

TRENDS

Demographics of Wyoming's Workforce, 2008-2017

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The total number of persons working in Wyoming at any time declined from 346,640 in 2016 to 337,711 in 2017, a decrease of 2.1%, or 6,929 persons. This marked the third consecutive year of over-the-year decrease in the total number of persons working in Wyoming as the state continued to recover from the economic downturn that began in 2015.

The Research & Planning (R&P) section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services publishes detailed information on wages and the number of persons working by industry and county of employment annually, available at http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/earnings_tables.htm. The numbers of individuals working in each industry and county are based on employers' quarterly wage and employment reports to the Unemployment Insurance (UI) tax section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services, referred to as *wage records*. Any individual who had wages in Wyoming at any time from 2000 to 2017 is included in the summary counts presented in this research. Each individual is counted only once.

Now Online

Demographics and Earnings of Persons Working in Wyoming by County, Industry, Age, & Gender, 2000-2017

http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/earnings_tables.htm

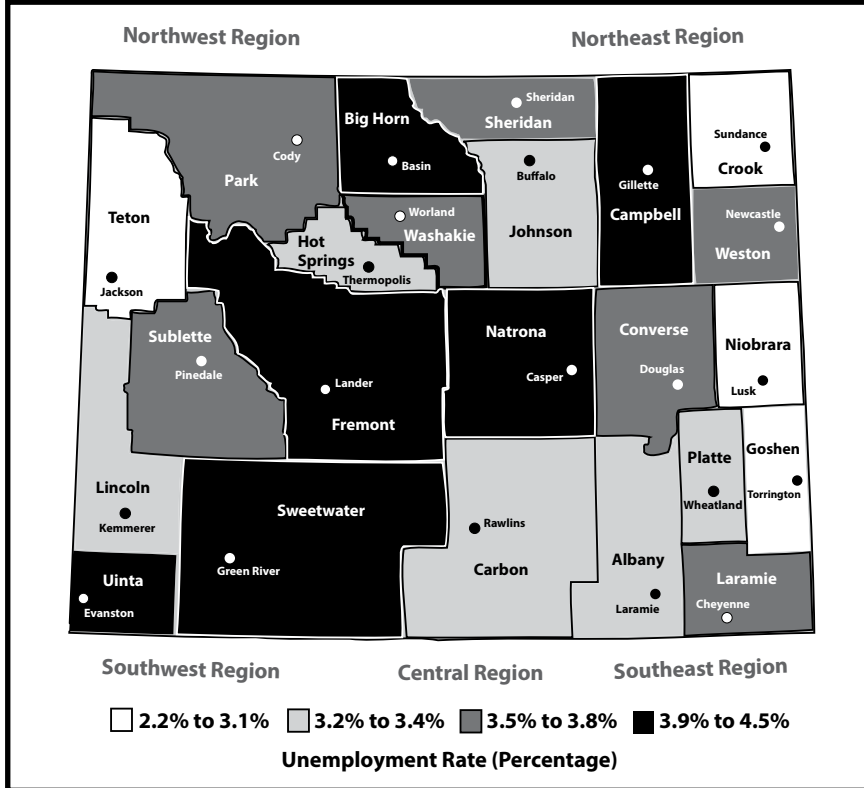
By linking the Wage Records Database with other administrative databases, R&P is able to identify demographic information for each county and industry, including gender, age, average annual wages, average number of

(Text continued on page 3)

HIGHLIGHTS

- The Baker Hughes North American Rotary rig count for Wyoming in September 2018 was 30, up from 29 in August 2018 and 25 in September 2017.. ... *page 16*
- In September 2018, initial Unemployment Insurance claims decreased by 29.1% (-372 claims) compared to September 2017. ... *page 18*

Unemployment Rate by Wyoming County, September 2018 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



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(Text continued from page 1)

quarters worked, and average number of employers.

This article is intended to introduce readers to the type of demographic data presented in the tables that are published online and how that information can be used. Data from 2017 are compared to data from the last 10 years in order to gain an understanding of how Wyoming's demographics changed during the decade that included two periods of economic downturn.

It is important to understand that the data presented in this article represent the number of persons working in Wyoming at any time, not the number of jobs worked. For more information on the number of jobs worked in Wyoming, please see the most recent article on data from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) in the October 2018 issue of *Wyoming Labor Force Trends*, available online at <http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/trends/1018/1018.pdf>.

Introduction

Over the last 10 years, Wyoming's workforce has been shaped by economic and demographic changes. Wyoming experienced two periods of economic downturn in the last decade: 2009Q1 to 2010Q1 and 2015Q2 to 2016Q4. Research & Planning has defined an *economic downturn* as a period of at least two consecutive quarters of over-the-year decline in average monthly employment (jobs worked) and total wages based on QCEW data. The first economic downturn began during the national Great Recession

(December 2007 to June 2009; NBER, 2010), while the most recent downturn began in 2015Q2 based on the substantial decline of the prices oil and natural gas and lower demand for coal (Gallagher, 2016).

In 2008, *baby boomers* — the approximately 76 million individuals born in the U.S. between 1946 and 1964 (Pew Research Center, 2015) — made up the largest portion of Wyoming's workforce and were between the ages of 44 and 62. By 2017, baby boomers were between the ages of 53 and 71, meaning many had reached or were approaching the traditional retirement age of 65. As baby boomers retire, there are fewer members of the next generation (*generation X*, the 55 million individuals born between 1965 and 1980 and ages 37 and 52 in 2017) to take their place (Pew Research Center, 2015).

Many *millennials* — the 66 million individuals born from 1981 to 1996 (Pew Research Center, 2015) and between the ages of 21 to 36 in 2017 — entered the workforce during the last 10 years. However, because of the national Great Recession, many millennials had difficulty finding jobs as teens and entered the workforce later than their predecessors (Emmons, Kent, and Ricketts, 2018). In Wyoming, millennials likely faced even more challenges with the two economic downturns.

