

Meet FESS: The Family Economic Self-Sufficiency Standard By: Sara Saulcy, Senior Economist

The federal poverty guideline is the most commonly used measure of sufficiency of income for families. However, the guideline uses only the cost of food to estimate other non-food, cost-of-living expenses. In an attempt to more completely describe the income that families require to take care of their basic needs, the Family Economic Self-Sufficiency Standard (FESS) was developed. It defines income on the basis of family composition, location by county, and other factors such as housing, child care, and transportation. FESS tends to be higher, sometimes significantly, than the federal poverty guideline. FESS permits workers, and those assisting them, to more fully appreciate the earnings required to be self-sufficient without public or private assistance.

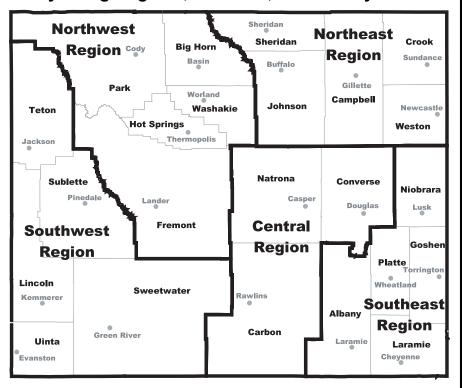
In the United States, the federal poverty guideline (hereafter referred to as the guideline) is the most commonly used measure of the adequacy of income for families. Prepared by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), the guideline (or some increment of it) is used to determine eligibility for programs such as Head Start, the Food Stamp Program, and the Children's Health Insurance Program. Food is the only expense used for the guideline's development. The guideline reflects only the number of people in a household, not different family compositions (e.g., one adult and an infant; two adults, an infant, and a school-aged child). With the exception of Alaska and Hawaii, the guideline is the same across the states (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2004). For most families, the guideline fails to provide enough income to meet their basic needs (Pearce, 2005).

(Text continued on page 3)

HIGHLIGHTS

- All of Wyoming's five regions demonstrated positive employment growth rates. Northeast Wyoming demonstrated the strongest over-the-year increase in its employment growth rate....page 7
- Wyoming's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell in June, while U.S. unemployment was unchanged. The state's unemployment rate has been lower than the U.S. average since December 2000, and the number of new jobs in Wyoming continued to grow at a pace faster than the national average....page 8

Wyoming Regions, Counties, and County Seats



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In an attempt to address the discrepancy between the guideline and what families really need to be selfsufficient, Wider Opportunities for Women developed FESS – the Family Economic Self-Sufficiency Standard – in 1996.

Defining Self-Sufficiency

What does it mean to be self-sufficient? FESS defines it as the amount of income needed for various family compositions to meet basic needs without public or private assistance. FESS takes into account housing, child care, food, transportation, health care, taxes on a net basis, and miscellaneous expenses such as shoes, paper products, nonprescription medicine, diapers, and cleaning products. These costs are then measured for different geographic locations and family compositions. FESS standards have been developed for Wyoming and 32 other states, the District of Columbia, and New York City (Wider Opportunities for Women, n.d.).

The FESS standard for Wyoming was prepared in the winter of 2005 for Governor Dave Freudenthal's Office by Dr. Diana Pearce, who was then Director of the Women and Table: 2004 Family Economic Self-Sufficiency Standard for Two Adults, One Preschool Child, and One School-Age Child in Johnson County, Wyoming

Expenses	Amount		
Housing	\$488		
Child Care	\$501		
Food	\$712		
Transportation	\$356		
Health Care	\$288		
Miscellaneous	\$235		
Taxes	\$292		
Total Expenses	\$2,872		
Credits	Amount		
Earned Income Tax Credit	\$85		
Child Care Tax Credit	\$71		
Child Tax Credit	\$167		
Total Credits	\$323		
Self-Sufficier	ncy Wage		
(Expenses Min	us Credits)		
(Expenses Min Monthly	\$2,550 combined		

Source: Wyoming Department of Workforce Services. (n.d.). Self Sufficiency Standard and Personal Calculator. Retrieved July 24, 2006, from http://www.wyomingworkforce.org/resources/ss_index.aspx

Poverty Project at Wider Opportunities for Women. The study provides a selfsufficiency standard for every Wyoming county and the Wind River Indian Reservation.

Comparing FESS to the Federal Poverty Guideline

To understand how FESS is different from the federal poverty guideline, we compare the 2004 FESS standard for a family of four in Johnson County to the 2004 federal poverty guideline. For purposes of the example we assume that the family consists of two adults, one preschool child, and one school-aged child.

The Self-Sufficiency Standard and Personal Calculator on the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services website (http://www.wyomingworkfo rce.org/resources/ss_index .aspx) indicates the FESS standard for the family was \$30,598. The 2004 federal poverty guideline for a family of four (the guideline is defined for only the number of people in the household) was \$18,850. The Table shows the elements contributing to the FESS standard in the example. While the largest expense is food, nearly \$1,000 per month goes towards housing and child care, expenses not explicitly

accounted for by the federal poverty guideline.

FESS and Occupations

How do we know what occupations pay wages that meet or exceed the FESS standard? As another example, consider Susan, a high school-educated single woman with an infant living in Sweetwater County. Returning to the Self Sufficiency Standard and Personal Calculator, we find that the FESS standard for this family is \$11.63 per hour, or \$24,561 annually. Susan has an interest in health care, in particular nursing or a related field, and would like to stay in Sweetwater County for her training. To determine what training options are available from Western Wyoming Community College (WWCC), we go to the Courses and Programs page of their website at http://www.wwcc.wy .edu/courses.htm. Selecting Academic Degree Programs then choosing Nursing, we find that WWCC offers an associate's degree in the field. Returning to the main Courses and Programs page, we select Certificates and find that a certificate is available in Practical Nursing.

Now that we know about training availability, we turn to Research & Planning's Estimates Delivery System at http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/oes.htm. To find occupational wage information by county, we click the link under the OES header that says "County and Regional Wages." Wage information for potential nursing occupations where Susan lives is accessed by clicking on Sweetwater County, then clicking on Health Care Practitioner and Technical Occupations. The average hourly wage for Registered Nurses is \$22.16 per hour, while the hourly wage for Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses is \$15.91 per hour. Clicking the arrow pointing to the right at the bottom of the occupations

list, we see that Home Health Aides earn average hourly wages of \$8.56 per hour, while Nursing Aides, Orderlies, and Attendants earn average hourly wages of \$9.84.

