

Wyoming Unemployment Insurance Claims Report

July 2020

Information for Wyoming by Industry and County of Residence of Claimant

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

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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, July 2020

Continued Claims Down 12% from June

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

From June to July, initial Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims in Wyoming decreased by 0.5% while continued claims decreased by 12.0%. July marked the fifth consecutive month of abnormally high claims, due in large part to the COVID-19 pandemic and declining oil prices.

Initial Claims

Wyoming had 8,137 initial UI claims in July, down slightly from 8,180 in

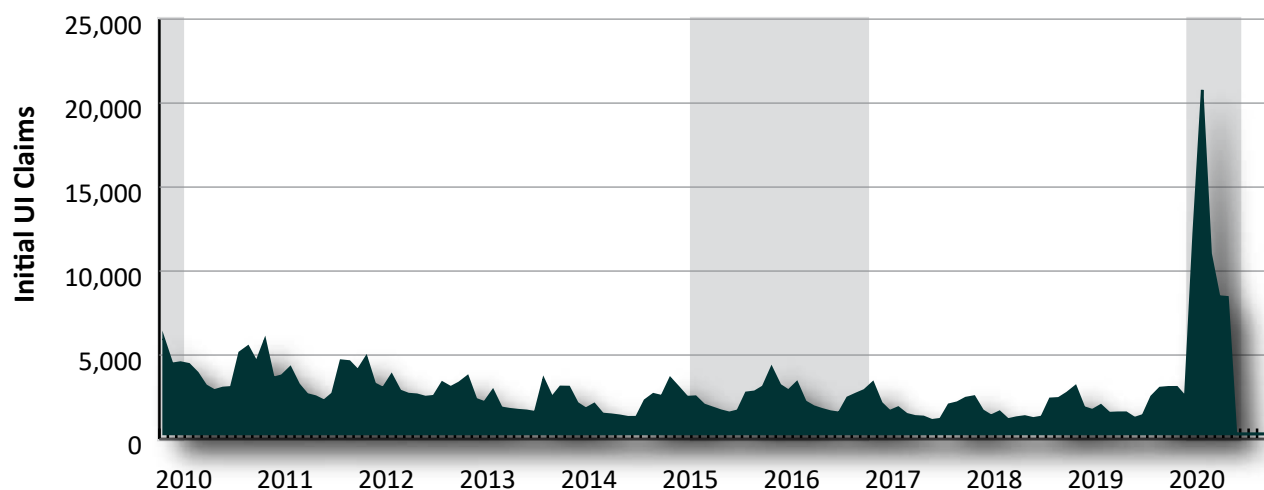
June (-43, or -0.5%). While initial claims remained substantially higher than historical numbers, the 8,137 claims in July were noticeably lower than the peak of 20,485 in April 2020. See Figure 1 and Table 1, page 5.

Several industries saw over-the-month decreases in initial claims, including mining (-284, or -28.8%), education & health services (-142, or -23.4%), and wholesale trade (-113, or -29.3%). Over-the-month increases were seen in leisure & hospitality (144, or 16.1%) and construction (35, or 4.5%). Initial claims considered "unclassified" increased by 733, or 40.7%. See Table 1 (page 5) and Figure 3 (page 6).

Increases in initial claims were seen in Lincoln (91, or 73.4%), Teton

Weekly UI Claims

Weekly Unemployment Insurance claims for Wyoming are now available online at https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/UI/weekly_UI_TOC.htm.



*An initial claim is a claim filed by an unemployed individual after a separation from an employer.

Shaded areas indicate periods of economic downturn (2009Q1-2010Q1 and 2015Q2-2016Q4) and 2020 COVID-19 pandemic: March 2020 to present.

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

Revised by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 8/18/20.

Figure 1: Total Number of Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims for Wyoming by Year and Month, January 2010 to July 2020

(85, or 24.1%), and Uinta (30, or 13.2%) counties, among others. Initial out-of-state claimants increased from 1,004 to 1,373 (369, or 36.8%). Noticeable decreases in initial claims were seen in some counties, including Natrona (-175, or -10.9%), Campbell (-150, or -17.7%), and Sweetwater (-106, or -15.9%) counties. See *Figure 4 (page 6) and Table 3 (page 9)*.

