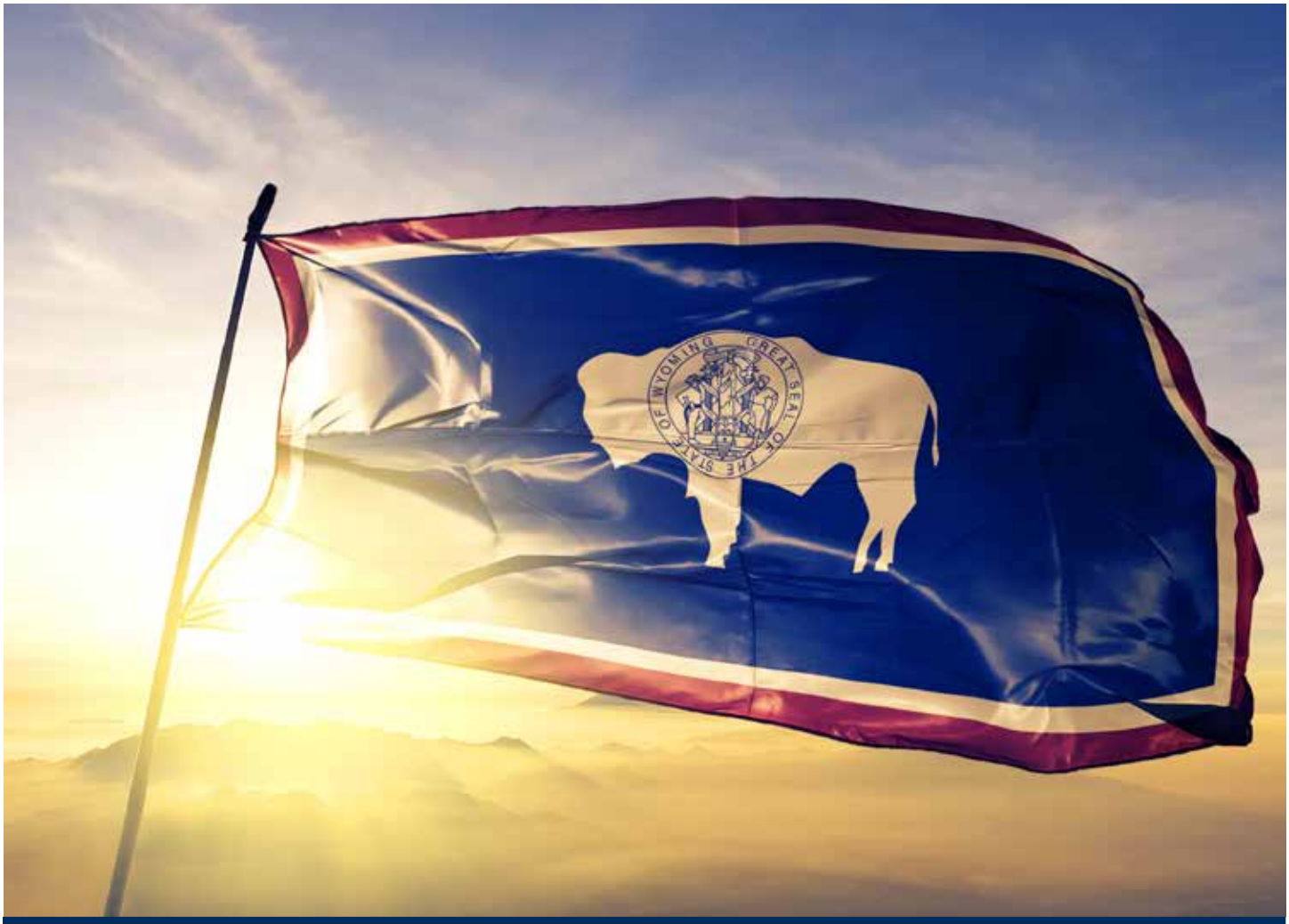

2022 Wyoming Workforce Annual Report

Prepared by the Research & Planning Section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services, in Cooperation with the Wyoming Workforce Development Council

2022 Wyoming Workforce Annual Report

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Wyoming Workforce Development Council

Published June 2022.

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The Department of Workforce Services does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, or disability. It is our intention that all individuals seeking services from our agency be given equal opportunity and that eligibility decisions be based upon applicable statutes, rules, and regulations.

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URL for this publication: https://doe.state.wy.us/lmi/annual-report/2022/2022_Annual_Report.pdf
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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.

Cover Photo: Oleksii/stock.adobe.com

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Welcome

Dear Reader,

Welcome to the 2022 edition of the *Wyoming Workforce Annual Report*, produced by the Research & Planning (R&P) section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services in partnership with the Wyoming Workforce Development Council. This report provides an overview of Wyoming's economy and workforce as the state began to recover from its latest economic downturn that was driven by the COVID-19 pandemic and declining energy prices.

Key findings from this year's report include:

- Wyoming's average monthly employment increased by more than 4,600 jobs (1.8%) from 2020 to 2021 (see Chapter 2).
- Wyoming's unemployment rate fell from 5.8% to 4.5%, and the labor force decreased by more than 3,000 people (see Chapter 4).
- The number of Unemployment Insurance benefit recipients declined by 52.9%, and the total benefits paid decreased by 63.1% (see Chapter 5).

Thank you for taking the time to review this report. I encourage you to contact us with questions and comments, or to share your thoughts on future research.

Best Regards,
Tony Glover, Manager
Research & Planning, Wyoming Department of Workforce Services

This workforce product was funded by a grant awarded by the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration. The product was created by the recipient and does not necessarily reflect the official position of the U.S. Department of Labor.

Chapter 1: Introduction

Wyoming's Labor Market Begins Recovery in 2021

by: Michael Moore, Research Supervisor

After enduring unprecedented job losses due to declining energy prices and the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 and early 2021, Wyoming's economy began to rebound during the second half of 2021.

This report from the Research & Planning (R&P) section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services, in partnership with the Wyoming Workforce Development Council, provides a thorough look at Wyoming's labor market in 2021.

Research & Planning collects, analyzes, and publishes timely and accurate labor market information (LMI) meeting established statistical standards (see pages 6-7). Data are collected through various federal and state programs, and also are acquired through several memoranda of understanding (MOU) with state agencies in Wyoming and many other states.

R&P maintains numerous administrative databases and conducts several surveys in partnership with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (see Table 1.1, page 5). Different chapters in this publication examine Wyoming's labor market in 2020 from unique perspectives using various datasets. In addition, Chapter 9 provides short-term occupational employment projections, and Chapters 12 and 13 focus on workplace safety.

Economic struggles are not new to Wyoming. Since 2009, the state has been faced with three periods of economic downturn. R&P defines an *economic downturn* as a period of at least two consecutive quarters of over-the-year decreases in average monthly employment and total wages, based on data from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW).

The first downturn lasted five quarters from first quarter 2009 (2009Q1) to first quarter 2010 (2010Q1), and closely followed the national Great Recession. The second downturn lasted seven quarters from 2015Q2 to 2016Q4 and resulted from a sharp decline in the demand for and cost of natural resources such as coal, oil, and natural gas. Both downturns were preceded by declining energy prices.

The third and most recent downturn began in 2020Q2 with the start of the COVID-19 pandemic and lasted four quarters through 2021Q1. However, as mentioned in Chapter 2, job losses in Wyoming's mining sector began even earlier in 2019Q3, and declining energy prices preceded this most recent downturn as well.

From 2019 to 2020, Wyoming lost more than 16,000 jobs and total wages decreased by over $500 million, according to data from the QCEW. Then from 2020 to 2021, Wyoming added 4,631 jobs and total wages increased by $777.0 million, though employment and wages remained lower than pre-pandemic levels. From 2020 to 2021, the greatest job gains were seen in leisure & hospitality, professional & business services, and retail trade. Wyoming's mining sector saw substantial over-the-year employment growth in 2021Q4.

Wyoming's average annual unemployment rate for 2021 was 4.5%, down from 5.8% in 2020 (see Chapter 4). The number of employed people increased slightly over the year, but Wyoming's labor force continued to decline.

A total of 20,536 unemployed workers

Table 1.1: Wyoming's Labor Market at a Glance, 2020 and 2021

Chapter	Source	Title	2021	2020	Change, 2020-2021 N	Change, 2020-2021 %
2	Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW)	Average Monthly Employment	265,586	260,955	4,631	1.8
		Total Wages (in Billions)	$14.1	$13.3	$0.8	5.8
		Average Annual Wage	$53,020	$50,983	$2,037	4.0
3	U.S. Census Bureau	Population (Estimated)	578,803	577,267	1,536	0.3
4	Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)	Labor Force	290,404	293,722	-3,318	-1.1
		Employed	277,372	276,739	633	0.2
		Unemployed	13,032	16,983	-3,951	-23.3
		Unemployment Rate	4.5	5.8	-1.3	-22.4
5	Unemployment Insurance (UI) Claims	Benefit Recipients	20,536	43,630	-23,094	-52.9
		Benefit Exhaustees	6,686	9,309	-2,623	-28.2
		Exhaustion Rate	32.6	21.3	11.3	53.1
		Benefit Expenses (in Millions)	$159.5	$431.7	-$272.2	-63.1
7	Wage Records	Total Persons Working	336,824	337,767	-943	-0.3
		Gender				
		Women	137,294	140,211	-2,917	-2.1
		Men	155,013	161,665	-6,652	-4.1
		Nonresidents	44,517	35,891	8,626	24.0
		Average Annual Wage	$37,354	$37,334	$20	0.1
		Women	$32,608	$31,446	$1,162	3.7
		Men	$47,375	$47,064	$311	0.7
		Nonresidents	$17,098	$16,512	$585	3.5
		Women's Wages as a Percentage of Men's Wages	68.8	66.8	2.0	3.0
		Age				
		<20	21,724	20,912	812	3.9
		20-24	30,035	31,591	-1,556	-4.9
		25-34	61,546	65,398	-3,852	-5.9
		35-44	62,240	63,700	-1,460	-2.3
		45-54	50,008	50,879	-871	-1.7
		55-64	45,959	48,366	-2,407	-5.0
		65+	20,442	20,624	-182	-0.9
		Unknown	44,870	36,297	8,573	23.6
		Average Annual Wage				
		<20	$6,570	$6,541	$29	0.4
		20-24	$18,571	$17,736	$835	4.7
		25-34	$35,606	$34,878	$729	2.1
		35-44	$49,663	$48,970	$693	1.4
		45-54	$54,883	$53,820	$1,063	2.0
		55-64	$51,522	$51,171	$350	0.7
		65+	$34,953	$33,752	$1,201	3.6
		Unknown	$17,203	$16,628	$575	3.5

Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 4/18/22.

About Research & Planning: Who We Are, What We Do

by: Chris McGrath, Senior Statistician

Research & Planning (R&P) is an exclusively statistical entity within the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services with the purpose of compiling and analyzing data and making such information available to other government agencies, the public, businesses, and nongovernmental groups. The labor market information collected is used in policymaking, planning, program administration, selecting a career, and many other ways.

To help in collecting the most comprehensive data, R&P has established formal partnerships through memoranda of understanding with statewide entities such as the Wyoming Community College Commission, Wyoming Department of Education, Board of Nursing, and data sharing agreements with 11 states (Alaska, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, and Utah). The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) is another entity R&P collaborates with in gathering material on employment and wages, earnings by industry, work-related non-fatal and fatal injuries, occupational wages, and more.

Types of data R&P collects include:

The Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) program publishes a quarterly count of employment and wages reported by Wyoming employers subject to Unemployment Insurance coverage. Data is based on employee's place of work, not place of residence, and organized by industry to include number of firms, monthly employment, and total wages.

The Current Employment Statistics (CES) program produces monthly estimates of non-farm employment, hours, and earnings by industry for state and metropolitan areas.

The Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program develops monthly and annual data of the labor force, employed, and unemployed for the state and counties.

Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics (OEWS) are a listing of occupational wage data compiled from bi-annual surveys of non-farm businesses.

The Wyoming New Hires Job Skills Survey collects information about the types of benefits (medical insurance, retirement plans, paid leave, etc.) Wyoming employers offer employees as well as important job skills, retention, and more.

Occupational Safety & Health is comprised of two programs that collect information on Wyoming fatal and non-fatal work related injuries and illnesses: Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI) and Survey of Occupational Injuries & Illnesses (SOII).

Short- and long-term industry and occupational employment projections are estimates on the labor market and economy two and 10 years into the future designed to help individuals make informed career decisions as well as compare the outlook in other states.

Monthly Unemployment Insurance Claims Report

(Text continued on page 7)

(Text continued from page 5)

received UI benefits in 2021, down from the record high 43,630 in 2020 (see Chapter 5). The Wyoming Department of Workforce Services Unemployment Insurance (UI) division paid a total of $159.5 million in benefits, down from $431.7 million in 2020.

R&P publishes detailed demographics tables on an annual basis, the most current of which are available online at https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/demographics.htm. Overall, the number of people working in Wyoming at any time during the year decreased by 943, or 0.3% (see Chapter 7).

Wyoming is projected to add approximately 9,000 new jobs from 2021 to 2023, according to the most recent short-term industry and occupational projections (see Chapter 9). The industries with the greatest projected growth include construction, accommodation & food services, and health care & social assistance.

This publication also highlights new research done by R&P in 2021, including youth and older workers in the labor market (see Chapter 7), the effects of COVID-19 on the labor force (see Chapter 13), tracking high school seniors into the labor market over 10 years (see Chapter 12), and more.

(Text continued from page 6)

details initial and continued claims for Wyoming by county of residence, industry, and selected demographics from the prior month.

The data collected by R&P staff contains material regarding individuals in the workforce such as skills and educational characteristics of the employed and unemployed, and barriers to employment and unemployment rates. It also pertains to employers looking at wage and benefit data, occupations, and skills. Some of the publications and products generated from the above resources include:

- A Study of the Disparity in Wages Between Men and Women in Wyoming
- Directory of Licensed Occupations in Wyoming
- Health Care Workforce Needs in Wyoming
- The Survey of Occupational Injuries & Illnesses Report, 2020
- Wyoming Youth and Populations with Barriers to Employment
- Another Decade Later: Tracking Wyoming's High School Seniors into Post-Secondary Education and the Labor Market

Confidentiality is an important part of the collection and distribution of data collected. All data that are gathered are used strictly to reveal statistical trends, not to identify individuals or businesses. Readers may notice that in the publications there are charts, tables, etc. that appear to have missing data. However, some of the data collected cannot be published because it would compromise the confidentiality of the persons or firms who provided the information.

For a complete listing of publications, research projects, and formal partnerships, please visit https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/.

Chapter 2: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

Wyoming Shows Employment and Wage Growth in 2021

by: Michael Moore, Research Supervisor

After four consecutive quarters of over-the-year job losses and declines in total wages, Wyoming saw over-the-year increases in employment and wages in each quarter after first quarter 2021 (2021Q1; see Figures 2.1 and 2.2, page 9). Overall, Wyoming's average monthly employment increased by 4,631 jobs (1.8%) from 2020 to 2021, while total wages increased by $777.0 million (5.8%; see Table 2.1).

Table 2.1: Average Monthly Employment (Jobs Worked), Total Wages, and Average Annual Wage for Wyoming, 2020 and 2021

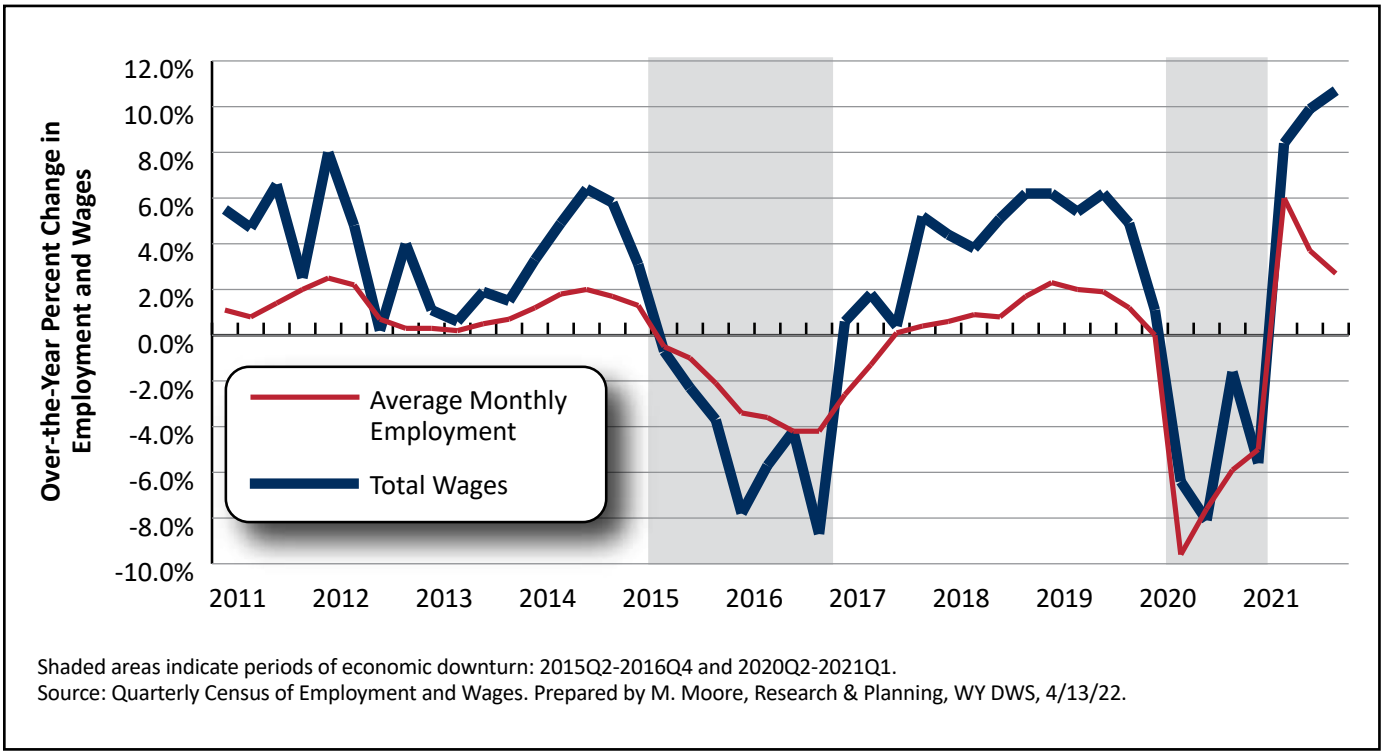
	2021	2020	Change, 2020-2021 N	Change, 2020-2021 %
Average Monthly Employment	265,586	260,955	4,631	1.8
Total Wages	$14.1 Billion	$13.3 Billion	$777.0 Million	5.8
Average Annual Wage	$53,020	$50,983	$2,037	4.0

Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages.
Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 4/13/22.

This chapter provides annual averages for employment and wages at the state, industry, and county levels for Wyoming in 2021.

Introduction

Employment and wage information in this chapter are based on data from the



Shaded areas indicate periods of economic downturn: 2015Q2-2016Q4 and 2020Q2-2021Q1.
Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages. Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 4/13/22.

Figure 2.1: Over-the-Year Percent Change in Average Monthly Employment (Number of Jobs Worked) and Total Wages in Wyoming, 2011Q1-2021Q4

Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW), a "near-census of employment in the states" (Manning and Saulcy, 2013). The QCEW is based on employers' quarterly wage and employment reports to the Unemployment Insurance (UI) tax section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services. Approximately 91% of wage and salary employment is covered by Unemployment Insurance in Wyoming. This chapter includes annual and quarterly data.

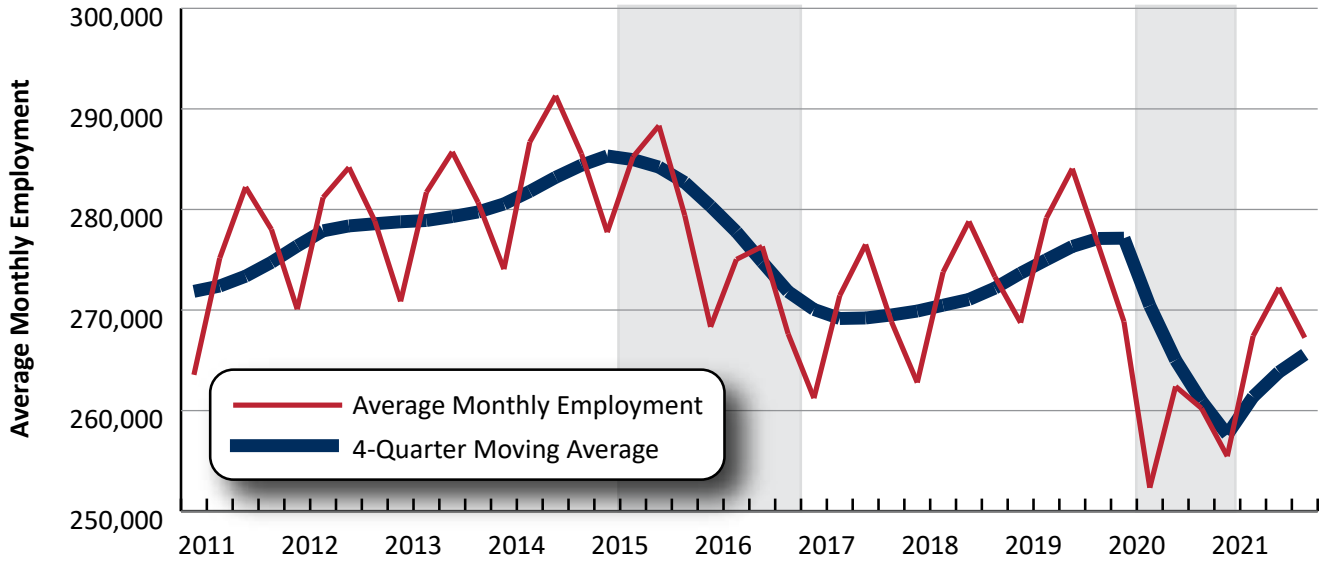
Due in large part to the COVID-19 pandemic and declines in energy prices and demand, Wyoming endured an economic downturn that lasted from 2020Q2 to 2021Q1 (*most recent downturn*). This marked the third such downturn in the past 12 years. For the purposes of this report, the Research & Planning (R&P) section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services has defined *economic downturn* as a period of at least two consecutive quarters of over-the-year decline in average monthly employment (the number of jobs worked) and total wages according to data from the QCEW (see Figure 2.1, page 8). The two prior recent downturns occurred from 2009Q1 to 2010Q1 (*2009 downturn*) and 2015Q2 to 2016Q4 (*2015 downturn*). Both downturns were preceded by declining energy prices (Moore, 2019).

Find it Online

Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/toc_202.htm

Wyoming experienced unprecedented job losses during the most recent downturn. For example, in 2020Q2 during the start of the pandemic, Wyoming lost a record 26,826 jobs, a decrease of 9.6% from the prior year (Moore, 2021). The previous record job losses occurred in 2009Q4,



Shaded areas indicate periods of economic downturn: 2015Q2-2016Q4 and 2020Q2-2021Q1.
Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages. Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 4/13/22.

Figure 2.2: Average Monthly Employment (Number of Jobs Worked) in Wyoming, 2011Q1-2021Q4

during the 2009 downturn, when Wyoming lost 18,039 jobs from the prior year (-6.4%; Research & Planning, 2020a). During the most recent downturn, employment fell to levels not seen since 2004.

Wyoming's average monthly employment in 2021 was 265,586, up 1.8% (4,631 jobs) compared to 2020 (see Table 2.2, page 11). Total wages increased from $13.3 billion to $14.1 billion ($777.0 million, or 5.8%) and the state's average annual wage increased from $50,983 to $53,020 ($2,037, or 4.0%).

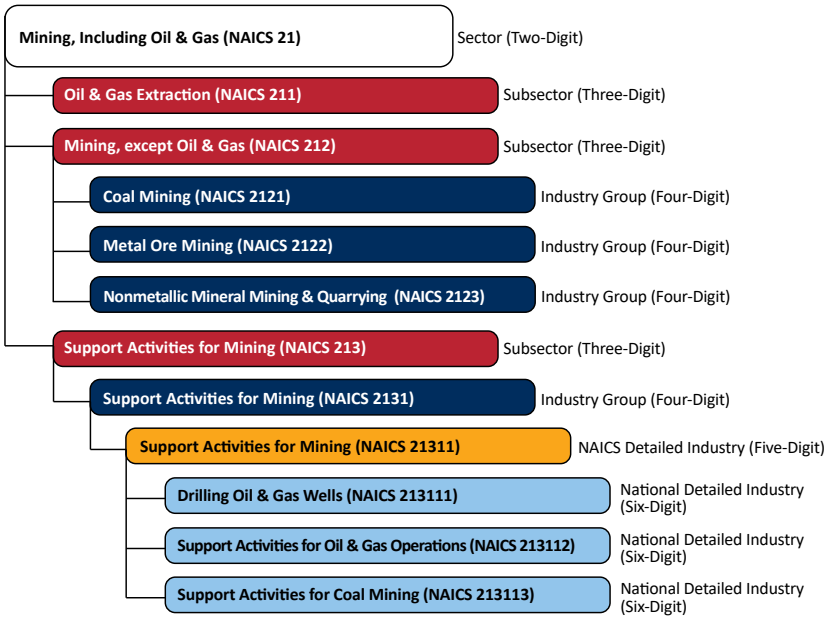
Because Wyoming continues to recover from never-before-seen job losses, employment and wages have not yet returned to pre-pandemic levels.

Industry

This chapter primarily discusses industries at the two-digit sector level as defined by the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS; see Box 2.1). In addition, Tables 2.3 and 2.4 include more detailed data for mining and leisure & hospitality by selected subsector (three-digit NAICS), industry (four-digit NAICS),

Box 2.1: North American Industry Classification System Structure

Industries are classified according to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). For example, mining, quarrying, & oil & gas extraction is an industry sector with the two-digit NAICS code 21. Within the mining sector are three subsectors: oil & gas extraction (NAICS 211), mining, except oil & gas (NAICS 212), and support activities for mining (NAICS 213). Within the support activities for mining subsector are several six-digit national detailed industry sectors, including drilling oil & gas wells (NAICS 213111), support activities for oil & gas operations (NAICS 213112), and support activities for coal mining (NAICS 213113).



Source: North American Industry Classification System (NAICS).

Figure: North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) Structure of Selected Levels for Mining, Including Oil & Gas Sector (NAICS 21)

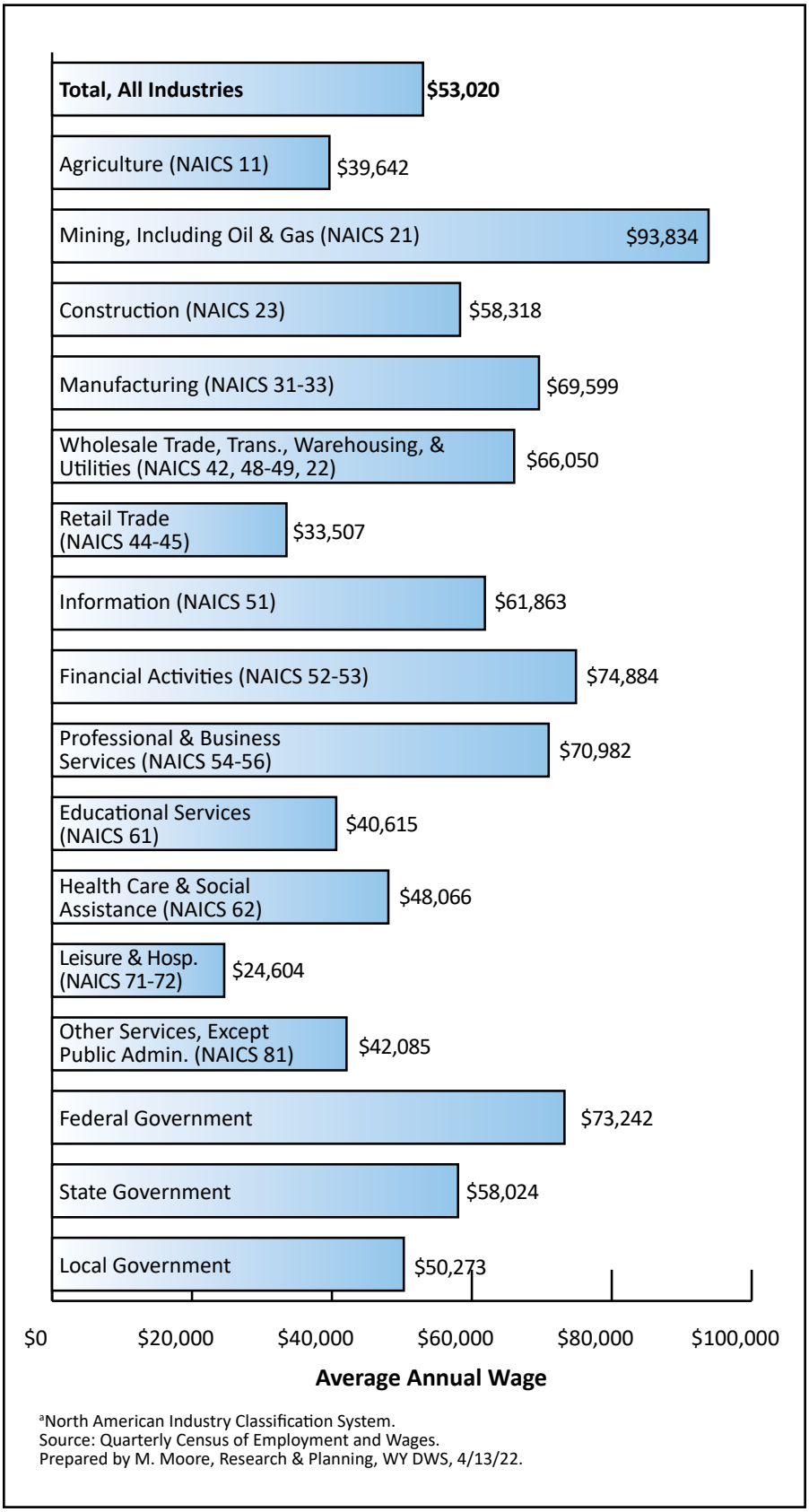
and detailed industry (six-digit NAICS). Similar detailed tables for each industry are available at https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/2021_QCEW/toc.htm.

Most industries experienced job growth from 2020 to 2021 (see Table 2.2), including leisure & hospitality (3,499, or 10.8%), professional & business services (1,265, or 6.9%), and retail trade (1,000, or 3.5%). Some industries experienced job losses from 2020 to 2021, most notably mining, including oil & gas (-1.570, or -9.6%), construction (-187, or -0.9%), and wholesale trade, transportation, & utilities (-137, or -0.7%).

Table 2.2: Average Monthly Employment (Jobs Worked) and Total Wages in Wyoming by Industry, 2020-2021

			Average Monthly Employment				Total Wages (in Millions of Dollars)			
					Change				Change	
	NAICS[a] Code	Industry	2021	2020	N	%	2021	2020	$	%
Private Sector										
		Total	**201,438**	**196,801**	**4,637**	**2.4**	**$10,585.1**	**$9,885.6**	**$699.5**	**7.1**
Goods Producing Industries	11	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting	2,722	2,768	-46	-1.7	$107.9	$102.8	$5.1	4.9
	21	Mining, Including Oil & Gas	14,755	16,325	-1,570	-9.6	$1,384.5	$1,483.0	-$98.6	-6.6
	23	Construction	21,008	21,195	-187	-0.9	$1,225.1	$1,200.4	$24.7	2.1
	31-33	Manufacturing	9,769	9,580	189	2.0	$679.9	$673.5	$6.4	0.9
Service Providing Industries	42, 48-49, 22	Wholesale Trade, Trans., Warehousing, & Utilities	19,716	19,853	-137	-0.7	$1,302.2	$1,266.6	$35.6	2.8
	44-45	Retail Trade	29,660	28,661	1,000	3.5	$993.8	$910.3	$83.5	9.2
	51	Information	2,962	3,000	-38	-1.3	$183.3	$162.9	$20.4	12.5
	52-53	Financial Activities	11,162	10,918	244	2.2	$835.8	$704.0	$131.9	18.7
	54-56	Professional & Business Services	19,646	18,381	1,265	6.9	$1,394.5	$1,107.0	$287.5	26.0
	61	Educational Services	1,827	1,651	176	10.6	$74.2	$66.5	$7.7	11.6
	62	Health Care & Social Assistance	25,394	25,279	116	0.5	$1,220.6	$1,181.2	$39.4	3.3
	71-72	Leisure & Hospitality	35,803	32,305	3,499	10.8	$880.9	$744.3	$136.6	18.4
	81	Other Services, Except Public Admin.	6,885	6,769	115	1.7	$289.7	$272.4	$17.4	6.4
	99	Unclassified	131	118	13	10.7	$12.7	$10.7	$2.0	18.3
Government										
		Total	**64,148**	**64,153**	**-6**	**0.0**	**$3,496.2**	**$3,418.7**	**$77.5**	**2.3**
		Federal Government	7,657	7,785	-128	-1.6	$560.8	$547.6	$13.2	2.4
		State Government	12,312	12,512	-200	-1.6	$714.4	$721.2	-$6.7	-0.9
		Local Government	44,178	43,857	322	0.7	$2,221.0	$2,149.9	$71.0	3.3
	61	Local Educational Services	21,859	21,714	145	0.7	$1,004.5	$986.4	$18.1	1.8
	62	Local Health Care & Social Assistance	8,804	8,844	-40	-0.5	$624.9	$585.1	$39.8	6.8
Total, All Industries										
		Total	**265,586**	**260,955**	**4,631**	**1.8**	**$14,081.3**	**$13,304.3**	**$777.0**	**5.8**

[a]North American Industry Classification System.
Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages.
Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 4/13/22.



