Wyoming Workforce Annual Report 2010

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Wyoming Workforce Annual Report 2010

Greetings!

Welcome to the 2010 edition of the Wyoming Workforce Annual Report, which we hope you will find both informative and enlightening.

This report is a result of a partnership of the Wyoming Department of Employment, Wyoming Department of Workforce Services, and the Wyoming Workforce Development Council. It contains a series of articles and charts designed to offer a comprehensive look at key facets of our economy, including the unemployment rate, changes in job growth, wages, benefits, commuting, and more.

This report examines the effects of the recession that began to be felt in Wyoming in 2009, a downturn that began gripping the U.S. in 2007. This publication not only offers a look at where Wyoming has been in the last year but where the state is headed. It examines which industries are expected to grow from 2008 to 2018, and which specific occupations will be in demand over the next decade.

While Wyoming has certainly felt the negative impacts of the current economic downturn, including higher unemployment, there have also been a number of individual success stories, some of which are highlighted throughout this document.

Thank you for reviewing this report, and please let us know what you think about it.

Jon Conrad
Chairman, Wyoming Workforce Development Council

Joan Evans
Director, Wyoming Department of Workforce Services

Gary W. Child
Director, Wyoming Department of Employment

Research & Planning
Wyoming Unemployment Rate Reaches 22-Year High

The unemployment rate is one of the most important economic indicators on which to measure economies health.

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 member 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.

In 2007 the average annual unemployment rate was the lowest it has been since 2000. In 2009 things changed drastically and the unemployment rate rose to a decade high.

In 2007 Sublette (1.5%), Campbell (2.1%), Sweetwater (2.3%), and Teton (2.3%) counties had the lowest annual average unemployment rates. Sublette, Campbell, and Sweetwater counties have high levels of employment in the mining industry, which was driven by high energy prices in 2007. Teton county’s economy is heavily dependent on tourism. Big Horn (4.2%), Platte (4.1%), and Fremont (3.9%) counties had the highest unemployment rates in 2007. By 2009 things had changed and Albany (4.1%), Johnson (4.5%), and Converse (5.2%) Counties had the lowest average annual unemployment rates and Big Horn (8.7%), Hot Springs (7.9%), and Fremont (7.8%)...
(Unemployment continued from page 4)

counties had the highest unemployment rates. The largest percent change in the unemployment rate, or the counties most affected by the economic downturn, were Sublette (300.0%), Sweetwater (182.6%), and Teton counties (169.6%). Once energy prices dropped dramatically, employment plummeted in Sublette and Sweetwater counties, which heavily depend on mining. Teton County was affected by a drop in tourism due to the recession. The least affected by the recession were Johnson (32.4%), Albany (64.0%), and Washakie (72.2%) counties. These counties don’t rely heavily on mining or tourism for their employment.

Jeanie McJunkin
Sage Technical School

Laid off from her position as a veterinary assistant after three years of employment, Jeanie McJunkin — a 46-year-old single mother of two boys — found herself unemployed. McJunkin went to the Cody Workforce Center seeking assistance from the Department of Workforce Services for a new career. Through funding from the Workforce Investment Act program, McJunkin attended and successfully completed the truck driver training course through Sage Technical with a 97 percent and obtained her license in December 2009. She now works for Naber Trucking, hauling material over the road. Although this means some time away from her children, she now can provide for her family.

More Information: To see who is defined as employed or unemployed by the LAUS program, go to http://www.bls.gov/lau/laufaq.htm#Q3
In 2009, there were 37,312 individuals who lost jobs in Wyoming and collected Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefits, the highest during the period dating back to 1997. Nearly one-third (12,069) had exhausted their regular benefits by the end of the year. The exhaustion rate (exhaustees divided by the number of UI recipients) of 32.3% was also the highest in the past 13 years.

Wyoming paid the 10th highest average weekly benefit amount ($345.59) of all states in fourth quarter 2009.