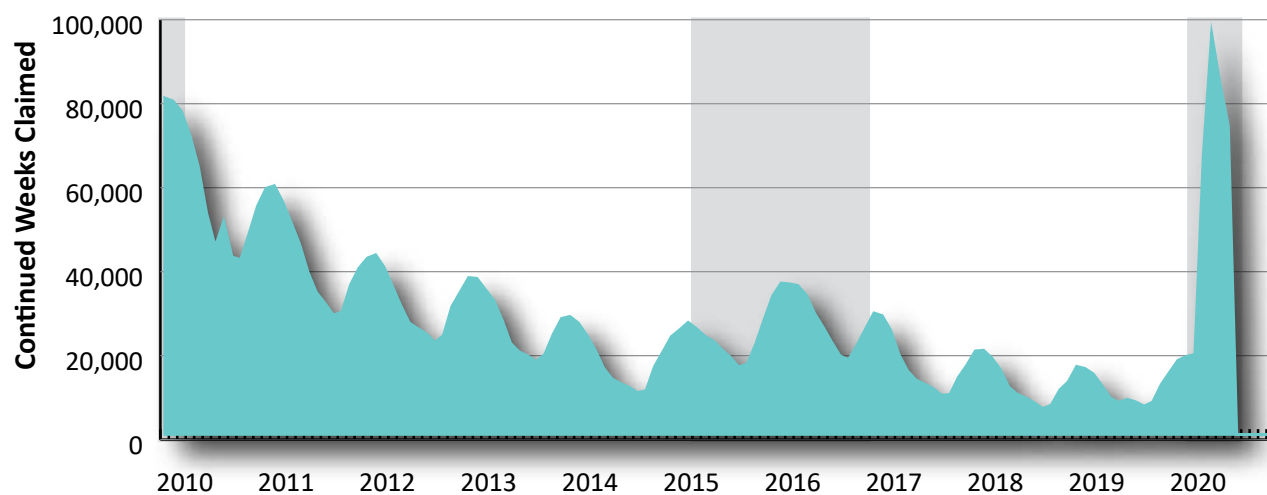
Continued Claims

Wyoming had 73,590 total weeks claimed in July, down from 83,807 in June (-10,217, or -12.2%). The number of unique claimants with continued claims decreased from 22,717 to 20,898 (-1,819, or -8.0%). See *Figure 2 and Table 2, page 7*.

Continued claims increased in mining from 13,123 to 13,604 (481, or 3.7%).

Most other industries saw a decrease in continued claims, including leisure & hospitality (-5,235, or -33.4%), retail trade (-825, or -18.2%), construction (-532, or -6.6%), and transportation, warehousing, & utilities (-479, or -13.8%). See *Table 2, page 7, and Figure 5, page 8*.

Continued weeks claimed decreased in 20 of the state's 23 counties from June to July. Large decreases were seen in counties such as Teton (-2,736, or -40.6%), Laramie (-1,502, or -15.6%), and Natrona (-754, or -4.8%) counties. Continued claims for out-of-state claimants decreased by 1,496, or 12.2%. Three counties showed an increase in continued claims: Goshen (50, or 8.1%), Niobrara (26, or 28.9%), and Uinta (16, or 0.8%) counties. See *Figure 6, page 8, and Table 4, page 9*.



*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 periods of economic downturn (2009Q1-2010Q1 and 2015Q2-2016Q4) and 2020 COVID-19 pandemic: March 2020 to present.

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

Revised by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 8/18/20.