As shown in Table 1 (see page 4), Wyoming's estimated population ages 16 and older increased from 2008 to 2017 (27,578 more people, or 6.4%) while the number of jobs worked (-16,742, or -5.8%) and the number of persons working at any time (-44,064, or -11.5%) both decreased. There were 337,711 total persons working

in Wyoming at any time in 2017, which marked the third consecutive year of over-the-year decrease.

As illustrated in Figure 1, the total number of persons working in Wyoming in 2017 was the lowest since 2005.

Table 1: Total Number of Persons Working in Wyoming at Any Time, Number of Jobs Worked, and Population Estimates, 2008-2017

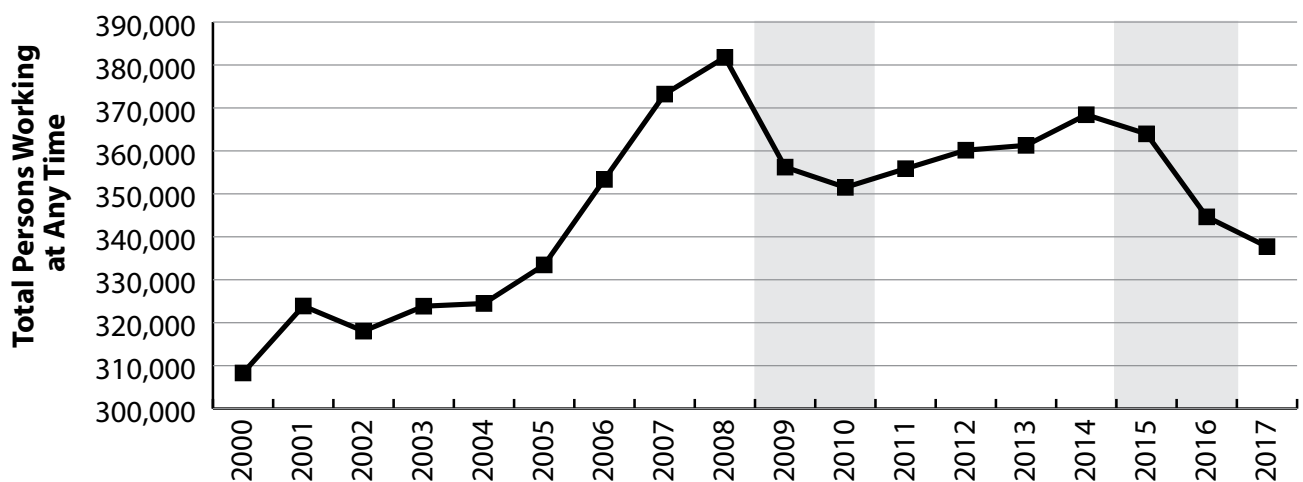
Year	Persons Working at Any Time ^a			Jobs Worked ^b			Population Ages 16+ ^c		
	N	Over-the-Year Change		N	Over-the-Year Change		N	Over-the-Year Change	
		N	%		N	%		N	%
2008	381,775	8,549	2.3	286,333	8,557	3.1	429,824	8,149	1.9
2009	356,222	-25,553	-6.7	274,763	-11,570	-4.0	440,060	10,236	2.4
2010	351,509	-4,713	-1.3	271,152	-3,611	-1.3	443,720	3,660	0.8
2011	355,857	4,348	1.2	274,742	3,590	1.3	446,530	2,810	0.6
2012	360,160	4,303	1.2	278,578	3,836	1.4	454,350	7,820	1.8
2013	361,290	1,130	0.3	279,750	1,172	0.4	459,139	4,789	1.1
2014	368,418	7,128	2.0	284,403	4,653	1.7	459,686	547	0.1
2015	363,966	-4,452	-1.2	282,680	-1,723	-0.6	461,449	1,763	0.4
2016	344,640	-19,326	-5.3	271,832	-10,848	-3.8	461,064	-385	-0.1
2017	337,711	-6,929	-2.0	269,591	-2,241	-0.8	457,402	-3,662	-0.8
Change, 2008-2017		-44,064	-11.5		-16,742	-5.8		27,578	6.4
Change, 2014-2017		-30,707	-8.3		-14,812	-5.2		-2,284	-0.5

^aSource: Demographics of Persons Working in Wyoming by County, Industry, Age, & Gender, 2000-2017.

^bAnnual averages. Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages.

^cSource: Annual Estimates of the Resident Population by Single Year of Age and Sex for the United States, States, and Puerto Rico Commonwealth. U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division.

Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 8/27/18.



Shaded areas indicate periods of economic downturn: 2009Q1-2010Q1 and 2015Q2-2016Q4.
 Source: Demographics of Persons Working in Wyoming by County, Industry, Age, & Gender, 2000-2017.
 Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 10/11/18.

Figure 1: Total Number of Persons Working in Wyoming at Any Time, 2000-2017

Gender

Table 2 shows the total number of persons working in Wyoming at any time in 2008 and 2017 by gender. Women accounted for 40.8% of all individuals working in Wyoming at any time in 2017, compared to 47.0% for men. The remaining 12.2% were *nonresidents*, or individuals for whom demographic data were not available.

Figure 2 shows the percentage of persons working in Wyoming at any

time by gender from 2008 to 2017. Although there have been some increases and decreases in the number of persons working during times of economic expansion and downturn, the distribution of women, men, and nonresidents working

in Wyoming has remained largely unchanged over the last 10 years. As shown in Figure 2, women on average accounted for 40.4% of all persons in Wyoming from 2008 to 2017, compared to 49.0% for men and 10.6% for nonresidents.