[a]North American Industry Classification System.
Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages.
Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 4/13/22.

Figure 2.3: Average Annual Wage in Wyoming by Industry Sector (2-Digit NAICS[a]), 2021

Total government employment remained largely unchanged (0.0%). State government lost 200 jobs (-1.6%), while federal government lost 128 (-1.6%). Local government added 322 jobs (0.7%), largely driven by increases in local government educational services (145, or 0.7%).

Wyoming's average annual wage for 2021 was $53,020 (see Figure 2.3). The highest average wages were found in mining ($93,834), financial activities ($74,884), federal government ($73,242), professional & business services ($70,982), and manufacturing ($69,599). The industries with the lowest average annual wages were leisure & hospitality ($24,604), retail trade ($33,507), and agriculture ($39,642).

Mining, Including Oil & Gas (NAICS 21)

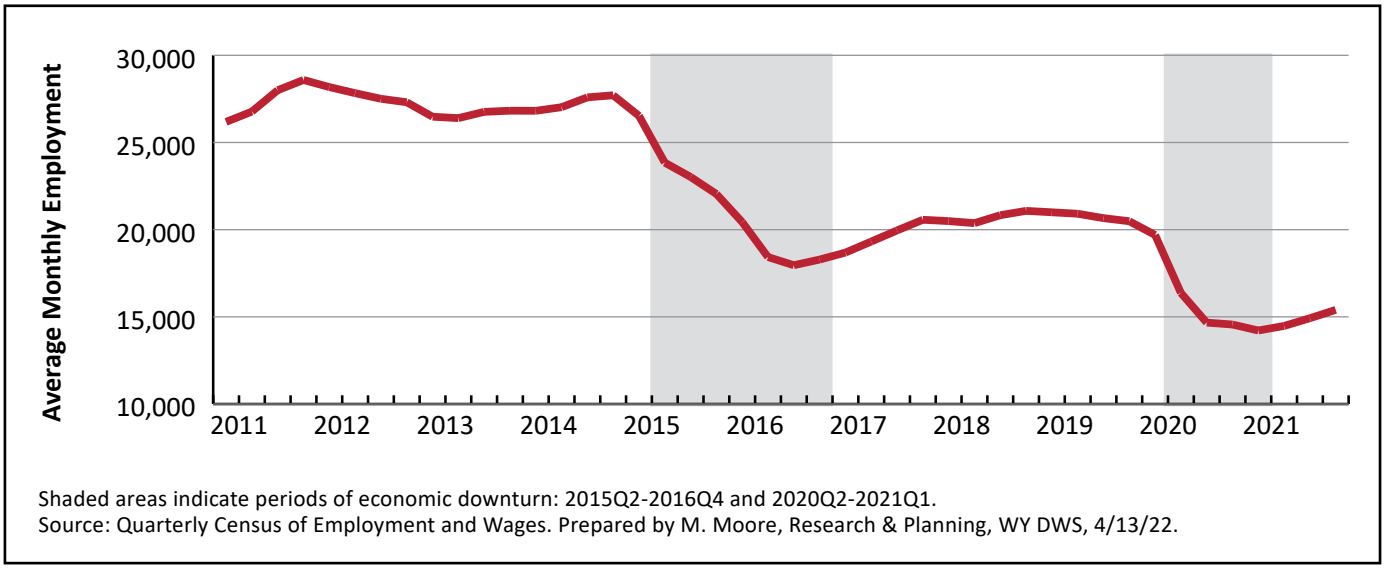
Wyoming's economy is driven in large part by the mining sector. In 2021, mining accounted for 5.6% of all jobs in the state, down from 6.3% in 2020.

As previously mentioned, the two prior economic downturns were preceded by declining energy prices and job losses in Wyoming's

mining sector. Similarly, job losses in mining began in 2019Q3, three quarters prior to the start of the pandemic and the most recent downturn, and continued through 2021Q2 (see Figures 2.4 and 2.5).

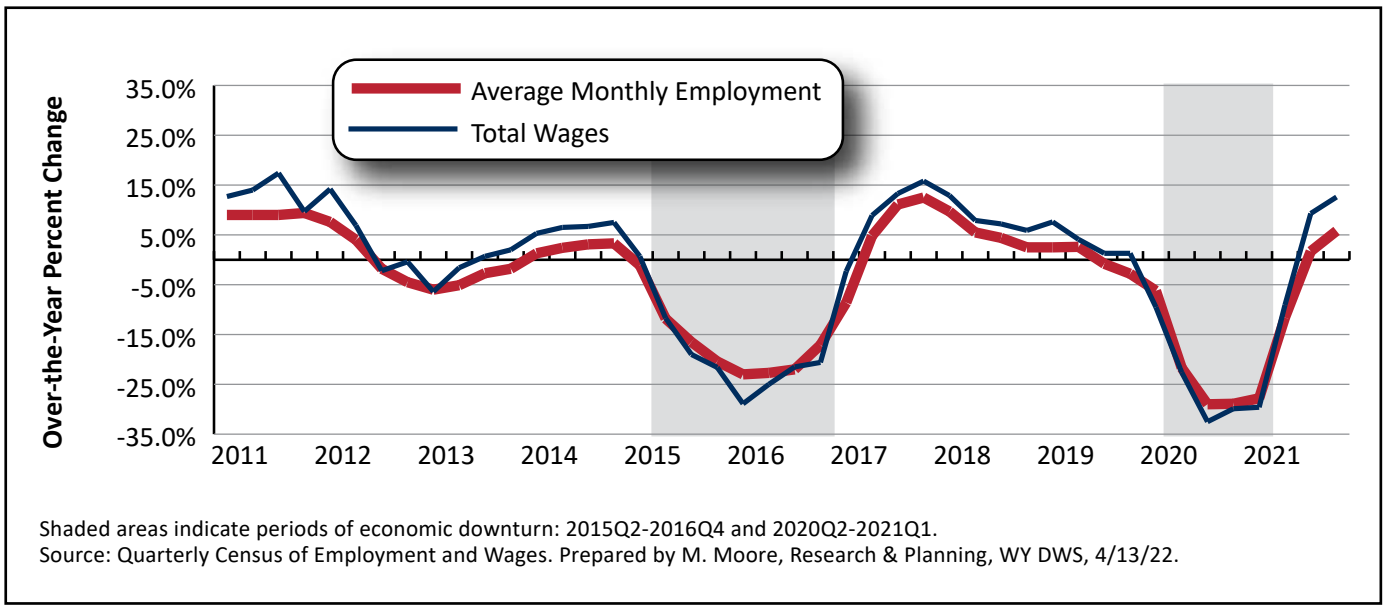
The mining industry is made up of three subsectors: oil & gas extraction (NAICS 211), mining, except oil & gas (NAICS 212), and support activities for mining (NAICS 213). Employment and wage data for mining at the subsector (three-digit NAICS) level, along with data for selected industries (four-digit NAICS) and detailed industries (six-digit NAICS) are shown in Table 2.3 (see page 14).

Average monthly employment in mining



Shaded areas indicate periods of economic downturn: 2015Q2-2016Q4 and 2020Q2-2021Q1.
Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages. Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 4/13/22.

Figure 2.4: Average Monthly Employment in Mining, Including Oil & Gas (NAICS 21) in Wyoming, 2011Q1-2021Q3



Shaded areas indicate periods of economic downturn: 2015Q2-2016Q4 and 2020Q2-2021Q1.
Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages. Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 4/13/22.

Figure 2.5: Over-the-Year Percent Change in Average Monthly Employment and Total Wages in Mining, Including Oil & Gas (NAICS 21) in Wyoming, 2011Q1-2021Q3

decreased from 16,325 in 2020 to 14,755 (-1.570, or -9.6%). Job losses were seen across all three subsectors, led by support activities for mining (-634, or -10.5%), which includes activities such as drilling oil & gas wells. Oil & gas extraction lost 545 jobs (-19.8%) while mining, except oil & gas lost 391 (-5.2%).

Total annual wages in mining fell from $1.5 billion to $1.4 billion (-$98.6 million, or -6.6%). Mining accounted for 9.8% of the state's total wages in 2021; as recently as 2015Q1, mining had contributed as much as 19.0% of the state's total wages, or $1 of every $5 (Research & Planning, 2022a).

It is worth noting that mining showed over-the-year job growth during the second half of 2021. From 2020Q4 to 2021Q4, mining added 840 jobs (5.8%). In particular, support activities for mining added 1,377 jobs (29.7%), though job losses were seen in the other two subsectors (Research & Planning, 2022a).

Table 2.3: Average Monthly Employment and Total Wages for Mining, Including Oil & Gas (NAICS 21) by Selected Subsector (3-Digit), Industry (4-Digit), and Detailed Industry (6-Digit) in Wyoming, 2020-2021

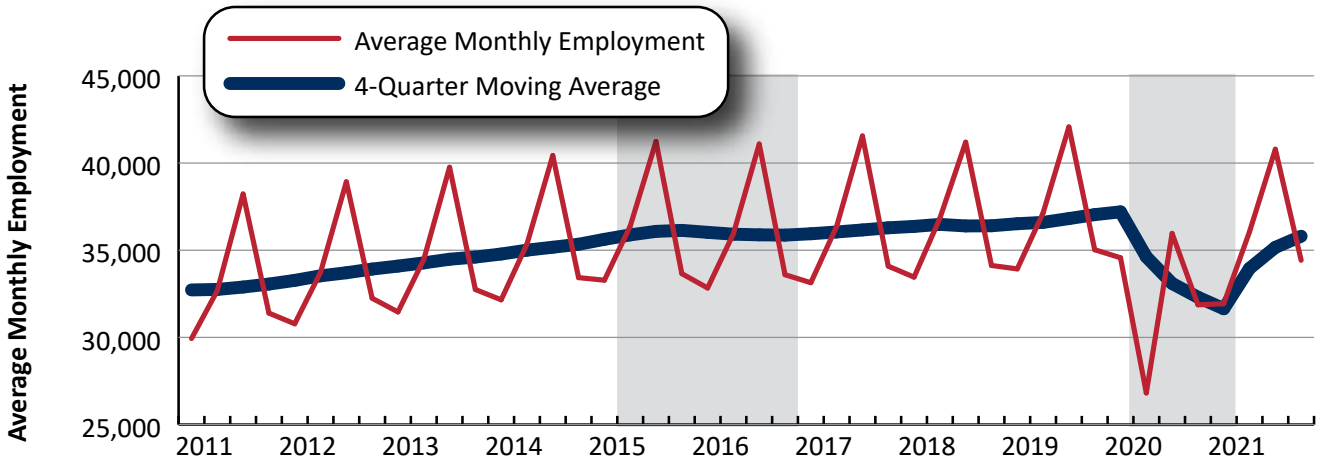
		Average Monthly Employment				Total Wages			
				Change				Change	
NAICS[a] Code	Title	2021	2020	N	%	2021	2020	$	%
21	**Mining, Quarrying, & Oil & Gas Extraction**	**14,755**	**16,325**	**-1,570**	**-9.6**	**$1,384.5**	**$1,483.0**	**-$98.6**	**-6.6**
211	Oil & Gas Extraction	2,212	2,757	-545	-19.8	$279.4	$323.8	-$44.5	-13.7
211120	Crude Petroleum Extraction	939	1,444	-505	-35.0	$111.4	$163.5	-$52.1	-31.9
211130	Natural Gas Extraction	1,273	1,313	-40	-3.0	$168.0	$160.4	$7.6	4.7
212	Mining, Except Oil & Gas	7,120	7,511	-391	-5.2	$688.6	$700.6	-$12.0	-1.7
2121	Coal Mining	4,371	4,781	-409	-8.6	$414.4	$438.8	-$24.3	-5.5
2122	Metal Ore Mining	96	97	-1	-0.8	$9.9	$9.5	$0.4	4.6
213	Support Activities For Mining	5,423	6,057	-634	-10.5	$416.6	$458.6	-$42.1	-9.2
213111	Drilling Oil & Gas Wells	692	764	-72	-9.4	$63.9	$67.4	-$3.5	-5.1
213112	Support Activities For Oil & Gas Operations	4,464	5,012	-548	-10.9	$333.8	$371.3	-$37.5	-10.1
213113	Support Activities For Coal Mining	147	152	-5	-3.4	$8.5	$8.9	-$0.4	-4.8
213114	Support Activities For Metal Mining	47	61	-14	-22.4	$6.0	$5.6	$0.3	6.1
213115	Support Activities For Nonmetallic Minerals	73	68	5	6.6	$4.4	$5.3	-$1.0	-18.6

[a]North American Industry Classification System.
Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages.
Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 4/13/22.

Leisure & Hospitality (NAICS 71-72)

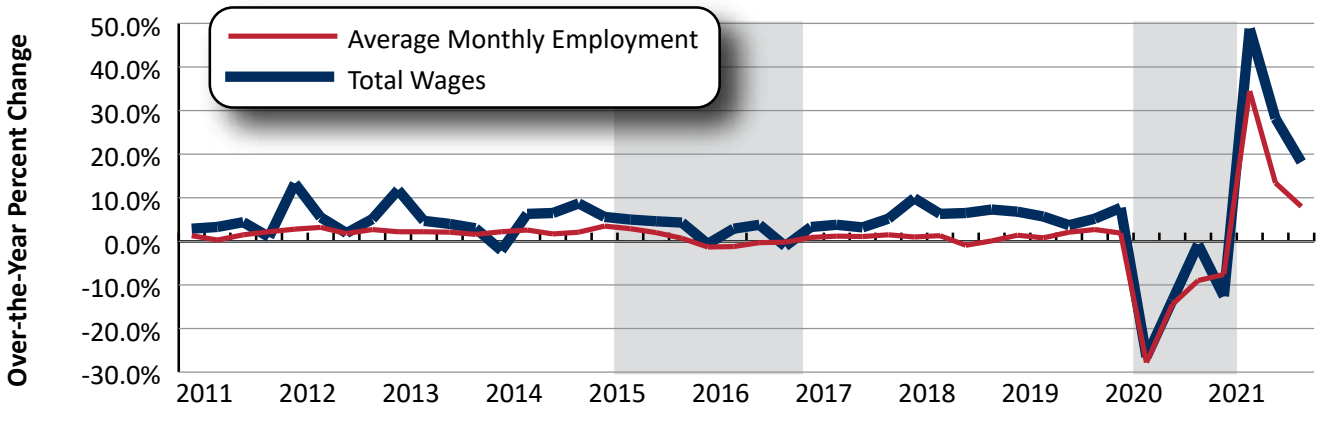
The leisure & hospitality supersector is comprised of two sectors: arts, entertainment, & recreation (NAICS 71) and accommodation & food services (NAICS 72; see Table 2.4, page 16).

Wyoming's leisure & hospitality sector was hit harder than any other industry at the start of the pandemic (Moore, 2021). In 2020Q2, average monthly employment declined by nearly 30% from the prior year and dropped to a 20-year low in 2020Q2 (see Figures 2.6 and 2.7). Leisure & hospitality began recovering by 2021Q2, as employment increased by 34.5% compared to 2020Q2.



Shaded areas indicate periods of economic downturn: 2015Q2-2016Q4 and 2020Q2-2021Q1.
Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages. Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 4/13/22.

Figure 2.6: Average Monthly Employment in Leisure & Hospitality (NAICS 71-72) in Wyoming, 2011Q1-2021Q3



Shaded areas indicate periods of economic downturn: 2015Q2-2016Q4 and 2020Q2-2021Q1.
Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages. Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 3/3/22.

Figure 2.7: Over-the-Year Percent Change in Average Monthly Employment and Total Wages in Leisure & Hospitality (NAICS 71-72) in Wyoming, 2011Q1-2021Q3

Average monthly employment in leisure & hospitality increased from 32,305 in 2020 to 35,803 in 2021 (3,499, or 10.8%). Substantial job gains were seen throughout the accommodation & food services sector, particularly in food services & drinking places (1,603, or 8.3%) and accommodation (1,451, or 15.1%). Overall, leisure & hospitality accounted for 13.5% of all jobs in the state, up from 12.4% in 2020.

Total wages in leisure & hospitality

Table 2.4: Average Monthly Employment and Total Wages in Private Leisure & Hospitality (NAICS 71-72) by Selected Subsector (3-Digit) and Industry (4-Digit) in Wyoming, 2020-2021

		Average Monthly Employment				Total Wages (in Millions of Dollars)			
				Change				Change	
NAICS[a] Code	Title	2021	2020	N	%	2021	2020	$	%
71-72	**Leisure & Hospitality**	**35,803**	**32,305**	**3,499**	**10.8**	**$880.9**	**$744.3**	**$136.6**	**18.4**
71	**Arts, Ent., & Recreation**	**3,708**	**3,263**	**445**	**13.6**	**$97.5**	**$84.0**	**$13.5**	**16.0**
711	Performing Arts & Spectator Sports	475	419	56	13.4	$14.7	$14.2	$0.5	3.7
7111	Performing Arts Companies	157	130	27	20.6	$3.4	$3.3	$0.1	2.7
7112	Spectator Sports	46	39	6	15.9	$1.0	$1.0	$0.0	1.1
7113	Promoters of Performing Arts & Sports	189	156	33	20.9	$5.4	$4.6	$0.8	17.9
7114	Agents & Mgrs. for Public Figures	6	5	0	8.0	$0.7	$0.9	-$0.2	-18.7
7115	Independent Artists, Writers, & Performers	78	88	-10	-11.5	$4.3	$4.5	-$0.2	-5.0
712	Museums, Historical Sites, Zoos, & Parks	370	381	-11	-3.0	$12.9	$13.7	-$0.7	-5.3
7121	Museums, Historical Sites, Zoos, & Parks	370	381	-11	-3.0	$12.9	$13.7	-$0.7	-5.3
713	Amusements, Gambling, & Rec.	2,863	2,463	400	16.3	$69.9	$56.2	$13.7	24.4
7131	Amusement Parks & Arcades	**28**	**23**	**5**	**22.3**	**$0.3**	**$0.3**	**$0.1**	**23.3**
7132	Gambling Industries	**201**	**164**	**37**	**22.6**	**$5.8**	**$4.3**	**$1.5**	**34.0**
7139	Other Amusement & Rec. Industries	2,633	2,275	358	15.7	$63.7	$51.6	$12.2	23.6
72	**Accommodation & Food Services**	32,095	29,042	3,054	10.5	$783.4	$660.3	$123.1	18.6
721	Accommodation	11,062	9,611	1,451	15.1	$347.0	$297.6	$49.4	16.6
7211	Traveler Accom.	9,660	8,487	1,173	13.8	$293.5	$251.2	$42.3	16.9
7212	RV Parks & Recreational Camps	1,255	970	285	29.4	$43.2	$32.5	$10.7	33.1
7213	Rooming & Boarding Houses	147	154	-7	-4.7	$10.2	$13.9	-$3.7	-26.3
722	Food Services & Drinking Places	21,033	19,430	1,603	8.3	$436.4	$362.7	$73.7	20.3
7223	Special Food Svcs.	503	381	122	32.1	$12.8	$9.0	$3.8	42.4
7224	Drinking Places, Alcoholic Beverages	1,989	1,813	176	9.7	$38.8	$31.4	$7.4	23.6
7225	Restaurants & Other Eating Places	18,541	17,236	1,304	7.6	$384.8	$322.3	$62.5	19.4

[a]North American Industry Classification System.
Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages.
Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 4/13/22.

increased from $744.3 million to $880.9 million ($136.6 million, or 18.4%). Leisure & hospitality accounted for 6.3% of the state's total wages in 2021, compared to 5.6% in 2020. As previously mentioned, leisure & hospitality had the lowest average annual wage of all industries ($24,086).

County

Teton County saw the greatest over-the-year increase in employment of all counties (2,015, or 10.5%; see Table 2.5). This increase was due in large part to the recovery of the leisure & hospitality industry. In 2021, leisure & hospitality accounted for approximately one in every three (32.3%) jobs in Teton County but only 14.3% of the county's total wages (Research & Planning, 2022).

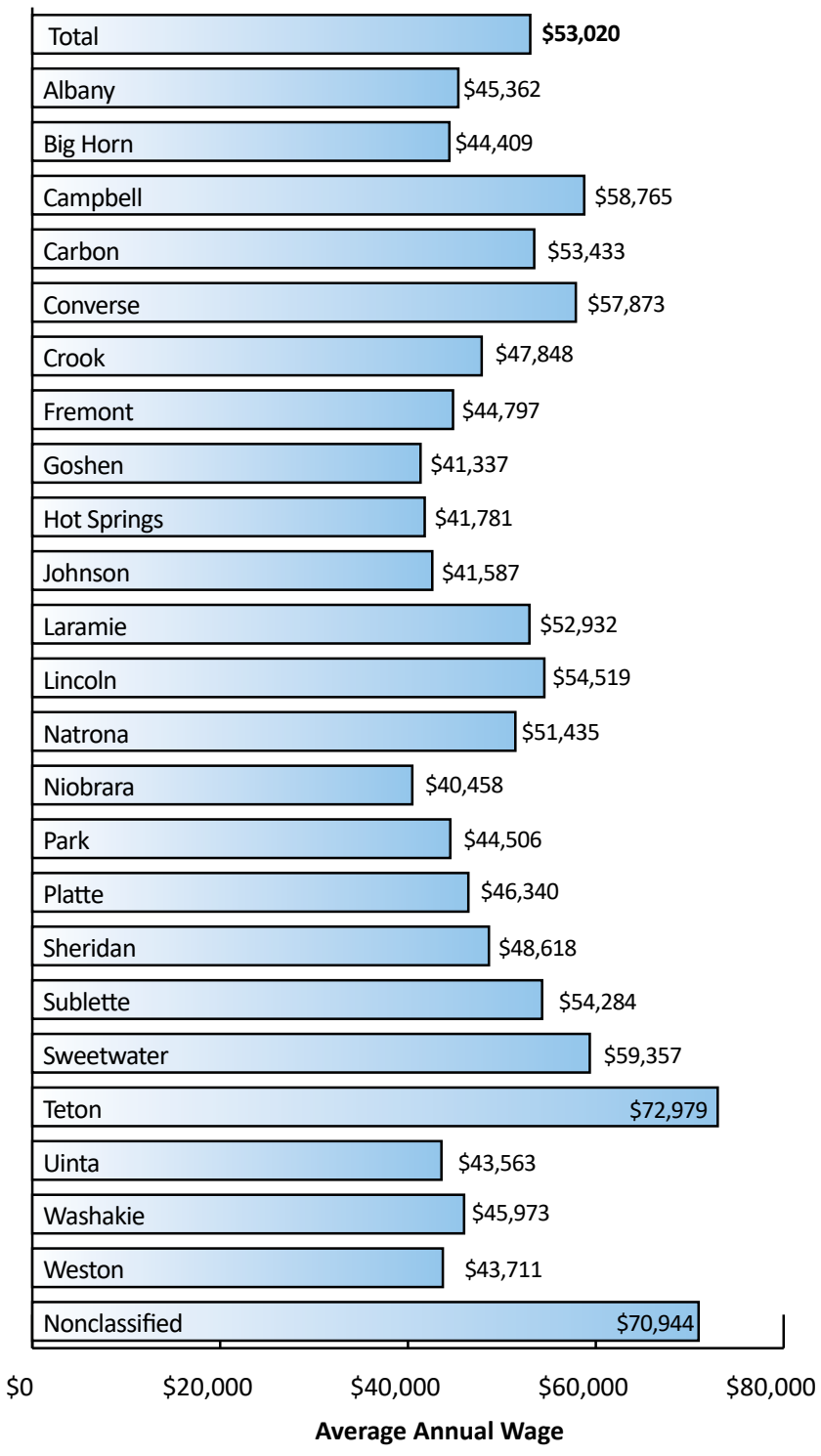
Other counties that experienced over-the-year job growth included Laramie (872, or 1.9%), Park (660, or 5.1%), and Albany (644, or 4.2%) counties. Seven counties saw decreases in average monthly employment from 2020 to 2021, with the greatest job losses seen in Campbell (-473, or -2.0%), Sweetwater (-322, or -1.6%), and Converse (-321, or -5.2%) counties.

Teton County also saw the greatest increase in total wages ($396.5 million, or

Table 2.5: Average Monthly Employment and Total Wages in Wyoming by County of Employment, 2020-2021

	Average Monthly Employment				Total Wages (in Millions of Dollars)			
			Change				Change	
County	2021	2020	N	%	2021	2020	$	%
Albany	16,009	15,365	644	4.2	$726.2	$685.3	$40.9	6.0
Big Horn	4,144	4,102	42	1.0	$184.0	$177.8	$6.2	3.5
Campbell	22,909	23,382	-473	-2.0	$1,346.2	$1,365.9	-$19.7	-1.4
Carbon	6,889	6,897	-8	-0.1	$368.1	$361.6	$6.5	1.8
Converse	5,862	6,183	-321	-5.2	$339.2	$360.6	-$21.3	-5.9
Crook	2,477	2,484	-7	-0.3	$118.5	$117.8	$0.8	0.7
Fremont	14,996	14,637	359	2.5	$671.8	$640.8	$31.0	4.8
Goshen	4,072	4,019	53	1.3	$168.3	$162.8	$5.5	3.4
Hot Springs	1,902	1,833	69	3.8	$79.5	$72.0	$7.5	10.4
Johnson	3,199	3,048	151	4.9	$136.2	$124.2	$12.0	9.7
Laramie	46,438	45,566	872	1.9	$2,458.1	$2,315.5	$142.5	6.2
Lincoln	6,803	6,537	266	4.1	$370.9	$331.1	$39.7	12.0
Natrona	36,728	36,489	239	0.7	$1,889.1	$1,853.2	$35.9	1.9
Niobrara	854	852	2	0.2	$34.5	$33.4	$1.2	3.5
Park	13,621	12,961	660	5.1	$606.2	$569.2	$37.0	6.5
Platte	3,369	3,398	-29	-0.8	$156.4	$154.3	$2.2	1.4
Sheridan	13,494	13,214	281	2.1	$656.1	$609.2	$46.9	7.7
Sublette	3,662	3,640	22	0.6	$198.8	$199.2	-$0.4	-0.2
Sweetwater	19,799	20,122	-322	-1.6	$1,175.2	$1,192.4	-$17.1	-1.4
Teton	21,120	19,104	2,015	10.5	$1,541.3	$1,144.8	$396.5	34.6
Uinta	7,875	7,846	29	0.4	$343.1	$334.9	$8.2	2.4
Washakie	3,547	3,467	80	2.3	$163.1	$154.4	$8.7	5.6
Weston	2,290	2,271	18	0.8	$100.1	$103.4	-$3.3	-3.2
Nonclassified	3,529	3,539	-10	-0.3	$250.4	$240.6	$9.8	4.1
Total	**265,586**	**260,955**	**4,631**	**1.8**	**$14,081.3**	**$13,304.3**	**$777.0**	**5.8**

Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages.
Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 4/13/22.



[a]North American Industry Classification System.
Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages.
Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 4/13/22.

Figure 2.8: Average Annual Wage in Wyoming by County of Employment, 2021

34.6%), followed by Laramie ($142.5 million, or 6.2%) and Sheridan ($46.9 million, or 7.7%) counties. Teton County had the highest average annual wage ($72,979), followed by Sweetwater ($59,357), Campbell ($58,765), and Converse ($57,873) counties (see Figure 2.8).

Surrounding States

From 2020 to 2021, most surrounding states added jobs at much greater rates than Wyoming (see Figure 2.9, page 19). Wyoming's average rate of change for employment in 2021 was 1.8%. Surrounding states with greater rates of change included Idaho (5.7%), Utah (5.3%), and Montana (5.0%). Only Nebraska (1.9%) had a rate of change comparable to Wyoming.

These changes seem to indicate that surrounding states are recovering more quickly from economic disruptions from the COVID-19 pandemic than Wyoming.

Conclusion

Wyoming experienced unprecedented job losses in

2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the continued decline of energy prices. While Wyoming added more than 4,600 jobs in 2021, employment and wages remained substantially lower compared to pre-pandemic levels.

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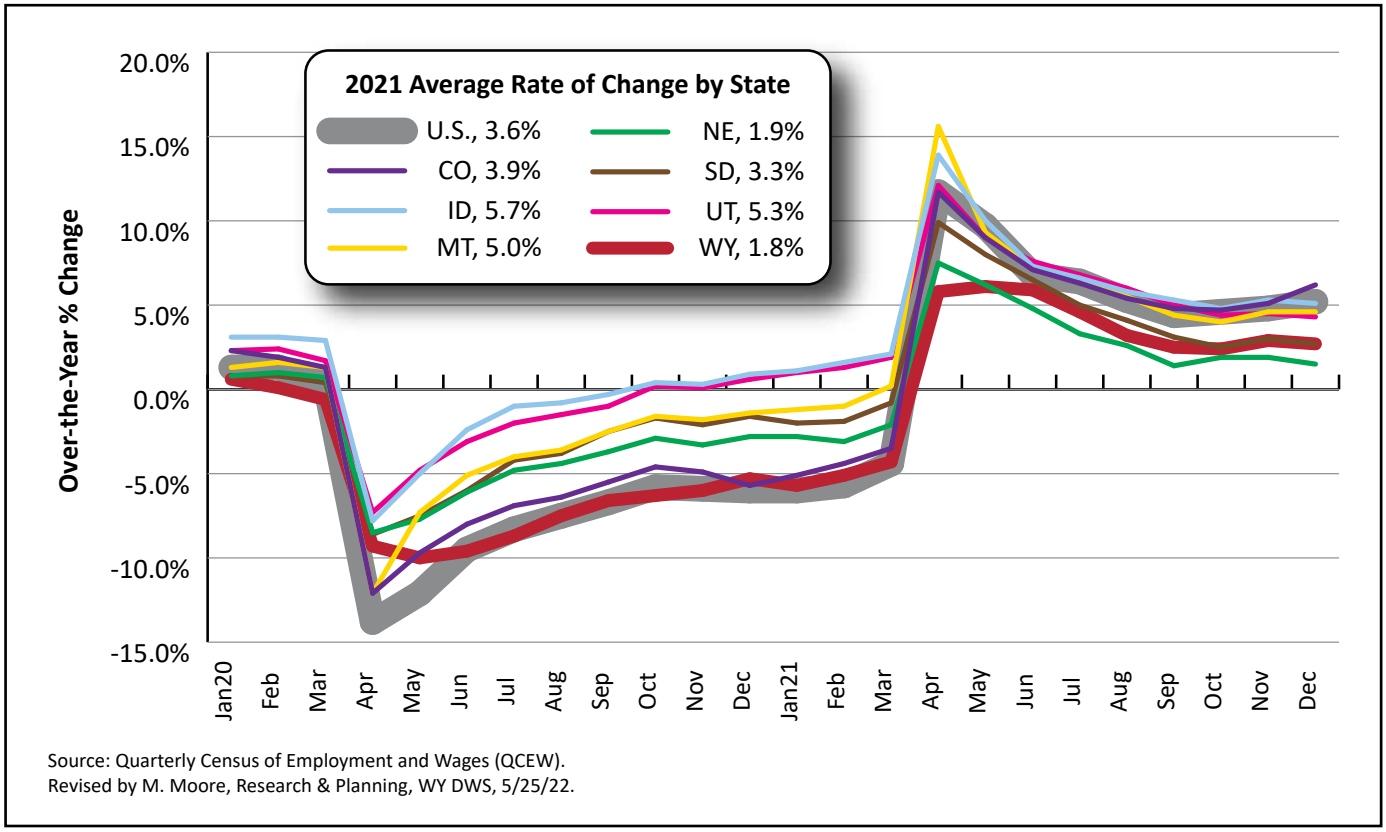


Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW).
Revised by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 5/25/22.

Figure 2.9: Over-the-Year Percent Change in Average Monthly Employment (Number of Jobs Worked) in Wyoming, Surrounding States, and the U.S., January 2020 to September 2021

Chapter 3: Population Estimates

Wyoming Sees Slight Population Increase from 2020 to 2021

by: Michael Moore, Research Supervisor

Wyoming's estimated resident population grew from 577,267 in 2020 to 578,803 as of July 1, 2021, an increase of 1,536 people, or 0.3%, according to data from the U.S. Census Bureau (2022; see Table 3.1 and Figure 3.1)[1].

Two factors contribute to population change: *natural change* (the number of births minus the number of deaths) and *net migration* (the number of people moving into Wyoming minus the number moving out). As noted by Liu (2022), Wyoming's net migration in 2021 was 1,368, meaning 1,368 more people moved into Wyoming than moved out of the state between July 2020 and July 2021. Wyoming's natural growth was 171 persons (6,042 deaths minus 6,213 births).