Figure 2: Total Number of Unemployment Insurance Continued Weeks Claimed for Wyoming by Year and Month, January 2010 to June 2020

Table 1: Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims in Wyoming, July 2020

Industry	Initial Claims Filed			Over-the-Month Change		Over-the-Year Change	
	Jul 2020	Jun 2020	Jul 2019	N	%	N	%
Total Claims Filed	8,137	8,180	1,266	-43	-0.5	6,871	542.7
Goods-Producing	1,756	2,080	621	-324	-15.6	1,135	182.8
Natural Resources & Mining (11, 21)	719	1,015	408	-296	-29.2	311	76.2
Mining (21)	703	987	401	-284	-28.8	302	75.3
Oil & Gas Extraction (211)	19	41	N/D	-22	-53.7	N/D	N/D
Construction (23)	808	773	176	35	4.5	632	359.1
Manufacturing (31-33)	227	291	36	-64	-22.0	191	530.6
Service-Providing	3,386	3,599	409	-213	-5.9	2,977	727.9
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22, 42, 44-45, 48-49)	993	1,100	145	-107	-9.7	848	584.8
Wholesale Trade (42)	273	386	30	-113	-29.3	243	810.0
Retail Trade (44-45)	399	401	69	-2	-0.5	330	478.3
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities (22, 44-49)	320	312	45	8	2.6	275	611.1
Information (51)	49	62	N/D	-13	-21.0	N/D	N/D
Financial Activities (52-53)	170	233	22	-63	-27.0	148	672.7
Professional & Business Services (54-56)	478	487	87	-9	-1.8	391	449.4
Education & Health Services (61-62)	464	606	58	-142	-23.4	406	700.0
Leisure & Hospitality (71-72)	1,041	897	75	144	16.1	966	1,288.0
Other Services, except Public Admin. (81)	189	211	15	-22	-10.4	174	1,160.0
Government	461	700	94	-239	-34.1	367	390.4
Federal Government	40	47	9	-7	-14.9	31	344.4
State Government	79	110	6	-31	-28.2	73	1,216.7
Local Government	341	542	78	-201	-37.1	263	337.2
Local Education	158	302	13	-144	-47.7	145	1,115.4
Unclassified	2,533	1,800	140	733	40.7	2,393	1,709.3
Laramie County							
Total Claims Filed	1,009	998	120	11	1.1	889	740.8
Goods-Producing	122	154	29	-32	-20.8	93	320.7
Construction	71	83	25	-12	-14.5	46	184.0
Service-Providing	495	505	68	-10	-2.0	427	627.9
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	139	156	21	-17	-10.9	118	561.9
Financial Activities (52, 53)	14	31	4	-17	-54.8	10	250.0
Professional & Business Services (54 - 56)	85	89	21	-4	-4.5	64	304.8
Educational & Health Services (61 - 62)	96	83	7	13	15.7	89	1,271.4
Leisure & Hospitality (71 - 72)	119	97	9	22	22.7	110	1,222.2
Government	61	89	10	-28	-31.5	51	510.0
Unclassified	329	247	12	82	33.2	317	2,641.7
Natrona County							
Total Claims Filed	1,428	1,603	126	-175	-10.9	1,302	1,033.3
Goods-Producing	338	413	33	-75	-18.2	305	924.2
Construction	124	125	17	-1	-0.8	107	629.4
Service-Providing	748	884	77	-136	-15.4	671	871.4
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	258	315	26	-57	-18.1	232	892.3
Financial Activities (52, 53)	53	60	8	-7	-11.7	45	562.5
Professional & Business Services (54 - 56)	86	102	12	-16	-15.7	74	616.7
Educational & Health Services (61 - 62)	83	128	12	-45	-35.2	71	591.7
Leisure & Hospitality (71 - 72)	170	161	12	9	5.6	158	1,316.7
Government	32	50	5	-18	-36.0	27	540.0
Unclassified	308	254	9	54	21.3	299	3,322.2

Source: Unemployment Insurance claims database.

Revised by S. Wen, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 8/18/20.

