

# Wyoming Unemployment Insurance Claims Report

April 2021

## Information for Wyoming by Industry and County of Residence of Claimant

by: Sherry Wen, Principal Economist, Chris McGrath, Senior Statistician, and Michael Moore, Editor  
Research & Planning, Wyoming Department of Workforce Services

Published May 20, 2021



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**Unemployment Insurance Claims Data:** <https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/ui.htm>

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## Who We Are

Research & Planning (R&P) functions as an exclusively statistical entity within the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services. R&P collects, analyzes, and publishes timely and accurate labor market information (LMI) meeting established statistical standards. We work to make the labor market more efficient by providing the public and the public’s representatives with the information needed for evidence-based, informed decision making.



# Wyoming Unemployment Insurance Claims Report, April 2021

## Initial Claims Down 71.7% from Prior Year

by: Michael Moore, Editor, and Sherry Wen, Principal Economist

April 2021 marked the second consecutive month of over-the-year decline in initial Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims in Wyoming, as the state continues to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic that began in March 2020. April also marked the first over-the-year decline in continued claims since the start of the pandemic.

### Initial Claims

Wyoming had 5,806 *initial claims* (see Definitions, page 9) in April 2021, down from a record 20,485 in April 2020 (-14,679, or -71.7%). Initial claims peaked in April 2020 and have largely trended downward since. See Figure 1.

The number of claims declined from

### UI Claims Online

Weekly, monthly, and annual Unemployment Insurance claims for Wyoming are available online at <https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/UI.htm>.

the prior year in all industries, led by leisure & hospitality (-3,519, or -75.0%), unclassified (-1,992, or -63.7%), natural resources & mining (-1,678, or -78.2%), education & health services (-1,580, or -84.6%), and retail trade (-1,254, or -79.5%). See Table 1 (page 5) and Figure 3 (page 6).

Initial claims also decreased from prior-year levels in all counties, including Natrona (-2,734, or -74.0%), Laramie

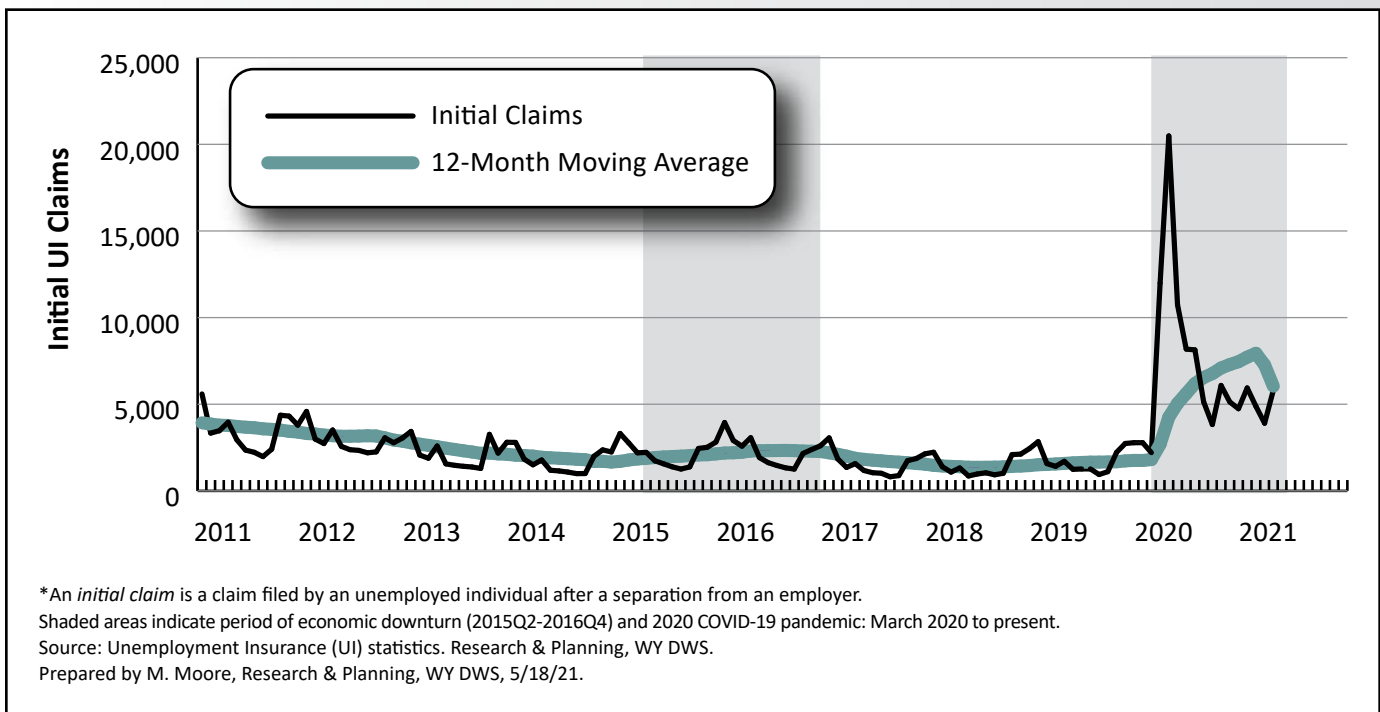


Figure 1: Total Number of Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims for Wyoming by Year and Month, January 2011 to April 2021

(-2,248, or -76.5%), Campbell (-1,315, or -75.2%), and Teton (-976, or -60.7%) counties. The number of out-of-state claimants decreased by 1,702 (-66.5%). See Figure 4 (page 6) and Table 3 (page 9).

