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TRENDS

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Wyoming New Business Formation in 2012 and 2013

by: Sherry Wen, Principal Economist

Over the past two years (2012 and 2013), new business formation in Wyoming continued an upward trend from 2010 and 2011. However, the combined four years of growth after the economic downturn years of 2008 and 2009 was much slower than the previous growth from the downturn years of 2002 and 2003 in terms of the growth pace and the formation level. The construction industry finally showed a notable recovery in 2013 after four consecutive years of decline – the largest in history. New business formation in mining dropped to the historical low again in 2012 and 2013.

New business formation and the rate of business formation are important indices of economic growth. They represent new sources of jobs, wages, and tax revenues for the state and local communities. The Research & Planning (R&P) section of the Department of Workforce Services (DWS) has been conducting new business formation research since 1995 (Yu, 1995).

This article provides information on the number of new businesses that opened and the job opportunities they provided in Wyoming during the past two years (2012 and 2013). It also takes a look at the industries and locations of the new firms because they may represent the directions of economic expansion. Lastly this article examines business survival.

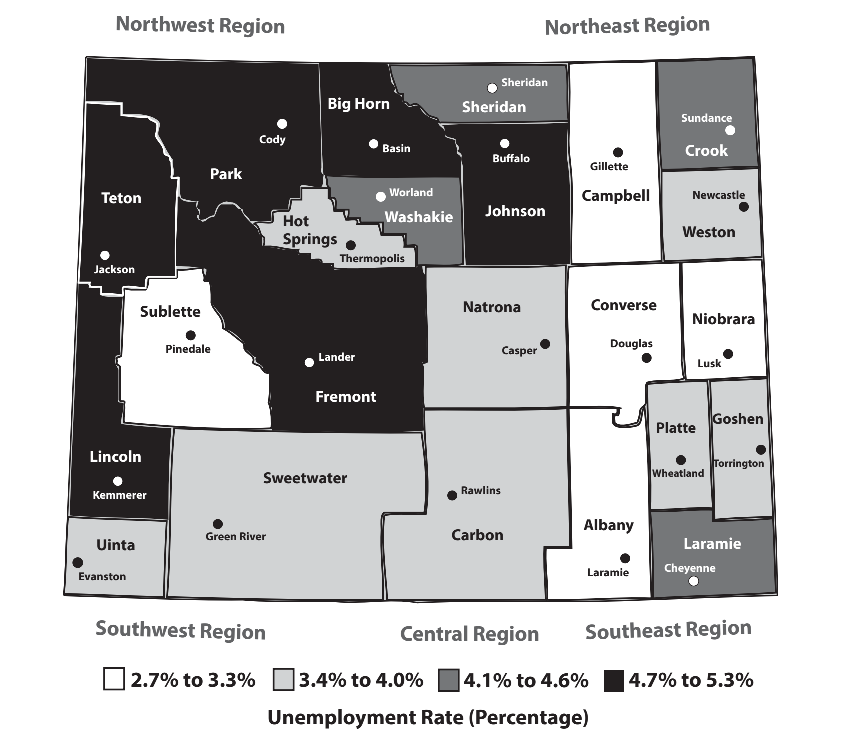
In this article, a new business is defined as a business that did not exist before but now actively provides goods or services, and hires employees and pays them wages. New branches of existing firms or the reopening of firms after temporarily closing are not considered new firms. By law, if a person or a cooperative plans to start a new business in Wyoming and hire workers, he or she must register with the Department

(Text continued on page 3)

HIGHLIGHTS

- **An estimated 2,390 nonfatal occupational injury and illness cases with days away from work occurred in private industry in Wyoming in 2013, with an incidence rate of 3.4. ... *page 17***
- **The Baker Hughes North American Rotary Rig Count for Wyoming decreased from 61 in November 2014 to 58 in December. ... *page 28***

Unemployment Rate by Wyoming County, December 2014 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



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Wyoming Labor Force Trends

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of Workforce Services' Unemployment Insurance (UI) division and indicate what kind of business activity the firm plans to conduct, the county or counties in which the firm will locate, and other related information. The UI division will then set up a new UI account for them. A new branch of an existing firm will not have a new UI account. It will be under the same UI account as its parent company. The successor of an existing firm will not count as a new business in this research, either. The word *firms* in this article refers to UI accounts.

R&P manages a monthly business register database based on registrations submitted by employers to the DWS UI division. However, a business venture may not move forward as intended. Many new firms are unable to open their business as originally planned. Some businesses never actually open their doors. As a result, the new register database lacks information on the final number of new firms within a specific time period and the actual date that a firm begins business.

To address these problems, R&P matches the new UI register file to the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW), an administrative tax database based on the quarterly reports from employers about their employment and wages information (Bullard and Brennan, 2014). If a new firm hires workers and reports wages in QCEW, it is considered an active new firm in that corresponding quarter and is selected for the study database. R&P continues to add new firms in each quarter and obtain the longitudinal quarterly employment and wage information for each record as additional QCEW data become available.

Statewide New Business Formation and Historical Trends

A total of 2,008 new firms opened in Wyoming in 2012 and 2,049 new firms opened in 2013 (see Figure 1, page 4). This upward growth trend has continued for four years since 2010 from the trough in 2009, which only gained 1,832 new firms and was the lowest level since 1996. Figure 1 shows two periods of economic downturn in Wyoming: 2002 to 2003 and 2008 to 2009. During the four years (2004 to 2007) after the first downturn, the average growth rate was 5.1%. However, during the four years (2010 to 2013) after the second downturn, the growth rate was only 2.9%. Growth rate is calculated by dividing the number of new businesses by the number of existing businesses.

The formation level was also lower in the current growth period. During the fourth year of the previous growth period (2007), there were 2,352 new firms in Wyoming. During the fourth year of the most recent growth period (2013), there were 2,049 new firms – 303 fewer new firms compared to 2007, or -12.9%.

Figure 1 also shows that the growth rate over the 14 years before 2009 remained relatively stable, ranging from 8.8% to 9.8%. The growth rate dropped to 7.3% in 2009, a record low rate. After four years of improvement, the rate was back up to 8.0%, but still lower than any point on the range of the pre-downturn years' rates.

This slower pace of growth in new business formation was not isolated. The existing firms' expansion that could be represented by the state annual average employment (jobs in QCEW; Bullard and Brennan, 2014) also showed slower and insignificant growth during this period. The 2007-08 financial crisis may have largely limited the ability to get loans to start or expand a business (Klein, 2014). The long lasting uncertainty of the national economy may have also affected business owners' confidence on expansion.

New firms contributed 8,283 jobs in 2012 and 7,786 jobs in 2013, which counted for 3.0% and 2.8% state average employment, respectively. They also contributed $184.0 million in wages in 2012 and $170.4 million in 2013, equal to 1.5% and 1.4% state total wages, respectively. The total number of new firms in 2013 increased slightly (2.0%) from the previous year, but the associated initial jobs decreased 6.0%, and total wages decreased 7.4%. These opposite movements could be due to the proportion of small sized firms and low paying firms. The average firm size in 2013 was 3.8 jobs, down from 4.1 jobs in 2012. The highest average firm size was 4.8 jobs per firm in 1999.

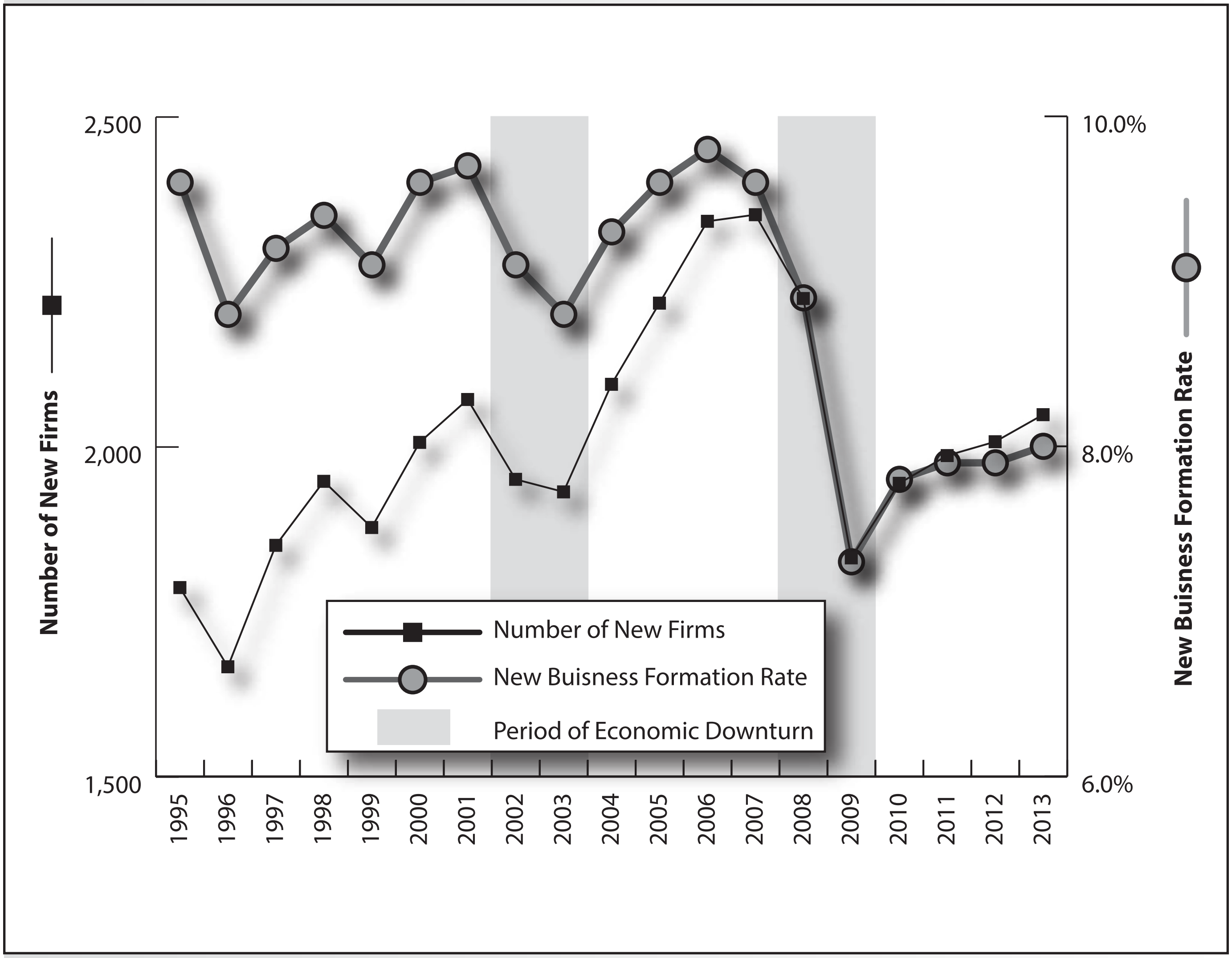

Figure 1: **Wyoming History of New Business and Formation Rate, 1995-2013**

New Business Formation by Region

This section focuses only on the most recent year's data (2013). Other previous years' numbers may be listed in figures or tables for comparison purposes. See Figure 2 for a map of Wyoming's regions.

During the past two years (2012 and 2013), the southeast region of Wyoming was the fastest growing region in the state in terms of number of new firms, and surpassed the southwest region, which had been the fastest growing region for more than a decade (see Figure 3, page 6). The southeast gained more than a quarter (26.4%, or 541 new firms) of Wyoming's total new firms in 2013 (see Table 1, page 7). The southwest was second with 495 firms (24.2%), followed by the central region, which gained 350 firms (17.1%). The northeast region expanded by 333

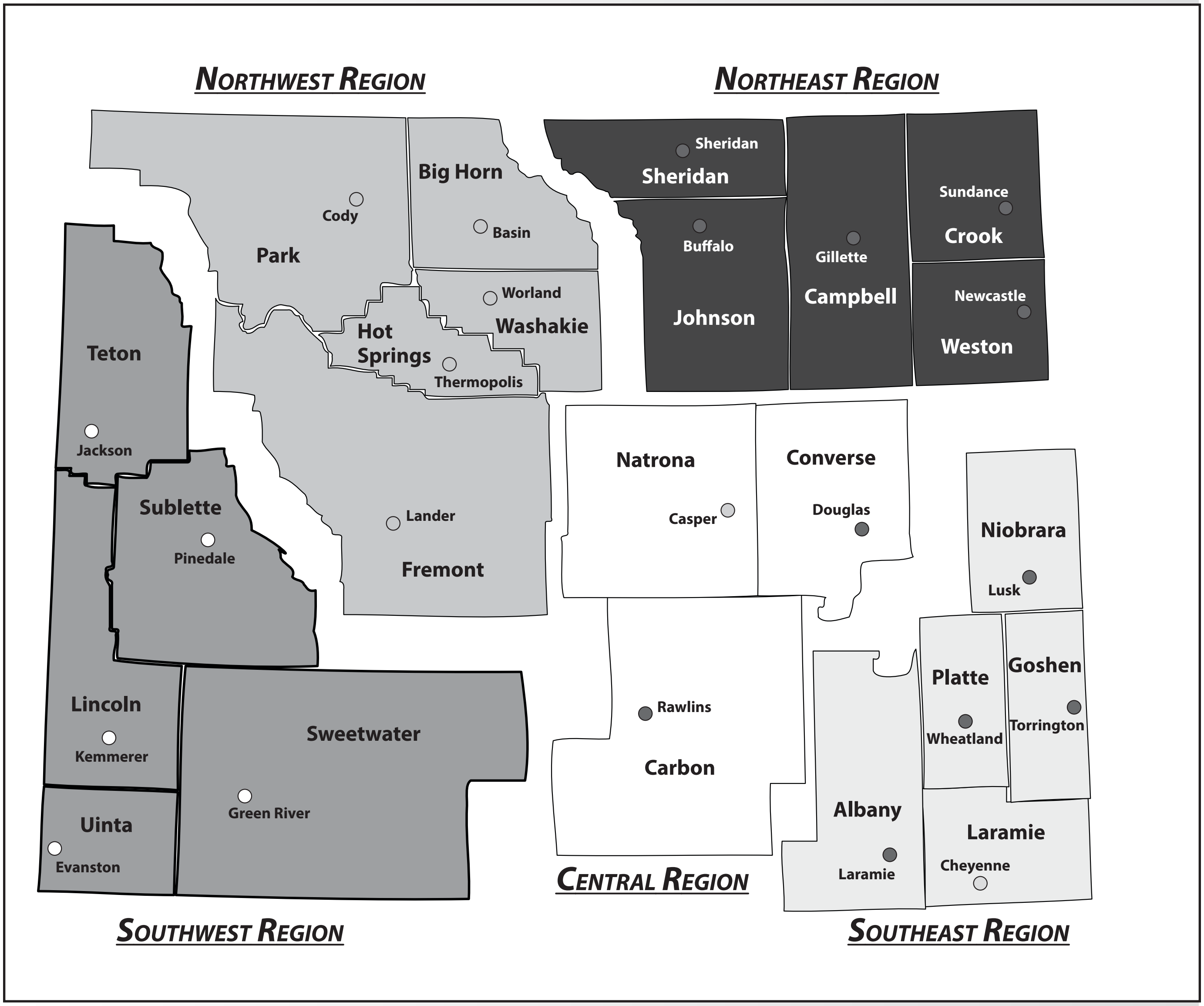

Figure 2: **Map of Wyoming Regions and Counties**

firms (16.3%), the third year it was behind central region in the past eight years. The northwest region added the fewest number of new firms in the state (259, or 12.6%). The southeast was the only region in the state showing consecutive growth over the past four years from the trough year 2009, and it was the only region that surpassed its pre-downturn peak level (527 firms in 2007) in 2013. In contrast, both the southwest and northeast regions were flat or continued declining in their new business formation level, and reached record lows in 2012, then experienced limited growth in 2013. The lower price on coal and natural gas, less demand for both, and the tighter pollution regulations (Dawn McCarty, 2013) and permit reviews (Lynds and Toner, 2014) might be among the main reasons for slower development in these two regions. As of 2013, the new business formation level in the southwest region was only at 71.7% of its peak year's level (690 new firms in 2006).