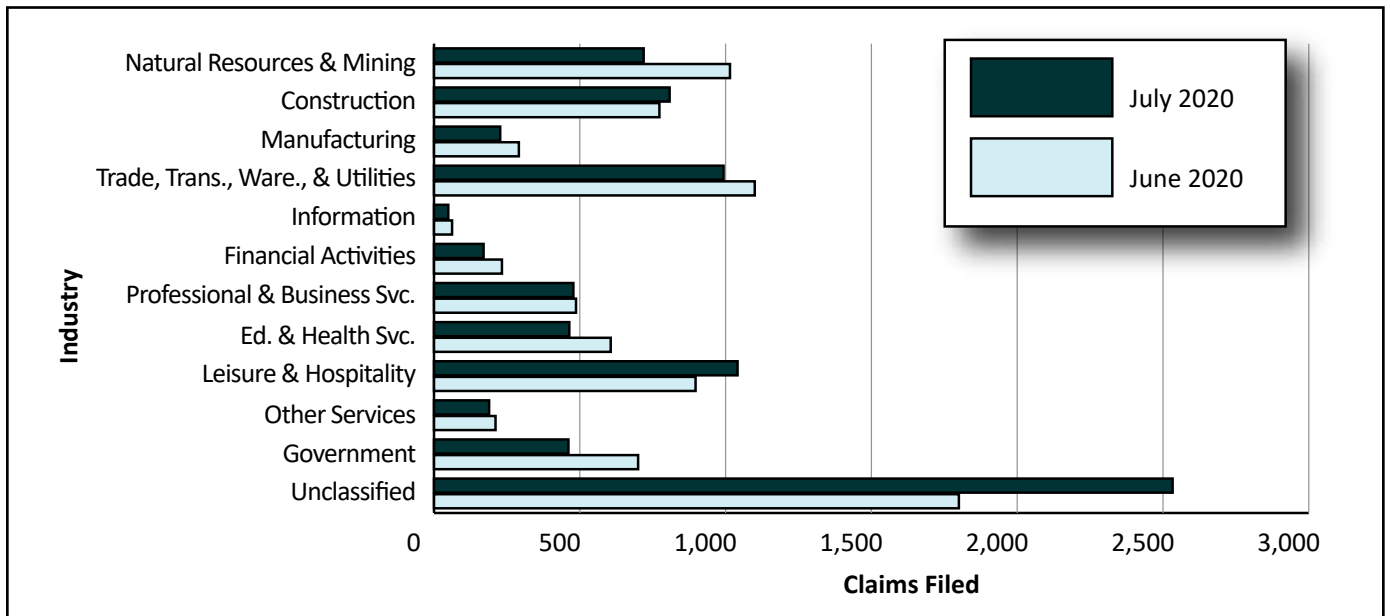


Figure 3: Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims by Major Industry in Wyoming, June and July 2020