Tammie Anderson struggled after being laid off from a slowdown in the Powder River Basin. With uncertainty of another trade, Anderson turned to the Gillette Workforce Center for help. Through a training grant, Anderson recently completed training at the Gillette College of Cosmetology. Anderson said through careful guidance from the Workforce Center, she was given the opportunity to start a new career. She now loves going to work and sees a bright future in the years ahead.

Figure 3: Unemployment Insurance (UI) Benefit Recipients and Exhaustees in Wyoming, 2000 to 2009

More Information: For the latest data on unemployment insurance claims, benefit recipients, or benefit payments, see http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/ui.htm.
Every industry experienced triple-digit percentage increases in UI recipients in 2009 compared to 2007. Mining led all industries with five times more (509.9%) unemployed workers in 2009 (6,093) compared with its 2007 level (999). Real estate and rental & leasing and wholesale trade followed mining with increases of 414.1% and 364.9%, respectively. The largest share of UI recipients was in construction in both 2007 (28.4%, or 3,716) and 2009 (28.8%, or 10,756). Mining was second, with 16.3% of total UI recipients in 2009, followed by accommodation & food services with 10.7%.
Natrona and Laramie counties were the most populous Wyoming counties with the largest employment. According to the second quarter 2009 Wyoming Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, Natrona County had 13.9% of employment while Laramie County accounted for 15.6%. Consequently these counties had the most UI recipients in both 2007 and 2009. In 2007, a total of 2,258 recipients were from Laramie County (17.3%), while 1,444 resided in Natrona County (11.1%). By 2009 the number of Natrona County recipients more than tripled (219.6% increase), rising to 4,615. In contrast, the percent of Laramie County UI recipients rose by 87.3% from 2007 to 2009 to 4,230 recipients.

Every county in the state experienced a large downturn, most with triple-digit increase in UI covered unemployed workers in 2009. Counties tied heavily to the mining industry were hardest hit. Sublette, Sweetwater, and Campbell counties experienced the largest increase in UI covered unemployed workers, with increases of 484.6%, 341.9%, and 284.7% respectively in 2009 compared to their 2007 levels.

When divorce papers fell into my lap a number of years ago, I was shattered. I wanted a much better outcome for my daughter despite the circumstances. I was at a complete loss how to go about it and knew this was a critical step in life.

As a veteran, I was struggling. I found the assistance I was looking for through the Dads Making a Difference program. The training I received built on my service experiences and broadened my own narrow viewpoint of them in ways that I had not been able to see before.

The life skills training helped me immeasurably to identify and correct the shortfalls I knew down deep would hold me back. The counseling and parenting training opportunities produced real results in being able to influence my daughter positively and reaffirm an outlook of life as filled with possibilities for good things.
Who Are Unemployment Insurance Claimants?

Among the 37,312 UI covered unemployed workers in 2009, the majority (59.5%; see Figure 6) had only a high school education; 10.0% had less than a high school education; 8.1% had an associate’s degree; and 9.0% had a bachelor’s degree or higher. This is not a surprise since a previous research indicated the fact that the vast majority of covered employed have a high school degree or less is complemented by the fact that the vast majority of jobs only required it.

The majority (72.7%; see Figure 7) of Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefit recipients in 2009 were men. Only 27.3% were women. About 43.2% of the male recipients were age 34 and younger.

Figure 6: Unemployment Insurance Recipients in Wyoming by Education Level, 2009

Figure 7: Unemployment Insurance Recipients in Wyoming by Age Group and Gender, 2009

More Information: To see the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund ending balance by quarter from 1983 to the most recent data, go to http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/ui/table3.htm
Wyoming covered employment increased steadily from 2000 to 2008, and then declined in 2009 (see Figure 8). Early in the decade, employment growth was fairly slow, but as energy prices increased and energy development in the state intensified in 2006, 2007, and 2008, employment grew more rapidly. The collapse of energy prices in late 2008 and the severity of the national recession resulted in large job losses in Wyoming in 2009. Employment tends to peak in June of each year. The highest employment level shown in the figure is 297,210 jobs in June 2008. By one year later, in June 2009, employment had decreased by approximately 13,000 jobs.