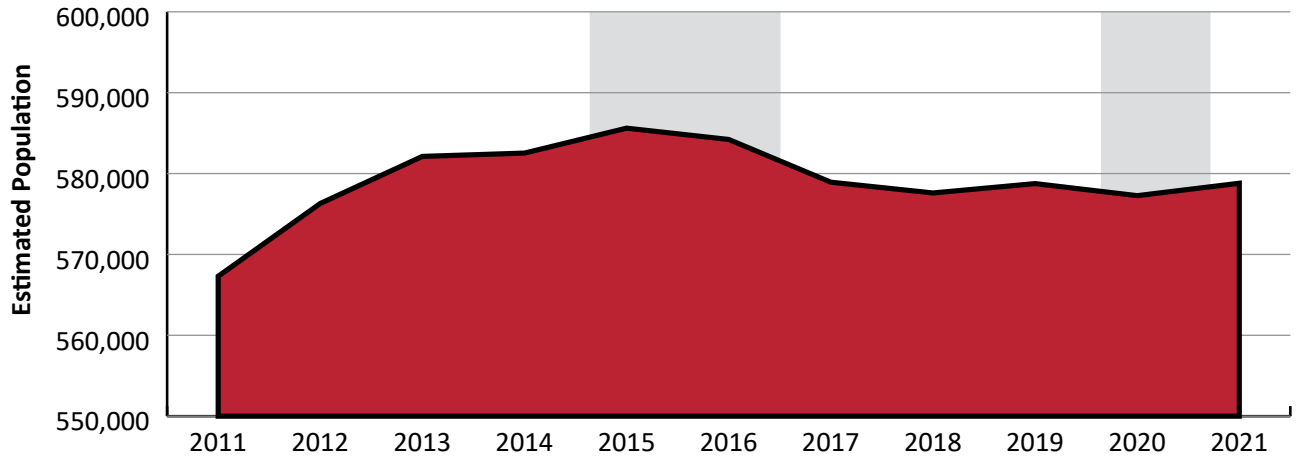
Wyoming's population in 2021 was nearly identical to its 2019 population, as the state experienced a 0.3% decrease

Table 3.1: Wyoming's Estimated Resident Population and Over-the-Year Change, 2011-2022

Year	Population	Over-the-Year Change N	Over-the-Year Change %
2011	567,299	3,524	0.6
2012	576,305	9,006	1.6
2013	582,122	5,817	1.0
2014	582,531	409	0.1
2015	585,613	3,082	0.5
2016	584,215	-1,398	-0.2
2017	578,931	-5,284	-0.9
2018	577,601	-1,330	-0.2
2019	578,759	1,158	0.2
2020	577,267	-1,492	-0.3
2021	578,803	1,536	0.3
Change, 2011-2021		**11,504**	**2.0**

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division.
Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 1/18/222.

1 The data presented in this chapter are annual estimates, which may differ from official 2020 Census results.



Shaded areas indicate periods of economic downturn: 2015Q2-2016Q4 and 2020Q2-2021Q1.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division.
Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 4/8/22.

Figure 3.1: Estimated Resident Population of Wyoming, 2011-2021

(-1,492 individuals) from 2019 to 2020 before essentially regaining the same number of people (1,536) from 2020 to 2021.

Wyoming's population grew by 11,504 (2.0%) from 2011 to 2021 (see Table 3.1). Liu noted a decline in natural change over the last two years, as the number of deaths increased due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the aging of the baby boom generation.

The U.S. population grew by 6.5% from 2011 to 2021 (see Figure 3.2, page 22). Wyoming's growth rate of 2.0% was one of the smallest of all states. In contrast, most surrounding states had the highest growth rates in the nation, including Idaho (20.0%) and Utah (18.6%).

At the county level, the greatest over-the-year population increases were found in Lincoln (2.4%), Sheridan (2.1%), Johnson (1.9%), and Crook (1.9%) counties (see Table 3.2). In total, 15 of Wyoming's 23 counties saw population increases from 2020 to 2021 (see Figure 3.3, page 22).

From 2011 to 2021, the counties that saw the greatest percentage increases in population were Lincoln (11.9%), Teton (10.1%), Laramie (9.0%), and Sheridan (8.2%) counties. Counties with substantial percentage decreases in population included Sublette (-14.6%), Washakie (-8.8%), Goshen

Table 3.2: Resident Population Estimates for Wyoming by County as of July 1, 2011-2021

				Change, 2020-2021		Change, 2011-2021	
County	2011	2020	2021	N	%	N	%
Albany	36,851	37,079	37,608	529	1.4	757	2.1
Big Horn	11,722	11,467	11,632	165	1.4	-90	-0.8
Campbell	46,550	47,116	46,401	-715	-1.5	-149	-0.3
Carbon	15,835	14,499	14,649	150	1.0	-1,186	-7.5
Converse	13,738	13,724	13,672	-52	-0.4	-66	-0.5
Crook	7,118	7,178	7,315	137	1.9	197	2.8
Fremont	40,519	39,177	39,336	159	0.4	-1,183	-2.9
Goshen	13,574	12,503	12,537	34	0.3	-1,037	-7.6
Hot Springs	4,805	4,622	4,597	-25	-0.5	-208	-4.3
Johnson	8,646	8,459	8,623	164	1.9	-23	-0.3
Laramie	92,576	100,690	100,863	173	0.2	8,287	9.0
Lincoln	18,013	19,674	20,153	479	2.4	2,140	11.9
Natrona	76,399	80,229	79,555	-674	-0.8	3,156	4.1
Niobrara	2,483	2,439	2,438	-1	0.0	-45	-1.8
Park	28,449	29,656	30,108	452	1.5	1,659	5.8
Platte	8,697	8,623	8,699	76	0.9	2	0.0
Sheridan	29,251	30,996	31,646	650	2.1	2,395	8.2
Sublette	10,186	8,723	8,697	-26	-0.3	-1,489	-14.6
Sweetwater	43,986	42,158	41,614	-544	-1.3	-2,372	-5.4
Teton	21,414	23,347	23,575	228	1.0	2,161	10.1
Uinta	20,896	20,441	20,635	194	0.9	-261	-1.2
Washakie	8,449	7,658	7,705	47	0.6	-744	-8.8
Weston	7,142	6,809	6,745	-64	-0.9	-397	-5.6
Total	**567,299**	**577,267**	**578,803**	**1,536**	**0.3**	**11,504**	**2.0**

Source: Annual Estimates of the Resident Population for Counties in Wyoming: April 1, 2020 to July 1, 2021, and Annual Estimates of the Resident Population for Counties in Wyoming: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2019. U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division.
Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 4/4/22.

(-7.6%), and Carbon (-7.5%) counties.

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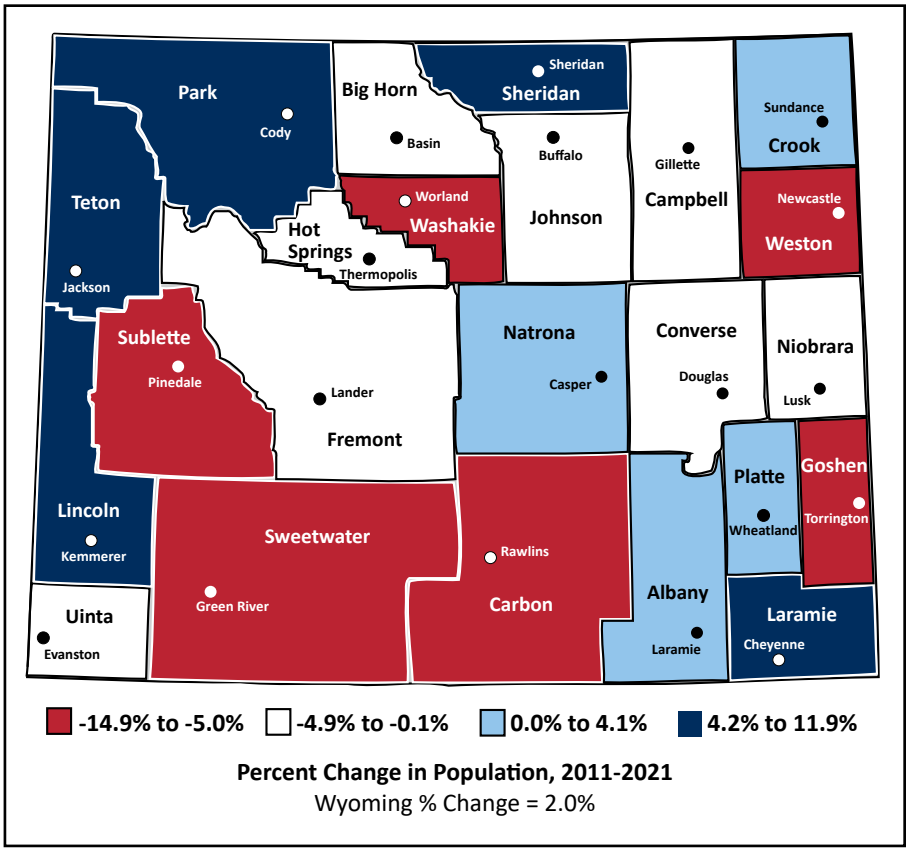


Figure 3.3: Percent Change in Wyoming Population by County as of July 1, 2011-2021

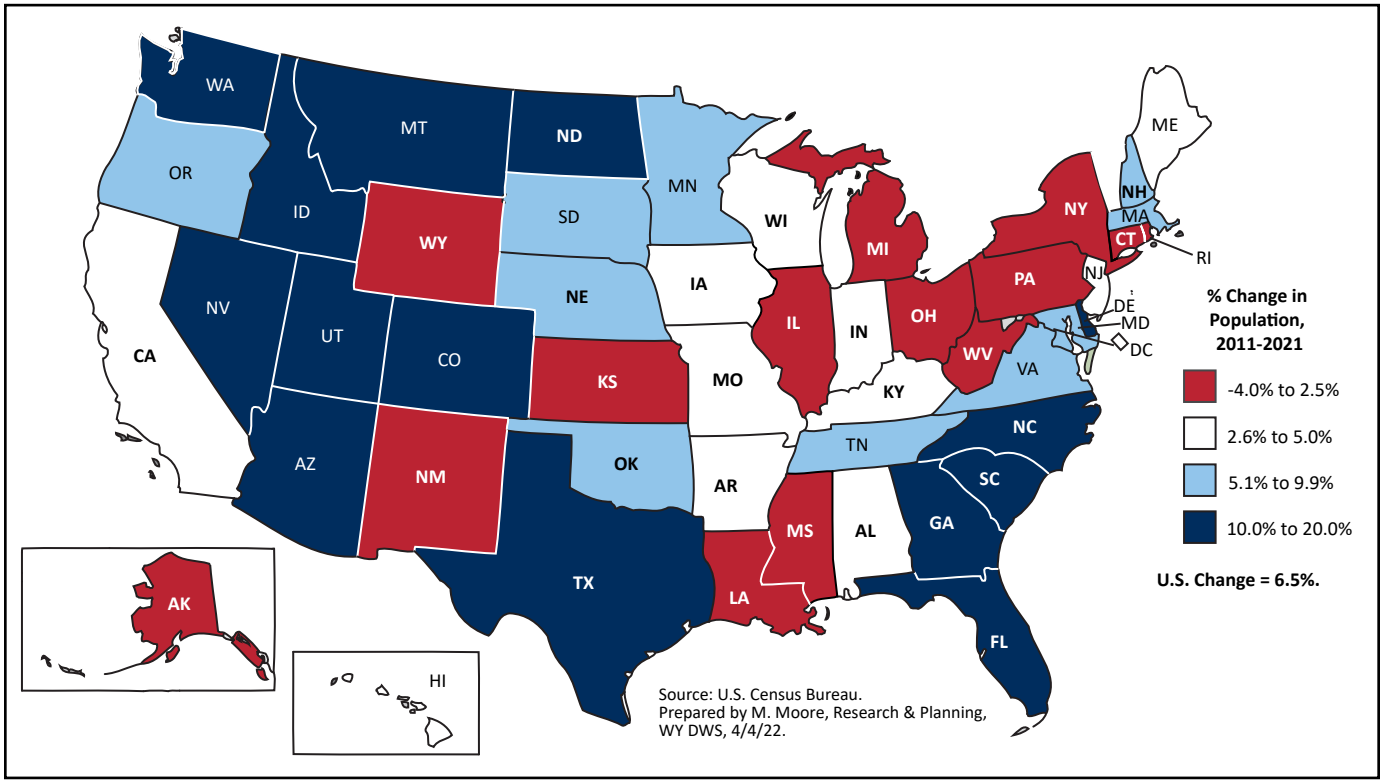


Figure 3.2: Percent Change in Estimated Population by State, 2011-2021

Chapter 4: Local Area Unemployment Statistics

Labor Force, Unemployment Rate Decline in 2021

by: Carola Cowan, BLS Programs Supervisor

Wyoming's average annual unemployment rate for 2021 was 4.5%, down from 5.8% in 2020 (see Table 4.1). The decrease can be attributed to a recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and an increase in energy prices.

The unemployment rate steadily declined from 5.5% in 2012 to 4.2% in 2015. In 2016, the unemployment rate increased to 5.4% after large layoffs in Wyoming's energy sector. The unemployment rate then declined each year from 2017 to 2019 before increasing to 5.8% in 2020.

The decline in the unemployment rate in 2017 was associated with a large decline in the labor force that continued in 2018 (see Table 4.1). Wyoming's labor force saw a steady decline from a high of 303,748 in 2012 to 292,781 in 2018. The labor force increased to 294,380 in 2019 before decreasing in 2020 and 2021. The labor force in 2020 was 290,404, the lowest since 2007.

The decrease in Wyoming's labor force directly affected the unemployment rate, which is calculated by dividing the number of unemployed by the labor force (see Box 4.1). If the number of unemployed remains the same but labor force decreases, the unemployment rate will go up.

Table 4.1: Wyoming Labor Force and Unemployment Rate, 2012-2021

Year	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Unemployment Rate	Labor Force Participation Rate
2012	303,748	287,110	16,638	5.5	68.4
2013	302,201	287,792	14,409	4.8	67.4
2014	302,865	289,694	13,171	4.3	67.3
2015	301,608	288,894	12,714	4.2	66.8
2016	300,546	284,439	16,107	5.4	66.6
2017	293,802	281,164	12,638	4.3	65.9
2018	292,781	280,909	11,872	4.1	65.7
2019	294,380	283,377	11,003	3.7	65.8
2020	293,722	276,739	16,983	5.8	65.3
2021	290,404	277,372	13,032	4.5	64.1

Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics.
Prepared by C. Cowan, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 3/30/22.

Box 4.1: Calculating the Unemployment Rate

The *unemployment rate* is one of the most important economic indicators on which to measure the health of economies. The unemployment rate is calculated by taking the number of unemployed and dividing it by the total number of people in the labor force. The *labor force* is defined as the number of employed plus the number of unemployed individuals. Individuals less than 16 years of age, inmates of institutions, or members of the Armed Forces are excluded from the labor force, as are people who don't have a job and are not looking for employment. The number of unemployed is counted by place of residence. If a person loses their job in Wyoming and moves out of state, they are not included in Wyoming's unemployment rate, but in the state to which they moved.

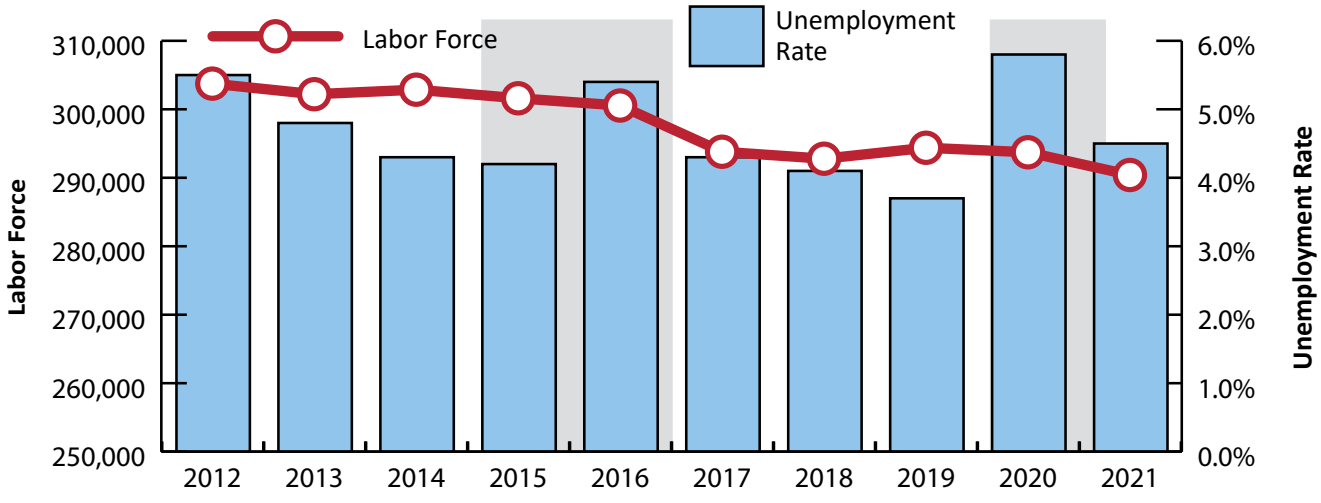
Table 4.2: Wyoming Unemployment Rate by County, 2020-2021

County	2021	2020	% Point Change
Albany	3.3	3.7	-0.4
Big Horn	4.4	5.0	-0.6
Campbell	5.3	6.8	-1.5
Carbon	3.9	4.6	-0.7
Converse	4.9	5.9	-1.0
Crook	3.4	3.9	-0.5
Fremont	4.7	6.2	-1.5
Goshen	3.5	4.3	-0.8
Hot Springs	3.9	4.9	-1.0
Johnson	4.1	5.5	-1.4
Laramie	4.0	5.1	-1.1
Lincoln	3.8	5.0	-1.2
Natrona	6.1	7.7	-1.6
Niobrara	3.6	3.6	0.0
Park	4.1	5.4	-1.3
Platte	4.0	5.0	-1.0
Sheridan	4.2	4.9	-0.7
Sublette	5.6	7.2	-1.6
Sweetwater	5.6	7.3	-1.7
Teton	3.2	5.9	-2.7
Uinta	5.0	6.3	-1.3
Washakie	4.0	5.2	-1.2
Weston	3.2	3.8	-0.6
Total	**4.5**	**5.8**	**-1.3**

Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics.
Prepared by C. Cowan, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 4/1/22.

The *labor force participation rate* refers to the percent of the population that is either working or looking for work. It is also an important indicator of economic health, as it helps identify the labor resources available for hire (see Box 4.2, page 25). The labor force participation rate has declined since a high of 72.2% in 2008 (see Figure 4.2, page 25). By 2021, it dropped to 64.1%, the lowest since 1976, the first year for which comparable data are available. The labor force participation rate is an important measurement to understand. The unemployment rate may not decline if more people go back to work, but fewer people are participating in the labor force.

In 2021, Teton (3.2%), Weston (3.2%), and Albany (3.3%) counties had the lowest average annual unemployment rates (see Table 4.2). Natrona (6.1%), Sweetwater (5.6%), and Sublette (5.6%) counties had the highest average annual unemployment rates. The counties with the lowest unemployment rates were rural and less populous, while the counties with the



Shaded area indicates period of economic downturn (2015Q2-2016Q4 and 2020Q2-2021Q1).
Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics.
Prepared by C. Cowan and M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 4/1/22.

Figure 4.1: Wyoming Labor Force and Unemployment Rate, 2012-2021

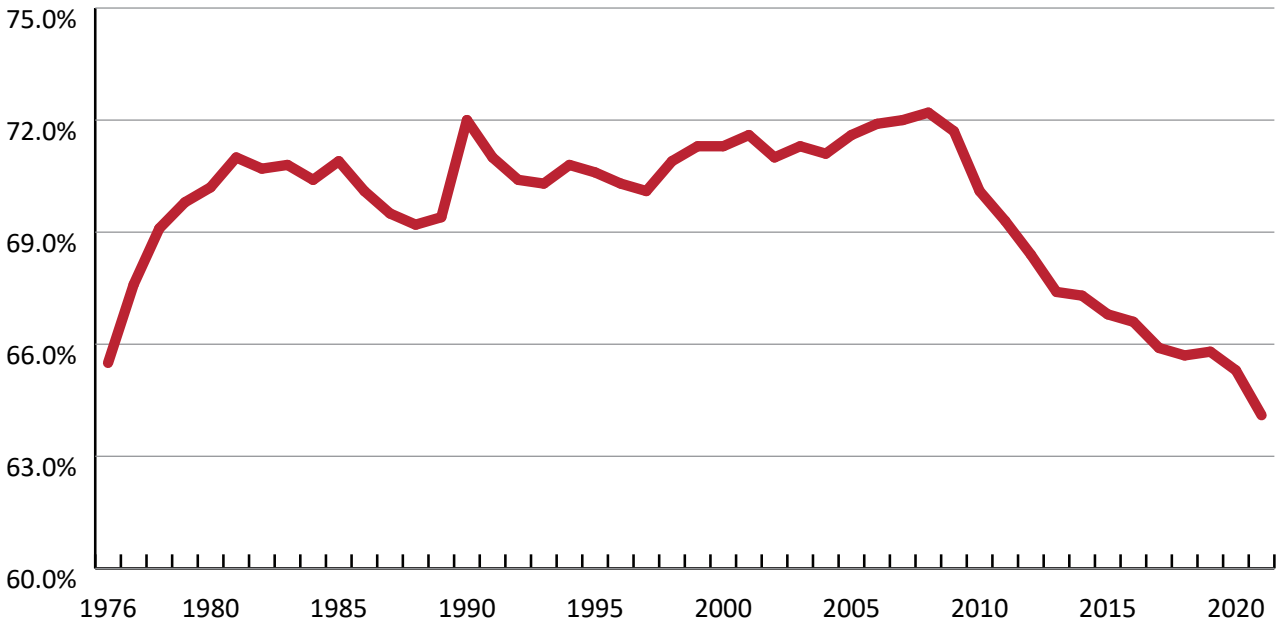
largest unemployment rates were heavily energy dependent.

All counties saw a decrease in their average annual unemployment rate from the previous year, except Niobrara County, which remained the same (3.6%). The counties that showed the largest decreases in percentage point changes were Teton County (-2.7%), Sweetwater County (-1.7%), Sublette County (-1.6%) and Natrona County (-1.6%). Teton County is very much dependent on tourism, while the other three are largely dependent on mining. Albany County (-0.4%) and Crook County (-0.5%), which are both rural counties, had the smallest decreases in their unemployment rates over the year.

Find it Online

Local Area Unemployment Statistics

https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/LAUS.htm



Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics.
Prepared by C. Cowan, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 4/1/22.

Figure 4.2: Average Annual Labor Force Participation Rate for Wyoming, 1976-2021

Box 4.2: Labor Force Participation Rate

The *labor force participation rate* represents the number of people in the labor force as a percentage of the civilian noninstitutional population. In other words, the participation rate is the percentage of the population that is either working or actively looking for work.

The labor force participation rate is calculated as (Labor Force ÷ Civilian Noninstitutional Population) x 100.

Chapter 5: Unemployment Insurance Claims

UI Benefit Recipients, Payments Drop Substantially in 2021

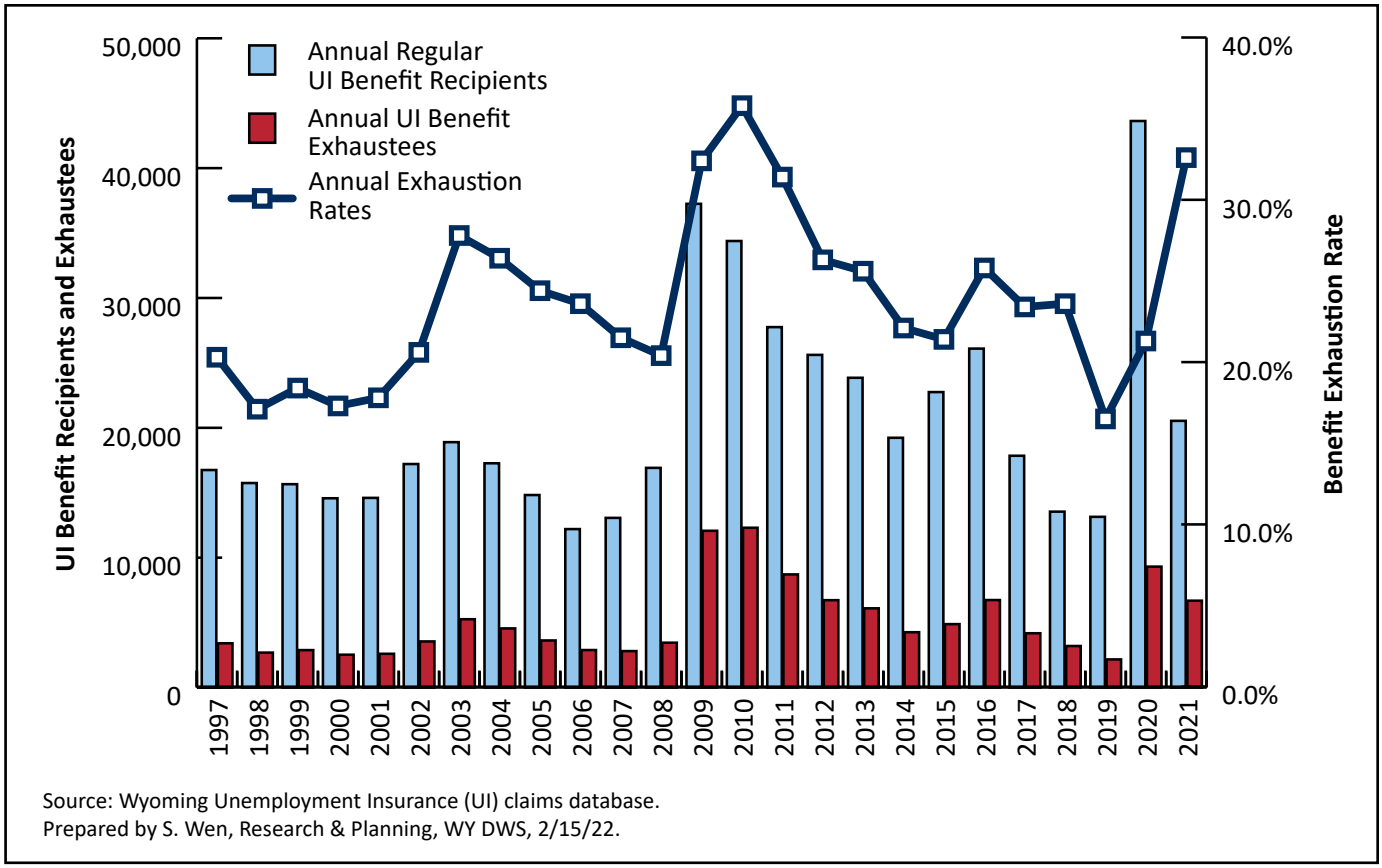
by: Sherry Wen, Principal Economist

Wyoming saw a substantial drop in Unemployment Insurance (UI) recipients and benefit claims in 2021, after experiencing record highs in 2020 (see Figure 5.1). The number of benefit recipients and payments both fell to less than half their 2020 levels. In addition, all industries and counties experienced decreases in claimants and payments.

Benefit Recipients and Exhaustees

Statewide, a total of 20,536 unemployed workers received UI benefits in 2021, a decrease of 52.9% from the 43,630 recipients in 2020, which marked the highest level in the last 25 years. The number of UI benefit recipients in 2021 was still higher than pre-pandemic levels; for example, there were 13,144 UI recipients in 2019. The number of claimants in 2021 includes regular UI-covered employed workers and individuals covered by special programs of the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act of 2020 who were not covered by UI (CARES Act, 2020).

The number of UI recipients who



Source: Wyoming Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims database.
Prepared by S. Wen, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 2/15/22.

Figure 5.1: Wyoming Annual UI Benefit Recipients, Exhaustees, and Exhaustion Rates, 1997-2021

exhausted their eligible regular UI benefits decreased from 9,309 in 2020 to 6,686 in 2021 (-2,623, or -28.2%). However, the overall exhaustion rate (the number of exhaustees divided by the number of UI recipients) increased from 21.3% to 32.6%. This increase was likely due to a larger proportion of UI recipients who started to collect benefits in 2020, then exhausted them by 2021.

Greater numbers of exhaustees and exhaustion rates usually indicate that it was more difficult for people to find work. During the pandemic, however, there may have been other reasons, such as individuals planning to start their own business while collecting UI benefits, instead of looking for work right away.

Every county experienced double-digit percentage decreases in UI recipients from 2020 to 2021 (see Table 5.1). Natrona County had the largest decrease (-4,055 recipients, or -52.7%), followed by Laramie (-2,972, or -55.0%) and Campbell (-2,242, or -58.4%) counties.

Out-of-state UI recipients made up 17.1% of the total in 2021, the second largest share overall. Natrona County had the largest share (17.7%), while Laramie County had the third largest (11.9%). Over the year, the number of out-of-state benefit recipients fell by 3,103 (-46.9%).

At the industry level (see Table 5.2, page 28), construction had the largest number of UI recipients (4,991, or 24.3%), followed by accommodation & food services (2,785, or 13.6%), mining (1,864, or 9.1%), and health care & social assistance (1,401, or 6.8%). Out-of-state residents made up a large proportion of benefit recipients in several industries. For example, out-of-state residents accounted for nearly one-third of all recipients in nonclassified (35.8%) and management of companies & enterprises industries (33.3%). Industries in which out-of-state residents made

Table 5.1: Unemployment Insurance Recipients in Wyoming by County of Residence of Claimant, 2020 and 2021

	2021		2020		Change, 2020-21	
County	N	Column %	N	Column %	N	%
Albany	605	2.9	1,247	2.9	-642	-51.5
Big Horn	298	1.5	403	0.9	-105	-26.1
Campbell	1,598	7.8	3,840	8.8	-2,242	-58.4
Carbon	390	1.9	668	1.5	-278	-41.6
Converse	529	2.6	925	2.1	-396	-42.8
Crook	129	0.6	248	0.6	-119	-48.0
Fremont	1,167	5.7	2,349	5.4	-1,182	-50.3
Goshen	171	0.8	405	0.9	-234	-57.8
Hot Springs	95	0.5	228	0.5	-133	-58.3
Johnson	214	1.0	423	1.0	-209	-49.4
Laramie	2,436	11.9	5,408	12.4	-2,972	-55.0
Lincoln	428	2.1	1,071	2.5	-643	-60.0
Natrona	3,638	17.7	7,693	17.6	-4,055	-52.7
Niobrara	45	0.2	59	0.1	-14	-23.7
Park	766	3.7	1,690	3.9	-924	-54.7
Platte	200	1.0	389	0.9	-189	-48.6
Sheridan	729	3.5	1,495	3.4	-766	-51.2
Sublette	282	1.4	552	1.3	-270	-48.9
Sweetwater	1,450	7.1	3,043	7.0	-1,593	-52.3
Teton	952	4.6	2,914	6.7	-1,962	-67.3
Uinta	508	2.5	1,054	2.4	-546	-51.8
Washakie	200	1.0	403	0.9	-203	-50.4
Weston	120	0.6	263	0.6	-143	-54.4
Out-of-State	3,510	17.1	6,613	15.2	-3,103	-46.9
Unclassified	76	0.4	247	0.6	-171	-69.2
Total	**20,536**	**100.0**	**43,630**	**100.0**	**-23,094**	**-52.9**

Source: Wyoming Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims database.
Prepared by S. Wen, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 2/15/22.

up at least one in five claimants included professional & technical services (25.5%), accommodation & food services (23.1%), construction (20.6%).

Find it Online

Unemployment Insurance Claims Data

https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/UI.htm

The number of UI benefit recipients decreased by double-digit percentages in all industries from 2020 to 2021 (see Table 5.3, page 29). The largest decreases were seen in accommodation & food services (-5,186, or -65.1%), mining (-3,075, or -62.3%), health care & social assistance (-2,373, or -62.9%), retail trade (-1,941, or -61.2%), and construction (-1,880, or -27.4%).

In terms of UI exhaustion rate, more than half of all recipients exhausted their benefits in wholesale trade (52.1%) and mining (51.4%) in 2021. Nearly all industries had greater exhaustion rates in 2021 compared to 2020, with the exception of agriculture and finance & insurance. The higher exhaustion rates in 2021 are likely related to COVID-19 related business closings and layoffs in 2020, which caused a huge increase in UI benefit recipients, with some of them continuing to collect and then exhausting their benefits in 2021.

In summary, many of the industries hit hardest by the pandemic showed larger decreases in UI recipients from

Table 5.2: Wyoming Unemployment Insurance (UI) Recipients by Industry and Residency, 2021

		Wyoming Residents		Out-of-State Residents		Total	
NAICS[a] Code	Industry	N	Row %	N	Row %	N	Column %
11	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	133	94.3	8	5.7	141	0.7
21	Mining, Including Oil & Gas	1,519	81.5	345	18.5	1,864	9.1
22	Utilities	27	90.0	3	10.0	30	0.1
23	Construction	3,964	79.4	1,027	20.6	4,991	24.3
31-33	Manufacturing	827	94.0	53	6.0	880	4.3
42	Wholesale Trade	573	92.7	45	7.3	618	3.0
44-45	Retail Trade	1,123	91.4	105	8.6	1,228	6.0
48-49	Transportation & Warehousing	812	89.9	91	10.1	903	4.4
51	Information	129	92.1	11	7.9	140	0.7
52	Finance & Insurance	174	90.6	18	9.4	192	0.9
53	Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	274	91.3	26	8.7	300	1.5
54	Professional & Technical Services	521	74.5	178	25.5	699	3.4
55	Mgmt. of Companies & Enterprises	10	66.7	5	33.3	15	0.1
56	Administrative & Waste Services	1,088	89.6	126	10.4	1,214	5.9
61	Educational Services	341	87.7	48	12.3	389	1.9
62	Health Care & Social Assistance	1,315	93.9	86	6.1	1,401	6.8
71	Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	214	83.3	43	16.7	257	1.3
72	Accommodation & Food Services	2,142	76.9	643	23.1	2,785	13.6
81	Other Services	411	91.5	38	8.5	449	2.2
92	Public Administration	393	92.0	34	8.0	427	2.1
	Nonclassified	1,036	64.2	577	35.8	1,613	7.9
	Total	**17,026**	**82.9**	**3,510**	**17.1**	**20,536**	**100.0**

[a]North American Industry Classification System.
Source: Wyoming Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims database.
Prepared by S. Wen, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 2/15/22.