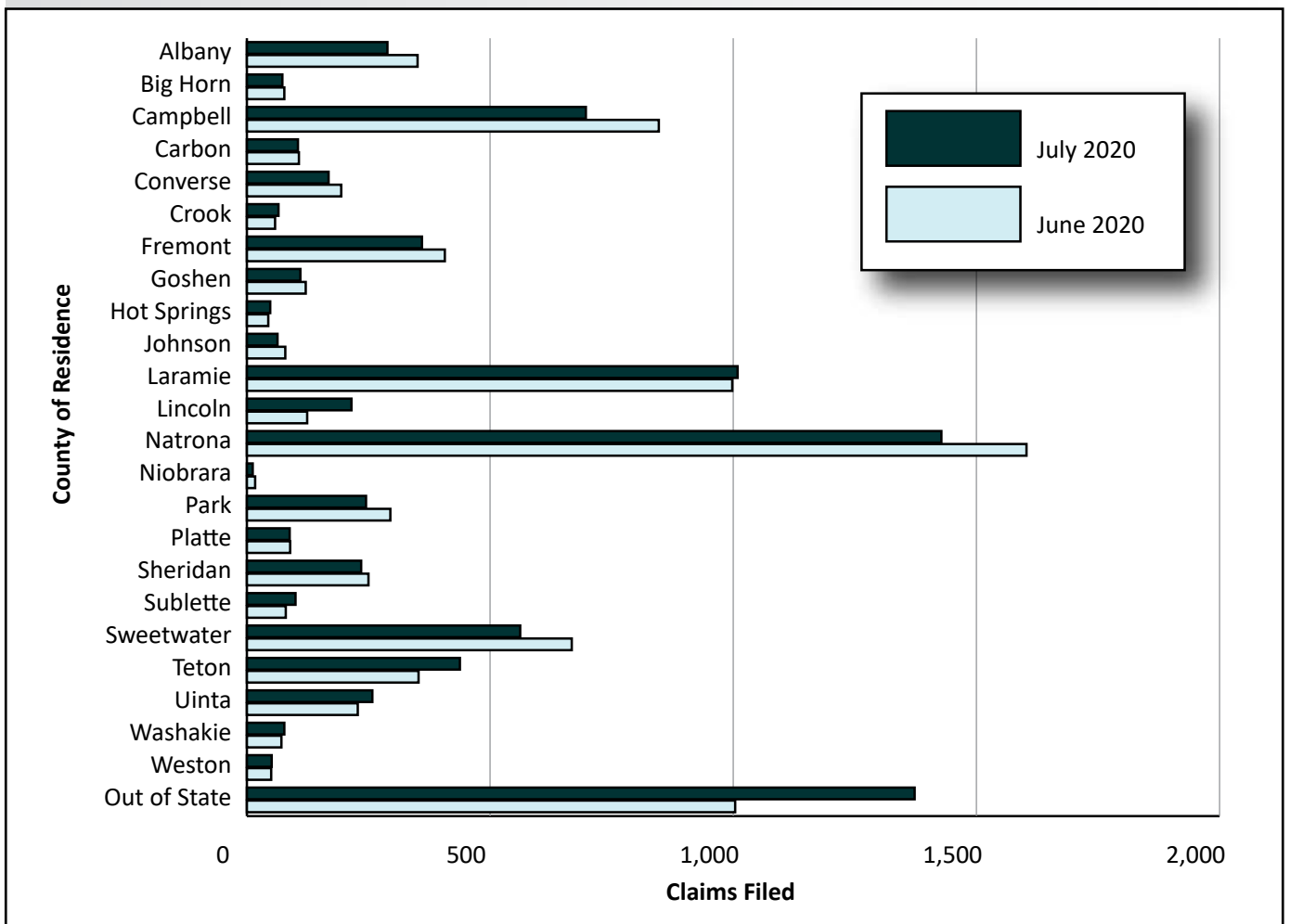


Figure 4: Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims by County of Residence, June and July 2020