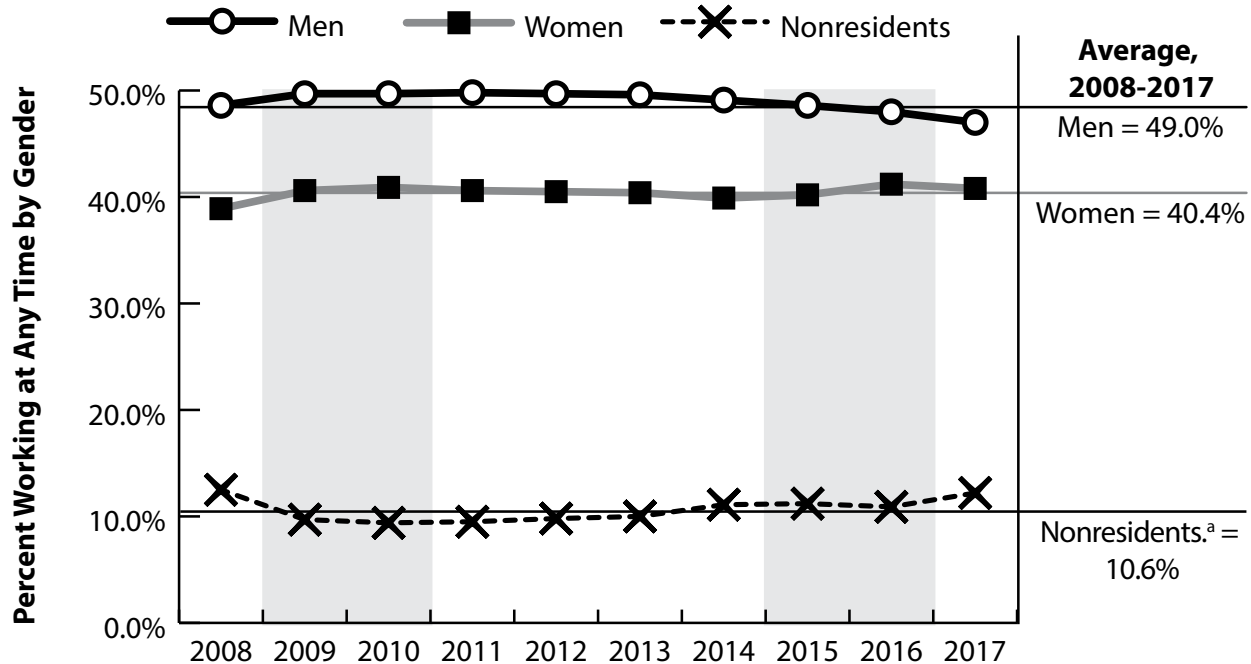
Table 2: Total Number of Persons Working in Wyoming by Gender, 2008 and 2017

Gender	2008		2017		Change, 2008-2017	
	N	Column %	N	Column %	N	Row %
Women	148,641	38.9	137,840	40.8	-10,801	-7.3
Men	185,355	48.6	158,628	47.0	-26,727	-14.4
Nonresidents ^a	47,779	12.5	41,243	12.2	-6,536	-13.7
Total	381,775	100.0	337,711	100.0	-44,064	-11.5

Source: Demographics of Persons Working in Wyoming by County, Industry, Age, & Gender, 2000-2017.

^aIndividuals for whom demographic data were not available.

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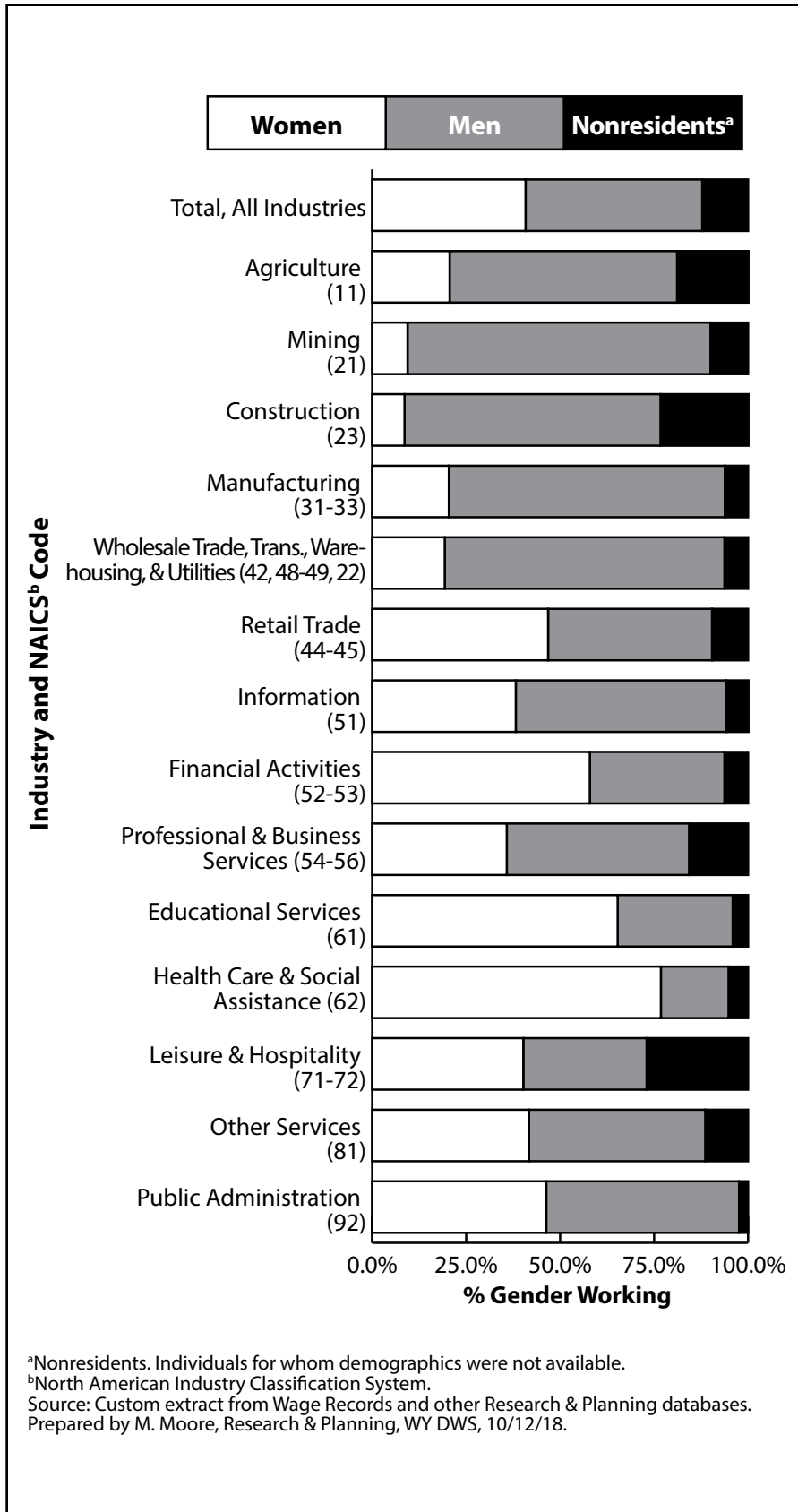
Shaded areas indicate periods of economic downturn: 2009Q1-2010Q1 and 2015Q2-2016Q4.