Based on the comparison of the Sweetwater County FESS standard to training opportunities and wages for occupations in which Susan is interested, her best options are to acquire training towards either of two nursing degrees, an associate's in Nursing or a certificate in Practical Nursing. The training will then permit Susan to work as a Registered Nurse or a Licensed Practical or Licensed Vocational Nurse. The wages Susan earns in any of these nursing occupations will permit her to earn adequate income that supports both herself and her infant without public or private assistance.

Conclusions

FESS allows workers – and those assisting them – to better understand what wages need to be earned for families to be self-sufficient based on family composition and location. Occupational wages can be compared against FESS as a way to guide education and training needs. Rather than the "one size fits all" approach of the federal poverty guidelines, FESS is adapted to local economic and social conditions. The more detailed standards help in understanding what it truly means to be self-sufficient.

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The Labor Market Impact of Hurricane Katrina

Excerpted from the Monthly Labor Review, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, August 2006

ast August and September, Louisiana's 397 miles of gulf shoreline were breached twice by significant

hurricanes. Hurricane Katrina, the more violent and destructive of the two, also wreaked havoc on the shorelines of Mississippi and Alabama, and tore inland through a wide swath of eastern Louisiana and western Mississippi. Hurricane Rita lashed western Louisiana and eastern Texas. This issue of the Review examines the impacts of these storms from several perspectives: labor market impacts on the local economies,

REVIEW NURRICANE KATRINA

agencies, and the nature of the coastal economy at risk.

The displacement of people and destruction of property complicated the collection of labor force information from households and businesses in the Bureau of Labor Statistics employment programs. A further description of the BLS adjustments to data collection and estimation methodologies for Katrina-affected areas is available in accompanying articles in the August issue of the Monthly Labor Review

program impacts on the Bureau of Labor Statistics [BLS] and other data-gathering

(Vol. 129, No. 8) or online at http://stats .bls.gov/opub/mlr/2006/08/contents.htm.

Find your ANSWERS at http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/ANSWERS/

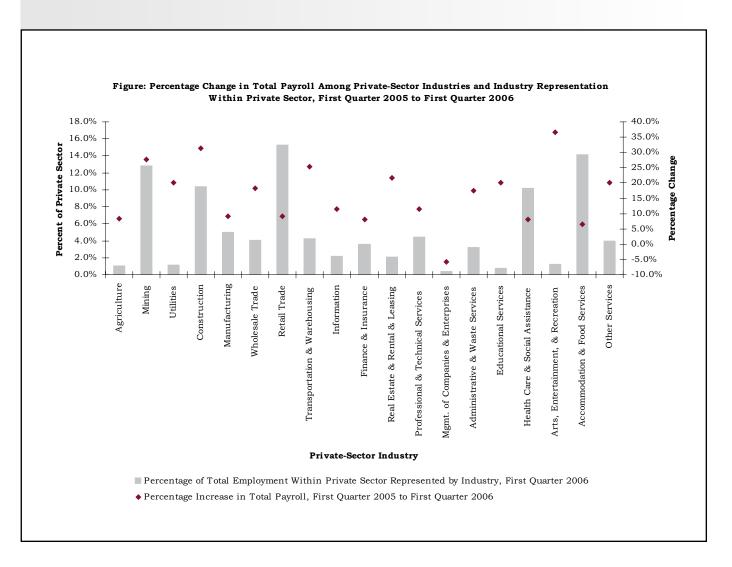
Wyoming Total Payroll Increases by 15.0%

by: Phil Ellsworth, Information Specialist

Preliminary numbers from the Unemployment Insurance covered employment indicate a total payroll increase of 15.0% from first quarter 2005 to first quarter 2006. This is an over-the-year increase of more than \$285.4 million. Industries contributing to the majority of total payroll increases included: Mining, which grew by an estimated \$90.2 million or 27.8%; Construction, which was up by \$43.2 million or 31.3%; Transportation & Warehousing, which increased \$15.5 million or 25.3%; and Wholesale Trade, up \$13.9 million or 18.2%.

The largest percentage increase of any industry was the estimated 36.5% rise in Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation. However, the industry's increase of \$3.1 million represents only 1.2% of the state's total private-sector payroll increase.

Only one industry, Management of Companies & Enterprises, saw a decrease in payroll. That industry declined in total payroll \$950,926 or 5.7%. It also represents a small share of the state's employment and earnings, just 0.4% of total private-sector employment in first quarter 2006.



Local Area Unemployment Statistics for First Quarter 2006 by: Roy Azar, Economist

The Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program produces monthly and annual employment, unemployment, and labor force data for states, counties, and metropolitan areas by place of residence. First quarter LAUS averages were calculated for Wyoming and its counties and regions for 2006 and 2005. Comparing LAUS quarterly averages aids us in viewing Wyoming's economic trends at the state, county, and regional levels.

During first quarter 2006, employment increased by 2.8% (7,591) from first quarter

2005 to a total of 274,844 employed (see Table). The number of unemployed in first quarter 2006 fell 1.5% (179). Over the same period, total labor force (the number of employed and unemployed) grew by 7,412 people (2.7%) to a total of 286,218 and the unemployment rate fell from 4.1% to 4.0%.

All of Wyoming's five regions demonstrated positive employment growth rates. Northeast Wyoming demonstrated the strongest over-the-year increase with a 4.6% employment growth rate (2,133 people). Included in the Northeast region

