2
Wyoming Unemployment Insurance					
Weeks Compensated	13,000	13,745	13,948	-5.4	-6.8
Benefits Paid	\$3,543,190	\$3,716,414	\$3,449,881	-4.7	2.7
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	\$272.55	\$270.38	\$247.34	0.8	10.2
State Insured Covered Jobs	255,047	252,311	245,060	1.1	4.1
Insured Unemployment Rate	1.5%	1.4%	1.5%	N/A	N/A
Consumer Price Index (U) for All U.S. Urban Consumers (1982 to 1984 = 100) - All Items					
Food & Beverages	205.4	203.5	199.8	0.9	2.8
Housing	200.9	200.4	194.5	0.2	3.3
Apparel	208.1	207.2	201.3	0.4	3.4
Transportation	122.6	119.0	122.0	3.0	0.5
Medical Care	180.3	174.8	177.4	3.2	1.7
Recreation (Dec. 1997=100)	347.2	346.5	333.8	0.2	4.0
Education & Comm. (Dec. 1997=100)	111.2	111.2	110.6	0.0	0.6
Other Goods & Services	118.2	118.0	115.6	0.2	2.3
Producer Prices (1982 to 1984 = 100) - All Commodities	331.1	330.5	320.0	0.2	3.5
Wyoming Building Permits (New Privately Owned Housing Units Authorized)					
Total Units	315	166	259	89.8	21.6
Valuation	\$66,132,000	\$30,923,000	\$53,656,000	113.9	23.3
Single Family Homes	263	115	222	128.7	18.5
Valuation	\$59,860,000	\$27,139,000	\$50,194,000	120.6	19.3
Baker Hughes North American Rotary Rig Count for WY	76	73	98	4.1	-22.4

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

Wyoming County Unemployment Rates

by: Roy Azar, Economist

Big Horn County posted the highest unemployment rate (4.7%) and was followed by Fremont County (4.6%) and Washakie & Platte counties (both 4.5%).