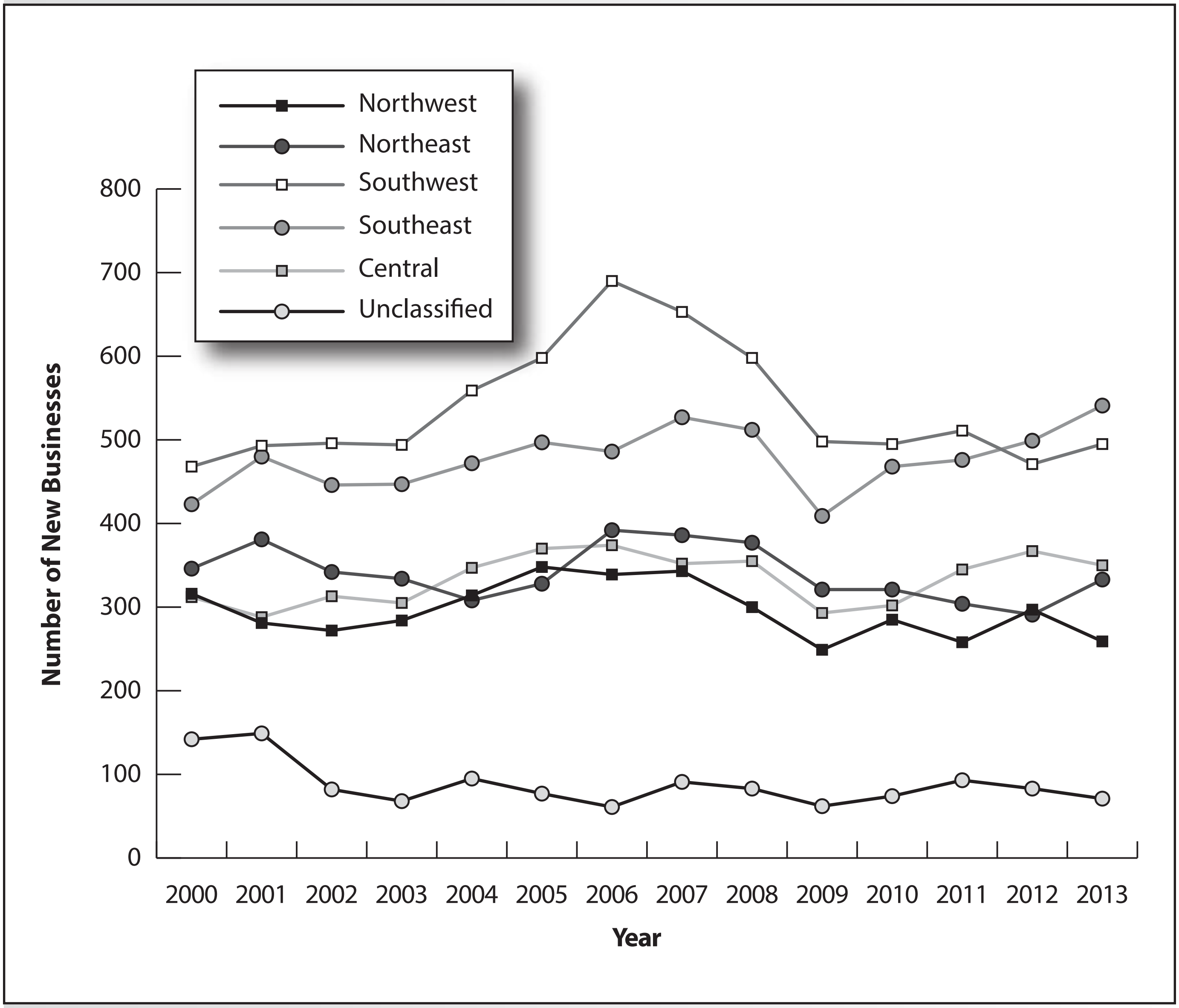

Figure 3: **Wyoming New Business Formation by Region, 1995-2013**

Business Formation by County

Laramie County added the largest share of all new firms (359, or 17.5%) in 2013, followed by Natrona (252, or 12.3%) and Teton (251, or 12.2%) counties (see Table 1). Laramie County also provided the largest share of jobs (1,100, or 14.1%) and wages ($22.1 million, or 13.0%) among new businesses. With a similar number of new businesses, Natrona County gained more jobs (928, or 11.9%) than Teton County (560, jobs or 7.2%), but less wages ($17.4 million, or 10.2%, compared to $20.3 million, or 11.9%). This could mean that Natrona had a larger proportion of larger new firms but more lower-paying jobs compared to Teton County in 2013. This kind of formation structure

Table 1: **Wyoming New Firms, Associated Initial Jobs[a], and Wages by Region and County, 2012 and 2013**

Regions and Counties	2012						2013					
	New Firms		Initial Jobs		Total Wages		New Firms		Initial Jobs		Total Wages	
	N	%	N	%	$	%	N	%	N	%	$	%
Northwest	**297**	**14.8%**	**837**	**10.1%**	**$14,441,482**	**7.9%**	**259**	**12.6%**	**682**	**8.8%**	**$13,615,266**	**8.0%**
Big Horn	33	1.6%	71	0.9%	$1,185,587	0.6%	26	1.3%	30	0.4%	$476,659	0.3%
Fremont	119	5.9%	302	3.6%	$6,811,854	3.7%	107	5.2%	277	3.6%	$7,646,716	4.5%
Hot Springs	20	1.0%	56	0.7%	$586,378	0.3%	9	0.4%	19	0.2%	$292,937	0.2%
Park	101	5.0%	310	3.7%	$3,882,683	2.1%	82	4.0%	219	2.8%	$3,411,433	2.0%
Washakie	24	1.2%	98	1.2%	$1,974,980	1.1%	35	1.7%	137	1.8%	$1,787,521	1.0%
Northeast	**291**	**14.5%**	**1,007**	**12.2%**	**$22,137,064**	**12.0%**	**333**	**16.3%**	**1,444**	**18.5%**	**$21,103,886**	**12.4%**
Campbell	117	5.8%	500	6.0%	$15,486,509	8.4%	130	6.3%	658	8.5%	$8,471,939	5.0%
Crook	9	0.4%	36	0.4%	$239,396	0.1%	29	1.4%	103	1.3%	$2,103,304	1.2%
Johnson	33	1.6%	105	1.3%	$1,724,679	0.9%	38	1.9%	103	1.3%	$2,101,316	1.2%
Sheridan	111	5.5%	314	3.8%	$3,753,251	2.0%	115	5.6%	506	6.5%	$6,794,626	4.0%
Weston	21	1.0%	52	0.6%	$933,229	0.5%	21	1.0%	74	1.0%	$1,632,701	1.0%
Southwest	**471**	**23.5%**	**1,258**	**15.2%**	**$29,217,889**	**15.9%**	**495**	**24.2%**	**1,380**	**17.7%**	**$40,056,144**	**23.5%**
Lincoln	69	3.4%	169	2.0%	$2,043,909	1.1%	68	3.3%	135	1.7%	$4,545,840	2.7%
Sublette	38	1.9%	188	2.3%	$2,824,805	1.5%	34	1.7%	103	1.3%	$2,604,103	1.5%
Sweetwater	117	5.8%	278	3.4%	$8,103,590	4.4%	109	5.3%	500	6.4%	$11,196,921	6.6%
Teton	195	9.7%	480	5.8%	$13,347,128	7.3%	251	12.2%	560	7.2%	$20,341,696	11.9%
Uinta	52	2.6%	143	1.7%	$2,898,457	1.6%	33	1.6%	82	1.1%	$1,367,584	0.8%
Southeast	**499**	**24.9%**	**2,348**	**28.3%**	**$58,118,596**	**31.6%**	**541**	**26.4%**	**1,671**	**21.5%**	**$33,236,009**	**19.5%**
Albany	81	4.0%	275	3.3%	$3,430,628	1.9%	107	5.2%	306	3.9%	$5,008,915	2.9%
Goshen	34	1.7%	147	1.8%	$3,544,289	1.9%	33	1.6%	127	1.6%	$1,610,298	0.9%
Laramie	358	17.8%	1,820	22.0%	$49,760,698	27.1%	359	17.5%	1,100	14.1%	$22,135,460	13.0%
Niobrara	8	0.4%	21	0.3%	$179,596	0.1%	8	0.4%	18	0.2%	$283,610	0.2%
Platte	18	0.9%	85	1.0%	$1,203,385	0.7%	34	1.7%	120	1.5%	$4,197,726	2.5%
Central	**367**	**18.3%**	**1,402**	**16.9%**	**$30,868,570**	**16.8%**	**350**	**17.1%**	**1,288**	**16.5%**	**$29,947,824**	**17.6%**
Carbon	39	1.9%	299	3.6%	$8,670,956	4.7%	46	2.2%	210	2.7%	$9,068,442	5.3%
Converse	63	3.1%	215	2.6%	$4,208,648	2.3%	52	2.5%	150	1.9%	$3,431,973	2.0%
Natrona	265	13.2%	888	10.7%	$17,988,966	9.8%	252	12.3%	928	11.9%	$17,447,409	10.2%
Others[b]	83	4.1%	1,431	17.3%	$29,171,611	15.9%	71	3.5%	1,321	17.0%	$32,394,710	19.0%
Statewide	**2,008**	**100.0%**	**8,283**	**100.0%**	**$183,955,212**	**100.0%**	**2,049**	**100.0%**	**7,786**	**100.0%**	**$170,353,839**	**100.0%**

[a]Initial Jobs represent the starting level employment, which is the highest average quarterly employment during the first two quarters a firm is in business.

[b]Others include all firms missing county information, having more than one county location (multi-county firms), having foreign locations, and out-of-state firms.

could be very different from year to year, even for the same county. For example, Laramie County had almost the same number of new firms in 2012 (358) as in 2013 (359), but this similar number of new firms in 2012 contributed 720 more jobs (65.5% more) and more than double the wages ($27.6 million more, or 124.8%) than those in 2013.

Business Formation by Industry

Construction has led all industries in new business formation in Wyoming for years (see Figure 4). In 2013, construction again contributed the largest share of new business (384, or 18.7% of the state's total; see Table 2, page 9). Among all industries in Wyoming, construction experienced the longest and largest decline during and after the state's economic downturn. After four years of consecutive decline from its peak year of 2007, which had 614 new firms, new firm formation in the construction industry reached its trough in 2011 (310 new firms) with nearly half of its peak level. There was no significant recovery in 2012, with only six more new firms (1.9%) from 2011. In 2013 construction had a notable upturning trend, increasing 21.5% from the previous year. However, it was still under any of the pre-downturn years levels (1999 to 2007). This long and steep contraction and slow recovery has never been seen before. The most recent housing and finance crises combined recession might have made recovery and expansion extremely difficult for this industry.

The professional & technical services industry was the second largest contributor of the number of new firms. A total of 316 (15.4% of state total)

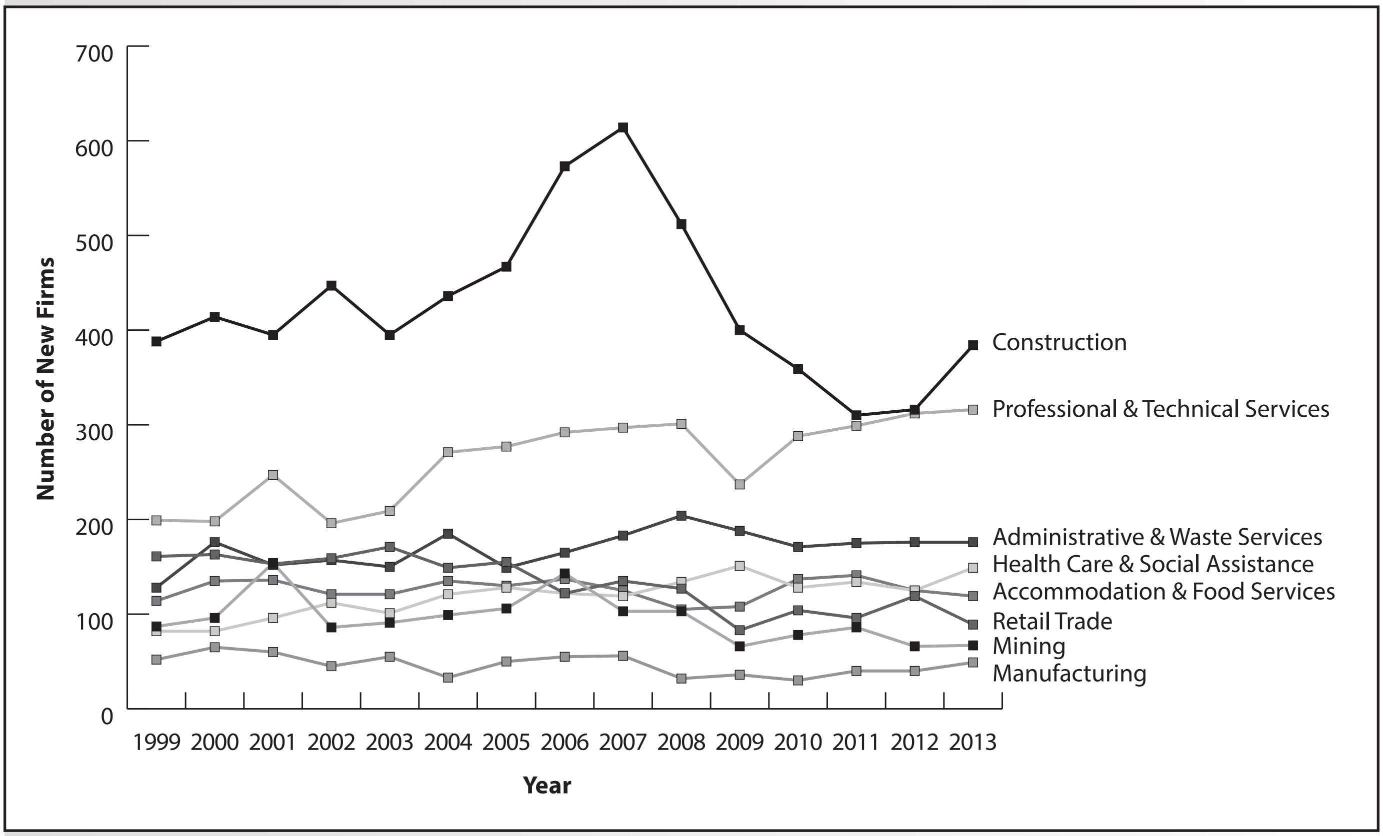

Figure 4: **Number of New Wyoming Firms by Selected Industries, 1999-2013**

new businesses opened in 2013, which surpassed the previous peak year's level (301 firms in 2008). Administrative & waste services ranked third, with 176 new firms (8.6%) in 2013. Other services experienced continued growth and ranked third for three years (2010 to 2012) before a decrease in new firms in 2013 (169 new firms, or 8.2% of the state's total).

