Wyoming Unemployment Rises to 3.2% in October 2024

The Research & Planning section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services reported today that the state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate edged upward from 3.1% in September to 3.2% in October. Despite its recent increases, Wyoming's unemployment rate remains much lower than the U.S. unemployment rate of 4.1%.

From September to October, county unemployment rates followed their normal seasonal pattern and increased. Unemployment rates often rise in October as cooler weather brings seasonal job losses in leisure & hospitality, construction, and professional & business services. The largest unemployment rate increases occurred in Teton (up from 1.6% to 2.6%), Niobrara (up from 2.0% to 2.6%), Carbon (up from 2.7% to 3.2%), and Sublette (up from 3.0% to 3.5%) counties.

From October 2023 to October 2024, jobless rates rose in all 23 of Wyoming's counties. These increases, while modest, suggest a somewhat greater supply of labor around the state. The largest increases in unemployment were reported in Big Horn (up from 2.4% to 3.4%), Carbon (up from 2.2% to 3.2%), Uinta (up from 2.6% to 3.5%), and Weston (up from 1.6% to 2.5%) counties.

The lowest unemployment rates in October were found in Crook County at 2.3%, Albany County at 2.4%, and Converse County at 2.4%. Sublette County and Uinta County tied for the highest unemployment rate at 3.5%.

Current Employment Statistics (CES) estimates show that total nonfarm employment in Wyoming (not seasonally adjusted and measured by place of work) rose from 295,100 in October 2023 to 298,200 in October 2024, an increase of 3,100 jobs (1.1%).

November unemployment data will be published on December 23, 2024.

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

	Labor Force			Employment			Unemployed Number			Unemployment Rate		
										Oct 2024	Sep 2024	Oct 2023
County	Oct 2024 (p)	Sep 2024 (r)	Oct 2023 (b)	Oct 2024 (p)	Sep 2024 (r)	Oct 2023 (b)	Oct 2024 (p)	Sep 2024 (r)	Oct 2023 (b)	(p)	(r)	(b)
Albany	22,193	21,883	21,850	21,663	21,383	21,399	530	500	451	2.4	2.3	2.1
Big Horn	5,228	5,209	5,174	5,050	5,053	5,049	178	156	125	3.4	3.0	2.4
Campbell	22,935	22,877	23,165	22,272	22,268	22,652	663	609	513	2.9	2.7	2.2
Carbon	7,291	7,309	7,259	7,058	7,112	7,096	233	197	163	3.2	2.7	2.2
Converse	7,945	7,832	7,702	7,752	7,658	7,547	193	174	155	2.4	2.2	2.0
Crook	3,910	3,834	3,934	3,822	3,757	3,859	88	77	75	2.3	2.0	1.9
Fremont	19,084	19,101	19,015	18,445	18,546	18,532	639	555	483	3.3	2.9	2.5
Goshen	6,269	6,100	6,410	6,088	5,940	6,271	181	160	139	2.9	2.6	2.2
Hot Springs	2,226	2,240	2,317	2,163	2,183	2,267	63	57	50	2.8	2.5	2.2
Johnson	4,284	4,282	4,400	4,163	4,178	4,300	121	104	100	2.8	2.4	2.3
Laramie	49,610	49,312	48,749	48,007	47,947	47,494	1,603	1,365	1,255	3.2	2.8	2.6
Lincoln	10,026	10,212	9,743	9,752	9,971	9,515	274	241	228	2.7	2.4	2.3
Natrona	39,744	39,619	39,469	38,415	38,465	38,402	1,329	1,154	1,067	3.3	2.9	2.7
Niobrara	1,150	1,130	1,168	1,120	1,107	1,145	30	23	23	2.6	2.0	2.0
Park	15,849	16,430	15,686	15,414	16,048	15,347	435	382	339	2.7	2.3	2.2
Platte	4,234	4,159	4,216	4,103	4,046	4,118	131	113	98	3.1	2.7	2.3
Sheridan	16,416	16,320	16,284	15,961	15,927	15,936	455	393	348	2.8	2.4	2.1
Sublette	3,916	3,869	4,017	3,780	3,752	3,907	136	117	110	3.5	3.0	2.7
Sweetwater	20,115	20,042	20,380	19,431	19,439	19,836	684	603	544	3.4	3.0	2.7
Teton	16,744	18,084	16,996	16,310	17,787	16,676	434	297	320	2.6	1.6	1.9
Uinta	9,091	8,999	9,037	8,774	8,722	8,799	317	277	238	3.5	3.1	2.6
Washakie	3,760	3,731	3,839	3,640	3,621	3,745	120	110	94	3.2	2.9	2.4
Weston	3,833	3,807	3,909	3,738	3,722	3,845	95	85	64	2.5	2.2	1.6
Statewide	295,853	296,381	294,720	286,922	288,632	287,738	8,931	7,749	6,982	3.0	2.6	2.4
Statewide Sea	sonally Adjusted	1								3.2	3.1	2.9
U.S.									3.9	3.9	3.6	
U.S. Seasonally Adjusted												

Wyoming Seasonally Adju	usted Statewide	Change							
	Mont	h	Year						
	October-24	September-24	October-23	absolute	percent	absolute	percent		
Total Civilian Labor Force	295,502	295,186	294,953	316	0.1%	549	0.2%		
Employed	285,983 285,9		286,472	-4	0.0%	-489	-0.2%		
Unemployed	9,519	9,199	8,481	320	3.5%	1,038	12.2%		
Unemployment Rate	3.2	3.1	2.9						
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
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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