		Labor Fo				<u>Employn</u>	<u>ient</u>		Unemployment				Unemployment R		<u>nt Rate</u>
REGION/	First Q	Quarter	Cha	Change		uarter	Cha	nge	First Q	uarter	Cha	ange	First Q	uarter	%
County	2006	2005	n	%	2006	2005	n	%	2006	2005	n	%	2006	2005	Change
NORTHWEST	44,522	43,488	1,033	2.4	42,241	41,208	1,033	2.5	2,281	2,281	0	0.0	5.1	5.2	-0.1
Big Horn	5,506	5,228	278	5.3	5,212	4,925	287	5.8	294	303	-9	-3.0	5.3	5.8	-0.5
Fremont	18,302	17,911	391	2.2	17,314	16,923	392	2.3	988	988	-1	-0.1	5.4	5.5	-0.1
Hot Springs	2,314	2,328	-14	-0.6	2,199	2,227	-28	-1.2	115	101	14	13.5	4.9	4.3	0.6
Park	13,968	13,728	240	1.8	13,291	13,054	236	1.8	678	674	4	0.6	4.9	4.9	0.0
Washakie	4,432	4,294	138	3.2	4,225	4,079	146	3.6	207	215	-8	-3.7	4.7	5.0	-0.3
NORTHEAST	50,358	48,338	2,020	4.2	48,683	46,550	2,133	4.6	1,675	1,787	-113	-6.3	3.3	3.7	-0.4
Campbell	24,527	23,055	1,472	6.4	23,872	22,386	1,487	6.6	655	669	-14	-2.1	2.7	2.9	-0.2
Crook	3,276	3,162	114	3.6	3,163	3,027	136	4.5	113	135	-22	-16.5	3.4	4.3	-0.8
Johnson	3,817	3,668	149	4.1	3,683	3,503	180	5.1	134	165	-31	-18.8	3.5	4.5	-1.0
Sheridan	15,456	15,208	249	1.6	14,821	14,534	288	2.0	635	674	-39	-5.8	4.1	4.5	-0.4
Weston	3,282	3,245	37	1.1	3,144	3,101	43	1.4	138	144	-6	-4.2	4.2	4.4	-0.2
SOUTHWEST	60,979	58,645	2,334	4.0	58,887	56,522	2,365	4.2	2,092	2,123	-31	-1.5	3.4	3.6	-0.2
Lincoln	7,833	7,754	79	1.0	7,453	7,380	73	1.0	380	374	5	1.4	4.8	4.8	0.0
Sublette	5,428	4,584	844	18.4	5,321	4,485	836	18.6	107	99	8	7.7	2.0	2.2	-0.2
Sweetwater	23,110	22,471	640	2.8	22,349	21,706	643	3.0	761	765	-4	-0.5	3.3	3.4	-0.1
Teton	13,631	13,226	405	3.1	13,226	12,802	424	3.3	405	424	-19	-4.5	3.0	3.2	-0.2
Uinta	10,977	10,610	366	3.5	10,537	10,149	388	3.8	440	461	-21	-4.6	4.0	4.3	-0.3
SOUTHEAST	74,607	73,954	653	0.9	71,399	70,742	657	0.9	3,208	3,212	-4	-0.1	4.3	4.3	0.0
Albany	20,428	20,416	12	0.1	19,758	19,782	-24	-0.1	670	633	37	5.8	3.3	3.1	0.2
Goshen	5,886	5,806	79	1.4	5,592	5,509	83	1.5	294	298	-4	-1.3	5.0	5.1	-0.2
Laramie	43,108	42,508	599	1.4	41,132	40,509	623	1.5	1,976	1,999	-23	-1.2	4.6	4.7	-0.1
Niobrara	1,127	1,126	1	0.1	1,080	1,076	4	0.4	47	51	-4	-7.2	4.2	4.5	-0.4
Platte	4,059	4,097	-39	-0.9	3,838	3,867	-29	-0.8	221	231	-10	-4.2	5.5	5.6	-0.2
CENTRAL	55,753	54,382	1,371	2.5	53,634	52,231	1,403	2.7	2,119	2,151	-32	-1.5	3.8	4.0	-0.2
Carbon	7,664	7,633	31	0.4	7,309	7,280	29	0.4	355	353	2	0.6	4.6	4.6	0.0
Converse	7,016	6,696	320	4.8	6,723	6,414	309	4.8	293	282	11	3.8	4.2	4.2	0.0
Natrona	41,073	40,053	1,021	2.5	39,602	38,537	1,065	2.8	1,471	1,515	-44	-2.9	3.6	3.8	-0.2

are Campbell County (6.6%); Crook (4.5%); Johnson (5.1%); Sheridan (2.0%); and Weston (1.4%). The Northeast region had an unemployment rate of 3.3%, which is a 0.4% decline from first quarter last year.

All but 7 of Wyoming's 23 counties saw an over-the-year drop in unemployment. Noticeably, the two counties with the largest decrease in total unemployment are Crook and Johnson, with decreases of 16.5% and 18.8%, respectively. The two largest increases in unemployment came from Albany and Hot Springs counties. Albany County had an unemployment increase of 5.8% to a total unemployment rate of 3.3%. The total unemployment in Hot Springs County grew 13.5% from first quarter last year.

Wyoming had a positive labor force increase in all but two counties. The largest increase in total labor force came from Sublette County, with a total increase of 844 people (18.4%). Platte and Hot Springs counties had minimal decreases in labor force with reductions of 0.9% and 0.6%, respectively.

Wyoming Unemployment Falls in June 2006

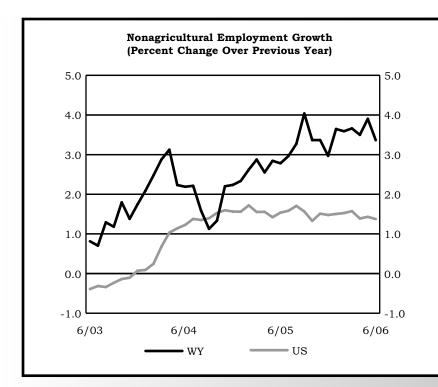
by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

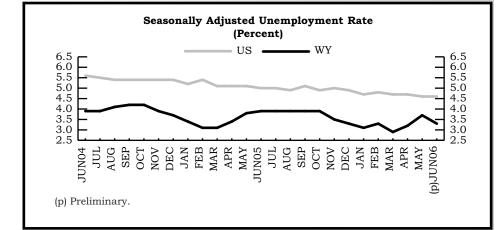
Wyoming's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell from 3.7% in May to 3.3% in June. U.S. unemployment was unchanged at 4.6% in June. The state's unemployment rate has been lower than the U.S. average since December 2000. The number of new jobs in Wyoming continued to grow at a faster-than-average pace (3.4% job growth in Wyoming, compared to 1.4% in the U.S.).