The larger number of new firms in an industry does not necessarily make it a bigger job or wage contributor among industries. It depends more on the industry's characteristic, labor, high tech, and knowledge concentration levels. For example, professional & technical services gained 316 new firms in 2013 but only led to 579 associated jobs, while retail trade had less than one-third of that number in new firms (89) but gained more than double the amount of new jobs (1,326).

In 2013, new firms in accommodation & food services contributed the largest number of jobs (1,402, or 18.0% of the state's total),

Table 2: New Firms, Initial Jobs, and Annual Wages by Industry for 2012 and 2013

	2012						2013					
	New Firms		Initial Jobs		Total Wages		New Firms		Initial Jobs		Total Wages	
Industry	N	%	N	%	$	%	N	%	N	%	$	%
Agriculture	27	1.3%	86	1.0%	1,477,426	0.8%	41	2.0%	111	1.4%	3,094,925	1.8%
Mining	66	3.3%	436	5.3%	18,417,929	10.0%	67	3.3%	336	4.3%	13,014,503	7.6%
Utilities	2	0.1%	3	0.0%	7,765	0.0%	2	0.1%	5	0.1%	193,131	0.1%
Construction	316	15.7%	1,285	15.5%	26,928,524	14.6%	384	18.7%	1,308	16.8%	24,707,427	14.5%
Manufacturing	40	2.0%	180	2.2%	4,169,039	2.3%	49	2.4%	197	2.5%	3,769,588	2.2%
Wholesale Trade	96	4.8%	178	2.1%	5,467,930	3.0%	90	4.4%	174	2.2%	4,589,039	2.7%
Retail Trade	119	5.9%	408	4.9%	3,963,427	2.2%	89	4.3%	1,326	17.0%	22,155,660	13.0%
Transportation & Warehousing	123	6.1%	611	7.4%	9,531,323	5.2%	112	5.5%	388	5.0%	16,054,270	9.4%
Information	21	1.0%	20	0.2%	1,164,813	0.6%	30	1.5%	123	1.6%	1,717,245	1.0%
Finance & Insurance	97	4.8%	111	1.3%	4,324,109	2.4%	93	4.5%	92	1.2%	5,332,062	3.1%
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	63	3.1%	158	1.9%	3,338,111	1.8%	84	4.1%	179	2.3%	4,693,390	2.8%
Professional & Technical Services	312	15.5%	582	7.0%	20,962,951	11.4%	316	15.4%	579	7.4%	29,445,620	17.3%
Mgmt.of Companies & Enterprises	14	0.7%	22	0.3%	2,864,179	1.6%	9	0.4%	20	0.3%	703,581	0.4%
Administrative & Waste Services	176	8.8%	340	4.1%	5,505,795	3.0%	176	8.6%	399	5.1%	7,071,947	4.2%
Educational Services	21	1.0%	36	0.4%	663,477	0.4%	28	1.4%	83	1.1%	1,185,976	0.7%
Health Care & Social Assistance	125	6.2%	735	8.9%	35,447,669	19.3%	149	7.3%	424	5.4%	10,749,164	6.3%
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	34	1.7%	115	1.4%	594,118	0.3%	34	1.7%	140	1.8%	2,344,458	1.4%
Accommodation & Food Services	125	6.2%	1,597	19.3%	10,917,617	5.9%	119	5.8%	1,402	18.0%	10,603,904	6.2%
Other Services	221	11.0%	541	6.5%	6,051,281	3.3%	169	8.2%	380	4.9%	5,768,434	3.4%
Government	10	0.5%	839	10.1%	22,157,729	12.0%	8	0.4%	120	1.5%	3,159,515	1.9%
Total	**2,008**	**100.0%**	**8,283**	**100.0%**	**183,955,212**	**100.0%**	**2,049**	**100.0%**	**7,786**	**100.0%**	**170,353,839**	**100.0%**

followed by retail trade (1,326 jobs, or 17.0%) and construction (1,308 jobs, or 16.8%). Professional & technical services was the largest wage contributor among new firms, with $29.5 million (17.3% of the state's total). Construction was the second, paying $24.7 million (14.5%) in wages, followed by retail trade with $22.2 million (13.0%).

After two years of slow growth in 2010 and 2011, new business formation in mining decreased to the trough year's (2009) level of 66 new firms with 66 in 2012 and 67 in 2013. This was the lowest number of new businesses in mining since 1999. Lower energy prices and more environmental protection regulations might be among the main reasons.

Region and Industry

In order to show a more detailed distribution of new firms by region and industry, data from 2012 and 2013 are combined in Table 3. About half of the 4,057 new firms established in these two years were located in two regions of the state: the southeast (25.6%) and southwest (23.8%).

Table 3: **Distribution of Wyoming New Firms by Industry and Region, 2012 and 2013 Combined**

	Region							Total, All New Wyoming Firms	Column
Industry	**NW**	**NE**	**SW**	**SE**	**Central**	**Non.**	**Total**	**N**	**%**
Agriculture	26.5%	14.7%	8.8%	29.4%	20.6%	0.0%	100.0%	68	1.7%
Mining	12.8%	24.1%	24.1%	9.0%	27.1%	3.0%	100.0%	133	3.3%
Utilities	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	100.0%	4	0.1%
Construction	13.7%	16.6%	21.0%	26.6%	18.0%	4.1%	100.0%	700	17.3%
Manufacturing	15.7%	22.5%	15.7%	23.6%	22.5%	0.0%	100.0%	89	2.2%
Wholesale Trade	14.5%	15.6%	16.7%	26.9%	19.9%	6.5%	100.0%	186	4.6%
Retail Trade	14.9%	13.9%	30.3%	22.6%	15.9%	2.4%	100.0%	208	5.1%
Trans. & Warehousing	13.2%	15.7%	19.6%	20.4%	28.1%	3.0%	100.0%	235	5.8%
Information	11.8%	9.8%	29.4%	35.3%	7.8%	5.9%	100.0%	51	1.3%
Finance & Insurance	8.9%	8.9%	32.1%	21.6%	15.8%	12.6%	100.0%	190	4.7%
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	11.6%	21.8%	26.5%	19.7%	19.0%	1.4%	100.0%	147	3.6%
Professional & Technical Services	11.0%	11.0%	27.7%	32.2%	14.0%	4.1%	100.0%	628	15.5%
Mgmt.of Companies & Enterprises	8.7%	4.3%	56.5%	17.4%	8.7%	4.3%	100.0%	23	0.6%
Admin. & Waste Services	13.6%	9.9%	19.9%	32.1%	16.8%	7.7%	100.0%	352	8.7%
Educational Services	8.2%	4.1%	30.6%	42.9%	14.3%	0.0%	100.0%	49	1.2%
Health Care & Social Assistance	17.9%	15.7%	17.9%	29.2%	18.2%	1.1%	100.0%	274	6.8%
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	19.1%	10.3%	39.7%	16.2%	14.7%	0.0%	100.0%	68	1.7%
Accommodation & Food Services	18.0%	21.7%	23.0%	20.5%	16.0%	0.8%	100.0%	244	6.0%
Other Svcs. (Exc. Public Admin.)	13.1%	21.5%	26.7%	20.8%	16.4%	1.5%	100.0%	390	9.6%
Government	11.1%	16.7%	16.7%	27.8%	16.7%	11.1%	100.0%	18	0.4%
Total	**13.7%**	**15.4%**	**23.8%**	**25.6%**	**17.7%**	**3.8%**	**100.0%**	**4,057**	**100.0%**

ND = not discloseable due to confidentiality.

Regions: NW = northwest; NE = northeast; SW = southwest; SE = southeast; Non. = nonclassified. For more information, see Figure 2, page 5.

However, the industry distribution among different locations around the state was quite different. More than one-fourth (27.1%) of new mining firms were located in central region, and only 9.0% of new mining firms opened in the southeast. More than half (56.5%) of the new firms in management of companies & enterprises were located in the southwest, and only 4.3% were in the northeast. As the fastest growing region in Wyoming, the southeast gained the largest share of new firms from a variety of industries. For example, more than one-third (42.9%) of new firms in educational services, 35.3% in information, and 32.2% in professional & technical services were in this region. Natural resources, transportation conditions, geographic location, population, and special projects such as pipeline, wind mill, and highway construction are some of the main factors that caused the large uneven industry distributions.

Formation rate by industry represents what proportion of an industry was new in a given year. Table 4 shows that some industries' formation rates fluctuated largely from year to year, such as mining (19.2% in 2001 and 5.8% in 2009) and educational services (23.3% in 2002

Table 4: **Wyoming New Business Formation Rates by Industry, 2000-2013**

Industry	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Agriculture	8.8%	10.7%	8.0%	8.0%	7.7%	7.6%	8.6%	7.0%	7.2%	8.4%	6.7%	8.9%	5.7%	8.6%
Mining	13.4%	19.2%	10.2%	10.4%	10.9%	11.0%	13.6%	9.3%	9.0%	5.8%	6.9%	7.6%	6.0%	6.1%
Utilities	4.3%	2.2%	3.2%	8.2%	1.0%	3.1%	3.0%	4.0%	3.8%	1.7%	3.3%	2.5%	1.7%	1.7%
Construction	13.6%	12.7%	14.0%	12.2%	13.2%	13.5%	15.7%	16.0%	12.8%	10.2%	9.5%	8.6%	8.9%	10.9%
Manufacturing	9.8%	9.2%	7.0%	8.5%	5.1%	7.7%	8.6%	8.5%	5.0%	5.7%	5.0%	6.6%	6.6%	8.0%
Wholesale Trade	10.6%	11.5%	7.7%	8.6%	9.2%	10.4%	9.0%	8.6%	7.1%	5.5%	6.7%	7.0%	7.4%	7.0%
Retail Trade	6.0%	5.7%	6.0%	6.4%	5.6%	5.8%	4.5%	5.1%	4.8%	3.2%	4.1%	3.8%	4.8%	3.6%
Transportation & Warehousing	13.7%	11.4%	13.9%	10.8%	12.0%	14.5%	14.1%	12.1%	13.6%	8.4%	8.2%	11.8%	11.6%	10.4%
Information	9.8%	9.5%	7.2%	5.4%	7.6%	6.9%	7.8%	5.8%	6.7%	6.3%	5.8%	7.5%	5.7%	7.9%
Finance & Insurance	8.6%	6.3%	7.2%	7.3%	6.2%	8.1%	7.3%	8.0%	7.0%	6.5%	8.3%	7.0%	8.3%	8.0%
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	9.7%	8.4%	9.1%	8.8%	10.0%	11.3%	8.6%	9.1%	8.6%	5.5%	7.8%	6.1%	6.0%	7.9%
Professional & Technical Services	11.6%	13.6%	10.8%	11.4%	14.1%	13.6%	13.4%	12.9%	12.6%	9.7%	11.5%	11.6%	11.7%	11.7%
Mgmt. of Companies & Enterprises	14.3%	9.9%	12.5%	17.9%	16.7%	11.9%	11.6%	6.0%	7.1%	8.0%	5.3%	4.6%	10.1%	6.5%
Administrative & Waste Services	17.7%	14.4%	14.4%	13.4%	15.9%	12.5%	13.4%	14.4%	15.3%	13.8%	12.3%	12.3%	12.0%	12.0%
Educational Services	15.3%	13.2%	23.3%	20.0%	14.6%	14.4%	15.1%	17.6%	9.8%	15.1%	17.1%	13.9%	9.5%	12.6%
Health Care & Social Assistance	6.2%	7.3%	8.3%	7.2%	8.1%	8.2%	7.7%	7.3%	7.9%	8.6%	7.0%	7.2%	6.5%	7.0%
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	8.0%	9.2%	7.5%	6.9%	10.6%	9.1%	4.5%	6.4%	7.5%	6.0%	5.1%	7.6%	8.3%	8.3%
Acc. & Food Svcs.	7.9%	8.0%	7.0%	7.0%	7.7%	7.2%	7.6%	7.0%	5.8%	5.9%	7.4%	7.5%	6.5%	6.2%
Other Svcs. (Exc. Public Admin.)	10.3%	11.2%	8.9%	10.1%	9.4%	9.7%	10.6%	11.0%	10.9%	8.2%	11.1%	11.8%	11.7%	9.8%
Total	**10.3%**	**10.4%**	**9.7%**	**9.4%**	**10.0%**	**10.2%**	**10.4%**	**10.2%**	**9.5%**	**7.8%**	**8.3%**	**8.4%**	**8.4%**	**8.5%**

and 9.5% in 2012). The majority of the industries had relatively stable formation rates over the last 14 years (2000 to 2013). In 2013, five industries had formation rates of more than 10%: educational services (12.6%), administrative & waste services (12.0%), professional & technical services (11.7%), construction (10.9%), and transportation & warehousing (10.4%).

Initial Firm Size

The majority (81.1%) of the new firms started in 2012 and 2013 were small sized, with five or fewer employees (see Table 5). Some of them (6.0% of state total) only hired temporary employees for the first two quarters in operation. These firms' average quarterly employment was zero for both beginning quarters, but their wage data show that they paid someone during these two quarters. A little more than one-tenth (10.3%) of the new firms started at the middle size with six to 20 employees and only 2.6% started with a large size (21 or more employees). The similar distribution pattern on firm sizes has been consistent since 1993 (Yu, 1997), when

Table 5: Distribution of New Wyoming Firms by Industry and Initial Firm Size[a] in 2012 and 2013 Combined

	Initial Firm[a] Size in Number of Employees									
	Temp Hiring[b]		1-5		6-20		>=21		Total	
Industry	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Agriculture	2	2.9%	58	85.3%	8	11.8%	0	0.0%	68	100.0%
Mining	4	3.0%	98	73.7%	22	16.5%	9	6.8%	133	100.0%
Utilities	1	25.0%	3	75.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	4	100.0%
Construction	44	6.3%	543	77.6%	99	14.1%	14	2.0%	700	100.0%
Manufacturing	4	4.5%	71	79.8%	10	11.2%	4	4.5%	89	100.0%
Wholesale Trade	6	3.2%	167	89.8%	12	6.5%	1	0.5%	186	100.0%
Retail Trade	2	1.0%	171	82.2%	31	14.9%	4	1.9%	208	100.0%
Transportation & Warehousing	12	5.1%	197	83.8%	20	8.5%	6	2.6%	235	100.0%
Information	7	13.7%	41	80.4%	1	2.0%	2	3.9%	51	100.0%
Finance & Insurance	56	29.5%	132	69.5%	2	1.1%	0	0.0%	190	100.0%
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	14	9.5%	120	81.6%	12	8.2%	1	0.7%	147	100.0%
Professional & Technical Services	27	4.3%	572	91.1%	25	4.0%	4	0.6%	628	100.0%
Mgmt.of Companies & Enterprises	1	4.3%	21	91.3%	1	4.3%	0	0.0%	23	100.0%
Administrative & Waste Services	38	10.8%	295	83.8%	16	4.5%	3	0.9%	352	100.0%
Educational Services	4	8.2%	42	85.7%	2	4.1%	1	2.0%	49	100.0%
Health Care & Social Assistance	2	0.7%	235	85.8%	33	12.0%	4	1.5%	274	100.0%
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	2	2.9%	50	73.5%	15	22.1%	1	1.5%	68	100.0%
Acc. & Food Svcs.	5	2.0%	114	46.7%	82	33.6%	43	17.6%	244	100.0%
Other Svcs. (Exc. Public Admin.)	14	3.6%	352	90.3%	22	5.6%	2	0.5%	390	100.0%
Government	0	0.0%	7	38.9%	5	27.8%	6	33.3%	18	100.0%
Total	**245**	**6.0%**	**3,289**	**81.1%**	**418**	**10.3%**	**105**	**2.6%**	**4,057**	**100.0%**

[a]Initial firm size is the highest average quarterly employment during the first two quarters of opening.