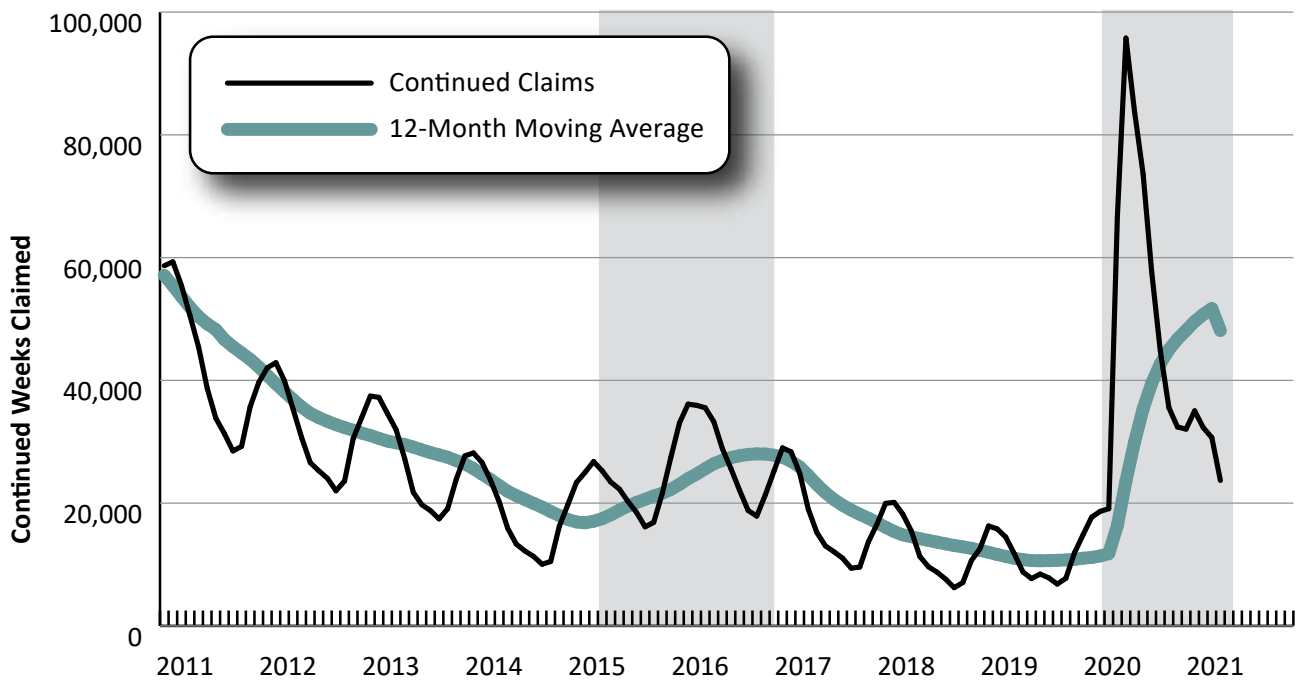
**Continued Claims**

The total number of *continued weeks claimed* (see Definitions, page 9) decreased from 66,694 in April 2020 to 23,687 in April 2021 (-43,007, or -64.4%). The number of unique claimants decreased from 19,215 to 7,958 (-11,257, or -58.6%). See Figure 2 and Table 2, page 7.

Continued claims declined in all industries over the year, with the greatest

decreases seen in leisure & hospitality (-15,164, or -82.5%), natural resources & mining (-4,567, or -74.1%), education & health services (-4,513, or -79.3%), unclassified (-3,473, or -43.0%), and construction (-3,173, or -38.7%).

Continued claims fell in nearly every county over the year, with the greatest decreases seen in Natrona (-7,296, or -64.1%), Laramie (-5,839, or -67.1%), Teton (-5,055, or -79.5%), and Campbell (-3,233, or -65.1%) counties. The number of total weeks claimed by out-of-state recipients decreased by 5,227 (-59.1%). Continued claims remained unchanged in Niobrara County. See Table 2, page 7, and Figure 5, page 8.



\*A person who has already filed an initial claim and who has experienced a week of unemployment then files a *continued claim* to claim benefits for that week of unemployment.

Shaded areas indicate period of economic downturn (2015Q2-2016Q4) and 2020 COVID-19 pandemic: March 2020 to present.

Source: Unemployment Insurance (UI) statistics. Research & Planning, WY DWS.

Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 5/18/21.