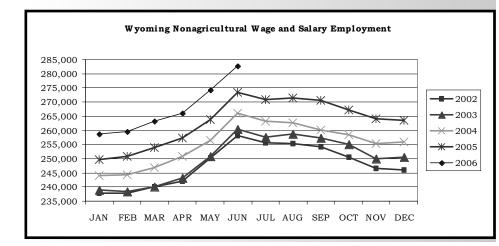
From May to June, Wyoming gained 8,400 jobs or 3.1%. This increase is consistent with normal seasonal patterns. Employment increased sharply in Leisure & Hospitality (5,100 jobs or 15.9%) as the summer tourist season got into full swing. Other notable increases were seen in Construction (800 jobs or 3.5%), Retail Trade (1,300 jobs or 4.3%), and Professional & Business Services (600 jobs or 3.6%). Government employment fell slightly (-500 jobs or -0.7%) as some public schools and colleges began their summer break.

From June 2005 to June 2006, Wyoming added 9,200 jobs or 3.4%. Growth was seen across every major sector except Information (including newspapers, radio and television broadcasting, and telecommunications) which was unchanged from June 2005. Natural Resources & Mining (including oil & gas) dominated the job gains, with employment increasing by 2,800 or 12.2%. Rapid growth also occurred in Construction (1,500 jobs or 6.8%); Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities (800 jobs or 6.3%); and Professional & Business Services (700 jobs or 4.2%).

County unemployment rates, which were already low in May, declined further in June. Fremont and Goshen counties tied for the highest unemployment rate (4.2%), followed closely by Platte County (4.1%). The lowest unemployment rate was found in Sublette County (1.7%).







State Unemployment Rates June 2006 (Seasonally Adjusted)

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	Not Available
Mississippi	7.1
South Carolina	6.7
Alaska	6.6
Michigan	6.3
Kentucky	5.8
Tennessee	5.6
Rhode Island	5.5
District of Columbia	5.4
Oregon	5.4
Arkansas	5.2
Indiana	5.2
Ohio	5.1
Texas	5.1
Washington	5.1
Massachusetts	5.0
California New Jersey	4.9
	4.9 4.9
West Virginia Georgia	4.9
Missouri	4.7
Pennsylvania	4.7
Wisconsin	4.7
Kansas	4.6
Louisiana	4.6
Maine	4.6
New York	4.6
North Carolina	4.6
United States	4.6
Colorado	4.5
Illinois	4.5
Arizona	4.4
Nevada	4.2
Connecticut	4.1
New Mexico	4.1
Maryland	4.0
Oklahoma	3.9
Delaware	3.7
Alabama	3.6
Iowa	3.6
Minnesota	3.6 3.5
Idaho Montana	3.5
North Dakota	3.5
New Hampshire	3.3
Vermont	3.3
Wyoming	3.3
Hawaii	3.1
Nebraska	3.1
Utah	3.1
Virginia	3.1
Florida	3.0
South Dakota	3.0

Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

From May to June, employment increased sharply in Leisure & Hospitality (5,100 jobs or 15.9%) as the summer tourist season got into full swing.