REGION County	Labor Force			Employed			Unemployed			Unemployment Rates		
	Mar 2007 (p)	Feb 2007 (p)	Mar 2006 (b)	Mar 2007 (p)	Feb 2007 (p)	Mar 2006 (b)	Mar 2007 (p)	Feb 2007 (p)	Mar 2006 (b)	Mar 2007 (p)	Feb 2007 (p)	Mar 2006 (b)
NORTHWEST	42,794	42,327	43,284	40,898	40,563	41,251	1,896	1,764	2,033	4.4	4.2	4.7
Big Horn	5,412	5,327	5,274	5,155	5,109	5,018	257	218	256	4.7	4.1	4.9
Fremont	17,543	17,352	17,960	16,739	16,593	17,079	804	759	881	4.6	4.4	4.9
Hot Springs	2,309	2,266	2,319	2,210	2,180	2,217	99	86	102	4.3	3.8	4.4
Park	13,387	13,234	13,510	12,839	12,717	12,917	548	517	593	4.1	3.9	4.4
Washakie	4,143	4,148	4,221	3,955	3,964	4,020	188	184	201	4.5	4.4	4.8
NORTHEAST	52,284	50,907	49,332	50,724	49,513	47,940	1,560	1,394	1,392	3.0	2.7	2.8
Campbell	26,547	25,498	23,756	25,947	24,964	23,229	600	534	527	2.3	2.1	2.2
Crook	3,335	3,259	3,304	3,219	3,153	3,211	116	106	93	3.5	3.3	2.8
Johnson	3,770	3,695	3,759	3,623	3,556	3,643	147	139	116	3.9	3.8	3.1
Sheridan	15,586	15,465	15,369	15,005	14,954	14,825	581	511	544	3.7	3.3	3.5
Weston	3,046	2,990	3,144	2,930	2,886	3,032	116	104	112	3.8	3.5	3.6
SOUTHWEST	62,709	62,405	59,456	60,988	60,828	57,745	1,721	1,577	1,711	2.7	2.5	2.9
Lincoln	8,217	8,203	7,577	7,928	7,917	7,241	289	286	336	3.5	3.5	4.4
Sublette	5,799	5,763	5,360	5,697	5,666	5,264	102	97	96	1.8	1.7	1.8
Sweetwater	24,347	24,070	22,509	23,702	23,497	21,918	645	573	591	2.6	2.4	2.6
Teton	13,594	13,627	13,054	13,256	13,323	12,717	338	304	337	2.5	2.2	2.6
Uinta	10,752	10,742	10,956	10,405	10,425	10,605	347	317	351	3.2	3.0	3.2
SOUTHEAST	72,427	72,121	73,464	69,666	69,512	70,726	2,761	2,609	2,738	3.8	3.6	3.7
Albany	18,874	18,936	19,720	18,329	18,446	19,163	545	490	557	2.9	2.6	2.8
Goshen	5,900	5,846	5,922	5,696	5,645	5,651	204	201	271	3.5	3.4	4.6
Laramie	42,656	42,411	42,658	40,852	40,700	40,963	1,804	1,711	1,695	4.2	4.0	4.0
Niobrara	1,119	1,103	1,117	1,086	1,074	1,079	33	29	38	2.9	2.6	3.4
Platte	3,878	3,825	4,047	3,703	3,647	3,870	175	178	177	4.5	4.7	4.4
CENTRAL	56,317	56,113	55,217	54,634	54,486	53,426	1,683	1,627	1,791	3.0	2.9	3.2
Carbon	8,171	8,146	7,501	7,902	7,886	7,209	269	260	292	3.3	3.2	3.9
Converse	6,935	6,867	7,010	6,714	6,647	6,755	221	220	255	3.2	3.2	3.6
Natrona	41,211	41,100	40,706	40,018	39,953	39,462	1,193	1,147	1,244	2.9	2.8	3.1
STATEWIDE	286,527	283,874	280,751	276,908	274,902	271,087	9,619	8,972	9,664	3.4	3.2	3.4
Statewide Seasonally Adjusted										2.6	2.3	2.8
U.S.....										4.5	4.9	4.8
U.S. Seasonally Adjusted.....										4.4	4.5	4.7

Prepared in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Benchmarked 02/07. Run Date 04/07.