**Figure 2: Total Number of Unemployment Insurance Continued Weeks Claimed for Wyoming by Year and Month, January 2011 to April 2021**

Table 1: Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims in Wyoming, April 2021

Industry	Initial Claims Filed			Over-the-Month Change		Over-the-Year Change	
	Apr 2021	Mar 2021	Apr 2020	N	%	N	%
<b>Total Claims Filed</b>	<b>5,806</b>	<b>3,903</b>	<b>20,485</b>	<b>1,903</b>	<b>48.8</b>	<b>-14,679</b>	<b>-71.7</b>
<b>Goods-Producing</b>	<b>1,570</b>	<b>1266</b>	<b>4,478</b>	<b>304</b>	<b>24.0</b>	<b>-2,908</b>	<b>-64.9</b>
Natural Resources & Mining (11, 21)	469	281	2,147	188	66.9	-1,678	-78.2
Mining (21)	437	260	2,111	177	68.1	-1,674	-79.3
Oil & Gas Extraction (211)	20	17	45	3	17.6	-25	-55.6
Construction (23)	936	829	1,811	107	12.9	-875	-48.3
Manufacturing (31-33)	164	155	519	9	5.8	-355	-68.4
<b>Service-Providing</b>	<b>2,796</b>	<b>1,814</b>	<b>11,778</b>	<b>982</b>	<b>54.1</b>	<b>-8,982</b>	<b>-76.3</b>
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22, 42, 44-45, 48-49)	683	543	2,981	140	25.8	-2,298	-77.1
Wholesale Trade (42)	133	82	439	51	62.2	-306	-69.7
Retail Trade (44-45)	324	278	1,578	46	16.5	-1,254	-79.5
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities (22, 44-49)	225	182	963	43	23.6	-738	-76.6
Information (51)	33	29	184	4	13.8	-151	-82.1
Financial Activities (52-53)	81	64	357	17	26.6	-276	-77.3
Professional & Business Services (54-56)	412	284	1,031	128	45.1	-619	-60.0
Education & Health Services (61-62)	287	219	1,867	68	31.1	-1,580	-84.6
Leisure & Hospitality (71-72)	1,173	588	4,692	585	99.5	-3,519	-75.0
Other Services, except Public Admin. (81)	124	83	663	41	49.4	-539	-81.3
<b>Government</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>1,098</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>33.0</b>	<b>-796</b>	<b>-72.5</b>
Federal Government	74	74	83	0	0.0	-9	-10.8
State Government	34	25	98	9	36.0	-64	-65.3
Local Government	192	127	916	65	51.2	-724	-79.0
Local Education	61	45	452	16	35.6	-391	-86.5
<b>Unclassified</b>	<b>1,137</b>	<b>594</b>	<b>3,129</b>	<b>543</b>	<b>91.4</b>	<b>-1,992</b>	<b>-63.7</b>
<b>Laramie County</b>							
<b>Total Claims Filed</b>	<b>689</b>	<b>548</b>	<b>2,937</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>25.7</b>	<b>-2,248</b>	<b>-76.5</b>
<b>Goods-Producing</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>413</b>	<b>-2</b>	<b>-1</b>	<b>-215</b>	<b>-52.1</b>
Construction	161	159	214	2	1.3	-53	-24.8
<b>Service-Providing</b>	<b>323</b>	<b>245</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>31.8</b>	<b>-1,677</b>	<b>-83.9</b>
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	97	65	819	32	49.2	-722	-88.2
Financial Activities (52, 53)	9	15	38	-6	-40	-29	-76.3
Professional & Business Services (54 - 56)	67	54	140	13	24.1	-73	-52.1
Educational & Health Services (61 - 62)	43	30	307	13	43.3	-264	-86.0
Leisure & Hospitality (71 - 72)	80	63	536	17	27	-456	-85.1
<b>Government</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>31.8</b>	<b>-73</b>	<b>-71.6</b>
<b>Unclassified</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>420</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>76.9</b>	<b>-282</b>	<b>-67.1</b>
<b>Natrona County</b>							
<b>Total Claims Filed</b>	<b>962</b>	<b>696</b>	<b>3,696</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>38.2</b>	<b>-2,734</b>	<b>-74.0</b>
<b>Goods-Producing</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>223</b>	<b>826</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>24.2</b>	<b>-549</b>	<b>-66.5</b>
Construction	147	161	281	-14	-8.7	-134	-47.7
<b>Service-Providing</b>	<b>484</b>	<b>372</b>	<b>2,365</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>29.8</b>	<b>-1,881</b>	<b>-79.5</b>
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	192	142	646	50	35.2	-454	-70.3
Financial Activities (52, 53)	17	11	95	6	54.5	-78	-82.1
Professional & Business Services (54 - 56)	74	56	216	18	32.1	-142	-65.7
Educational & Health Services (61 - 62)	67	51	445	16	31.4	-378	-84.9
Leisure & Hospitality (71 - 72)	93	84	714	8	9.4	-621	-87.0
<b>Government</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>75.0</b>	<b>-53</b>	<b>-60.2</b>
<b>Unclassified</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>416</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>110.3</b>	<b>-252</b>	<b>-60.6</b>

N/D = Not discloseable due to confidentiality.

