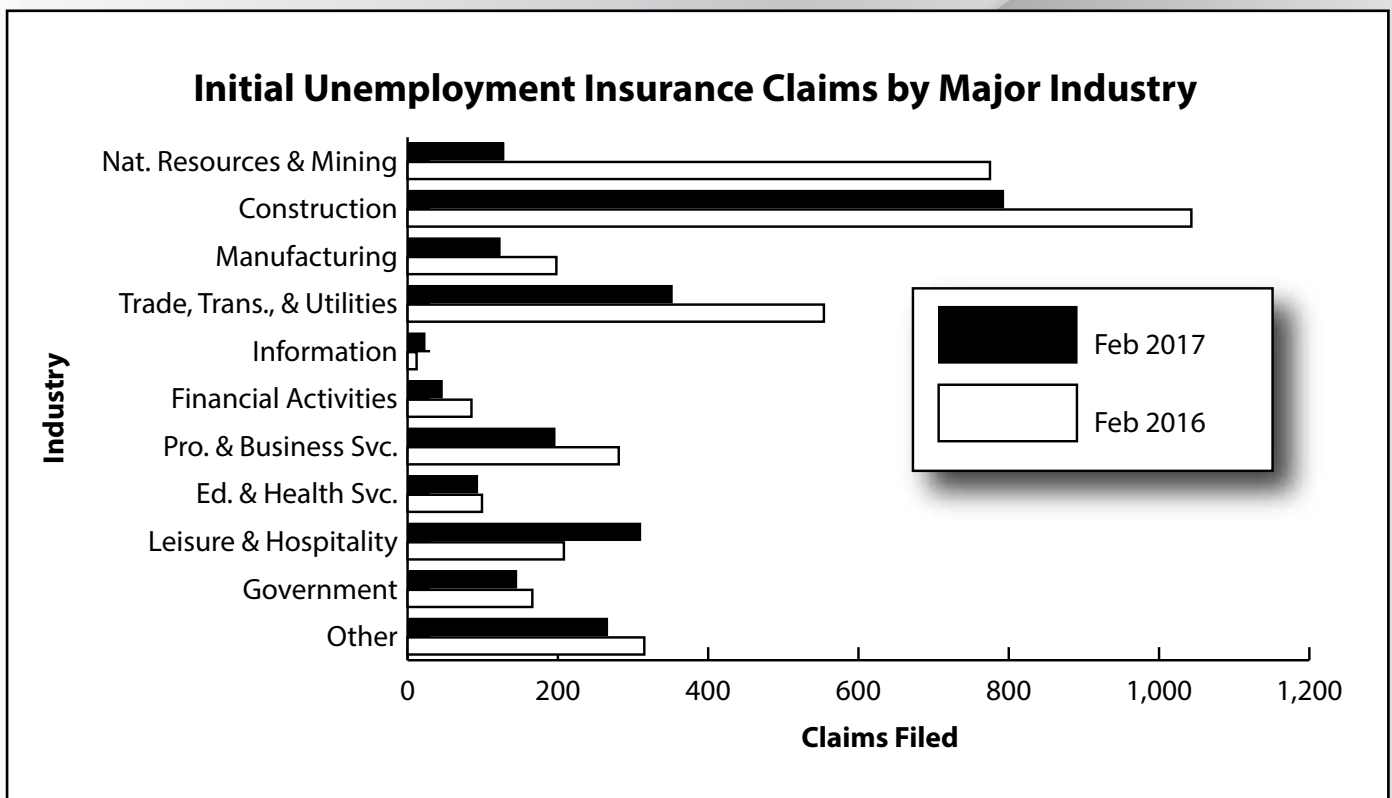


# Unemployment Insurance Claims Information for Wyoming by County, Industry, and Place of Residence of Claimant

## February 2017

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



Published March 9, 2017



# Unemployment Insurance Claims Information for Wyoming by County, Industry, and Place of Residence of Claimant, February 2017

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**“Your Source for Wyoming Labor Market Information”**

## 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 Information, February 2017: Initial and Continued Claims Decline

by: Patrick Manning, Principal Economist, and Michael Moore, Editor

## Initial Claims

Total initial claims decreased by 34.0% (-1,302 claims) from February 2016 to February 2017. New initial claims have decreased from prior year levels for eight consecutive months.