Figure 8: Total Unemployment Insurance Covered Employment in Wyoming, January 2000 to September 2009

As Nation Weathers Recession, Job Losses in Wyoming Follow


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From 2007 to 2009 employment increased in some industries, while it decreased in others. Government (including public schools, colleges, & hospitals) is the largest industry in Wyoming. It added more than 4,000 jobs from 2007 to 2009. Other industries that gained jobs from 2007 to 2009 were educational & health services, leisure & hospitality, and transportation & utilities. Because Wyoming’s economy entered a recession in 2009, many sectors lost jobs. Job losses were seen in mining (including oil & gas), construction, manufacturing, retail trade, and professional & business services.

QCEW DATA ARE USED IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF INDUSTRY AND OCCUPATIONAL PROJECTIONS, AND CAN HELP JOB SEEKERS TARGET THEIR JOB SEARCHES.

Figure 9: Total Unemployment Insurance Covered Employment by Industry in Wyoming, 2007 and 2009

aFourth quarter 2006 to third quarter 2007 (2006Q4-2007Q3).

bFourth quarter 2008 to third quarter 2009 (2008Q4-2009Q3).
In terms of employment, counties in Wyoming can be divided into three main groups: those that gained jobs from 2007 to 2009, those that lost jobs, and finally, counties where employment was stable. Campbell County grew rapidly during recent years because of growth in oil & gas development, as well as coal mining. Sublette County benefitted from increased drilling for oil & gas. Laramie County and Fremont County also gained jobs from 2007 to 2009. Job losses were seen in Big Horn, Carbon, Lincoln, and Teton counties. Some of the employment decreases in Carbon and Lincoln counties may have been related to the completion of large construction projects. Employment remained fairly stable in Crook, Johnson, Platte, and Weston counties.

Growing or declining employment in a county can provide clues regarding housing costs in that area. In rapidly growing counties, for example, new residents moving to the area may put upward pressure on home prices and rents. In contrast, as people lose their jobs and move away from an area, housing prices could fall. Employers in rapidly growing areas of the State may find it difficult to recruit and retain suitable employees because of a limited labor supply.
Government, mining industries most likely to offer health insurance, retirement plans

Health insurance and retirement plans were the benefits that were most often offered to full-time employees during 2008 (80.9% and 79.0%, respectively), while paid vacation leave was offered to 72.0% of all full-time employees and paid sick leave was offered to 43.4% of full-time employees. Employees working in state and local government were the most often offered all of these benefits (health insurance, 98.2%; retirement plan, 99.5%; paid vacation leave, 86.5%; paid sick leave, 86.0%). Outside of government, the highest percentage of employees being offered health insurance and paid vacation leave worked in natural resources and mining (94.1% and 89.2%, respectively) while the highest percentage of employees who were offered retirement plans and paid sick leave worked in education and health services (94.8% and 69.3%, respectively). Employees working in leisure and hospitality were offered health insurance and retirement plans least often (51.0% and 39.7%, respectively) and workers in construction were offered paid sick leave and paid vacation leave the least often (12.7% and 54.9%, respectively).

Figure 11: Percentage of Selected Benefits Offered to Workers in Wyoming by Industry, 2008

In 2008, the benefit offered to the greatest percentage of full-time employees in Wyoming was health insurance (80.9%), followed by retirement plans (79.0%), and dependent health insurance (77.0%).

More Information: The Wyoming Benefits Survey provides a standard method for measuring how benefits are offered in the state. To see the latest data, go to http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/benefits.htm.
Wyoming's workforce is constantly on the move. Nearly all workers must travel some distance from their place of residence to where they work. In addition, Wyoming's relatively large geographic area and sparse population leads to situations requiring workers to travel considerable distances to earn a living. This section describes current commuting behavior in addition to changes observed during the last decade.

Although Wyoming’s most populous counties generally have the greatest commuting flows, this is not universally true, as Figure 12 shows. For example, Campbell and Albany counties have similar populations, but much different commuting flow patterns. Campbell County had the greatest inflow of any county in the state during 2009, while Albany’s commuting inflow was relatively small.