Source: Unemployment Insurance claims database. Reviewed by S. Wen, Research &amp; Planning, WY DWS, 5/18/21.

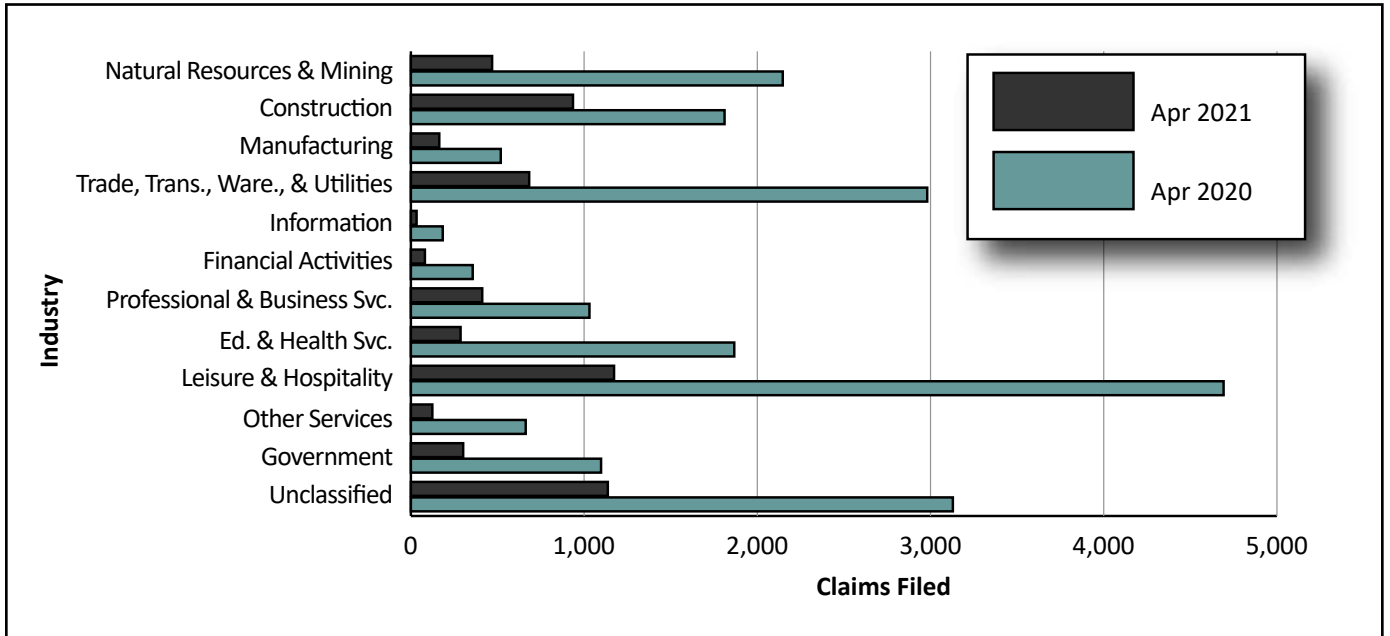


Figure 3: Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims by Major Industry in Wyoming, April 2020 and April 2021