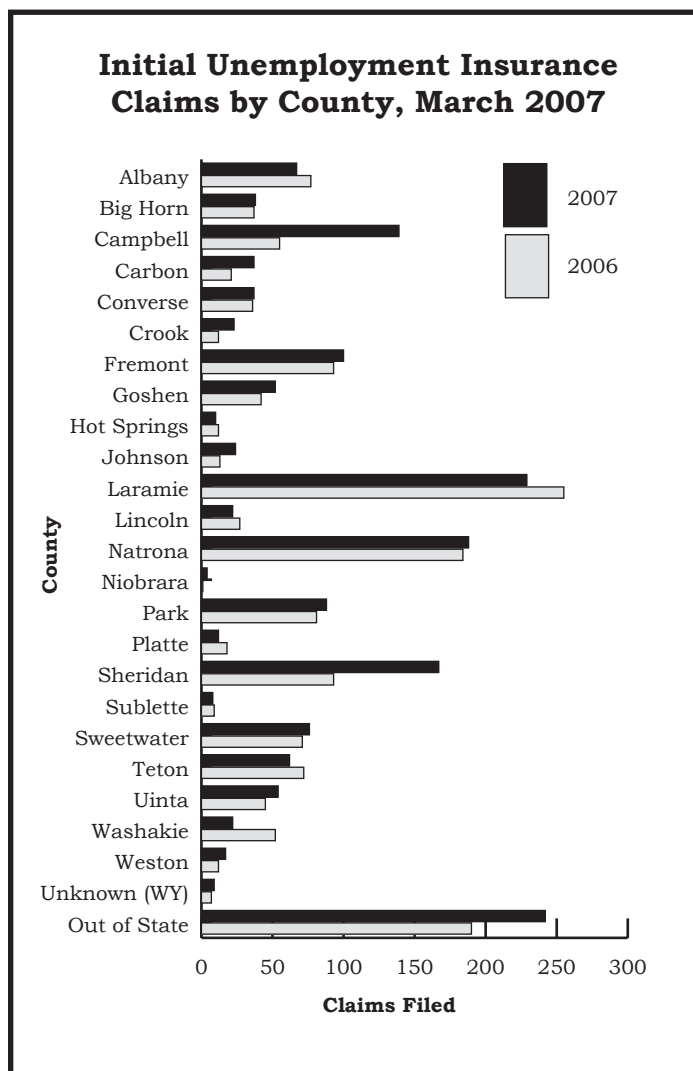
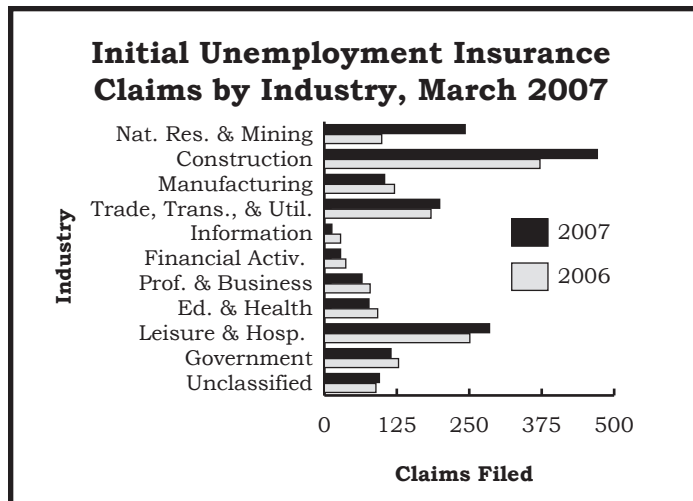
Data are not seasonally adjusted except where otherwise specified.

(p) Preliminary. (b) Benchmarked.

Wyoming Normalized Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Initial Claims

by: Douglas W. Leonard, Senior Research Analyst

March initial claims increased by 13.6% over the year. Services claims fell by 1.8% and goods claims increased by 38.2% compared to this time last year.



WYOMING STATEWIDE	Claims Filed		Percent Change Claims Filed	
	Mar07	Mar06	Mar07	Mar06
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	1,722	1,516	-7.6	13.6
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	818	592	-19.6	38.2
Natural Resources and Mining	243	99	3.4	145.5
Mining	227	76	1.3	198.7
Oil & Gas Extraction	32	5	18.5	540.0
Construction	471	372	-22.9	26.6
Manufacturing	104	121	-39.2	-14.0
TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING	694	707	13.2	-1.8
Trade, Trans., Storage, & Util.	199	184	-16.0	8.2
Wholesale Trade	41	29	-4.7	41.4
Retail Trade	90	114	-26.2	-21.1
Trans., Storage, & Utilities	68	41	-5.6	65.9
Information	13	28	-27.8	-53.6
Financial Activities	28	37	47.4	-24.3
Professional & Business Serv.	65	79	-41.4	-17.7
Educational & Health Serv.	77	92	-3.8	-16.3
Leisure & Hospitality	285	251	182.2	13.5
Other Services	27	36	-42.6	-25.0
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	115	128	-16.1	-10.2
Federal Government	56	55	-13.8	1.8
State Government	19	21	0.0	-9.5
Local Government	40	52	-24.5	-23.1
Local Education	10	16	-33.3	-37.5
UNCLASSIFIED	95	89	-1.0	6.7

LARAMIE COUNTY	Claims Filed	Percent Change		
	2007	2006	2007	2006
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	226	278	-18.7	-12.1
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	87	128	-40.4	-32.0
Construction	74	106	-41.3	-30.2
TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING	113	104	13.0	8.7
Trade, Trans., Storage, & Util.	32	35	-23.8	-8.6
Financial Activities	6	7	100.0	-14.3
Professional & Business Serv.	20	13	42.9	53.8
Educational & Health Services	19	18	5.6	5.6
Leisure & Hospitality	28	23	115.4	21.7
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	13	18	-43.5	-27.8
UNCLASSIFIED	13	7	44.4	85.7