2020 to 2021, such as accommodation & food services, mining, construction, and health care & social assistance. This may indicate a substantial improvement in these industries' employment situations.

Some demographic trends of UI recipients and the relationship with the UI exhaustion rates seem more consistent over years (see Table 5.4, page 30). Data show that older benefit recipients had more difficulty finding reemployment compared to younger individuals in Wyoming based on their benefit exhaustion rates. For example, benefit recipients ages 55-64 and 65 and older had substantially higher exhaustion rates in 2021 (40.0% and 45.7%, respectively) than UI recipients ages 25-34 (30.8%) and 35-44 (33.8%).

As also shown in Table 5.4 (see page 30), individuals with higher wages before their layoff had lower exhaustion rates. A higher pre-layoff wage would qualify an individual for more weeks of UI benefits. The maximum number of weeks an individual can collect regular UI benefits in Wyoming is 26 weeks. Claimants with more eligible weeks have a lower exhaustion rate, since the longer duration provides them with more time to find a job before exhausting their benefits.

UI Benefit Expenses

The Wyoming Department of Workforce Services' UI division paid a total of $159.5 million in benefits to unemployed workers

Table 5.3: Wyoming Unemployment Insurance (UI) Recipients and Benefit Exhaustion Rates by Industry, 2020-2021

NAICS[a] Code	Industry	UI Recipients		Change		Exhaustion Rate	
		2021	2020	N	%	2021	2020
11	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	141	196	-55	-28.1	23.4	25.6
21	Mining, Including Oil & Gas	1,864	4,939	-3,075	-62.3	51.4	30.9
22	Utilities	30	46	-16	-34.8	33.3	16.7
23	Construction	4,991	6,871	-1,880	-27.4	25.9	25.1
31-33	Manufacturing	880	1,433	-553	-38.6	33.1	22.8
42	Wholesale Trade	618	1,258	-640	-50.9	52.1	29.9
44-45	Retail Trade	1,228	3,169	-1,941	-61.2	37.7	21.3
48-49	Transportation & Warehousing	903	2,021	-1,118	-55.3	34.2	24.0
51	Information	140	330	-190	-57.6	36.4	19.4
52	Finance & Insurance	192	222	-30	-13.5	28.1	31.3
53	Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	300	663	-363	-54.8	48.0	26.1
54	Professional & Technical Services	699	1,118	-419	-37.5	38.6	29.8
55	Mgmt. of Companies & Enterprises	15	24	-9	-37.5	33.3	13.8
56	Administrative & Waste Services	1,214	1,909	-695	-36.4	32.3	30.6
61	Educational Services	389	1,350	-961	-71.2	35.0	20.5
62	Health Care & Social Assistance	1,401	3,774	-2,373	-62.9	29.8	11.9
71	Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	257	789	-532	-67.4	37.4	18.5
72	Accommodation & Food Services	2,785	7,971	-5,186	-65.1	30.2	19.1
81	Other Services	449	1,278	-829	-64.9	36.7	20.0
92	Public Administration	427	758	-331	-43.7	35.6	27.5
	Nonclassified	1,613	3,511	-1,898	-54.1	17.7	9.5
	Total	**20,536**	**43,630**	**-23,094**	**-52.9**	**32.6**	**22.5**

[a]North American Industry Classification System.
Source: Wyoming Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims database.
Prepared by S. Wen, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 2/15/22.

in 2021. This included $58.2 million from the state UI trust fund and $101.3 million from other UI funds and the federal CARES Act (see Figure 5.2, page 31). Focusing just on the UI state trust fund, benefit expenses decreased from the historically high $173.5 million in 2020 to $58.2 million in 2021 (-$115.3 million, or -66.4%). The $58.2 million in benefit expenses was higher than pre-pandemic levels, but much closer to the $43.8 million in 2019 and the $42.4 million in 2018.

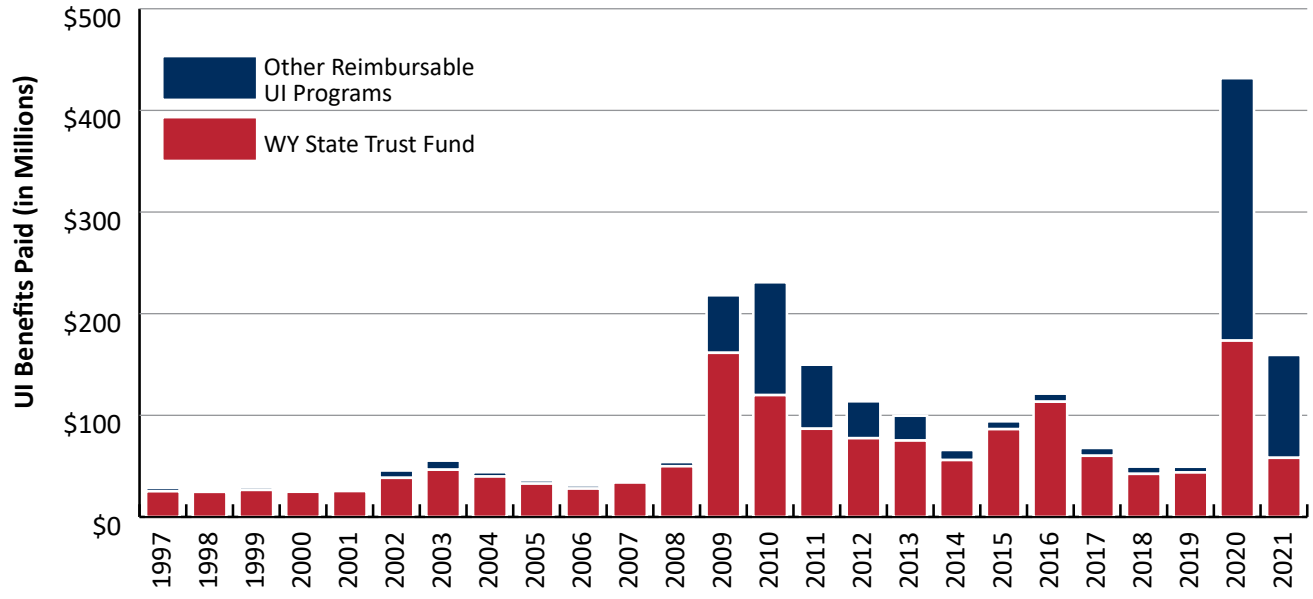
Nearly half (47.1%, or $75.1 million) of total UI benefits in 2021 were paid to those who worked in construction, mining, and accommodation & food services (see Table 5.5, page 31). Benefit

(Text continued on page 32)

Table 5.4: Selected Demographics of Unemployment Insurance Recipients, Exhaustees, and Exhaustion Rate, 2020 and 2021

		2021			2020		
Category		UI Benefit Recipients	UI Benefit Exhaustees	Exhaustion Rate	UI Benefit Recipients	UI Benefit Exhaustees	Exhaustion Rate
Age	16-24	1,484	374	25.2	4,692	703	15.0
	25-34	4,587	1,414	30.8	11,045	2,133	19.3
	35-44	4,632	1,564	33.8	9,485	2,081	21.9
	45-54	3,578	1,229	34.3	7,063	1,721	24.4
	55-64	3,687	1,475	40.0	6,671	1,850	27.7
	65+	1,379	630	45.7	2,352	821	34.9
	Unknown	1,189	N/A	N/A	2,322	N/A	
Gender	Men	12,757	4,349	34.1	24,748	6,087	24.6
	Women	6,590	2,337	35.5	16,560	3,222	19.5
	Unknown	1,189	N/A	N/A	2,322	N/A	0.0
Total Base Period Wages[a]	$0-$9,999	4,467	3,262	73.0	7,039	2,822	40.1
	$10,000-$19,999	2,797	759	27.1	6,985	1,581	22.6
	$20,000-$29,999	3,002	728	24.3	6,526	1,327	20.3
	$30,000-$39,999	2,673	576	21.5	5,428	888	16.4
	$40,000-$49,999	2,036	406	19.9	4,124	694	16.8
	$50,000-$59,999	1,456	283	19.4	2,966	471	15.9
	$60,000+	2,916	672	23.0	8,240	1,526	18.5
	Unknown	1,189	N/A	N/A	2,322	N/A	0.0
Weeks Eligible for Benefit	0-9	3,302	2,957	89.6	3,878	2,163	55.8
	10-14	1,489	519	34.9	2,973	982	33.0
	15-19	2,793	758	27.1	4,986	1,313	26.3
	20-25	4,171	826	19.8	8,885	1,538	17.3
	Maximum = 26	7,592	1,626	21.4	20,586	3,313	16.1
	Unknown	1,189	N/A	N/A	2,322	N/A	0.0
Number of Employers in Base Period[a]	1	9,456	2,136	22.6	21,538	3,800	17.6
	2	4,251	970	22.8	10,114	1,994	19.7
	3	1,593	412	25.9	3,930	823	20.9
	4	572	151	26.4	1,582	337	21.3
	5 or More	353	87	24.6	907	214	23.6
	Unknown	4,311	2,930	68.0	5,559	2,141	38.5
Total		**20,536**	**6,686**	**32.6**	**43,630**	**9,309**	**21.3**

[a]The *base period* refers to the earliest four of the five complete calendar quarters before an individual filed a benefits claim.
N/D = Not discloseable due to confidentiality. N/A = Not available.
Source: Wyoming Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims database.
Prepared by S. Wen, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 2/15/22.



Source: Wyoming Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims database.
Prepared by S. Wen, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 2/15/22.

Figure 5.2: Unemployment Insurance Benefits Paid in Wyoming, 1997 to 2021

Table 5.5: Unemployment Insurance Benefit Expenses for Wyoming by Industry, 2020-2021

	2021		2020		Change, 2020-2021	
County	UI Benefit	Column %	UI Benefit	Column %	$	%
Agriculture	$949,913	0.6	$1,575,292	0.4	-$625,379	-39.7
Mining, Including Oil & Gas	$18,879,189	11.8	$69,212,145	16.0	-$50,332,956	-72.7
Utilities	$263,760	0.2	$390,367	0.1	-$126,607	-32.4
Construction	$40,017,677	25.1	$67,044,737	15.5	-$27,027,060	-40.3
Manufacturing	$6,811,907	4.3	$14,081,185	3.3	-$7,269,278	-51.6
Wholesale Trade	$5,877,492	3.7	$14,627,737	3.4	-$8,750,245	-59.8
Retail Trade	$8,676,499	5.4	$26,711,639	6.2	-$18,035,140	-67.5
Transportation & Warehousing	$7,711,243	4.8	$21,089,731	4.9	-$13,378,488	-63.4
Information	$1,156,924	0.7	$3,268,396	0.8	-$2,111,472	-64.6
Finance & Insurance	$1,389,146	0.9	$2,196,200	0.5	-$807,054	-36.7
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	$2,636,905	1.7	$7,213,101	1.7	-$4,576,196	-63.4
Professional & Technical Services	$6,180,378	3.9	$13,063,577	3.0	-$6,883,199	-52.7
Mgmt. of Companies & Enterprises	$94,936	0.1	$247,417	0.1	-$152,481	-61.6
Administrative & Waste Services	$8,978,018	5.6	$18,514,698	4.3	-$9,536,680	-51.5
Educational Services	$2,662,890	1.7	$13,234,383	3.1	-$10,571,493	-79.9
Health Care & Social Assistance	$8,828,738	5.5	$26,017,375	6.0	-$17,188,637	-66.1
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	$1,790,858	1.1	$6,949,239	1.6	-$5,158,381	-74.2
Accommodation & Food Services	$16,247,522	10.2	$72,339,777	16.8	-$56,092,255	-77.5
Other Services (except Public Admin.)	$3,319,219	2.1	$11,924,821	2.8	-$8,605,602	-72.2
Public Administration	$3,318,097	2.1	$6,993,981	1.6	-$3,675,884	-52.6
Nonclassified	$13,659,841	8.6	$35,043,394	8.1	-$21,383,553	-61.0
Total	**$159,451,152**	**100.0**	**$431,739,192**	**100.0**	**-$272,288,040**	**-63.1**

Source: Wyoming Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims database.
Prepared by S. Wen, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 2/15/22.

(Text continued from page 30)

recipients from construction collected one-fourth (25.1%, or $40.0 million) of the total, followed by mining (11.8%, or $18.9 million) and accommodation & food services (10.2%, or $16.2 million). All industries showed large decreases in benefit payments from 2020 to 2021, with the largest decreases found in accommodation & food services (-$56.1 million, or -77.5%), mining (-$50.3 million, or -72.7%), and construction (-$27.0 million, or -40.3%).

The *UI benefit wage replacement rate* refers to the amount of a person's average weekly wage that is covered by the benefit amount. For example, the average weekly wage replacement rate of 73.7% in mining in 2021 means that the average weekly benefit replaced nearly three-fourths of the average weekly wage for that industry. Table 5.6 provides three years worth

Table 5.6: Average Weekly Wage, Average Weekly Benefit, and Benefit Replacement Rates for Unemployment Insurance Benefit Recipients in Wyoming, 2019-2021

	Average Weekly Wage			Average Weekly Benefit Amount			Average Weekly Wage Replacement Rate (%)		
Industry	2019	2020	2021	2019	2020	2021	2019	2020	2021
Agriculture	$693	$701	$718	$450	$910	$747	64.9	129.9	104.1
Mining	$1,735	$1,791	$1,747	$481	$828	$1,287	27.7	46.2	73.7
Utilities	$1,772	$1,822	$1,817	$498	$1,138	$707	28.1	62.5	38.9
Construction	$1,029	$1,103	$1,088	$521	$833	$899	50.7	75.5	82.6
Manufacturing	$1,290	$1,322	$1,352	$386	$723	$894	30.0	54.7	66.1
Wholesale Trade	$1,224	$1,263	$1,246	$460	$782	$1,073	37.6	61.9	86.1
Retail Trade	$559	$578	$611	$382	$855	$716	68.4	147.9	117.2
Transportation & Warehousing	$1,013	$1,054	$1,055	$484	$892	$961	47.8	84.7	91.0
Information	$857	$885	$969	$384	$825	$850	44.7	93.3	87.7
Finance & Insurance	$1,208	$1,292	$1,402	$481	$685	$767	39.8	53.0	54.7
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	$935	$967	$949	$458	$803	$1,002	49.0	83.0	105.7
Professional & Technical Services	$1,233	$1,316	$1,414	$431	$764	$1,066	34.9	58.0	75.4
Mgmt. of Companies & Enterprises	$1,987	$1,940	$2,732	$378	$937	$1,091	19.0	48.3	39.9
Administrative & Waste Services	$689	$729	$729	$429	$869	$889	62.3	119.2	122.0
Educational Services	$841	$853	$902	$610	$897	$806	72.5	105.1	89.5
Health Care & Social Assistance	$940	$973	$1,020	$396	$824	$663	42.1	84.7	65.0
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	$570	$582	$630	$410	$881	$887	71.9	151.4	140.7
Accommodation & Food Services	$409	$424	$440	$394	$804	$755	96.3	189.8	171.4
Other Services (except Public Admin.)	$705	$744	$761	$466	$814	$907	66.1	109.5	119.2
Public Administration	$1,007	$1,015	$1,044	$448	$865	$765	44.5	85.3	73.3
Nonclassified	$1,226	$1,856	$1,745	$167	$327	$321	13.6	17.6	18.4
Total	**$924**	**$959**	**$980**	**$415**	**$734**	**$772**	**44.9**	**76.5**	**78.7**

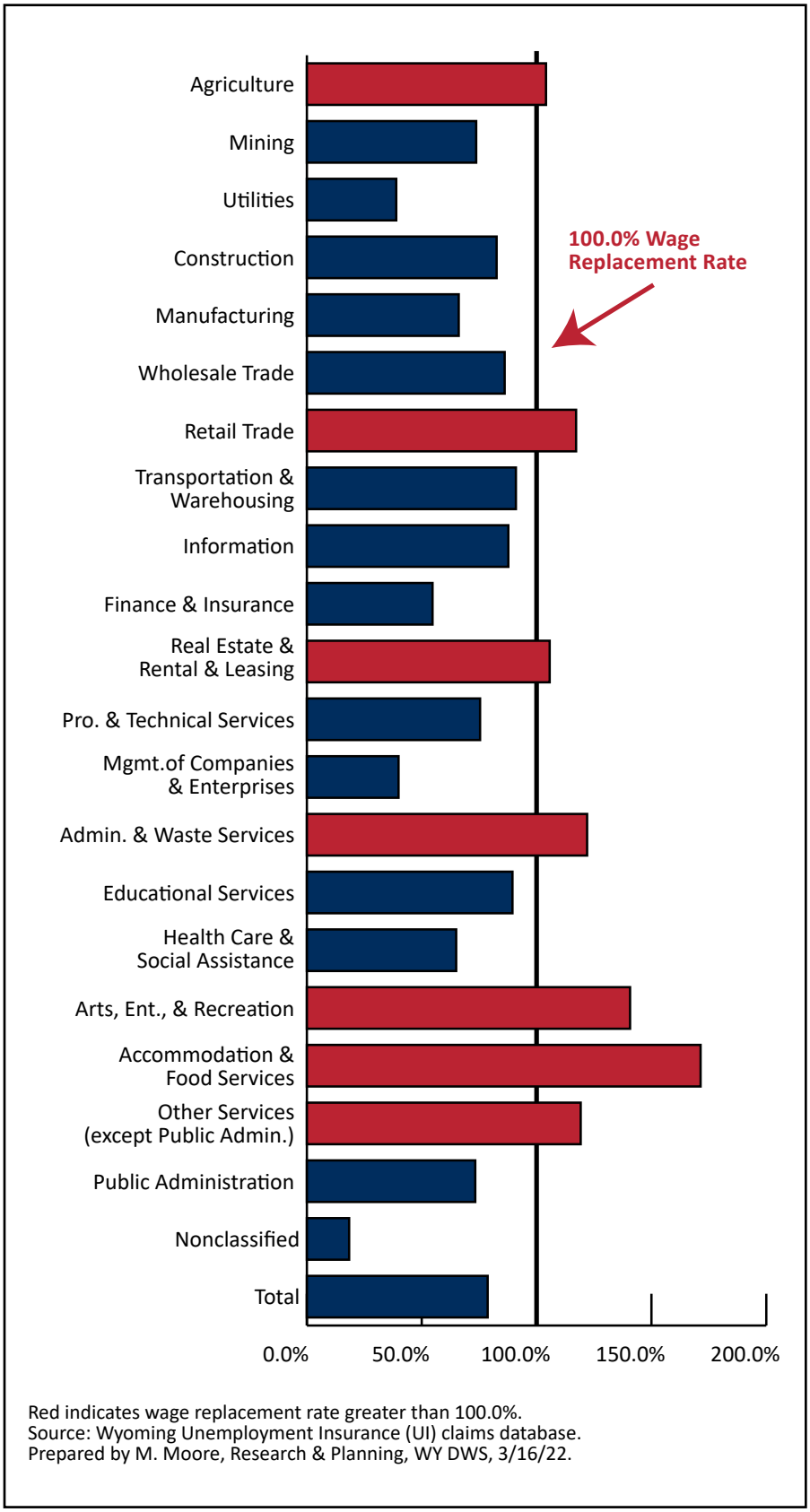
Source: Wyoming Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims database.
Prepared by S. Wen, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 2/15/22.

of data for comparison purposes. Due to federal CARES Act funds, Wyoming experienced a substantial increase in wage replacement in 2020, and an even larger replacement in 2021.

Statewide, the average wage replacement rate increased from 44.9% in 2019 to 76.5% in 2020 and 78.7% in 2021. A higher wage replacement rate makes it easier for the unemployed workers and their families to cover expenses.

Higher-paying industries usually have a low wage replacement rate, and lower-paying industries have a higher replacement rate. Claimants from seven industries were paid more than 100% of their average weekly wage (see Figure 5.3). As an example, benefit recipients in accommodation & food services had an average weekly wage of $440 in 2021, and received an average benefit amount of $755, or 171.4% of their average weekly wage.

Each of Wyoming's 23 counties experienced a double-digit decrease in benefit expenses from 2020 to 2021 (see Table 5.7, page 34). Natrona County



Red indicates wage replacement rate greater than 100.0%.
Source: Wyoming Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims database.
Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 3/16/22.

Figure 5.3: Unemployment Insurance Benefit Wage Replacement Rate for Wyoming by Industry, 2021

showed the largest decrease (-$50.1 million, or -62.4%), followed by Laramie (-$29.9 million, or -63.2%) and Campbell (-$24.7 million, or -64.9%). Benefits paid to out-of-state recipients decreased from $77.5 million to $29.5 million (-$48.0 million, or -61.9%).

Wyoming's most populous counties made up the largest share of benefits. Natrona County had $30.1 million in UI benefits paid, while Laramie had $17.3 million (10.9%). Nearly $1 of every $5 paid to UI benefit recipients went to out-of-state claimants ($29.5 million, or 18.5%).

Conclusion

The number of Wyoming UI recipients and the UI benefit expenses showed large decreases from 2020 from 2021. All industries and counties experienced double-digit percentage decreases. This UI data may indicate that Wyoming's economy has recovered to some extent from the economic downturn that lasted from 2020 to 2021, especially for those industries and counties hit hardest by the pandemic.

Table 5.7: Unemployment Insurance Benefit Expenses by County for Wyoming, 2020-2021

	2021		2020		Change, 2020-2021	
County	UI Benefit	Column %	UI Benefit	Column %	$	%
Albany	$4,225,025	2.6	$10,216,657	2.4	-$5,991,632	-58.6
Big Horn	$2,112,121	1.3	$3,514,194	0.8	-$1,402,073	-39.9
Campbell	$13,388,186	8.4	$38,136,510	8.8	-$24,748,324	-64.9
Carbon	$2,953,739	1.9	$6,054,344	1.4	-$3,100,605	-51.2
Converse	$4,240,538	2.7	$10,903,767	2.5	-$6,663,229	-61.1
Crook	$959,685	0.6	$2,244,153	0.5	-$1,284,468	-57.2
Fremont	$9,146,826	5.7	$22,272,963	5.2	-$13,126,137	-58.9
Goshen	$1,086,085	0.7	$3,134,137	0.7	-$2,048,052	-65.3
Hot Springs	$762,860	0.5	$2,127,991	0.5	-$1,365,131	-64.2
Johnson	$1,769,708	1.1	$3,940,030	0.9	-$2,170,322	-55.1
Laramie	$17,383,595	10.9	$47,254,080	10.9	-$29,870,485	-63.2
Lincoln	$2,842,963	1.8	$8,526,118	2.0	-$5,683,155	-66.7
Natrona	$30,129,917	18.9	$80,209,852	18.6	-$50,079,935	-62.4
Niobrara	$351,374	0.2	$538,291	0.1	-$186,917	-34.7
Park	$5,491,242	3.4	$13,789,547	3.2	-$8,298,305	-60.2
Platte	$1,442,723	0.9	$3,842,869	0.9	-$2,400,146	-62.5
Sheridan	$4,943,222	3.1	$12,128,282	2.8	-$7,185,060	-59.2
Sublette	$2,533,487	1.6	$5,717,744	1.3	-$3,184,257	-55.7
Sweetwater	$11,929,393	7.5	$32,599,906	7.6	-$20,670,513	-63.4
Teton	$5,328,417	3.3	$29,359,776	6.8	-$24,031,359	-81.9
Uinta	$3,986,574	2.5	$10,322,657	2.4	-$6,336,083	-61.4
Washakie	$1,414,865	0.9	$3,415,528	0.8	-$2,000,663	-58.6
Weston	$1,005,656	0.6	$2,513,100	0.6	-$1,507,444	-60.0
Unknown (WY)	$487,842	0.3	$1,483,484	0.3	-$995,642	-67.1
Out-of-State	$29,535,109	18.5	$77,493,212	17.9	-$47,958,103	-61.9
Total	**$159,451,152**	**100.0**	**$431,739,192**	**100.0**	**-$272,288,040**	**-63.1**

Source: Wyoming Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims database.
Prepared by S. Wen, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 2/15/22.

Chapter 6: Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey

Wyoming Job Openings Set a Record High in 2021

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

The nationwide labor shortage was featured in the news during much of 2021. This chapter discusses recent Wyoming data on job openings, unemployment, hiring, and quits, and includes comparisons to historical data and U.S. data, based on the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey (JOLTS) and Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) programs.

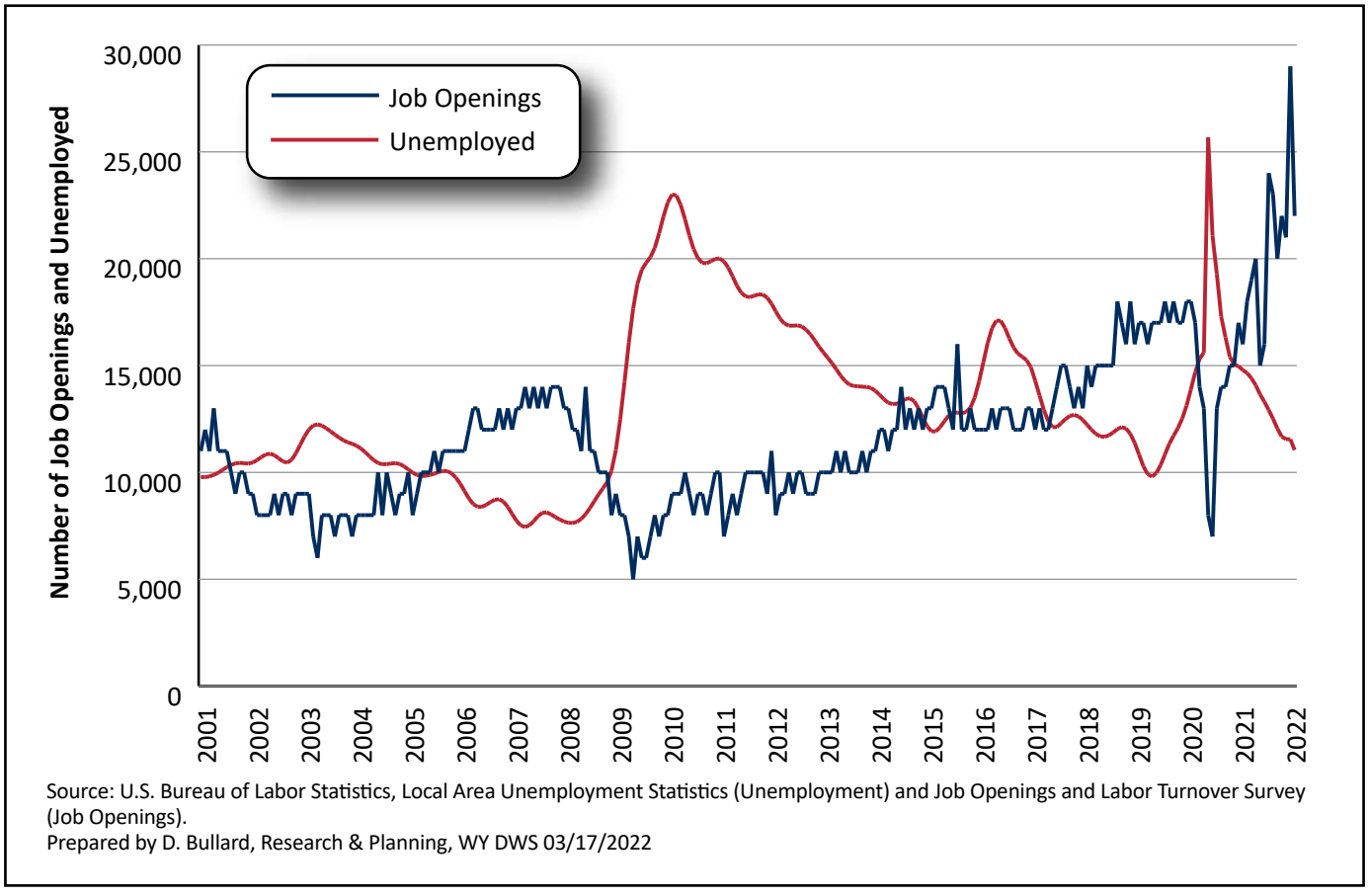
Find it Online

Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey

https://www.bls.gov/jlt/

Figure 6.1 shows the number of unemployed people in Wyoming and job openings from December 2000 to January 2022. Unemployment rose sharply early in the COVID-19 pandemic (peaking at 25,682 in May 2020), but has since decreased to pre-pandemic levels (11,047 in January 2022).

Job openings, which tend to move opposite of unemployment, dipped to 7,000



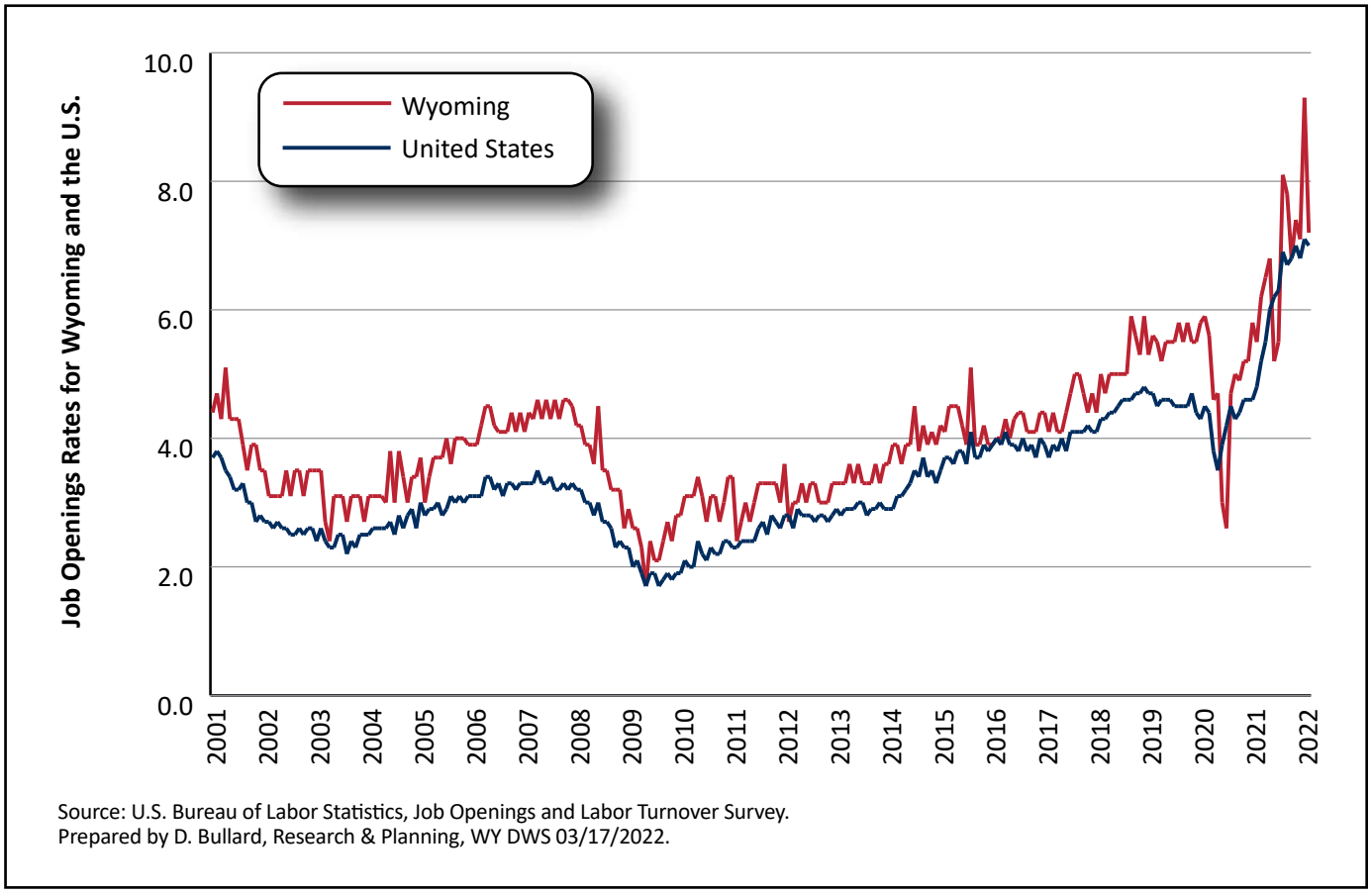
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics (Unemployment) and Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey (Job Openings).
Prepared by D. Bullard, Research & Planning, WY DWS 03/17/2022

Figure 6.1: Wyoming Job Openings and Unemployment, December 2000 to January 2022

in June 2020, but quickly rebounded to very high levels in recent months. In December 2021, there was a record high level of 29,000 job openings in Wyoming. Comparing unemployment to job openings suggests that employers in Wyoming may face considerable difficulty in filling open positions. In January 2022, there were approximately two job openings for each unemployed person in the state. If they are going to fill all the job openings, employers must entice more people into the labor market and tap underutilized sources of labor.

The job openings rates for the U.S. and Wyoming are shown in Figure 6.2. Wyoming's job opening rate has tended to be higher than the U.S. This may indicate that through the economic ups and downs of the past two decades, Wyoming's labor market has been tighter than the national average. Of the 50 states, Wyoming had the 30th highest job opening rate in January 2022. As shown in Figure 6.3 (see page 37), Wyoming's job opening rate of 7.2 was lower than most of its neighboring states, including Nebraska (7.8), Colorado (7.6), Montana (7.5), and Utah (7.3).