^aIndividuals for whom demographic data were not available.

Source: Demographics of Persons Working in Wyoming by County, Industry, Age, & Gender, 2000-2017.

Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 10/11/18.

Figure 2: Percentage of Persons Working in Wyoming at Any Time by Gender, 2008-2017



The distribution of women and men working in Wyoming in 2017 differed by industry. As shown in Figure 3, men made up a large proportion of persons working in industries such as mining, construction, manufacturing, and wholesale trade, transportation, warehousing, & utilities. Women made up a large proportion of those working in educational services and health care & social assistance. Some industries relied more heavily on nonresidents than others, most notably construction and leisure & hospitality.

Women made up a larger percentage of persons working at any time in Wyoming's least populous counties, most notably Niobrara (54.5%), Hot Springs (48.7%), and Weston (48.4%) counties (see Table 3, page 7). In contrast, the counties with the smallest percentage of women working at any time were those that had a large presence of mining, specifically Sublette (35.3%), Sweetwater (37.5%), and Campbell (38.8%) counties. In Teton County, more than one in three persons working at any time (38.4%) was a nonresident.

Figure 3: Percentage of Persons Working in Wyoming at Any Time by Gender and Industry, 2017

Age

Table 4 provides a comparison of Wyoming’s estimated population and the total number of persons working by age in 2008 and 2017. There was a noticeable decrease in youth ages 16-19 and 20-24 working in Wyoming from 2008 to 2017, even though the decline in the state’s population in those two age groups was much less pronounced. The estimated population of individuals ages 16-24 decreased by 7.1%, while the number of individuals ages 16-24 working at any time decreased by 28.9%. R&P published a series of articles on the decline of youths in Wyoming’s labor force (Moore, 2013), which began during the national Great Recession (December 2007 to June 2009) and appears to have continued into 2017.

The number of persons ages 25-34 and 35-44 working in Wyoming decreased by 8.9% and 2.6%, respectively, even though the population increased by an estimated 11.3% and 7.2%, respectively.

Table 3: Total Number of Persons Working in Wyoming at Any Time and Percent Working by Gender, 2017

County	N	Percent Working by Gender		
		Women	Men	Non. ^a
Total	337,711	40.8	47.0	12.2
Albany	19,438	42.7	46.3	11.0
Big Horn	5,184	40.5	50.1	9.4
Campbell	29,853	38.8	54.1	7.1
Carbon	8,979	39.0	46.5	14.4
Converse	6,680	41.9	48.7	9.4
Crook	2,813	43.3	44.8	11.9
Fremont	19,539	46.4	44.4	9.3
Goshen	5,316	48.1	45.7	6.3
Hot Springs	2,315	48.7	44.8	6.5
Johnson	3,855	45.7	45.4	8.8
Laramie	54,761	44.6	47.1	8.3
Lincoln	7,983	40.9	46.4	12.6
Natrona	46,703	42.9	49.9	7.2
Niobrara	1,076	54.5	40.7	4.8
Park	16,933	43.7	43.9	12.5
Platte	4,619	41.2	48.5	10.3
Sheridan	15,480	46.4	45.9	7.7
Sublette	5,182	35.3	50.4	14.3
Sweetwater	27,220	37.5	52.4	10.1
Teton	29,986	27.2	34.4	38.4
Uinta	10,612	43.9	43.4	12.7
Washakie	4,291	44.8	49.2	6.0
Weston	2,749	48.4	46.5	5.1
Unspecified	6,143	15.8	49.5	34.7

^aNonresidents are individuals for whom demographic data were not available.

Source: Demographics of Persons Working in Wyoming by County, Industry, Age, & Gender, 2000-2017.

