

TRENDS

Comparing Wyoming's Two Metropolitan Areas: Casper and Cheyenne

by: **David Bullard**, Senior Economist

During the 2015 to 2016 economic downturn in Wyoming, the Casper MSA fared much worse than the Cheyenne MSA with larger job losses and higher unemployment. The differences are likely due to Casper's dependence on the energy sector and Cheyenne's dependence on the government sector.

Wyoming's economy has been through a number of ups and downs in the past 30 years. This article compares employment in Wyoming's two metropolitan statistical areas (MSA) from 1990 to 2020 and explains how these two areas fared differently during the last two economic downturns in the state. It incorporates seasonally adjusted data from the Current Employment Statistics (CES) program and the Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program.

Research & Planning (R&P) has not published seasonally adjusted data for Casper and Cheyenne in the past. These seasonally adjusted data series differ from the data published every month in *Wyoming Labor Force Trends*, but they are very useful in comparing business cycles

for different areas and identifying peaks and troughs in economic activity.

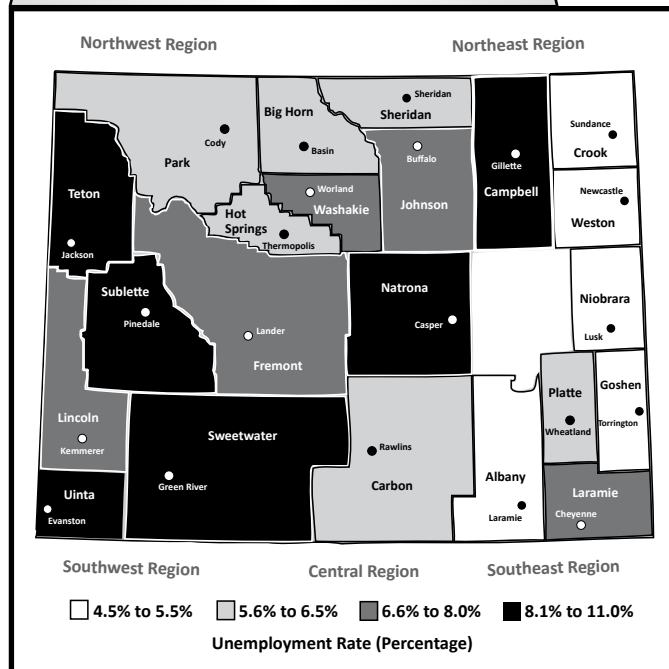
The National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER, 2020) determined that the national Great Recession lasted from December 2007 to June 2009. Wyoming's economic downturn lagged behind the national recession, and lasted five quarters from first quarter 2009 (2009Q1) to first quarter 2010 (2010Q1). R&P has defined an *economic downturn* as "a period of at least two consecutive quarters of over-the-year decrease in average monthly employment and total wages based on data from the [Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages]" (Moore, 2020).

(Text continued on page 3)

HIGHLIGHTS

- Wyoming is projected to add more than 19,000 new jobs from 2018 to 2028, according to the newest long-term industry and occupational projections for Wyoming ... [page 5](#)
- A total of \$28.5 million was paid out in Wyoming Unemployment Insurance benefits in June 2020, a 1,038.5% increase from a year earlier. ... [page 12](#)

Unemployment Rate by Wyoming County, June 2020 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



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(Text continued from page 1)

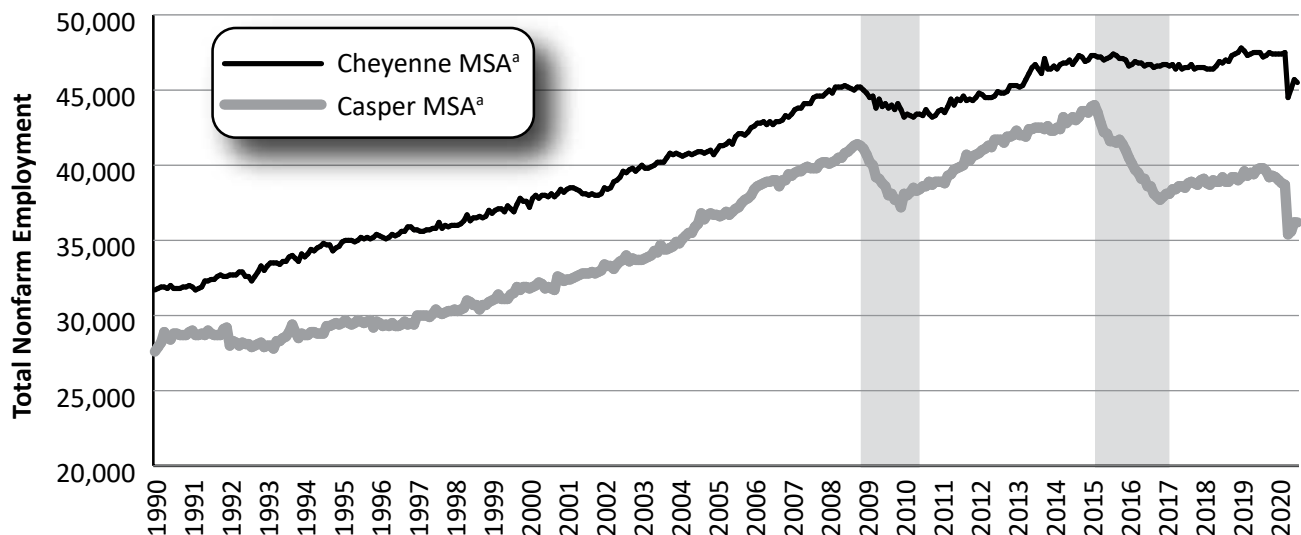
Figure 1 shows total nonfarm employment for the Casper MSA, which consists of Natrona County, and the Cheyenne MSA, which consists of Laramie County. During 2008, employment in both Casper and Cheyenne began to decline. The Casper MSA's employment peaked at 41,400 in October 2008, and then fell to a low point of 37,200 in December 2009, for a decrease of 4,200 jobs, or 10.1%. The Cheyenne MSA's employment did not fall as steeply, but it declined from 45,300 in June 2008 to 43,200 in April 2010 (a decrease of 2,100 jobs, or 4.6%).

Unemployment rates for both areas are shown in Figure 2 (see page 4). Not surprisingly, as employment fell, unemployment rose. Casper's unemployment rate increased from a low of 2.3% in December 2007 to a high of 7.6% in January 2010. Cheyenne's unemployment rate rose

from 3.2% in December 2007 to 7.1% in February 2010. Wyoming experienced another economic downturn from 2015Q2 to 2016Q4. However, the national economy continued to grow, and did not fall into recession (NBER, 2020).

Total nonfarm employment in Casper fell from 44,000 in February 2015 to 37,700 in November 2016 (a decrease of 6,300 jobs, or 14.3%; see Figure 1). Cheyenne's employment fell from 47,400 in August 2015 to 46,500 in September 2016 (a decrease of 900 jobs, or 1.9%). Approximately two in every five jobs lost in Casper (39.7%) in 2015 and 2016 were in the natural resources & mining sector (including oil & gas).

Casper's unemployment rate rose from 3.4% in December 2014 to 7.7% in June 2016 (an increase of 4.3 percentage points), while Cheyenne's unemployment rate barely increased at all, rising from



Note: Seasonally Adjusted Data.

^aMetropolitan Statistical Area.