[b]The firm size *temp hiring* refers to firms that reported payroll but no employees (hired only temporary employees).

this kind of research was first available. Among private industries, accommodation & food services was the only one that had more than one-tenth (17.6%) of its new firms started at the large size. Mining had 6.8% of its new firms started with 21 or more employees. On the other hand, all or nearly all of the new firms in utilities (100%) and finance & insurance (99%) opened with five or fewer employees. Some of these (25.0% or more of the total) only used temporary employees.

Business Survival

Information about the prospects of a business surviving in a given industry and location could help individuals who are planning to open a business. This information may also help the Wyoming Business Council and other public and private funding sources for new ventures to develop practical strategies to ensure greater return on investment when establishing a new firm.

Due to limited information on business transitions such as selling, merging, and dividing, R&P only considers firm survival relative to the original owners in this research. Some firms may still operate but have changed ownership. Those firms would not be included in these survival counts. A quick verification study was done in 1999 (Yu, 1999) and the result indicated that the methodology used in this survival study could closely represent all new firms' survival situations.

There are many factors that could impact a firm's survivability, such as the supply and demand situation for a specific product or service the firm provides, competition from similar businesses, government policies, supply of required labor, and location.

One year after its opening, if a firm is still reporting its employment and wage information to the DWS UI Tax Division, it is considered as having survived one year. The one-year survival rate is the result of one year survivals divided by the total number of firms that reached their one year anniversary date. The same method is used to determine survival rates for two, three, or more years. In order to obtain a general pattern of survival rates in Wyoming and avoid variation in individual years, R&P used all records since fourth quarter 1992 (1992Q4) that met the specific requirement for each survival rate.

Statewide, more than two-thirds (69.0%) of all new firms survived one year after opening and more than one-third (34.3%) were still active after five years (see Table 6, page 15). The survival rates get smaller as the years in business increase. Industries face different challenges in their operations and their survival rates could vary considerably. For example, among all private industries, 62.6% of new firms in health care & social assistance were still in business three years after opening, and only 36.1% in construction were still in operation. Construction showed the lowest survival rates across all different years. This may directly relate to the large portion of temporary projects such as roads, oil and gas pipelines, buildings, etc. Firms in agriculture had the second highest three-year survival rate (60.1%), followed by firms in utilities with 57.8% and real estate & rental & leasing with 57.0%. For the long term (10 years), firms in agriculture and utilities did the best, with more than one-third still active after 10 years in business.

As mentioned previously, a firm's location could be a very important factor to survivability. For example, 100% of firms in utilities survived one year in business in the northwest region, but only 58.3% survived one year in the central region (see Table 7, page 15). On the other hand, firms in Agriculture, construction, real estate & rental & leasing, and professional & technical services, showed the highest one-year survival rates in the central region compared with all other regions. Some industries had very similar one-year survival rates in all five regions of the state, such as health care & social assistance, ranging from 82.0% to 83.2%.

New firms' survival rates also vary largely by firm size. In general, larger sized firms had higher survival rates than the middle and small sized firms (see Figure 5, page 16). Firms started with only temporary employees showed the lowest survival rates. For example, larger sized firms showed 82.9% of them were still in business after one year opening and near half (48.2%) survived after three years, compared with the initial temp hiring firms with only near one-third (34.0%) survived after one year and 17.4% after three years. Larger firms may have prepared more sufficiently than other sized firms from the beginning and had stronger competition power.

Summary

New business formation in Wyoming has shown a continued upward growth for four years (2010 to 2013) from the trough year of 2009. However, the growth speed was much slower than the one after the previous downturn of 2002 to 2003. Construction, which has always been the leading industry in terms of new business formation in Wyoming, finally showed a notable upturn in 2013 after four years in a large decline. New business formation in mining dropped to the lowest level again in 2012 and 2013 after two years (2010 and 2011) of slow growth. Lower energy prices, lack of demand, and more environmental protection regulation are believed to be among the main reasons.

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Table 6: Wyoming Business Survival Rate by Industry

Industry	Number of Years 1	2	3	4	5	10
Agriculture	78.5%	68.8%	60.1%	54.7%	50.9%	34.2%
Mining	73.6%	60.7%	50.2%	44.3%	39.0%	22.2%
Utilities	73.5%	60.0%	57.8%	50.8%	52.6%	33.3%
Construction	57.7%	44.0%	36.1%	29.9%	26.0%	14.1%
Manufacturing	72.5%	59.6%	50.1%	44.6%	39.8%	21.9%
Wholesale Trade	73.6%	57.1%	47.2%	39.7%	33.9%	18.9%
Retail Trade	74.5%	59.9%	49.2%	42.0%	35.4%	19.0%
Transportation & Warehousing	67.9%	53.9%	44.2%	36.8%	32.5%	17.6%
Information	66.7%	51.3%	44.0%	37.6%	32.7%	15.3%
Finance & Insurance	68.2%	56.4%	46.5%	42.0%	37.3%	24.4%
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	76.8%	65.5%	57.0%	50.2%	45.4%	30.5%
Professional & Technical Services	71.5%	57.6%	48.3%	42.4%	37.0%	22.0%
Mgmt. of Companies & Enterprises	76.6%	60.7%	55.8%	44.9%	37.0%	30.0%
Administrative & Waste Services	63.9%	50.6%	41.3%	33.9%	29.0%	15.9%
Educational Services	72.7%	61.0%	52.2%	44.0%	38.6%	19.9%
Health Care & Social Assistance	82.8%	70.8%	62.6%	54.5%	49.0%	32.3%
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	70.4%	58.6%	48.6%	42.0%	35.9%	20.6%
Acc. & Food Svcs.	73.1%	57.0%	47.5%	39.9%	35.3%	17.3%
Other Svcs. (Exc. Public Admin.)	67.9%	52.4%	42.4%	34.8%	30.1%	15.5%
Government	93.2%	91.6%	88.7%	86.0%	83.7%	75.7%
Total	**69.0%**	**55.2%**	**46.0%**	**39.2%**	**34.3%**	**19.6%**

Table 7: Wyoming New Business One-Year Survival Rate by Industry and Region

Industry	Region Northwest	Northeast	Southwest	Southeast	Central	Nonclassified	Statewide
Agriculture	76.4%	72.7%	73.7%	84.8%	88.2%	62.5%	78.5%
Mining	71.6%	75.5%	75.1%	76.3%	70.9%	69.8%	73.6%
Utilities	100.0%	66.7%	73.3%	83.3%	58.3%	50.0%	73.5%
Construction	57.0%	60.1%	57.7%	56.9%	60.7%	43.1%	57.7%
Manufacturing	65.4%	80.0%	74.9%	70.9%	72.9%	69.2%	72.5%
Wholesale Trade	73.5%	76.7%	71.1%	77.1%	73.0%	68.6%	73.6%
Retail Trade	74.1%	75.9%	75.8%	73.7%	73.8%	63.2%	74.5%
Transportation & Warehousing	69.3%	72.0%	65.5%	66.5%	68.1%	67.9%	67.9%
Information	75.0%	74.6%	67.2%	63.9%	62.3%	60.3%	66.7%
Finance & Insurance	71.2%	75.4%	69.2%	67.9%	75.4%	36.1%	68.2%
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	75.3%	76.7%	75.8%	78.7%	78.9%	61.9%	76.8%
Professional & Technical Services	73.2%	71.7%	72.9%	72.1%	74.0%	49.8%	71.5%
Mgmt. of Companies & Enterprises	69.0%	89.3%	83.3%	64.3%	76.9%	66.7%	76.6%
Administrative & Waste Services	64.5%	65.5%	65.5%	66.0%	62.4%	55.6%	63.9%
Educational Services	73.1%	78.4%	73.5%	73.5%	71.2%	58.6%	72.7%
Health Care & Social Assistance	83.2%	82.0%	83.2%	83.0%	82.9%	73.8%	82.8%
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	65.8%	72.9%	74.5%	72.1%	68.4%	43.8%	70.4%
Accommodation & Food Services	71.2%	72.0%	72.0%	76.0%	74.2%	79.2%	73.1%
Other Svcs. (Exc. Public Admin.)]	65.2%	68.7%	71.1%	64.4%	70.7%	59.6%	67.9%
Government	87.8%	91.7%	97.4%	92.6%	100.0%	88.9%	93.2%
Total	**68.8%**	**70.6%**	**69.1%**	**69.0%**	**70.7%**	**55.8%**	**69.0%**

(Text continued from page 14)

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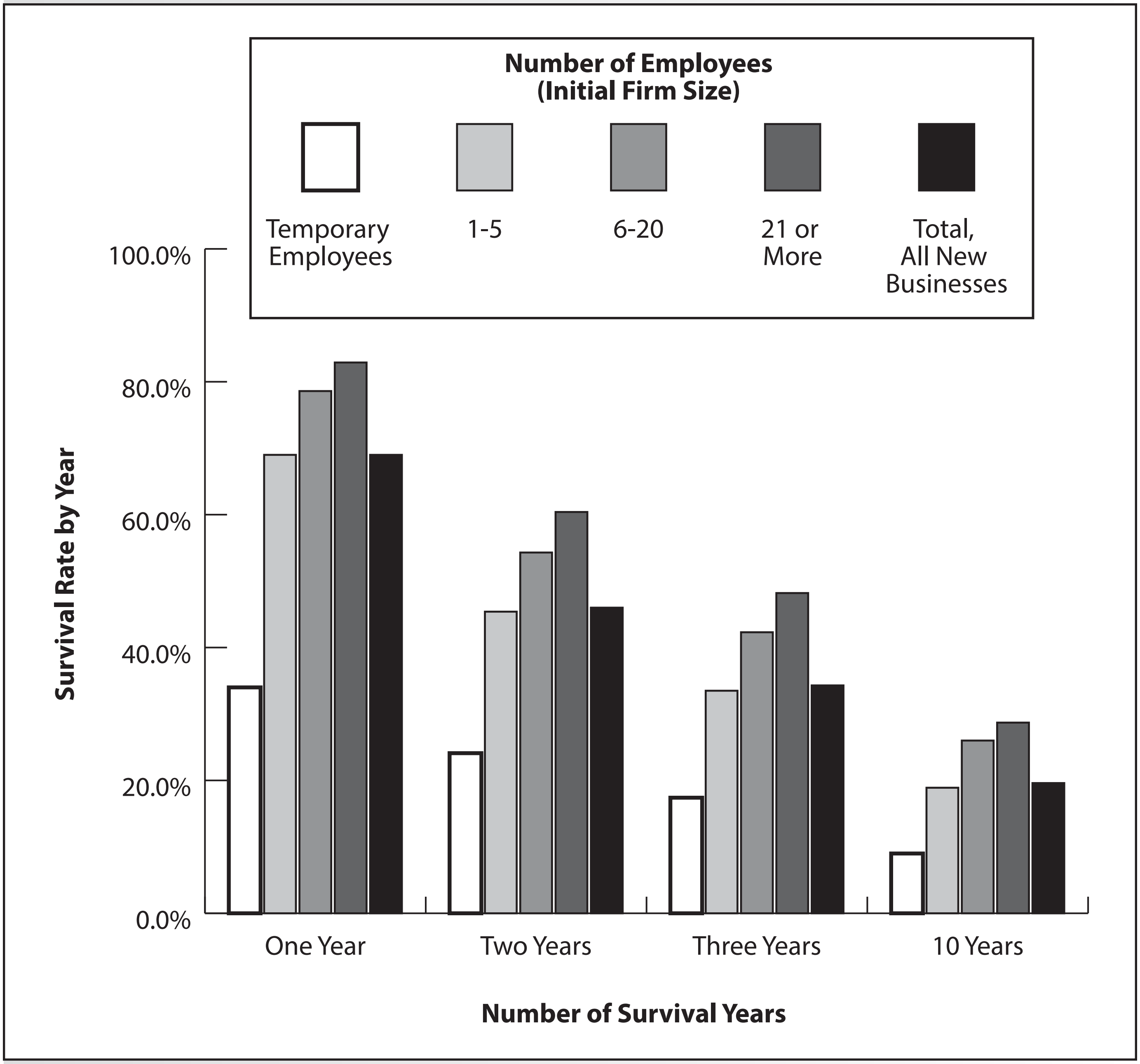


Figure 5: **Wyoming New Business Survival Rates by Initial Firm Size and Survival Years**

The Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses for 2013

by: Valerie A. Davis, Senior Statistician

This article summarizes the 2013 Wyoming Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses results. The data include estimates of incidence rates by industry and the nature of the injury or illness. Also included are some worker demographics, such as age and gender. State and local government data are discussed briefly. An estimated 2,390 nonfatal occupational injury and illness cases with days away from work occurred in private industry in Wyoming in 2013, with an incidence rate of 3.4.

The Research & Planning (R&P) section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services annually conducts the Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses (SOII) for Wyoming in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) as part of a nationwide data collection effort. The survey data identify the estimated incidence rates (see Definitions at http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/trends/0215/a2.htm#definitions) of work-related injuries and illnesses at the industry level. Detailed characteristics of severe injuries and illnesses (those that result in days away from work) are also identified. For 2013, cases with job transfer or restriction for the following six private North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) sectors will also have demographic and injury/illness characteristics provided by employers:

- 238 – Specialty trade contractors
- 311 – Food manufacturing
- 444 – Building materials & garden equipment supplies dealers
- 481 – Air transportation
- 493 – Warehousing & storage
- 623 – Nursing & residential care facilities

The data for the cases with days away from work can be used by employers and safety awareness groups to focus on prevention. The data are also used by regulatory agencies for tracking injury and illness trends, and to target safety resources.

Definitions for terms used in this article are available at http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/trends/0215/a2.htm#definitions.

Wyoming had an estimated 2,390 occupational injury and illness cases with days away from work in private industry for 2013.

Background and Methodology

For this mandatory survey (see Definitions), 2,377 private and 323 public sector (state and local government) Wyoming employers were notified in December 2012 to keep records of their firms' work-related injuries and illnesses during calendar year (CY) 2013 using the Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA) 300 forms. Along with data from the original firms sampled, occupational injury and illness data for 184 employers from the mining, except oil & gas; and railroad industries were added from administrative records provided to BLS by two federal agencies: the U.S. Department of Labor, Mine Safety & Health Administration (MSHA) and the U.S.

Department of Transportation, Federal Railroad Administration (FRA). In January of 2014, public and private employers were sent a pamphlet describing how to transfer data from the OSHA 300 forms to questionnaires available on the Internet or by e-mail.

Employers were asked to respond within 30 days. Two subsequent mailings were sent to non-respondents to increase response rates, after which attempts were made to contact these employers by phone or e-mail to acquire the information. Employers were also contacted to verify or correct data. The data collection periods lasted approximately seven months. After the data collection periods, data and results were reviewed by state, regional and national BLS staff and incidence rates calculated.