WYOMING STATEWIDE		oloyment : nousands	<u>Total</u>	cent Ch Emplo	yment	LARAMIE COUNTY		oloyment i aousands	<u>Total</u>	ent Cha Employ ay06 J	ment
wronnid onribwibb	<u>Jun06(p)</u>	<u>May06(r)</u>				<u></u>	<u>Jun06(p)</u>	<u>May06(r)</u>			
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	282.6	274.2	273.4	3.1	3.4	TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	43.5	43.0	42.4	1.2	2.6
TOTAL PRIVATE	215.3 59.0	206.4 57.8	206.7 54.5	4.3	4.2 8.3	TOTAL PRIVATE GOODS PRODUCING	30.5 4.9	30.0 4.7	29.5 4.6	1.7 4.3	3.4 6.5
GOODS PRODUCING Natural Resources & Mining	25.7	25.4	22.9		12.2	Nat. Res., Mining, & Construction	3.3	3.1	3.0	4.3	
Mining	25.5	25.2	22.8		11.8	Manufacturing	1.6	1.6	1.6	0.0	0.0
Oil & Gas Extraction Mining Except Oil & Gas	4.1 8.6	4.1 8.3	3.8 7.9	0.0	7.9 8.9	SERVICE PROVIDING	38.6	38.3	37.8	0.8	2.1
Coal Mining	5.8	5.6	5.1		13.7	Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	9.4	9.2	9.1	2.2	3.3
Support Activities for Mining	12.8	12.8	11.1		15.3	Wholesale Trade	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.0
Support Act. for Oil & Gas Construction	8.8 23.4	8.7 22.6	7.8 21.9	1.1 3.5	12.8 6.8	Retail Trade Trans, Warehouse, & Utilities	5.8 2.8	$5.7 \\ 2.7$	5.8 2.5	1.8 3.7	0.0 12.0
Construction of Buildings	5.0	4.6	4.7	8.7	6.4	Information	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0
Heavy & Engineering Constr. Specialty Trade Contractors	6.7 11.7	6.4 11.6	6.0 11.2	4.7 0.9	11.7 4.5	Financial Activities Professional & Business Services	2.0 3.3	2.0 3.4	2.0 3.3	0.0 -2.9	0.0 0.0
Manufacturing	9.9	9.8	9.7	1.0	2.1	Educational & Health Services	3.5	3.5	3.3	0.0	6.1
Durable Goods	5.4	5.3	5.2	1.9	3.8	Leisure & Hospitality	4.7	4.5	4.5	4.4	4.4
Non-Durable Goods	4.5	4.5	4.5	0.0	0.0	Other Services	1.7	1.7	1.7	0.0	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	223.6		218.9	3.3	2.1	TOTAL GOVERNMENT	13.0	13.0	12.9	0.0	0.8
Trade, Trans., Warehouse, & Util. Wholesale Trade	53.3 8.2	51.7 8.1	51.8 7.9	$3.1 \\ 1.2$	2.9 3.8	Federal Government State Government	2.5 3.9	2.5 3.9	2.6 3.9	0.0 0.0	-3.8 0.0
Merchant Whisirs., Durable	8.2 5.2	8.1 5.1	4.7		3.8 10.6	Local Government	5.9 6.6	3.9 6.6	5.9 6.4	0.0	3.1
Retail Trade	31.7	30.4	31.3	4.3	1.3	Local Education	3.4	3.4	3.2	0.0	6.2
Motor Vehicle & Parts Dealers	4.5	4.4	4.4	2.3	2.3						
Bldg. Material & Garden Sup. Food & Beverage Stores	2.9 4.7	2.8 4.7	2.8 4.7	3.6 0.0	3.6 0.0	NATRONA COUNTY					
Grocery Stores	4.0	3.9	4.0	2.6	0.0						
Gasoline Stations General Merchandise Stores	4.2 6.3	4.0 5.8	4.2 6.2	5.0 8.6	0.0	TOTAL NONAC WACE & SALADY					
Miscellaneous Store Retailers	6.3 2.0	5.8 1.9	0.2 2.0	8.0 5.3	1.6 0.0	TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	39.4	38.8	37.7	1.5	4.5
Transport., Warehouse, & Util.	13.4	13.2	12.6	1.5	6.3						
Utilities	2.3 11.1	2.3 10.9	2.3 10.3	$0.0 \\ 1.8$	0.0 7.8	TOTAL PRIVATE	33.6 8.9	33.0 8.6	32.1 8.0	1.8 3.5 1	
Transportation & Warehousing Truck Transportation	3.9	3.8	3.7	2.6	5.4	GOODS PRODUCING Natural Resources & Mining	4.2	4.1	3.6	2.4	
Information	4.4	4.3	4.4	2.3	0.0	Construction	2.8	2.6	2.6	7.7	7.7
Financial Activities Finance & Insurance	11.3 7.0	11.1 6.9	11.0 6.9	1.8 1.4	$2.7 \\ 1.4$	Manufacturing	1.9	1.9	1.8	0.0	5.6
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	4.3	4.2	4.1	2.4	4.9	SERVICE PROVIDING	30.5	30.2	29.7	1.0	2.7
Professional & Business Services	17.4	16.8	16.7	3.6	4.2	Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	8.6	8.6	8.5	0.0	1.2
Prof., Scientific & Tech. Services Architect., Engineering & Rel.	8.9 2.6	8.7 2.6	8.3 2.4	2.3 0.0	7.2 8.3	Wholesale Trade Retail Trade	2.5 4.9	2.5 4.9	2.4 4.9	0.0 0.0	4.2 0.0
Mgmt. of Companies & Enterpr.	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.0	Transport., Warehouse, & Util.	1.2	1.2	1.2	0.0	0.0
Admin., Support & Waste Svcs.	7.7	7.3	7.6	5.5	1.3	Information	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0
Educational & Health Services Educational	22.6 2.2	22.6 2.2	22.0 2.1	0.0 0.0	2.7 4.8	Financial Activities Professional & Business Services	2.0 3.1	2.0 2.9	1.9 2.9	0.0 6.9	5.3 6.9
Health Care & Social Assistance	20.4	20.4	19.9	0.0	2.5	Educational & Health Services	4.7	4.7	4.7	0.9	0.9
Ambulatory Health Care	7.7	7.6	7.5	1.3	2.7	Leisure & Hospitality	3.9	3.8	3.8	2.6	2.6
Offices of Physicians Hospitals	3.1 2.9	3.1 2.9	3.0 2.9	0.0 0.0	3.3 0.0	Other Services	1.8	1.8	1.7	0.0	5.9
Nursing & Res. Care Facilities		4.5	4.4	0.0		TOTAL GOVERNMENT	5.8	5.8	5.6	0.0	3.6
Social Assistance	5.3	5.4	5.1	-1.9	3.9	Federal Government	0.7	0.6		16.7	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality Arts, Entertainment, & Rec.	37.1 3.4	32.0 2.7		15.9 25.9	1.6 0.0	State Government Local Government	0.7 4.4	0.7 4.5	0.7 4.2	0.0 -2.2	0.0 4.8
Accommodation & Food Services	33.7	29.3	33.1		1.8	Local Education	2.8	3.1	2.8	-9.7	0.0
Accommodation	14.1	10.8	13.7		2.9						
Food Serv. & Drinking Places Other Services	19.6 10.2	$\begin{array}{c} 18.5 \\ 10.1 \end{array}$	19.4 9.8	5.9 1.0	1.0 4.1						
Repair & Maintenance	3.4	3.3	3.1	3.0	9.7	Note: Current Employment Statistics part-time wage and salary workers in					
-						worked or received pay during the wee					10
TOTAL GOVERNMENT Federal Government	67.3 7.9	67.8 7.2	66.7 8.2	- 0.7 9.7	0.9 -3.7	month. Self-employed, domestic service	ces, and pe	ersonnel	of the ar	med for	
State Government	15.6	15.9		-1.9	1.3	are excluded. Data are not seasonally and Natrona County are published in					
State Govt. Education	6.1	6.8		-10.3	0.0	Statistics.	cooperatio	, witii ti	ie buiea	u UI Lidl	501
Local Government Local Govt. Education	43.8 21.4	44.7 23.2	43.1 21.0	-2.0 -7.8	1.6 1.9						
Hospitals	6.1	6.0	6.0		1.7	(p) Preliminary. (r) Revised.					

Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

(Continued)

CAMPBELL COUNTY		oloyment in nousands	<u>Total</u>	cent Ch <u>Emplo</u> <u>May06 J</u>	yment
<u> </u>	<u>Jun06</u>	<u>May06 Ju</u>			
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	25.7	25.0	24.3	2.8	5.8
TOTAL PRIVATE GOODS PRODUCING Natural Resources & Mining Construction Manufacturing	21.6 10.8 7.5 2.7 0.6	21.0 10.5 7.3 2.6 0.6	20.3 9.8 6.8 2.4 0.6	2.9 2.7 3.8	10.3
SERVICE PROVIDING Trade, Transport., & Utilities Information Financial Activities Professional & Bus. Services Educational & Health Serv. Leisure & Hospitality Other Services	14.9 4.8 0.2 0.6 1.7 0.8 1.8 0.9	14.5 4.7 0.2 0.6 1.6 0.7 1.8 0.9	1.6 0.8	$0.0 \\ 0.0 \\ 6.2 \\ 14.3 \\ 0.0$	4.3 0.0 0.0 6.2 0.0
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	4.1	4.0	4.0	2.5	2.5
SWEETWATER COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	23.7	23.6	22.8	0.4	3.9
TOTAL PRIVATE GOODS PRODUCING Natural Resources & Mining Construction Manufacturing	19.5 8.4 5.4 1.8 1.2	19.2 8.4 5.3 1.9 1.2	18.6 7.9 4.9 1.7 1.3	0.0 1.9 -5.3	
SERVICE PROVIDING Trade, Transport., & Utilities Information Financial Activities Professional & Bus. Services Educational & Health Serv. Leisure & Hospitality Other Services	15.3 4.9 0.2 0.8 1.1 0.9 2.5 0.7	15.2 4.8 0.2 0.8 1.0 0.9 2.4 0.7		$2.1 \\ 0.0 \\ 0.0 \\ 10.0 \\ 0.0 \\ 4.2$	6.5 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	4.2	4.4	4.2	-4.5	0.0
TETON COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	19.9	16.7	19.4	19.2	2.6
TOTAL PRIVATE GOODS PRODUCING Nat. Res., Mining & Const. Manufacturing	17.5 2.5 2.3 0.2	14.5 2.4 2.2 0.2	17.0 2.4 2.2 0.2	20.7 4.2 4.5 0.0	2.9 4.2 4.5 0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING Trade, Transport., & Utilities Information Financial Activities Professional & Bus. Services Educational & Health Serv. Leisure & Hospitality Other Services	17.4 2.6 0.3 0.9 1.8 0.9 8.0 0.5	14.3 2.2 0.3 0.9 1.7 0.9 5.6 0.5	2.6 0.2 0.9 1.8 0.9 7.7 0.5	0.0 5.9 0.0 42.9 0.0	2.4 0.0 50.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 3.9 0.0
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	2.4	2.2	2.4	9.1	0.0