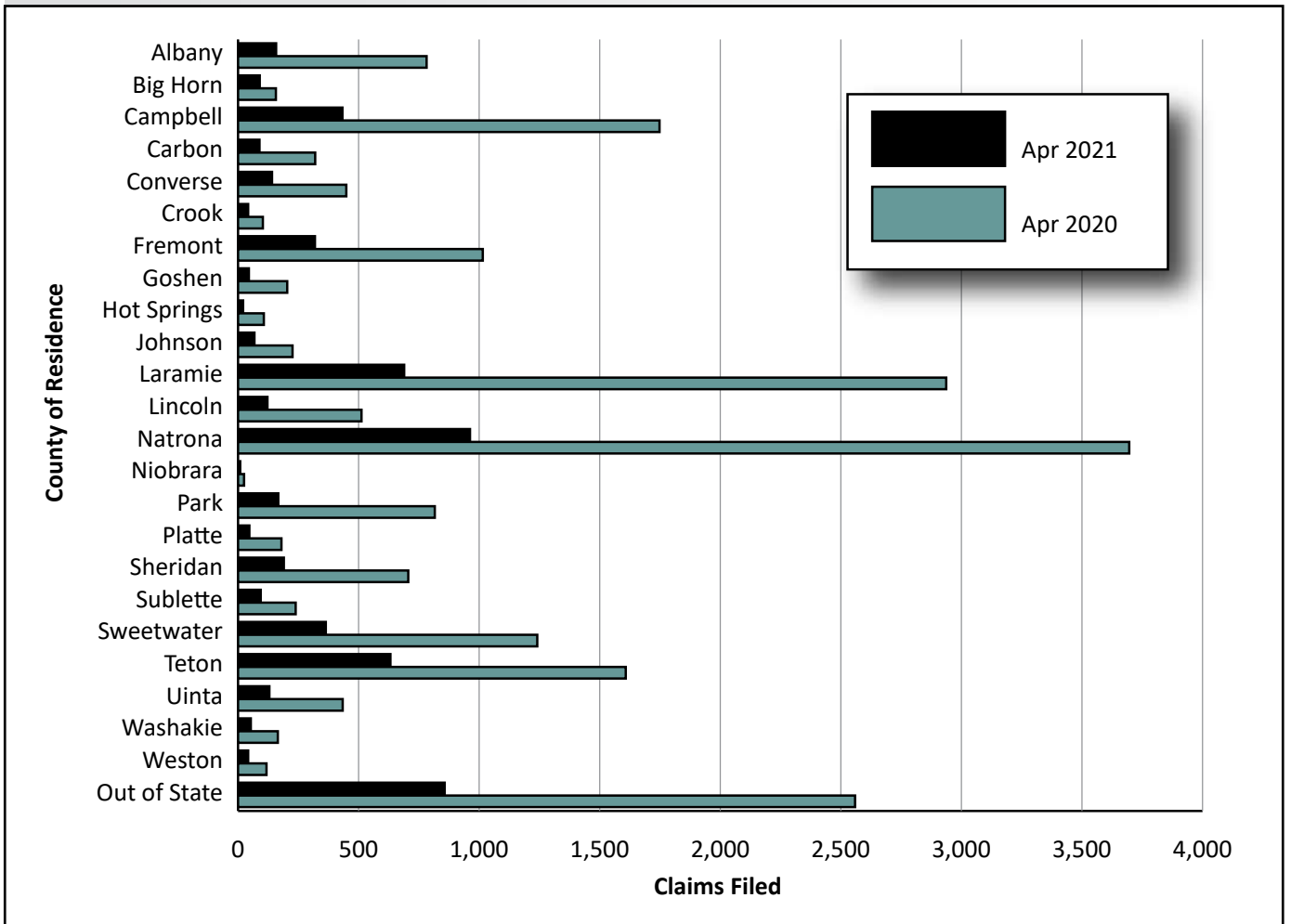


Figure 4: Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims by County of Residence, April 2020 and April 2021