About 11.0% of the 2,700 original sampled units were determined to be out of scope, had gone out of business since the sample was drawn, had a duplicate record, had no employees in 2013, or otherwise did not meet the criteria for inclusion in the survey. Of the remaining sampled and BLS-provided employers, 91% in 2013 provided useable responses for the survey.

Data were reported by employers on the basis of a single incident or occurrence. If an employee experienced more than one nonfatal work-related injury or illness during the calendar year, each incident was reported separately and is referred to as a case. If an incident injured more than one employee, each employee was reported separately on the questionnaire. For a work-related injury/illness to be categorized as a recordable case, it results in any of the following:

- death
- days away from work
- restricted work or transfer to another job
- medical treatment beyond first aid, or loss of consciousness
- a significant injury or illness diagnosed by a physician or other licensed health care professional, even if it does not result in death, days away from work, restricted work or job transfer.

For additional information see the OSHA Recordkeeping Rules online at http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owasrch.search_form?p_doc_type=STANDARDS&p_toc_level=1&p_keyvalue=1904.

Data reported by employers to Worker's Compensation have a higher number of work-related injuries and illnesses due to having different definitions and requirements than the SOII does. R&P provides data on the number of Worker's Compensation cases by quarter and historically, which can be found near the bottom of the page at: http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/safety.htm.

Due to the discrepancies in the numbers of work-related injuries and illnesses reported by both Worker's Compensation and the SOII, there has been and continues to be research into this undercount. Information on the undercount can be found at: http://www.bls.gov/iif/oshfaq1.htm#q02.

The BLS produces the SOII incidence rate estimates from the gathered data. Incidence rates by industry indicate the number of nonfatal occupational illnesses or injuries per 100 full-time employees. The cases deemed the most serious are those which involve days away from work (DAFW). The BLS counts up to a cap of 180 days away from work per case, even though there are cases with more days.

DAFW cases associated with employees who do not require time off work beyond the day of injury are not included as DAFW cases. The number of cases with days of restricted duty or job transfer (DJTR) is counted in the summary of injuries and/or illnesses. Other recordable cases are also counted in the summary of injuries and/or illnesses, which are cases requiring medical treatment beyond first aid but with no lost time, restricted duty, or job transfer days.

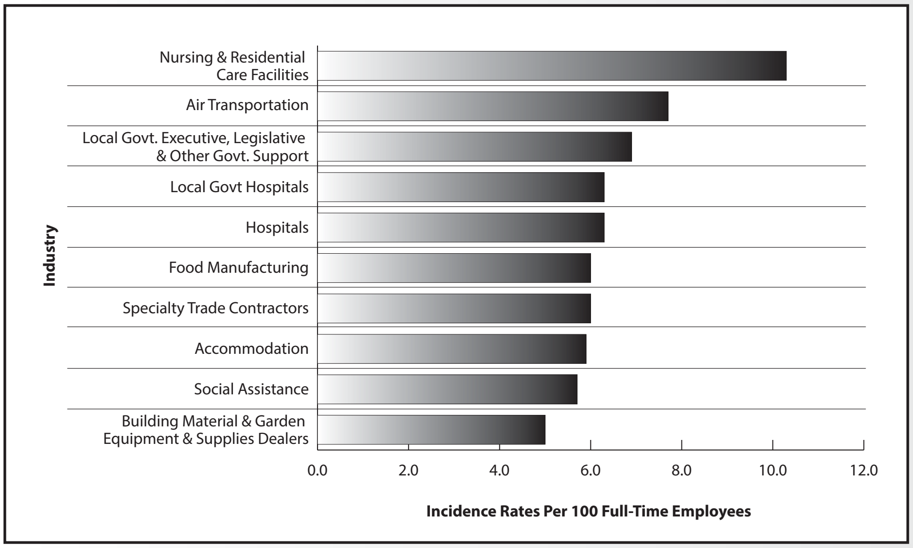


Figure 1a: **Major Industry Groups With the Highest Nonfatal Occupational Injury and Illness Incidence Rates per 100 Full-Time Employees for Total Cases, Wyoming, All Ownerships, 2013**

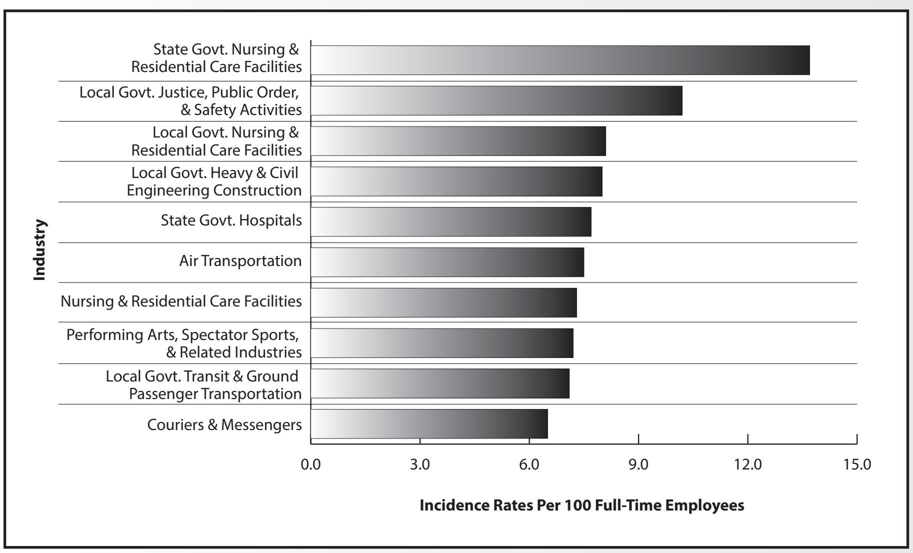


Figure 1b: **Major Industry Groups With the Highest Nonfatal Occupational Injury and Illness Incidence Rates per 100 Full-Time Employees for Total Cases, All United States, 2013**

Incidence Rates

The total estimated incidence rate in Wyoming for all ownerships was 3.5 injuries and illnesses per 100 full-time employees in 2013. The private sector estimated incidence rate was 3.4. The rate for state and local government was 4.2 for 2013. For state government alone, the rate was 2.8; for local government alone, the rate was 4.7.

Figures 1a and 1b show the top 10 industry subsectors in all ownerships with high estimated incidence rates (or those with higher risk) in Wyoming and the United States, respectively for 2013. Two of the 10 top industry subsectors nationally were also found in Wyoming's top 10 for 2013 (see Figures 1A and 1B). These were air transportation and nursing & residential care facilities. The eight higher risk industry sectors that were unique to Wyoming were local government-executive, legislative & other government

(Text continued on page 21)

Table 1: **Estimated Number of Nonfatal Occupational Injuries and Ilnesses Involving Days Away From Work[a] by Selected Worker and Case Characteristics, Wyoming, Private Industry, 2008-2013**

	Total Private Industry[b,c,d]											
	2008		2009		2010		2011		2012		2013	
Characteristic	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Total	**3,210**	**100.0**	**2,710**	**100.0**	**2,510**	**100.0**	**2,410**	**100.0**	**2,410**	**100.0**	**2,390**	**100.0**
Gender												
Male	2,340	72.9	1,970	72.7	1,680	66.9	1,720	71.4	1,630	67.6	1,520	63.6
Female	810	25.2	710	26.2	800	31.9	670	27.8	760	31.5	850	35.6
Age												
16 to 19	180	5.6	100	3.7	60	2.4	90	3.7	90	3.7	100	4.2
20 to 24	470	14.6	460	17.0	280	11.2	350	14.5	210	8.7	310	13.0
25 to 34	640	19.9	730	26.9	600	23.9	570	23.7	600	24.9	570	23.8
35 to 44	780	24.3	480	17.7	520	20.7	430	17.8	450	18.7	550	23.0
45 to 54	670	20.9	570	21.0	630	25.1	520	21.6	620	25.7	420	17.6
55 to 64	370	11.5	280	10.3	330	13.1	390	16.2	350	14.5	360	15.1
65 & over	100	3.1	90	3.3	90	3.6	50	2.1	70	2.9	80	3.3
Length of service with employer												
Less than 3 months	790	24.6	570	21.0	470	18.7	440	18.3	390	16.2	550	23.0
3 to 11 months	750	23.4	660	24.4	560	22.3	660	27.4	590	24.5	570	23.8
1 to 5 years	1,010	31.5	880	32.5	910	36.3	760	31.5	840	34.9	740	31.0
More than 5 years	590	18.4	560	20.7	540	21.5	520	21.6	570	23.7	520	21.8
Number of days away from work												
Cases involving 1 day	410	12.8	340	12.5	410	16.3	300	12.4	420	17.4	290	12.1
Cases involving 2 days	300	9.3	300	11.1	220	8.8	230	9.5	260	10.8	210	8.8
Cases involving 3-5 days	760	23.7	510	18.8	350	13.9	400	16.6	390	16.2	480	20.1
Cases involving 6-10 days	320	10.0	310	11.4	290	11.6	280	11.6	220	9.1	380	15.9
Cases involving 11-20 days	370	11.5	270	10.0	360	14.3	220	9.1	220	9.1	230	9.6
Cases involving 21-30 days	190	5.9	220	8.1	210	8.4	130	5.4	140	5.8	170	7.1
Cases involving 31 or more days	860	26.8	770	28.4	670	26.7	850	35.3	760	31.5	630	26.4
Median days away from work[e]	7		8		10		11		7		8	
Day of the week												
Sunday	140	4.4	130	4.8	120	4.8	150	6.2	290	12.0	160	6.7
Monday	520	16.2	500	18.5	520	20.7	470	19.5	390	16.2	440	18.4
Tuesday	660	20.6	520	19.2	460	18.3	410	17.0	410	17.0	360	15.1
Wednesday	550	17.1	460	17.0	410	16.3	390	16.2	410	17.0	370	15.5
Thursday	590	18.4	430	15.9	350	13.9	440	18.3	370	15.4	430	18.0
Friday	520	16.2	360	13.3	440	17.5	370	15.4	330	13.7	390	16.3
Saturday	230	7.2	320	11.8	200	8.0	170	7.1	210	8.7	240	10.0

[a]Days-away-from-work cases include those that result in days away from work with or without job transfer or restriction.

[b]Excludes farms with fewer than 11 employees.

[c]Data for mining (Sector 21 in the North American Industry Classification System -- United States, 2007) include establishments not governed by the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) rules and reporting, such as those in oil and gas extraction and related support activities. Data for mining operators in coal, metal, and nonmetal mining are provided to BLS by the Mine Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor. Independent mining contractors are excluded from the coal, metal, and nonmetal mining industries. These data do not reflect the changes the Occupational Safety and Health Administration made to its recordkeeping requirements effective January 1, 2002; therefore estimates for these industries are not comparable to estimates in other industries.

[d]Data for employers in railroad transportation are provided to BLS by the Federal Railroad Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation.

[e]Median days away from work is the measure used to summarize the varying lengths of absences from work among the cases with days away from work. Half the cases involved more days and half involved less days than a specified median. Median days away from work are represented in actual values.

Note: Because of rounding and data exclusion of nonclassifiable responses, data may not sum to the totals.

The scientifically selected probability sample used was one of many possible samples, each of which could have produced different estimates. A measure of sampling variability for each estimate is available upon request.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses in cooperation with participating state agencies.

Table created by Valerie A Davis, Wyoming Department of Workforce Services, Research & Planning, December 2014.

(Text continued from page 19)

support; local government-hospitals, private-hospitals; specialty trade contractors; food manufacturing; accommodation; social assistance; and building material & garden equipment & supplies dealers.

The relative standard error (RSE; see Definitions) computed by BLS was used to calculate the estimates, with a 95% confidence interval. The tables with the RSE's are available upon request from R&P.

Case and Demographic Data

Table 1 (see page 20) shows the number of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses by selected characteristics for Wyoming from 2008 to 2013. These data show only cases with days away from work; they do not include cases that resulted solely in job transfer or restricted duty or those that were other recordable cases. There appears to be a general downward trend in the number of cases for each category over the years.

Worker Characteristics

In 2013, males made up 55.6% of Wyoming's workforce (BLS-1, 2014). In the total of DAFW cases in 2013, 63.6% involved males. This contrasts with the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries & Illnesses (CFOI) data showing that 96.2% of Wyoming CFOI fatalities in 2013 were males (CFOI, 2014). Females made up 44.0% of the workforce in Wyoming (BLS-1, 2014), but only 35.6% of workers who became more seriously injured or ill at work in 2013 were females.[1]

Table 2 shows the percentage and number of age group populations by gender (BLS-2, 2014) in Wyoming's workforce during 2012 and 2013. The males had noticeable decreases in employment in two age groups: for the 25-34 age group employment went from 38,000 in 2012 to 36,000 in 2013 and for the 45-54 age group employment went from 36,000 in 2012 to 33,000 in 2013. Within the female age groups, two of them decreased: employment in the 45-54 age group decreased from 29,000 in 2012 to 28,000 in 2013 and in the 55-64 age group employment decreased from 24,000 in 2012 to 23,000 in 2013. R&P research has shown that the number

Table 2: **Percent and Number of Age Group Populations Who Were Employed in Wyoming, 2012 and 2013**

		2012		2013	
Gender	Age Group	% of Age Group Employed	Employed	% of Age Group Employed	Employed
Males	25-34	90.7%	38,000	87.0%	36,000
	35-44	86.5%	30,000	91.6%	32,000
	45-54	85.8%	36,000	86.3%	33,000
	55-64	72.1%	26,000	70.7%	27,000
Females	25-34	67.2%	26,000	69.7%	27,000
	35-44	75.5%	24,000	73.5%	25,000
	45-54	76.7%	29,000	74.2%	28,000
	55-64	62.7%	24,000	61.8%	23,000

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Division of Local Area Unemployment Statistics. Employment status of the civilian noninstitutional population by sex, race, Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, marital status, and detailed age, 2012 and 2013 annual averages. Retrieved April 4, 2014, from http://www.bls.gov/lau/table14full12.pdf and retrieved November 12, 2014, from http://www.bls.gov/lau/table14full13.pdf.

1 Data are not available to determine if the remaining 0.8% of workers who became injured or ill in 2013 were males or females.

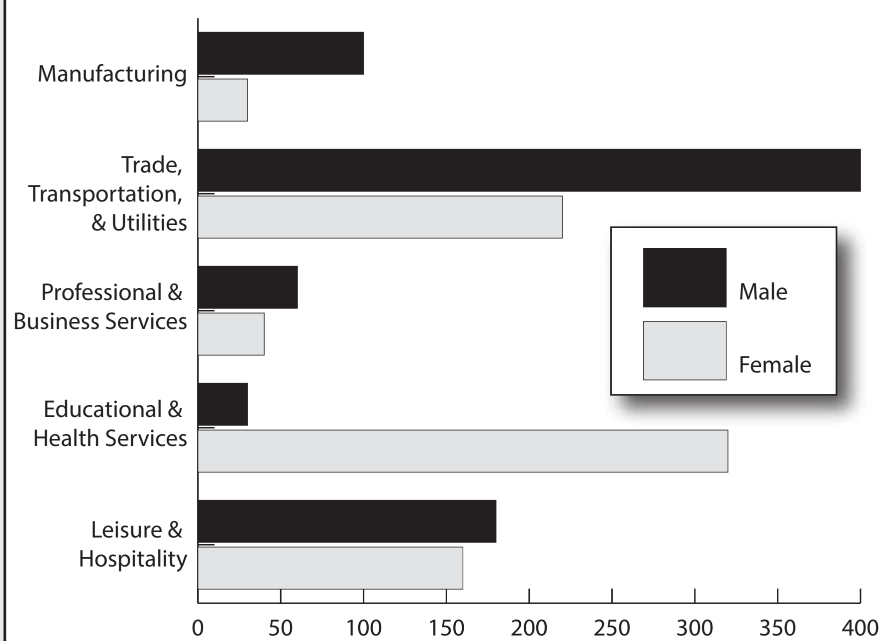
of workplace fatalities is related to changes in overall employment (Manning, 2010). This may also be true for nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses.