Initial claims in natural resources & mining decreased 83.5% (-647 claims) over the year. Most private industries experienced an over-the-year decrease in the number of initial claims, with the exception of leisure & hospitality (102 claims, or 49.0%), retail trade (20, or 11.2%), and information (11, or 91.7%).

Most counties experienced a decrease in initial claims compared to February 2016. The most substantial decreases were seen in Campbell (-303, or -60.0%), Natrona (-287, or -44.1%), and Sweetwater (-102, or -38.4%) counties. The number of initial claims for out-of-state claimants also decreased over the year (-267, or -44.3%). Initial claims increased the most in Teton County (82 claims, or 122.6%).

## Continued Claims

Over the year, the total number of unique claimants decreased by 2,229 individuals (-21.6%), while the total number of weeks claimed decreased by 7,768 weeks (-21.5%). Natural resources & mining (-3,424 weeks, or -68.6%) and trade, transportation, & utilities (-1,046, or -23.7%) saw the greatest decreases in continued weeks claimed.

Many of the counties that experienced a substantial decline in the number of initial claims also had a decline in the number of continued weeks claimed. Natrona (-1,544 weeks, or -26.0%), Campbell (-1,390, or -37.6%), Fremont (-746, or -25.6%), and Sweetwater (-532, or -22.4%) experienced the greatest decreases in continued weeks

claimed. The number of weeks claimed by out-of-state workers decreased by 1,390, or 20.7%.

The number of claimants who exhausted their benefits (-36, or -6.6%) also declined over the year.

## What Does a Decrease in Claims Mean?

There are several possible reasons for the decline in initial and continued UI claims. Claimants may have found work, exhausted their benefits, or left the *labor force*, which is defined as the total number of the civilian non-institutionalized population age 16 or older who are employed or unemployed (jobless, looking for a job, and available for work).

It is possible that many UI claimants may have left Wyoming and found employment in another state, making them no longer eligible to receive UI benefits. The number of jobs worked in Wyoming has consistently decreased since the start of the current economic downturn in 2015Q2, while surrounding states like Colorado, Idaho, Montana, and Utah have experienced job growth (Moore, in press). In addition, as noted by Bullard (2016), Wyoming's labor force shrank consistently throughout 2015 and 2016. As Wyoming lost jobs during the downturn, dislocated workers may have left the state and successfully found employment in another state.

## References

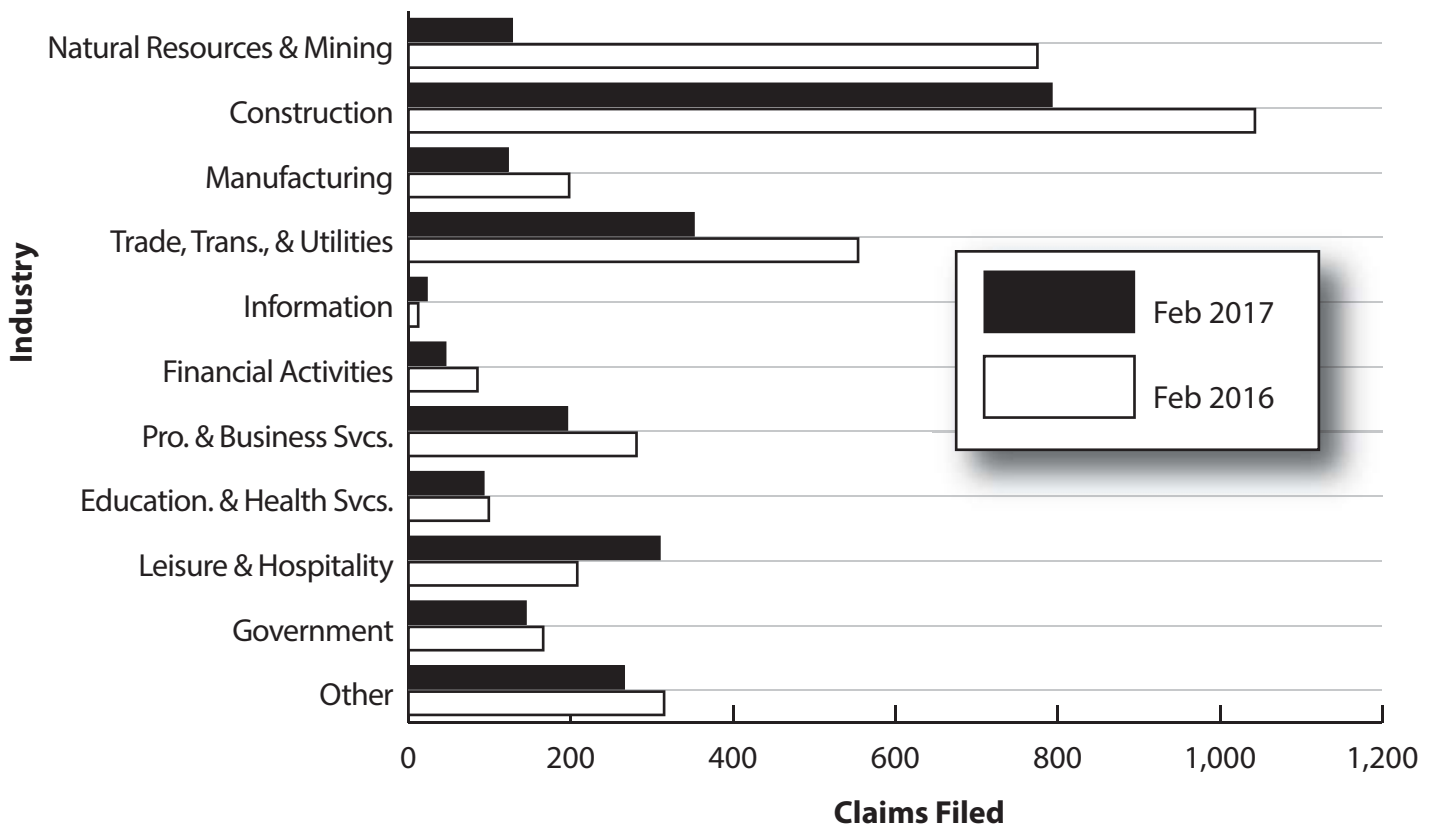
Bullard, D. (2016, December). Wyoming unemployment rate falls to 4.9% in November 2016. Retrieved February 2, 2017, from <http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/news.htm>