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Table 4: Total Number of Persons Working in Wyoming at Any Time and Population Estimates by Age, 2008-2017

Age	Persons Working at Any Time ^a				Population Estimates ^b			
	2008	2017	Change, 2008-2017		2008	2017	Change, 2008-2017	
			N	%			N	%
16-24	70,350	50,018	-20,332	-28.9	72,271	67,109	-5,162	-7.1
25-34	73,709	67,116	-6,593	-8.9	71,440	79,514	8,074	11.3
35-44	61,210	59,619	-1,591	-2.6	66,790	71,619	4,829	7.2
45-54	70,431	51,366	-19,065	-27.1	84,979	66,699	-18,280	-21.5
55+	58,199	68,292	10,093	17.3	134,344	140,384	6,040	4.5
Nonresidents ^c	47,876	41,300	-6,576	-13.7				
Total	381,775	337,711	-44,064	-11.5	429,824	457,402	27,578	6.4

^aSource: Demographics of Persons Working in Wyoming by County, Industry, Age, & Gender, 2000-2017.

^bSource: Annual Estimates of the Resident Population by Single Year of Age and Sex for the United States, States, and Puerto Rico Commonwealth. U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division.

^cIndividuals for whom demographic data were not available.

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A noticeable change occurred for those ages 45-54, where both the estimated population and the number of persons working at any time decreased substantially from 2008 to 2017. The population of individuals ages 45-54 decreased by 21.5%, while the number of those working in Wyoming at any time decreased by 27.1%. This change was influenced in part by the large number of baby boomers in Wyoming. In 2008, many of those baby boomers were in the 45-54 age group. By 2017, they moved into the 55 and older age group. There

were far fewer individuals from generation X who then aged into the 45-54 age group in 2017. As baby boomers aged, the population of individuals ages 55 and older increased by 4.5%, while the number of persons working increased by 17.3%.

Figure 4 illustrates why the demographics of Wyoming's workforce are important to employers, policymakers, jobseekers, and others in Wyoming. In 2017, the more than 68,000 individuals ages 55 and older working in Wyoming

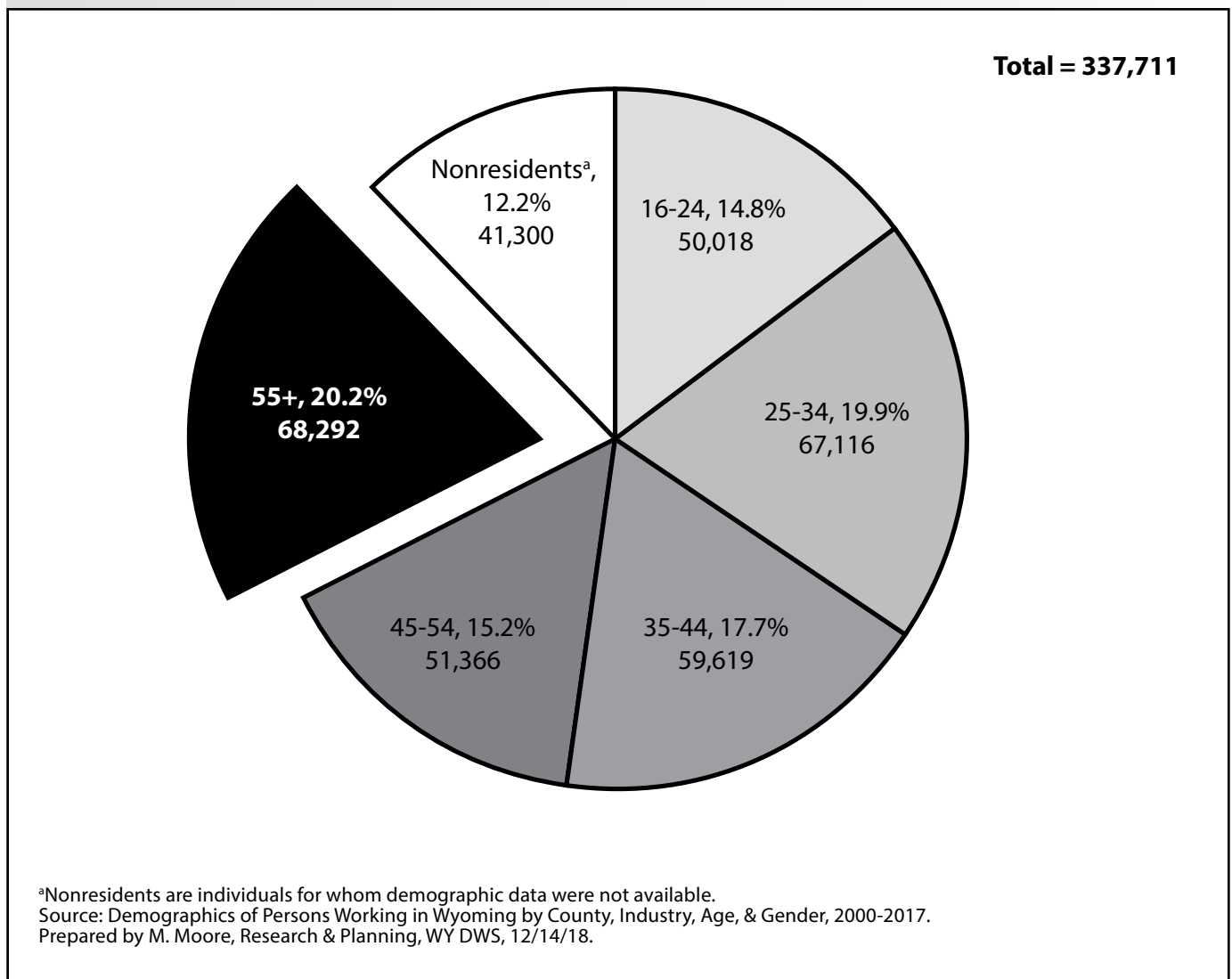


Figure 4: Number of Persons Working in Wyoming at Any Time by Selected Age Groups, 2008-2017

accounted for more than 20% of the total. In other words, as those older individuals reach the traditional retirement age of 65, nearly one in five persons working in Wyoming in 2017 could retire in the next 10 years, potentially leaving a void in Wyoming’s labor market.