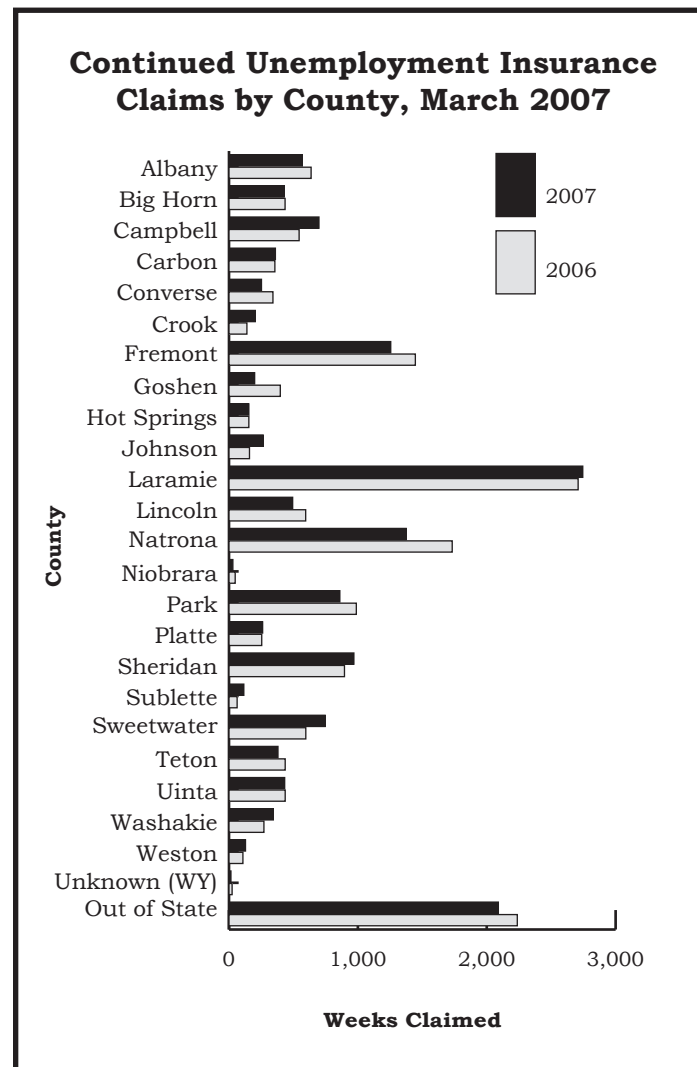
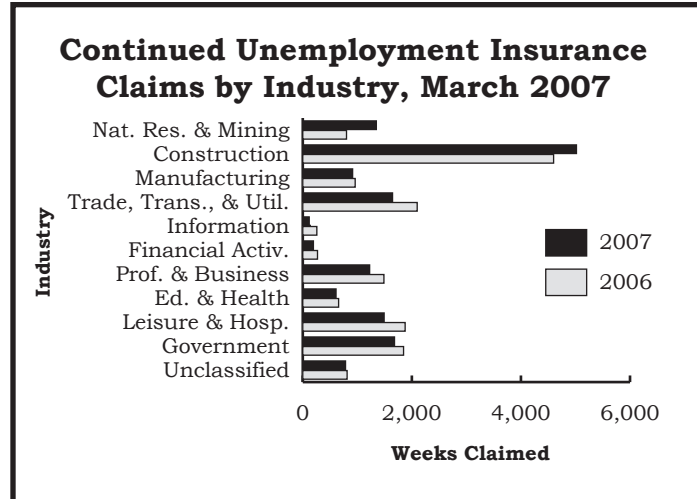
NATRONA COUNTY	Claims Filed	Percent Change		
	2007	2006	2007	2006
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	186	196	-5.1	0.0
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	104	82	7.2	26.8
Construction	79	61	25.4	29.5
TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING	75	92	-17.6	-18.5
Trade, Trans., Storage, & Util.	25	37	-32.4	-32.4
Financial Activities	5	7	400.0	-28.6
Professional & Business Serv.	6	11	-50.0	-45.5
Educational & Health Services	11	15	-38.9	-26.7
Leisure & Hospitality	22	14	37.5	57.1
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	4	9	0.0	-55.6
UNCLASSIFIED	3	3	-25.0	0.0