Injury and Illness Characteristics

For the year 2013, within the trade, transportation, & utilities industry an estimated 400 males and 220 females had cases with days away from work (see Figure 2). During that year, manufacturing had over three times the number of males (100) than females (30) with cases resulting in days away from work. In contrast, more than 10 times the number of females to males had cases with days away from work in the educational & health services industry (320 and 30, respectively). For the leisure & hospitality industry, in 2013 there was almost the same number of males as females (180 and 160, respectively) that had the more severe cases.

Two of the major occupational groups, construction & extraction and transportation & material moving had a higher-than-average percentage (nearly 43.5% combined) of total workers with work-related injuries or illnesses in 2013 (see Figure 3, page 23). More males than females typically work in these occupational groups. Consequently, more males than females were injured in these types of occupations. These workers included construction laborers and heavy & tractor trailer truck drivers. However, more females than males were injured in the major occupational groups of healthcare support and personal care & service because more females than males were usually employed in these occupations. The highest percentage of injuries and illnesses by combined age groups in 2013 was for workers age 25-34 and 35-44 (46.8%; see Figure 4, page 24).

For injuries resulting in days away from work, the largest percentage for nature of injury or illness was due to sprains, strains, and tears (42.3% in 2013; see Figure 5, page 24). Often the injuries were caused by falling, lifting, twisting and bending, standing or sitting, throwing, or reaching. This suggests that employers



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses in cooperation with participating state agencies.

Figure 2: **Estimated Numbers of Males and Females in Cases With Days Away From Work by Selected Industry in Wyoming, Private Industry, 2013**

should place additional emphasis on sprain and strain prevention.

Summary

From 2012 to 2013, there was not a statistically significant change in the number or incidence rate of Wyoming work-related injuries and illnesses resulting in days away from work for private industry (2,410-3.5 and 2,390-3.4, respectively). Overall, males continued to experience work-related injuries and illnesses more frequently than females. This was likely due, in part, to higher ratios of males to females employed in industries with higher incidence rates; the exception was educational & health services. More details on 2013 data, as well as further documentation and historical data are available at http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/OSH/toc.htm. For more information, contact Valerie A. Davis at (307) 473-3838 or val.davis@wyo.gov.

References

Bureau of Labor Statistics, Division of Local Area Unemployment Statistics. (2014a). Employment status of the civilian noninstitutional population by sex, age, race, Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, and marital status, 2013

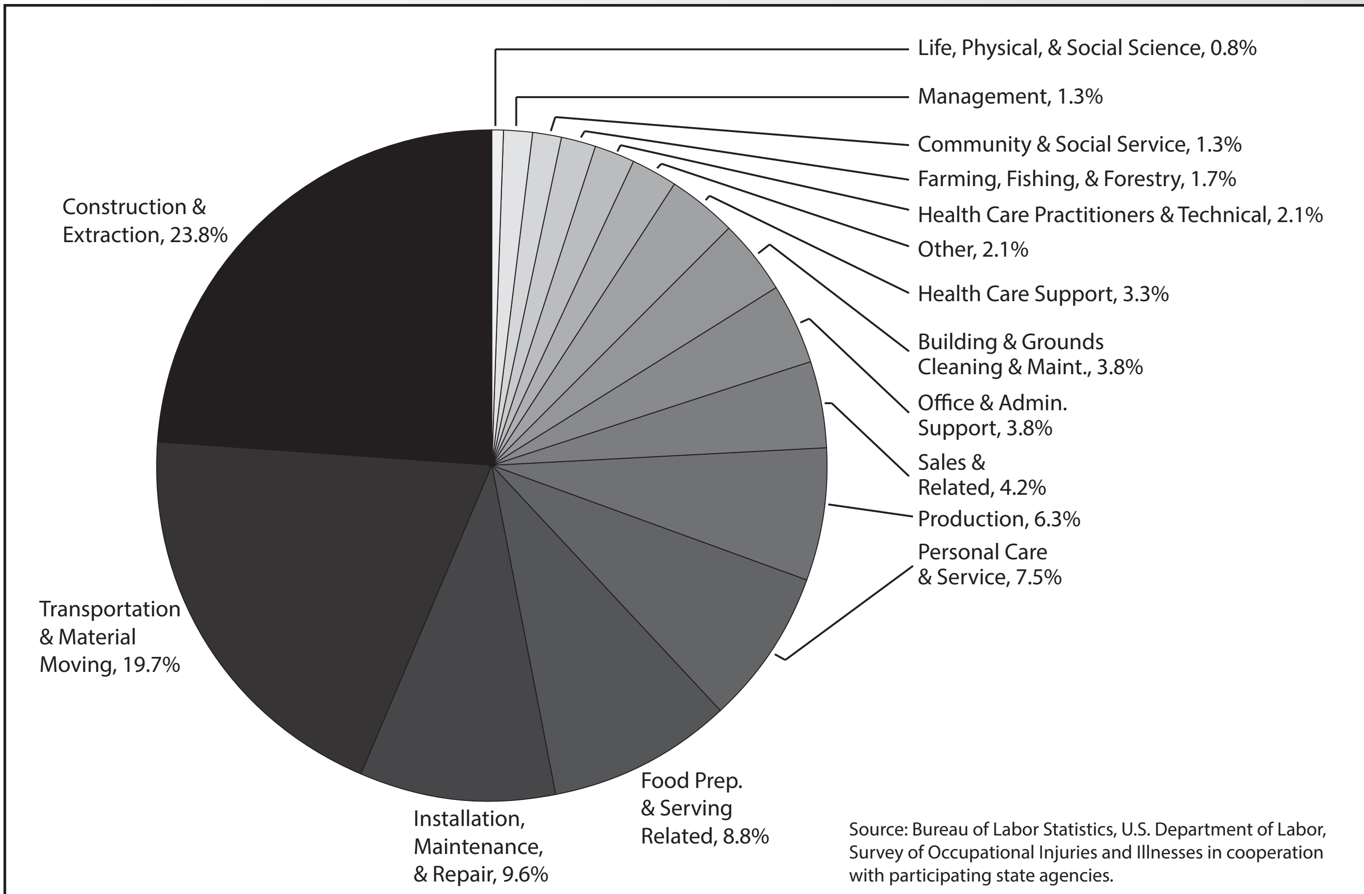


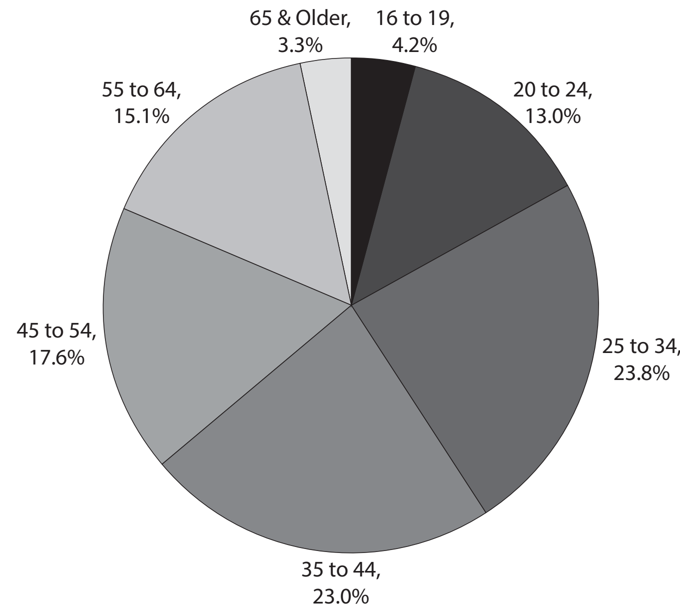
Figure 3: **Percent Distribution of Nonfatal Occupational Injuries and Illnesses to All Workers by Major Occupational Groups, Wyoming, Private Industry, 2013**

annual averages. Retrieved December 4, 2014, from http://www.bls.gov/opub/gp/pdf/gp13_14.pdf

Bureau of Labor Statistics, Division of Local Area Unemployment Statistics. (2014b). Employment status of the civilian noninstitutional population by sex, race, Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, marital status, and detailed age, 2013 annual averages. Retrieved December 4, 2014, from http://www.bls.gov/lau/table14full13.pdf

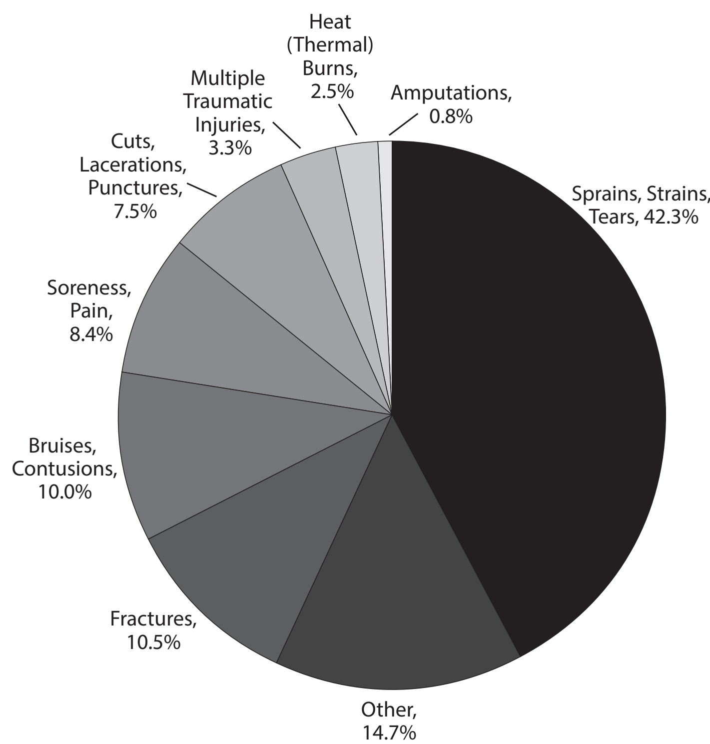
Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries and Illnesses, Wyoming. (2014). Retrieved December 4, 2014, from http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/CFOI/toc.htm

Manning, P. (2010). Employment Change and Impacts on Workplace Fatalities in Wyoming. Wyoming Department of Employment, Research & Planning, Casper: WY. Retrieved December 4, 2014, from http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/safety/CFOI_Reg_Model_2010.pdf



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses in cooperation with participating State agencies.

Figure 4: **Percent Distribution of Nonfatal Occupational Injuries and Illnesses to All Workers by Age Group, Wyoming, Private Industry, 2013**



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses in cooperation with participating State agencies.

Figure 5: **Percent Distribution of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses Involving Days Away From Work by Nature of Injury or Illness, Wyoming, Private Industry, 2013**

Wyoming Unemployment Rate Falls to 4.2% in December 2014

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

The Research & Planning section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services reported that the state's seasonally adjusted[1] unemployment rate fell significantly from 4.5% in November to 4.2% in December (the estimated number of unemployed individuals decreased by 928). Wyoming's unemployment rate was marginally lower than its December 2013 level of 4.4% and significantly lower than the current U.S. unemployment rate of 5.6%. Seasonally adjusted employment of Wyoming residents increased slightly, rising by an estimated 815 individuals (0.3%) from November to December.

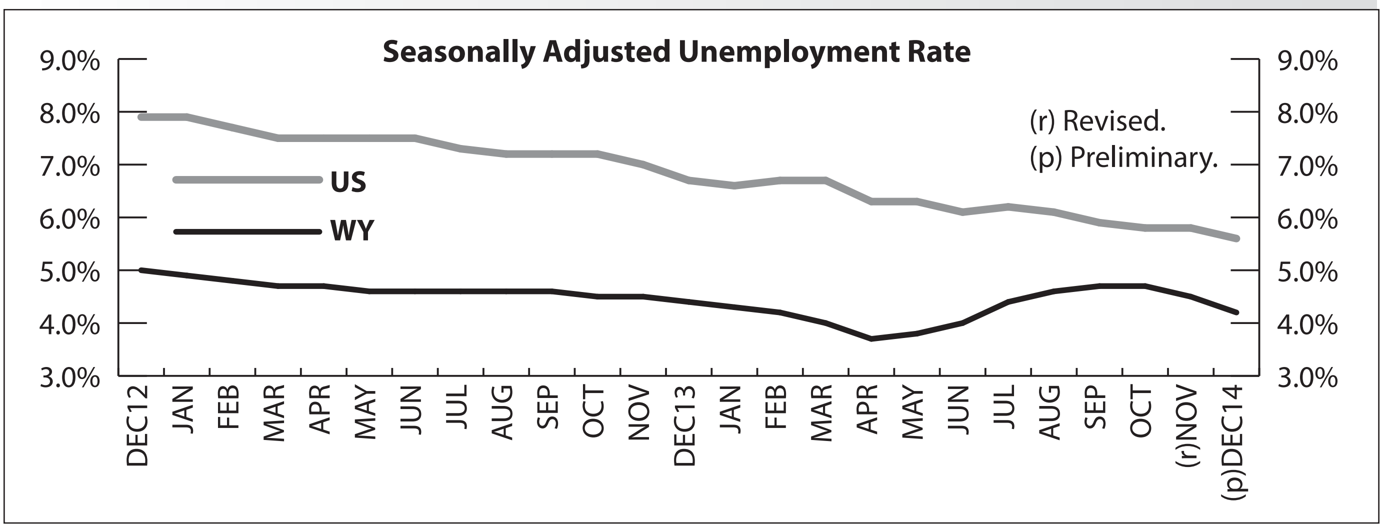
Most county unemployment rates changed very little from November to December. The one exception was Teton County, where the unemployment rate fell from 7.9% to 4.8% as the start of the winter tourist season boosted employment. Unemployment also fell in Weston (down from 3.9% to 3.5%), Niobrara (down from 3.3% to 3.0%), and Albany (down from 3.5% to 3.2%) counties. Slight increases in unemployment rates were seen in Crook (up from 3.7% to 4.1%), Johnson (up from 4.5% to 4.8%), Big Horn (up from 4.5% to 4.7%), and Sublette (up from 3.2% to 3.4%) counties.

From December 2013 to December 2014, unemployment rates fell in 20 counties, were unchanged in two counties, and increased in Sublette County (up from 3.2% to 3.4%). The largest decreases occurred in Teton (down from 6.4% to 4.8%), Platte (down from 5.1% to 4.0%), and Johnson (down from 5.7% to 4.8%) counties.

Converse County had the lowest unemployment rate in December (2.7%). It was followed by Campbell (2.8%), Niobrara (3.0%), and Albany (3.2%) counties. The highest unemployment rates were found in Fremont (5.3%), Lincoln (5.2%), and Park (5.0%) counties.

Total nonfarm employment (measured by place of work) rose from 290,000 in December 2013 to 294,300 in December 2014, a gain of 4,300 jobs (1.5%).