Table 2: Unemployment Insurance Continued Weeks Claimed in Wyoming, April 2021

Industry	Continued Weeks Claimed			Over-the-Month Change		Over-the-Year Change	
	Apr 2021	Mar 2021	Apr 2020	N	%	N	%
<b>Total Continued Weeks Claimed</b>	<b>23,687</b>	<b>30,685</b>	<b>66,694</b>	<b>-6,998</b>	<b>-22.8</b>	<b>-43,007</b>	<b>-64.5</b>
Total Unique Claimants	7,958	7,749	19,215	209	2.7	-11,257	-58.6
<b>Goods-Producing</b>	<b>7,427</b>	<b>10,749</b>	<b>16,498</b>	<b>-3,327</b>	<b>-30.9</b>	<b>-9,071</b>	<b>-55.0</b>
Natural Resources & Mining (11, 21)	1,593	2,065	6,160	-472	-22.9	-4,567	-74.1
Mining (21)	1,477	1,906	5,968	-429	-22.5	-4,491	-75.3
Oil & Gas Extraction (211)	179	213	206	-34	-16.0	-27	-13.1
Construction (23)	5,022	7,548	8,195	-2,527	-33.5	-3,173	-38.7
Manufacturing (31-33)	810	1,135	2,141	-329	-28.9	-1,331	-62.2
<b>Service-Providing</b>	<b>9,995</b>	<b>11,025</b>	<b>39,227</b>	<b>-1,034</b>	<b>-9.4</b>	<b>-29,232</b>	<b>-74.5</b>
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22, 42, 44-45, 48-49)	2,929	3,365	7,896	-436	-13.0	-4,967	-62.9
Wholesale Trade (42)	527	613	1,195	-86	-14.0	-668	-55.9
Retail Trade (44-45)	1,428	1,555	4,343	-127	-8.2	-2,915	-67.1
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities (22, 44-49)	973	1,195	2,357	-222	-18.6	-1,384	-58.7
Information (51)	176	159	439	17	10.7	-263	-59.9
Financial Activities (52-53)	467	526	1,166	-59	-11.2	-699	-59.9
Professional & Business Services (54-56)	1,660	2,342	3,413	-682	-29.1	-1,753	-51.4
Education & Health Services (61-62)	1,179	1,298	5,692	-119	-9.2	-4,513	-79.3
Leisure & Hospitality (71-72)	3,215	2,834	18,379	378	13.3	-15,164	-82.5
Other Services, except Public Admin. (81)	366	499	2,239	-133	-26.7	-1,873	-83.7
<b>Government</b>	<b>1,668</b>	<b>2,048</b>	<b>2,899</b>	<b>-380</b>	<b>-18.6</b>	<b>-1,231</b>	<b>-42.5</b>
Federal Government	653	855	763	-202	-23.6	-110	-14.4
State Government	188	270	252	-82	-30.4	-64	-25.4
Local Government	825	922	1,883	-97	-10.5	-1,058	-56.2
Local Education	250	245	887	5	2.0	-637	-71.8
<b>Unclassified</b>	<b>4,596</b>	<b>6,862</b>	<b>8,069</b>	<b>-2,257</b>	<b>-32.9</b>	<b>-3,473</b>	<b>-43.0</b>
<b>Laramie County</b>							
<b>Total Claims Filed</b>	<b>2,858</b>	<b>3,961</b>	<b>8,697</b>	<b>-1,103</b>	<b>-27.8</b>	<b>-5,839</b>	<b>-67.1</b>
Total Unique Claimants	964	1,017	2,604	-53	-5.2	-1,640	-63.0
<b>Goods-Producing</b>	<b>870</b>	<b>1,378</b>	<b>1,504</b>	<b>-510</b>	<b>-37.0</b>	<b>-634</b>	<b>-42.2</b>
Construction	636	1,079	969	-443	-41.1	-333	-34.4
<b>Service-Providing</b>	<b>1,262</b>	<b>1,493</b>	<b>5,850</b>	<b>-231</b>	<b>-15.5</b>	<b>-4,588</b>	<b>-78.4</b>
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	372	452	1,742	-80	-17.7	-1,370	-78.6
Financial Activities (52, 53)	87	92	135	-5	-5.4	-48	-35.6
Professional & Business Services (54 - 56)	294	393	528	-99	-25.2	-234	-44.3
Educational & Health Services (61 - 62)	168	212	973	-44	-20.8	-805	-82.7
Leisure & Hospitality (71 - 72)	263	277	1,971	-14	-5.1	-1,708	-86.7
<b>Government</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>-21</b>	<b>-10.0</b>	<b>-32</b>	<b>-14.5</b>
<b>Unclassified</b>	<b>538</b>	<b>879</b>	<b>1,121</b>	<b>-340</b>	<b>-38.7</b>	<b>-583</b>	<b>-52.0</b>
<b>Natrona County</b>							
<b>Total Claims Filed</b>	<b>4,095</b>	<b>5,474</b>	<b>11,391</b>	<b>-1,379</b>	<b>-25.2</b>	<b>-7,296</b>	<b>-64.1</b>
Total Unique Claimants	1,336	1,359	3,351	-23	-1.7	-2,015	-60.1
<b>Goods-Producing</b>	<b>1,334</b>	<b>1,872</b>	<b>2,933</b>	<b>-538</b>	<b>-28.7</b>	<b>-1,599</b>	<b>-54.5</b>
Construction	906	1,324	1,279	-418	-31.6	-373	-29.2
<b>Service-Providing</b>	<b>1,937</b>	<b>2,370</b>	<b>7,070</b>	<b>-433</b>	<b>-18.3</b>	<b>-5,133</b>	<b>-72.6</b>
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	783	814	1,578	-31	-3.8	-795	-50.4
Financial Activities (52, 53)	85	121	252	-36	-29.8	-167	-66.3
Professional & Business Services (54 - 56)	308	458	549	-150	-32.8	-241	-43.9
Educational & Health Services (61 - 62)	258	288	1,082	-30	-10.4	-824	-76.2
Leisure & Hospitality (71 - 72)	351	471	2,854	-120	-25.5	-2,503	-87.7
<b>Government</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>-35</b>	<b>-19.8</b>	<b>-86</b>	<b>-37.7</b>
<b>Unclassified</b>	<b>679</b>	<b>1,054</b>	<b>1,159</b>	<b>-375</b>	<b>-35.6</b>	<b>-480</b>	<b>-41.4</b>

Source: Unemployment Insurance claims database.  
Reviewed by S. Wen, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 4/15/21.