Figure 6.4 (see page 37) illustrates the hire rate in Wyoming and the U.S. Wyoming's hire rate also has been consistently higher than the U.S., possibly reflecting the large amount of seasonal hiring that regularly occurs in Wyoming. In the leisure & hospitality sector, employment typically increases by approximately 9,000 jobs (approximately 28%) between January and July. Similarly, the construction

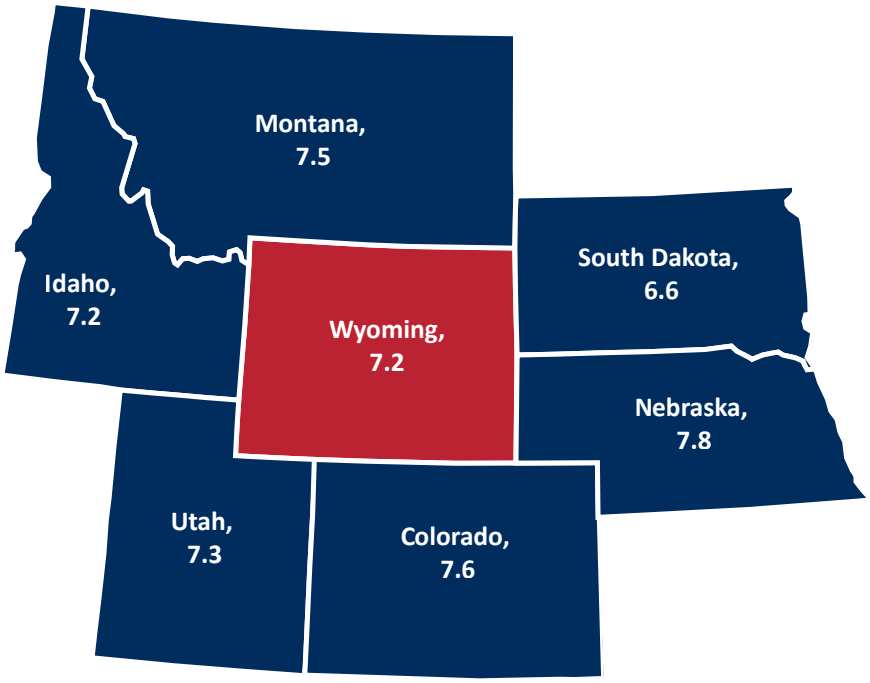


Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey.
Prepared by D. Bullard, Research & Planning, WY DWS 03/17/2022.

Figure 6.2: U.S. and Wyoming Job Openings Rate, December 2000 to January 2022

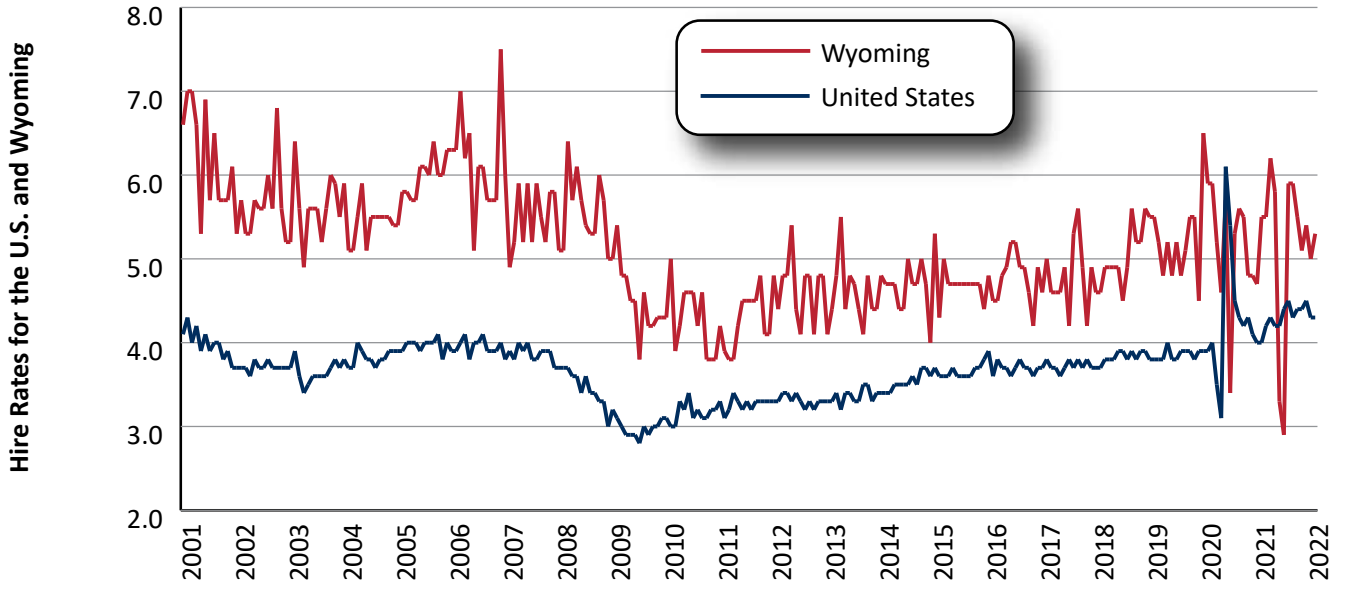
sector adds thousands of jobs between January and August. After seasonal adjustment, the peak month for hiring over the past two decades was November 2006, when the rate was 7.5. Hiring was generally strong from December 2000 to January 2009. Even though the Great Recession officially started in December 2007, it did not affect Wyoming until first quarter 2009 (NBER, 2022). In January 2022, Wyoming's hire rate was 5.3.

Figure 6.5 (see page 38) shows the quit rate. While Wyoming's quit rate has been high in recent months, it has not been at record high levels. The peak quit rate in Wyoming occurred in



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey.
Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS 03/18/2022.

Figure 6.3: Job Openings Rates for Wyoming and Surrounding States, January 2022



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics (Unemployment) and Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey (Job Openings).
Prepared by D. Bullard, Research & Planning, WY DWS 03/17/2022.

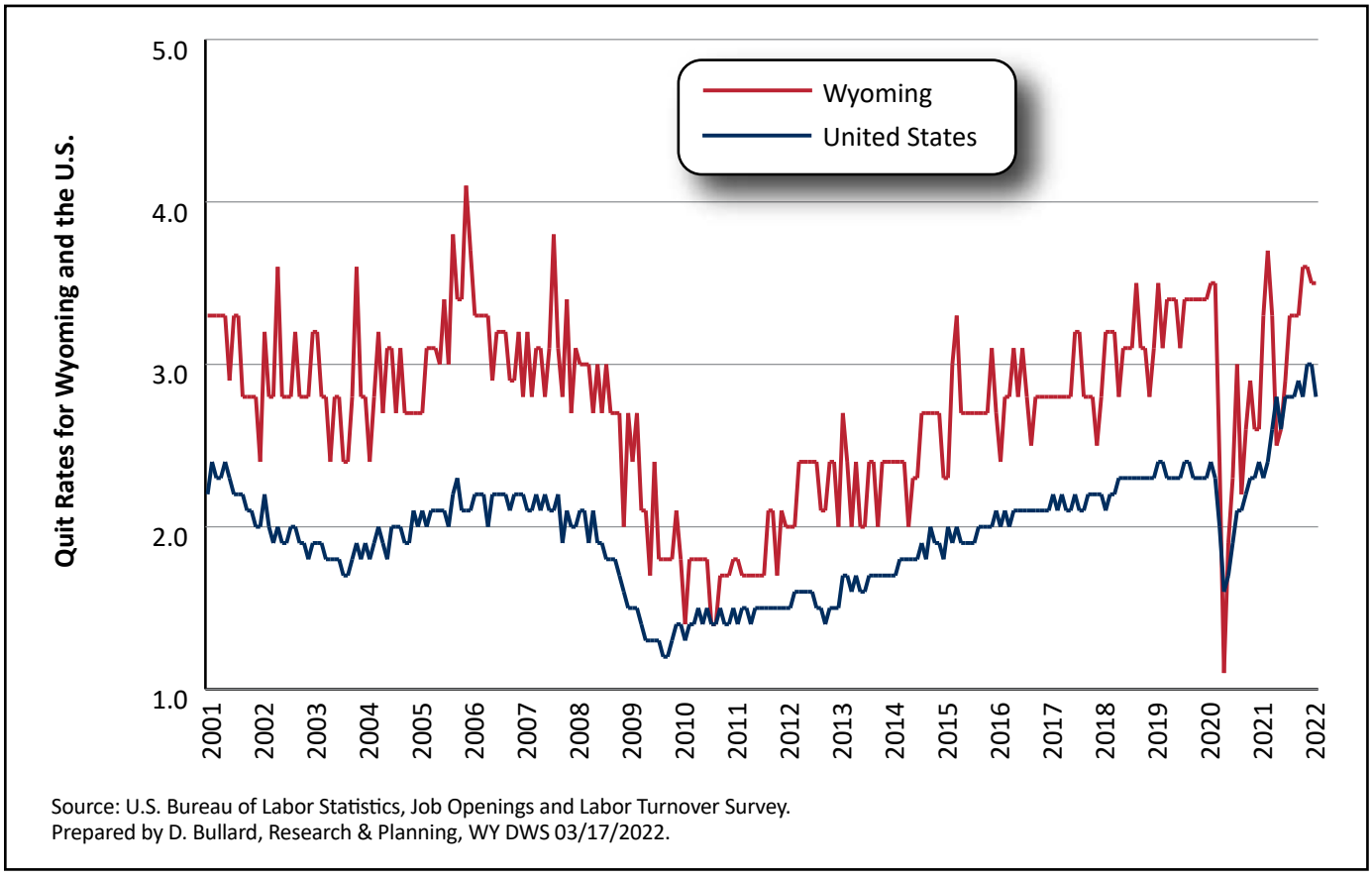
Figure 6.4: U.S. and Wyoming Hire Rates, December 2000 to January 2022

November 2005, when it stood at 4.1. Current data show that Wyoming's quit rate was 3.5 in January 2022. It is interesting to note that while the job openings rate is very elevated compared to historical data, the quit rate is not. Thus, it appears that the high level of job openings may be primarily related to strong demand for labor and not due to an unusually high number of people quitting their jobs.

In summary, the number of job openings in Wyoming hit a record high level of 29,000 in December 2021. However, the most recent data show that Wyoming's job openings rate is lower than most other states, including four of the six neighboring states. The hire rate in Wyoming has consistently been above the national rate, and this may reflect the large amount of seasonal hiring that happens in many sectors of Wyoming's economy, especially leisure & hospitality and construction. The quit rate in the state, while higher than the U.S. average, is currently lower than peaks in November 2005 and July 2007. Historical data suggests that the current high level of job openings is primarily related to strong labor demand rather than an unusually high level of quits.

Reference

National Bureau of Economic Research. (2022). Business cycle dating. Retrieved June 28, 2022, from https://www.nber.org/research/business-cycle-dating



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey.
Prepared by D. Bullard, Research & Planning, WY DWS 03/17/2022.

Figure 6.5: Quit Rates for Wyoming and the U.S., December 2000 to January 2022

Chapter 7: Demographics of the Workforce

New Research Focuses on Millennials, Older Workers

by: Michael Moore, Research Supervisor

The Research & Planning (R&P) section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services publishes detailed demographics tables on an annual basis. These tables contain information such as total number of workers, average annual wage, average number of quarters worked, and average number of employers worked for by gender and age group, and presented by county and industry.

Table 7.1 shows the number of persons working in Wyoming at any time during the year, which decreased slightly from 337,767 in 2020 to 336,824 in 2021 (-943, or -0.3%).

The number of resident female workers decreased by 2,917 (-2.1%) while the number of resident male workers decreased by 6,652 (-4.1%). The number of nonresident workers increased from 35,891 to 44,517 (8,626, or 24.0%). The term *nonresidents* refers to individuals for whom demographic data are not available; these are typically individuals who commute to Wyoming from another state or country for work. Nonresidents also may be individuals who moved to Wyoming for work in 2021 but had not established residency by the end of the year.

The number of persons working in Wyoming decreased for most age groups from 2020 to 2021, with the greatest losses seen in those ages 25-34 (-3,852, or -5.9%) and 55 and older (-2,589, or -3.8%). The number of individuals younger than 20 working in Wyoming at any time during the year increased from 20,912 in 2020 to 21,724 in 2021 (812, or 3.9%). Among individuals younger than 20 working in Wyoming at any time during the year, there was a much greater increase in women (592, or 5.7%) than men (220, or 2.1%) from 2020 to 2021.

Table 7.1: Selected Demographics of Persons Working in Wyoming at Any Time by Gender, 2020-2021

Gender

			Over-the-Year Change	
Gender	**2021**	**2020**	**N**	**%**
Residents	292,307	301,876	-9,569	-3.2
Women	137,294	140,211	-2,917	-2.1
Men	155,013	161,665	-6,652	-4.1
Nonresidents[a]	44,517	35,891	8,626	24.0
Total	**336,824**	**337,767**	**-943**	**-0.3**

Age

			Over-the-Year Change	
Age Group	**2021**	**2020**	**N**	**%**
Under 20	21,724	20,912	812	3.9
20-24	30,035	31,591	-1,556	-4.9
25-34	61,546	65,398	-3,852	-5.9
35-44	62,240	63,700	-1,460	-2.3
45-54	50,008	50,879	-871	-1.7
55+	66,401	68,990	-2,589	-3.8
Nonresidents[a]	44,870	36,297	8,573	23.6
Total	**336,824**	**337,767**	**-943**	**-0.3**

[a]Nonresidents are individuals for whom demographic data are not available.

Source: Demographics and Earnings of Persons Working in Wyoming by County, Industry, Age, & Gender, 2000-2021.

Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 4/18/22.

Figure 7.1 illustrates trends in persons working in Wyoming from 2011 to 2021. Noticeable downward trends can be seen in the 45-54 and 35-44 age groups over the last few years. The substantial increase in nonresidents working in Wyoming may be an indication that Wyoming employers had to search outside of state for workers because of the decrease in all resident age groups working in Wyoming.

In 2021, R&P published articles on millennials and older workers in Wyoming's labor market. This chapter includes excerpts from those articles and where to find them.

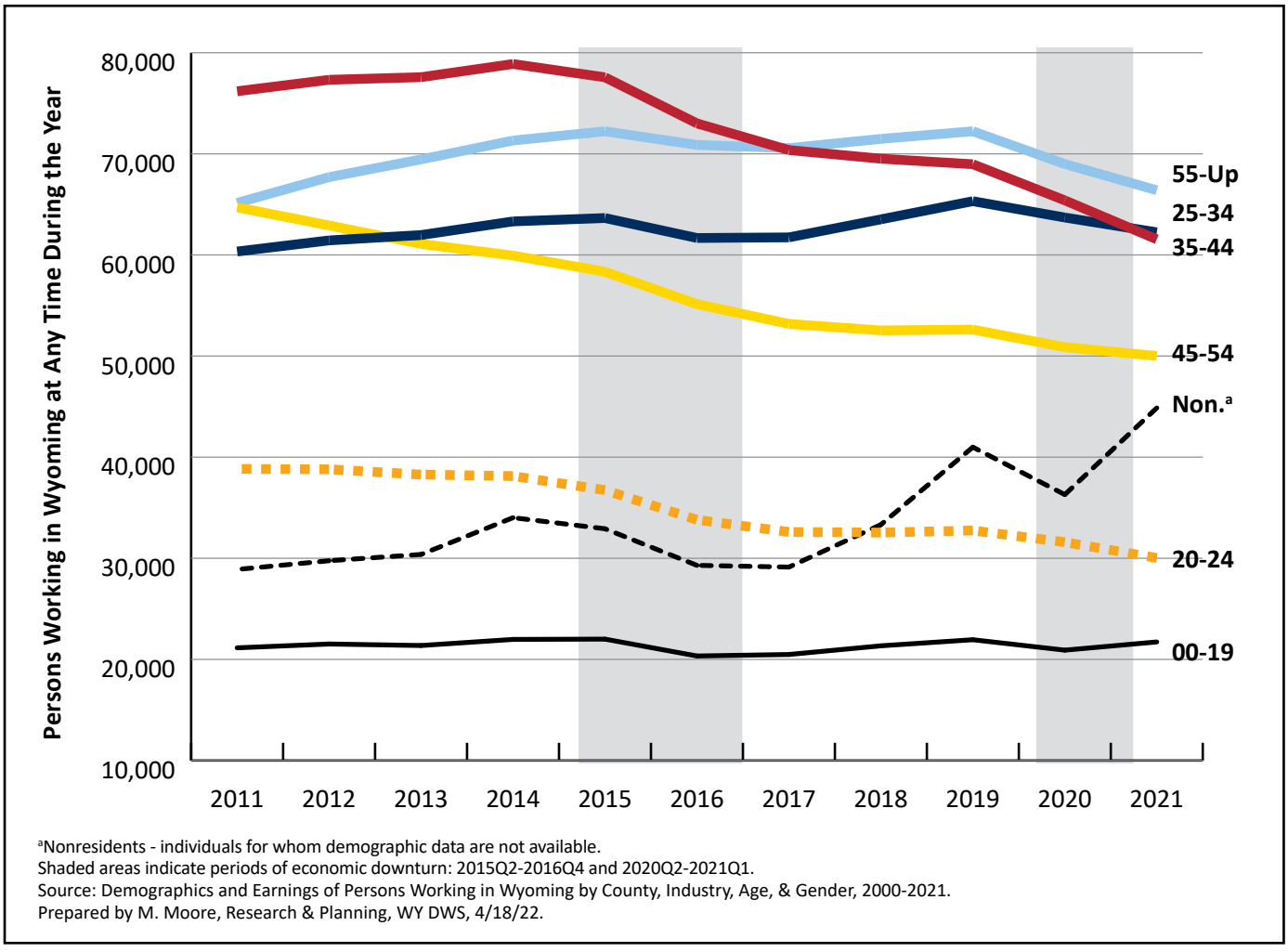
Millennials Continue to Leave Wyoming and its Labor Market

***Wyoming Labor Force Trends*, September 2021**

https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/trends/0921/0921.pdf#page=8

The *millennial generation* refers to 66 million individuals born in the U.S. from 1981-1996. Millennials were ages 24-39 in 2020 (Pew Research Center, 2021).

While the U.S. millennial population continued to grow in recent years as more young immigrants arrived in the country,



[a]Nonresidents - individuals for whom demographic data are not available.
Shaded areas indicate periods of economic downturn: 2015Q2-2016Q4 and 2020Q2-2021Q1.
Source: Demographics and Earnings of Persons Working in Wyoming by County, Industry, Age, & Gender, 2000-2021.
Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 4/18/22.

Figure 7.1: Total Number of Persons Working in Wyoming at Any Time by Age, 2011-2021

Wyoming has seen a steady decline in its millennial population.

Wyoming's millennial population decreased from 128,952 in 2014 to 121,261 in 2020. The 6.0% decrease was the sixth largest in the nation during that period, behind Vermont (-9.3%), West Virginia (-7.3%), Mississippi (-7.1%), North Dakota (-6.8%), and Rhode Island (-6.4%; see Figure 7.2). Conversely, most of Wyoming's neighboring states experienced substantial growth in their millennial populations during that period, including Colorado (17.0%), Idaho (10.7%), Utah (4.8%), and Montana (4.0%). The total U.S. millennial population grew by 2.7%.

Millennials accounted for 20.9% of Wyoming's total population in 2020, while making up a greater proportion of the population of surrounding states

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https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/demographics.htm

like Colorado (24.5%) and Utah (23.4%). Several studies have identified a trend of younger workers moving away from rural areas to larger metropolitan areas in recent years.

In 2020, millennials accounted for approximately one in three (30.8%) persons working in Wyoming at any time during the year. There was a steady decline in millennials working in Wyoming during each year from 2015 to 2020 (see Figure 7.3). The number of millennials working in Wyoming at any time during the year decreased from a peak of 121,654 in 2014 to 102,150 in 2020 (-19,504, or -16.0%). The decline in millennials working (-16.0%) was

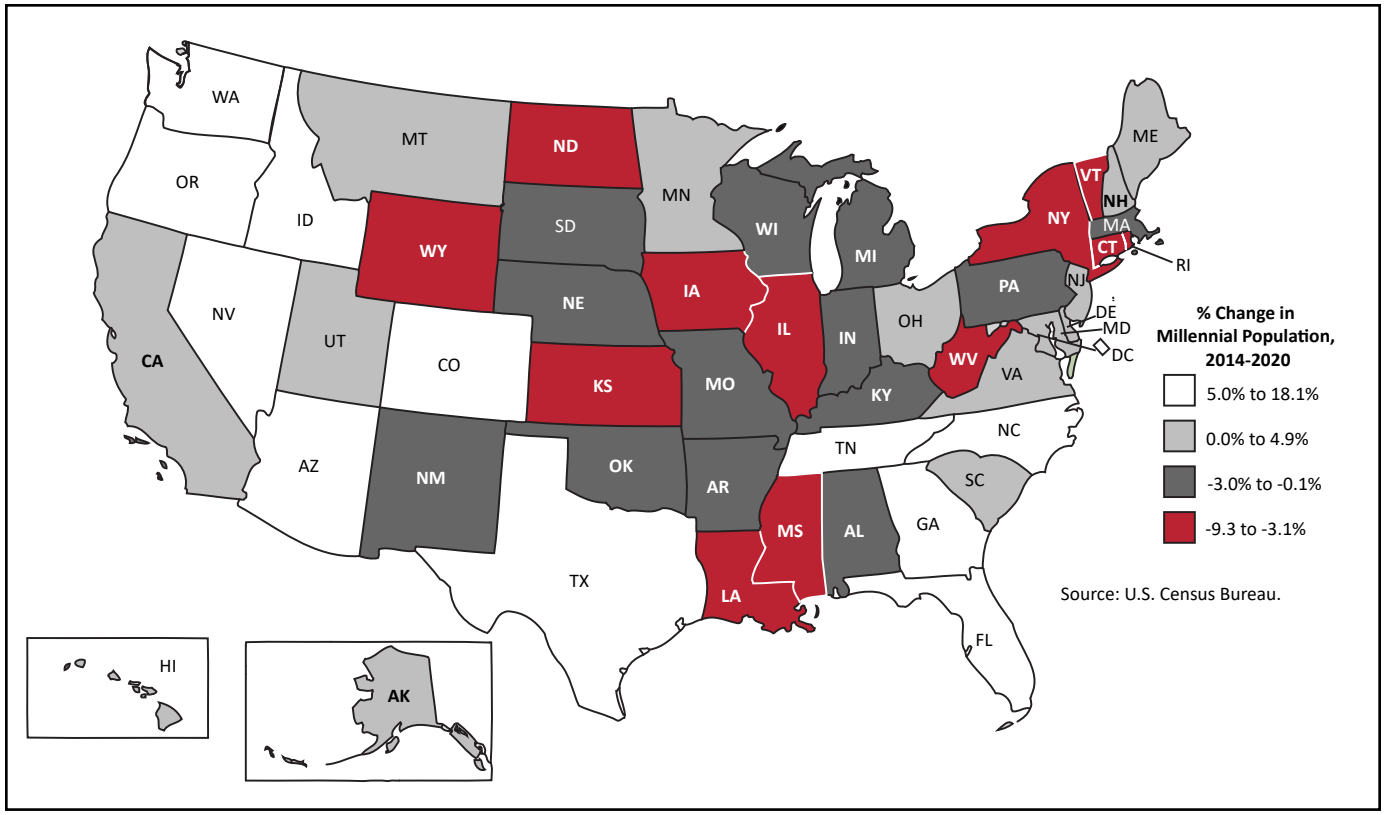


Figure 7.2: Over-the-Year Percent Change in Millennial Population by State, 2014-2020

substantially greater than the decline in the state's overall millennial population (-6.0%).

Several possible scenarios likely contributed to the sharp decline in the number of millennials found working in Wyoming. These could include:

- Workers lost their jobs and moved to another state to find work, or found more appealing work in another state.
- Individuals may live in Wyoming but commute to a neighboring state for work, or telework for a company in another state or country.
- Individuals may have left the labor force entirely, or are just not working.
- Individuals may be self-employed or working gig-type jobs, such as ride share or food delivery jobs. The numbers discussed in this article refer to UI-covered employment only, so a self-employed or contract worker may not be included in the counts.

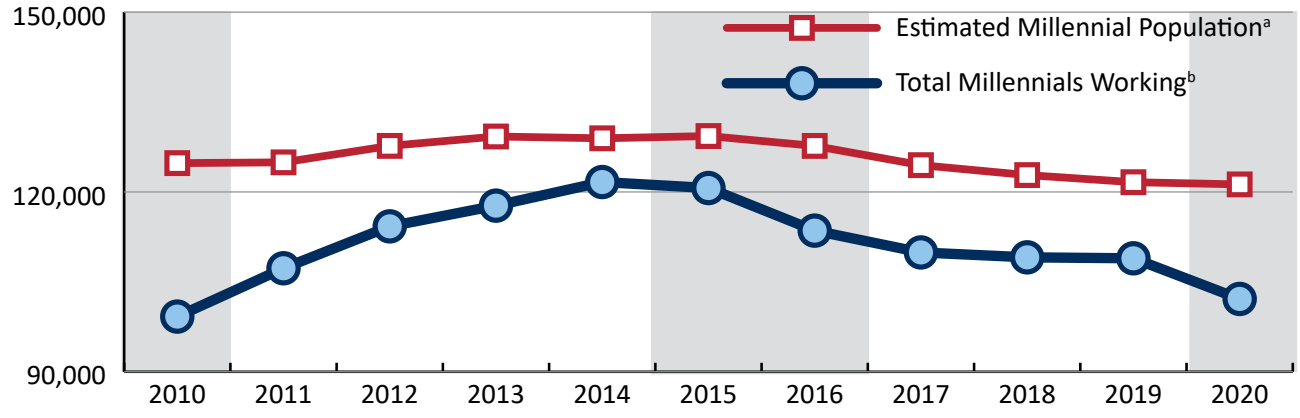
Older Workers in Wyoming: A Closer Look

***Wyoming Labor Force Trends*, February 2022**

https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/trends/2022_02.pdf

Individuals ages 55 and older make up a substantial part of Wyoming's population and labor market. In 2020, these older individuals accounted for nearly one-third (31.3%) of Wyoming's population and one in five (20.6%) persons working in the state at any time during the year. In 2020, individuals ages 55 and older made up a greater proportion of persons working in Wyoming than any other age group (see Figure 7.1, page 40).

Over the last two decades, Wyoming's older population increased at a much greater rate than the total population. The state's overall population increased from 494,300 in 2000 to 579,229 in 2020 (an



Shaded areas represent periods of economic downturn: 2009Q1-2010Q1, 2015Q2-2016Q4, and 2020Q2 to 2020Q4.
[a]Source: U.S. Census Bureau Single Year of Age Population Estimates.
[b]Source: Wyoming Wage Records.
Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 7/26/21.

Figure 7.3: Wyoming Millennial Population and Total Number of Millennials Working in Wyoming at Any Time During the Year, 2010-2020

increase of 84,929, or 17.2%). Wyoming's older resident population increased each year over the last two decades (see Table 7.2), from 102,685 in 2000 to 181,073 in 2020 (78,388, or 76.3%).

The increase in Wyoming's older population can be attributed in large part to the aging of the *baby boom generation*, which refers to the approximately 76 million individuals born in the U.S. between 1946 and 1964 (Pew Research Center, 2021). The oldest baby boomers turned 55 in 2001, and all baby boomers were age 55 or older by 2019.

In 2020, older individuals accounted for a greater proportion of the total population (31.3%) than in most of Wyoming's surrounding states, such as Colorado (27.5%) and Utah (28.9%). Of Wyoming's surrounding states, only Montana had a greater proportion of older individuals (33.6%). Among all states, Wyoming had the 17th greatest proportion of those ages 55 and older. The states with the greatest proportions of older individuals were East Coast states such as Maine (37.4%), Vermont (35.7%), Florida (35.0%), and Delaware (35.0%).

The number of workers ages 55 and older in Wyoming steadily increased

Table 7.2: Population Estimates for Wyoming, 2000-2020

	Total	Ages 55 or Older	
Year	N	N	%
2000	494,300	102,685	20.8
2001	494,657	104,526	21.1
2002	500,017	108,547	21.7
2003	503,453	112,512	22.3
2004	509,106	116,222	22.8
2005	514,157	120,312	23.4
2006	522,667	124,764	23.9
2007	534,876	129,424	24.2
2008	546,043	134,344	24.6
2009	559,851	139,605	24.9
2010	561,375	144,711	25.8
2011	564,270	149,343	26.5
2012	573,515	154,652	27.0
2013	579,251	159,131	27.5
2014	580,096	162,465	28.0
2015	583,400	166,303	28.5
2016	582,132	169,724	29.2
2017	576,881	172,537	29.9
2018	575,957	175,692	30.5
2019	577,018	178,743	31.0
2020	579,229	181,073	31.3
Change, 2000-2020 N	**84,929**	**78,388**	
Change, 2000-2020 %	**17.2**	**76.3**	

Source: U.S. Census Bureau Single Year of Age Population Estimates, 2020.
Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 12/13/2021.

Table 7.3: Number of Persons Working in Wyoming at Any Time During the Year, 2000-2020

	Total	Ages 55 or Older	
Year	N	N	%
2000	308,297	32,845	10.7
2001	323,885	35,570	11.0
2002	318,034	37,932	11.9
2003	323,843	40,731	12.6
2004	324,476	43,540	13.4
2005	333,453	46,761	14.0
2006	353,340	50,938	14.4
2007	372,960	55,517	14.9
2008	381,090	59,279	15.6
2009	355,010	60,514	17.0
2010	350,909	62,796	17.9
2011	355,263	65,128	18.3
2012	359,445	67,668	18.8
2013	360,115	69,425	19.3
2014	367,572	71,297	19.4
2015	363,445	72,217	19.9
2016	344,141	70,869	20.6
2017	338,066	70,559	20.9
2018	344,254	71,499	20.8
2019	354,766	72,240	20.4
2020	331,933	68,237	20.6
Change, 2000-2020 N	**8,048**	**32,667**	
Change, 2000-2020 %	**2.5**	**91.8**	

Source: Demographics and Earnings of Persons Working in Wyoming by County, Industry, Age, & Gender, 2000-2020.
Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 12/13/2021.

over the last 20 years (see Table 7.3, page 43). In 2000, the 32,845 older workers accounted for 10.7% of all persons working in Wyoming at any time during the year, or approximately one in 10 people. From 2015 to 2020, older workers represented about one in five (20%) persons working in Wyoming.

In 2020, individuals ages 55 and older made up 20.6% of all persons working in Wyoming at any time during the year, more than any other age group. Individuals ages 25-34 and 35-44 accounted for 19.1% and 18.9% of all persons working, respectively.

Individuals ages 55 and older made up the greatest proportion of persons working in Wyoming in several industries. In public administration, for example, older workers accounted for more than one in four (27.4%) persons working at any time during the year. Other industries with greater proportions of older workers included educational services (27.1%), financial activities (24.8%), and wholesale trade, transportation, & utilities (24.6%).

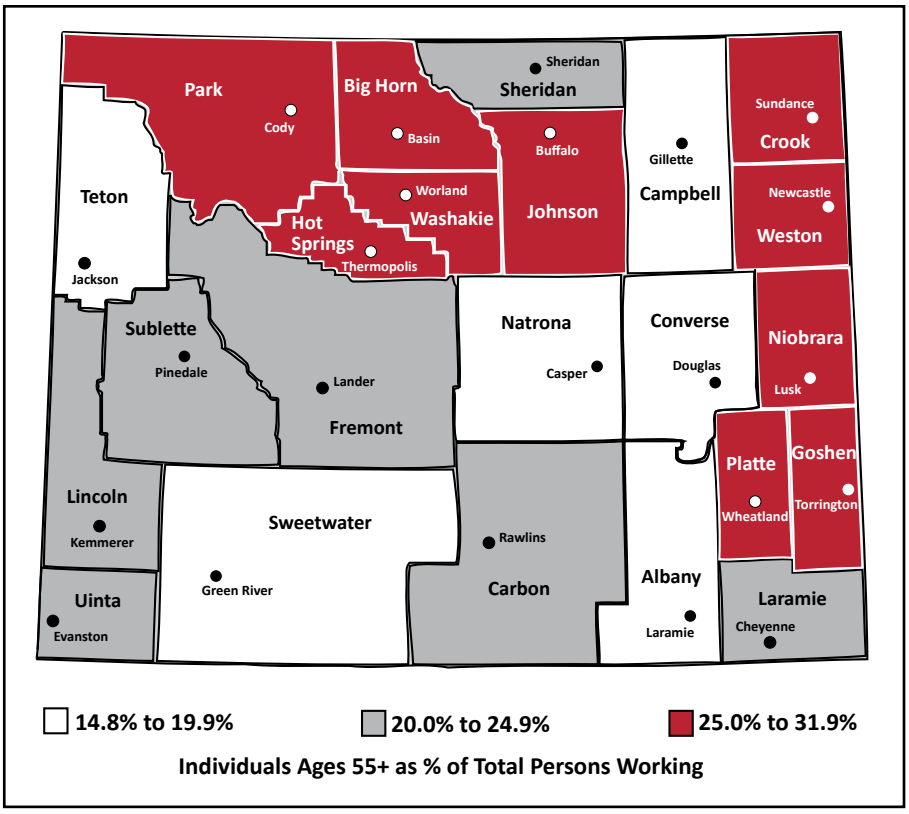


Figure 7.4: Persons Ages 55 or Older as a Percent of Total Persons Working in Wyoming at Any Time During the Year by County, 2020

Individuals ages 55 and older accounted for at least one in four persons working (25.0% or higher) in 10 of Wyoming's 23 counties (see Figure 7.4). Several of Wyoming's more rural and least populous counties had especially high percentages of older workers, such as Niobrara County (31.9%), Washakie County (29.6%), Hot Springs County (27.0%), Weston County (26.6%), and Johnson County (26.0%), among others.