Table 2: Unemployment Insurance Continued Weeks Claimed in Wyoming, July 2020

Industry	Continued Weeks Claimed			Over-the-Month Change		Over-the-Year Change	
	Jul 2020	Jun 2020	Jul 2019	N	%	N	%
Total Continued Weeks Claimed	73,590	83,807	8,439	-10,217	-12.2	65,151	772.0
Total Unique Claimants	20,898	22,717	2,753	-1,819	-8.0	18,145	659.1
Goods-Producing	23,766	23,951	2,965	-185	-0.8	20,801	701.6
Natural Resources & Mining (11, 21)	13,748	13,298	1,325	450	3.4	12,423	937.6
Mining (21)	13,604	13,123	1,244	481	3.7	12,360	993.6
Oil & Gas Extraction (211)	381	391	89	-10	-2.6	292	328.1
Construction (23)	7,539	8,071	1,239	-532	-6.6	6,300	508.5
Manufacturing (31-33)	2,478	2,581	400	-103	-4.0	2,078	519.5
Service-Providing	32,533	40,146	3,728	-7,613	-19.0	28,805	772.7
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22, 42, 44-45, 48-49)	9,643	10,840	1,047	-1,197	-11.0	8,596	821.0
Wholesale Trade (42)	2,938	2,830	219	108	3.8	2,719	1,241.6
Retail Trade (44-45)	3,702	4,527	592	-825	-18.2	3,110	525.3
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities (22, 44-49)	3,003	3,482	235	-479	-13.8	2,768	1,177.9
Information (51)	435	645	94	-210	-32.6	341	362.8
Financial Activities (52-53)	1,792	1,817	226	-25	-1.4	1,566	692.9
Professional & Business Services (54-56)	4,522	4,735	617	-213	-4.5	3,905	632.9
Education & Health Services (61-62)	3,866	4,289	866	-423	-9.9	3,000	346.4
Leisure & Hospitality (71-72)	10,436	15,671	700	-5,235	-33.4	9,736	1,390.9
Other Services, except Public Admin. (81)	1,836	2,146	174	-310	-14.4	1,662	955.2
Government	4,037	4,580	745	-543	-11.9	3,292	441.9
Federal Government	268	350	42	-82	-23.4	226	538.1
State Government	381	342	82	39	11.4	299	364.6
Local Government	3,387	3,887	620	-500	-12.9	2,767	446.3
Local Education	1,948	2,106	159	-158	-7.5	1,789	1,125.2
Unclassified	13,253	15,129	999	-1,876	-12.4	12,254	1,226.6
Laramie County							
Total Claims Filed	8,135	9,637	946	-1,502	-15.6	7,189	759.9
Total Unique Claimants	2,350	2,628	292	-278	-10.6	2,058	704.8
Goods-Producing	1,675	1,906	142	-231	-12.1	1,533	1,079.6
Construction	695	820	116	-125	-15.2	579	499.1
Service-Providing	4,383	5,414	622	-1,031	-19.0	3,761	604.7
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	1,263	1,831	164	-568	-31.0	1,099	670.1
Financial Activities (52, 53)	226	219	52	7	3.2	174	334.6
Professional & Business Services (54 - 56)	581	611	113	-30	-4.9	468	414.2
Educational & Health Services (61 - 62)	591	611	162	-20	-3.3	429	264.8
Leisure & Hospitality (71 - 72)	1,355	1,719	72	-364	-21.2	1,283	1,781.9
Government	486	544	96	-58	-10.7	390	406.3
Unclassified	1,589	1,772	85	-183	-10.3	1,504	1,769.4
Natrona County							
Total Claims Filed	15,118	15,872	1,054	-754	-4.8	14,064	1,334.3
Total Unique Claimants	4,201	4,280	335	-79	-1.8	3,866	1,154.0
Goods-Producing	4,652	4,531	226	121	2.7	4,426	1,958.4
Construction	1,185	1,203	107	-18	-1.5	1,078	1,007.5
Service-Providing	7,737	8,540	722	-803	-9.4	7,015	971.6
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	2,815	2,898	246	-83	-2.9	2,569	1,044.3
Financial Activities (52, 53)	582	509	55	73	14.3	527	958.2
Professional & Business Services (54 - 56)	991	1,026	122	-35	-3.4	869	712.3
Educational & Health Services (61 - 62)	761	815	165	-54	-6.6	596	361.2
Leisure & Hospitality (71 - 72)	1,807	2,389	83	-582	-24.4	1,724	2,077.1
Government	372	382	30	-10	-2.6	342	1,140.0
Unclassified	2,356	2,418	75	-62	-2.6	2,281	3,041.3

Source: Unemployment Insurance claims database.

Revised by S. Wen, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 8/18/20.