Shaded areas represent periods of economic downturn: 2009Q1-2010Q1 and 2015Q2-2016Q4.

Source: Current Employment Statistics program. Published in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

Prepared by D. Bullard, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 9/17/20.

Figure 1: Total Nonfarm Employment in Casper MSA and Cheyenne MSA, January 1990 to July 2020

4.0% in October 2015 to 4.4% in April 2016 (see Figure 2). In other words, Casper's unemployment rate increased by more than four percentage points, while Cheyenne's increased by four-tenths of a percentage point.

Why did Casper's economy fare so poorly during the economic downturn of 2015-2016? It appears that Casper is more vulnerable to declines in energy prices because of its dependence on the mining sector (including oil & gas). In 2014, 10.2% of all jobs in the Casper MSA were in the natural resources & mining sector, according to data from the CES.

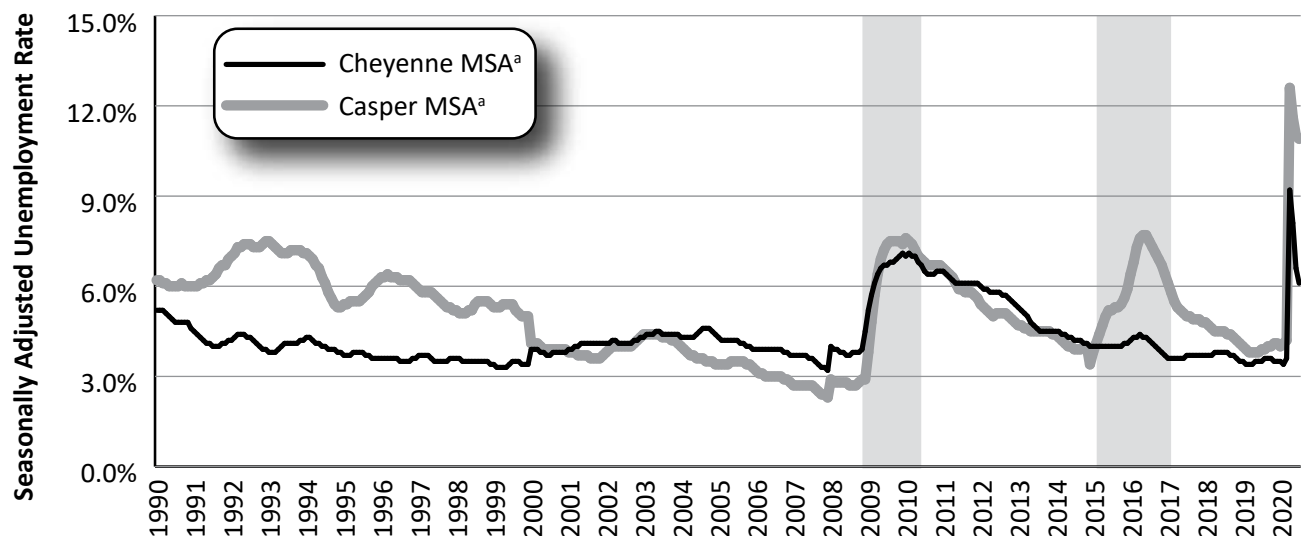
Similar to how Casper's economy relies heavily on mining jobs, Cheyenne's economy is skewed toward government. In 2019, federal, state, and local government accounted for 29.3% of total nonfarm employment in Cheyenne, but only 14.2% of jobs in Casper.

In summary, Casper's economy suffered a larger impact from the economic downturn of 2015-2016 than Cheyenne's economy. Casper's labor market is largely driven by the mining sector, while Cheyenne is more dependent on government employment, which has proven to be more stable.

References

Moore, M. (2020, April). 2019Q4 quarterly update: Wyoming's moderate job growth continues. *Wyoming Labor Force Trends*, 57(4). Research & Planning, WY DWS. Retrieved September 15, 2020, from <https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/trends/0420/0420.pdf>

National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) (2020). U.S. Business Cycle Expansions and Contractions. Retrieved September 15, 2020, from <https://www.nber.org/cycles.html>



Note: Seasonally Adjusted Data.

^aMetropolitan Statistical Area.

Shaded areas represent periods of economic downturn: 2009Q1-2010Q1 and 2015Q2-2016Q4.

Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics program. Published in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

Prepared by D. Bullard, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 9/17/20.

Figure 2: Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates for Casper MSA and Cheyenne MSA, January 1990 to July 2020

Wyoming Long-Term Employment Projections, 2018-2028

by: **Patrick Manning, Principal Economist**

Wyoming is projected to add more than 19,000 new jobs from 2018 to 2028, according to the newest long-term industry and occupational projections from the Research & Planning (R&P) section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services. This represents a growth of approximately 7% in the number of jobs in Wyoming.

R&P publishes long-term industry and occupational projections for Wyoming every two years. Projections are based on historic trends of how employment levels respond to market conditions. Annual data from 2000 to 2018 were used in the creation of the 2018-2028 projections, with more recent years given more weight in the projection analysis. It is important to note that these

projections were published prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. For the complete long-term projections, please see <https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/projections.htm>.

Industry Projections

Industries are defined by the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). The long-term industry projections for 2018-2028 were conducted at the NAICS three-digit *subsector* level, and the estimates were then rolled up to the two-digit *sector* level (see Figure 1). In mining, for example, projections were developed for oil & gas extraction (NAICS 211), mining, except oil & gas (NAICS 212), and support activities for mining (NAICS 213); these estimates were then rolled up to

produce projections for the sector of mining, including oil & gas (NAICS 21). Overall, Wyoming is projected to grow from 274,352 jobs in 2018 to 293,384 in 2028, an increase of 19,032 jobs, or 6.9% (see Table 1, page 6).

Mining, including oil & gas (NAICS 21) is one of the most important industries in Wyoming in terms of employment, wages, economic output, and tax revenue. For example, in 2019, mining accounted for 7.5% of all jobs and 14.0% of total wages (Research & Planning, 2020). Employment in mining is projected to contract from 20,694 to 18,812 in 2028, a loss of 1,882 jobs, or 9.1% (see Table 1, page 6).

The mining, except oil & gas subsector (NAICS 212) is projected to decrease by 1,430 jobs, or 17.7%. This is largely a function of a decrease in the demand for coal. Support activities for mining (NAICS 213) is projected to decrease by 410 jobs (4.3%), and oil & gas extraction (NAICS 211) is projected to decrease by 42 jobs, or 1.4%.

Other two-digit industry sectors that are projected to decrease in employment

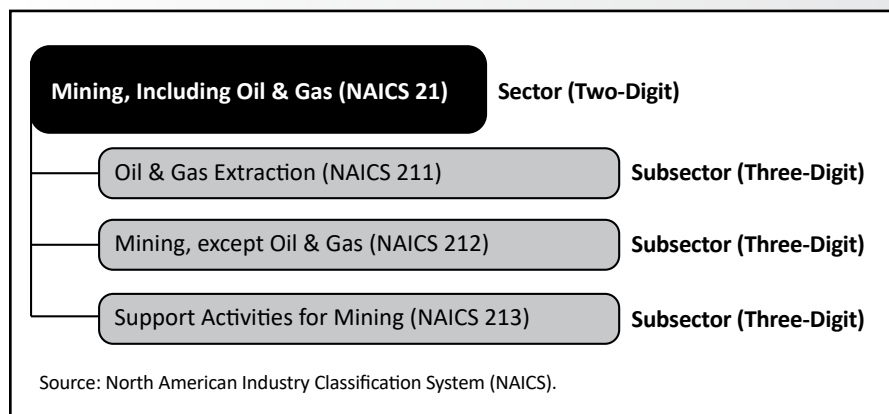


Figure 1: North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) Structure of Selected Levels for Mining, Including Oil & Gas Sector (NAICS 21)

include retail trade (NAICS 44-45; -399, or -1.4%), information (NAICS 51; -321, or -9.0%), and management of companies & enterprises (NAICS 55; -12, or -1.4%).