State Unemployment Rates June 2006 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	Not Available
Mississippi	8.0
South Carolina	7.0
Alaska	6.7
Michigan	6.5
Kentucky	6.1
Tennessee	5.9
District of Columbia	5.8
Louisiana	5.8
Arkansas	5.6
Rhode Island	5.5
Texas	5.5
Oregon	5.4
Georgia	5.2
Ohio	5.2
Indiana	5.1
Massachusetts	5.1
West Virginia	5.1
Missouri	5.0
Washington	5.0
California	4.9
New Jersey	4.9
Wisconsin	4.9
Illinois	4.8
New Mexico	4.8
North Carolina	4.8
Pennsylvania	4.8
United States	4.8
Colorado	4.7
Kansas	4.7
Arizona	4.6
New York	4.5
Connecticut	4.4
Maine	4.4
Nevada	4.3
Alabama	4.1
Maryland	4.1
Oklahoma	4.1
Delaware	3.9
North Dakota	3.8
Hawaii	3.7
Minnesota	3.6
Iowa	3.5
Montana	3.5
Florida	3.3
New Hampshire	3.3
Utah	3.3
Vermont	3.3
Virginia	3.3
Idaho	3.2
Nebraska	3.2
Wyoming	3.1
South Dakota	2.9

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

The consumer price index for transportation increased 9.0% over the year, reflecting higher prices for fuel.

	June 2006	May 2006	June 2005	Percent Month	Change Year
	(p)_	(r)_	(b)_		
Wyoming Total Civilian Labor Force	296,403	290,467	291,603	2.0	1.6
Unemployed	9,216	10,341	10,550	-10.9	-12.6
Employed	287,187	280,126	281,053	2.5	2.2
Wyoming Unemp. Rate/Seasonally Adjusted	3.1%/3.3%	3.6%/3.7%	3.6%/3.9%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Unemployment Rate/Seasonally Adjusted	4.8%/4.6%	4.4%/4.6%	5.2%/5.0%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Multiple Jobholders	7,285,000	7,641,000	7,667,000	-4.7	-5.0
As a percent of all workers	5.0%	5.3%	5.4%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Discouraged Workers	481,000	323,000	476,000	48.9	1.1
U.S. Part-Time for Economic Reasons	4,456,000	3,968,000	4,600,000	12.3	-3.1
Hours & Earnings for Production Workers					
Wyoming Mining					
Average Weekly Earnings	\$1,151.88	\$1,101.20	\$1,021.73	4.6	12.7
Average Weekly Hours	47.5	46.8	46.4	1.5	2.4
U.S. Mining Hours & Earnings					
Average Weekly Earnings	\$943.02	\$923.05	\$877.92	2.2	7.4
Average Weekly Hours	46.8	45.9	46.5	2.0	0.6
Wyoming Manufacturing Hours & Earnings					
Average Weekly Earnings	\$687.66	\$697.19	\$694.63	-1.4	-1.0
Average Weekly Hours	41.5	40.3	41.2	3.0	0.7
U.S. Manufacturing Hours & Earnings					
Average Weekly Earnings	\$694.69	\$690.51	\$669.06	0.6	3.8
Average Weekly Hours	41.4	41.2	40.5	0.5	2.2
Wyoming Unemployment Insurance		0.055	10.055		
Weeks Compensated	7,279	9,857	10,257	-26.2	-29.0
Benefits Paid	\$1,786,614		\$2,405,156	-26.9	-25.7
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	\$245.45		\$234.49	-1.0	4.7
State Insured Covered Jobs	260,836		254,389	3.4	2.5
Insured Unemployment Rate	0.9%	1.0%	1.1%	N/A	N/A
Consumer Price Index (U) for All U.S. Urban Consumers					
(1982 to 1984 = 100) - All Items	202.9	202.5	194.5	0.2	4.3
Food & Beverages	195.1	194.7	190.9	0.2	2.2
Housing	203.7	202.2	195.5	0.7	4.2
Apparel	118.9	122.4	118.3	-2.9	0.5
Transportation	187.3	187.6	171.8	-0.2	9.0
Medical Care	336.0	335.6	322.9	0.1	4.1
Recreation (Dec. 1997=100)	111.2	111.2	109.1	0.0	1.9
Education & Comm. (Dec. 1997=100)	115.9	115.7	112.8	0.2	2.7
Other Goods & Services	321.5	320.2	312.5	0.4	2.9
Producer Prices (1982 to 1984 = 100) - All Commodities	165.9	165.3	154.3	0.4	7.5
Wyoming Building Permits					
(New Privately Owned Housing Units Authorized)					
Total Units	342	370	305	-7.6	12.1
Valuation		\$69,562,000	\$51,103,000	-8.2	24.9
Single Family Homes	270	287	261	-5.9	3.4
Valuation	\$59,329,000	\$63,365,000	\$47,958,000	-6.4	23.7
Baker Hughes North American Rotary Rig Count for WY	102	98	71	4.1	43.7
(p) Preliminary. (r) Revised. (b) Benchmarked.					

Wyoming County Unemployment Rates by: Roy Azar, Economist

Fremont and Goshen counties tied for the highest unemployment rate (4.2%), followed closely by Platte County (4.1%).

