

Wyoming Unemployment Rises to 3.0% in August 2024

The Research & Planning section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services reported today that the state’s seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose slightly from 2.9% in July to 3.0% in August. Wyoming’s unemployment rate was slightly higher than its year-ago level of 2.8%, but much lower than the current U.S. unemployment rate of 4.2%.

From July to August, unemployment rates rose in every county. It is somewhat unusual for jobless rates to increase in August. The largest increases occurred in Platte (up from 2.7% to 3.6%), Goshen (up from 2.6% to 3.4%), and Niobrara (up from 1.8% to 2.6%) counties.

From August 2023 to August 2024, unemployment rates increased in every county, perhaps suggesting that economic growth is moderating around the state. The largest increases were found in Goshen (up from 2.2% to 3.4%), Johnson (up from 2.2% to 3.1%), and Platte (up from 2.7% to 3.6%) counties.

Teton County posted the lowest unemployment rate in August at 1.8%. It was followed by Crook County at 2.5%. The highest unemployment rates were found in Big Horn County, Platte County, and Sublette County, each at 3.6%.

Current Employment Statistics (CES) estimates show that total nonfarm employment in Wyoming (not seasonally adjusted and measured by place of work) rose from 297,800 in August 2023 to 299,000 in August 2024, an increase of 1,200 jobs (0.4%).

September unemployment data will be published on October 23, 2024.

Civilian Labor Force, Employment, and Unemployment--by place of residence

County	Labor Force			Employment			Unemployed Number			Unemployment Rate		
	Aug 2024 (p)	Jul 2024 (r)	Aug 2023 (b)	Aug 2024 (p)	Jul 2024 (r)	Aug 2023 (b)	Aug 2024 (p)	Jul 2024 (r)	Aug 2023 (b)	Aug 2024 (p)	Jul 2024 (r)	Aug 2023 (b)
Albany	20,690	20,242	21,202	20,114	19,687	20,726	576	555	476	2.8	2.7	2.2
Big Horn	5,250	5,480	5,196	5,061	5,297	5,048	189	183	148	3.6	3.3	2.8
Campbell	23,014	23,068	23,014	22,304	22,398	22,451	710	670	563	3.1	2.9	2.4
Carbon	7,349	7,485	7,421	7,116	7,277	7,245	233	208	176	3.2	2.8	2.4
Converse	7,819	7,857	7,648	7,608	7,656	7,492	211	201	156	2.7	2.6	2.0
Crook	3,830	4,063	3,853	3,735	3,978	3,772	95	85	81	2.5	2.1	2.1
Fremont	19,011	18,928	19,164	18,370	18,300	18,598	641	628	566	3.4	3.3	3.0
Goshen	6,183	6,443	6,209	5,972	6,277	6,071	211	166	138	3.4	2.6	2.2
Hot Springs	2,234	2,293	2,318	2,171	2,233	2,261	63	60	57	2.8	2.6	2.5
Johnson	4,341	4,532	4,401	4,207	4,417	4,302	134	115	99	3.1	2.5	2.2
Laramie	49,014	49,200	48,545	47,369	47,674	47,260	1,645	1,526	1,285	3.4	3.1	2.6
Lincoln	9,924	10,080	9,842	9,632	9,824	9,627	292	256	215	2.9	2.5	2.2
Natrona	39,824	40,003	39,677	38,475	38,753	38,576	1,349	1,250	1,101	3.4	3.1	2.8
Niobrara	1,103	1,190	1,083	1,074	1,168	1,060	29	22	23	2.6	1.8	2.1
Park	16,548	17,053	16,766	16,102	16,639	16,398	446	414	368	2.7	2.4	2.2
Platte	4,075	4,297	4,105	3,930	4,181	3,994	145	116	111	3.6	2.7	2.7
Sheridan	16,407	16,765	16,233	15,947	16,338	15,869	460	427	364	2.8	2.5	2.2
Sublette	3,919	4,088	4,021	3,779	3,968	3,907	140	120	114	3.6	2.9	2.8
Sweetwater	20,070	19,579	20,261	19,363	18,926	19,695	707	653	566	3.5	3.3	2.8
Teton	19,259	19,598	19,362	18,904	19,310	19,095	355	288	267	1.8	1.5	1.4
Uinta	8,888	8,841	8,895	8,579	8,544	8,646	309	297	249	3.5	3.4	2.8
Washakie	3,769	3,904	3,775	3,641	3,778	3,673	128	126	102	3.4	3.2	2.7
Weston	3,774	3,784	3,813	3,676	3,689	3,737	98	95	76	2.6	2.5	2.0
Statewide	296,296	298,773	296,805	287,128	290,314	289,505	9,168	8,459	7,300	3.1	2.8	2.5
Statewide Seasonally Adjusted.....										3.0	2.9	2.8
U.S.....										4.4	4.5	3.9
U.S. Seasonally Adjusted.....										4.2	4.3	3.8

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

Data are not seasonally adjusted except where otherwise specified.

Labor Force = Employment + Unemployed Number

Unemployment Rate = Unemployed Number/Labor Force

	Wyoming Seasonally Adjusted Statewide Labor Force Estimates			Change			
	August-24	July-24	August-23	Month		Year	
				absolute	percent	absolute	percent
Total Civilian Labor Force	294,877	294,473	295,271	404	0.1%	-394	-0.1%
Employed	285,902	285,840	286,930	62	0.0%	-1,028	-0.4%
Unemployed	8,975	8,633	8,341	342	4.0%	634	7.6%
Unemployment Rate	3.0	2.9	2.8				
Definitions:							
Employed	All persons who, during the reference week, did any work at all as paid employees, worked in their own business, profession, or on their own farm, or worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers in a family business.						
Unemployed	All persons who had no employment during the reference week, were available for work, and had made specific efforts to find employment sometime during the 4-week period ending with the reference week.						
Labor Force	All persons who meet the criteria given above as either employed or unemployed.						
Unemployment Rate	The number of unemployed as a percent of the labor force.						
Seasonal Adjustment	A statistical procedure to remove the impact of normal regularly recurring events (such as weather, major holidays, and the opening and closing of schools) from economic time series to better understand changes in economic conditions from month to month.						

**Wyoming Department of Workforce Services
Research & Planning**

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Internet Address: <https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/news.htm>

Access R&P's monthly publication on Wyoming's labor market at <https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/trends.htm>

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