Table 5 shows the percentage of individuals ages 55 and older working in Wyoming in 2017 by industry. Finding qualified workers to replace older workers leaving the workforce could be especially problematic for industries that have a relatively large number of jobs that require a bachelor’s degree or greater and a large proportion of individuals 55 and older (Moore, 2015) such as educational services (27.8%), public administration (27.3%), and health care & social assistance (21.6%).

At the county level, Wyoming’s least

populous counties had the largest proportion of individuals 55 and older working at any time in 2017 (see Table 6, page 10). Individuals ages 55 and older accounted for at least one in four (25.0%) persons working in Niobrara (28.3%), Washakie (27.9%), Weston (27.8%), Hot Springs (27.6%), and Crook (25.2%) counties, all of which had fewer than 3,000 people working at any time in 2017. Teton County had the lowest proportion of persons of 55 and older working in 2017 (12.5%).

Gender Wage Gap

It is important to understand that wages discussed in this section do not account for several variables, most notably occupation and hours worked. Research & Planning

Table 5: Total Number of Persons Working in Wyoming by Selected Age Group and Industry, 2017

NAICS ^a Code	Industry	Total	Ages 55+	
		N	N	%
11	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	3,904	943	24.2
21	Mining, Including Oil & Gas	24,617	4,958	20.1
23	Construction	31,650	4,929	15.6
31-33	Manufacturing	11,586	2,701	23.3
42, 48-49, 22	Wholesale Trade, Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	22,860	6,011	26.3
44-45	Retail Trade	39,881	7,688	19.3
51	Information	4,280	894	20.9
52-53	Financial Activities	12,773	3,211	25.1
54-56	Professional & Business Services	25,121	5,275	21.0
61	Educational Services	33,646	9,361	27.8
62	Health Care & Social Assistance	37,048	8,020	21.6
71-72	Leisure & Hospitality	54,509	5,011	9.2
81	Other Services	8,663	1,887	21.8
92	Public Administration	26,978	7,366	27.3
	Unclassified	195	37	19.0
Total, All Industries		337,711	68,292	20.2

^aNorth American Industry Classification System.

Source: Demographics of Persons Working in Wyoming by County, Industry, Age, & Gender, 2000-2017.

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recently published a comprehensive study on Wyoming's gender wage gap, titled, *A Study of the Disparity in Wages and Benefits Between Men and Women in Wyoming: Update 2018* (Glover et al., 2018). The report is available online at <http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/WYWageGap2018.htm>.

The average annual wage for women working in Wyoming at any time in 2017 was \$29,011, compared to \$46,270 for men. Women earned approximately 63.0% of what men earned, or \$0.63 on the dollar. As shown in Table 7 (see page 11), the gender wage gap

varied by industry and was narrowest in public administration, where women earned \$0.80 on the dollar compared to men. The wage gap was widest in health care & social assistance, where women earned \$0.47 on the dollar compared to men.

The wide gap in health care & social assistance was in part a result of the types of jobs that men and women worked in that industry. According to *Update 2018* (pp. 46), in 2016, women made up 92.3% of all persons working in healthcare support occupations in Wyoming, which often include lower paying jobs. For example, also in *Update 2018* (pp. 37), the research identified 11,540 women working as nursing assistants in Wyoming from 2005 to 2017 with an average hourly wage of \$13.24, and 1,259 men working in that same occupation with an average hourly wage of \$13.96. In other words, among nursing assistants, women made \$0.95 on the dollar compared to men. This is an example of how the gender wage gap can vary between industry (\$0.47 in health care & social assistance) and occupation (\$0.95 for nursing assistants).

Occupation data for those working in Wyoming are limited because they are not collected with wage records (Glover and Moore, 2018). While preparing *Update 2018*, R&P analysts had occupation data for only 23.2% of the individuals working in Wyoming in 2016. Collecting occupational codes with Wyoming wage records “would increase the accuracy of modeling and provide a greater understanding of gender wage disparity in Wyoming” according to *Update 2018* (pp. 55).

At the county level, the gender wage gap was widest in counties with a large mining presence, including Sweetwater (\$0.45), Lincoln (\$0.49), Sublette (\$0.53), Carbon (\$0.53), and Campbell (\$0.54) counties (see

Table 6: Total Number of Persons Working in Wyoming at Any Time and Number of Persons Ages 55 and Older by County of Employment Ranked by Percent of Persons Working Ages 55 and Older, 2017

County	Total	Ages 55+	
		N	%
Niobrara	1,076	305	28.3
Washakie	4,291	1,199	27.9
Weston	2,749	763	27.8
Hot Springs	2,315	640	27.6
Crook	2,813	710	25.2
Park	16,933	4,231	25.0
Goshen	5,316	1,324	24.9
Platte	4,619	1,150	24.9
Johnson	3,855	947	24.6
Big Horn	5,184	1,269	24.5
Fremont	19,539	4,698	24.0
Sheridan	15,480	3,567	23.0
Lincoln	7,983	1,769	22.2
Converse	6,680	1,440	21.6
Carbon	8,979	1,901	21.2
Total	337,711	68,292	20.2
Natrona	46,703	9,379	20.1
Laramie	54,761	10,936	20.0
Sublette	5,182	1,033	19.9
Campbell	29,853	5,936	19.9
Uinta	10,612	2,051	19.3
Sweetwater	27,220	5,208	19.1
Albany	19,438	3,167	16.3
Teton	29,986	3,753	12.5
Unspecified	6,143	916	14.9

Source: Demographics of Persons Working in Wyoming by County, Industry, Age, & Gender, 2000-2017.

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Table 8, page 12). As previously mentioned, women made up a smaller proportion of workforce in counties with a large mining presence.

The tables available at http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/earnings_tables.htm can provide readers with a greater understanding of the demographics of Wyoming’s workforce.