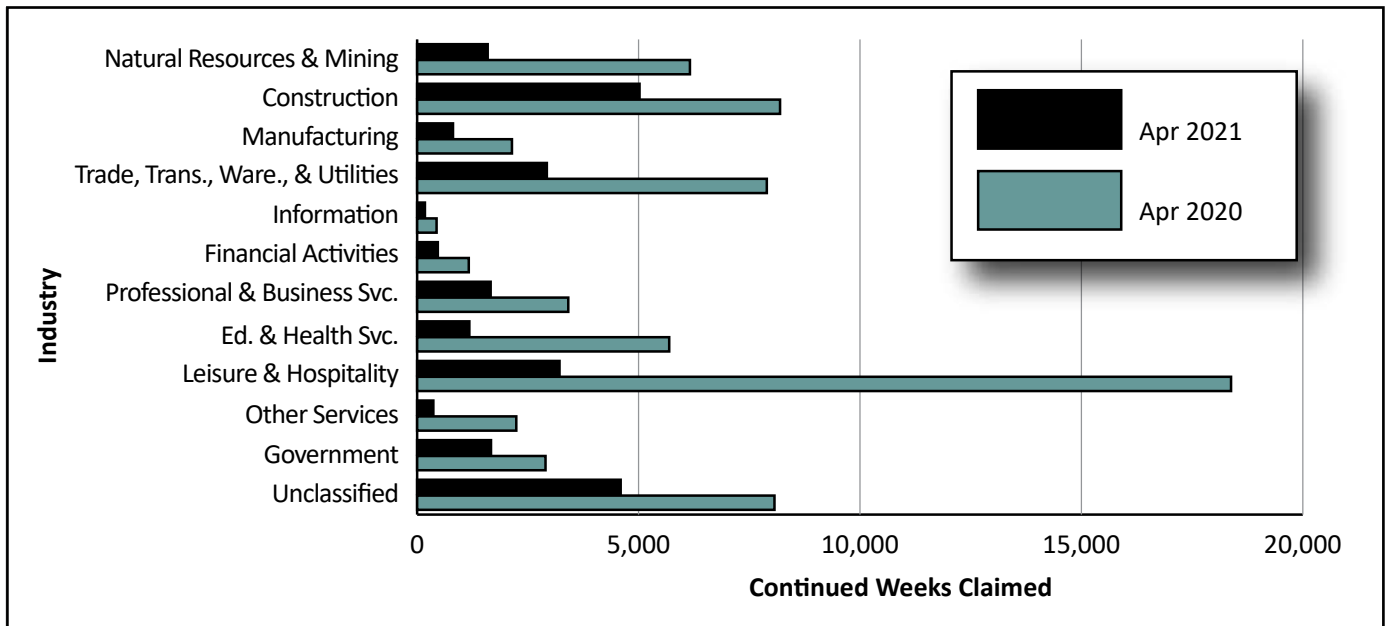


Figure 5: Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by Major Industry in Wyoming, April 2020 and April 2021