1 Seasonal adjustment is a statistical procedure to remove the impact of normal regularly recurring events (such as weather, major holidays, and the opening and closing of schools) from economic time series to better understand changes in economic conditions from month to month.



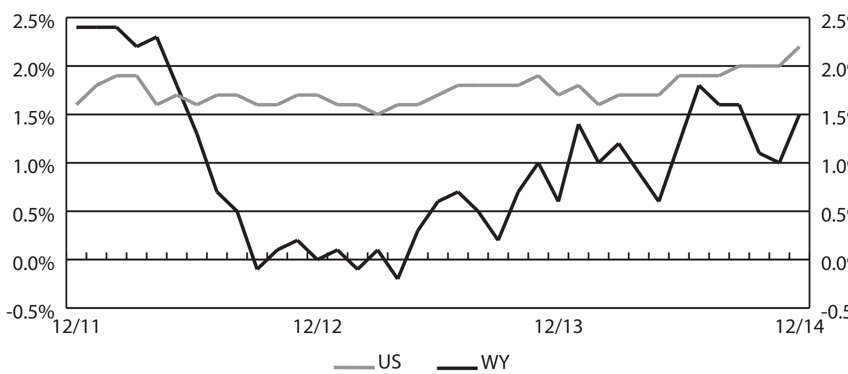
Current Employment Statistics (CES) Estimates and Research & Planning's Short-Term Projections, December 2014

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

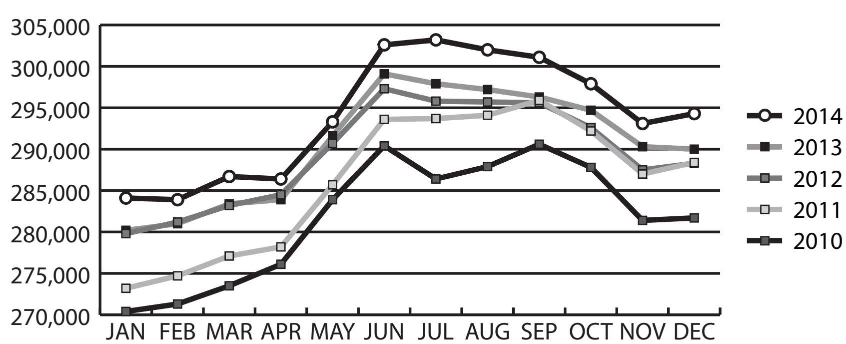
Industry Sector	Research & Planning's Short-Term Projections	Current Employment Statistics (CES) Estimates	N Difference	% Difference
Total Nonfarm Employment	**293,602**	**294,300**	**698**	**0.2%**
Natural Resources & Mining	27,471	27,400	-71	-0.3%
Construction	22,629	20,400	-2,229	-10.9%
Manufacturing	10,005	9,900	-105	-1.1%
Wholesale Trade	9,690	9,800	110	1.1%
Retail Trade	30,248	32,000	1,752	5.5%
Transportation & Utilities	15,715	15,600	-115	-0.7%
Information	3,773	3,800	27	0.7%
Financial Activities	11,133	11,400	267	2.3%
Professional & Business Services	18,168	18,900	732	3.9%
Educational & Health Services	27,384	27,600	216	0.8%
Leisure & Hospitality	33,260	32,400	-860	-2.7%
Other Services	11,317	12,200	883	7.2%
Government	72,809	72,900	91	0.1%

Projections run in October 2014 and based on QCEW Data through June 2014.

Nonagricultural Employment Growth (Percentage Change Over Previous Year)



Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment



State Unemployment Rates December 2014 (Seasonally Adjusted)

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	13.7
District of Columbia	7.3
Mississippi	7.2
California	7.0
Georgia	6.9
Nevada	6.8
Rhode Island	6.8
Arizona	6.7
Louisiana	6.7
Oregon	6.7
Tennessee	6.6
South Carolina	6.5
Connecticut	6.4
Alaska	6.3
Michigan	6.3
Washington	6.3
Illinois	6.2
New Jersey	6.2
New Mexico	6.1
West Virginia	6.0
Indiana	5.8
New York	5.8
Alabama	5.7
Arkansas	5.7
Kentucky	5.7
Florida	5.6
United States	**5.6**
Maine	5.5
Maryland	5.5
Massachusetts	5.5
North Carolina	5.5
Delaware	5.4
Missouri	5.4
Wisconsin	5.2
Ohio	4.8
Pennsylvania	4.8
Virginia	4.8
Texas	4.6
Kansas	4.2
Montana	4.2
Oklahoma	4.2
Vermont	4.2
Wyoming	**4.2**
Iowa	4.1
Colorado	4.0
Hawaii	4.0
New Hampshire	4.0
Idaho	3.7
Minnesota	3.6
Utah	3.5
South Dakota	3.3
Nebraska	2.9
North Dakota	2.8

Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

	Employment in Thousands			% Change Total Employment	
	Dec 14	Nov 14	Dec 13	Nov 14 Dec 14	Dec 13 Dec 14
CAMPBELL COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	**29.7**	**29.6**	**28.3**	**0.3**	**4.9**
TOTAL PRIVATE	**24.4**	**24.3**	**23.2**	**0.4**	**5.2**
GOODS PRODUCING	**11.6**	**11.6**	**10.9**	**0.0**	**6.4**
Natural Resources & Mining	8.2	8.1	7.9	1.2	3.8
Construction	2.8	2.9	2.4	-3.4	16.7
Manufacturing	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	**18.1**	**18.0**	**17.4**	**0.6**	**4.0**
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	6.0	5.9	5.7	1.7	5.3
Information	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
Professional & Business Services	1.7	1.7	1.7	0.0	0.0
Educational & Health Services	1.1	1.1	1.0	0.0	10.0
Leisure & Hospitality	2.3	2.3	2.2	0.0	4.5
Other Services	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.0
GOVERNMENT	**5.3**	**5.3**	**5.1**	**0.0**	**3.9**

	Employment in Thousands			% Change Total Employment	
	Dec 14	Nov 14	Dec 13	Nov 14 Dec 14	Dec 13 Dec 14
SWEETWATER COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	**25.4**	**25.5**	**25.1**	**-0.4**	**1.2**
TOTAL PRIVATE	**20.5**	**20.7**	**20.1**	**-1.0**	**2.0**
GOODS PRODUCING	**9.0**	**9.2**	**8.5**	**-2.2**	**5.9**
Natural Resources & Mining	5.8	5.8	5.7	0.0	1.8
Construction	1.8	2.0	1.4	-10.0	28.6
Manufacturing	1.4	1.4	1.4	0.0	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	**16.4**	**16.3**	**16.6**	**0.6**	**-1.2**
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	5.2	5.1	5.2	2.0	0.0
Information	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.0	0.0
Professional & Business Services	1.0	1.1	1.1	-9.1	-9.1
Educational & Health Services	1.2	1.2	1.1	0.0	9.1
Leisure & Hospitality	2.3	2.3	2.4	0.0	-4.2
Other Services	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
GOVERNMENT	**4.9**	**4.8**	**5.0**	**2.1**	**-2.0**

	Employment in Thousands			% Change Total Employment	
	Dec 14	Nov 14	Dec 13	Nov 14 Dec 14	Dec 13 Dec 14
TETON COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	**17.8**	**15.7**	**17.5**	**13.4**	**1.7**
TOTAL PRIVATE	**15.3**	**13.3**	**15.1**	**15.0**	**1.3**
GOODS PRODUCING	**2.1**	**2.2**	**1.9**	**-4.5**	**10.5**
Natural Resources, Mining & Construction	1.9	2.0	1.8	-5.0	5.6
Manufacturing	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.0	100.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	**15.7**	**13.5**	**15.6**	**16.3**	**0.6**
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	2.6	2.3	2.5	13.0	4.0
Information	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.0	12.5
Professional & Business Services	1.6	1.7	1.6	-5.9	0.0
Educational & Health Services	1.1	1.0	1.1	10.0	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality	6.3	4.5	6.5	40.0	-3.1
Other Services	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.0
GOVERNMENT	**2.5**	**2.4**	**2.4**	**4.2**	**4.2**

State Unemployment Rates December 2014 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	12.1
District of Columbia	7.2
Mississippi	7.1
California	6.7
Nevada	6.7
Georgia	6.6
Arizona	6.5
Tennessee	6.4
Alaska	6.3
Oregon	6.3
Louisiana	6.2
South Carolina	6.2
Washington	6.2
Rhode Island	6.0
Indiana	5.8
Connecticut	5.7
Illinois	5.7
New Jersey	5.7
New York	5.7
Arkansas	5.6
Michigan	5.6
New Mexico	5.5
Florida	5.4
United States	**5.4**
West Virginia	5.4
Alabama	5.3
Maryland	5.3
Missouri	5.3
North Carolina	5.2
Kentucky	5.1
Maine	5.0
Wisconsin	5.0
Massachusetts	4.8
Ohio	4.7
Delaware	4.6
Pennsylvania	4.6
Virginia	4.5
Montana	4.3
Iowa	4.2
Texas	4.1
Colorado	4.0
Kansas	4.0
Wyoming	**4.0**
Vermont	3.9
New Hampshire	3.8
Oklahoma	3.8
Hawaii	3.7
Idaho	3.7
Minnesota	3.7
South Dakota	3.5
Utah	3.1
Nebraska	2.9
North Dakota	2.8

Economic Indicators

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

The Baker Hughes rig count for Wyoming fell from 61 in November to 58 in December, a 4.9% decrease.

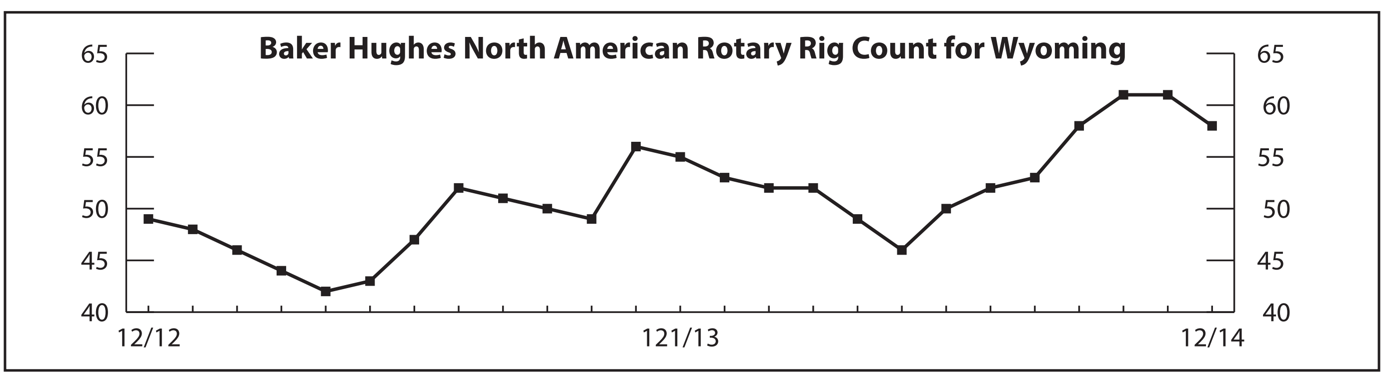
	Dec 2014 (p)	Nov 2014 (r)	Dec 2013 (b)	Percent Change Month	Percent Change Year
Wyoming Total Nonfarm Employment	**294,300**	**293,100**	**290,000**	**0.4**	**1.5**
Wyoming State Government	15,800	15,900	15,800	-0.6	0.0
Laramie County Nonfarm Employment	46,800	46,500	46,600	0.6	0.4
Natrona County Nonfarm Employment	42,600	42,700	42,700	-0.2	-0.2
Selected U.S. Employment Data					
U.S. Multiple Jobholders	7,308,000	7,549,000	6,934,000	-3.2	5.4
As a percent of all workers	5.0%	5.1%	4.8%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Discouraged Workers	740,000	698,000	917,000	6.0	-19.3
U.S. Part Time for Economic Reasons	6,970,000	6,713,000	7,990,000	3.8	-12.8
Wyoming Unemployment Insurance					
Weeks Compensated	18,767	12,446	22,922	50.8	-18.1
Benefits Paid	$6,649,388	$4,340,053	$7,944,003	53.2	-16.3
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$354.31	$348.71	$346.57	1.6	2.2
State Insured Covered Jobs[1]	271,535	271,327	267,364	0.1	1.6
Insured Unemployment Rate	2.1%	1.7%	2.6%	N/A	N/A
Consumer Price Index (U) for All U.S. Urban Consumers					
(1982 to 1984 = 100)					
All Items	234.8	236.2	233.0	-0.6	0.8
Food & Beverages	245.6	244.9	237.8	0.3	3.3
Housing	234.7	234.3	228.9	0.1	2.5
Apparel	123.9	129.0	126.5	-3.9	-2.0
Transportation	199.8	206.9	212.9	-3.4	-6.2
Medical Care	439.7	438.4	427.1	0.3	3.0
Recreation (Dec. 1997=100)	114.9	115.0	114.9	-0.1	0.0
Education & Communication (Dec. 1997=100)	137.4	137.7	136.9	-0.2	0.4
Other Goods & Services	410.6	409.8	404.1	0.2	1.6
Producer Prices (1982 to 1984 = 100)					
All Commodities	197.6	201.2	202.0	-1.8	-2.2
Wyo. Bldg. Permits (New Privately Owned Housing Units Authorized)					
Total Units	90	107	92	-15.9	-2.2
Valuation	$25,628,000	$33,662,000	$24,867,000	-23.9	3.1
Single Family Homes	82	101	87	-18.8	-5.7
Valuation	$24,937,000	$33,148,000	$24,439,000	-24.8	2.0
Casper MSA[2] Building Permits	8	14	7	-42.9	14.3
Valuation	$1,511,000	$3,645,000	$1,698,000	-58.5	-11.0
Cheyenne MSA Building Permits	40	14	40	185.7	0.0
Valuation	$6,447,000	$2,243,000	$7,081,000	187.4	-9.0
Baker Hughes North American Rotary Rig Count for Wyoming	58	61	55	-4.9	5.5

(p) Preliminary. (r) Revised. (b) Benchmarked.

[1]Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program estimates.

[2]Metropolitan Statistical Area.

Note: Production worker hours and earnings data have been dropped from the Economic Indicators page because of problems with accuracy due to a small sample size and high item nonresponse. The Bureau of Labor Statistics will continue to publish these data online at http://www.bls.gov/eag/eag.wy.htm.



Wyoming County Unemployment Rates

by: Carola Cowan, BLS Programs Supervisor

The highest unemployment rates were found in Fremont (5.3%), Lincoln (5.2%), and Park (5.0%) counties.