Research from R&P has illustrated that older, more experienced workers are less likely to lose their jobs than younger, less experienced workers during economic downturns, but often have more difficulty finding re-employment when they do. A total 43,630 individuals received UI benefits in 2020, including 9,023 persons ages 55 and older, or 20.7% of the total. In 2020, 29.6% of UI recipients ages 55 and older exhausted their benefits, compared to 21.3% overall.

Reference

Pew Research Center. (2021, May 24). The generations defined, 2021. Retrieved December 13, 2021, from https://tinyurl.com/27fkhyt6

Chapter 8: Educational Attainment

Wyoming Trails U.S. in Post-Secondary Education Degrees

by: Lisa Knapp, Senior Research Analyst

Although a larger percentage of Wyoming residents had at least a high school diploma compared to the United States as a whole in 2020, a larger percentage of the nation's population had a bachelor's degree or higher. Within the state, a slightly larger proportion of women than men had at least a high school diploma and a bachelor's degree or higher.

The data discussed in this chapter are from the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey. Five-year estimates (the data from the year of interest and data from the previous four years) were selected for this chapter because they are more accurate for areas with smaller populations, such as Wyoming. The data in this chapter refer to all persons ages 25 and older.

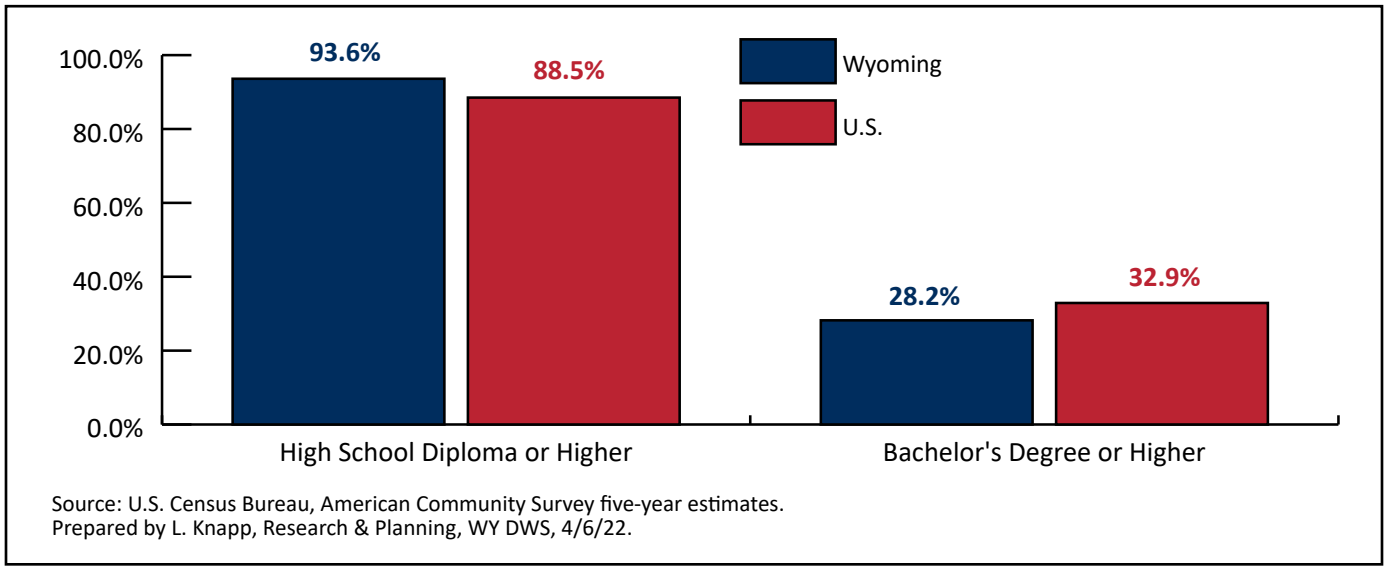
Table 8.1: Educational Attainment by Gender for Persons ages 25 and Older in Wyoming and the U.S. (2020 ACS 5-Year Estimates)

	Total		Men		Women	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Wyoming						
Population 25 Years and Over	**392,819**	**100.0**	**198,691**	**100.0**	**194,128**	**100.0**
Less than 9th Grade	7,050	1.8	4,035	2.0	3,015	1.6
9th to 12th Grade, No Diploma	18,151	4.6	9,464	4.8	8,687	4.5
High School Graduate (Includes Equivalency)	112,183	28.6	62,185	31.3	49,998	25.8
Some College, No Degree	99,792	25.4	49,200	24.8	50,592	26.1
Associate's Degree	44,944	11.4	20,123	10.1	24,821	12.8
Bachelor's Degree	69,396	17.7	32,716	16.5	36,680	18.9
Graduate or Professional Degree	41,303	10.5	20,968	10.6	20,335	10.5
High School Graduate or Higher	367,618	93.6	185,192	93.2	182,426	94.0
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	110,699	28.2	53,684	27.0	57,015	29.4
U.S.						
Population 25 Years and Over	**222,836,834**	**100.0**	**107,780,553**	**100.0**	**115,056,281**	**100.0**
Less than 9th Grade	10,923,030	4.9	5,445,353	5.1	5,477,677	4.8
9th to 12th Grade, No Diploma	14,639,650	6.6	7,695,689	7.1	6,943,961	6.0
High School Graduate (Includes Equivalency)	59,421,419	26.7	29,933,197	27.8	29,488,222	25.6
Some College, No Degree	45,242,162	20.3	21,701,126	20.1	23,541,036	20.5
Associate's Degree	19,254,254	8.6	8,318,428	7.7	10,935,826	9.5
Bachelor's Degree	45,034,610	20.2	21,334,128	19.8	23,700,482	20.6
Graduate or Professional Degree	28,321,709	12.7	13,352,632	12.4	14,969,077	13.0
High School Graduate or Higher	197,274,154	88.5	94,639,511	87.8	102,634,643	89.2
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	73,356,319	32.9	34,686,760	32.2	38,669,559	33.6

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey five-year estimates.
Prepared by L. Knapp, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 4/6/22.

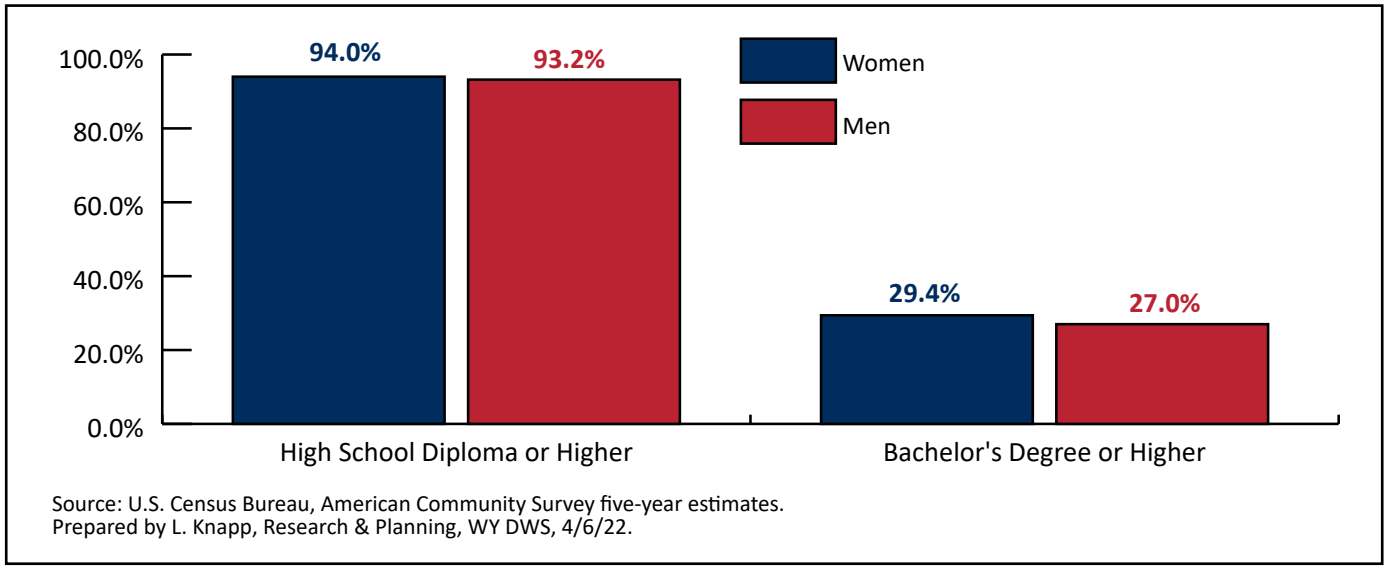
As shown in Table 8.1 and Figure 8.1, 93.6% of Wyoming's population ages 25 and older had at least a high school diploma or equivalent, compared to 88.5% for the nation as a whole. However, 32.9% of the U.S. population had a bachelor's degree or higher, compared to 28.2% of Wyoming's population.

In Wyoming, a slightly larger proportion of women (94.0%) than men (93.2%) had at least a high school diploma or equivalent (see Figure 8.2). A larger proportion of women (29.4%) also had a bachelor's degree or higher compared to men (27.0%). In addition, as shown in Table 8.1, a larger proportion of women had an associate's degree than men (12.8% compared to 10.1%) or a bachelor's degree (18.9% compared to 16.5%). A nearly equal proportion of men (10.6%) and women (10.5%) held graduate or professional degree.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey five-year estimates.
Prepared by L. Knapp, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 4/6/22.

Figure 8.1: Educational Attainment for Wyoming and U.S. Populations, 2020



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey five-year estimates.
Prepared by L. Knapp, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 4/6/22.

Figure 8.2: Educational Attainment for Wyoming Population by Gender, 2020

Chapter 9: Industry and Occupational Employment Projections

New Short-Term Projections Show Job Growth for Wyoming

by: Laura Yetter, Senior Economist

Wyoming is projected to gain approximately 9,000 jobs from second quarter 2021 (2021Q2) to second quarter 2023 (2023Q2), according to the most recent short-term industry and occupational projections from the Research & Planning (R&P) section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services. This is approximately a 3.0% increase in the number of jobs in Wyoming. The change reflects roughly 15,000 more jobs from last year's short-term occupational projections as the COVID pandemic lessens, and Wyoming's mining sector recovers in 2021 and 2022.

Projections are based on historical trends of how employment levels respond to market conditions. Wyoming experienced three periods of economic downturn over the last 12 years: 2009Q1 to 2010Q1, 2015Q2 to 2016Q4, and 2020Q2 to 2021Q1. The projections discussed in this chapter were prepared during a period of increased employment and wage growth as Wyoming recovered from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Comprehensive industry and occupational projections are available online at https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/projections.htm.

Industry Projections

Industries are classified according to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS; see Box 2.1, page 10). The industry projections are developed at the three-digit NAICS subsector level and then summed to the two-digit major industries

Find it Online

Short-Term Industry and Occupational Projections, 2021-2023

https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/projections.htm

shown in Table 9.1 (see page 48). The full industry projections table with three-digit NAICS subsectors can be found online.

Short-term industry projections indicate that Wyoming's employment is expected to increase from 268,776 in 2021Q2 to 277,393 in 2023Q2, an increase of 8,617 jobs, or 3.2%. At the two-digit sector level, the largest increases in employment are projected for construction (1,567, or 7.3%), accommodation & food services (1,127, or 3.5%), and health care & social assistance (1,074, or 3.2%). The only projected decrease in employment is found in utilities (-43, or -1.8%).

Occupational Projections

Occupations are classified using the Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) system. R&P's short-term projections include occupational projection tables for each two-digit major group and by occupational requirement.

In addition to growth or decline, short-term occupational projections also take into consideration anticipated openings due to workers exiting the workforce (*exits*) or changing occupations (*transfers*) from 2021Q2 to 2023Q2. Total openings are the sum of projected growth or decline in the

number of jobs in a given occupation, plus the number of exits and transfers.

Projected growth or decline is a small component of total openings. In addition to the approximately 9,000 job openings due to growth, Wyoming is projected to have 25,330 openings due to exits and 39,332 openings due to transfers, or 73,698 total openings.

Table 9.2 (see page 49) shows the 10 occupations with the greatest number of projected growth openings for Wyoming. Heavy & tractor-trailer truck drivers is projected to add the greatest number of jobs (454, or 6.5%), followed by construction laborers (338, or 8.3%), retail salespersons (242, or 2.9%), carpenters (222, or 6.5%), and stockers & order fillers (220, or 5.6%). Of the 10 occupations with the greatest number of projected growth openings, only two require some education beyond a high school diploma.

Of the 73,698 total projected openings from 2021 to 2023, the majority are in occupations that require a high school diploma or less (see Figure 9.1, page 50). Jobs requiring no formal education make up 34.0% of all projected openings, while those requiring a high school diploma account for 39.3%, a combined 73.3%. In other words, jobs requiring some postsecondary education account for approximately one-fourth (26.7%) of all projected growth openings. Occupations requiring a bachelor's degree account for 13.2% of all projected growth openings.

Table 9.3 (see page 51) shows the top five occupations by total projected openings for each educational requirement. Occupations with no formal educational requirement account for approximately one in three (34.0%) total job openings. The greatest projected openings in this group include fast food & counter workers (2,840), retail salespersons (2,579), and cashiers (2,196).

Occupations requiring a

Table 9.1: Short-Term Industry Projections for Wyoming, 2021Q2-2023Q2

NAICS[a] Code	Industry	Base 2021Q2	Projected 2023Q2	Change, 2021-2023 N	Change, 2021-2023 %
11	Agriculture	2,816	2,918	102	3.6
21	Mining	14,469	14,829	360	2.5
22	Utilities	2,370	2,327	-43	-1.8
23	Construction	21,338	22,905	1,567	7.3
31-33	Manufacturing	9,649	9,840	191	2.0
42	Wholesale Trade	7,344	7,464	120	1.6
44-45	Retail Trade	29,451	30,229	778	2.6
48-49	Transportation & Warehousing	12,652	13,432	780	6.2
51	Information	2,929	2,935	6	0.2
52	Finance & Insurance	7,155	7,422	267	3.7
53	Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	3,912	4,043	131	3.3
54	Professional, Scientific, & Technical Services	9,850	10,562	712	7.2
55	Mgmt. of Companies & Enterprises	832	892	60	7.2
56	Admin & Waste Mgmt. & Remediation Services	9,040	9,378	338	3.7
61	Educational Services	28,285	28,551	266	0.9
62	Health Care & Social Assistance	33,337	34,411	1,074	3.2
71	Arts, Ent., & Recreation	3,792	3,875	83	2.2
72	Accommodation & Food Services	32,269	33,396	1,127	3.5
81	Other Services (except Government)	6,955	7,265	310	4.5
99	Government	30,331	30,719	388	1.3
	Total Industries	**268,776**	**277,393**	**8,617**	**3.2**

[a]North American Industry Classification System.

Source: Wyoming Short-Term Industry and Occupational Employment Projections, 2021Q2-2023Q2.

Prepared by L. Yetter, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 2/25/22.

high school diploma or equivalent account for the largest proportion of total openings (39.3%). The greatest projected growth is seen in occupations such as office clerks, general (1,954), stockers & order filers (1,465), and home health & personal care aides (1,156).

Occupations requiring a post-secondary non-degree award or some college, no degree, account for 9.0% of total projected openings. Of the 6,630 projected openings in this group, approximately one in three (2,027) are heavy & tractor-trailer truck drivers. Other occupations requiring a post-secondary certificate or some college that have relatively large numbers of total projected openings include bookkeeping, accounting, & auditing clerks (783) and nursing assistants (743).

The occupations requiring an associate's

Table 9.2: Short-Term Occupational Employment Projections for the Top 10 Occupations in Wyoming with the Greatest Number of Projected Growth Openings, 2021-2023

				Change (Growth)		Types of Openings				Requirements		
SOC[a] Code	SOC Title	Base Employment (2021Q2)	Projected Employment (2023Q2)	N	%	Exits	Transfers	Growth	Total	Education	Experience	Training
00-0000	**Total, All Occupations**	**286,001**	**295,037**	**9,036**	**3.2**	**25,330**	**39,332**	**9,036**	**73,698**			
53-3032	Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	7,004	7,458	454	6.5	592	981	454	2,027	Post-secondary non-degree award	None	Short-term OJT[b]
47-2061	Construction Laborers	4,089	4,427	338	8.3	252	575	338	1,165	No formal education	Less than 5 years	Moderate OJT[b]
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	8,315	8,557	242	2.9	943	1,394	242	2,579	No formal education	None	None
47-2031	Carpenters	3,441	3,663	222	6.5	207	443	222	872	High school diploma or equivalent	None	None
53-7065	Stockers & Order Fillers	3,921	4,141	220	5.6	459	786	220	1,465	High school diploma or equivalent	5 years or more	None
35-2014	Cooks, Restaurant	3,082	3,292	210	6.8	375	546	210	1,131	No formal education	Less than 5 years	None
31-1120	Home Health & Personal Care Aides	3,826	4,034	208	5.4	503	445	208	1,156	High school diploma or equivalent	None	None
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	7,574	7,780	206	2.7	838	910	206	1,954	High school diploma or equivalent	None	Moderate OJT[b]
11-1021	General & Operations Managers	4,700	4,885	185	3.9	191	594	185	970	Bachelor's degree	None	Short-term OJT[b]
47-1011	First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades & Extraction Workers	2,684	2,856	172	6.4	157	359	172	688	High school diploma or equivalent	None	None

[a]Standard Occupational Classification.
[b]On-the-job training.
N/D = Not discloseable due to confidentiality.
Source: Wyoming Short-Term Industry and Occupational Employment Projections, 2021Q2-2023Q2.
Prepared by L. Yetter, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 2/25/22.

degree account for 1.9% of total projected openings. The occupations with the greatest number of projected openings are forest & conservation technicians (175), preschool teachers, except special education (151), and paralegals & legal assistants (148).

Occupations requiring a bachelor's degree make up the greatest proportion of all occupations that require some post-secondary education, and account for 13.2% of all projected openings. General & operations managers have the greatest number of projected openings (970), followed by short-term substitute teachers (686) and registered nurses (668).

Occupations requiring a master's degree have the least projected openings (874) of all educational groups, and account for 1.2% of total projected openings. The occupations with the greatest projected openings are educational, guidance, school, & vocational counselors (136), followed by librarians & medial collections specialists (98) and nurse practitioners (79).

Finally, occupations requiring a doctoral or professional degree make up 1.3% of all projected openings. Lawyers have the greatest number of projected openings (157), followed by post-secondary teachers, all other (76) and physical therapists (70).

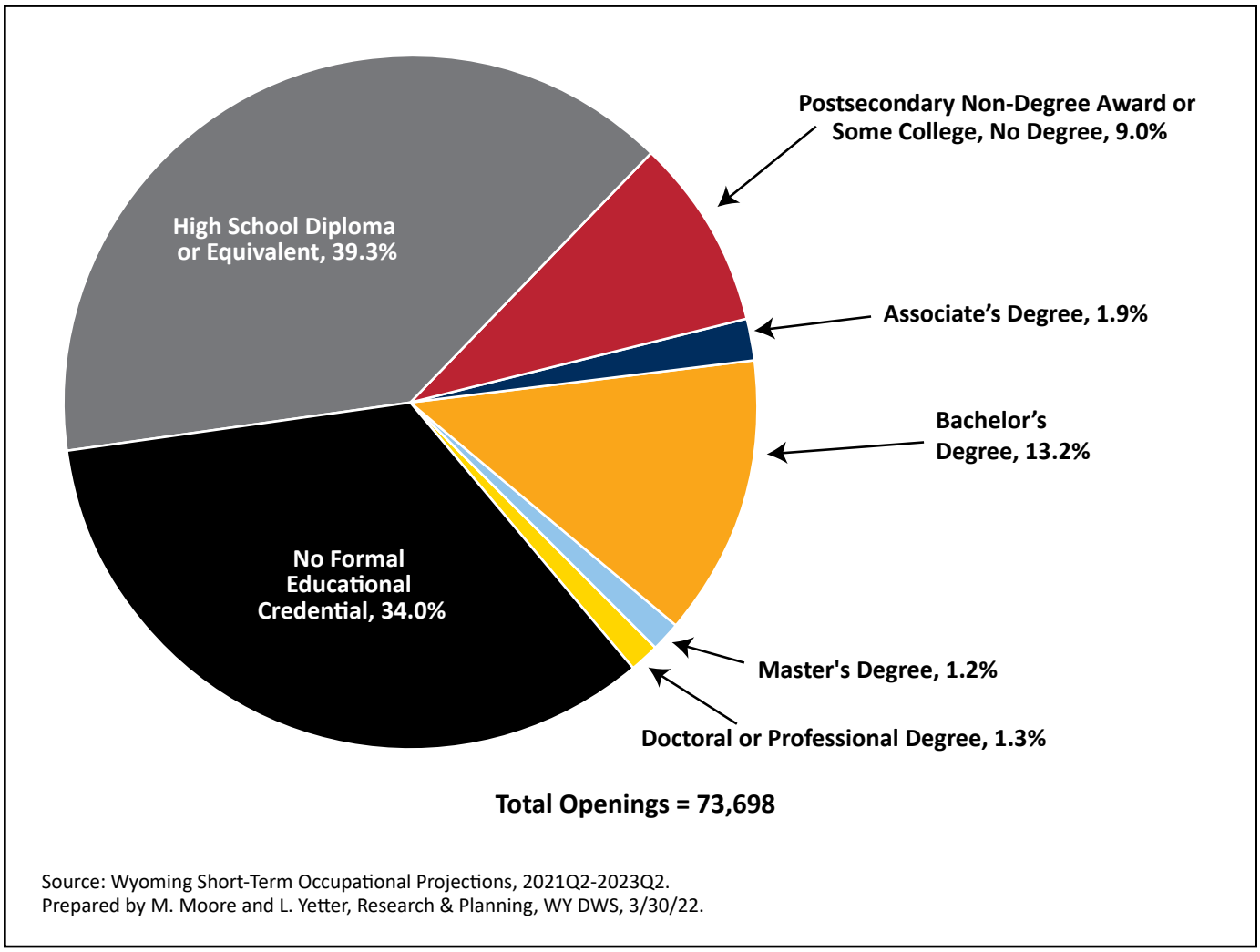


Figure 9.1: Projected Total Job Openings in Wyoming by Educational Requirement, 2021-2023

Table 9.3: Top 5 Occupations by Total Projected Openings for Wyoming by Educational Requirement, 2021-2023

		Employment		Openings Due to:			
SOC[a] Code	Occupation	2021Q2	2023Q2	Exits	Transfers	Growth	Total
No Formal Educational Credential							
35-3023	Fast Food & Counter Workers	6,754	6,839	1,318	1,437	85	2,840
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	8,315	8,557	943	1,394	242	2,579
41-2011	Cashiers	5,944	5,983	1,015	1,142	39	2,196
35-3031	Waiters & Waitresses	4,749	4,840	704	1,145	91	1,940
37-2011	Janitors & Cleaners, Except Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners	5,094	5,209	643	722	115	1,480
	Subtotal, No Formal Educational Requirement	**72,539**	**74,929**	**8,990**	**12,828**	**2,390**	**24,208**
High School Diploma or Equivalent							
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	7,574	7,780	838	910	206	1,954
53-7065	Stockers & Order Fillers	3,921	4,141	459	786	220	1,465
31-1120	Home Health & Personal Care Aides	3,826	4,034	503	445	208	1,156
47-2031	Carpenters	3,441	3,663	207	443	222	872
47-2073	Operating Engineers & Other Construction Equipment Operators	3,714	3,772	245	537	58	840
	Subtotal, High School Diploma or Equivalent	**115,251**	**118,725**	**9,625**	**15,893**	**3,474**	**28,992**
Postsecondary Non-Degree Award or Some College, No Degree							
53-3032	Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	7,004	7,458	592	981	454	2,027
43-3031	Bookkeeping, Accounting, & Auditing Clerks	3,194	3,268	379	330	74	783
31-1131	Nursing Assistants	2,798	2,859	362	320	61	743
25-9045	Teaching Assistants, Except Postsecondary	3,511	3,551	316	330	40	686
49-3023	Automotive Service Technicians & Mechanics	1,664	1,715	100	229	51	380
	Subtotal, Postsecondary Non-Degree Award or Some College, No Degree	**26,743**	**27,773**	**2,381**	**3,219**	**1,030**	**6,630**
Associate's Degree							
19-4071	Forest & Conservation Technicians	643	661	35	122	18	175
25-2011	Preschool Teachers, Except Special Education	649	669	54	77	20	151
23-2011	Paralegals & Legal Assistants	533	565	42	74	32	148
29-1292	Dental Hygienists	553	569	40	28	16	84
29-2034	Radiologic Technologists	435	447	24	38	12	74
	Subtotal, Associate's Degree	**6,374**	**6,599**	**405**	**798**	**225**	**1,428**
Bachelor's Degree							
11-1021	General & Operations Managers	4,700	4,885	191	594	185	970
25-3031	Substitute Teachers, Short-Term	2,779	2,829	335	301	50	686
29-1141	Registered Nurses	5,103	5,235	276	260	132	668
13-2011	Accountants & Auditors	2,108	2,186	120	254	78	452
25-2021	Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Ed.	2,480	2,501	153	200	21	374
	Subtotal, Bachelor's Degree	**51,191**	**52,676**	**2,939**	**5,334**	**1,485**	**9,758**
Master's Degree							
21-1012	Educational, Guidance, School, & Vocational Counselors	671	683	44	80	12	136
25-4022	Librarians & Media Collections Specialists	473	482	47	42	9	98
29-1171	Nurse Practitioners	357	396	16	24	39	79
21-1023	Mental Health & Substance Abuse Social Workers	285	293	16	37	8	61
11-9032	Ed. Admin., Elementary & Secondary School	383	386	19	36	3	58
	Subtotal, Master's Degree	**4,588**	**4,729**	**286**	**447**	**141**	**874**
Doctoral or Professional Degree							
23-1011	Lawyers	1,093	1,147	48	55	54	157
25-1199	Postsecondary Teachers, All Other	405	407	36	38	2	76
29-1123	Physical Therapists	527	554	21	22	27	70
29-1051	Pharmacists	633	651	24	25	18	67
29-1131	Veterinarians	260	284	9	8	24	41
	Subtotal, or Professional Degree	**6,855**	**7,049**	**377**	**376**	**194**	**947**
Total, All Occupations							
	Total, All Occupations	**286,001**	**295,037**	**25,330**	**39,332**	**9,036**	**73,698**

[a]Standard Occupational Classification.

Source: Wyoming Short-Term Occupational Projections, 2021Q2-2023Q2.

Prepared by L. Yetter and M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 2/25/22.

Chapter 10: Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics

Wyoming Occupations with the Highest and Lowest Wages

by: Deana Hauf, Senior Statistician

The Research & Planning (R&P) section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services, in partnership with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), conducts the Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics (OEWS) survey semiannually. The OEWS survey collects wage and salary information for all full- and part-time Wyoming workers in nonfarm industries and produces these occupational estimates by metropolitan or nonmetropolitan area, industry, and ownership.

Find it Online

Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics

https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/OES.htm

The most recent data available collected through May 2020 in Wyoming showed that the occupational groups with the highest average (mean) hourly wage were found in health care, while occupations concentrated in the food industry had the lowest average wages.

The occupational groups with the highest mean wages included 12 health care diagnosing or treating practitioners, six management occupations, one business & financial operations occupation, and one sales & related occupation. As shown in Table 10.1 (see page 53), obstetricians & gynecologists reported the highest mean annual wage at $316,376 ($152.10 per hour) followed by anesthesiologists at $291,045 ($139.93 per hour). Surgeons, except ophthalmologists were the

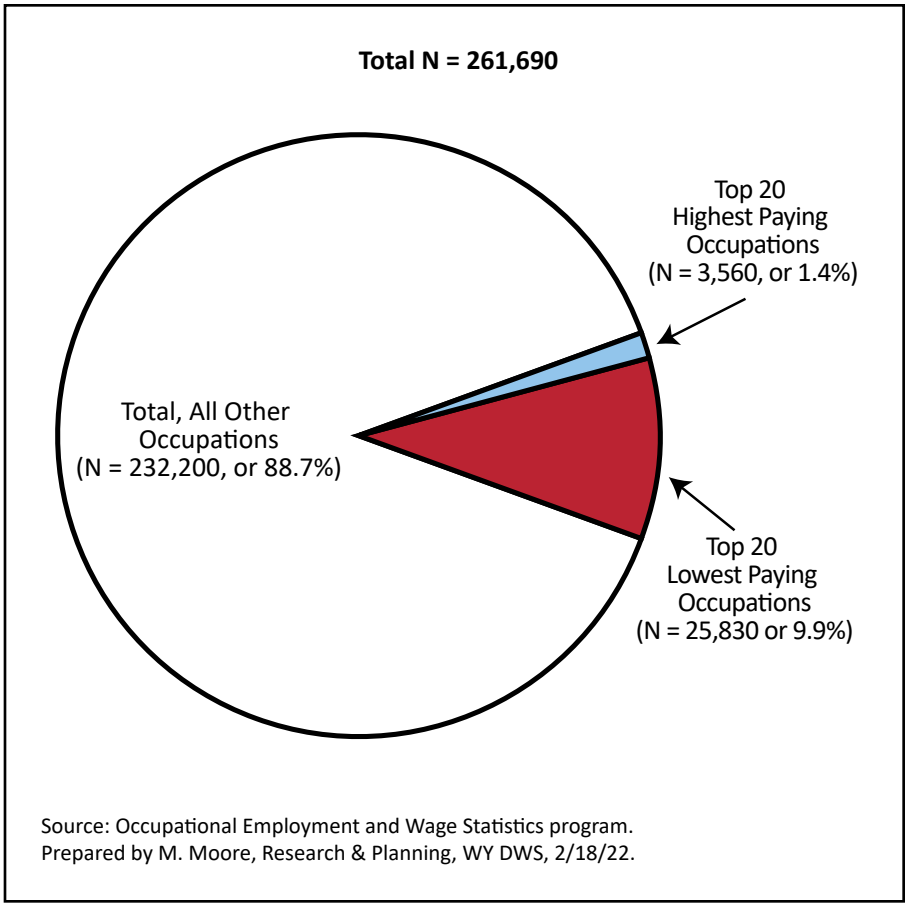


Figure 10.1: Top 20 Highest and Lowest Paying Occupations as a Percent of Total Employment in Wyoming, May 2020

third highest with a mean hourly wage of $134.53 ($279,826 annually).

While wages for these occupations are substantial, they require advanced education and training specific to the field of work, which takes several years to acquire. For example, obstetricians & gynecologists need a bachelor's degree, a medical degree, and three to seven years of internship and residency programs in order to qualify to practice.

Only 1.4% of Wyoming's statewide total employment of 261,690, or 3,500 individuals, were employed within the 20 occupations with the highest wages (see Figure 10.1, page 52). There were approximately 50 anesthesiologists and 140 surgeons employed in Wyoming. Pharmacists earned a mean annual wage of $124,478 ($59.85 per hour) and there were 600 working in Wyoming. Personal financial advisors accounted for 340 of the 261,690 total employed and earned $58.79 per hour or $122,274 annually.

The lowest paid occupations were dispersed among much broader occupational groups, and accounted for nearly 10% (25,800) of the state's total employment (see Figure 10.1). These occupations consisted of eight in food preparation & service occupations, with hosts & hostesses earning the lowest mean wage at $9.70 per hour ($20,167 annually; see Table 10.2, page 54). Fast food & counter workers had the largest

Table 10.1: Highest Paying Occupations in Wyoming, May 2020

			Mean Wage	
SOC[a] Code	Title	Employment	Hourly	Annual
29-1218	Obstetricians & Gynecologists	ND	$152.10	$316,376
29-1121	Anesthesiologists	50	$139.93	$291,045
29-1248	Surgeons, Except Ophthalmologists	140	$134.53	$279,826
29-1216	General Internal Medicine Physicians	40	$131.61	$273,747
29-1228	Physicians, All Other & Ophthalmologists, Except Pediatric	470	$126.70	$263,537
29-1223	Psychiatrists	20	$126.60	$263,321
29-1151	Nurse Anesthetists	50	$111.18	$231,249
29-1215	Family Medicine Physicians	200	$111.08	$231,048
29-1221	Pediatricians, General	50	$107.77	$224,166
29-1081	Podiatrists	20	$78.63	$163,548
29-1021	Dentists, General	300	$64.30	$133,748
11-2022	Sales Managers	200	$63.16	$131,382
11-3051	Industrial Production Managers	400	$63.10	$131,240
41-4011	Sales Representatives, Wholesale & Manufacturing, Technical & Scientific Products	200	$62.16	$129,291
11-9041	Architectural & Engineering Managers	180	$61.83	$128,602
11-9033	Education Administrators, Postsecondary	130	$61.32	$127,538
29-1051	Pharmacists	600	$59.85	$124,478
11-1011	Chief Executives	110	$59.63	$124,030
13-2052	Personal Financial Advisors	340	$58.79	$122,274
11-2021	Marketing Managers	60	$58.67	$122,042
	Subtotal	**3,560**		

[a]Standard Occupational Classification.
Source: Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics program.
Prepared by D. Hauf, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 1/24/22.

number employed within the lowest paid occupations with 6,060, followed by cashiers at 5,700. Fast food & counter workers earned $10.48 per hour while cashiers had a mean hourly wage of $12.30.