Figure 12: Inflow, Outflow, and Net Flow of Commuters in Wyoming by County, 2009

The overall commuting flows provide a picture of the different industry structures present in each locale. Campbell, Natrona, and Sweetwater counties have relatively high concentrations of employment related to mineral extraction, while Albany and Laramie counties are more concentrated in areas such as government and education. Teton County’s large commuting inflow was primarily due to its dependence on the tourism and leisure industries.

Several counties had substantial increases in average quarterly net commuting flows between 2000 and 2009. Campbell County had the greatest change in average quarterly commuting flow, followed by Laramie and Natrona counties. Other counties experiencing notable increases in net flow included Sheridan, Sublette, and Sweetwater counties. Teton, Park, Albany, and Converse counties all had marked decreases in net commuting flow between 2000 and 2009.
Figure 14 displays the number of average quarterly commuters by county in 2009. The map provides readers with a better geographic understanding of where the state’s commuting “hot spots” existed in 2009. Note that in most cases, commuting flows were the greatest in counties that border another state.

**County Inflows can be examined at the industry level by state of origin.**

**More Information:** To see specific commuting data for a particular county, including flows of wages, see http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/commute09/index.htm.
Industries Expected to See Moderate Growth

Overall, employment in Wyoming is projected to grow by 0.9%, or 25,733 jobs, between 2008 and 2018. Employment is projected to increase in all but two industry sectors. The health care & social assistance industry is projected to have the largest increase in employment (7,554, 2.2%), partly because of an aging population in the state. The professional & business services industry, which includes legal services, accounting services, travel arrangement companies, and security services, is projected to grow by 1.5% (2,980 jobs). The educational services industry is projected to grow by 1.4% (4,031 jobs). Employment in the state’s manufacturing industries is projected to decline by 0.4% (418 jobs) and employment in the natural resources & mining industry is projected to decline by 0.1% (173 jobs).

Figure 15: Wyoming Statewide Employment by Industry, 2008 and 2018 (Projected)

**Potential users of projections include students, jobseekers, career changers, career counselors, researchers, and state workforce agencies.**

**More Information:** Long- and short-term industry projections for Wyoming are available online at http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/projections.htm.
Figure 16 shows the 15 industry subsectors that are projected to grow the most between 2008 and 2018. Three of these are health care industries. Employment in ambulatory health care services is projected to increase by 2,646 jobs (2.7%) while hospitals are projected to gain 2,295 jobs (1.9%) and nursing and residential care facilities are expected to gain 802 jobs (1.4%). Among the other subsectors, educational services is projected to have the largest net employment gains at 4,031 jobs (1.4%), mining is projected to increase by 708 jobs (0.7%), administration & support services are projected to increase by 749 jobs (1.0%), and heavy & civil engineering construction is projected to grow by 790 jobs (0.8%).

Figure 16: Fifteen Industries in Wyoming with the Greatest Projected Net Growth by Subsector, 2008 and 2018 (Projected)

More information: To see industry projections at the national level, go to http://www.bls.gov/emp/ep_table_201.htm.
Office Support, Education Lead Occupational Projections

Figure 1 shows that occupational growth from 2008 to 2018 is projected to be concentrated in three groups: office & administrative support (3,793 jobs); education, training, & library (2,576 jobs); and healthcare practitioner & technical (2,566). Other occupation groups projected to have growth of 1,000 or more jobs are management; healthcare support; food preparation & serving-related; building & grounds cleaning & maintenance; sales & related; construction & extraction; and transportation & material moving.

Bree Smith
Laramie

The WY Quality Counts! Scholarship program allowed me to get my CDA (Child Development Associate) certificate and begin pursuing an associate’s degree in early childhood education. If it were not for the scholarship program, I would have been financially unable to go back to school. Having the opportunity to further my knowledge has been beneficial to me both personally and professionally.

Since July 1, 2007, the WY Quality Counts! Program has awarded $1,028,453 in training dollars to have child care providers across the state.