Leisure & hospitality is a *supersector* comprised of arts, entertainment, & recreation (NAICS 71) and accommodation & food services (NAICS 72). Leisure & hospitality often contributes more jobs than any other industry to total employment. In 2019, 13.4% of all jobs in Wyoming were in leisure & hospitality, which also contributed 5.9% of total wages (Research & Planning, 2020). Overall, leisure & hospitality is projected to add

4,825 jobs from 2018-2028, an increase of 13.3%.

Several other industries are projected to add jobs over the next 10 years. Two-digit sectors that are expected to grow at a rate of more than 10% (or 1% per year) include professional, scientific, & technical services (NAICS 54; 16.8%), health care & social assistance (NAICS 62; 16.5%), administration & support & waste management & remediation services (NAICS 56; 15.4%), construction (NAICS 23; 11.4%), wholesale trade (NAICS 42; 10.5%), and real estate & rental & leasing (NAICS 53; 10.1%).

Table 1: Wyoming Long-Term Industry Employment Projections by 2-Digit Sector and Selected 2-Digit Subsector^a, 2018-2028

NAICS ^b Code	Industry	Base Year	Projected	Change	
		2018	2028	N	%
	Total, All Industries	274,352	293,384	19,032	6.9
11	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting	2,795	3,006	211	7.5
21	Mining	20,694	18,812	-1,882	-9.1
211	Oil & Gas Extraction	3,039	2,997	-42	-1.4
212	Mining (except Oil & Gas)	8,101	6,671	-1,430	-17.7
213	Support Activities for Mining	9,554	9,144	-410	-4.3
22	Utilities	2,508	2,615	107	4.3
23	Construction	20,253	22,560	2,307	11.4
42	Wholesale Trade	8,198	9,062	864	10.5
44	Retail Trade	29,288	28,889	-399	-1.4
48	Transportation & Warehousing	13,043	14,244	1,201	9.2
51	Information	3,555	3,234	-321	-9.0
52	Finance & Insurance	6,897	7,174	277	4.0
53	Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	4,227	4,654	427	10.1
54	Professional, Scientific, & Technical Services	9,293	10,853	1,560	16.8
55	Management of Companies & Enterprises	864	852	-12	-1.4
56	Administrative & Support & Waste Management & Remediation Services	8,581	9,901	1,320	15.4
61	Educational Services	27,595	29,287	1,692	6.1
62	Health Care & Social Assistance	32,969	38,417	5,448	16.5
71-72	Leisure & Hospitality ^c	36,402	41,227	4,825	13.3
71	Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	3,611	4,274	663	18.4
72	Accommodation & Food Services	32,791	36,953	4,162	12.7
81	Other Services (except Government)	7,260	7,477	217	3.0

^aThe full table is available at https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/projections/2020/Long_Term_2018-28_Industry.htm.

^bNorth American Industry Classification System.

^cLeisure & hospitality is a supersector comprised of NAICS 71 and 72.

Source: Wyoming Long-Term Industry and Occupational Projections, 2018-2028.

Prepared by P. Manning, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 7/6/20.

In terms of the number of jobs that are expected to be added, health care & social assistance is anticipated to add the most (5,448), followed by accommodation & food services (4,162) and construction (2,307).

Occupational Projections

Staffing patterns from the Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) program were used for occupational projections. In addition to openings due to *change* (growth or decline), occupational projections also include openings due to exits and transfers (BLS, 2020).

Exits refer to workers leaving an occupation and exiting the labor force entirely. Labor force exits are more common at older ages as workers retire, but can occur at any age. Labor force exits are not necessarily permanent exits from the labor force; for example, some workers exit the labor force to pursue additional education with the intention of returning to the labor force. They do represent permanent separations from an occupation.

Transfers are the projected number of workers leaving an occupation and changing to a different occupation. Transfers represent permanent separations from an occupation, not temporary movements where the worker is expected to return to the same occupation in the future.

The number of *total job openings* is the sum of openings due to change, exits, and transfers.

Occupational projections also include the typical education required for a specific

occupation. Table 2 (see page 8) shows the top five occupations with the greatest number of total projected job openings for each educational requirement.

For example, heavy & tractor-trailer truck drivers (SOC 53-3032) requires a postsecondary certificate, and is projected to add 642 new jobs due to growth from 2018 to 2028, along with 2,982 jobs due to exits and 5,254 due to transfers. Overall, the total number of projected openings for this occupation is 8,878 over the next 10 years.

Wyoming's economy is largely predicated on extractive reserves. Future oil prices, which were relatively low in the \$40 per barrel range as of September 2020 (EIA, 2020), and the future demand for coal will have a large impact on the overall economy. The COVID-19 pandemic may temper these projections at least in the short-term.

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Table 2: Top 5 Occupations by Projected Total Openings for Wyoming by Educational Requirement, 2018-2028

				Number of Openings Due to:			
SOC ^a Code	Occupation	2018	2028	Change	Exits	Transfers	Total Openings
Total, All Occupations		292,406	312,819	20,413	132,183	218,177	370,773
No Formal Education							
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	8,415	8,561	146	4,878	7,520	12,544
41-2011	Cashiers	6,810	6,517	-293	5,947	6,623	12,277
35-3021	Combined Food Prep. & Serving Workers ...	5,526	6,511	985	4,799	5,919	11,703
35-3031	Waiters & Waitresses	5,005	5,421	416	3,618	6,388	10,422
37-2011	Janitors & Cleaners, Exc. Maids & House. Cleaners	4,852	5,385	533	3,130	3,611	7,274
Total, All Occupations		76,974	82,679	5,705	47,382	73,284	126,371
High School Diploma							
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	7,622	7,610	-12	4,257	4,858	9,103
39-9021	Personal Care Aides	2,533	3,528	995	2,239	1,985	5,219
47-2073	Operating Engineers & Other Const. Equip. Ops.	4,394	4,208	-186	1,460	3,499	4,773
43-5081	Stock Clerks & Order Fillers	3,172	3,383	211	1,659	2,704	4,574
47-2031	Carpenters	3,529	3,835	306	1,151	2,659	4,116
Total, All Occupations		120,263	126,275	6,012	52,277	89,137	147,426
Postsecondary Certificate or Some College, No Degree							
53-3032	Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	6,923	7,565	642	2,982	5,254	8,878
31-1014	Nursing Assistants	3,402	3,779	377	1,930	2,094	4,401
25-9041	Teacher Assistants	3,440	3,661	221	1,884	1,857	3,962
43-3031	Bookkeeping, Accounting, & Auditing Clerks	3,205	3,219	14	1,954	1,788	3,756
49-3023	Automotive Service Technicians & Mechanics	1,666	1,639	-27	449	1,160	1,582
Total, All Occupations		34,874	37,398	2,524	16,543	21,947	41,014
Associate's Degree							
25-2011	Preschool Teachers, Except Special Ed.	823	889	66	339	520	925
19-4093	Forest & Conservation Technicians	613	629	16	169	567	752
23-2011	Paralegals & Legal Assistants	515	603	88	187	405	680
19-4031	Chemical Technicians	387	412	25	76	322	423
29-2021	Dental Hygienists	446	490	44	195	118	357
Total, All Occupations		6,986	7,675	689	2,251	4,618	7,558
Bachelor's Degree							
11-1021	General & Operations Managers	5,366	5,837	471	1,175	3,690	5,336
29-1141	Registered Nurses	5,072	5,888	816	1,521	1,406	3,743
25-3098	Substitute Teachers	2,391	2,537	146	1,423	1,386	2,955
13-2011	Accountants & Auditors	1,994	2,192	198	590	1,360	2,148
25-2021	Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Ed.	2,461	2,614	153	789	1,082	2,024
Total, All Occupations		49,831	54,249	4,418	14,613	28,915	47,946
Master's Degree							
21-1012	Educational, Guidance, School, & Voc. Counselors	615	686	71	211	455	737
25-4021	Librarians	348	370	22	193	164	379
11-9032	Education Admin., Elementary & Secondary School	405	434	29	108	217	354
25-9031	Instructional Coordinators	277	296	19	119	147	285
21-1023	Mental Health & Substance Abuse Social Workers	206	260	54	69	159	282
Total, All Occupations		4,418	5,048	630	1,423	2,486	4,539
Doctoral or Professional Degree							
23-1011	Lawyers	1,013	1,117	104	229	282	615
19-3031	Clinical, Counseling, & School Psychologists	419	476	57	100	214	371
29-1123	Physical Therapists	487	602	115	100	127	342
25-1199	Postsecondary Teachers, All Other	347	371	24	132	165	321
29-1051	Pharmacists	593	616	23	143	129	295
Total, All Occupations		5,890	6,595	705	71	1,779	4,014