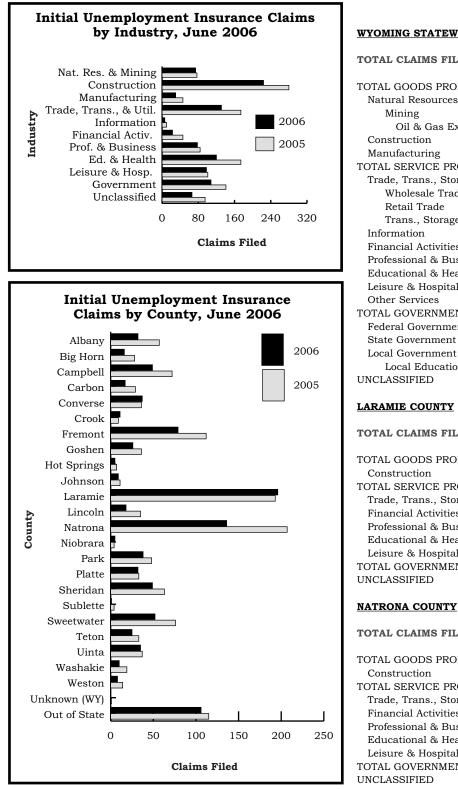
Labo		abor Force	bor Force		Employed		U	<u>1employe</u>	đ	<u>Unemployment Rates</u>			
REGION	Jun	May	Jun	Jun	May	Jun	Jun	May	Jun	Jun	May	Jun	
County	2006	2006	2005	2006	2006	2005	2006	2006	2005	2006	2006	2005	
	(p)	(p)	(b)	(p)	(p)	(b)	(p)	(p)	(b)	(p)	(p)	(b)	
NORTHWEST	47,717	45,867	48,187	46,020	43,986	46,209	1,697	1,881	1,978	3.6	4.1	4.1	
Big Horn	5,747	5,564	5,799	5,531	5,320	5,544	216	244	255	3.8	4.4	4.4	
Fremont	18,714	18,656	18,722	17,933	17,833	17,842	781	823	880	4.2	4.4	4.7	
Hot Springs	2,452	2,399	2,535	2,372	2,298	2,438	80	101	97	3.3	4.2	3.8	
Park	16,271	14,804	16,635	15,812	14,268	16,077	459	536	558	2.8	3.6	3.4	
Washakie	4,533	4,444	4,496	4,372	4,267	4,308	161	177	188	3.6	4.0	4.2	
NORTHEAST	52,690	51,500	51,053	51,366	49,944	49,446	1,324	1,556	1,607	2.5	3.0	3.1	
Campbell	25,138	24,811	23,867	24,596	24,175	23,223	542	636	644	2.2	2.6	2.7	
Crook	3,628	3,462	3,534	3,535	3,352	3,418	93	110	116	2.6	3.2	3.3	
Johnson	4,310	4,051	4,218	4,199	3,926	4,080	111	125	138	2.6	3.1	3.3	
Sheridan	16,320	15,860	16,186	15,846	15,304	15,611	474	556	575	2.9	3.5	3.6	
Weston	3,294	3,316	3,248	3,190	3,187	3,114	104	129	134	3.2	3.9	4.1	
SOUTHWEST	65,048	62,242	63,168	63,310	60,238	61,195	1,738	2,004	1,973	2.7	3.2	3.1	
Lincoln	8,699	8,317	8,493	8,445	8,012	8,184	254	305	309	2.9	3.7	3.6	
Sublette	5,882	5,464	5,408	5,784	5,359	5,302	98	105	106	1.7	1.9	2.0	
Sweetwater	23,178	23,523	22,634	22,531	22,798	21,922	647	725	712	2.8	3.1	3.1	
Teton	16,255	13,930	15,756	15,868	13,456	15,308	387	474	448	2.4	3.4	2.8	
Uinta	11,034	11,008	10,877	10,682	10,613	10,479	352	395	398	3.2	3.6	3.7	
SOUTHEAST	73,981	74,727	73,494	71,261	71,742	70,522	2,720	2,985	2,972	3.7	4.0	4.0	
Albany	18,999	20,045	19,303	18,432	19,406	18,669	567	639	634	3.0	3.2	3.3	
Goshen	6,116	6,050	5,980	5,858	5,773	5,716	258	277	264	4.2	4.6	4.4	
Laramie	43,235	43,008	42,635	41,557	41,165	40,806	1,678	1,843	1,829	3.9	4.3	4.3	
Niobrara	1,272	1,196	1,261	1,235	1,157	1,214	37	39	47	2.9	3.3	3.7	
Platte	4,359	4,428	4,315	4,179	4,241	4,117	180	187	198	4.1	4.2	4.6	
CENTRAL	56,968	56,134	55,699	55,232	54,218	53,679	1,736	1,916	2,020	3.0	3.4	3.6	
Carbon	8,175	7,836	8,307	7,899	7,515	7,983	276	321	324	3.4	4.1	3.9	
Converse	7,369	7,195	7,119	7,117	6,943	6,873	252	252	246	3.4	3.5	3.5	
Natrona	41,424	41,103	40,273	40,216	39,760	38,823	1,208	1,343	1,450	2.9	3.3	3.6	
STATEWIDE	296,403	290,467	291,603	287,187	280,126	281,053	9,216	10,341	10,550	3.1	3.6	3.6	
Statewide Seasonal	lly Adjusted	1								. 3.3	3.7	3.9	
U.S											4.4	5.2	
U.S. Seasonally Ad	justed									. 4.6	4.6	5.0	

Prepared in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Benchmarked 02/06. Run Date 07/06. 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

Only 992 initial claims were filed in June. This month's total is 16.1% lower than last month and 22.4% lower than June 2005.