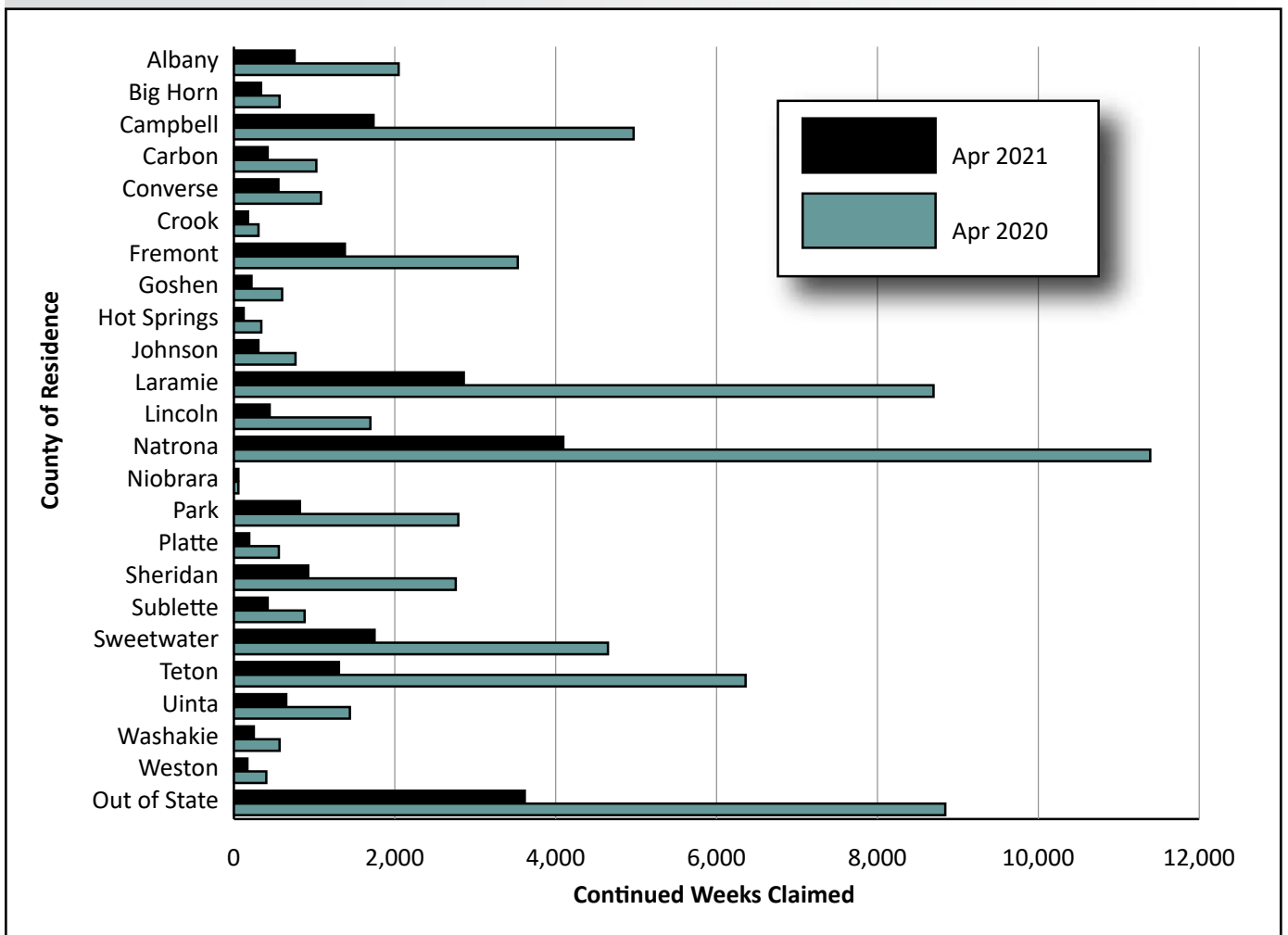


Figure 6: Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by County of Residence in Wyoming, April 2020 and April 2021



**Table 3: Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims for Wyoming by County of Residence, April 2020 and April 2021**

County	Apr 2021	Apr 2020	Change	
			N	%
Albany	158	782	-624	-79.8
Big Horn	90	157	-67	-42.7
Campbell	433	1,748	-1,315	-75.2
Carbon	89	320	-231	-72.2
Converse	141	449	-308	-68.6
Crook	42	103	-61	-59.2
Fremont	319	1,015	-696	-68.6
Goshen	45	204	-159	-77.9
Hot Springs	21	107	-86	-80.4
Johnson	68	226	-158	-69.9
Laramie	689	2,937	-2,248	-76.5
Lincoln	122	512	-390	-76.2
Natrona	962	3,696	-2,734	-74.0
Niobrara	9	25	-16	-64.0
Park	167	816	-649	-79.5
Platte	47	180	-133	-73.9
Sheridan	190	706	-516	-73.1
Sublette	94	239	-145	-60.7
Sweetwater	364	1,241	-877	-70.7
Teton	632	1,608	-976	-60.7
Uinta	130	434	-304	-70.0
Washakie	53	165	-112	-67.9
Weston	42	118	-76	-64.4
Unknown	31	122	-91	-74.6
Out of State	857	2,559	-1,702	-66.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,806</b>	<b>20,485</b>	<b>-14,679</b>	<b>-71.7</b>

Source: Unemployment Insurance claims database.

Prepared by C. McGrath, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 5/18/21.

### Box: Definitions

**Initial Claim:** An initial claim is filed by an unemployed individual after a separation from an employer. The claim requests a determination of basic eligibility for the Unemployment Insurance benefits.

**Continued Weeks Claimed:** The number of weeks of UI benefits claimed during the reference period. An unemployed individual who has already filed an initial claim and who has experienced a week of unemployment and then filed a continued claim to claim benefits for that week of unemployment.

**Table 4: Wyoming Normalized<sup>a</sup> Unemployment Statistics: Continued Claims by County of Residence, April 2020 and April 2021**

County	Apr 2021	Apr 2020	Change	
			N	%
Albany	755	2,048	-1,293	-63.1
Big Horn	338	568	-230	-40.5
Campbell	1,736	4,969	-3,233	-65.1
Carbon	420	1,025	-605	-59.0
Converse	554	1,083	-529	-48.8
Crook	176	306	-130	-42.5
Fremont	1,380	3,529	-2,149	-60.9
Goshen	219	600	-381	-63.5
Hot Springs	122	341	-219	-64.2
Johnson	305	766	-461	-60.2
Laramie	2,858	8,697	-5,839	-67.1
Lincoln	445	1,697	-1,252	-73.8
Natrona	4,095	11,391	-7,296	-64.1
Niobrara	56	56	0	0.0
Park	821	2,790	-1,969	-70.6
Platte	191	559	-368	-65.8
Sheridan	924	2,758	-1,834	-66.5
Sublette	420	879	-459	-52.2
Sweetwater	1,749	4,650	-2,901	-62.4
Teton	1,306	6,361	-5,055	-79.5
Uinta	651	1,442	-791	-54.9
Washakie	248	568	-320	-56.3
Weston	168	403	-235	-58.3
Unknown	122	355	-233	-65.6
Out of State	3,616	8,843	-5,227	-59.1
<b>Normalized Total<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>23,687</b>	<b>66,694</b>	<b>-43,007</b>	<b>-64.5</b>

<sup>a</sup>An average month is considered 4.33 weeks. If a month has four weeks, the normalization factor is 1.0825. If the month has five weeks, the normalization factor is 0.866. The number of raw claims is multiplied by the normalization factor to achieve the normalized claims counts.

All totals are subject to rounding error and may not add to the sum of their respective components.

The table above conforms to Wyoming Employment Security Law - Wyoming Statute 27-3-603 regarding confidentiality.

Source: Unemployment Insurance claims database.

Prepared by C. McGrath, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 5/18/21.



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