Note: Growth + Exits + Transfers = Total Openings.

^aStandard Occupational Classification.

Source: Wyoming Long-Term Employment Projections, 2018-2028.

Prepared by P. Manning, Research & Planning, WY DWS.

Wyoming Unemployment Falls to 7.6% in June 2020

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

The Research & Planning section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services reported that the state's seasonally adjusted¹ unemployment rate fell from 8.8% in May to 7.6% in June. This decrease in unemployment suggests that Wyoming's economy continues to recover from the sharp contraction seen in April. It appears that the lifting of some COVID-19 pandemic restrictions and the reopening of businesses have resulted in many individuals returning to work. While still elevated, Wyoming's unemployment rate was significantly lower than the U.S. rate of 11.1%.

Unemployment rates fell from May to June in most Wyoming counties, suggesting some improvement in local labor markets. The largest unemployment rate decreases occurred in Teton County (down from 15.0% to 9.3%), Park County

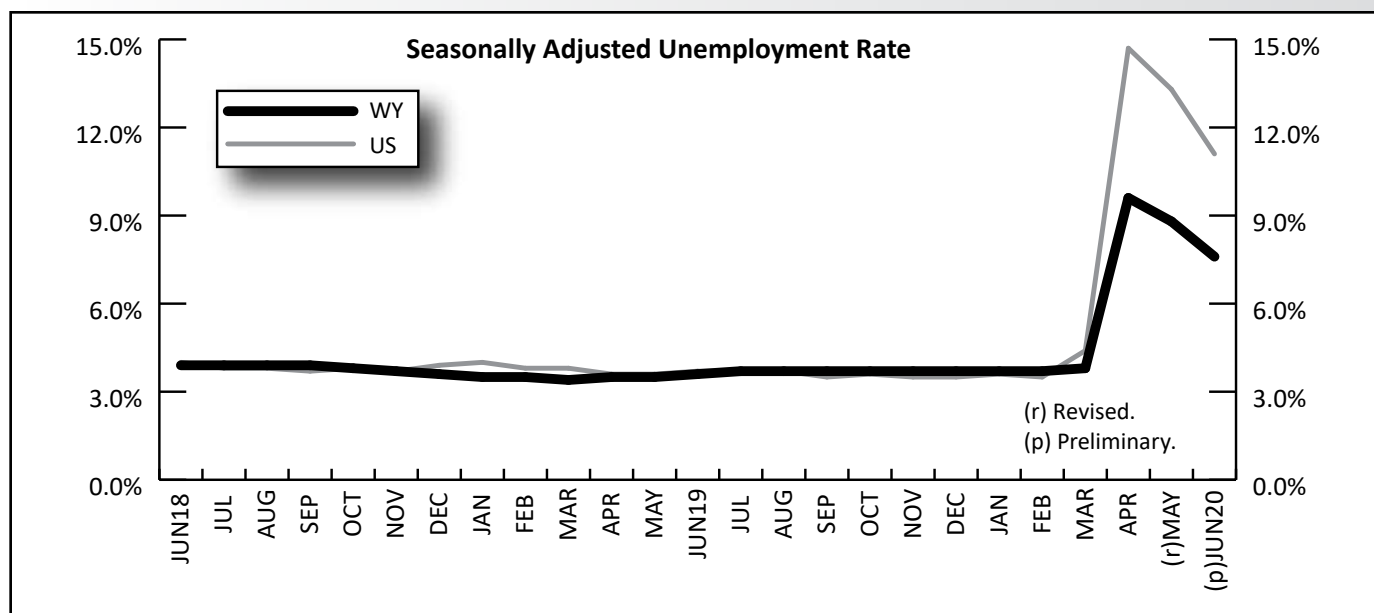
(down from 8.4% to 6.3%), Sheridan County (down from 7.7% to 5.8%), and Sublette County (down from 9.8% to 8.4%).

From June 2019 to June 2020, unemployment rates rose in every county. The largest increases were seen in Teton County (up from 2.2% to 9.3%), Natrona County (up from 4.1% to 11.0%), Campbell County (up from 3.5% to 9.5%), and Sweetwater County (up from 3.9% to 9.4%).

Natrona County had the highest unemployment rate in June at 11.0%. It was followed by Campbell County at 9.5%, Sweetwater County at 9.4%, and Teton County at 9.3%. The lowest unemployment rates were found in Albany County at 4.5%, Niobrara and Goshen counties, both at 4.8%, and Crook County at 4.9%.

Total nonfarm employment in Wyoming (not seasonally adjusted and measured by place of work) decreased from 298,500 in June 2019 to 277,500 in June 2020, a decline of 21,000 jobs (-7.0%).