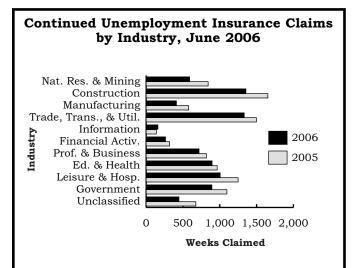


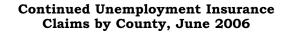
WYOMING STATEWIDE		<u>aims File</u> May06	<u>d</u>	May06	<u>s Filed</u> Jun05
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	992	1,182	1,278	8 -16.1	-22.4
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	328	395	403	-17.0	-18.6
Natural Resources and Mining	74	102	77	-27.5	-3.9
Mining	55	81	74	-32.1	-25.7
Oil & Gas Extraction	5	7	5	-28.6	0.0
Construction	224	255	280	-12.2	-20.0
Manufacturing	30	38	46	-21.1	-34.8
TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING	490	598	639	-18.1	-23.3
Trade, Trans., Storage, & Util.	131	153	174	-14.4	-24.7
Wholesale Trade	22	23	23	-4.3	-4.3
Retail Trade	76	93	116	-18.3	-34.5
Trans., Storage, & Utilities	33	37	35	-10.8	-5.7
Information	6	11	10	-45.5	-40.0
Financial Activities	23	28	46	-17.9	-50.0
Professional & Business Serv.	78	98	84	-20.4	-7.1
Educational & Health Services	120	127	174	-5.5	-31.0
Leisure & Hospitality	98	145	101	-32.4	-3.0
Other Services	34	36	50	-5.6	-32.0
FOTAL GOVERNMENT	108	111	141	-2.7	-23.4
Federal Government	24	21	18	14.3	33.3
State Government	13	17	17	-23.5	-23.5
Local Government	71	73	106		-33.0
Local Education	35	22	57		
UNCLASSIFIED	66	78	95	-15.4	-30.5
LARAMIE COUNTY					
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	193	223	193	-13.5	0.0
FOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	69	64	52	7.8	32.7
Construction	58	54	44	7.4	31.8
TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING	101	130	112	-22.3	-9.8
Trade, Trans., Storage, & Util.	33	39	31	-15.4	6.5
Financial Activities	7	8	8	-12.5	-12.5
Professional & Business Serv.	20	28	20	-28.6	0.0
Educational & Health Services	12	13	13	-7.7	-7.7
Leisure & Hospitality	15	24	13	-37.5	15.4
FOTAL GOVERNMENT	18	19		-5.3	
UNCLASSIFIED	5	10	8	-50.0	-37.5
NATRONA COUNTY					
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	134	174	208	-23.0	-35.6
FOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	44	61	63	-27.9	-30.2
Construction	31	40	43	-22.5	-27.9
TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING	78	106	131	-26.4	-40.5
Trade, Trans., Storage, & Util.	19	15	25	26.7	-24.0
Financial Activities	3	3	11	0.0	-72.7
Professional & Business Serv.	20	36	20	-44.4	
Educational & Health Services	17	26	40	-34.6	-57.5
Leisure & Hospitality	16	21		-23.8	
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	7	3	11	133.3	-36.4
UNCLASSIFIED	5	4	3	25.0	66.7

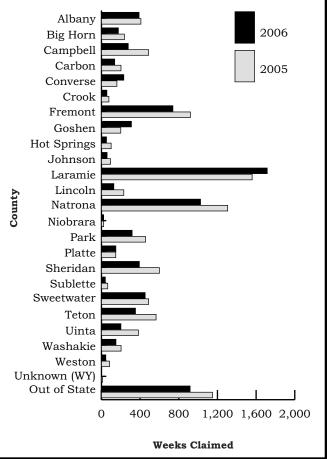
Wyoming Normalized Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Continued Claims by: Douglas W. Leonard, Senior Research Analyst

Statewide claims totaled 8,333, the lowest on record for June. The lowest statewide total on record is 6,745, set in September 2001.

WYOMING STATEWIDE	<u>We</u> Jun06	eks Clain May06	ned	Percent <u>Weeks (</u> May06	<u>Claimed</u> Jun05
WIOMING STATEWIDE	501100	May00	501105	Junoo	Junoo
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	8,333	10,176	10,154	-18.1	-17.9
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	2,465	2,708	2,674	-9.0	-7.8
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	2,356	2,834	3,073	-16.9	-23.3
Natural Resources and Mining	590	646	842	-8.7	-29.9
Mining	476	523	738	-9.0	-35.5
Oil & Gas Extraction	60	68	80	-11.8	-25.0
Construction	1,355	1,574	1,653	-13.9	-18.0
Manufacturing	411	614		-33.1	-28.9
TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING	4,639	5,756		-19.4	-12.6
Trade, Trans., Storage, & Util.	1,332	1,657		-19.6	-11.0
Wholesale Trade	161	218		-26.1	-28.1
Retail Trade	914	1,109		-17.6	2.1
Trans., Storage, & Utilities Information	257	330		-22.1	-32.0 15.9
Financial Activities	160 263	205 285	318	-22.0 -7.7	
Professional & Business Serv.	203 718	283 776		-7.5	-17.3
Educational & Health Serv.	895	667	965		-12.3
Leisure & Hospitality	1,006	1,947		-48.3	-19.5
Other Services	265	219		21.0	-18.0
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	893	1,015		-12.0	-18.6
Federal Government	197	397		-50.4	-25.4
State Government	150	181	164	-17.1	-8.5
Local Government	546	437	669	24.9	-18.4
Local Education	132	100	165	32.0	-20.0
UNCLASSIFIED	445	571	675	-22.1	-34.1
LARAMIE COUNTY					
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	1,713	1,762	1,560	-2.8	9.8
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	528	476	•	10.9	25.7
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	755	1,164		-35.1	2.7
Construction	662	1,028		-35.6	3.0
TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING	1,063	1,265		-16.0	-5.3
Trade, Trans., Storage, & Util. Financial Activities	451 58	549 58	403	-17.9 0.0	11.9 -31.8
Professional & Business Serv.	209	279		-25.1	-9.1
Educational & Health Services		135		16.3	34.2
Leisure & Hospitality	101	141		-28.4	-36.5
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	193	187	203	3.2	-4.9
UNCLASSIFIED	56	93	71	-39.8	-21.1
NATRONA COUNTY					
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	1.247	1,730	1.503	-27.9	-170
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	425	506	,	-16.0	
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	446	779		-42.7	
Construction	284	613		-53.7	
TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING	709	849		-16.5	-15.3
Trade, Trans., Storage, & Util.	254	274		-7.3	-8.3
Financial Activities Professional & Business Serv.	52 136	61 228		-14.8	
Educational & Health Services	136	228		-40.4	
	106	86	136	723	-22.1
		86 111		23.3 -19.8	
Leisure & Hospitality TOTAL GOVERNMENT	106 89 73	86 111 76	102	23.3 -19.8 -3.9	







Wyoming Department of Employment Research & Planning P.O. Box 2760 Casper, WY 82602

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