Moore, M. (In press). Employment and wage change for selected industries in Wyoming, 2016Q3.

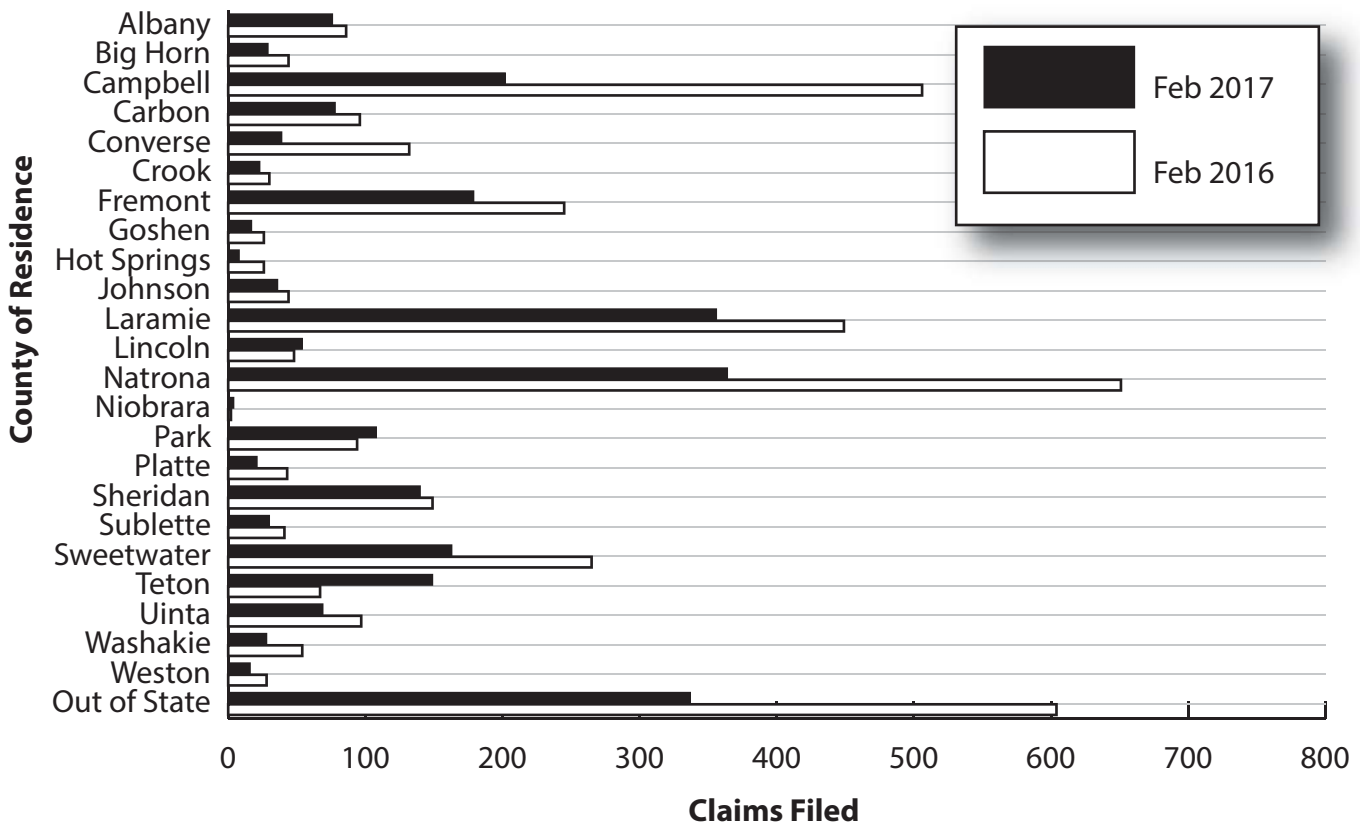
## Initial Claims Tables

	Claims Filed			Percent Change Claims Filed		Difference
	Feb-17	Jan-17	Feb-16	Feb-17 Jan-17	Feb-17 Feb-16	Feb-17 Feb-16
<b><u>Wyoming Statewide</u></b>						
<b>Total Claims Filed</b>	<b>2,527</b>	<b>3,817</b>	<b>3,829</b>	<b>-33.8</b>	<b>-34.0</b>	<b>-1,302</b>
<b>Goods-Producing</b>	<b>1,045</b>	<b>1,786</b>	<b>2,017</b>	<b>-41.5</b>	<b>-48.2</b>	<b>-972</b>
Natural Resources and Mining (11,21)	128	195	775	-34.4	-83.5	-647
Mining (21)	121	177	758	-31.6	-84.0	-637
Oil & Gas Extraction (211)	17	20	32	-15.0	-46.9	-15
Construction (23)	793	1,421	1,043	-44.2	-24.0	-250
Manufacturing (31 - 33)	123	168	198	-26.8	-37.9	-75
<b>Service-Providing</b>	<b>1,070</b>	<b>1,396</b>	<b>1,330</b>	<b>-23.4</b>	<b>-19.5</b>	<b>-260</b>
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	352	479	554	-26.5	-36.5	-202
Wholesale Trade (42)	34	58	156	-41.4	-78.2	-122
Retail Trade (44 - 45)	199	257	179	-22.6	11.2	20
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities (22,48 - 49)	119	164	219	-27.4	-45.7	-100
Information (51)	23	10	12	130.0	91.7	11
Financial Activities (52, 53)	46	46	85	0.0	-45.9	-39
Professional and Business Services (54 - 56)	196	296	281	-33.8	-30.2	-85
Educational and Health Services (61 - 62)	93	115	99	-19.1	-6.1	-6
Leisure and Hospitality (71 - 72)	310	375	208	-17.3	49.0	102
Other Services, except Public Admin. (81)	42	67	84	-37.3	-50.0	-42
<b>Government</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>285</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>-49.1</b>	<b>-12.7</b>	<b>-21</b>
Federal Government	57	123	51	-53.7	11.8	6
State Government	10	28	19	-64.3	-47.4	-9
Local Government	76	134	95	-43.3	-20.0	-19
Local Education	14	22	16	-36.4	-12.5	-2
<b>Unclassified</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>349</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>-23.8</b>	<b>-15.6</b>	<b>-49</b>