Figure 17: Wyoming Statewide Long-Term Occupational Projections by Standard Occupational Classification Major Group, 2008 and 2018 (Projected)

Table 2 shows projected occupational growth for the 10 largest growth occupations requiring on-the-job training (OJT). The highest net growth for these occupations is projected for secretaries, except legal, medical, & executive (773 jobs). Wages range from $8.05 per hour for waiters & waitresses to $14.93 per hour for bookkeeping, accounting, & auditing clerks.

For occupations requiring postsecondary education less than a bachelor’s degree, projected net occupational growth is highest for registered nurses (999 jobs; see Table 3, page 21). In addition, registered nurses also earn the highest average wage of occupations in this education category ($26.39/hour). Six of the highest growth occupations shown in Table 3 are in health care practitioner & technical.

Among occupations that require a bachelor’s degree or higher, general & operations managers and elementary school teachers, except special education are expected to growth the most (394 jobs each; see Table 4, page 21). Average annual wages for these occupations range from $39,693 per year (child, family, & school social workers) to $86,428 per year (general & operations managers).

Table 2: Wyoming Employment Growth for the 10 Largest Growth Detailed Occupations Requiring On-the-Job Training, 2008 and 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Standard Occupational Classification Title</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>Change</th>
<th>Change %</th>
<th>Hourly Wage</th>
<th>Annual Wage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Secretaries, Exc. Legal, Medical, &amp; Executive</td>
<td>6,996</td>
<td>7,769</td>
<td>773</td>
<td>11.0%</td>
<td>$12.44</td>
<td>$25,866.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher Assistants</td>
<td>3,686</td>
<td>4,275</td>
<td>589</td>
<td>16.0%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>$22,153.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Janitors &amp; Cleaners, Exc. Maids &amp; Housekeepers</td>
<td>4,629</td>
<td>5,207</td>
<td>577</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
<td>$11.51</td>
<td>$23,950.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bookkeeping, Accounting, &amp; Auditing Clerks</td>
<td>6,036</td>
<td>6,565</td>
<td>530</td>
<td>8.8%</td>
<td>$14.93</td>
<td>$31,060.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waiters &amp; Waitresses</td>
<td>6,036</td>
<td>6,538</td>
<td>502</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
<td>$8.05</td>
<td>$16,742.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maids &amp; Housekeeping Cleaners</td>
<td>4,473</td>
<td>4,940</td>
<td>468</td>
<td>10.5%</td>
<td>$9.06</td>
<td>$18,851.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Combined Food Prep. &amp; Serving, Incl. Fast Food</td>
<td>4,546</td>
<td>4,931</td>
<td>385</td>
<td>8.5%</td>
<td>$8.37</td>
<td>$17,415.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail Salespersons</td>
<td>8,133</td>
<td>8,506</td>
<td>373</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
<td>$11.22</td>
<td>$23,348.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Health Aides</td>
<td>1,396</td>
<td>1,721</td>
<td>325</td>
<td>23.3%</td>
<td>$10.86</td>
<td>$22,584.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cashiers</td>
<td>6,316</td>
<td>6,635</td>
<td>319</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
<td>$8.97</td>
<td>$18,653.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

N/A – Not Available.

More Information: To learn more about occupational wages in Wyoming, see the Occupations, Earnings, and Wages page at http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/oes.htm
Table 3: *Wyoming Employment Growth for the Ten Largest Growth Detailed Occupations Requiring Postsecondary Education Less Than a Bachelor’s Degree, 2008 and 2018*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Standard Occupational Classification Title</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>Change</th>
<th>Change %</th>
<th>Hourly Wage</th>
<th>Annual Wage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Registered Nurses</td>
<td>4,562</td>
<td>5,561</td>
<td>999</td>
<td>21.9%</td>
<td>$26.39</td>
<td>$54,883.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursing Aides, Orderlies, &amp; Attendants</td>
<td>3,277</td>
<td>4,004</td>
<td>728</td>
<td>22.2%</td>
<td>$12.21</td>
<td>$25,405.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preschool Teachers, Except Spec. Ed.</td>
<td>ND</td>
<td>ND</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>ND</td>
<td>ND</td>
<td>ND</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Licensed Practical &amp; Licensed Vocational Nurses</td>
<td>737</td>
<td>900</td>
<td>163</td>
<td>22.1%</td>
<td>$18.55</td>
<td>$38,586.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auto. Service Technicians &amp; Mechanics</td>
<td>1,666</td>
<td>1,771</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>6.3%</td>
<td>$17.05</td>
<td>$35,461.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency Med. Tech. &amp; Paramedics</td>
<td>568</td>
<td>668</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>17.6%</td>
<td>$16.17</td>
<td>$33,640.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dental Hygienists</td>
<td>413</td>
<td>513</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>24.0%</td>
<td>$25.37</td>
<td>$52,759.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radiologic Technologists &amp; Technicians</td>
<td>423</td>
<td>520</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>23.0%</td>
<td>$21.86</td>
<td>$45,464.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welders, Cutters, Solderers, &amp; Brazers</td>
<td>2,701</td>
<td>2,783</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td>$22.34</td>
<td>$46,477.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Records &amp; Health Info. Technicians</td>
<td>356</td>
<td>434</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>22.0%</td>
<td>$15.38</td>
<td>$31,987.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ND – Not disclosable due to confidentiality of data.