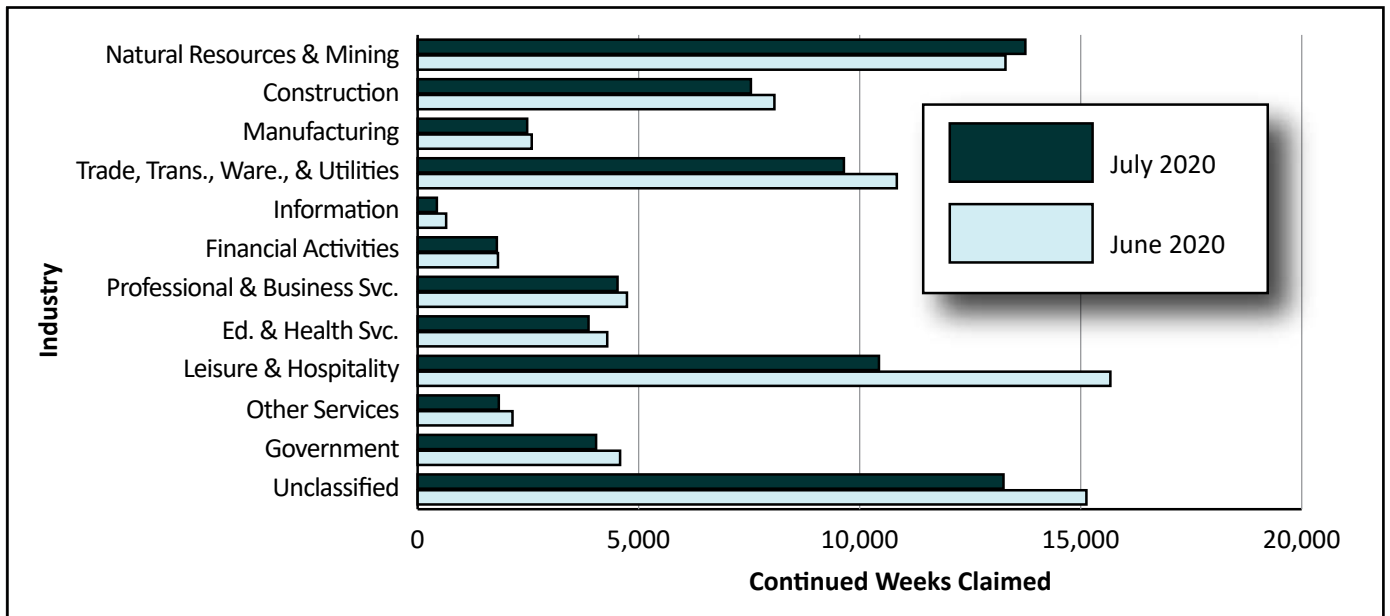


Figure 5: Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by Major Industry in Wyoming, May 2020 and June 2020