<b><u>Laramie County (Place of Residence)</u></b>						
<b>Total Claims Filed</b>	<b>356</b>	<b>519</b>	<b>449</b>	<b>-31.4</b>	<b>-20.7</b>	<b>-93</b>
<b>Goods-Producing</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>267</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>-50.6</b>	<b>-39.2</b>	<b>-85</b>
Construction	99	244	147	-59.4	-32.7	-48
<b>Service-Providing</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>-5.4</b>	<b>-3.5</b>	<b>-7</b>
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	64	70	80	-8.6	-20.0	-16
Financial Activities (52, 53)	9	9	7	0.0	28.6	2
Professional and Business Services (54 - 56)	69	54	54	27.8	27.8	15
Educational and Health Services (61 - 62)	18	23	20	-21.7	-10.0	-2
Leisure and Hospitality (71 - 72)	20	27	20	-25.9	0.0	0
<b>Government</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>-56.0</b>	<b>-38.9</b>	<b>-7</b>
<b>Unclassified</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>-13.0</b>	<b>33.3</b>	<b>5</b>
<b><u>Natrona County (Place of Residence)</u></b>						
<b>Total Claims Filed</b>	<b>363</b>	<b>540</b>	<b>650</b>	<b>-32.8</b>	<b>-44.2</b>	<b>-287</b>
<b>Goods-Producing</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>271</b>	<b>346</b>	<b>-35.4</b>	<b>-49.4</b>	<b>-171</b>
Construction	130	212	162	-38.7	-19.8	-32
<b>Service-Providing</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>-30.7</b>	<b>-40.4</b>	<b>-112</b>
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	70	91	123	-23.1	-43.1	-53
Financial Activities (52, 53)	7	6	23	16.7	-69.6	-16
Professional and Business Services (54 - 56)	28	49	46	-42.9	-39.1	-18
Educational and Health Services (61 - 62)	16	22	21	-27.3	-23.8	-5
Leisure and Hospitality (71 - 72)	26	50	24	-48.0	8.3	2
<b>Government</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>-50.0</b>	<b>-44.4</b>	<b>-4</b>
<b>Unclassified</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>-10.5</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0</b>

## Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims by Major Industry, February 2017



## Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims by County of Residence, February 2017



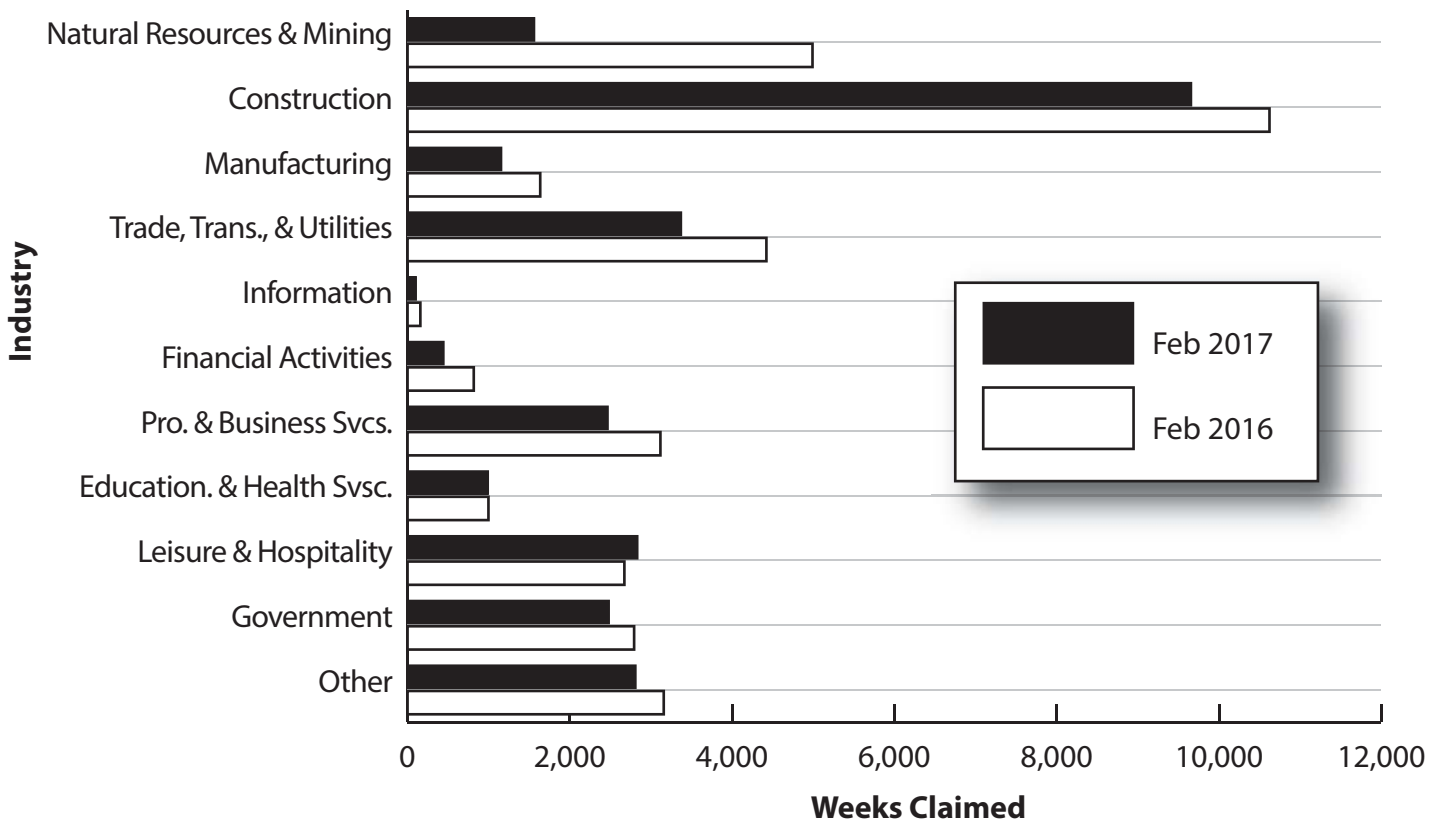
Source: Research & Planning, Wyoming Department of Workforce Services. Retrieved from <http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/ui.htm>.