Table 4: *Wyoming Employment Growth for the Ten Largest Growth Detailed Occupations Requiring a Bachelor’s Degree or Higher, 2008 and 2018*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Standard Occupational Classification Title</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>Change</th>
<th>Change %</th>
<th>Hourly Wage</th>
<th>Annual Wage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General &amp; Operations Managers</td>
<td>5,264</td>
<td>5,659</td>
<td>394</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
<td>$41.55</td>
<td>$86,428.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elementary School Teachers, Exc. Special Education</td>
<td>2,572</td>
<td>2,967</td>
<td>394</td>
<td>15.3%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>$52,449.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary School Teachers, Exc. Special &amp; Voc. Ed.</td>
<td>1,874</td>
<td>2,162</td>
<td>288</td>
<td>15.3%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>$54,232.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle School Teachers, Exc. Special &amp; Voc. Ed.</td>
<td>1,317</td>
<td>1,519</td>
<td>202</td>
<td>15.3%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>$51,888.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accountants &amp; Auditors</td>
<td>1,583</td>
<td>1,750</td>
<td>167</td>
<td>10.6%</td>
<td>$27.78</td>
<td>$57,793.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical &amp; Health Services Managers</td>
<td>608</td>
<td>746</td>
<td>138</td>
<td>22.6%</td>
<td>$35.06</td>
<td>$72,935.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child, Family, &amp; School Social Workers</td>
<td>662</td>
<td>772</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>16.7%</td>
<td>$19.08</td>
<td>$39,693.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyers</td>
<td>740</td>
<td>839</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>13.4%</td>
<td>$44.59</td>
<td>$92,744.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spec. Ed. Teachers, Preschool, Kinderg., &amp; Elem.</td>
<td>602</td>
<td>701</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>16.4%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>$50,276.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil Engineers</td>
<td>722</td>
<td>810</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>12.2%</td>
<td>$31.31</td>
<td>$65,115.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

N/A – Not Available.
Growth in occupations involving environmental protection and sustainability are shown in tables 5 and 6. Table 5 includes occupations in which the work context of the occupation may change, but the tasks of the occupations themselves do not change significantly. These occupations are projected to experience increased demand as a result of rising interest in environmental protection and sustainability. For example, consider a welder who maintains wind turbines. The actual tasks of welding do not change, but the environment in which the person works has changed. Operating engineers & other construction equipment operators are projected to have a net increase of 208 occupations from 2008 to 2018, the highest of the environmentally sustainable detailed occupations with increased demand. Average hourly wages for increased demand occupations vary from $12.24 for laborers & freight, stock, & material movers, hand to $28.27 for first-line supervisors/managers of mechanics, installers, & repairers.