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 Internal Estimates, June 2020

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

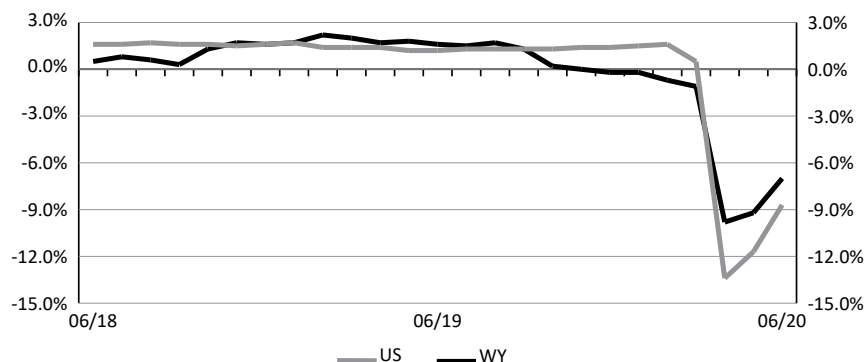
Industry Sector	Research & Planning's Internal Estimates	Current Employment Statistics (CES) Estimates	N Difference	% Difference
Total Nonfarm	296,777	277,500	-19,277	-6.9%
Natural Resources & Mining	19,255	15,600	-3,655	-23.4%
Construction	24,248	24,000	-248	-1.0%
Manufacturing	9,932	10,400	468	4.5%
Wholesale Trade	8,354	7,600	-754	-9.9%
Retail Trade	29,706	30,400	694	2.3%
Transportation & Utilities	14,837	14,500	-337	-2.3%
Information	3,358	3,000	-358	-11.9%
Financial Activities	11,448	10,900	-548	-5.0%
Professional & Business Services	19,604	18,200	-1,404	-7.7%
Educational & Health Services	28,347	27,900	-447	-1.6%
Leisure & Hospitality	41,871	33,400	-8,471	-25.4%
Other Services	16,491	14,900	-1,591	-10.7%
Government	69,326	66,700	-2,626	-3.9%

Internal Estimates were run in July 2020 and based on QCEW data through March 2020.

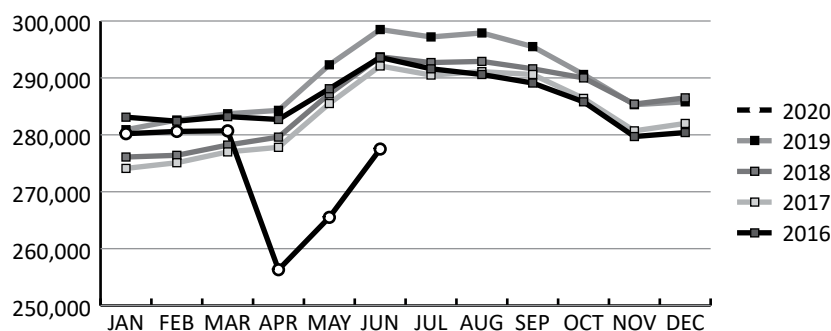
State Unemployment Rates June 2020 (Seasonally Adjusted)

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	-
Massachusetts	17.4
New Jersey	16.6
New York	15.7
Nevada	15.0
California	14.9
Michigan	14.8
Illinois	14.6
Hawaii	13.9
Pennsylvania	13.0
Delaware	12.5
Alaska	12.4
Rhode Island	12.4
New Hampshire	11.8
Indiana	11.2
Oregon	11.2
United States	11.1
Ohio	10.9
Colorado	10.5
Florida	10.4
West Virginia	10.4
Arizona	10.0
Connecticut	9.8
Washington	9.8
Louisiana	9.7
Tennessee	9.7
Vermont	9.4
Mississippi	8.7
South Carolina	8.7
District of Columbia	8.6
Minnesota	8.6
Texas	8.6
Wisconsin	8.5
Virginia	8.4
New Mexico	8.3
Arkansas	8.0
Iowa	8.0
Maryland	8.0
Missouri	7.9
Georgia	7.6
North Carolina	7.6
Wyoming	7.6
Alabama	7.5
Kansas	7.5
South Dakota	7.2
Montana	7.1
Nebraska	6.7
Maine	6.6
Oklahoma	6.6
North Dakota	6.1
Idaho	5.6
Utah	5.1
Kentucky	4.3

Nonagricultural Employment Growth (Percentage Change Over Previous Year)



Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment



Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

State Unemployment Rates June 2020 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	Employment in Thousands			% Change Total Employment	
	Jun 20	May 20	Jun 19	Jun 20 May 20	Jun 20 Jun 19
CAMPBELL COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	25.1	25.2	26.3	-0.4	-4.6
TOTAL PRIVATE	20.0	20.1	21.1	-0.5	-5.2
GOODS PRODUCING	7.7	7.9	8.7	-2.5	-11.5
Natural Resources & Mining	5.1	5.4	6.1	-5.6	-16.4
Construction	2.0	1.9	2.1	5.3	-4.8
Manufacturing	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.0	20.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	17.4	17.3	17.6	0.6	-1.1
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	5.4	5.4	5.4	0.0	0.0
Information	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.0	-33.3
Financial Activities	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
Professional & Business Services	1.6	1.6	1.7	0.0	-5.9
Educational & Health Services	1.2	1.1	1.1	9.1	9.1
Leisure & Hospitality	2.4	2.4	2.4	0.0	0.0
Other Services	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.0
GOVERNMENT	5.1	5.1	5.2	0.0	-1.9

	Employment in Thousands			% Change Total Employment	
	Jun 20	May 20	Jun 19	Jun 20 May 20	Jun 20 Jun 19
SWEETWATER COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	22.2	22.1	23.5	0.5	-5.5
TOTAL PRIVATE	17.5	17.2	18.9	1.7	-7.4
GOODS PRODUCING	6.7	6.6	7.7	1.5	-13.0
Natural Resources & Mining	3.8	3.8	4.5	0.0	-15.6
Construction	1.5	1.5	1.8	0.0	-16.7
Manufacturing	1.4	1.3	1.4	7.7	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	15.5	15.5	15.8	0.0	-1.9
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	4.4	4.4	4.6	0.0	-4.3
Information	0.2	0.1	0.1	100.0	100.0
Financial Activities	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.0	-14.3
Professional & Business Services	1.0	1.0	1.2	0.0	-16.7
Educational & Health Services	1.4	1.4	1.4	0.0	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality	2.5	2.4	2.5	4.2	0.0
Other Services	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
GOVERNMENT	4.7	4.9	4.6	-4.1	2.2

	Employment in Thousands			% Change Total Employment	
	Jun 20	May 20	Jun 19	Jun 20 May 20	Jun 20 Jun 19
TETON COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	23.4	19.9	24.0	17.6	-2.5
TOTAL PRIVATE	20.5	17.1	21.1	19.9	-2.8
GOODS PRODUCING	2.5	2.4	2.4	4.2	4.2
Natural Resources, Mining & Construction	2.3	2.2	2.2	4.5	4.5
Manufacturing	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	20.9	17.5	21.6	19.4	-3.2
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	3.0	2.5	3.3	20.0	-9.1
Information	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	1.2	1.1	1.1	9.1	9.1
Professional & Business Services	2.2	2.0	2.3	10.0	-4.3
Educational & Health Services	1.2	1.2	1.2	0.0	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality	9.7	7.2	10.0	34.7	-3.0
Other Services	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.0	-16.7
GOVERNMENT	2.9	2.8	2.9	3.6	0.0

State	Unemp. Rate
Massachusetts	17.5
New Jersey	16.4
New York	15.6
Nevada	15.2
California	15.1
Michigan	14.9
Illinois	14.6
Hawaii	14.4
Pennsylvania	13.1
Delaware	12.7
Alaska	12.3
Rhode Island	12.1
New Hampshire	11.7
Oregon	11.3
Indiana	11.2
United States	11.2
Ohio	11.1
Colorado	10.7
Florida	10.7
Louisiana	10.5
West Virginia	10.4
Arizona	10.3
Tennessee	10.1
Connecticut	10.0
Mississippi	9.7
Washington	9.7
Vermont	9.4
District of Columbia	9.0
New Mexico	9.0
South Carolina	8.9
Texas	8.9
Wisconsin	8.7
Minnesota	8.5
Puerto Rico	8.5
Virginia	8.5
Maryland	8.3
Arkansas	8.2
Alabama	8.0
Georgia	7.9
Iowa	7.9
Missouri	7.9
North Carolina	7.9
Kansas	7.6
Wyoming	7.6
Montana	7.0
South Dakota	7.0
Nebraska	6.9
Oklahoma	6.8
Maine	6.4
North Dakota	6.3
Utah	5.5
Idaho	5.3
Kentucky	4.8

Economic Indicators

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

A total of \$28.5 million was paid out in Wyoming Unemployment Insurance benefits in June 2020, a 1,038.5% increase from a year earlier.