## Continued Weeks Claimed Tables

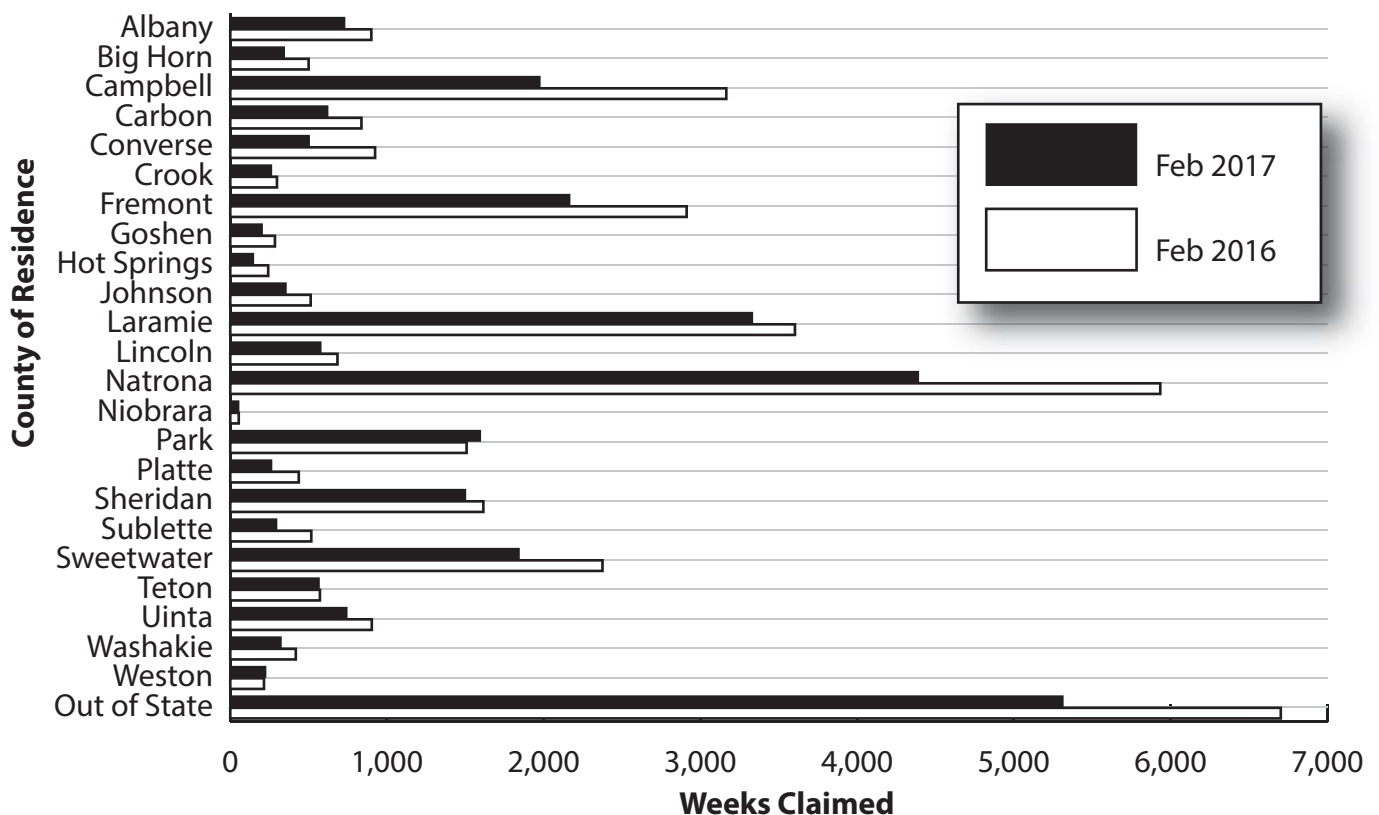
	Claims Filed			Percent Change Claims		Difference
	Feb-17	Jan-17	Feb-16	Feb-17 Jan-17	Feb-17 Feb-16	Feb-17 Feb-16
<b><u>Wyoming Statewide</u></b>						
<b>Total Continued Weeks Claimed</b>	<b>28,356</b>	<b>29,000</b>	<b>36,124</b>	<b>-2.2</b>	<b>-21.5</b>	<b>-7,768</b>
<b>Total Unique Claimants*</b>	<b>8,068</b>	<b>8,565</b>	<b>10,297</b>	<b>-5.8</b>	<b>-21.6</b>	<b>-2,229</b>
<b>Benefit Exhaustions</b>	<b>508</b>	<b>490</b>	<b>544</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>-6.6</b>	<b>-36</b>
<b>Benefit Exhaustion Rates</b>	<b>6.3%</b>	<b>5.7%</b>	<b>5.3%</b>	<b>0.6%</b>	<b>1.0%</b>	
<b>Goods-Producing</b>	<b>12,388</b>	<b>12,773</b>	<b>17,247</b>	<b>-3.0</b>	<b>-28.2</b>	<b>-4,859</b>
Natural Resources and Mining (11,21)	1,566	1,895	4,990	-17.4	-68.6	-3,424
Mining (21)	1,326	1,668	4,793	-20.5	-72.3	-3,467
Oil & Gas Extraction (211)	194	190	491	2.1	-60.5	-297
Construction (23)	9,661	9,796	10,621	-1.4	-9.0	-960
Manufacturing (31 - 33)	1,160	1,081	1,635	7.3	-29.1	-475
<b>Service-Providing</b>	<b>10,665</b>	<b>10,411</b>	<b>12,926</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>-17.5</b>	<b>-2,261</b>
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	3,376	3,241	4,422	4.2	-23.7	-1,046
Wholesale Trade (42)	561	572	1,059	-1.9	-47.0	-498
Retail Trade (44 - 45)	1,824	1,755	1,591	3.9	14.6	233
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities (22,48 - 49)	991	914	1,772	8.4	-44.1	-781
Information (51)	108	123	158	-12.2	-31.6	-50
Financial Activities (52, 53)	449	361	816	24.4	-45.0	-367
Professional and Business Services (54 - 56)	2,472	2,348	3,116	5.3	-20.7	-644
Educational and Health Services (61 - 62)	996	1,043	997	-4.5	-0.1	-1
Leisure and Hospitality (71 - 72)	2,838	2,876	2,672	-1.3	6.2	166
Other Services, except Public Admin. (81)	420	412	736	1.9	-42.9	-316
<b>Government</b>	<b>2,486</b>	<b>2,535</b>	<b>2,792</b>	<b>-1.9</b>	<b>-11.0</b>	<b>-306</b>
Federal Government	1,181	1,236	1,104	-4.4	7.0	77
State Government	226	210	286	7.6	-21.0	-60
Local Government	1,079	1,088	1,401	-0.8	-23.0	-322
Local Education	200	213	166	-6.1	20.5	34