Additionally, among the lowest paying occupations, there were three in personal care & service occupations: animal caretakers, amusement & recreation attendants, and childcare workers. There were also three in production occupations and two in office & administrative support occupations. Office & administrative support occupations include hotel, motel & resort desk clerks and reservation & transportation ticket agents & travel clerks.

Summary

The health care occupational group contained the occupations with the highest mean wages in Wyoming, while food preparation & service occupations had the lowest mean wage. Among the 20 occupations with the highest wages, pharmacists had the most employed in the state (600). There were 6,060 employed in the fast food & counter workers occupation within the lowest paying occupational group.

Table 10.2: Lowest Paying Occupations in Wyoming, May 2020

			Mean Wage	
SOC[a] Code	Title	Employment	Hourly	Annual
35-9031	Hosts & Hostesses, Restaurant, Lounge, & Coffee Shop	540	$9.70	$20,167
35-9011	Dining Room & Cafeteria Attendants & Bartender Helpers	630	$10.17	$21,149
35-2011	Cooks, Fast Food	830	$10.18	$21,165
35-3023	Fast Food & Counter Workers	6,060	$10.48	$21,802
35-3031	Waiters & Waitresses	4,150	$10.86	$22,585
31-9095	Pharmacy Aides	30	$11.03	$22,948
51-6021	Pressers, Textile, Garment, & Related Materials	30	$11.28	$23,467
51-5113	Print Binding & Finishing Workers	ND	$11.29	$23,477
35-9021	Dishwashers	1,060	$11.40	$23,705
53-3011	Ambulance Drivers & Attendants, Except Emergency Medical Technicians	120	$11.55	$24,017
35-3011	Bartenders	2,010	$11.58	$24,077
39-3091	Amusement & Recreation Attendants	600	$11.58	$24,095
43-4181	Reservation & Transportation Ticket Agents & Travel Clerks	120	$11.67	$24,280
35-3041	Food Servers, Non-restaurant	140	$11.71	$24,348
53-7064	Packers & Packagers, Hand	440	$11.97	$24,890
39-2021	Animal Caretakers	400	$12.10	$25,167
41-2011	Cashiers	5,700	$12.30	$25,580
51-6011	Laundry & Dry-Cleaning Workers	440	$12.60	$26,211
43-4081	Hotel, Motel, & Resort Desk Clerks	1,190	$12.65	$26,318
39-9011	Childcare Workers	1,340	$12.67	$26,346
	Subtotal	**25,830**		

[a]Standard Occupational Classification.
Source: Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics program.
Prepared by D. Hauf, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 1/24/22.

Chapter 11: Wyoming New Hires Job Skills Survey

Wyoming Employers Add Almost 80,000 New Hires in 2020

by: Lisa Knapp, Senior Research Analyst

The Wyoming Job Skills Survey, also referred to as the *New Hires Survey,* is conducted on a quarterly basis by the Research & Planning (R&P) section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services. This survey is based on a random sample of *new hires*, or individuals who were hired by an employer they had never worked for in the past. The survey is designed to collect information about these jobs that is not otherwise readily available, such as occupation, wages and benefits, license and certification requirements, and necessary job skills.

This chapter examines the characteristics of new hires in the five occupations with the largest number of new hires in 2020. To see data for all occupations, please see https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/newhires.htm.

The year 2020 was unusual due to the negative economic effects of the coronavirus pandemic, which included large numbers of employee layoffs and business closures. As such, the total number of new hires, 79,650, was much lower than it had been in previous years. Fast food & counter workers had the largest number of new hires (3,753), followed by heavy & tractor-trailer truck drivers (3,620), waiters & waitresses (3,512), and construction laborers (3,348). For all new hires, the median wage was $14.00 per hour, ranging from $21.00 hour for heavy & tractor-trailer truck drivers to $4.50 per hour for waiters & waitresses and $9.50 per hour for cashiers.

Find it Online

Wyoming New Hires Job Skills Survey

https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/UI/newhires.htm

Table 11.1 (see page 56) shows selected characteristics of the five occupations with the greatest number of new hires. Overall, just over half (52.7%) of new hires worked full-time while 39.2% were employed part-time and 6.8% were considered temporary or substitute employees. A larger proportion of heavy & tractor-trailer truck drivers (90.1%) and construction laborers (79.1%) worked full-time jobs. In comparison, 88.3% of fast food & counter workers, 80.7% of waiters and waitresses, and 72.6% of cashiers worked part-time.

A larger proportion of total new hires were men (54.3%) than women (45.7%). Men also accounted for a larger percentage of new hires among construction laborers (92.0%) and heavy & tractor-trailer truck drivers (88.2%). In comparison, a larger proportion of women were hired as waiters & waitresses (72.3%), cashiers (63.4%), and fast food & counter workers (63.3%). The largest proportion of new hires were 25-34 years old (25.9%). The largest percent of young new hires (younger than 20) were fast food & counter workers (37.2%), while the largest proportion of new hires ages 55-64 were heavy & tractor-trailer truck drivers (14.8%).

The New Hires survey contains five questions in which employers were asked

to rate the level of importance of selected job skills in terms of performing a job's duties and activities. Table 11.1 shows the proportion of employers who marked each skill as important. Overall, 77.5% of employers felt service orientation was important. Critical thinking was considered important by 79.3% of employers while 65.7% thought reading comprehension was important. Although 61.4% of employers thought operation and control was important, only 37.7% thought technical design was important.

Service orientation was marked as important for many occupations, including fast food & counter workers (97.8%), retail and cashiers (95.1%). Larger proportions of employers of heavy & tractor-trailer truck drivers (87.1%), and waiters & waitresses (87.1%) thought critical thinking was important. A large majority of employers thought reading comprehension was important for and waiters & waitresses (79.2%) while 96.9% of employers thought operation & control was important for heavy & tractor-trailer truck drivers.

Table 11.1: Selected Characteristics of Top 5 Most Frequently Occurring Occupations for New Hires in Wyoming, 2020

		Occupation and SOC[a] Code					
Selected Characteristics	Title	Total All Occupations (00-0000)	Fast Food & Counter Workers (35-3023)	Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers (53-3032)	Waiters & Waitresses (35-3031)	Construction Laborers (47-2061)	Cashiers (41-2011)
Employment and Wages	N	79,650	3,753	3,620	3,512	3,348	2,917
	Median Wage	$14.00	$10.00	$21.00	$4.50	$17.00	$9.50
Work Status	Full-Time	52.7	8.4	90.1	16.0	79.1	21.4
	Part-Time	39.2	88.3	4.5	80.7	8.5	72.6
	Temp or Sub	6.8	1.9	5.4	2.3	12.4	6.0
Gender (%)	Women	45.7	63.3	11.8	72.3	8.0	63.4
	Men	54.3	36.7	88.2	27.7	92.0	36.6
Age (%)	16-19	14.3	37.2	2.3	24.8	11.6	26.2
	20-24	18.4	19.7	9.3	26.9	21.8	18.9
	25-34	25.9	16.6	26.0	20.0	25.0	17.0
	35-44	19.1	14.5	21.4	17.8	22.6	18.5
	45-54	11.5	6.8	19.8	4.5	10.4	9.1
	55-64	7.4	2.3	14.8	4.0	7.4	7.0
	65+	2.6	0.0	5.9	0.0	0.7	2.4
	Age Unknown	0.9	2.9	0.4	2.0	0.7	0.8
% of Employers Who Identified Selected Job Skills as Important	Service Orientation	77.5	97.8	55.8	95.0	39.3	95.1
	Critical Thinking	79.3	77.2	87.1	84.5	77.4	71.3
	Reading Comprehension	65.7	65.8	73.0	79.2	37.5	65.3
	Technology Design	37.7	32.3	44.7	33.8	28.7	39.7
	Operation and Control	61.4	67.0	96.9	34.7	70.7	61.3

[a]Standard Occupational Classification.
Source: Wyoming New Hires Job Skills Survey.
Prepared by L. Knapp, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 4/21/22.

Chapter 12: Special Research

New Research Tracks High School Seniors into Post-Secondary Education and the Labor Market

by: Tony Glover, Manager, and Michael Moore, Research Supervisor

In 2021, the Research & Planning (R&P) section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services published *Another Decade Later: Tracking Wyoming's High School Seniors Into Post-Secondary Education and the Labor Market*. The research presented in that report followed cohorts of seniors in Wyoming's secondary educational system into post-secondary education and the labor force over the course of a decade.

Another Decade Later is available online at https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/Another_Decade_Later.pdf.

The data used in *Another Decade Later* included high school enrollment data from the Wyoming Department of Education (WDE), enrollment and award (degree or certificate) data from the seven Wyoming community colleges and the University of Wyoming, follow-up data from WDE from the National Student Clearinghouse database, Wyoming Unemployment Insurance (UI) wage records, wage records from partner states[1], and Wyoming's driver's license database (for matching purposes). Data were combined to create a working table with a single record for each student per academic year for their senior year and the 10 years following their senior year. Various aggregations of that working table were used to produce every table and figure in the new report.

Find it Online

Another Decade Later

https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/Another_Decade_Later.pdf

The research presented in *Another Decade Later* identified a total of 88,231 students across the 14 cohorts from 2006/07 to 2019/20. By linking all of the data sources available, R&P was able to obtain 82,139 (93.1%) matches, leaving 6,092 (6.9%) unmatched.

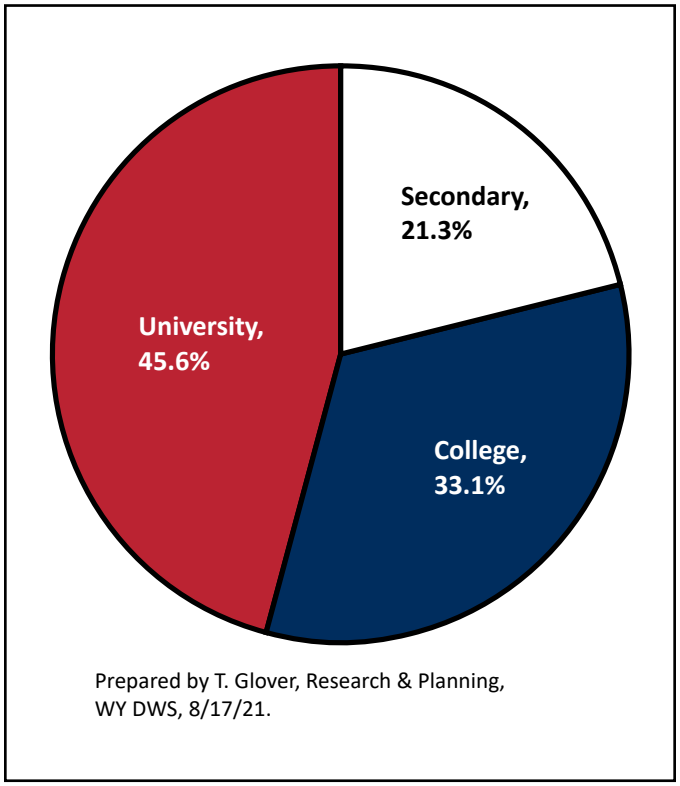


Figure 12.1: 2006/07 Senior Cohort by Highest Level of Enrollment in the 10 Years Following Their Senior Year (Cumulative)

1 Partner states are those states with which Research & Planning has data-sharing agreements: Colorado, Utah, Idaho, Montana, South Dakota, Nebraska, Alaska, Oklahoma, New Mexico, and Texas.

The senior cohort for the academic year 2006/07 was used as an example throughout the publication, but similar data are available for all other cohorts from 2007/08 to 2019/20.

There were 6,014 individuals in the 2006/07 senior class. By the 10th year after their senior year, 1,279 individuals (21.3%) did not attend any post-secondary institution, 1,991 (33.1%) attended a community college (two-year institution), and 2,744 (45.6%) enrolled in a university (four-plus year institution) as their highest level of enrollment. Therefore, 4,735 (78.7%) enrolled in any post-secondary institution (see Figure 12.1, page 57).

The highest degrees attained for the 6,014 seniors in the 2006/07 cohort are shown in Figure 12.2. For example, a person who attained an associate's degree, bachelor's degree, and master's degree was counted as a master's degree. Of all high school seniors in 2006/07, fewer than half (39.8%) attained a post-secondary award by the 10th year after their senior year. Of those 6,014 individuals, 739 (12.3%) attained a certificate or associate's degree, 1,331 (22.1%) attained a bachelor's degree, and 328 (5.4%) attained a graduate level degree. Therefore, 2,398 (39.8%) of the 2006/07 senior cohort attained some post-secondary award. The remaining 60.2% never received a post-secondary

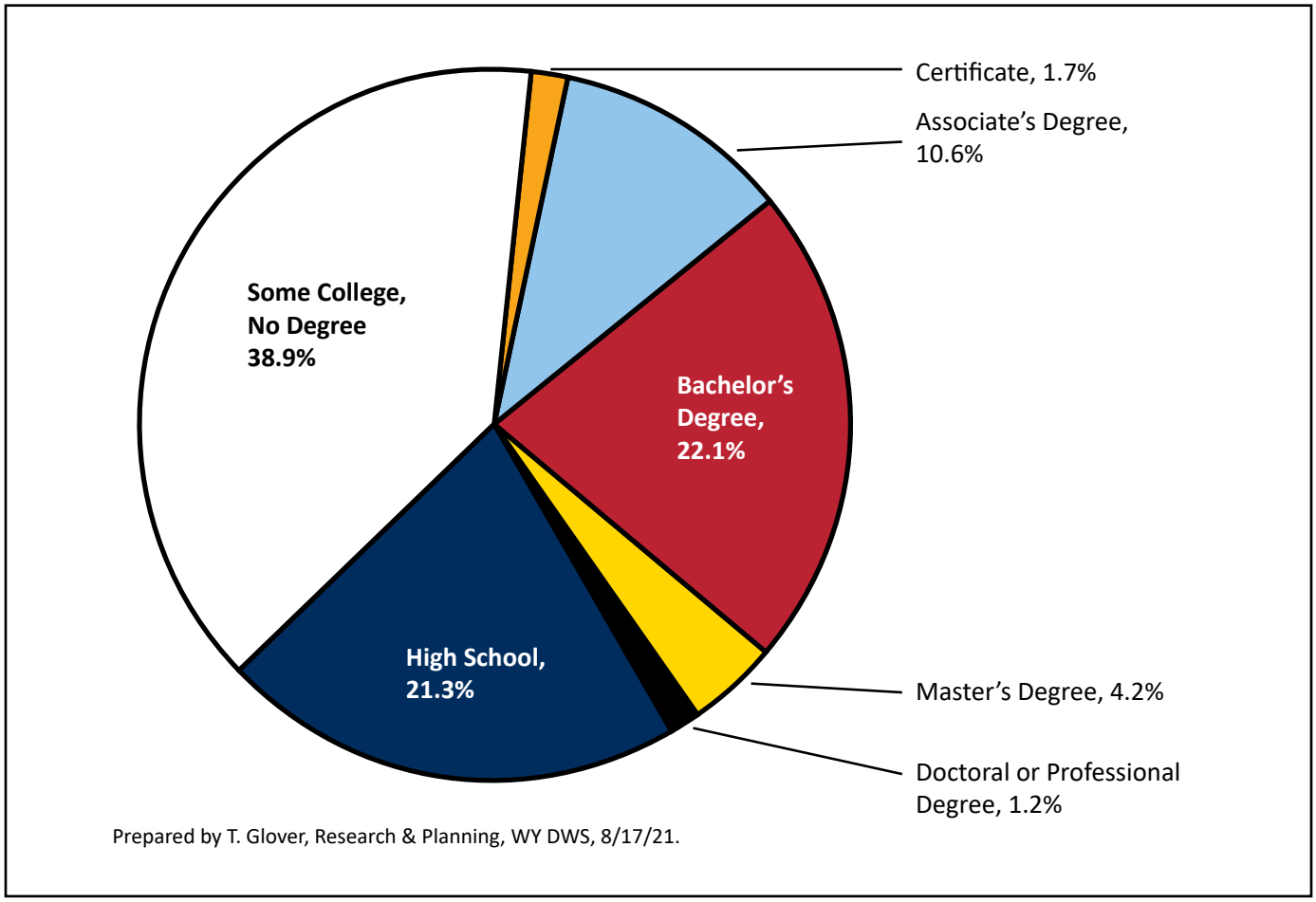


Figure 12.2: 2006/07 Senior Cohort by Highest Educational Award Attained in the 10 Years Following Their Senior Year (Cumulative)

award: 1,279 (21.3%) never attended a post-secondary institution, and 2,337 (38.9%) attended a post-secondary institution but never received an academic award.

The number of 2006/07 seniors working in Wyoming gradually declined over the 10 years following their senior year (see Figure 12.3). Five years after their senior year, 3,682 individuals, or 61.2% of the total, were found working in Wyoming. By the 10th year after their senior year, there were 2,960 (49.2%) still working in Wyoming.

Conversely, the number of 2006/07 seniors found working in a partner state or not found working at all gradually increased in the years after senior year. In the 10th year following their senior year, 723 individuals (12.0%) were found working in a partner state, while the remaining 2,331 (38.8%) could not be found.

The trends illustrated in Figure 12.3 were not unique to the 2006/07 senior class. On average, of the 14 different cohorts of seniors from 2006/07 to 2019/20, 72.7% worked in Wyoming during their senior year, while 61.4% and 49.9% worked in Wyoming five and 10 years after their senior year, respectively. Of the nine cohorts for which data were available five years after graduation, the percent working in Wyoming ranged from 59.3% to 63.1%. This concept is illustrated in Figure 12.4 (see page 60), which shows the same downward trend

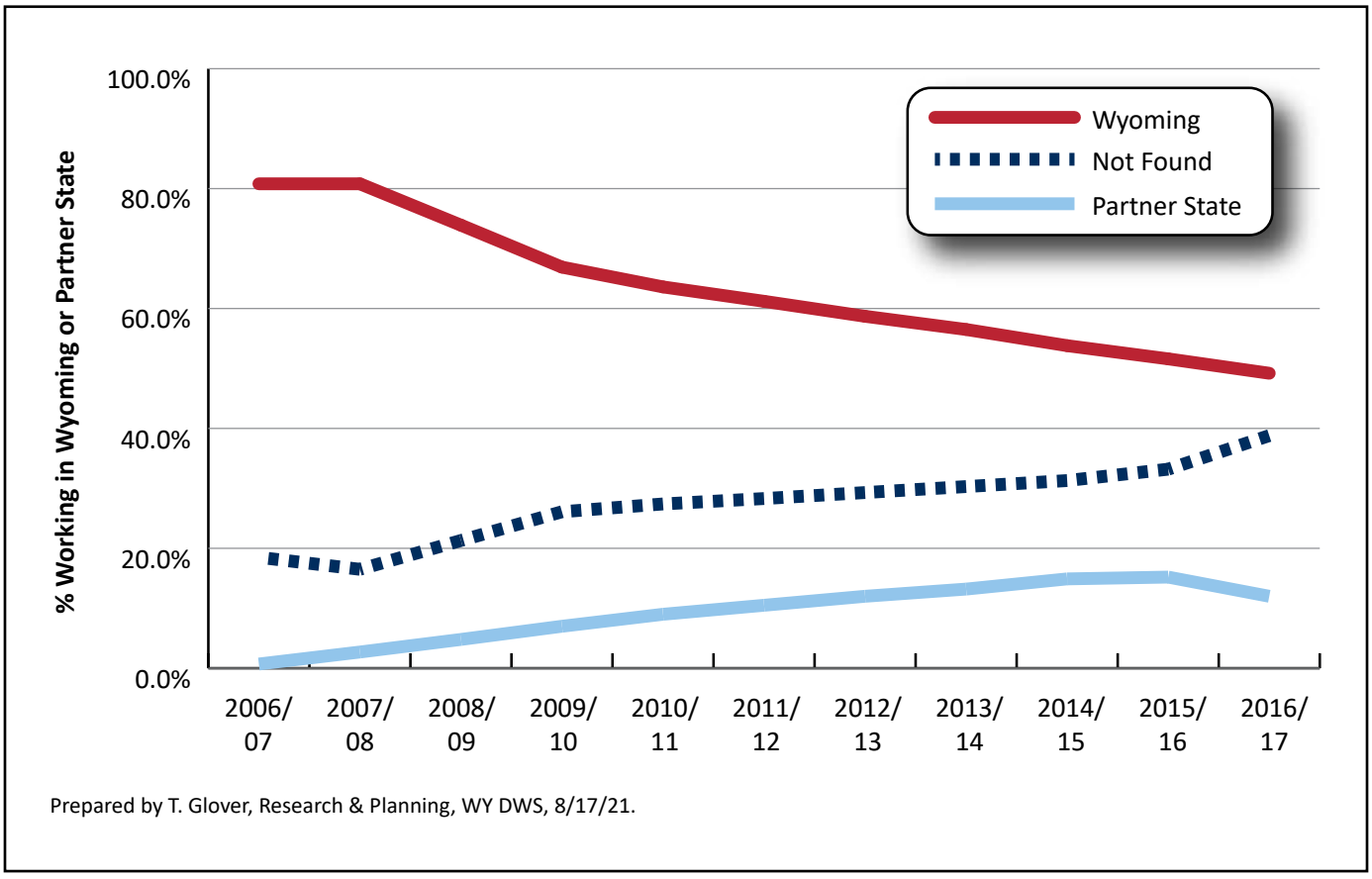


Figure 12.3: 2006/07 Senior Cohort by Employment in the Years Following Senior Year

line for all cohorts of Wyoming high school seniors.

In addition to the information discussed in this chapter, *Another Decade Later* also includes data on such subjects as post-secondary employment and wages by county of high school, industry of employment during the 10 years after senior year, wages of those working in Wyoming in comparison to those working in other states, and more.

As a supplement to *Another Decade Later*, post-secondary education employment outcomes data and interactive graphics are available at https://tinyurl.com/6d22k4wp.

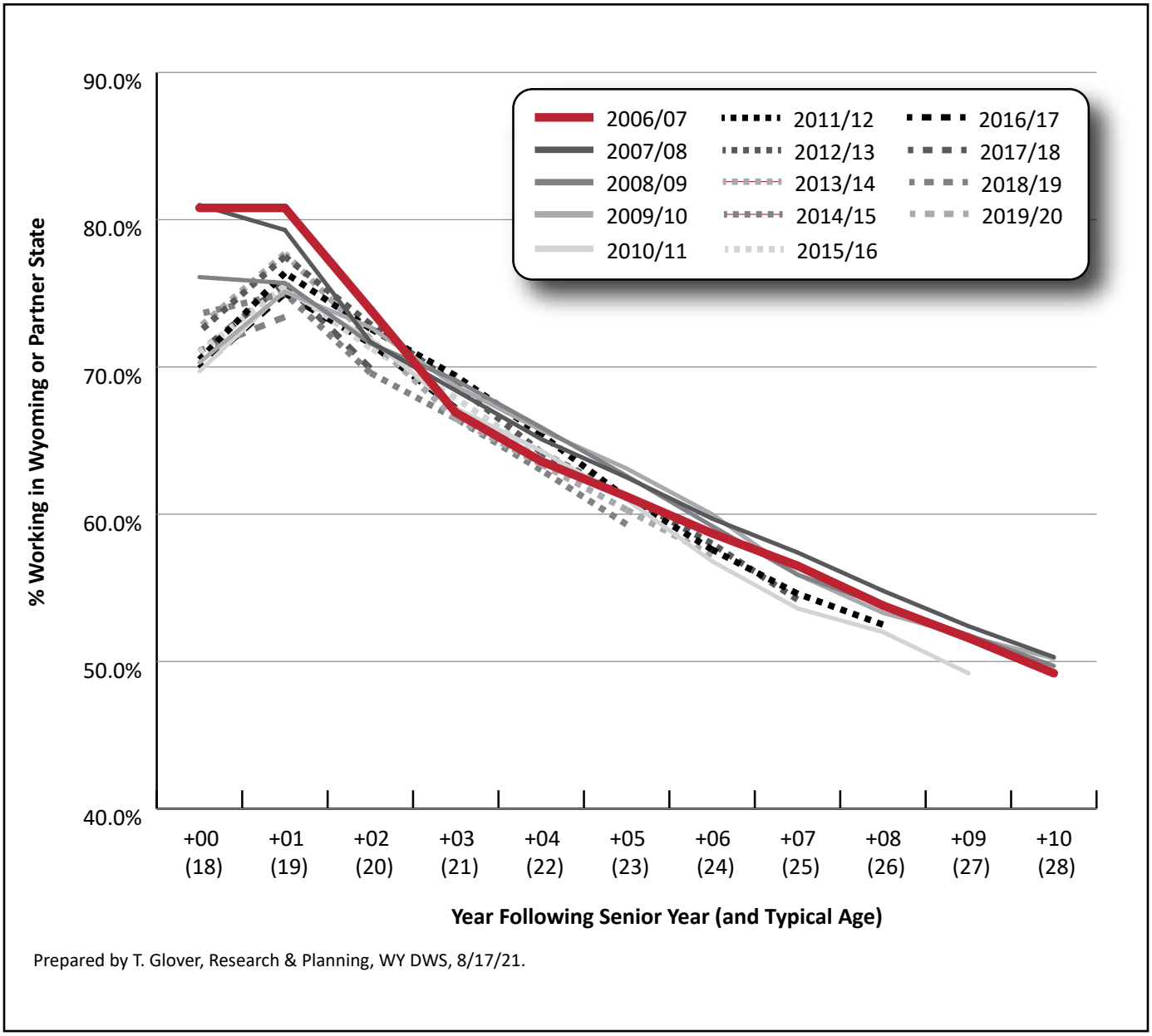


Figure 12.4: Percent of Wyoming High School Seniors Found Working in Wyoming by Year Following Senior Year, 2006/07 to 2019/2020

Chapter 13: Special Research

New Report Looks at COVID-19 Effects on Wyo Workforce

by: Lisa Knapp, Senior Research Analyst

A new publication from the Research & Planning (R&P) section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services provides a general overview of the effects of the coronavirus pandemic on Wyoming's labor force.

Find it Online

COVID-19 and the Labor Force

https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/COVID_Labor_Force.pdf

The new publication is titled *COVID-19 and the Labor Force: How the Global Pandemic Affected Wyoming Workers*. The research presented in this report is based on data from the Current Population Survey (CPS) to gain an understanding of some of the impacts of the pandemic, including how many people were prevented from working, how many were able to work remotely, how many received pay for hours not worked, and more.

COVID-19 and the Labor Force is available online at https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/COVID_Labor_Force.pdf. Selected tables and figures are included in the report. A spreadsheet with the complete tabular data used to build those tables and figures is available at https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/BACKISS.htm#2022_02.

The CPS has been in production since 1940 and was created as a way to track real-time labor force participation. It is a sample-based survey that is collected

Box 13.1: Current Population Survey COVID-19 Questions

- "At any time in the last four weeks did you telework or work at home for pay because of the coronavirus pandemic?"
- "At any time in the last four weeks were you unable to work because your employer closed or lost business due to the coronavirus pandemic?"
- "Did you receive any pay from your employer for hours you did not work in the last four weeks?"
- "Did the coronavirus pandemic prevent you from looking for work in the last four weeks?"
- "At any time in the last four weeks did you or anyone in your household need medical care for something other than the coronavirus but not get it because of the coronavirus pandemic? Please include all adults and children in the household."

monthly by the U.S. Census Bureau for the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). This survey is designed to collect data about the nation's labor force, including information about employment status, people who were not in the labor force, hours worked and earnings, and other economic and demographic characteristics. In May 2020, the BLS added five additional questions to the CPS in order to gauge the effects that the coronavirus pandemic had on the labor force (see Box 13.1, page 61).

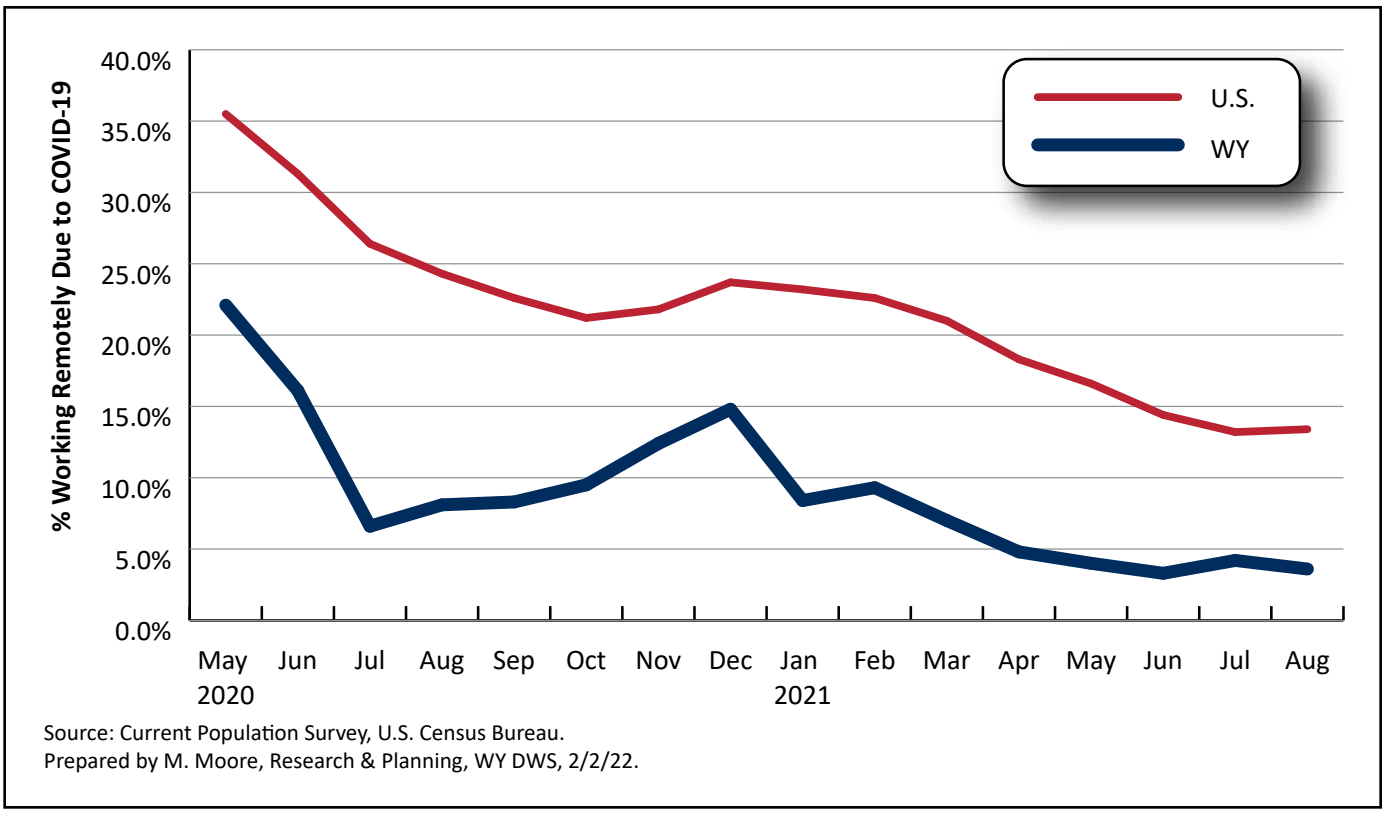
This chapter provides an introduction to the research presented in *COVID-19 and the Labor Force*, particularly on the first question:

> "At any time in the last four weeks did you telework or work at home for pay because of the coronavirus pandemic?"

Discussion on the other questions and more in-depth data on variables such as gender and age are included in the full report.

Data from August 2021 were the most recent available at the time the research for *COVID-19 and the Labor Force* was conducted.

In May 2020, just under one-fourth (22.1%) of the state's population ages 16 or older either teleworked or worked at home due to the coronavirus pandemic (see Figure 13.1). This proportion decreased somewhat during the summer of 2020 but spiked to 14.8% in December 2020, when the second wave of the pandemic occurred. Since then, the proportion of people teleworking or working at home steadily declined and was 3.6% in August 2021. In comparison,



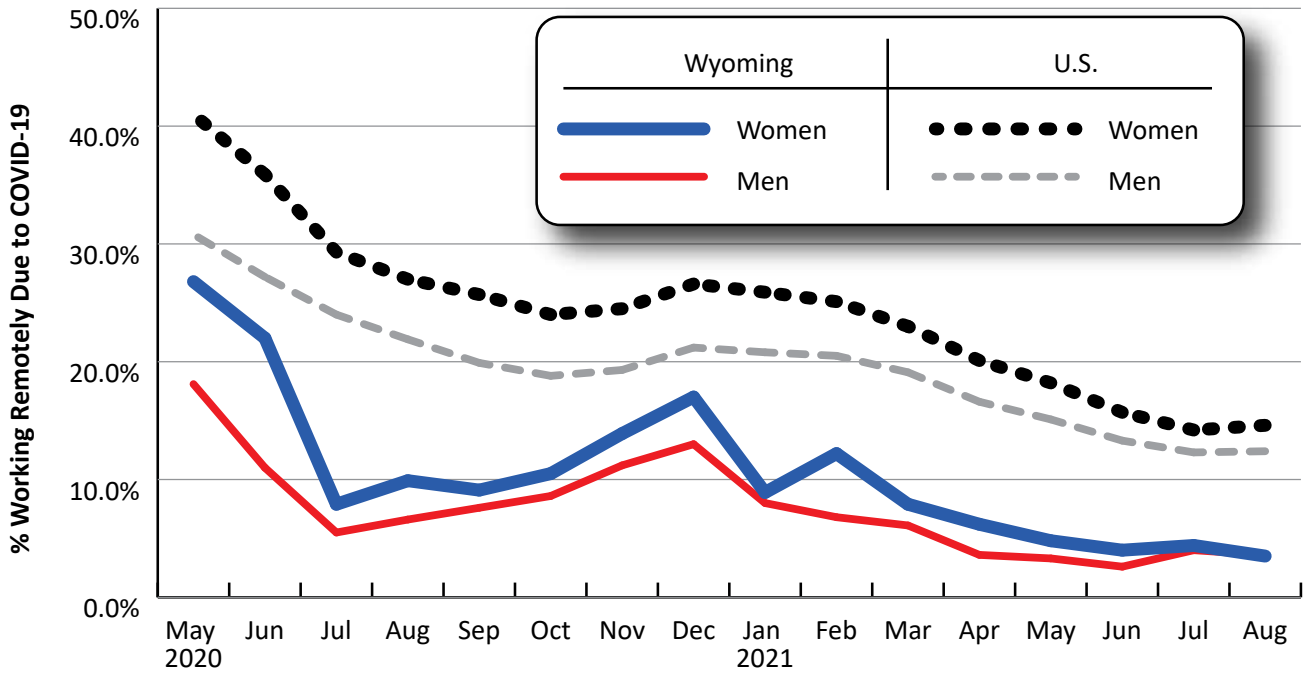
Source: Current Population Survey, U.S. Census Bureau.
Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 2/2/22.