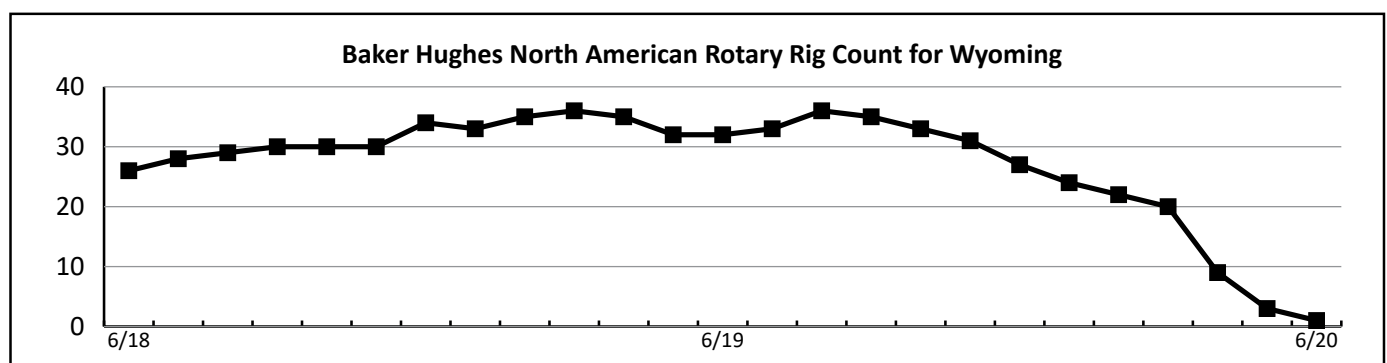
	Jun 2020 (p)	May 2020 (r)	Jun 2019(b)	Percent Change Month	Year
Wyoming Total Nonfarm Employment	277,500	265,500	298,500	4.5	-7.0
Wyoming State Government	13,800	14,300	14,200	-3.5	-2.8
Laramie County Nonfarm Employment	46,800	45,400	47,900	3.1	-2.3
Natrona County Nonfarm Employment	36,300	35,600	40,200	2.0	-9.7
Selected U.S. Employment Data					
U.S. Multiple Jobholders	6,114,000	5,509,000	7,987,000	11.0	-23.5
As a percent of all workers	4.3%	4.0%	5.1%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Discouraged Workers	684,000	598,000	425,000	14.4	60.9
U.S. Part Time for Economic Reasons	9,306,000	10,429,000	4,602,000	-10.8	102.2
Wyoming Unemployment Insurance					
Weeks Compensated	74,036	67,541	6,539	9.6	1,032.2
Benefits Paid	\$28,493,272	\$24,990,430	\$2,502,681	14.0	1,038.5
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	\$384.86	\$370.00	\$382.73	4.0	0.6
State Insured Covered Jobs ¹	276,582	268,143	274,863	3.1	0.6
Consumer Price Index (U) for All U.S. Urban Consumers (1982 to 1984 = 100)					
All Items	257.8	256.4	256.1	0.5	0.6
Food & Beverages	269.1	267.8	257.8	0.5	4.4
Housing	271.8	270.8	266.5	0.4	2.0
Apparel	114.7	114.6	123.7	0.1	-7.3
Transportation	195.6	191.4	213.1	2.2	-8.2
Medical Care	520.7	519.2	495.6	0.3	5.1
Recreation (Dec. 1997=100)	122.0	122.8	120.1	-0.6	1.6
Education & Communication (Dec. 1997=100)	139.3	139.3	137.3	-0.1	1.4
Other Goods & Services	462.1	460.7	449.3	0.3	2.8
Producer Prices (1982 to 1984 = 100)					
All Commodities	191.1	189.4	200.3	0.9	-4.6
Wyo. Bldg. Permits (New Privately Owned Housing Units Authorized)					
Total Units	190	165	181	15.2	5.0
Valuation	\$78,591,000	\$47,409,000	\$59,435,000	65.8	32.2
Single Family Homes	180	159	149	13.2	20.8
Valuation	\$77,882,000	\$46,146,000	\$56,321,000	68.8	38.3
Casper MSA ² Building Permits	18	7	15	157.1	20.0
Valuation	\$2,856,000	\$1,648,000	\$2,817,000	73.3	1.4
Cheyenne MSA Building Permits	35	35	51	0.0	-31.4
Valuation	\$7,272,000	\$6,728,000	\$8,615,000	8.1	-15.6
Baker Hughes North American Rotary Rig Count for Wyoming	1	3	32	-66.7	-96.9

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

¹Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program estimates.

²Metropolitan 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 <https://www.bls.gov/eag/eag.wy.htm>.



Wyoming County Unemployment Rates

by: **Carola Cowan, BLS Programs Supervisor**

Unemployment rates fell from May to June in most Wyoming counties, suggesting some improvement in local labor markets.