<b>Unclassified</b>	<b>2,815</b>	<b>3,279</b>	<b>3,157</b>	<b>-14.2</b>	<b>-10.8</b>	<b>-342</b>
<b><u>Laramie County (Place of Residence)</u></b>						
Construction						
<b>Total Continued Weeks Claimed</b>	<b>3,331</b>	<b>3,355</b>	<b>3,602</b>	<b>-0.7</b>	<b>-7.5</b>	<b>-271</b>
<b>Total Unique Claimants</b>	<b>971</b>	<b>1,001</b>	<b>1,048</b>	<b>-3.0</b>	<b>-7.3</b>	<b>-77</b>
<b>Goods-Producing</b>	<b>1,668</b>	<b>1,794</b>	<b>1,993</b>	<b>-7.0</b>	<b>-16.3</b>	<b>-325</b>
Construction	1,519	1,634	1,639	-7.0	-7.3	-120
<b>Service-Providing</b>	<b>1,392</b>	<b>1,247</b>	<b>1,215</b>	<b>11.6</b>	<b>14.6</b>	<b>177</b>
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	515	450	472	14.4	9.1	43
Financial Activities (52, 53)	68	42	105	61.9	-35.2	-37
Professional and Business Services (54 - 56)	438	393	299	11.5	46.5	139
Educational and Health Services (61 - 62)	158	163	149	-3.1	6.0	9
Leisure and Hospitality (71 - 72)	152	149	110	2.0	38.2	42
<b>Government</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>-9.0</b>	<b>-46.0</b>	<b>-121</b>
<b>Unclassified</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>-17.9</b>	<b>-0.8</b>	<b>-1</b>
<b><u>Natrona County (Place of Residence)</u></b>						
<b>Total Continued Weeks Claimed</b>	<b>4,390</b>	<b>4,578</b>	<b>5,934</b>	<b>-4.1</b>	<b>-26.0</b>	<b>-1,544</b>
<b>Total Unique Claimants</b>	<b>1,236</b>	<b>1,352</b>	<b>1,725</b>	<b>-8.6</b>	<b>-28.3</b>	<b>-489</b>
<b>Goods-Producing</b>	<b>2,153</b>	<b>2,267</b>	<b>3,128</b>	<b>-5.0</b>	<b>-31.2</b>	<b>-975</b>
Construction	1,684	1,680	1,742	0.2	-3.3	-58
<b>Service-Providing</b>	<b>1,985</b>	<b>2,067</b>	<b>2,567</b>	<b>-4.0</b>	<b>-22.7</b>	<b>-582</b>
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (22,42,44-45,48-49)	675	695	1,049	-2.9	-35.7	-374
Financial Activities (52, 53)	78	71	187	9.9	-58.3	-109
Professional and Business Services (54 - 56)	462	501	548	-7.8	-15.7	-86
Educational and Health Services (61 - 62)	245	278	189	-11.9	29.6	56
Leisure and Hospitality (71 - 72)	394	378	377	4.2	4.5	17
<b>Government</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>31.3</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Unclassified</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>-11.3</b>	<b>-16</b>