Table 5: Wyoming Employment Growth for the Ten Largest Growth Environmentally Sustainable Detailed Occupations With Increased Demanda, 2008 and 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Standard Occupational Classification Title</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>Change</th>
<th>Change %</th>
<th>Hourly Wage</th>
<th>Annual Wage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Operating Engineers &amp; Other Const. Equip. Operators</td>
<td>4,945</td>
<td>5,153</td>
<td>208</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
<td>$19.52</td>
<td>$40,598.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laborers &amp; Freight, Stock, &amp; Material Movers, Hand</td>
<td>3,319</td>
<td>3,509</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
<td>$12.24</td>
<td>$25,466.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electricians</td>
<td>ND</td>
<td>ND</td>
<td>166</td>
<td>ND</td>
<td>ND</td>
<td>ND</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Customer Service Representatives</td>
<td>1,431</td>
<td>1,521</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>6.2%</td>
<td>$13.19</td>
<td>$27,438.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First-Line Sup./Mgs. of Mechanics, Installers, &amp; Repairers</td>
<td>1,815</td>
<td>1,904</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>4.9%</td>
<td>$28.27</td>
<td>$58,806.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welders, Cutters, Solderers, &amp; Brazers</td>
<td>2,701</td>
<td>2,783</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td>$22.34</td>
<td>$46,477.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest &amp; Conservation Technicians</td>
<td>634</td>
<td>695</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>9.6%</td>
<td>$14.73</td>
<td>$30,640.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cement Masons &amp; Concrete Finishers</td>
<td>859</td>
<td>918</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>6.9%</td>
<td>$16.38</td>
<td>$34,080.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial Machinery Mechanics</td>
<td>2,029</td>
<td>2,078</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
<td>$25.14</td>
<td>$52,296.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electrical Power-Line Installers &amp; Repairers</td>
<td>578</td>
<td>619</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>7.0%</td>
<td>$27.73</td>
<td>$57,686.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

aEnvironmentally sustainable occupations with increased demand are those in which the work context of the occupations may change, but the tasks themselves are not significantly changed, nor do the worker requirements of the occupations. See Dierdorff, et. al. (2009, February 12). Greening of the World of Work: Implications for O*NET-SOC and New and Emerging Occupations. Retrieved April 22, 2010, from http://www.onetcenter.org/reports/Green.html

ND - Not disclosable due to confidentiality of information.
Table 6 illustrates occupations that require enhanced skills, that is, the tasks and the worker requirements are impacted significantly by environmental protection and sustainability. For example, automotive service technicians & mechanics work increasingly on vehicles powered by different sources such as biofuel, ethanol, and electricity. Repair and maintenance on these vehicles is significantly different from repairing and maintaining vehicles that have combustion engines powered by gasoline. The most growth for enhanced skills occupations is projected for general & operations managers (394 jobs). Average hourly wages for the occupations shown range from $14.62 per hour for construction laborers to $41.55 for general & operations managers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Standard Occupational Classification Title</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>Change</th>
<th>Change %</th>
<th>Hourly Wage</th>
<th>Annual Wage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General &amp; Operations Managers</td>
<td>5,264</td>
<td>5,659</td>
<td>394</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
<td>$41.55</td>
<td>$86,428.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Truck Drivers, Heavy &amp; Tractor-Trailer</td>
<td>5,746</td>
<td>6,024</td>
<td>277</td>
<td>4.8%</td>
<td>$18.17</td>
<td>$37,784.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance &amp; Repair Workers, General</td>
<td>3,885</td>
<td>4,118</td>
<td>233</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
<td>$18.24</td>
<td>$37,935.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction Laborers</td>
<td>2,952</td>
<td>3,164</td>
<td>213</td>
<td>7.2%</td>
<td>$14.62</td>
<td>$30,406.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plumbers, Pipefitters, &amp; Steamfitters</td>
<td>2,117</td>
<td>2,273</td>
<td>156</td>
<td>7.3%</td>
<td>$19.12</td>
<td>$39,774.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Automotive Service Tech. &amp; Mechanics</td>
<td>1,666</td>
<td>1,771</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>6.3%</td>
<td>$17.05</td>
<td>$35,461.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil Engineers</td>
<td>722</td>
<td>810</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>12.2%</td>
<td>$31.31</td>
<td>$65,115.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Engineers</td>
<td>398</td>
<td>443</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>11.2%</td>
<td>$33.97</td>
<td>$70,649.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, &amp; Weighers</td>
<td>803</td>
<td>842</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>4.8%</td>
<td>$18.71</td>
<td>$38,921.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geoscientists, Exc. Hydrologists &amp; Geographers</td>
<td>312</td>
<td>344</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>10.5%</td>
<td>$31.66</td>
<td>$65,849.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Enhanced skills occupations are those in which the impact of environmental sustainability economic activities and technologies result in significant changes to the work and worker requirements.