REGION	Labor Force			Employed			Unemployed			Unemployment Rates		
County	Dec 2014 (p)	Nov 2014 (r)	Dec 2013 (b)	Dec 2014 (p)	Nov 2014 (r)	Dec 2013 (b)	Dec 2014 (p)	Nov 2014 (r)	Dec 2013 (b)	Dec 2014 (p)	Nov 2014 (r)	Dec 2013 (b)
NORTHWEST	**46,063**	**46,521**	**46,533**	**43,787**	**44,226**	**44,041**	**2,276**	**2,295**	**2,492**	**4.9**	**4.9**	**5.4**
Big Horn	5,222	5,287	5,208	4,979	5,047	4,919	243	240	289	4.7	4.5	5.5
Fremont	19,482	19,717	19,623	18,448	18,695	18,533	1,034	1,022	1,090	5.3	5.2	5.6
Hot Springs	2,501	2,513	2,616	2,405	2,417	2,504	96	96	112	3.8	3.8	4.3
Park	14,550	14,688	14,705	13,826	13,938	13,889	724	750	816	5.0	5.1	5.5
Washakie	4,308	4,316	4,381	4,129	4,129	4,196	179	187	185	4.2	4.3	4.2
NORTHEAST	**56,705**	**57,277**	**54,761**	**54,710**	**55,211**	**52,515**	**1,995**	**2,066**	**2,246**	**3.5**	**3.6**	**4.1**
Campbell	29,161	29,487	27,663	28,358	28,611	26,702	803	876	961	2.8	3.0	3.5
Crook	3,551	3,577	3,528	3,407	3,445	3,382	144	132	146	4.1	3.7	4.1
Johnson	4,104	4,133	3,957	3,907	3,945	3,731	197	188	226	4.8	4.5	5.7
Sheridan	16,491	16,625	16,245	15,760	15,889	15,458	731	736	787	4.4	4.4	4.8
Weston	3,398	3,455	3,368	3,278	3,321	3,242	120	134	126	3.5	3.9	3.7
SOUTHWEST	**64,302**	**64,002**	**64,285**	**61,718**	**61,049**	**61,293**	**2,584**	**2,953**	**2,992**	**4.0**	**4.6**	**4.7**
Lincoln	7,835	7,870	7,646	7,428	7,470	7,195	407	400	451	5.2	5.1	5.9
Sublette	6,475	6,576	6,833	6,252	6,365	6,614	223	211	219	3.4	3.2	3.2
Sweetwater	25,246	25,491	25,226	24,372	24,603	24,259	874	888	967	3.5	3.5	3.8
Teton	13,780	12,967	13,650	13,123	11,942	12,781	657	1,025	869	4.8	7.9	6.4
Uinta	10,966	11,098	10,930	10,543	10,669	10,444	423	429	486	3.9	3.9	4.4
SOUTHEAST	**79,195**	**79,632**	**78,346**	**75,998**	**76,297**	**74,964**	**3,197**	**3,335**	**3,382**	**4.0**	**4.2**	**4.3**
Albany	20,007	20,275	19,502	19,366	19,570	18,837	641	705	665	3.2	3.5	3.4
Goshen	6,548	6,622	6,748	6,314	6,373	6,474	234	249	274	3.6	3.8	4.1
Laramie	46,993	47,080	46,537	44,885	44,915	44,358	2,108	2,165	2,179	4.5	4.6	4.7
Niobrara	1,352	1,357	1,333	1,311	1,312	1,284	41	45	49	3.0	3.3	3.7
Platte	4,295	4,298	4,226	4,122	4,127	4,011	173	171	215	4.0	4.0	5.1
CENTRAL	**62,670**	**63,316**	**61,556**	**60,480**	**61,010**	**59,071**	**2,190**	**2,306**	**2,485**	**3.5**	**3.6**	**4.0**
Carbon	8,406	8,559	7,872	8,070	8,221	7,526	336	338	346	4.0	3.9	4.4
Converse	8,861	8,969	8,350	8,622	8,715	8,070	239	254	280	2.7	2.8	3.4
Natrona	45,403	45,788	45,334	43,788	44,074	43,475	1,615	1,714	1,859	3.6	3.7	4.1
STATEWIDE	**308,936**	**310,750**	**305,483**	**296,695**	**297,794**	**291,884**	**12,241**	**12,956**	**13,599**	**4.0**	**4.2**	**4.5**
Statewide Seasonally Adjusted										4.2	4.5	4.4
U.S.										5.4	5.5	6.5
U.S. Seasonally Adjusted										5.6	5.8	6.7

Prepared in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Benchmarked 02/2014. Run Date 01/2015 .

Data are not seasonally adjusted except where otherwise specified.

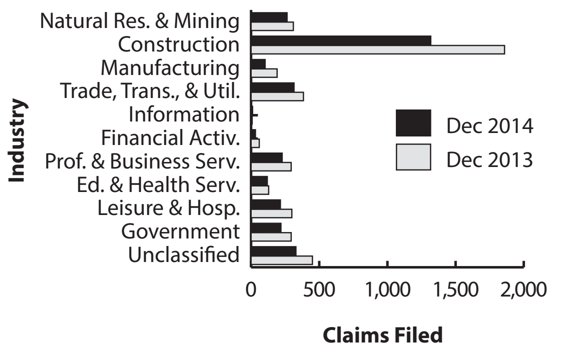
(p) Preliminary. (r) Revised. (b) Benchmarked.

Wyoming Normalized[a] Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Initial Claims

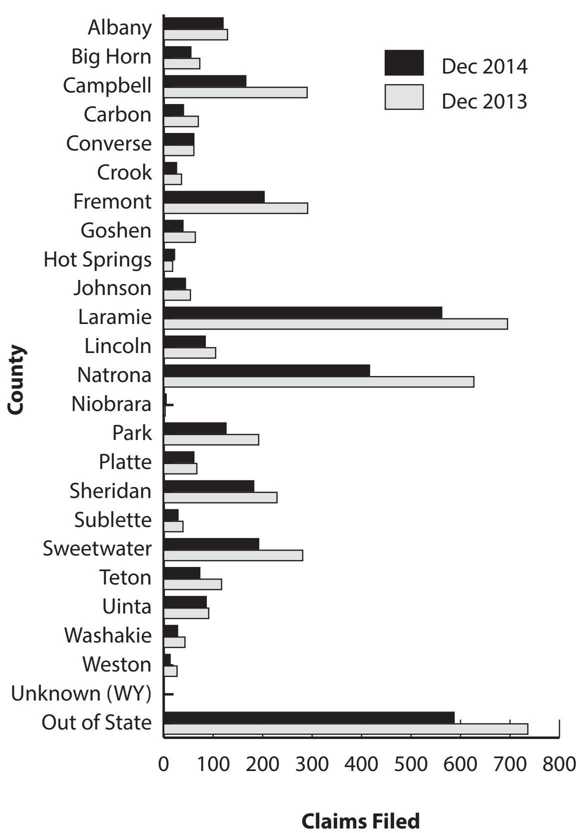
by: Sherry Wen, Principal Economist

Initial claims decreased 25.8% over the year. The only over-the-year increases were seen in information (37.5%), an industry with a small number of claims, and other services, except public administration (1.9%).

Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims by Industry, December 2014



Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims by County, December 2014



Initial Claims

	Claims Filed Dec 14	Claims Filed Nov 14	Claims Filed Dec 13	Percent Change Claims Filed Dec 14 Nov 14	Percent Change Claims Filed Dec 14 Dec 13
Wyoming Statewide					
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	**3,218**	**3,772**	**4,339**	**-14.7**	**-25.8**
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	1,686	1,726	2,362	-2.3	-28.6
Natural Res. & Mining	264	179	310	47.5	-14.8
Mining	243	155	289	56.8	-15.9
Oil & Gas Extraction	14	12	20	16.7	-30.0
Construction	1,318	1,441	1,859	-8.5	-29.1
Manufacturing	103	103	191	0.0	-46.1
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	982	1,315	1,232	-25.3	-20.3
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	315	275	384	14.5	-18.0
Wholesale Trade	44	41	54	7.3	-18.5
Retail Trade	116	137	167	-15.3	-30.5
Transp., Warehousing & Utilities	155	97	163	59.8	-4.9
Information	11	8	8	37.5	37.5
Financial Activities	32	51	60	-37.3	-46.7
Prof. and Business Svcs.	228	275	294	-17.1	-22.4
Educational & Health Svcs.	119	105	129	13.3	-7.8
Leisure & Hospitality	215	552	299	-61.1	-28.1
Other Svcs., exc. Public Admin.	54	43	53	25.6	1.9
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	219	339	294	-35.4	-25.5
Federal Government	135	239	155	-43.5	-12.9
State Government	12	18	24	-33.3	-50.0
Local Government	71	82	113	-13.4	-37.2
Local Education	15	10	24	50.0	-37.5
UNCLASSIFIED	329	390	450	-15.6	-26.9
Laramie County					
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	**562**	**572**	**694**	**-1.7**	**-19.0**
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	341	389	448	-12.3	-23.9
Construction	296	364	409	-18.7	-27.6
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	183	140	210	30.7	-12.9
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	74	42	74	76.2	0.0
Financial Activities	8	8	13	0.0	-38.5
Prof. & Business Svcs.	31	49	62	-36.7	-50.0
Educational & Health Svcs.	28	28	17	0.0	64.7
Leisure & Hospitality	29	12	34	141.7	-14.7
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	19	22	25	-13.6	-24.0
UNCLASSIFIED	18	19	10	-5.3	80.0
Natrona County					
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	**415**	**398**	**626**	**4.3**	**-33.7**
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	235	254	404	-7.5	-41.8
Construction	180	225	312	-20.0	-42.3
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	154	123	197	25.2	-21.8
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	51	33	60	54.5	-15.0
Financial Activities	1	7	4	-85.7	-75.0
Prof. & Business Svcs.	56	40	53	40.0	5.7
Educational & Health Svcs.	25	19	32	31.6	-21.9
Leisure & Hospitality	18	19	40	-5.3	-55.0
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	13	9	15	44.4	-13.3
UNCLASSIFIED	12	10	9	20.0	33.3

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

Wyoming Normalized[a] Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Continued Claims

by: Sherry Wen, Principal Economist

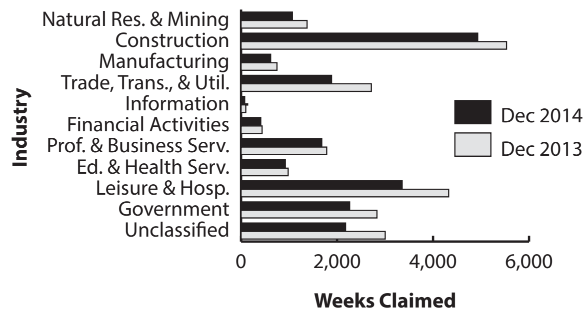
Continued claims decreased across all industries in Wyoming from December 2013. A significant decrease was seen in retail trade (-530, or -37.8%).

Continued Claims

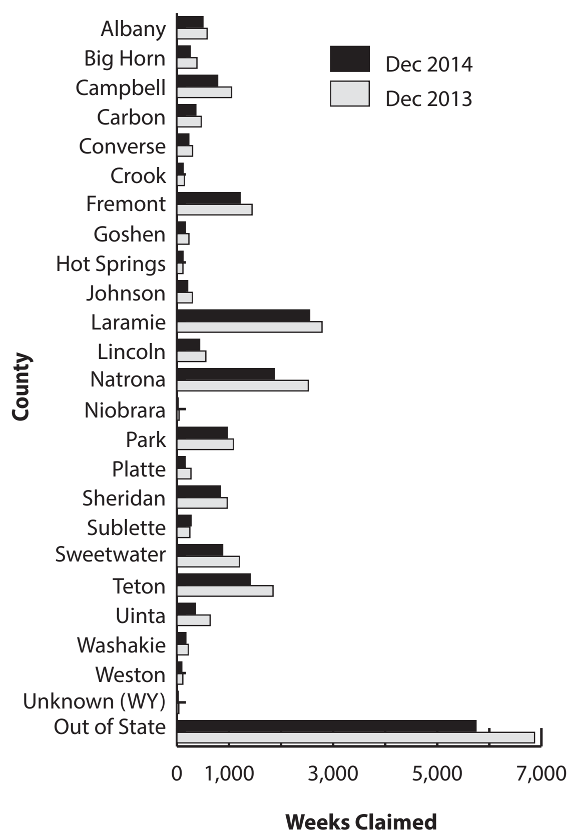
	Claims Filed			Percent Change Claims Filed	
	Dec 14	Nov 14	Dec 13	Dec 14 Nov 14	Dec 14 Dec 13
Wyoming Statewide					
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	**19,747**	**16,199**	**24,411**	**21.9**	**-19.1**
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS[b]	5,117	5,103	7,427	0.3	-31.1
Benefit Exhaustions	273	246	404	11.0	-32.4
Benefit Exhaustion Rates	5.3%	4.8%	5.4%	0.5%	0.1%
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	6,617	4,164	7,655	58.9	-13.6
Natural Res. & Mining	1,069	791	1,375	35.1	-22.3
Mining	887	663	1,213	33.8	-26.9
Oil & Gas Extraction	127	81	141	56.8	-9.9
Construction	4,930	2,888	5,531	70.7	-10.9
Manufacturing	616	483	748	27.5	-17.6
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	8,690	8,648	10,920	0.5	-20.4
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	1,885	1,617	2,714	16.6	-30.5
Wholesale Trade	309	300	430	3.0	-28.1
Retail Trade	872	741	1,402	17.7	-37.8
Transp., Warehousing & Utilities	704	576	882	22.2	-20.2
Information	75	68	98	10.3	-23.5
Financial Activities	410	422	438	-2.8	-6.4
Prof. & Business Services	1,681	1,309	1,784	28.4	-5.8
Educational & Health Svcs.	922	790	981	16.7	-6.0
Leisure and Hospitality	3,356	4,131	4,325	-18.8	-22.4
Other Svcs., exc. Public Admin.	355	304	572	16.8	-37.9
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	2,262	1,786	2,831	26.7	-20.1
Federal Government	1,328	889	1,389	49.4	-4.4
State Government	188	205	327	-8.3	-42.5
Local Government	745	690	1,113	8.0	-33.1
Local Education	115	138	211	-16.7	-45.5
UNCLASSIFIED	2,177	1,601	3,003	36.0	-27.5
Laramie County					
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	**2,550**	**1,950**	**2,787**	**30.8**	**-8.5**
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	**689**	**684**	**889**	**0.7**	**-22.5**
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	1,126	758	1,255	48.5	-10.3
Construction	935	598	1,085	56.4	-13.8
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	1,114	881	1,251	26.4	-11.0
Trade, Transp., and Utilities	316	214	397	47.7	-20.4
Financial Activities	90	114	98	-21.1	-8.2
Prof. & Business Svcs.	336	295	388	13.9	-13.4
Educational and Health Svcs.	242	171	194	41.5	24.7
Leisure & Hospitality	121	89	129	36.0	-6.2
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	226	240	241	-5.8	-6.2
UNCLASSIFIED	82	70	38	17.1	115.8
Natrona County					
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	**1,870**	**1,412**	**2,523**	**32.4**	**-25.9**
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	**497**	**474**	**817**	**4.9**	**-39.2**
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	823	540	1,172	52.4	-29.8
Construction	620	400	726	55.0	-14.6
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	904	752	1,189	20.2	-24.0
Trade, Transp., and Utilities	265	209	376	26.8	-29.5
Financial Activities	36	47	44	-23.4	-18.2
Professional & Business Svcs.	326	272	293	19.9	11.3
Educational & Health Svcs.	177	144	173	22.9	2.3
Leisure & Hospitality	97	99	215	-2.0	-54.9
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	73	64	103	14.1	-29.1
UNCLASSIFIED	68	55	57	23.6	19.3

[a]An average month is considered 4.33 weeks. If a month has four weeks, the normalization factor is 1.0825. If the month has five weeks, the normalization factor is 0.866. The number of raw claims is multiplied by the normalization factor to achieve the normalized claims counts.
[b]Does not include claimants receiving extended benefits.

Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by Industry, December 2014



Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by County, December 2014



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