\*Does not include claimants receiving extended benefits

## Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by Major Industry, February 2017



## Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by County of Residence, February 2017



Source: Research & Planning, Wyoming Department of Workforce Services. Retrieved from <http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/ui.htm>.

**Wyoming Normalized<sup>a</sup> Unemployment Statistics: Continued Claims by County of Residence, February 2017**

County	February 2017	February 2016	Over-the-Year Change	
			N	%
Albany	730	900	-170	-18.9%
Big Horn	345	500	-155	-31.0%
Campbell	1,976	3,165	-1,190	-37.6%
Carbon	622	837	-214	-25.6%
Converse	504	924	-420	-45.4%
Crook	263	298	-35	-11.6%
Fremont	2,166	2,912	-746	-25.6%
Goshen	204	285	-81	-28.5%
Hot Springs	148	242	-94	-38.8%
Johnson	356	513	-157	-30.6%
Laramie	3,332	3,603	-271	-7.5%
Lincoln	578	684	-106	-15.5%
Natrona	4,391	5,934	-1,544	-26.0%
Niobrara	54	54	0	0.0%
Park	1,596	1,508	88	5.8%
Platte	264	437	-173	-39.6%
Sheridan	1,501	1,615	-114	-7.0%
Sublette	296	517	-222	-42.9%
Sweetwater	1,843	2,375	-532	-22.4%
Teton	567	572	-4	-0.8%
Uinta	744	903	-159	-17.6%
Washakie	324	418	-94	-22.5%
Weston	226	215	11	5.0%
Out of State	5,313	6,703	-1,390	-20.7%
<b>Normalized Total<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>28,356</b>	<b>36,124</b>	<b>-7,768</b>	<b>-21.5%</b>
<b>Real Total<sup>b</sup></b>	<b>26,195</b>	<b>33,371</b>	<b>-7,176</b>	<b>-21.5%</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.

<sup>b</sup>Raw claims data that have not been multiplied by the normalization factor.

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: Research & Planning, Wyoming Department of Workforce Services. Retrieved from <http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/ui.htm>