REGION	Labor Force			Employed			Unemployed			Unemployment Rates		
	Jun 2020	May 2020	Jun 2019	Jun 2020	May 2020	Jun 2019	Jun 2020	May 2020	Jun 2019	Jun 2020	May 2020	Jun 2019
County	(p)	(r)	(b)	(p)	(r)	(b)	(p)	(r)	(b)	(p)	(r)	(b)
NORTHWEST	46,517	44,810	47,521	43,317	41,248	45,614	3,200	3,562	1,907	6.9	7.9	4.0
Big Horn	5,406	5,118	5,555	5,105	4,820	5,323	301	298	232	5.6	5.8	4.2
Fremont	19,604	18,899	18,767	18,072	17,295	17,920	1,532	1,604	847	7.8	8.5	4.5
Hot Springs	2,252	2,172	2,232	2,115	2,023	2,152	137	149	80	6.1	6.9	3.6
Park	15,289	14,825	16,952	14,320	13,584	16,370	969	1,241	582	6.3	8.4	3.4
Washakie	3,966	3,796	4,015	3,705	3,526	3,849	261	270	166	6.6	7.1	4.1
NORTHEAST	52,878	50,814	51,690	48,929	46,593	49,931	3,949	4,221	1,759	7.5	8.3	3.4
Campbell	24,587	23,642	23,369	22,255	21,334	22,541	2,332	2,308	828	9.5	9.8	3.5
Crook	3,873	3,595	3,909	3,683	3,410	3,796	190	185	113	4.9	5.1	2.9
Johnson	4,262	4,077	4,453	3,967	3,746	4,308	295	331	145	6.9	8.1	3.3
Sheridan	16,246	15,770	16,060	15,309	14,561	15,502	937	1,209	558	5.8	7.7	3.5
Weston	3,910	3,730	3,899	3,715	3,542	3,784	195	188	115	5.0	5.0	2.9
SOUTHWEST	59,250	57,963	61,219	54,077	51,766	59,134	5,173	6,197	2,085	8.7	10.7	3.4
Lincoln	9,068	8,798	9,342	8,464	8,115	9,034	604	683	308	6.7	7.8	3.3
Sublette	4,217	4,002	4,309	3,864	3,609	4,127	353	393	182	8.4	9.8	4.2
Sweetwater	21,932	21,155	21,386	19,879	19,097	20,544	2,053	2,058	842	9.4	9.7	3.9
Teton	14,737	15,049	16,961	13,364	12,786	16,586	1,373	2,263	375	9.3	15.0	2.2
Uinta	9,296	8,959	9,221	8,506	8,159	8,843	790	800	378	8.5	8.9	4.1
SOUTHEAST	85,378	83,097	80,476	80,398	77,430	77,498	4,980	5,667	2,978	5.8	6.8	3.7
Albany	22,056	21,256	19,308	21,067	20,214	18,556	989	1,042	752	4.5	4.9	3.9
Goshen	6,756	6,340	6,720	6,432	6,006	6,452	324	334	268	4.8	5.3	4.0
Laramie	50,385	49,664	48,383	47,052	45,730	46,635	3,333	3,934	1,748	6.6	7.9	3.6
Niobrara	1,281	1,188	1,279	1,219	1,133	1,239	62	55	40	4.8	4.6	3.1
Platte	4,900	4,649	4,786	4,628	4,347	4,616	272	302	170	5.6	6.5	3.6
CENTRAL	57,312	56,185	56,502	51,785	50,409	54,391	5,527	5,776	2,111	9.6	10.3	3.7
Carbon	7,958	7,634	8,290	7,500	7,100	8,029	458	534	261	5.8	7.0	3.1
Converse	9,353	8,944	8,752	8,666	8,287	8,502	687	657	250	7.3	7.3	2.9
Natrona	40,001	39,607	39,460	35,619	35,022	37,860	4,382	4,585	1,600	11.0	11.6	4.1
STATEWIDE	301,336	292,873	297,410	278,504	267,447	286,570	22,832	25,426	10,840	7.6	8.7	3.6
Statewide Seasonally Adjusted										7.6	8.8	3.6
U.S.										11.2	13.0	3.8
U.S. Seasonally Adjusted										11.1	13.3	3.7

Prepared in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Benchmarked 03/2020. Run Date 07/2020.

Data are not seasonally adjusted except where otherwise specified.

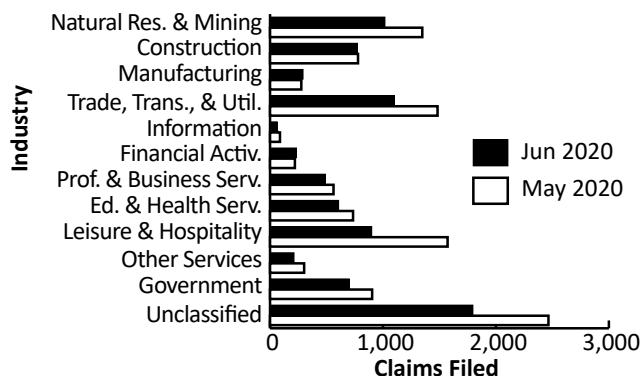
(p) Preliminary. (r) Revised. (b) Benchmarked.

Wyoming Normalized^a Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Initial Claims

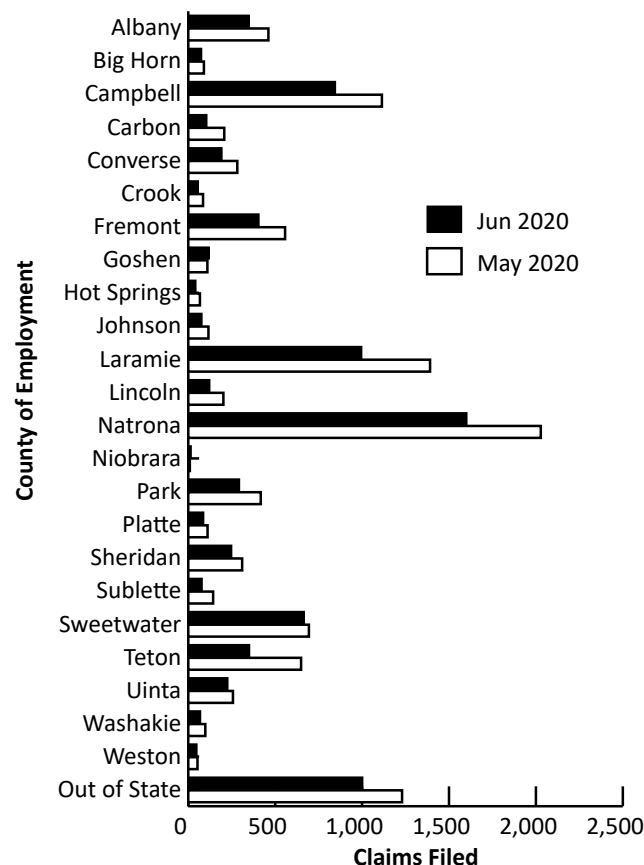
by: *Sherry Wen, Principal Economist*

Wyoming had 8,180 initial claims in June 2020, down from 10,741 in May (-2,561, or -23.8%).

**Initial Unemployment Insurance
Claims by Industry, May & June 2020**



**Initial Unemployment Insurance
Claims by County, May & June 2020**



Note: this month's Unemployment Insurance claims data focus on over-the-month changes rather than over-the-year changes.

Initial Claims

	Claims Filed			% Change	
	Jul 20	May 20	Jun 19	Over the Month	Over the Year
Wyoming Statewide					
Total Claims Filed	8,180	10,741	1,011	-23.8	709.1
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	2,081	2,405	341	-13.5	510.3
Natural Resources & Mining	1,016	1,348	58	-24.6	1,651.7
Mining	988	1,327	43	-25.5	2,197.7
Oil & Gas Extraction	41	43	4	-4.7	925.0
Construction	773	779	223	-0.8	246.6
Manufacturing	291	277	58	5.1	401.7
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	3,602	4,965	445	-27.5	709.4
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	1,100	1,483	131	-25.8	739.7
Wholesale Trade	386	450	25	-14.2	1,444.0
Retail Trade	401	623	66	-35.6	507.6
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities	312	409	39	-23.7	700.0
Information	62	88	8	-29.5	675.0
Financial Activities	233	220	16	5.9	1,356.3
Professional & Business Services	488	562	55	-13.2	787.3
Educational & Health Services	606	735	135	-17.6	348.9
Leisure & Hospitality	899	1,572	85	-42.8	957.6
Other Services, except Public Admin.	211	302	12	-30.1	1,658.3
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	700	904	109	-22.6	542.2
Federal Government	47	55	6	-14.5	683.3
State Government	110	171	10	-35.7	1,000.0
Local Government	542	678	92	-20.1	489.1
Local Education	302	344	36	-12.2	738.9
UNCLASSIFIED	1,795	2,465	114	-27.2	1,474.6
Laramie County					
Total Claims Filed	998	1,391	121	-28.3	724.8
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	154	199	33	-22.6	366.7
Construction	83	86	26	-3.5	219.2
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	506	729	75	-30.6	574.7
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	156	219	23	-28.8	578.3
Financial Activities	31	23	2	34.8	1,450.0
Professional & Business Services	89	88	9	1.1	888.9
Educational & Health Services	83	132	25	-37.1	232.0
Leisure & Hospitality	98	195	10	-49.7	880.0
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	89	125	8	-28.8	1,012.5
UNCLASSIFIED	246	336	3	-26.8	8,100.0
Natrona County					
Total Claims Filed	1,603	2,028	148	-21.0	983.1
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	414	458	51	-9.6	711.8
Construction	125	103	37	21.4	237.8
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	884	1,135	83	-22.1	965.1
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	315	392	26	-19.6	1,111.5
Financial Activities	60	50	3	20.0	1,900.0
Professional & Business Services	102	122	13	-16.4	684.6
Educational & Health Services	128	177	25	-27.7	412.0
Leisure & Hospitality	161	253	9	-36.4	1,688.9
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	50	61	6	-18.0	733.3
UNCLASSIFIED	253	372	8	-32.0	3,062.5

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

Wyoming Normalized^a Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Continued Claims by: Sherry Wen, Principal Economist

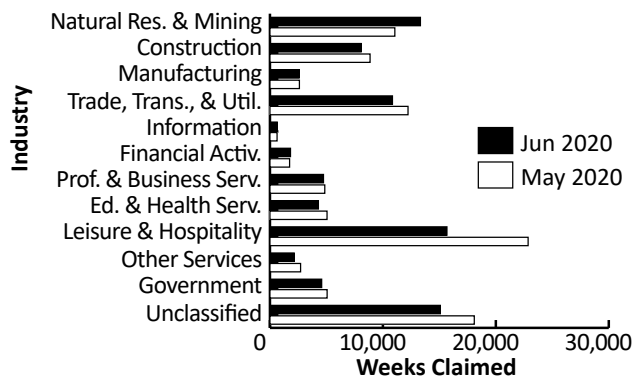
Wyoming had 83,807 total weeks claimed in June, down from a historic high of 95,769 in May (-11,962, or -12.5%).

Continued Claims

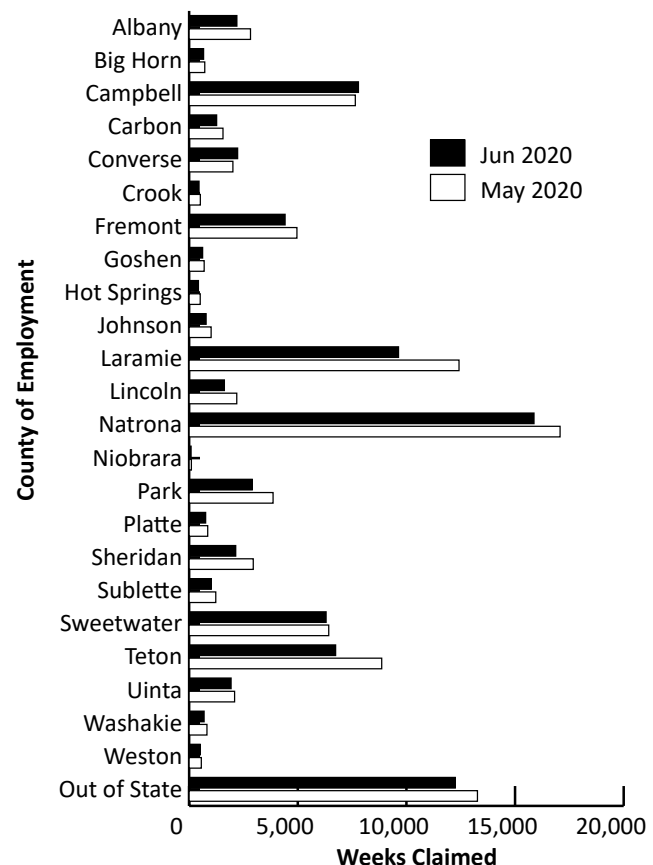
	Claims Filed			% Change	
	Jun 20	May 20	Jun 19	Over the Month	Over the Year
Wyoming Statewide					
Total Weeks Claimed	83,807	95,769	6,167	-12.5	1,259.0
Total Unique Claimants	22,717	25,409	2,543	-10.6	793.3
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	23,976	22,534	1,860	6.4	1,189.0
Natural Resources & Mining	13,323	11,058	456	20.5	2,821.7
Mining	13,148	10,872	419	20.9	3,037.9
Oil & Gas Extraction	391	348	86	12.4	354.7
Construction	8,071	8,865	1,023	-9.0	689.0
Manufacturing	2,581	2,609	380	-1.1	579.2
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	40,161	50,079	3,067	-19.8	1,209.5
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	10,847	12,225	907	-11.3	1,095.9
Wholesale Trade	2,830	2,174	161	30.2	1,657.8
Retail Trade	4,527	6,019	515	-24.8	779.0
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities	3,489	4,031	230	-13.4	1,417.0
Information	645	631	85	2.2	658.8
Financial Activities	1,820	1,740	161	4.6	1,030.4
Professional & Business Services	4,740	4,855	497	-2.4	853.7
Educational & Health Services	4,289	5,055	589	-15.2	628.2
Leisure & Hospitality	15,671	22,858	672	-31.4	2,232.0
Other Services, except Public Admin.	2,146	2,713	154	-20.9	1,293.5
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	4,580	5,062	533	-9.5	759.3
Federal Government	350	596	58	-41.3	503.4
State Government	342	374	58	-8.6	489.7
Local Government	3,887	4,091	416	-5.0	834.4
Local Education	2,106	2,074	96	1.5	2,093.8
UNCLASSIFIED	15,088	18,092	706	-16.6	2,037.1
Laramie County					
Total Weeks Claimed	9,637	12,421	724	-22.4	1,231.1
Total Unique Claimants	2,628	3,410	291	-22.9	803.1
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	1,906	2,041	100	-6.6	1,806.0
Construction	820	995	94	-17.6	772.3
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	5,418	7,608	464	-28.8	1,067.7
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	1,831	2,813	122	-34.9	1,400.8
Financial Activities	219	180	38	21.7	476.3
Professional & Business Services	615	678	86	-9.3	615.1
Educational & Health Services	611	886	109	-31.0	460.6
Leisure & Hospitality	1,719	2,485	59	-30.8	2,813.6
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	544	473	71	15.0	666.2
UNCLASSIFIED	1,767	2,298	88	-23.1	1,908.0
Natrona County					
Total Weeks Claimed	15,872	17,072	881	-7.0	1,701.6
Total Unique Claimants	4,280	4,646	359	-7.9	1,092.2
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	4,556	4,346	234	4.8	1,847.0
Construction	1,203	1,374	105	-12.4	1,045.7
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	8,540	9,483	571	-9.9	1,395.6
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	2,898	2,644	216	9.6	1,241.7
Financial Activities	509	465	29	9.5	1,655.2
Professional & Business Services	1,026	936	90	9.6	1,040.0
Educational & Health Services	815	982	116	-17.0	602.6
Leisure & Hospitality	2,389	3,417	77	-30.1	3,002.6
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	382	455	19	-16.0	1,910.5
UNCLASSIFIED	2,393	2,786	55	-14.1	4,250.9

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

Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by Industry, May & June 2020



Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by County, May & June 2020



**Wyoming Department of Workforce
Services, Research & Planning
P.O. Box 2760
Casper, WY 82602**

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