Figure 13.1: Percent of Wyoming and U.S. Workers Ages 16+ Who Worked Remotely for Pay Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, May 2020 to August 2021

the proportion of people at the national level who teleworked or worked at home due to the coronavirus pandemic was higher in May 2020 (35.5%) and, although it also declined over time, remained higher than in Wyoming since then. In December 2020, 23.7% of the U.S. population teleworked or worked at home, compared to 13.4% in August 2021.

In May 2020, near the beginning of the coronavirus pandemic, the largest proportion of those in Wyoming who teleworked or worked from home were ages 45-54 (31.9%), followed by those ages 55-64 (27.3%). These groups still had the largest proportion of teleworkers and people who worked at home in August 2021, although those percentages were much smaller (4.6% and 5.3%, respectively). At the national level, people ages 25-34 (39.2%) and 35-44 (40.5%) had the largest percentage of teleworkers and people working at home in May 2020. These two age groups had the largest proportion of these types of workers in August 2021 as well (15.6% and 16.2%, respectively).

In almost every month when data were collected, the proportion of Wyoming women teleworking or working at home was larger than the proportion of men doing the same (see Figure 13.2). For example, in May 2020, 26.8% of women worked at home or teleworked, compared to 18.1% of men. The percent differences between the two narrowed over time, however, and by August 2021, there were slightly more men (3.6%) working at home or teleworking than women (3.5%). At the national level, a larger proportion of women compared to men teleworked remotely in every month when the data were collected.



Source: Current Population Survey.
Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 2/2/22.

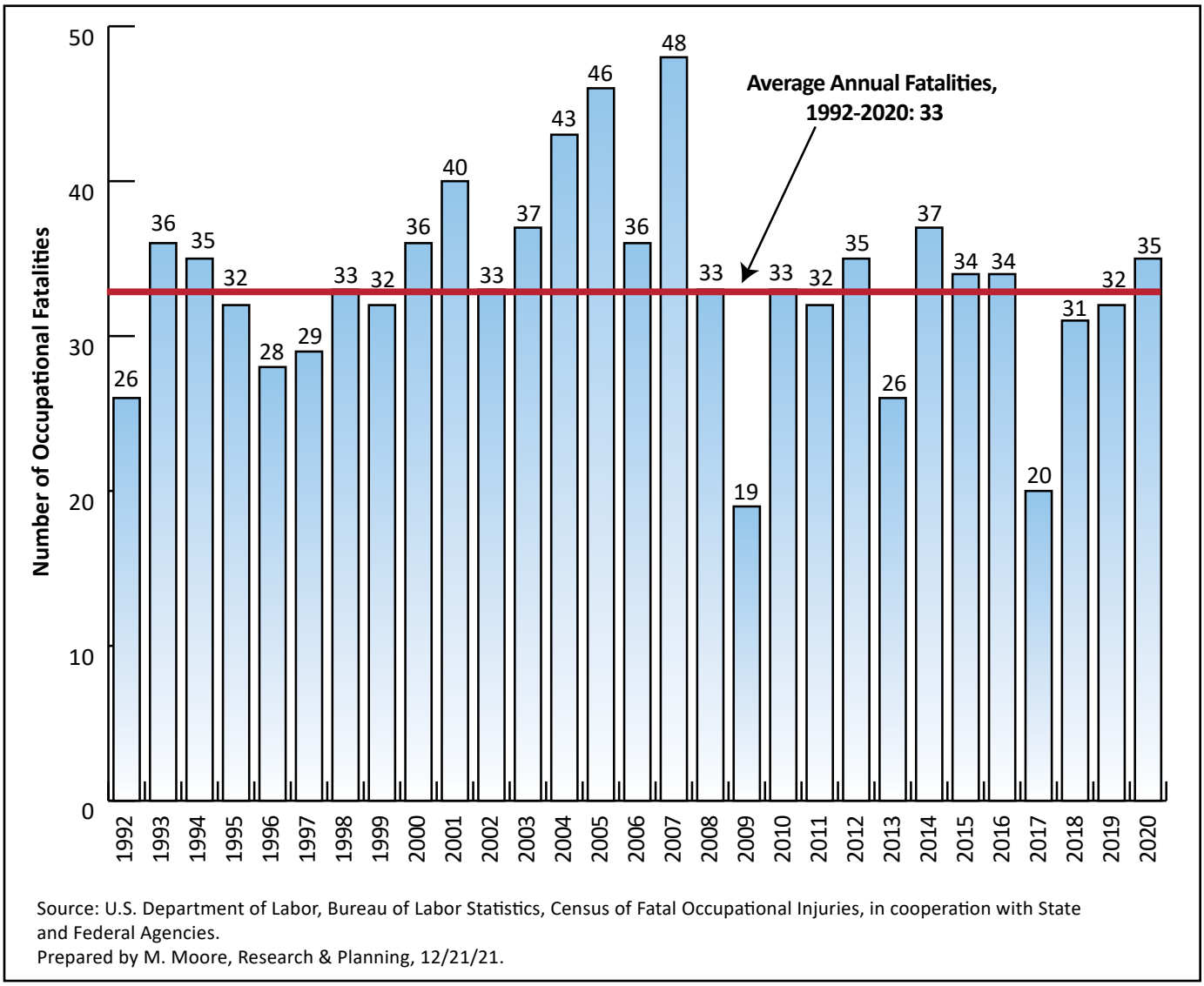
Figure 13.2: Percent of Wyoming and U.S. Workers Ages 16+ Who Worked Remotely for Pay Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic by Gender, May 2020 to August 2021

Chapter 14: Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries

Wyoming Occupational Fatalities Increase to 35 in 2020

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

The number of occupational fatalities in Wyoming rose from 32 in 2019 to 35 in 2020 (an increase of three deaths, or 9.4%; see Figure 14.1). Variations in fatalities from year to year are, to some extent, the result of the random nature of work-related accidents. Furthermore, there is not always a direct relationship between workplace fatalities and workplace safety. For example, suicides and homicides that occur in the workplace are included as occupational fatalities. Workplace fatalities are counted in the state where the injury occurred, not necessarily the state of residence or the state of death.



Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries, in cooperation with State and Federal Agencies.
Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, 12/21/21.

Figure 14.1: Wyoming Occupational Fatalities, 1992-2020

In 2020, nine deaths were reported in agriculture, forestry, fishing, & hunting (25.7%) and nine deaths occurred in transportation & warehousing (25.7%). There were four deaths in mining, quarrying, & oil & gas extraction (11.4%). Construction and retail trade each had three deaths (8.6%).

Across all industries, more than half of 2020 workplace deaths (57.1%) were the result of transportation incidents (see Figure 14.2). Transportation incidents include highway crashes, pedestrian vehicular incidents, aircraft incidents, and water vehicle incidents.

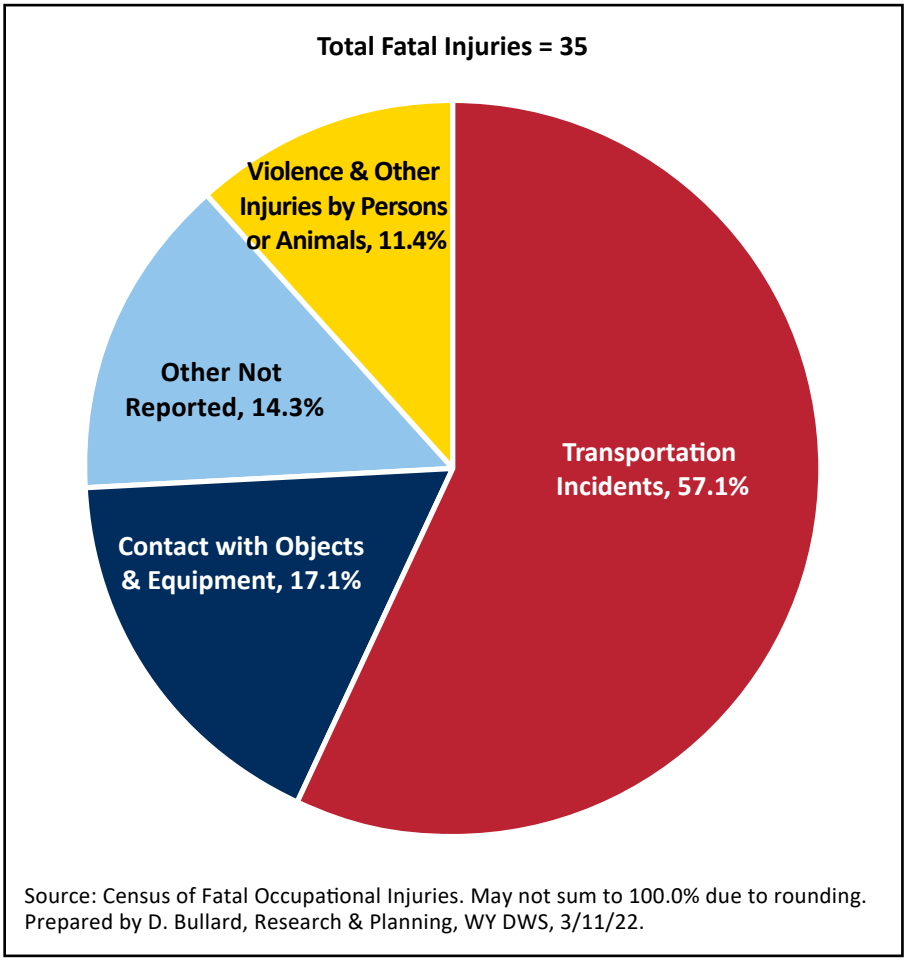
Figure 14.3 (see page 66) shows the CFOI rate for Wyoming and for the United States from 2010 to 2020. This represents the annual number of fatal work injuries per 100,000 full time equivalent (FTE) workers. Wyoming's rate of workplace fatalities is roughly three times as high as the U.S. rate. A large part of this difference can be explained by differences in the industry composition of Wyoming's economy. Previous research has shown that nearly three-fourths of the difference in state CFOI rates can be explained by the proportion of total employment that is found in two relatively dangerous sectors: mining and agriculture (Bullard, 2014). Compared to most states, Wyoming has a relatively high proportion of jobs in mining and agriculture and therefore a higher-than-average workplace fatality rate.

Find it Online

Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries

https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/CFOI/toc.htm

Over the time period shown, there does not seem to be a clear upward or downward trend in the fatality rates for Wyoming or the U.S. The U.S. rate ranged from 3.3 to 3.6. Wyoming's rate was unusually low in 2013 (9.5) and 2017 (7.7), but most years were between 11.5 and 13.1.



Source: Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries. May not sum to 100.0% due to rounding.
Prepared by D. Bullard, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 3/11/22.

Figure 14.2: Workplace Fatal Injuries by Event or Exposure in Wyoming, All Ownerships, 2020

The counts featured in this article are compiled by the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI) program (a joint effort of Research & Planning and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics) and may not match those from other programs, such as data published by Wyoming's State Occupational Epidemiologist. One major reason for differences is that CFOI is a national program with data being collected for all 50 states. States routinely share information in order to obtain the most complete counts of workplace fatalities. The State Occupational Epidemiologist Program and the CFOI program complement each other with their two different goals: the State-run program allows for a more detailed look at workplace deaths, while the CFOI program allows for the collection of national data across states.

Reports from the State Occupational Epidemiologist are available at http://wyomingworkforce.org/data/epidemiology/.

For official definitions used in the CFOI program, please visit https://stats.bls.gov/iif/oshcfdef.htm.

Reference

Bullard, D. (2014, May). Explaining state to state differences in fatal occupational injury rates. Wyoming *Labor Force Trends, 51*(7). Retrieved March 9, 2022, from https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/trends/0714/a3.htm

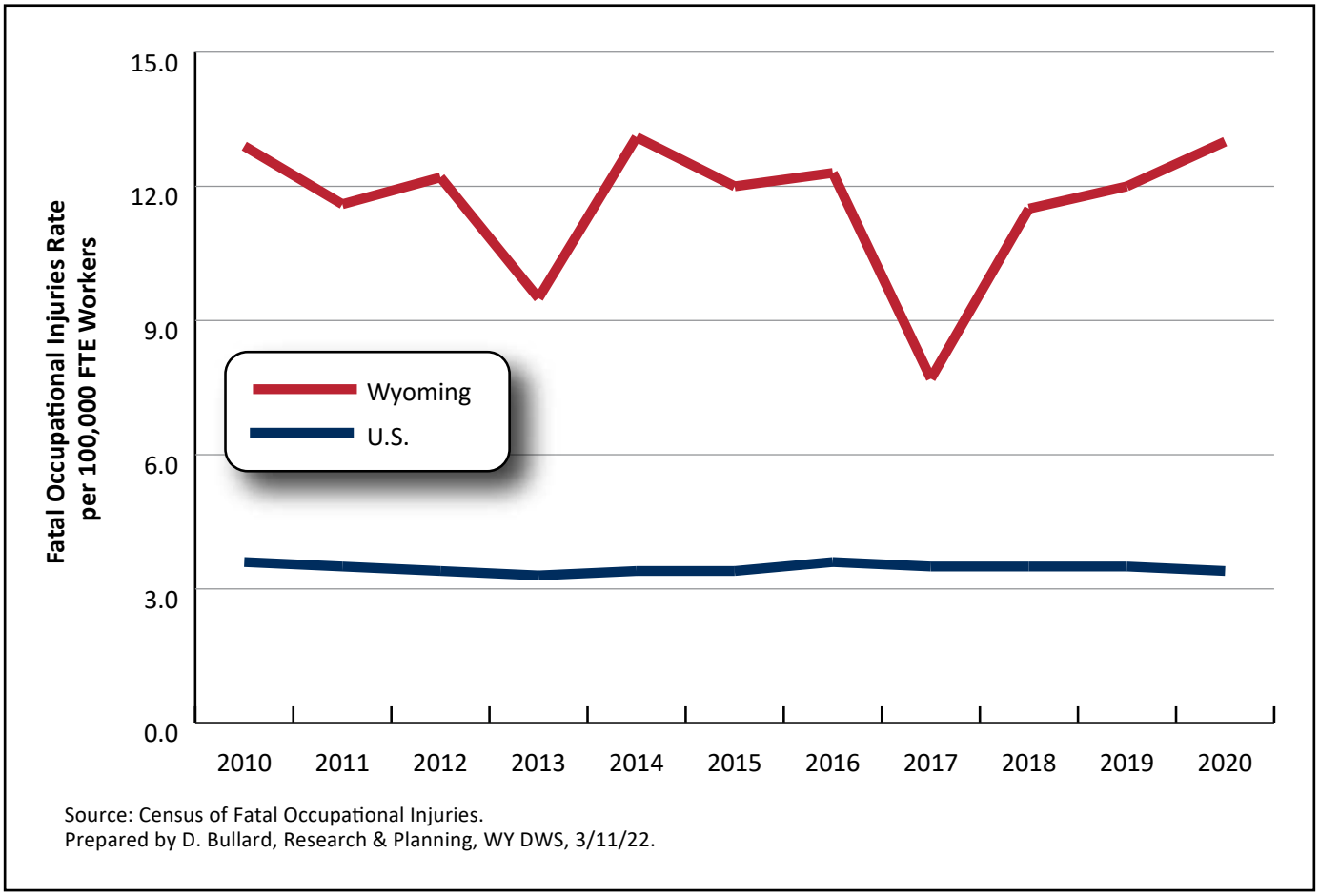


Figure 14.3: Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries Rate, U.S. and Wyoming, 2010-2020

Chapter 15: Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses

Wyoming's Nonfatal Occupational Injury and Illness Incidence Rate for 2020

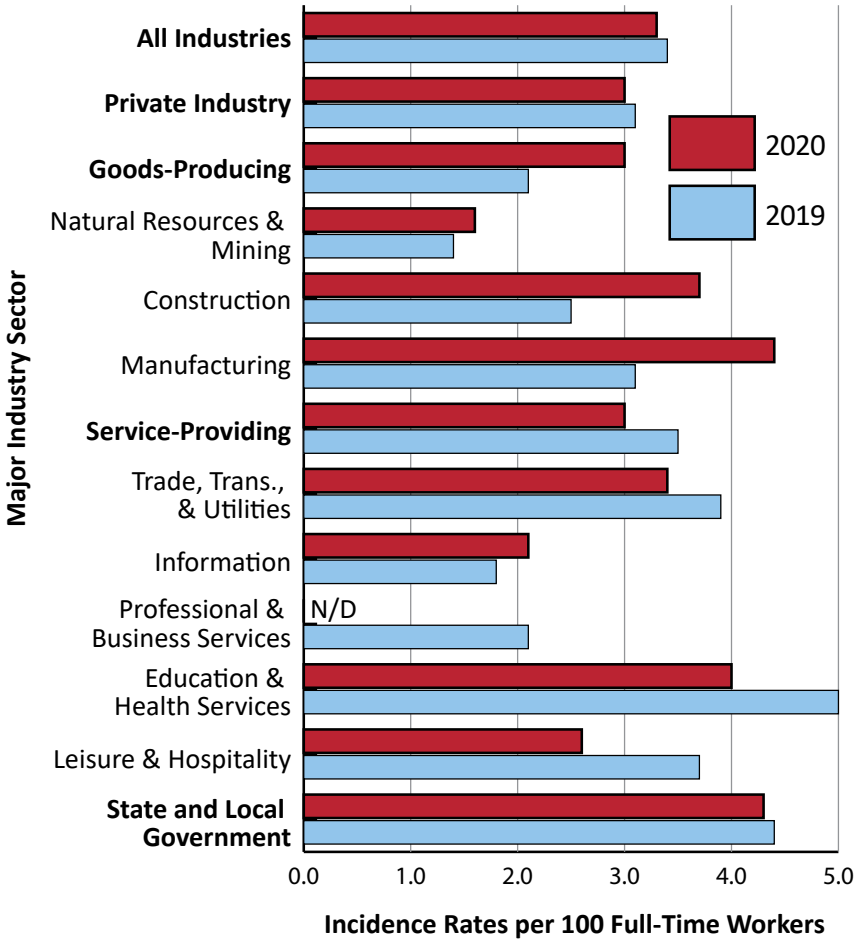
by: Chris McGrath, Senior Statistician

Wyoming's nonfatal occupational injury and illness incidence rate for all industries in 2020 was 3.3, according to the Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses (SOII). Incidence rates represent the number of injuries and illnesses per 100 full-time workers.

The Research & Planning (R&P) section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services conducts the SOII for Wyoming in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) annually as part of a nationwide data collection effort.

Goods-producing industries include agriculture, mining, construction, and manufacturing. Within private industry, Wyoming's goods-producing sectors had an incidence rate of 3.0, compared to 2.1 in 2019 (see Figure 15.1). Incidence rates in goods-producing sectors in 2020 ranged from 1.6 in natural resources & mining to 4.4 in manufacturing. Construction had an incidence rate of 3.7 in 2020, compared to 2.5 in 2019.

The service-providing sectors — such as education & health services — had an incidence rate of 4.0 in 2020 compared



N/D = not discloseable due to confidentiality.
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Survey of Occupational Injuries & Illnesses in cooperation with participating state agencies.
Prepared by: C. McGrath, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 2/1/22.

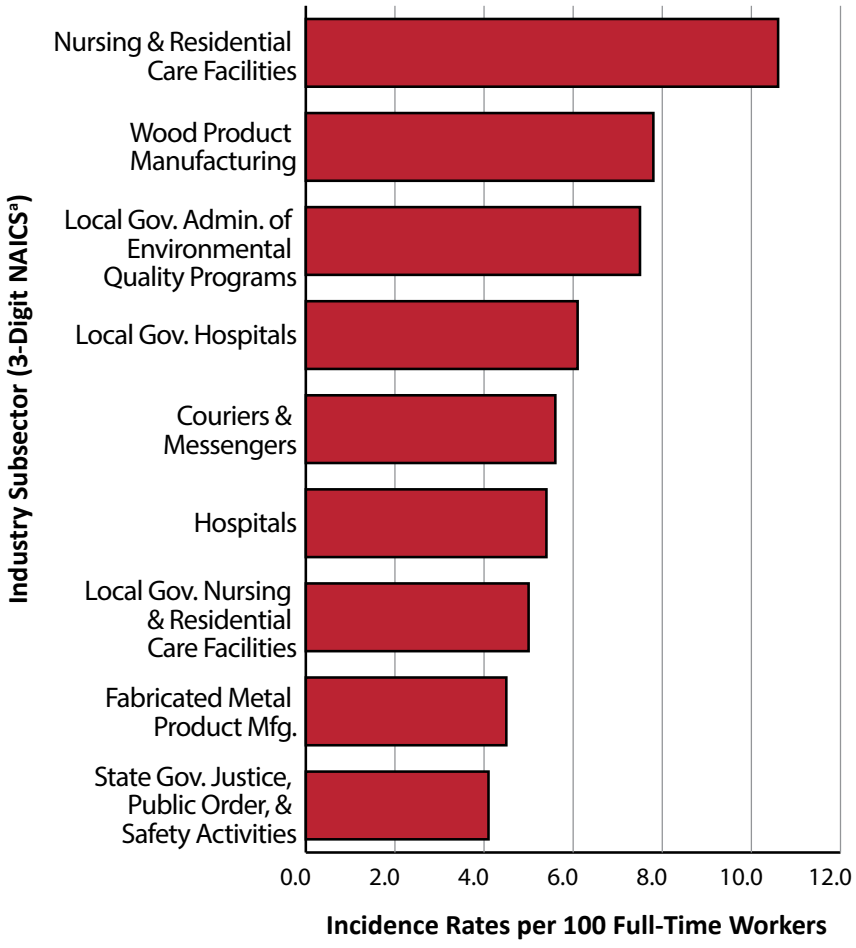
Figure 15.1: Incidence Rates per 100 Full-Time Workers for Total Nonfatal Occupational Injuries and Illnesses by Industry in Wyoming, 2019 and 2020

Find it Online

Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses

https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/OSH/toc.htm

to 5.0 in 2019. Incidence rates in service-providing sectors in 2020 varied from 2.1 in information to 4.3 in state and local government. Leisure & hospitality had an incidence rate of 2.6 (see Figure 15.1).



[a]North American Industry Classification System.
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Survey of Occupational Injuries & Illnesses in cooperation with participating state agencies.
Prepared by: C. McGrath, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 2/1/22.

Figure 15.2: Subsectors (3-Digit NAICS) with the Highest Incidence Rates of Total Nonfatal Occupational Injuries and Illnesses in Wyoming, 2020

At the three-digit subsector level (see related article on page 10) in Wyoming, nursing & residential care facilities had an incidence rate of 10.6 (see Figure 5.2), followed by wood product manufacturing (7.8), and local government administration of environmental quality programs (7.5).

These estimates are all recordable nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses which include: days away from work cases, days of job transfer or restriction cases, and other recordable cases. For example, there were an estimated 2,300 nonfatal occupational injury and illness cases in private industry in Wyoming in 2020. Non-recordable cases include, but are not limited to, first aid cases, such as an adhesive strip on a cut, or a water flush of an eye to remove a foreign object. For further information on recordable and non-recordable cases, visit https://www.bls.gov/iif/oshdef.htm.

For additional Wyoming data from the Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses, please see https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/OSH/toc.htm.

Just the Facts

Table 1: Wyoming State Facts

State Capital	Cheyenne
Governor	Governor Mark Gordon, 33rd Governor, Assumed Office Jan. 7, 2019 – Cheyenne
Most Livable State – National Ranking[1]	13th in 2020 | 8th in 2019
Nicknames	Equality State – Big Wyoming – Cowboy State
State Dinosaur & State Fossil	Triceratops & Knightia
State Flower & State Tree	Indian Paintbrush & Plains Cottonwood
State Bird & State Fish	Western Meadowlark & Cutthroat Trout
State Butterfly & Reptile	Sheridan's Green Hairstreak & Horned Toad
State Mammal & State Gemstone	Bison & Jade
1st National Park	Yellowstone - Established March 1, 1872
1st National Monument	Devils Tower - Established September 24, 1906
Admitted to Statehood - Date & Rank	July 10, 1890 – 44th State

Excerpted from *Wyoming 2021 – Just the Facts*, published April 2022 by the Wyoming Department of Administration & Information, Economic Analysis Division. Full table and references available at http://eadiv.state.wy.us/Wy_facts/Facts2021.pdf

Table 2: Selected Vital Statistics for Wyoming, 2016-2020

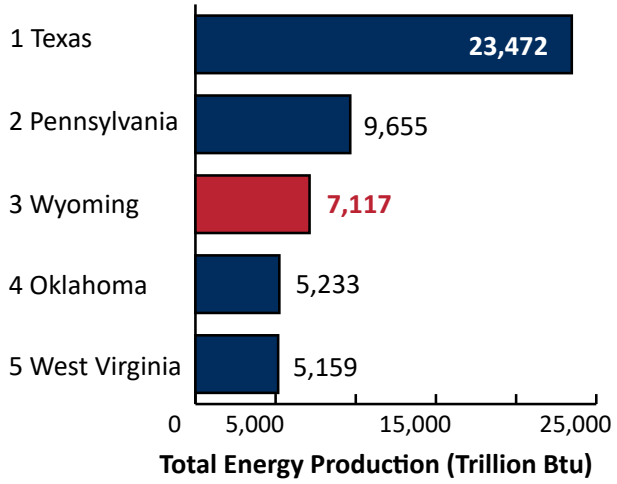
	Vital Events[a]				Teenage Birth Rate (per 1,000)		Death Rate (per 100,000)	
Year	Births	Deaths	Marriages	Divorces	WY[a]	U.S.[b]	WY[a]	U.S.[b]
2016	7,384	4,706	4,145	2,462	26.2	20.3	804	844.0
2017	6,904	4,767	4,133	2,300	24.6	18.8	823	863.8
2018	6,549	5,070	4,124	2,170	20.8	17.4	878	867.8
2019	6,566	5,121	4,056	2,199	19.4	16.7	884.8	869.7
2020	6,135	5,986	3,974	2,228	17.9	15.4	1,027.9	1,027.0

[a]Source: Vital Statistics Services, Wyoming Department of Health, 2021.
[b]Source: National Center for Health Statistics, Centers for Disease Control, 2021.

Table 3: Wyoming Rank in U.S. in Energy Consumption, Expenditures, Production, Prices, & Environment

	Wyoming Rank
Consumption	
Total Energy per Capita	1
Expenditures	
Total Energy per Capita	1
Production	
Total Energy	3
Crude Oil	8
Natural Gas	9
Coal	1
Electricity	32
Prices	
Natural Gas	30
Electricity	44
Environment	
Carbon Dioxide Emissions	30

Source: Energy Information Administration. Retrieved from http://www.eia.gov/state/?sid=WY. Updated April 5, 2022.



Source: U.S Energy Information Administration. Retrieved April 5, 2022, from https://www.eia.gov/state/rankings/#/series/101.

Figure 1: Ranking of Top 5 Total Energy-Producing States in the U.S., 2019

Just the Facts

	Most Recent Period		
	Year	Value	Rank
Demography			
Total Population	2020	576,851	50
% Male Population	2020	51.0%	3
% Female Population	2020	49.0%	48
% of Population - Under 18 Years Old	2020	22.9%	17
% of Population - 65 Years & Older	2020	17.8%	20
Median Age	2020	38.7	28
Note: Population data are July 1 estimates.			
Weather & Geography			
Total Area (sq. miles)	2020	97,089	9
Water Area (sq. miles)	2020	721	36
Mean Elevation (ft)	2020	6,700	2
% of Land in Rural Areas	2010	99.8%	2
% of Land Owned by the Federal Government	2020	46.7%	6
% of Land Owned by State Government	2020	6.2%	--
Recreation & Tourism			
Land Ownership in Wyoming (million square miles):			
National Park Service	2021	3,744	5
U.S. Forest Service	2020	14,415	10
Bureau of Land Management	2020	27,819	4
Visitors to State Parks & Recreational Areas	2019	4,118,209	--
WY Lodging Sales (millions of dollars)	FY2021	$620.8	--
Crime & Law Enforcement			
Crimes	2019	10,351	49
Crimes per 100,000 Persons	2019	1,789	36
Violent Crimes per 100,000 Persons	2019	217.4	43
Education			
% of Population, 25 yrs. & older, Completed High-School	2020	93.8%	5
% of Population, 25 yrs. & older, with a Bachelor's Degree	2020	28.2%	42
ACT Average Composite Score (range 1-36)	2020	19.7	36
Estimated Pupil-Teacher Ration in Public Schools	2019/20	12.8	42
Estimated Average Salary of Public School Teachers ($)	2019/20	$59,786	19
Average Teacher's Salary as % of Average Annual Pay for All Workers	2020	118.4%	6
Health & Social Welfare			
% of Persons Without Health Insurance Coverage	2020	11.3%	8
% of Private Sector Establishments that Offer Health Insurance	2020	42.3%	44
Physicians per 100,000 Persons	2021	215	48
Registered Nurses per 100,000 Persons	2020	869	33
% of Population Enrolled in Medicare	2019	19.0%	27
% of Population Below Poverty Level	2020	9.3%	41
% of Pop. Receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assist. Prog. Benefits[31]	2020	4.7%	50

Rankings are highest to lowest except where noted.
*Ranking lowest to highest.
Excerpted from *Wyoming 2021 – Just the Facts*, published December 2020 by the Wyoming Department of Administration & Information, Economic Analysis Division. Full table and references available at http://eadiv.state.wy.us/Wy_facts/Facts2021.pdf

(Table continued on page 71)

Just the Facts

(Table continued from page 70)

	Most Recent Period		
	Year	Value	Rank
Housing			
Residential Building Permits	2020	2,128	47
Median Housing Value of Owner-Occupied Housing Units ($)	2020	$236,600	24
Homeownership Rate	2020	73.9%	9
Wyoming's Economy			
Median Household Income	2020	$66,432	20
Wyoming Annual Inflation Rate	2021Q2	7.7%	--
Employment & Labor			
Average Annual Pay ($)	2020	$50,990	40
State Minimum Wage Rate ($ per hour)	2021	$7.25	31
Civilian Labor Force	2020	296,801	50
Employed	2020	279,462	50
Unemployed	2020	17,339	48
Unemployment Rate	2020	5.8%	42
Total Non-farm Employment (Jobs)	2020	272,900	50
% of Jobs in Mining	2020	6.0%	1
Tax Environment			
Individual Income Tax Rate	2021	0.0%	50
Corporate Income Tax Rate	2021	0.0%	50
State & Local Sales Tax Rate	2021	5.3%	44
Gasoline Tax Rate ($/gallon)	2021	$0.24	37
Cigarette Tax Rate ($/pack)	2021	$0.60	43
State & Local Excise Collections Per Capita	FY2019	$355	49
Estimated Burden of Major Taxes for a 3-Person Family with Income of $50,000 - Cheyenne	2019	$2,759	49
Mining, Energy, & the Environment			
Coal Production (millions of short tons)	2020	218.6	1
Natural Gas Production (billions of cubic feet)	2020	1,473	9
Crude Oil Production (millions of barrels)	2020	89.1	8
Trona Production (millions of short tons)	2020	15.5	1
Average Price Paid for WY Coal ($/short ton)	2020	$12.63	--
Average Price Paid for Natural Gas ($/MCF)	2020	$2.22	--
Average Price Paid for Wyoming Oil ($/barrel)	2020	$35.38	--
Average Price Paid for Trona ($/short ton)	2020	$127.48	--
% of Electricity Generated Through Renewable Resources	2019	10.6%	25
Toxic Releases: Total Pollution Released (millions of pounds)	2019	18.5	35
Agriculture			
Number of Farms and Ranches	2021	12,200	39
Average Farm Size (acres)	2021	2,377	1
U.S. Agriculture Exports (millions $)	2019	$330.4	39

Rankings are highest to lowest except where noted.
*Ranking lowest to highest.
Excerpted from *Wyoming 2021 – Just the Facts*, published December 2020 by the Wyoming Department of Administration & Information, Economic Analysis Division. Full table and references available at http://eadiv.state.wy.us/Wy_facts/Facts2021.pdf

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