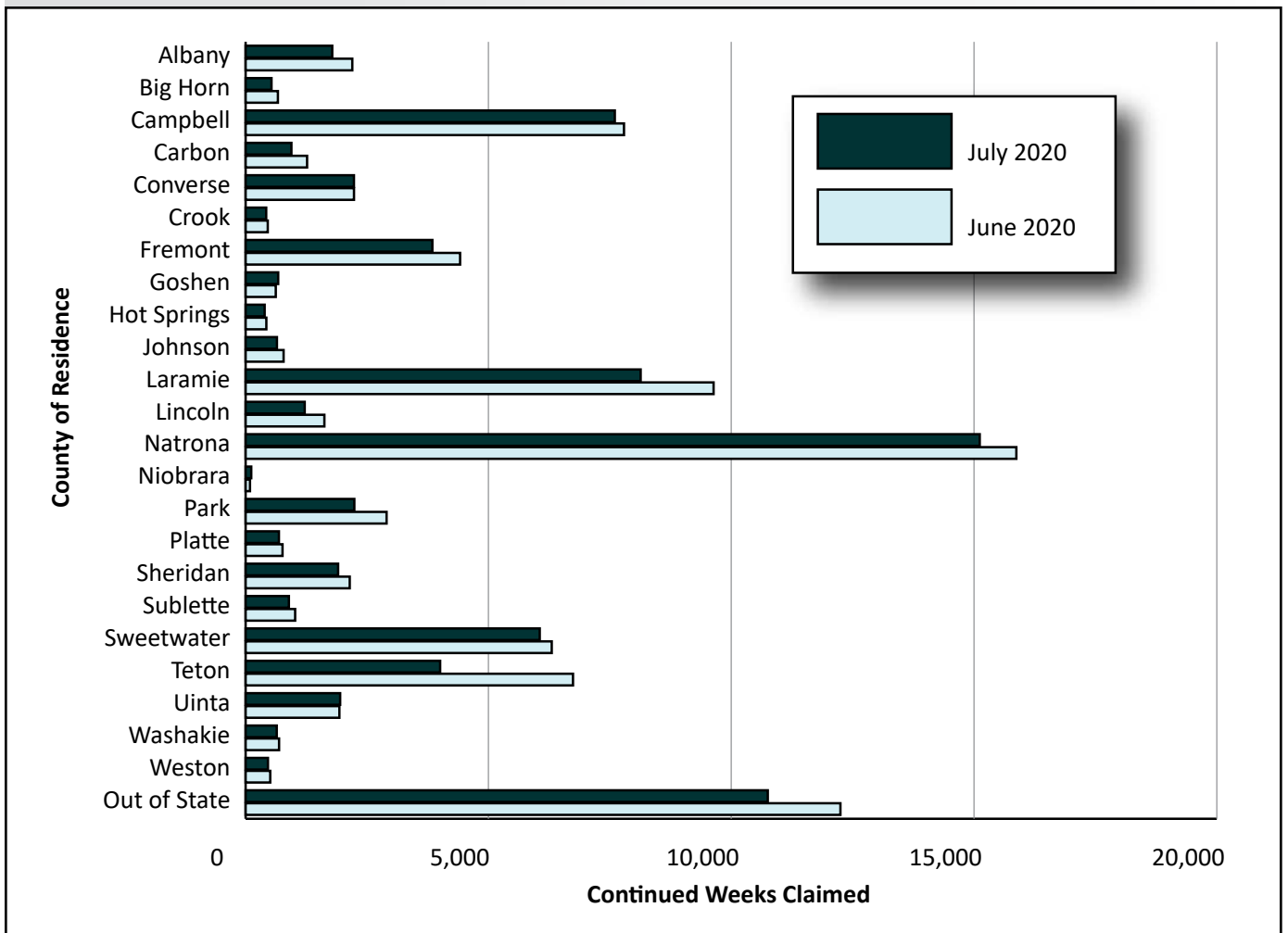


Figure 6: Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by County of Residence in Wyoming, May 2020 and June 2020

Table 3: Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims for Wyoming by County of Residence, June 2020 to July 2020

County	Jul 2020	Jun 2020	Change	
			N	%
Albany	289	351	-62	-17.7
Big Horn	73	77	-4	-5.2
Campbell	697	847	-150	-17.7
Carbon	105	107	-2	-1.9
Converse	168	194	-26	-13.4
Crook	65	58	7	12.1
Fremont	360	407	-47	-11.5
Goshen	110	121	-11	-9.1
Hot Springs	48	44	4	9.1
Johnson	63	79	-16	-20.3
Laramie	1,009	998	11	1.1
Lincoln	215	124	91	73.4
Natrona	1,428	1,603	-175	-10.9
Niobrara	12	17	-5	-29.4
Park	245	295	-50	-16.9
Platte	88	89	-1	-1.1
Sheridan	235	250	-15	-6.0
Sublette	100	80	20	25.0
Sweetwater	562	668	-106	-15.9
Teton	438	353	85	24.1
Uinta	258	228	30	13.2
Washakie	77	71	6	8.5
Weston	51	50	1	2.0
Unknown	56	54	2	3.7
Out of State	1,373	1,004	369	36.8
Total	8,137	8,180	-43	-0.5

Source: Unemployment Insurance claims database.
Revised by S. Wen, Research & Planning, WY DWS,
8/18/20.

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^a Unemployment Statistics: Continued Claims by County of Residence, June 2020 to July 2020


County	Jul 2020	Jun 2020	Change	
			N	%
Albany	1,784	2,197	-413	-18.8
Big Horn	533	665	-132	-19.8
Campbell	7,603	7,792	-189	-2.4
Carbon	943	1,266	-323	-25.5
Converse	2,231	2,232	-1	0.0
Crook	424	456	-32	-7.0
Fremont	3,846	4,417	-571	-12.9
Goshen	671	621	50	8.1
Hot Springs	392	427	-35	-8.2
Johnson	645	782	-137	-17.5
Laramie	8,135	9,637	-1,502	-15.6
Lincoln	1,217	1,622	-405	-25.0
Natrona	15,118	15,872	-754	-4.8
Niobrara	116	90	26	28.9
Park	2,239	2,903	-664	-22.9
Platte	686	760	-74	-9.7
Sheridan	1,905	2,144	-239	-11.1
Sublette	891	1,020	-129	-12.6
Sweetwater	6,057	6,304	-247	-3.9
Teton	4,006	6,742	-2,736	-40.6
Uinta	1,947	1,931	16	0.8
Washakie	641	689	-48	-7.0
Weston	460	507	-47	-9.3
Unknown	335	467	-132	-28.3
Out of State	10,753	12,249	-1,496	-12.2
Normalized Total^a	73,590	83,807	-10,217	-12.2

^aAn 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.
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This publication was produced by the Research & Planning section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services.

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