Conclusion

Over the last decade, demographic changes and two economic downturns have helped shape Wyoming’s workforce. From 2008 to 2017, the number of persons working in Wyoming at any time got smaller, decreasing by more than 44,000 people (-11.5%) from 2008 to 2017. In addition, the state’s workforce has gotten older: in 2017, individuals ages 55 and older accounted for one in five (20.2%) people working in Wyoming, and there were more individuals in the 55 and older group than any other age group.

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Table 7: Average Annual Earnings for Persons Working in Wyoming at Any Time by Industry and Gender, 2017

NAICS ^a Code	Industry	Women	Men	Gender Wage Gap ^b
11	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	\$18,906	\$27,991	\$0.68
21	Mining, Including Oil & Gas	\$58,124	\$75,862	\$0.77
23	Construction	\$28,910	\$37,115	\$0.78
31-33	Manufacturing	\$33,728	\$62,540	\$0.54
42, 48-49, 22	Wholesale Trade, Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	\$34,568	\$56,408	\$0.61
44-45	Retail Trade	\$18,896	\$28,377	\$0.67
51	Information	\$29,741	\$49,108	\$0.61
52-53	Financial Activities	\$37,309	\$64,158	\$0.58
54-56	Professional & Business Services	\$30,625	\$43,649	\$0.70
61	Educational Services	\$34,839	\$44,352	\$0.79
62	Health Care & Social Assistance	\$35,048	\$74,965	\$0.47
71-72	Leisure & Hospitality	\$12,979	\$16,507	\$0.79
81	Other Services	\$22,006	\$37,950	\$0.58
92	Public Administration	\$36,425	\$45,581	\$0.80
	Unclassified	\$46,259	\$49,829	\$0.93
	Total, All Industries	\$29,011	\$46,270	\$0.63

^aNorth American Industry Classification System.

^bWomen’s earnings as a percentage of men’s wages, expressed as cents on the dollar.

Source: Demographics of Persons Working in Wyoming by County, Industry, Age, & Gender, 2000-2017.

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Table 8: Average Annual Earnings for Persons Working in Wyoming at Any Time by County of Employment and Gender, 2017

County	Women	Men	Gender Wage Gap ^a
Total	\$29,011	\$46,270	\$0.63
Albany	\$29,020	\$39,124	\$0.74
Big Horn	\$25,845	\$40,016	\$0.65
Campbell	\$31,886	\$58,910	\$0.54
Carbon	\$26,212	\$49,093	\$0.53
Converse	\$29,207	\$49,483	\$0.59
Crook	\$24,756	\$39,090	\$0.63
Fremont	\$27,303	\$36,513	\$0.75
Goshen	\$25,324	\$34,948	\$0.72
Hot Springs	\$24,871	\$36,505	\$0.68
Johnson	\$25,173	\$36,312	\$0.69
Laramie	\$31,178	\$41,204	\$0.76
Lincoln	\$23,450	\$47,437	\$0.49
Natrona	\$30,302	\$48,638	\$0.62
Niobrara	\$26,341	\$30,837	\$0.85
Park	\$26,492	\$38,544	\$0.69
Platte	\$26,048	\$45,050	\$0.58
Sheridan	\$27,761	\$38,740	\$0.72
Sublette	\$29,189	\$55,387	\$0.53
Sweetwater	\$28,276	\$63,022	\$0.45
Teton	\$34,672	\$45,942	\$0.75
Uinta	\$24,172	\$42,589	\$0.57
Washakie	\$25,811	\$40,901	\$0.63
Weston	\$24,786	\$42,432	\$0.58
Unspecified	\$22,489	\$35,788	\$0.63

^aWomen's earnings as a percentage of men's wages, expressed as cents on the dollar.

Source: Demographics of Persons Working in Wyoming by County, Industry, Age, & Gender, 2000-2017.

Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 8/27/18.

Wyoming Unemployment Rises to 4.1% in September

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 increased from 3.9% in August to 4.1% in September. Wyoming’s unemployment rate was unchanged from its year-ago level of 4.1% and slightly higher than the current U.S. unemployment rate of 3.7%.

From August to September, most county unemployment rates changed very little. Jobless rates increased in Sublette (up from 3.4% to 3.8%), Teton (up from 1.9% to 2.2%), and Weston (up from 3.2% to 3.5%) counties. Goshen County’s unemployment rate fell from 3.4% to 3.0% and Albany County’s unemployment rate fell from 3.5% to 3.2%.