Shannon
Vocational Rehabilitation

After 25-plus years of being surrounded and entrenched by drugs and alcohol, Shannon, a Casper resident, resolved to change her life with the help of the Department of Workforce Services’ Vocational Rehabilitation. After completing treatment, the funding and support she received from Vocational Rehabilitation enabled Shannon to obtain an associate’s degree and secure a job at the 12-24 Club in Casper. Today Shannon routinely hires individuals in recovery and helps them develop a strong work ethic, work skills, and a positive work history.
The data in this chapter demonstrates that the aging of Wyoming’s labor force could be of great concern. While the average annual growth in the number of jobs based on projections data are approximately 2,500 per year, the estimated number of job replacements due to the aging workforce is 7,300 per year.

Figure 18 contrasts the age distribution of persons in UI covered employment in 2000 and 2009. The greatest change from 2000 to 2009 is the shift of persons who were age 35 to 55 in 2000 to age 45 to 65 in 2009. The leading edge of this wave, the baby boom generation, is just beginning to hit retirement age this year.

**Chapter 8: Replacement of Older Workers**

**Who Will Replace Older Workers Leaving the Work Force?**

> During a very hard time in her life, Peggy Hensley turned to the Department of Workforce Services and the Mountain West Trucking School. Hensley became unemployed after 15 years in the mining industry. She feared not being able to find a job when all her skills were tied to mining. Through a grant from the Workforce Investment Act and inspirations from the workforce specialists at the Gillette Workforce Center, Hensley found a great job. She said she feels like she was given a new chance in life and owes it both to the Department of Workforce Services and the grant money to attend Mountain West Trucking.

**Peggy Hensley**
Wyoming Workforce/Mountain West Trucking School

More information: For demographic information from the Current Population Survey, see http://www.bls.gov/cps/demographics.htm
The number of people age 50 years and older in Wyoming who permanently left Wyoming’s UI covered employment from 1992 to 2008 continues to increase (see Figure 19).

The trend line in Figure 19 is based on the historic data from 1992 to 2008 and projects the anticipated number of persons age 50 and older leaving over the next 10 years. The sum of the number of persons leaving over the next decade is approximately 73,000.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, Wyoming’s total population is expected to increase by 5.9% between 2000 and 2030, while the number of people age 65 and older in the state is expected to increase by 140.2% over the same period.

In 2000, Wyoming ranked 38th among states for the proportion of population age 65 and older, according to Census Bureau projections. By 2030, the state is projected to rank 3rd.

Figure 19: Estimated Number of Persons Age 50+ Leaving Wyoming Covered Employment
Sweetwater County had the highest average wage for men across all industries in 2008 ($54,831), while Teton County had the highest average wage for women ($29,027; see Figure 20). Men made up 43.5% of Wyoming’s workforce in 2008, compared to 47.4% in 1992. Women made up 36.6% of the workforce in 2008, compared to 43.5% in 1992. Information on gender was not known for the remaining 19.9% of the workforce in 2008 due to missing demographic data.

While male workers in Wyoming continue to earn considerably more than women, the average wage for female workers grew at a greater rate from 1992 to 2008. Men earned an average annual wage of $42,507 across all industries in 2008, up from $21,087 in 1992, an increase of 101.59%. Women, meanwhile, earned an average annual wage of $24,179, up from $10,792, an increase of 124.05% (see Figure 21).
For More Information
Wyoming Workforce Development Council .........................................................http://www.wyowdc.org/
Wyoming Department of Workforce Services.....................................................http://www.wyomingworkforce.org/
Wyoming Department of Employment, Research & Planning............................http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI