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TRENDS

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WE Connect: Employment, Earnings, and Postsecondary Enrollment of Wyoming High School Students

This article is compiled from a new five-part series of Workforce-Education Connection (WE Connect) publications from the Research & Planning (R&P) section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services. Parts 1 and 5 are included in their entirety, along with abstracts from parts 2, 3, and 4.

Part 1: Wyoming High School Students' Earnings and Postsecondary Enrollment

by: Michael Moore, Editor

What happens to students after they leave Wyoming high schools is a question of importance to educators and policymakers alike. Some high school students go on to attend Wyoming community colleges or the University of Wyoming, while others leave the state to obtain a postsecondary education. Some move directly into the labor market, while others drop out of the labor market for a variety of reasons, such as starting a family. This new series of publications from the Research & Planning (R&P) section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services offers a snapshot of what students earn during and after high school (see Figure 1, page 3), where they work (see Figure 2, page 3), and how many students are enrolled in a postsecondary program in Wyoming and surrounding states (see Figure 3, page 4).

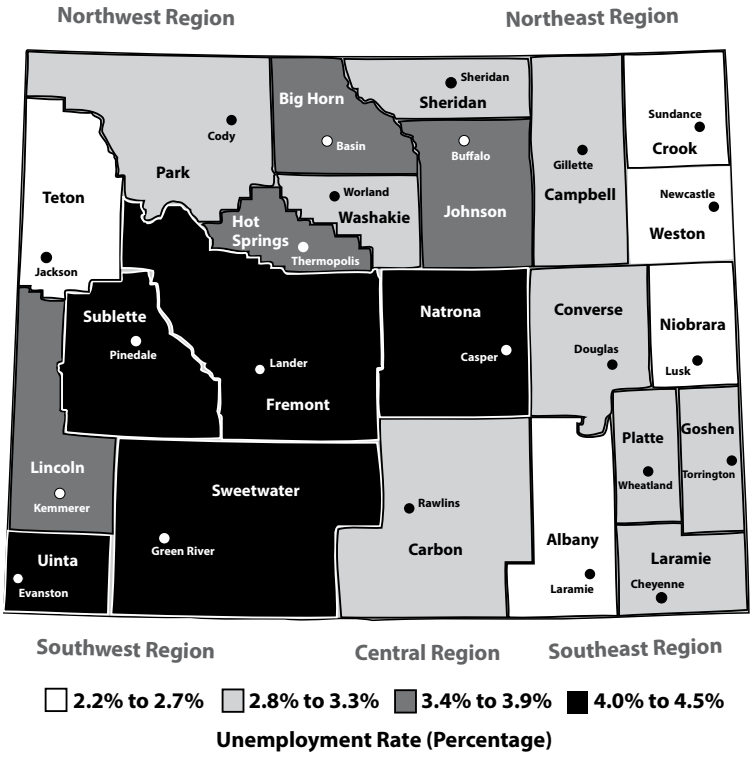
The information presented in this series comes from data collected during the administration of public programs in Wyoming, selected states, and the nation. This publication is the first in a series from the Workforce Data Quality Initiative (WDQI) grant and includes data from the Wyoming Department of Education (WDE),

(Text continued on page 3)

HIGHLIGHTS

- **A total of 3,769 students (67.3%) from the Class of 2007 did not earn a postsecondary award by 2014. …** ***page 7***
- **The Baker Hughes rig count for Wyoming fell from 58 in September 2014 to 24 in September 2015, a decrease of 58.6%. …** ***page 24***

Unemployment Rate by Wyoming County, September 2015 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



IN THIS ISSUE

Wyoming Labor Force Trends

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Subscriptions, additional copies, and back issues available free of charge.

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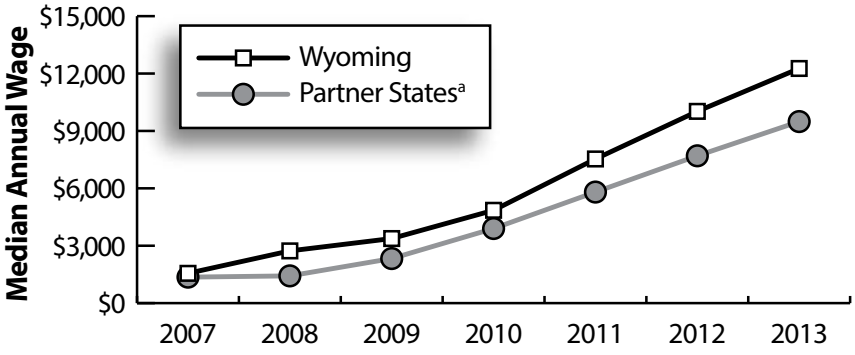
(Text continued from page 1)

the National Student Clearinghouse (NSC), the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services, and the Wyoming Department of Transportation. This publication also uses administrative records from the Unemployment Insurance (UI) systems of other states. Future publications will incorporate data from the Wyoming Community College Commission, the University of Wyoming, Workforce Investment Act trainees, Hathaway Scholarship awardees, and other education and workforce training programs. The publications can be found online at http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/education_we_connect.htm.

Class of 2010: Postsecondary Enrollment

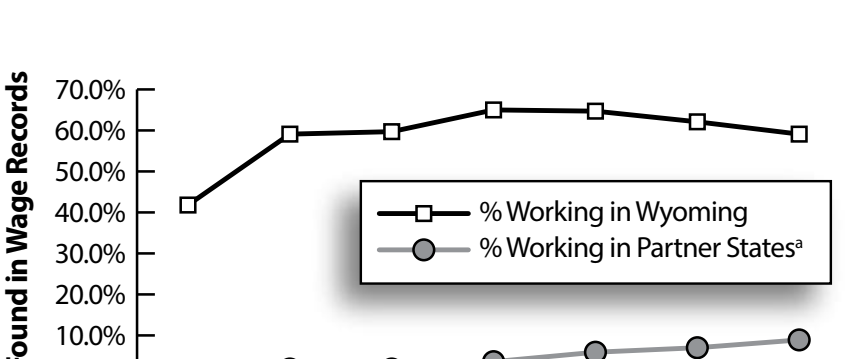
As an example, this publication focuses on the Class of 2010: Wyoming high school students who were expected to graduate at the end of the 2009/10 school year, whether they graduated or not. Figure 3 (see page 4) and Table 1 (see page 5) show postsecondary enrollment for the 7,919 students in Wyoming's Class of 2010 from 2007 to 2013. In 2010, 41.5% of the students of the Class of 2010 were enrolled in a postsecondary program – 32.6% in Wyoming, 6.5% in another state, and 2.4% in both Wyoming and another state. The remaining 58.5% of the Class of 2010 were not enrolled in any



Source: Custom Extract from Workforce Data Quality Initiative (WDQI) Project.

[a]Partner states are Alaska, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, and Utah.

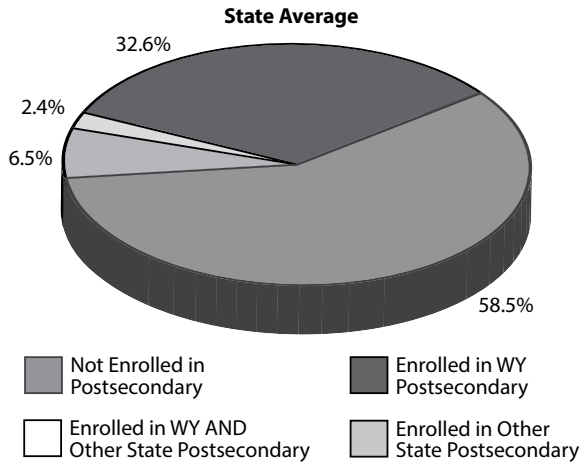
Figure 1: Annual Wages of Wyoming High School Students from Class of 2010 by Calendar Year, 2007-2013 (Total N = 7,919)

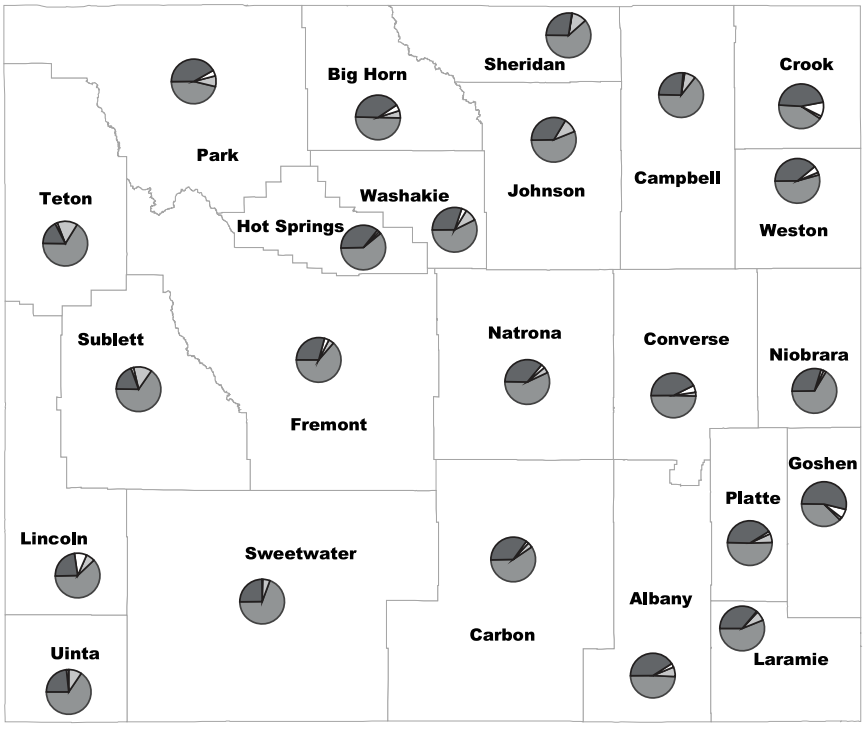


Source: Custom Extract from Workforce Data Quality Initiative (WDQI) Project.

[a]Partner states are Alaska, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, and Utah.

Figure 2: Employment of Wyoming High School Students from Class of 2010 by Calendar Year, 2007-2013 (Total N = 7,919)





Source: Custom Extract from Workforce Data Quality Initiative (WDQI) Project.

Figure 3: Postsecondary Enrollment Status of Wyoming High School Students from Class of 2010 by County, Fall 2010

postsecondary program in 2010.

The paths that Wyoming high school students take vary by county. Figure 3 shows postsecondary enrollment for high school students from the Class of 2010 in fall 2010. In Albany County, for example, 41.3% of all high school students from the Class of 2010 were enrolled in a postsecondary institution in Wyoming in 2010, 7.1% were enrolled in another state, 2.6% were enrolled in both Wyoming and another state, and 51.0% were not enrolled. By comparison, in Sweetwater County, 25.2% were enrolled in Wyoming, 5.2% were enrolled in another state, and 69.0% were not enrolled.

Class of 2010: Employment and Wages

Through data-sharing agreements with Labor Market Information offices in 11 other states (*partner states*[1]), R&P is able to track the Class of 2010 over time. As shown in Table 2 (see page 5), 5,151 individuals from the Class of 2010 (65.0%) were found working in Wyoming in

1 Partner states are Alaska, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, and Utah.

2010, compared to 288 individuals (3.6%) who were found working in partner states. By 2013, the number of individuals from the Class of 2010 found working in Wyoming dropped to 4,677 (59.1% of the total), while the number found working in partner states more than doubled to 704 (8.9% of the total).

As shown in Table 2 and illustrated in Figure 1 (see page 3), the median annual wage for those who went to work in other states was consistently lower than the median annual wage for those who worked in Wyoming. By 2013 — three years after the expected year of graduation for the Class of 2010 — the median annual wage for those working in Wyoming was $12,265, compared to $9,490 for those working in partner states. This seems to indicate that individuals who leave Wyoming shortly after high school completion are not leaving for higher wages but for other reasons, perhaps moving with family or to pursue further education.

Future Publications

Forthcoming publications in this series will focus on the wages that students forego in order to pursue a postsecondary education, employment and earnings for students with special needs, labor market outcomes, and the location of postsecondary training and education pursued by Wyoming high school graduates.

Table 1: Postsecondary Enrollment of Wyoming High School Students from Class of 2010 by Calendar Year, 2007-2013 (Total N = 7,919)

Enrollment	Data Type	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Total Enrolled	N	109	591	1,232	3,287	3,275	2,803	2,518
	%	1.4	7.5	15.6	41.5	41.4	35.4	31.8
Postsecondary Wyoming	N	107	580	1,189	2,583	2,478	1,997	1,698
	%	1.4	7.3	15.0	32.6	31.3	25.2	21.4
Postsecondary WY & Another State	N	N/D	N/D	20	193	127	155	72
	%	N/D	N/D	0.3	2.4	1.6	2.0	0.9
Postsecondary Any Other State	N	N/D	11	23	511	670	651	748
	%	N/D	0.1	0.3	6.5	8.5	8.2	9.4
Not Enrolled	N	7,810	7,328	6,687	4,632	4,644	5,116	5,401
	%	98.6	92.5	84.4	58.5	58.6	64.6	68.2

Source: Custom Extract from Workforce Data Quality Initiative (WDQI) Project.
Enrollment source: National Student Clearinghouse.
*N/D = not discloseable due to confidentiality.

Table 2: Employment and Wages of Wyoming High School Students from Class of 2010 by Calendar Year, 2007-2013 (Total N = 7,919)

Source Description	Data Description	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Wyoming Wage Records	Number with Wages	3,314	4,680	4,727	5,151	5,127	4,920	4,677
	Percent with Wages	41.8	59.1	59.7	65.0	64.7	62.1	59.1
	Median Annual Wage	$1,557	$2,730	$3,376	$4,852	$7,535	$10,023	$12,265
	Mean Annual Wage	$2,304	$3,632	$4,446	$6,570	$10,361	$13,341	$16,000
Partner States Wage Records	Number with Wages	107	145	141	288	469	553	704
	Percent with Wages	1.4	1.8	1.8	3.6	5.9	7.0	8.9
	Median Annual Wage	$1,358	$1,424	$2,330	$3,900	$5,805	$7,700	$9,490
	Mean Annual Wage	$3,246	$2,754	$5,096	$6,502	$8,832	$11,616	$13,140

Source: Custom Extract from Workforce Data Quality Initiative (WDQI) Project.
Partner states = Alaska, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, and Utah.

Excerpts from WE Connect, Parts 2-4

These publications are available online at http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/education_WE_connect.htm.

Part 2: Opportunity Cost of Pursuing a Postsecondary Education in Wyoming

by: Katelynd Faler, Senior Economist

This publication is an introduction to the opportunity cost facing Wyoming high school students who choose to enroll in a Wyoming postsecondary school, and specifically examines students enrolled in the 2013-14 school year. Opportunity cost in this situation refers to the amount of money an individual could have earned if he or she had not enrolled in college. For this publication, it is calculated as the statewide average earnings minus the average earnings while in college.

For example, as shown in the box, the opportunity cost of attending the university of Wyoming was $5,892.

Box: Opportunity Cost for One Year of College, 2013-14 School Year

Average Statewide Earnings - Average Earnings of College Students = Opportunity Cost.

Example:

- Average Wyoming Wage for 18- to 24-year-old residents = $10,194.
- Average wage of a student at the University of Wyoming during 2013/14 school year = $4,302.
- $10,194 - $4,302 = $5,892

The opportunity cost of attending the University of Wyoming was $5,892.

Part 3: Graduation and Work Experience for Students with Special Needs

by: Michele Mitchum, Public Relations Specialist

In the 2009/10 school year, 13,173 Wyoming public school students, or 14.8% of the total, were classified as "children with disabilities" by the U.S. Department of Education, which includes those students who had an Individualized Education Program (IEP) or a 504 Vocational Rehabilitation Accommodation Plan (504 plan).

Because students with disabilities comprise a significant portion of the student population, and because labor market participation for adults with disabilities is significantly lower than the rest of the population, this publication focuses on the completion rate and labor market participation rate for high school students with an IEP or 504 plan.

Part 4: Turnover Rate and Labor Market Outcomes for Wyoming High School Students

by: Lynae Mohondro, Senior Analyst

This publication looks at turnover among students who were high school seniors in the Wyoming high school Class of 2007 and worked or, if they enrolled in postsecondary education, were enrolled in a college or university in Wyoming or one of the 11 states with which Research and Planning (R&P) has a data sharing agreement (Alaska, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, Utah).

The number of people between the ages of 18 and 21 working in Wyoming has declined over the last decade and this age group has a higher turnover rate, possibly due to the lack of human capital.

WE Connect, Part 5: Wyoming High School Students' Postsecondary Enrollment and Awards

by: Lisa Knapp, Senior Analyst

Many factors affect a student's decision to continue his or her education after high school. Recent studies show that the cost of postsecondary education and the financial aid packages a school offers have become two of the leading factors in this decision (Eagan, et al., 2013), but the proximity of the postsecondary institution to the student's home is also important. Research indicates nearly 80% of first year, full-time students in 2014 attended a school within 500 miles of their homes, and 54% attended schools within 100 miles of their homes (Supiano, 2015). An increasing number of new college students indicate they intend to transfer schools at least once during their college careers, and many of them expect to spend extra time to complete their degrees, a consideration which can also affect college choice (Eagon, et al., 2014).

The purpose of this publication is to identify the states in which Wyoming high school students enroll in postsecondary institutions and the states from which they receive postsecondary degrees or certificates, regardless of high school graduation status or college type. This publication is intended to introduce a feature of the National Student Clearinghouse database, which contains a wealth of data regarding postsecondary choices of Wyoming high school students. The report also provides a foundation for future research about recipients of the Wyoming Hathaway Scholarship. The Hathaway Program was instituted in 2006, partly with the intention of providing Wyoming students the financial means to attend Wyoming colleges while ultimately increasing the number of Wyoming high school graduates who work in the state after pursuing their postsecondary education. Future research will examine the college choices of all high school senior classes from 2006 to present in order to identify any changes in the proportion

Table 1: Total Number and Percentage of Wyoming High School Students from the Class of 2007 Who Enrolled in a Postsecondary Institution Between 2006 and 2014 by Geographic Location

	Enrolled in a Postsecondary Institution	
	N	%
In-State	1,785	31.9
Out-of-State	873	15.6
Both In-State and Out-of-State	770	13.8
Subtotal, all students who enrolled in a postsecondary institution at least once between 2006 and 2014	3,428	61.2
Never enrolled in a postsecondary institution	2,170	38.8
Total	**5,598**	**100.0**

Source: Custom Extract from Workforce Data Quality Initiative (WDQI) Project.

Table 2: Number and Percentage of Wyoming High School Students From the Class of 2007 Who Received at Least One Postsecondary Award Between 2006 and 2014 by Geographic Location

	Received at Least One Postsecondary Award	
	N	%
In-State	1,031	18.4
Out-of-State	705	12.6
Both In-State and Out-of-State	93	1.7
Subtotal, all students who received at least one postsecondary award between 2006 and 2014	1,829	32.7
Did not receive a postsecondary award	3,769	67.3
Total	**5,598**	**100.0**

Source: Custom Extract from Workforce Data Quality Initiative (WDQI) Project.

of students who attend school in-state compared to those who leave the state for their postsecondary education. In addition, future research will also examine the work experiences of these students after they finish attending a postsecondary institution.

The Research and Planning (R&P) section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services has access to Wyoming student records beginning with 2006. This publication focuses on students who were part of the Class of 2007: "the population segment enrolled at any time and who would normally be expected to graduate in the reference year [in this case, the 2006/07 school year] whether they graduated or not" (Holmes, 2015).

As shown in Table 1 (see page 7), there were 5,598 students in the Class of 2007. Of those, nearly one-third (1,785, or 31.9%) enrolled solely in a Wyoming postsecondary institution, while 15.6% (873) enrolled in only out-of-state schools. Another 13.8% (770) of students enrolled in both Wyoming and out-of-state schools in the eight-year period between 2006 and 2014. Overall, nearly two-thirds (3,428, or 61.2) of the students from the Class of 2007 enrolled in at least one institution during the eight years following their expected high school graduation year, compared to 38.8% (2,170) who did not. On the other hand, only one-third of the students (1,829, or 32.7%) received at least one postsecondary award between 2006 and 2014 (see Table 2, page 7). Of these, 18.4% (1,031) received at least one postsecondary award from a Wyoming school, 12.6% (705) received a postsecondary award from an out-of-state school, and 1.7% (93) received postsecondary awards from both in-state and out-of-state schools. A total of 3,769 students (67.3%) from the Class of 2007 did not earn a postsecondary award by 2014.

Postsecondary Awards

For the purposes of this publication, the term *postsecondary awards* refers to degrees and certificates from postsecondary institutions. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Postsecondary non-degree awards
    - Nursing assistants, emergency medical technicians and paramedics, and hairstylists
- Associate's degree
- Bachelor's degree
- Master's degree
- Doctoral or professional degree

Methodology

This publication focuses on the students who enrolled in a postsecondary institution and on those who received a postsecondary degree or certificate from a postsecondary institution. All levels of certificates and degrees are included, from one-year certificates to doctoral or professional degrees, and all postsecondary programs, from cosmetology to medicine and law. For the purposes of this publication, postsecondary certificates and degrees are referred to as *postsecondary awards*. In

order to analyze the number of Wyoming students who enrolled in a postsecondary institution and the number who received a postsecondary award, two data sets were used. The first was the Wyoming Department of Education 684 Student Enrollment File (WDE 684). This file contains student demographics, enrollment, and graduation status for all students who attended a Wyoming secondary institution from the 2006/07 school year to present. The second dataset, the National Student Clearinghouse database, contains enrollment and graduation status, postsecondary institution name and state, and degree type and program for all Wyoming students who attended any U.S. postsecondary institution. These datasets were provided to R&P by the Wyoming Department of Education under a memorandum of understanding as part of the U.S. Department of Labor Workforce Data Quality Initiative (WDQI) grant that was awarded to R&P in 2013. For more information about the WDQI grant, WDE databases, or methodologies used to analyze data from the databases, please see http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/education_we_connect.htm.

All data in this publication represent students who were part of the Class of 2007, regardless of whether or not they graduated from high school. Student information from the WDE 684 file was linked to postsecondary data from the National Student Clearinghouse database with the student's Wyoming Integrated Statewide Education Record Identifier (WISER ID) number, which is assigned to each student as he or she starts school in Wyoming by the Wyoming Department of Education.

Total postsecondary enrollments, for the purposes of this publication, are based on a count of the calendar year and the state in which the postsecondary institution was located for each student who had an enrollment record in the National Student Clearinghouse database. Regardless of how many institutions the student attended in each state per year, he or she was counted one time in that state and year.

These enrollments were then categorized into three geographic types: Wyoming Postsecondary Institutions, Only (Wyoming); Other State Postsecondary Institutions, Only (Other); and Both Wyoming and Other State Institutions (Both). Depending on where the student attended school, he or she could be counted in all three categories over time.

This concept is illustrated in Table 3. For example, if Student A enrolled at the University of Wyoming in 2009, the University of Wyoming and Colorado State University in 2010, Colorado State University, only, in 2011, and Colorado

Table 3: Postsecondary Enrollment of Hypothetical Student A from the Class of 2007, 2009-2011

Distinct Enrollments for Student A

2009
University of Wyoming
2010
University of Wyoming
Colorado State University
2011
Colorado State University
2012
Colorado State University
University of Utah

	Wyoming Postsecondary Institutions Only	Other State Postsecondary Institutions Only				Both Wyoming and Other State Institutions	
Year	WY	CO	MT	NE	UT	WY	CO
2009	X						
2010						X	X
2011		X					
2012		X			X		

Total distinct enrollments for Student A = 6.

State University and the University of Utah in 2012, then that student would be counted once in the Wyoming table in 2009, twice in the both tables in 2010 (once for Colorado and once for Wyoming), once in the other table for 2011 (once for Colorado), and twice in the other table for 2012 (once for Colorado and once for Utah).

The second part of this publication examines the number of students who earned an award from a postsecondary institution by the state in which the institution was located. As with student enrollments, each student was counted once in the state from which he or she received a postsecondary award, regardless of how many awards they received in that state. Again, each student could be counted in more than one state. These data are divided into the same three geographic types: Wyoming, other, and both, and are displayed both by year and by total students who received a postsecondary award between 2007 and 2014.

Enrollment

As shown in Tables 4A-4E (see pages 11 and 12), slightly more than half of the total 5,598 Wyoming high school students from the Class of 2007 (2,942, or 52.6%) enrolled in at least one postsecondary institution between 2006 and 2014: 38.6% (2,163) enrolled in Wyoming institutions, 10.7% (601) enrolled in institutions in other states, and 3.2% (178) enrolled in both. The number of enrolled students declined every year, and by 2014, only 19.9% (1,112) of the Class of 2007 enrolled in any postsecondary institution.

The largest proportion of the Class of 2007 enrolled only in Wyoming institutions in most years (see Table 4A). In 2007, nearly two out of every five students (2,163, or 38.6%) were enrolled only in a Wyoming postsecondary institution. This dropped to a quarter of all students in 2011 (1,433, or 25.6%) and one in 10 students in 2014 (509, or 9.1%).

In comparison, as shown in Table 4B, 10.7% (601) of these students were enrolled only in an out-of-state postsecondary institution in 2007; that proportion increased every year through 2011, where it peaked at 15.4% (861). The largest percentage of students who enrolled only in an out-of-state school did so in the states surrounding Wyoming. In particular, a large proportion enrolled in schools in Colorado and Utah. For example, in 2008, 14.6% (115) of the 753 students who attended out-of-state schools enrolled in schools in Utah while another 12.3% (97) enrolled in schools in Colorado. In addition to the states neighboring Wyoming, a sizeable proportion of these students enrolled in schools in Arizona, California, and Washington.

A small proportion of students from the Class of 2007 enrolled in postsecondary institutions in both Wyoming and another state (see Table 4C). In 2007, that proportion was 3.2% (178) and by 2010 only 1.4% (80) enrolled in schools in both Wyoming and another state. Only 0.6% (N=31) of the students from the Class of 2007 enrolled in schools in both by 2014.

In the years immediately following high school, Arizona, California, and Colorado were popular destinations for those students who enrolled in postsecondary institutions in both Wyoming and another state. In 2007, 14.0% (25) of the 178 students who enrolled in both in- and out-of-state schools enrolled in school in Arizona, 11.2% (20)

enrolled in schools in California, and 17.9% (32) enrolled in schools in Colorado. In 2014, 21.9% (7) of the 31 students enrolled in both an out-of-state school in addition to a Wyoming school were enrolled in schools in Nebraska.

Postsecondary Awards

Nationally, 949,000 associate's degrees, 1.9 million bachelor's degrees, 778,000

(Text continued on page 13)

Tables 4A-4E: Number and Percentage of Wyoming High School Students from the Class of 2007 Who Enrolled in a Postsecondary Institution Between 2006 and 2014 by Calendar Year and Geographic Location[1] (Total N = 5,598)

			Calendar Year								
			2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Table 4A: Enrollment in Wyoming Postsecondary Institutions Only											
Count and % of Students by Year[2]		**N**	**843**	**2,163**	**2,002**	**1,783**	**1,621**	**1,433**	**1,051**	**750**	**509**
		%	**15.1**	**38.6**	**35.8**	**31.9**	**29.0**	**25.6**	**18.8**	**13.4**	**9.1**
Table 4B: Enrollment in Other State Postsecondary Institutions Only											
Count and % of Students by Year[2]		**N**	**30**	**601**	**753**	**737**	**834**	**861**	**681**	**639**	**572**
		%	**0.5**	**10.7**	**13.5**	**13.2**	**14.9**	**15.4**	**12.2**	**11.4**	**10.2**
Count and % of Students by State and Year (students could be counted once each in more than one state each year)	Arizona	N	ND	15	31	42	39	44	34	43	35
		%	ND	2.5	3.9	5.5	4.6	4.9	4.9	6.5	6.0
	California	N	ND	24	30	27	26	29	20	25	24
		%	ND	4.0	3.8	3.5	3.0	3.2	2.9	3.8	4.1
	Colorado	N	ND	67	97	106	103	107	82	86	80
		%	ND	11.1	12.3	13.9	12.1	11.9	11.7	13.0	13.7
	Idaho	N	ND	41	67	60	70	64	49	37	29
		%	ND	6.8	8.5	7.9	8.2	7.1	7.0	5.6	5.0
	Montana	N	ND	57	59	46	60	63	43	37	28
		%	ND	9.5	7.5	6.0	7.0	7.0	6.1	5.6	4.8
	North Dakota	N	ND	26	21	22	25	31	19	14	14
		%	ND	4.3	2.7	2.9	2.9	3.5	2.7	2.1	2.4
	Nebraska	N	ND	35	43	34	39	45	41	33	27
		%	ND	5.8	5.5	4.5	4.6	5.0	5.8	5.0	4.6
	South Dakota	N	ND	58	70	62	70	75	54	37	30
		%	ND	9.7	8.9	8.1	8.2	8.4	7.7	5.6	5.1
	Utah	N	22	82	115	104	128	141	122	94	71
		%	71.0	13.6	14.6	13.7	15.0	15.7	17.4	14.2	12.2
	Washington	N	ND	23	34	35	36	35	23	23	22
		%	ND	3.8	4.3	4.6	4.2	3.9	3.3	3.5	3.8
	Total, Remaining States	N	6	173	219	223	257	264	214	232	223
		%	19.4	28.8	27.9	29.3	30.1	29.4	30.5	35.1	38.3
	Total, All Other States	N	31	601	786	761	853	898	701	661	583
		%	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

[1]Enrollments based on state and year. If a student enrolled in school in one state or more than one state, they were counted once in each state for each year, regardless of how many schools they enrolled in each year. Students may be counted in a different category each year. For example, if a student attended the University of Wyoming in 2006, the University of Wyoming and Colorado State University in 2007, and Colorado State University in 2008, they would be counted in the Wyoming-only category in 2006, in the both In-State and Out-of-State category in 2007, and the Out-of-State Only category in 2008.

[2]This is a count of the total number of students in the cohort that counted in the enrollment type each year. The distinct count of students by year in each category will add to the total number of students in the cohort for each year.

[3]This is the total of students who attended a postsecondary institution in another state. This number will be equal to or greater than the number of students counted in the row for students that enrolled in a Wyoming school during the same year.

ND: Data are nondisclosable due to the small number of people in that particular cell.

Source: Custom Extract from Workforce Data Quality Initiative (WDQI) Project.

(Table continued on page 12)

(Table continued from page 11)

Tables 4A-4E: Number and Percentage of Wyoming High School Students from the Class of 2007 Who Enrolled in a Postsecondary Institution Between 2006 and 2014 by Calendar Year and Geographic Location[1] (Total N = 5,598)

			Calendar Year								
			2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Table 4C: Enrollment in Both Wyoming and Other State Postsecondary Institutions											
Count and % of Students by State and Year (students could be counted once each in more than one state each year)	**Count and % of Students by Year[2]**	**N**	**0**	**178**	**109**	**132**	**80**	**101**	**66**	**54**	**31**
		%	**0.0**	**3.2**	**1.9**	**2.4**	**1.4**	**1.8**	**1.2**	**1.0**	**0.6**
	Wyoming	N	0	178	109	132	80	101	66	54	31
		%	0.0	3.2	1.9	2.4	1.4	1.8	1.2	1.0	0.6
	Arizona	N	0	25	13	13	16	12	11	ND	ND
		%	0.0	14.0	11.8	9.8	20.0	11.3	16.4	ND	ND
	California	N	0	20	14	24	ND	5	ND	6	ND
		%	0.0	11.2	12.7	18.0	ND	4.7	ND	11.1	ND
	Colorado	N	0	32	8	11	8	8	ND	ND	ND
		%	0.0	17.9	7.3	8.3	10.0	7.5	ND	ND	ND
	Idaho	N	0	13	9	12	6	14	6	ND	ND
		%	0.0	7.3	8.2	9.0	7.5	13.2	9.0	ND	ND
	Montana	N	0	16	11	13	9	5	ND	ND	ND
		%	0.0	8.9	10.0	9.8	11.3	4.7	ND	ND	ND
	North Dakota	N	0	6	7	5	ND	11	8	6	ND
		%	0.0	3.4	6.4	3.8	ND	10.4	11.9	11.1	ND
	Nebraska	N	0	ND	5	ND	ND	8	7	10	7
		%	0.0	ND	4.5	ND	ND	7.5	10.4	18.5	21.9
	South Dakota	N	0	9	7	8	7	ND	ND	ND	ND
		%	0.0	5.0	6.4	6.0	8.8	ND	ND	ND	ND
	Utah	N	0	13	ND	6	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
		%	0.0	7.3	ND	4.5	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
	Washington	N	0	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
		%	0.0	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
	Total, Remaining States	N	0	36	29	33	19	35	18	13	9
		%	0.0	20.1	26.4	24.8	23.8	33.0	26.9	24.1	28.1
	Total, All Other States[3]	N	0	179	110	133	80	106	67	54	32
		%	0.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Table 4D: Total, Enrollment in at Least One Postsecondary Institution											
	Count and % of Total Students Enrolled by Year[2]		**873**	**2,942**	**2,864**	**2,652**	**2,535**	**2,395**	**1,798**	**1,443**	**1,112**
Table 4E: No Postsecondary Institution Enrollment Record											
	Count and % of Students by Year[2]		**4,725**	**2,656**	**2,734**	**2,946**	**3,063**	**3,203**	**3,800**	**4,155**	**4,486**

[1]Enrollments based on state and year. If a student enrolled in school in one state or more than one state, they were counted once in each state for each year, regardless of how many schools they enrolled in each year. Students may be counted in a different category each year. For example, if a student attended the University of Wyoming in 2006, the University of Wyoming and Colorado State University in 2007, and Colorado State University in 2008, they would be counted in the Wyoming-only category in 2006, in the both In-State and Out-of-State category in 2007, and the Out-of-State Only category in 2008.

[2]This is a count of the total number of students in the cohort that counted in the enrollment type each year. The distinct count of students by year in each category will add to the total number of students in the cohort for each year.

[3]This is the total of students who attended a postsecondary institution in another state. This number will be equal to or greater than the number of students counted in the row for students that enrolled in a Wyoming school during the same year.

ND: Data are nondisclosable due to the small number of people in that particular cell.

Source: Custom Extract from Workforce Data Quality Initiative (WDQI) Project.

(Text continued from page 11)

master's degrees, and 178,000 doctoral or professional degrees are projected to be awarded during the 2014/15 school year (National Center for Education Statistics, 2015). In comparison, Table 5 shows the number of students from the Class of 2007 who earned a postsecondary award by geographic location and year during the eight years following high school completion. As noted in the methodology, a student can be counted in a different geographic area each year. Because of a comparatively small number of students who received an award during this time period, the data in these tables are displayed only for those who received awards in Wyoming only and out-of-state only, as well as the total number of students who received an award each year and the number of students who did not receive an award each year.

A larger proportion of students who received a postsecondary award did so in Wyoming rather than out-of-state each year except 2014 (see Table 5). In 2009, two years after students from the Class of 2007 were expected to complete high school, 206 students (3.7%) received a postsecondary award. This number dropped slightly in 2010, and then peaked at 687 (12.3%) in 2011 and 544 (9.7%) in 2012. This follows the typical path that students who attend college take, wherein associate's degrees take approximately two to four years to complete while bachelor's degrees take approximately four to six years to complete (Complete College America, 2011).

Figure 1 (see page 14) shows the proportion of students from the Class of 2007 who enrolled in a postsecondary institution by year compared to the proportion of students who received a

Table 5: Number and Percentage of Wyoming High School Students From the Class of 2007 Who Received a Postsecondary Award By Calendar Year and Geographic Location, 2006-2014[1,2] (Total N = 5,598)

		Calendar Year							
		2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Students Who Earned an Award from a Wyoming Postsecondary Institution, Only	N	ND	22	162	85	357	352	213	103
	%	ND	0.4	2.9	1.5	6.4	6.3	3.8	1.8
Students Who Earned an Award from Other State Postsecondary Institutions Only	N	ND	ND	44	62	330	192	167	109
	%	ND	ND	0.8	1.1	5.9	3.4	3.0	1.9
Total, Students Who Received at Least One Postsecondary Certificate or Degree	N	ND	ND	206	147	687	544	380	212
	%	ND	ND	3.7	2.6	12.3	9.7	6.8	3.8
No Postsecondary Award Earned	N	ND	ND	5,392	5,451	4,911	5,054	5,218	5,386
	%	ND	ND	96.3	97.4	87.7	90.3	93.2	96.2

[1]Count is based on state and year. If a student received a postsecondary award from a school in one state or more than one state, they were counted once in each state for each year, regardless of how many schools they received awards from each year. Students may be counted in a different category each year. For example, if a student received an award from the University of Wyoming in 2006, the University of Wyoming and Colorado State University in 2007, and Colorado State University in 2008, they would be counted in the Wyoming-only category in 2006, in the both In-State and Out-of-State category in 2007, and the Out-of-State Only category in 2008.

[2]Due to confidentiality issues, students who earned a postsecondary award in both Wyoming and another state are not included in this table. Similarly, the states where students received a postsecondary award are not displayed due to confidentiality issues.

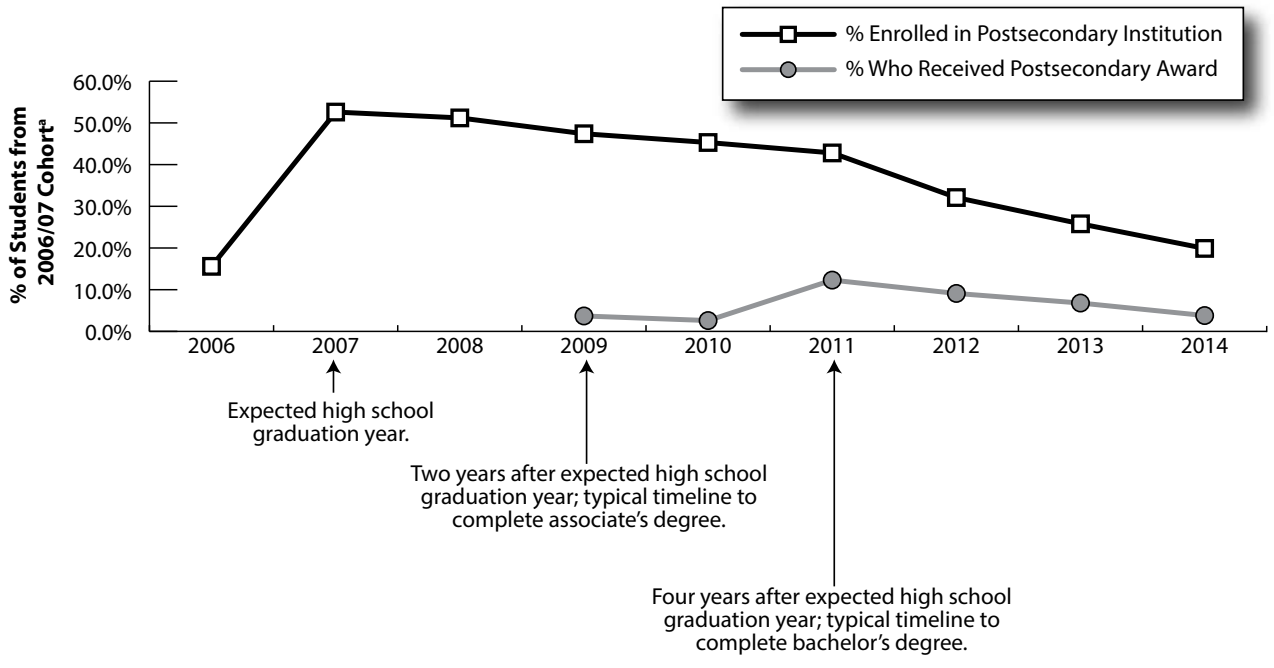
ND: Data are nondisclosable due to the small number of people in that particular cell.

Source: Custom Extract from Workforce Data Quality Initiative (WDQI) Project.

postsecondary degree by year, regardless of geography. As shown in this figure, the proportion of students who enrolled in a postsecondary institution was largest in 2007, the same year that students from this class were expected to graduate from high school. The proportion then declined each year through 2014. This decline became more pronounced after 2011, which was four years after expected high school graduation and the typical amount of time required to receive a bachelor's degree. In comparison, there were peaks in the proportion of students who received a postsecondary award: 2009 (two years after expected graduation, the typical time it takes to complete an associate's degree) and 2011 (four years after expected graduation, the typical time it takes to complete a bachelor's degree). This does not necessarily mean that these students actually received associate's or bachelor's degrees in those years, but rather that it fits into the typical timetable for those types of degrees. Future research will examine the types of degrees these students received and the amount of time it took to complete those degrees.

Tables 6A-6E (see page 15) show the number of individual students who received a postsecondary award at any point between 2006 and 2014 by geographic location. These tables are slightly different from Table 5 in that they present the total number of students who earned at least one award from any postsecondary institution based on their entire postsecondary history rather than what they accomplished each year.

In total, 1,829 individual students from the Class of 2007 earned at least one postsecondary award in Wyoming,



[a]Wyoming high school students expected to graduate at the completion of the 2006/07 school year, regardless of graduation status. Also referred to as the *Class of 2007*.
Source: Custom Extract from Workforce Data Quality Initiative (WDQI) Project.

Figure 1: Percent of Wyoming High School Class of 2007 Who Enrolled In At Least One Postsecondary Institution and Percent of Wyoming High School Class of 2007 Who Received At Least One Postsecondary Award by Year, 2006-2014

another state, or both between 2006 and 2014. However, there were 1,870 counts of students who earned postsecondary awards when those who earned awards in multiple states are considered. In other words, 1,829 individuals from the Class of 2007 earned a combined 1,870 postsecondary awards between 2006 and 2014. Of those 1,829 individuals who earned a postsecondary award, more than half (1,031, or 56.4%) earned at least one award in Wyoming only (see Table 6A). Of the 745 instances of students who earned a postsecondary award in at least one state other than Wyoming, 13.6% (101) did so in Utah, 12.2% (91) did so in Colorado, and 9.8% (73) did so in South Dakota (see Table 6B). Figure 2 (see page 16) provides a visual representation of the data in Tables 6A and 6B, and clearly shows that the largest number of students who received a postsecondary award outside

Tables 6A-6E: Number and Percentage of Wyoming High School Students From the Class of 2007 Who Received a Postsecondary Award Between 2006 and 2014 by Geographic Location (1) (Total N = 5,598)

	N	%
Table 6A: Wyoming Postsecondary Institution Only		
Count and Percent of Students[2]	1,031	18.4
Table 6B: Other State Postsecondary Institution Only		
Count and Percent of Students[2]	705	12.6
Arizona	32	4.3
California	17	2.3
Colorado	91	12.2
Idaho	58	7.8
Montana	45	6.0
North Dakota	32	4.3
Nebraska	28	3.8
South Dakota	73	9.8
Utah	101	13.6
Washington	32	4.3
Total, Remaining States	236	31.7
Total	745	100.0

	N	%
Table 6C: Both Wyoming and Other State Postsecondary Institutions[3]		
Count and Percent of Students[2]	93	1.7
Wyoming	93	
Arizona	ND	ND
California	ND	ND
Colorado	13	13.8
Idaho	ND	ND
Montana	10	10.6
North Dakota	ND	ND
Nebraska	10	10.6
South Dakota	6	6.4
Utah	8	8.5
Washington	ND	ND
Total, Remaining States	33	35.1
Total[4]	94	100.0
Table 6D: Total Students Who Received a Postsecondary Award		
Count and Percent of Students[2]	1,829	32.7
Table 6E: No Postsecondary Award Received[2]		
Count and Percent of Students[2]	3,769	67.3

[1]Count is based on state. If a student received a postsecondary award in one state or more than one state, they were counted once in each state, regardless of how many awards they received in each state. If the student is categorized as having both in-state and out-of-state awards, this indicates that they received awards from both Wyoming schools and out-of-state schools at some point during their college career.

[2]This is a count of the total number of students in the cohort that received an award from a postsecondary institution between 2006 and 2014. The distinct count for students by year in each category will add up to the total number of students in the Class of 2007 each year.

[3]Includes all students that received a postsecondary award from at least one Wyoming school and one out-of-state school during the entire course of their college career. For example, if a student received a degree or certificate from both UW and CSU, they would be counted once in WY and once in CO.

[4]This is the total number of students who received at least one postsecondary award in another state. This number will be equal to or greater than the number of students who attended a Wyoming institution in the same year.

ND: Data are nondisclosable due to the small number of people in that particular cell.

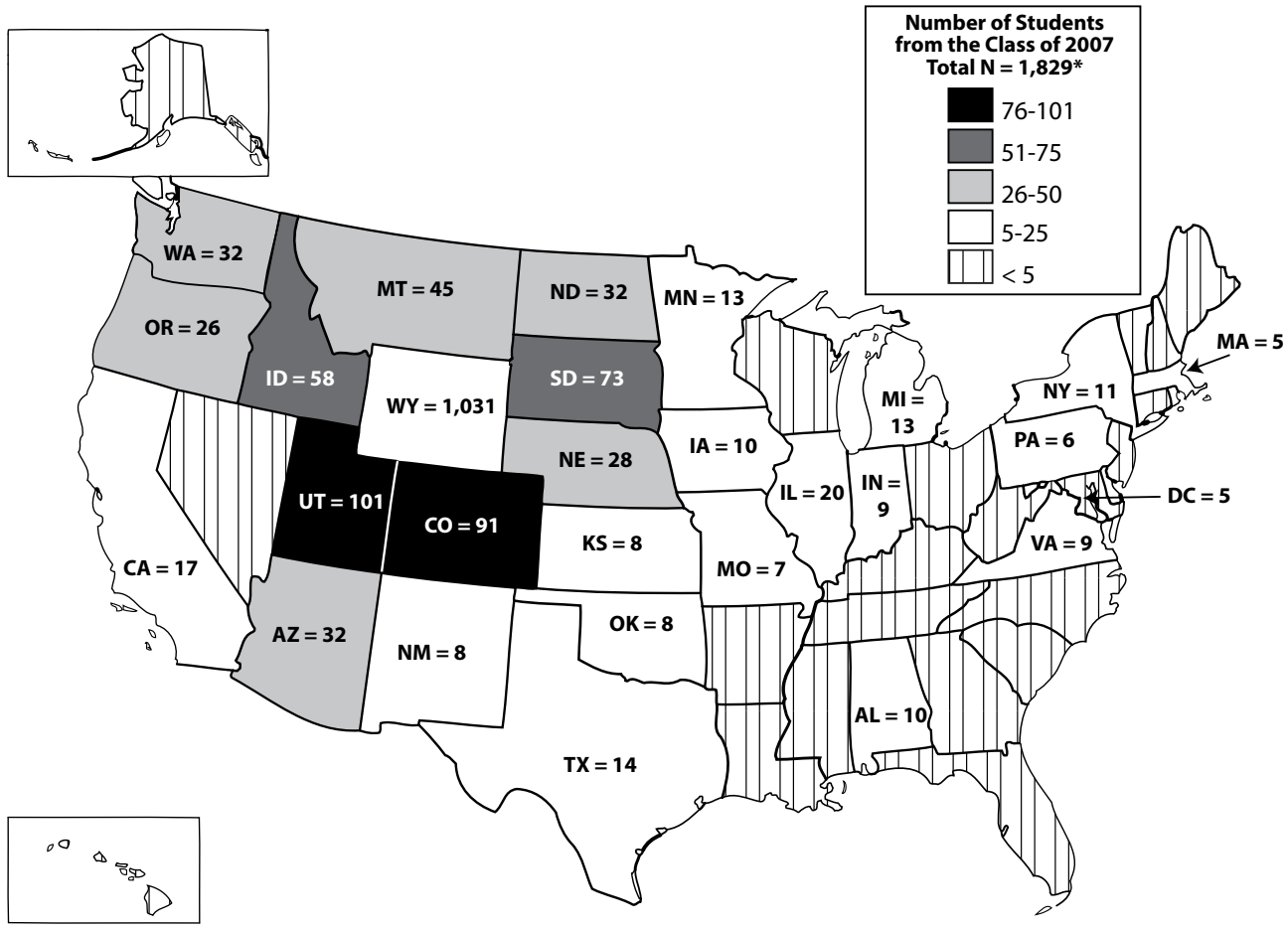
Source: Custom Extract from Workforce Data Quality Initiative (WDQI) Project.

Wyoming did so in a border state.

A total of 93 students from the Class of 2007 earned at least one award in both Wyoming and another state, with students being counted 94 times in other states (see Table 6C). The largest proportions of students who earned these degrees graduated in Colorado (13, or 13.8%), Montana (10, or 10.6), and Nebraska (10, or 10.6%) in addition to Wyoming.

Discussion

Overall, the largest proportion of students in the Class of 2007 enrolled only in Wyoming postsecondary institutions. The largest percentage of those students enrolled in school in



Source: Custom Extract from Workforce Data Quality Initiative (WDQI) Project.
Does not include students who earned degrees in both Wyoming and another state.
* Total number of degrees will equal 1,870. See Tables 6A-6B.

Figure 2: **Total Number of Wyoming High School Students from the Class of 2007 Who Received at Least One Postsecondary Award by State, Beween 2006 and 2014**

2007, the same year as the expected high school graduation; that percentage declined every year after. In contrast, the proportion of students who enrolled only in out-of-state schools increased somewhat between 2007 and 2011 before declining. This may be due to many factors, such as a student moving to another state and working to gain residency in order to make attendance more affordable before attending school.

A large percentage of students who attended or received an award from an out-of-state postsecondary institution did so in states bordering Wyoming, such as Utah, Colorado, and Montana, or other states in the West, such as Arizona and Washington. As indicated by Supiano (2015), proximity to home probably explains some of this; also, the majority of these states belong to the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE), which offers programs such as the Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE) program and the Western Regional Graduate Program (WRGP) that allow students to attend schools outside their home state at a discounted rate. For example, the WUE program allows undergraduate students to attend many out-of-state postsecondary institutions in the WICHE region for 150% of that state's resident tuition rate (WICHE; 2015). It is possible, also, that some students attend out-of-state postsecondary institutions because the program of study that they are interested in is not offered in Wyoming.

A substantial number of students from the Class of 2007 (2,170, or 38.8%) did not pursue a postsecondary education at any time during the seven years after expected high school graduation. An even greater number (3,769, or 67.3%) did not earn a postsecondary award during that time. As noted by Harris (2015), people do not follow a set path of life events, and work, marriage, and childbirth may influence an individual's decision to go to college, especially directly after high school graduation. Some of these students may return for further education at a later stage in their lives. Future research may analyze the pathways that Wyoming students take that may lead to a postsecondary education.

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In this series:

WE Connect, Part 1: Wyoming High School Students' Earnings and Postsecondary Enrollment

WE Connect, Part 2: Opportunity Cost of Pursuing a Postsecondary Education in Wyoming

WE Connect, Part 3: Graduation and Work Experience for Students with Special Needs

WE Connect, Part 4: Turnover Rate and Labor Market Outcomes for Wyoming High School Students

WE Connect, Part 5: Wyoming High School Students' Postsecondary Enrollment and Awards

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Methodological Note: Changes to Projections

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

On October 26, 2015, the long-term substate industry projections were removed from Research & Planning's (R&P) website (http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI). This was done in light of the recent declines in crude oil and natural gas prices and the associated changes in the state's economy. Additionally, there was a tendency among some data users to take the projections data too literally instead of reflectively. For example, some data users might be tempted to interpret projected future employment levels as certain, rather than as "expected based on current trends." Informed data users understand that projections represent a point in time estimate of the future direction of the state's economy rather than a certain and absolute knowledge of future events.

Some general background information about the methodologies employed in developing the projections may help data users interpret and evaluate the projections data. The employment projections published by R&P are produced under a grant from the Employment & Training Administration (ETA) as part of the Workforce Information Grant. Short-term (two-year) industry and occupational projections are produced each year and published in February. Long-term (10-year) projections are produced on a two-year cycle (2014-2024 projections will be published in June 2016).

The primary input used in developing both short-term and long-term industry projections is the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) data from 1990 forward. These data are based on quarterly tax filings by employers and represent a virtual census of employment. The data are available at both the county and detailed industry level. Each quarter, R&P sends out a news release when the data are published (see http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/qcewnews.htm). This news release provides the best information about trends in Wyoming's economy and can be used in conjunction with projections to develop expectations of future employment levels. If, for example, the most recent projections suggest strong growth, but the most recent QCEW data show an overall decline in employment, data users should take notice. QCEW data are only one measure of demand for labor. Prudent users of projections consult other frequently published measures of demand produced by R&P and other entities.

The short-term industry projections are developed using time series methods, with adjustments made based on analyst judgement and expected changes in the economy (including expected business closures, business openings, and other economic events). Standard software (Projections Suite) is used by Wyoming and most other states when developing their projections. The software uses several different models to produce a number of forecasts for each industry sector, and based on various factors, the analyst selects the one that seems to have the greatest likelihood of actually occurring. For short-term projections, time series models can provide a reasonable forecast.

Figure 1 (see page 20) shows average monthly employment for Wyoming industries that experienced a substantial decline in employment during the 2009Q1-2010Q1 economic downturn. Reviewing the data in this figure can help data users better understand some of the hazards of projections based on time-series methods.

For example, imagine developing a projection for the mining sector in 2008. At that point, employment had been trending upward for nearly nine years, and most forecasting methods would have predicted that trend to continue into the future. However, in reality, energy prices collapsed and employment declined. Mining employment never again matched its November 2008 peak of 30,454 jobs, and another steep decline began in January 2015. Construction employment rose rapidly from 2004 to 2008, but then declined in 2009 and 2010 and did not return to its peak level.

Transportation & warehousing, however recovered more quickly and by December 2014, employment was approximately 1,500 jobs higher than its 2008 peak.

The most recent round of short-term projections, which were published in February 2015, utilized QCEW data from January 1990 through June 2014.

The occupational projections include expected future employment level and growth openings for each occupation and the number of replacement openings expected over the projections period. For example, for registered nurses, from 2012-2022, there are expected to be 140 net new jobs, and additionally, we expect 155 openings for registered nurses to replace individuals who retire, die, or otherwise leave the profession. Thus, when individuals engage in career planning, they should consider both the number of growth openings and the number of job openings created when people currently working in that occupation leave it.

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics has developed a new occupational separations methodology using different data sources. These new data will be introduced in December 2017 with the release of national employment projections. State data will be available in June 2018. The net effect of the new methodology is a large increase in the estimated number of occupational separations as individuals leave the labor force or transfer to other occupations. This change does not represent a change in our expectations, but rather a better understanding of the number of separations taking place in different occupations. For most occupations, the number of expected job opportunities arising from separations is much greater than the number of expected job opportunities from actual net employment growth.

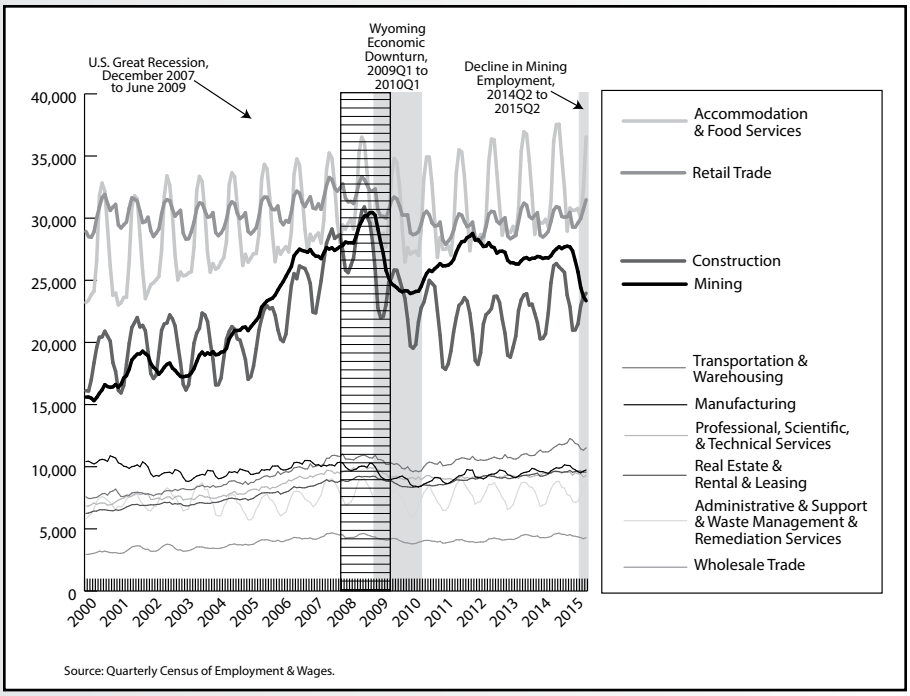


Figure 1: Average Monthly Employment for Wyoming Industries that Experienced a Substantial Decline in Employment During the 2009Q1-2010Q1 Economic Downturn, January 2000 to June 2015

Wyo. Unemployment Rate Unchanged at 4.0% in September 2015

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 was unchanged from August to September at 4.0%. Wyoming's unemployment rate has remained within the narrow range of 4.0% to 4.2% in each of the past ten months and is significantly lower than the current U.S. unemployment rate of 5.1%. Seasonally adjusted employment of Wyoming residents decreased slightly, falling by an estimated 478 individuals (-0.2%) from August to September.

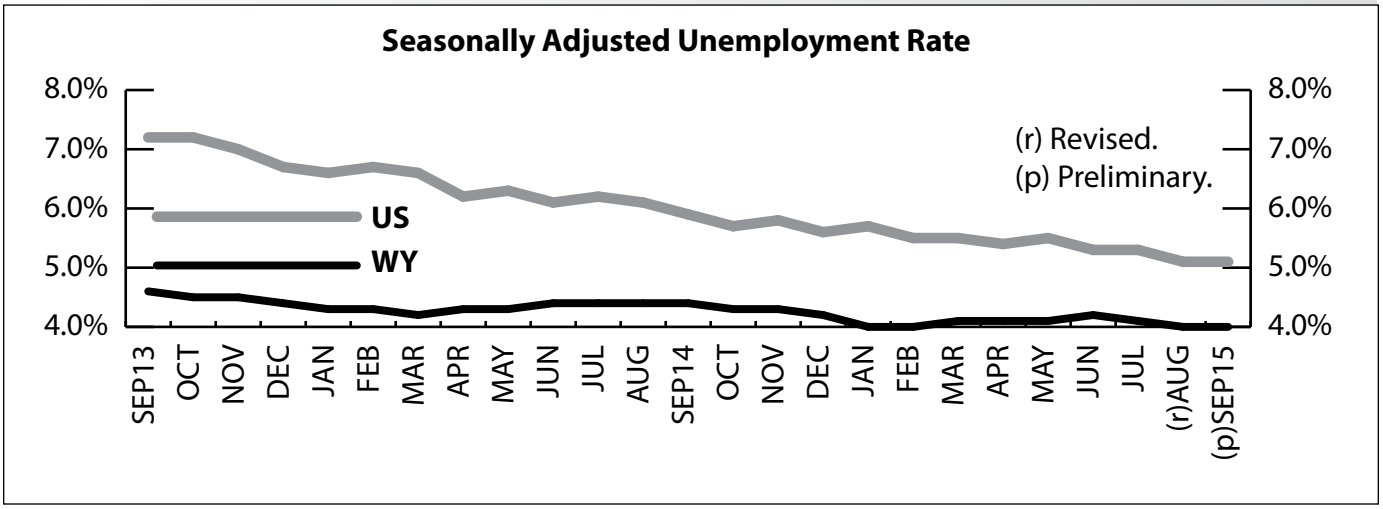
From August to September, most county unemployment rates changed very little. Unemployment rates declined in Niobrara (down from 3.0% to 2.3%), Albany (down from 3.0% to 2.6%), Platte (down from 3.6% to 3.3%), and Fremont (down from 4.8% to 4.5%) counties. Slight increases were seen in Teton (up from 1.9% to 2.2%), Crook (up from 2.4% to 2.6%), Lincoln (up from 3.5% to 3.6%), Park (up from 3.1% to 3.2%), and Sublette (up from 4.0% to 4.1%) counties.

From September 2014 to September 2015, unemployment rates fell in 17 counties, rose in four counties, and were unchanged in Converse and Fremont counties. The largest decreases occurred in Niobrara (down from 3.4% to 2.3%), Carbon (down from 3.8% to 2.8%), Teton (down from 3.1% to 2.2%), and Sheridan (down from 4.1% to 3.2%) counties. Unemployment rates rose in Natrona (up from 3.8% to 4.4%), Sublette (up from 3.9% to 4.1%), Campbell (up from 3.2% to 3.3%), and Sweetwater (up from 3.9% to 4.0%) counties.

The highest unemployment rates were found in Fremont (4.5%), Natrona (4.4%), Sublette (4.1%), and Uinta (4.1%) counties. The lowest rates occurred in Teton (2.2%), Niobrara (2.3%), Crook (2.6%), and Albany (2.6%) counties.

Total nonfarm employment (measured by place of work) fell from 299,500 in September 2014 to 296,800 in September 2015, a decrease of 2,700 jobs (-0.9%; not a statistically significant change).

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.



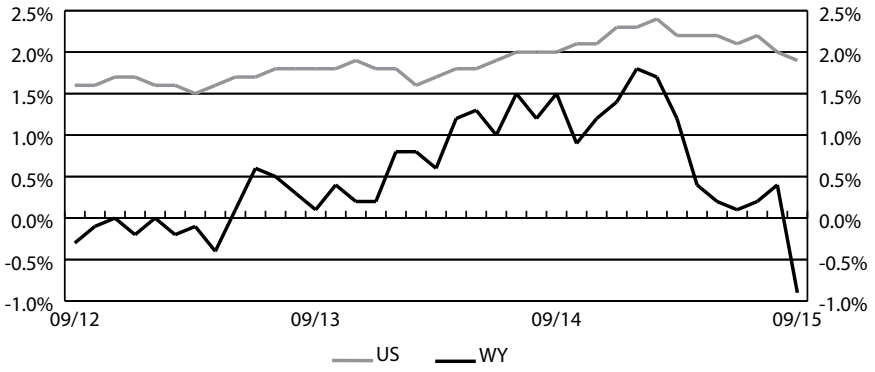
Current Employment Statistics (CES) Estimates and Research & Planning's Short-Term Projections, September 2015

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

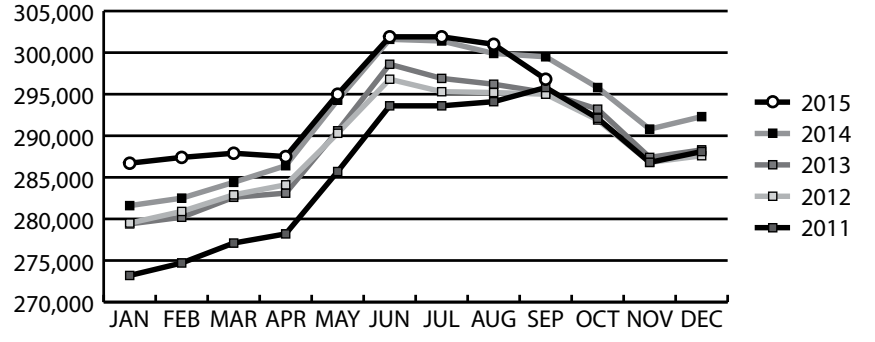
Industry Sector	Research & Planning's Short-Term Projections	Current Employment Statistics (CES) Estimates	N Difference	% Difference
Total Nonfarm Employment	**299,460**	**296,800**	**-2,660**	**-0.9%**
Natural Resources & Mining	24,763	22,600	-2,163	-9.6%
Construction	25,750	25,600	-150	-0.6%
Manufacturing	10,000	9,900	-100	-1.0%
Wholesale Trade	9,832	9,500	-332	-3.5%
Retail Trade	30,565	29,500	-1,065	-3.6%
Transportation & Utilities	16,286	15,900	-386	-2.4%
Information	3,809	3,800	-9	-0.2%
Financial Activities	11,365	11,900	535	4.5%
Professional & Business Services	19,091	19,100	9	0.0%
Educational & Health Services	27,246	27,300	54	0.2%
Leisure & Hospitality	39,264	40,000	736	1.8%
Other Services	9,747	9,500	-247	-2.6%
Government	71,742	72,200	458	0.6%

Projections were run in July 2015 and based on QCEW data through March 2015.

Nonagricultural Employment Growth (Percentage Change Over Previous Year)



Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment



State Unemployment Rates September 2015 (Seasonally Adjusted)

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	11.4
West Virginia	7.3
New Mexico	6.8
District of Columbia	6.7
Nevada	6.7
Alaska	6.4
Arizona	6.3
Oregon	6.2
Mississippi	6.1
Alabama	6.0
Louisiana	6.0
California	5.9
Georgia	5.8
North Carolina	5.8
South Carolina	5.7
Tennessee	5.7
New Jersey	5.6
Illinois	5.4
Rhode Island	5.4
Missouri	5.3
Pennsylvania	5.3
Arkansas	5.2
Connecticut	5.2
Florida	5.2
Washington	5.2
Maryland	5.1
New York	5.1
United States	**5.1**
Kentucky	5.0
Michigan	5.0
Delaware	4.9
Massachusetts	4.6
Indiana	4.5
Ohio	4.5
Kansas	4.4
Maine	4.4
Oklahoma	4.4
Virginia	4.3
Wisconsin	4.3
Idaho	4.2
Texas	4.2
Montana	4.1
Colorado	4.0
Wyoming	**4.0**
Minnesota	3.8
Vermont	3.7
Iowa	3.6
Utah	3.6
South Dakota	3.5
Hawaii	3.4
New Hampshire	3.4
Nebraska	2.9
North Dakota	2.8

Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

	Employment in Thousands			% Change Total Employment	
	Sep 15	Aug 15	Sep 14	Sep 15 Aug 15	Sep 15 Sep 14
CAMPBELL COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	**29.0**	**29.0**	**29.7**	**0.0**	**-2.4**
TOTAL PRIVATE	**23.7**	**24.1**	**24.6**	**-1.7**	**-3.7**
GOODS PRODUCING	**10.9**	**11.1**	**11.8**	**-1.8**	**-7.6**
Natural Resources & Mining	7.6	7.7	8.2	-1.3	-7.3
Construction	2.7	2.8	3.0	-3.6	-10.0
Manufacturing	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	**18.1**	**17.9**	**17.9**	**1.1**	**1.1**
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	5.9	5.9	5.8	0.0	1.7
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	1.8	1.7	-5.6	0.0
Educational & Health Services	1.1	1.1	1.1	0.0	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality	2.4	2.5	2.4	-4.0	0.0
Other Services	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.0	-11.1
GOVERNMENT	**5.3**	**4.9**	**5.1**	**8.2**	**3.9**

	Employment in Thousands			% Change Total Employment	
	Sep 15	Aug 15	Sep 14	Sep 15 Aug 15	Sep 15 Sep 14
SWEETWATER COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	**24.9**	**24.7**	**25.1**	**0.8**	**-0.8**
TOTAL PRIVATE	**20.1**	**20.3**	**20.3**	**-1.0**	**-1.0**
GOODS PRODUCING	**8.3**	**8.4**	**8.7**	**-1.2**	**-4.6**
Natural Resources & Mining	5.1	5.2	5.6	-1.9	-8.9
Construction	1.9	1.8	1.7	5.6	11.8
Manufacturing	1.3	1.4	1.4	-7.1	-7.1
SERVICE PROVIDING	**16.6**	**16.3**	**16.4**	**1.8**	**1.2**
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	5.2	5.2	5.0	0.0	4.0
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	1.1	1.1	1.1	0.0	0.0
Educational & Health Services	1.3	1.3	1.2	0.0	8.3
Leisure & Hospitality	2.5	2.5	2.5	0.0	0.0
Other Services	0.6	0.7	0.7	-14.3	-14.3
GOVERNMENT	**4.8**	**4.4**	**4.8**	**9.1**	**0.0**

	Employment in Thousands			% Change Total Employment	
	Sep 15	Aug 15	Sep 14	Sep 15 Aug 15	Sep 15 Sep 14
TETON COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	**21.3**	**23.1**	**20.5**	**-7.8**	**3.9**
TOTAL PRIVATE	**18.7**	**20.8**	**18.0**	**-10.1**	**3.9**
GOODS PRODUCING	**2.4**	**2.5**	**2.1**	**-4.0**	**14.3**
Natural Resources, Mining & Construction	2.2	2.3	2.0	-4.3	10.0
Manufacturing	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.0	100.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	**18.9**	**20.6**	**18.4**	**-8.3**	**2.7**
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	2.9	3.2	2.8	-9.4	3.6
Information	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	0.9	1.0	0.9	-10.0	0.0
Professional & Business Services	1.9	2.0	1.9	-5.0	0.0
Educational & Health Services	1.2	1.3	1.1	-7.7	9.1
Leisure & Hospitality	8.7	10.1	8.5	-13.9	2.4
Other Services	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.0
GOVERNMENT	**2.6**	**2.3**	**2.5**	**13.0**	**4.0**

State Unemployment Rates September 2015 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	12.2
District of Columbia	6.9
New Mexico	6.7
Nevada	6.6
Arizona	6.4
West Virginia	6.3
Louisiana	6.2
Alabama	5.9
Mississippi	5.9
Georgia	5.8
Alaska	5.7
South Carolina	5.7
Tennessee	5.7
Oregon	5.6
California	5.5
New Jersey	5.4
North Carolina	5.4
Florida	5.3
Connecticut	5.1
Illinois	5.1
Maryland	5.0
Delaware	4.9
Pennsylvania	4.9
United States	**4.9**
Arkansas	4.8
New York	4.8
Washington	4.8
Michigan	4.7
Rhode Island	4.7
Kentucky	4.6
Massachusetts	4.5
Missouri	4.5
Texas	4.4
Ohio	4.3
Oklahoma	4.2
Virginia	4.1
Indiana	4.0
Kansas	3.8
Vermont	3.8
Idaho	3.7
Maine	3.7
Hawaii	3.6
Wisconsin	3.6
Wyoming	**3.5**
Colorado	3.3
Iowa	3.3
Montana	3.3
Utah	3.3
Minnesota	3.2
New Hampshire	3.0
South Dakota	3.0
Nebraska	2.6
North Dakota	2.2

Economic Indicators

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

The Baker Hughes rig count for Wyoming fell from 58 in September 2014 to 24 in September 2015, a decrease of 58.6%.

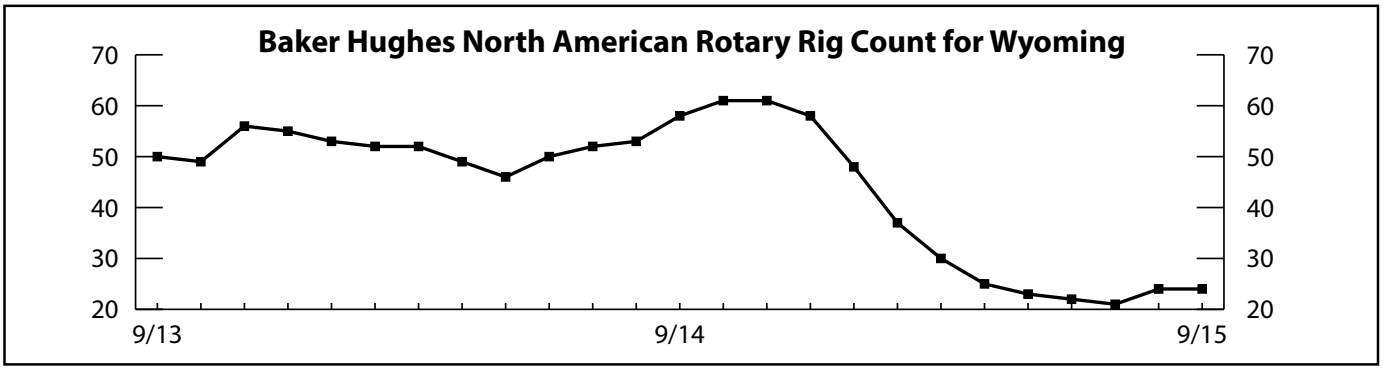
	Sep 2015 (p)	Aug 2015 (r)	Sep 2014 (b)	Percent Change Month	Year
Wyoming Total Nonfarm Employment	**296,800**	**301,000**	**299,500**	**-1.4**	**-0.9**
Wyoming State Government	16,000	14,900	15,800	7.4	1.3
Laramie County Nonfarm Employment	47,100	48,000	47,600	-1.9	-1.1
Natrona County Nonfarm Employment	42,800	42,500	43,500	0.7	-1.6
Selected U.S. Employment Data					
U.S. Multiple Jobholders	7,297,000	6,901,000	7,100,000	5.7	2.8
As a percent of all workers	4.9%	4.6%	4.8%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Discouraged Workers	635,000	624,000	698,000	1.8	-9.0
U.S. Part Time for Economic Reasons	5,693,000	6,361,000	6,711,000	-10.5	-15.2
Wyoming Unemployment Insurance					
Weeks Compensated	15,772	14,957	8,981	5.4	75.6
Benefits Paid	$6,427,855	$5,983,759	$3,318,009	7.4	93.7
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$407.55	$400.06	$369.45	1.9	10.3
State Insured Covered Jobs[1]	282,882	281,787	278,772	0.4	1.5
Insured Unemployment Rate	1.8%	2.1%	1.1%	N/A	N/A
Consumer Price Index (U) for All U.S. Urban Consumers					
(1982 to 1984 = 100)					
All Items	237.9	238.3	238.0	-0.2	0.0
Food & Beverages	248.1	247.2	244.3	0.4	1.6
Housing	239.7	239.3	234.7	0.1	2.1
Apparel	128.5	124.5	130.3	3.2	-1.4
Transportation	197.6	203.4	216.4	-2.8	-8.7
Medical Care	447.3	446.5	436.6	0.2	2.5
Recreation (Dec. 1997=100)	116.0	116.1	115.3	-0.1	0.6
Education & Communication (Dec. 1997=100)	139.1	138.3	138.5	0.6	0.4
Other Goods & Services	416.3	415.6	409.1	0.2	1.8
Producer Prices (1982 to 1984 = 100)					
All Commodities	189.1	192.2	206.4	-1.6	-8.4
Wyo. Bldg. Permits (New Privately Owned Housing Units Authorized)					
Total Units	131	151	130	-13.2	0.8
Valuation	$32,556,000	$46,075,000	$40,783,000	-29.3	-20.2
Single Family Homes	123	139	124	-11.5	-0.8
Valuation	$31,838,000	$45,130,000	$40,269,000	-29.5	-20.9
Casper MSA[2] Building Permits	28	20	24	40.0	16.7
Valuation	$7,081,000	$5,182,000	$6,425,000	36.6	10.2
Cheyenne MSA Building Permits	24	39	20	-38.5	20.0
Valuation	$2,044,000	$6,234,000	$3,298,000	-67.2	-38.0
Baker Hughes North American Rotary Rig Count for Wyoming	24	24	58	0.0	-58.6

(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

From August to September, most county unemployment rates changed very little.

	Labor Force			Employed			Unemployed			Unemployment Rates		
REGION	Sep 2015	Aug 2015	Sep 2014	Sep 2015	Aug 2015	Sep 2014	Sep 2015	Aug 2015	Sep 2014	Sep 2015	Aug 2015	Sep 2014
County	(p)	(r)	(b)	(p)	(r)	(b)	(p)	(r)	(b)	(p)	(r)	(b)
NORTHWEST	**49,219**	**50,587**	**49,189**	**47,342**	**48,615**	**47,171**	**1,877**	**1,972**	**2,018**	**3.8**	**3.9**	**4.1**
Big Horn	5,732	5,844	5,723	5,524	5,633	5,503	208	211	220	3.6	3.6	3.8
Fremont	20,430	20,510	20,438	19,508	19,518	19,523	922	992	915	4.5	4.8	4.5
Hot Springs	2,421	2,456	2,442	2,337	2,369	2,346	84	87	96	3.5	3.5	3.9
Park	16,336	17,398	16,310	15,809	16,864	15,689	527	534	621	3.2	3.1	3.8
Washakie	4,300	4,379	4,276	4,164	4,231	4,110	136	148	166	3.2	3.4	3.9
NORTHEAST	**53,951**	**54,699**	**54,334**	**52,214**	**52,888**	**52,432**	**1,737**	**1,811**	**1,902**	**3.2**	**3.3**	**3.5**
Campbell	25,891	26,119	26,138	25,034	25,227	25,313	857	892	825	3.3	3.4	3.2
Crook	3,746	3,918	3,755	3,648	3,823	3,627	98	95	128	2.6	2.4	3.4
Johnson	4,348	4,524	4,451	4,193	4,354	4,285	155	170	166	3.6	3.8	3.7
Sheridan	15,990	16,190	16,005	15,472	15,650	15,354	518	540	651	3.2	3.3	4.1
Weston	3,976	3,948	3,985	3,867	3,834	3,853	109	114	132	2.7	2.9	3.3
SOUTHWEST	**62,048**	**63,681**	**61,157**	**59,873**	**61,506**	**58,769**	**2,175**	**2,175**	**2,388**	**3.5**	**3.4**	**3.9**
Lincoln	8,575	8,650	8,332	8,269	8,348	7,970	306	302	362	3.6	3.5	4.3
Sublette	4,833	5,014	4,935	4,635	4,815	4,742	198	199	193	4.1	4.0	3.9
Sweetwater	22,953	23,027	22,936	22,039	22,102	22,035	914	925	901	4.0	4.0	3.9
Teton	15,419	16,737	15,104	15,080	16,411	14,640	339	326	464	2.2	1.9	3.1
Uinta	10,268	10,253	9,850	9,850	9,830	9,382	418	423	468	4.1	4.1	4.8
SOUTHEAST	**82,197**	**82,142**	**82,036**	**79,648**	**79,496**	**78,908**	**2,549**	**2,646**	**3,128**	**3.1**	**3.2**	**3.8**
Albany	20,645	19,173	20,468	20,099	18,596	19,775	546	577	693	2.6	3.0	3.4
Goshen	7,117	7,275	7,154	6,917	7,068	6,905	200	207	249	2.8	2.8	3.5
Laramie	48,024	49,179	48,284	46,422	47,541	46,324	1,602	1,638	1,960	3.3	3.3	4.1
Niobrara	1,364	1,426	1,370	1,332	1,383	1,323	32	43	47	2.3	3.0	3.4
Platte	5,047	5,089	4,760	4,878	4,908	4,581	169	181	179	3.3	3.6	3.8
CENTRAL	**59,481**	**59,882**	**59,772**	**57,106**	**57,472**	**57,544**	**2,375**	**2,410**	**2,228**	**4.0**	**4.0**	**3.7**
Carbon	8,360	8,495	8,423	8,122	8,259	8,099	238	236	324	2.8	2.8	3.8
Converse	8,434	8,536	8,361	8,178	8,257	8,110	256	279	251	3.0	3.3	3.0
Natrona	42,687	42,851	42,988	40,806	40,956	41,335	1,881	1,895	1,653	4.4	4.4	3.8
STATEWIDE	**306,896**	**310,989**	**306,486**	**296,183**	**299,976**	**294,823**	**10,713**	**11,013**	**11,663**	**3.5**	**3.5**	**3.8**
Statewide Seasonally Adjusted										4.0	4.0	4.4
U.S.										4.9	5.2	5.7
U.S. Seasonally Adjusted										5.1	5.1	5.9

Prepared in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Benchmarked 02/2015. Run Date 10/2015.

Data are not seasonally adjusted except where otherwise specified.

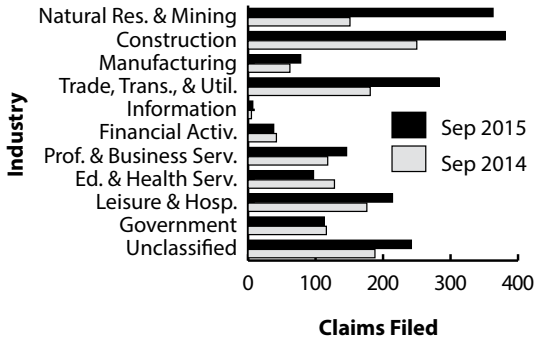
(p) Preliminary. (r) Revised. (b) Benchmarked.

Wyoming Normalized[a] Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Initial Claims

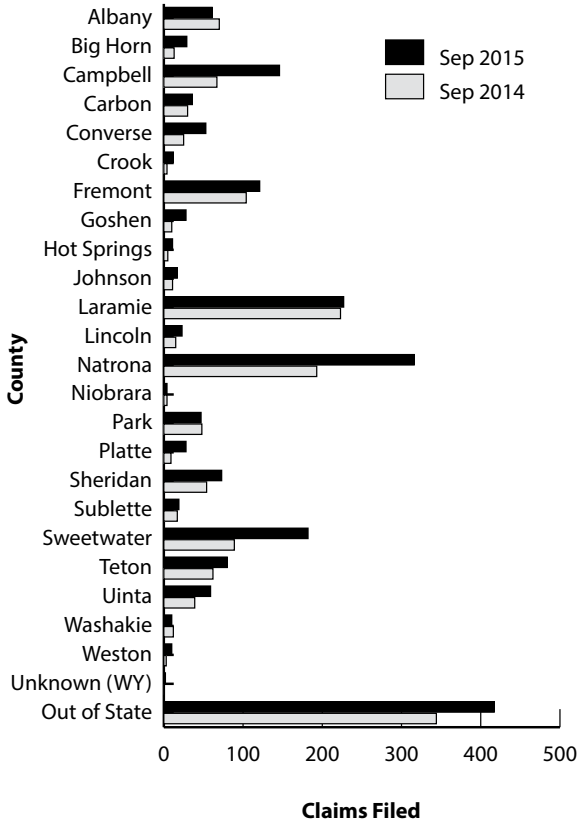
by: Patrick Manning, Principal Economist

Initial claims increased 38.6% from September 2014. Initial claims in natural resources & mining increased 140.4% over the year.

Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims by Industry, September 2015



Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims by County, September 2015



Initial Claims

	Claims Filed			Percent Change Claims Filed	
	Sep 15	Aug 15	Sep 14	Aug 15	Sep 14
Wyoming Statewide					
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	**2,011**	**1,749**	**1,451**	**15.0**	**38.6**
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	824	681	465	21.0	77.2
Natural Res. & Mining	363	225	151	61.3	140.4
Mining	352	218	140	61.5	151.4
Oil & Gas Extraction	22	15	8	46.7	175.0
Construction	381	373	250	2.1	52.4
Manufacturing	78	82	62	-4.9	25.8
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	831	744	680	11.7	22.2
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	283	280	181	1.1	56.4
Wholesale Trade	65	80	34	-18.8	91.2
Retail Trade	112	121	92	-7.4	21.7
Transp., Warehousing & Utilities	106	79	55	34.2	92.7
Information	7	4	5	75.0	40.0
Financial Activities	38	53	42	-28.3	-9.5
Prof. and Business Svcs.	146	149	118	-2.0	23.7
Educational & Health Svcs.	97	97	128	0.0	-24.2
Leisure & Hospitality	214	111	176	92.8	21.6
Other Svcs., exc. Public Admin.	38	45	24	-15.6	58.3
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	113	108	116	4.6	-2.6
Federal Government	32	20	36	60.0	-11.1
State Government	26	17	21	52.9	23.8
Local Government	53	70	58	-24.3	-8.6
Local Education	13	21	12	-38.1	8.3
UNCLASSIFIED	242	214	188	13.1	28.7
Laramie County					
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	**226**	**221**	**222**	**2.3**	**1.8**
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	81	60	66	35.0	22.7
Construction	60	48	47	25.0	27.7
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	118	124	130	-4.8	-9.2
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	38	36	36	5.6	5.6
Financial Activities	9	11	9	-18.2	0.0
Prof. & Business Svcs.	41	48	60	-14.6	-31.7
Educational & Health Svcs.	17	22	17	-22.7	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality	15	16	17	-6.3	-11.8
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	17	24	14	-29.2	21.4
UNCLASSIFIED	9	11	11	-18.2	-18.2
Natrona County					
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	**316**	**316**	**192**	**0.0**	**64.6**
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	139	140	86	-0.7	61.6
Construction	60	72	46	-16.7	30.4
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	158	158	90	0.0	75.6
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	68	63	32	7.9	112.5
Financial Activities	7	10	8	-30.0	-12.5
Prof. & Business Svcs.	24	36	17	-33.3	41.2
Educational & Health Svcs.	15	23	15	-34.8	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality	25	22	13	13.6	92.3
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	6	3	5	100.0	20.0
UNCLASSIFIED	11	14	9	-21.4	22.2

[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: Patrick Manning, Principal Economist

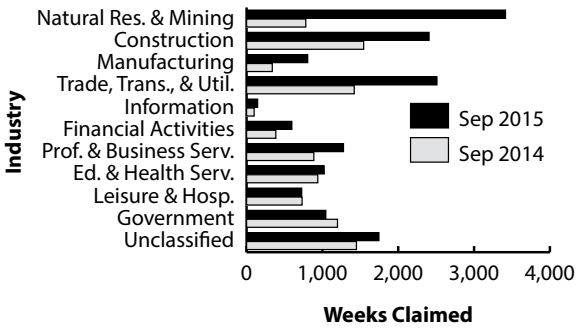
Continued claims in natural resources & mining increased 337.3% from September 2014.

Continued Claims

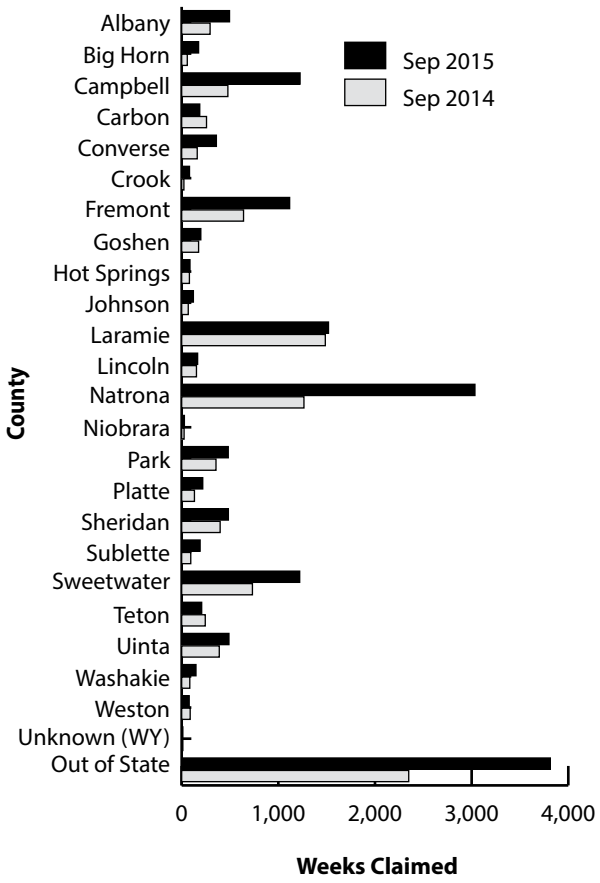
	Claims Filed			Percent Change Claims Filed	
	Sep 15	Aug 15	Sep 14	Sep 15 Aug 15	Sep 15 Sep 14
Wyoming Statewide					
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	**16,134**	**18,476**	**10,041**	**-12.7**	**60.7**
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS[b]	4,021	5,231	2,915	-23.1	37.9
Benefit Exhaustions	439	507	225	-13.4	95.1
Benefit Exhaustion Rates	10.9	9.7	7.7	1.2	3.2
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	6,629	7,585	2,666	-12.6	148.6
Natural Res. & Mining	3,415	4,187	781	-18.4	337.3
Mining	3,357	4,144	726	-19.0	362.4
Oil & Gas Extraction	272	382	86	-28.8	216.3
Construction	2,407	2,592	1,544	-7.1	55.9
Manufacturing	806	804	339	0.2	137.8
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	6,714	7,555	4,726	-11.1	42.1
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	2,511	2,576	1,420	-2.5	76.8
Wholesale Trade	776	768	308	1.0	151.9
Retail Trade	840	854	714	-1.6	17.6
Transp., Warehousing & Utilities	895	954	398	-6.2	124.9
Information	146	156	100	-6.4	46.0
Financial Activities	597	700	386	-14.7	54.7
Prof. & Business Services	1,278	1,450	887	-11.9	44.1
Educational & Health Svcs.	1,024	1,378	939	-25.7	9.1
Leisure and Hospitality	727	803	732	-9.5	-0.7
Other Svcs., exc. Public Admin.	424	487	257	-12.9	65.0
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	1,045	1,261	1,199	-17.1	-12.8
Federal Government	192	192	253	0.0	-24.1
State Government	193	184	184	4.9	4.9
Local Government	659	884	762	-25.5	-13.5
Local Education	225	296	192	-24.0	17.2
UNCLASSIFIED	1,745	2,074	1,449	-15.9	20.4
Laramie County					
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	**1,518**	**1,706**	**1,486**	**-11.0**	**2.2**
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	**387**	**491**	**431**	**-21.2**	**-10.2**
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	389	401	340	-3.0	14.4
Construction	262	253	214	3.6	22.4
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	861	1,017	884	-15.3	-2.6
Trade, Transp., and Utilities	254	276	293	-8.0	-13.3
Financial Activities	80	96	109	-16.7	-26.6
Prof. & Business Svcs.	259	389	249	-33.4	4.0
Educational and Health Svcs.	182	228	171	-20.2	6.4
Leisure & Hospitality	61	58	72	5.2	-15.3
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	200	202	200	-1.0	0.0
UNCLASSIFIED	66	84	60	-21.4	10.0
Natrona County					
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	**3,033**	**3,276**	**1,265**	**-7.4**	**139.8**
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	**733**	**934**	**388**	**-21.5**	**88.9**
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	1,437	1,583	333	-9.2	331.5
Construction	366	307	164	19.2	123.2
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	1,462	1,556	827	-6.0	76.8
Trade, Transp., and Utilities	593	609	239	-2.6	148.1
Financial Activities	153	162	50	-5.6	206.0
Professional & Business Svcs.	253	426	228	-40.6	11.0
Educational & Health Svcs.	194	233	214	-16.7	-9.3
Leisure & Hospitality	134	121	101	10.7	32.7
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	65	70	56	-7.1	16.1
UNCLASSIFIED	67	66	48	1.5	39.6

[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, September 2015



Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by County, September 2015



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