Wyoming Normalized Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Continued Claims

by: Douglas W. Leonard, Senior Research Analyst

Continued claims were sharply lower than last year in Retail Trade, Information, Professional & Business Services, and Leisure & Hospitality.

WYOMING STATEWIDE	Percent Change				
	Weeks Claimed				
	Weeks Claimed	Feb07	Mar06	Mar07	Mar07
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	15,366	16,650	16,003	-7.7	-4.0
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	4,626	4,868	4,097	-5.0	12.9
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	7,281	7,949	6,362	-8.4	14.4
Natural Resources and Mining	1,349	1,086	802	24.2	68.2
Mining	1,206	934	676	29.1	78.4
Oil & Gas Extraction	154	117	76	31.6	102.6
Construction	5,018	5,961	4,599	-15.8	9.1
Manufacturing	914	902	961	1.3	-4.9
TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING	5,619	6,021	6,980	-6.7	-19.5
Trade, Trans., Storage, & Util.	1,646	1,765	2,098	-6.7	-21.5
Wholesale Trade	277	246	275	12.6	0.7
Retail Trade	898	953	1,383	-5.8	-35.1
Trans., Storage, & Utilities	471	566	440	-16.8	7.0
Information	118	117	258	0.9	-54.3
Financial Activities	195	196	270	-0.5	-27.8
Professional & Business Serv.	1,226	1,468	1,488	-16.5	-17.6
Educational & Health Serv.	610	507	657	20.3	-7.2
Leisure & Hospitality	1,492	1,627	1,877	-8.3	-20.5
Other Services	332	341	332	-2.6	0.0
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	1,682	1,814	1,848	-7.3	-9.0
Federal Government	839	918	937	-8.6	-10.5
State Government	229	211	206	8.5	11.2
Local Government	614	685	705	-10.4	-12.9
Local Education	92	96	135	-4.2	-31.9
UNCLASSIFIED	784	866	813	-9.5	-3.6
LARAMIE COUNTY					
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	2,743	3,171	2,709	-13.5	1.3
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	810	928	689	-12.7	17.6
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	1,435	1,776	1,164	-19.2	23.3
Construction	1,302	1,563	1,028	-16.7	26.7
TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING	1,026	1,108	1,265	-16.7	-18.9
Trade, Trans., Storage, & Util.	367	420	549	-55.0	-33.2
Financial Activities	43	46	58	-6.5	-25.9
Professional & Business Serv.	237	298	279	-20.5	-15.1
Educational & Health Services	150	125	135	20.0	11.1
Leisure & Hospitality	101	101	141	0.0	-28.4
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	209	188	187	11.2	11.8
UNCLASSIFIED	73	99	93	-26.3	-21.5
NATRONA COUNTY					
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	1,373	1,657	1,730	-17.1	-20.6
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	433	511	476	-15.3	-9.0
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	643	882	779	-27.1	-17.5
Construction	404	705	613	-42.7	-34.1
TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING	620	637	849	-2.7	-27.0
Trade, Trans., Storage, & Util.	203	208	274	-2.4	-25.9
Financial Activities	10	10	61	0.0	-83.6
Professional & Business Serv.	146	186	228	-21.5	-36.0
Educational & Health Services	106	75	86	41.3	23.3
Leisure & Hospitality	94	79	111	19.0	-15.3
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	78	98	76	-20.4	2.6
UNCLASSIFIED	32	40	26	-20.0	23.1



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