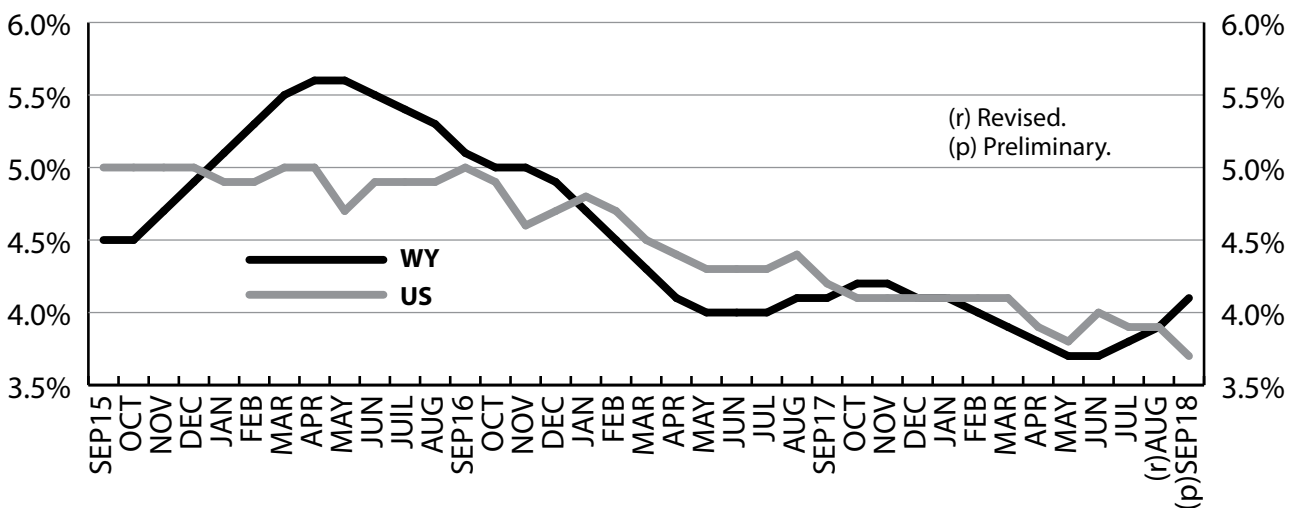
From September 2017 to September 2018, unemployment rates increased in 16 counties and decreased or remained the same in seven counties. The largest increases occurred in Niobrara (up from 2.2% to 3.1%), Albany (up from 2.6% to 3.2%), Big Horn (up from 3.5% to 4.0%), and Goshen (up from 2.5% to 3.0%) counties. The largest decreases were found in Converse (down from 3.9% to 3.6%) and Campbell (down from 4.3% to 4.1%) counties.

In September, the highest unemployment rates were reported in Natrona and Fremont counties (both 4.5%). The lowest rates occurred in Teton County at 2.2%, Crook County at 2.9%, and Goshen County at 3.0%.

Total nonfarm employment (not seasonally adjusted and measured by place of work) rose from 287,900 in September 2017 to 294,100 in September 2018, an increase of 6,200 jobs (or 2.2%).

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.

Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rate



Current Employment Statistics (CES) Estimates and Research & Planning's Internal Estimates, September 2018

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

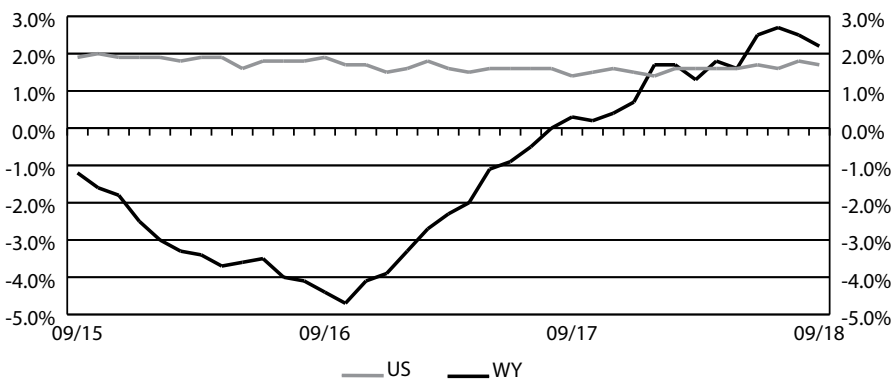
Industry Sector	Research & Planning's Internal Estimates	Current Employment Statistics (CES) Estimates	N Difference	% Difference
Total Nonfarm	290,552	294,100	3,548	1.2%
Natural Resources & Mining	21,415	21,300	-115	-0.5%
Construction	21,843	22,000	157	0.7%
Manufacturing	9,781	9,900	119	1.2%
Wholesale Trade	8,085	8,700	615	7.1%
Retail Trade	29,554	29,900	346	1.2%
Transportation & Utilities	14,714	14,800	86	0.6%
Information	3,665	3,700	35	0.9%
Financial Activities	11,150	11,300	150	1.3%
Professional & Business Services	19,149	19,200	51	0.3%
Educational & Health Services	28,640	28,700	60	0.2%
Leisure & Hospitality	39,754	41,300	1,546	3.7%
Other Services	14,056	13,700	-356	-2.6%
Government	68,746	69,600	854	1.2%

Projections were run in August 2018 and based on QCEW data through March 2018.

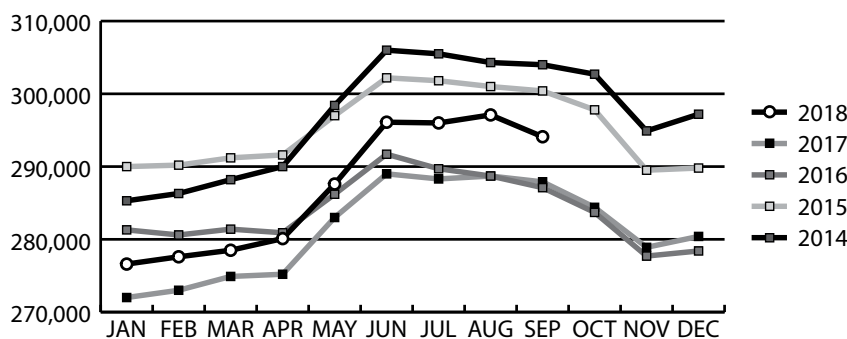
State Unemployment Rates September 2018 (Seasonally Adjusted)

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	8.4
Alaska	6.5
District of Columbia	5.7
West Virginia	5.2
Louisiana	5.0
Mississippi	4.8
Arizona	4.7
New Mexico	4.6
Ohio	4.6
Kentucky	4.5
Nevada	4.5
Washington	4.4
Connecticut	4.2
Maryland	4.2
New Jersey	4.2
Alabama	4.1
California	4.1
Illinois	4.1
New York	4.1
Pennsylvania	4.1
Wyoming	4.1
Delaware	4.0
Michigan	4.0
Rhode Island	3.9
North Carolina	3.8
Oregon	3.8
Texas	3.8
Georgia	3.7
United States	3.7
Massachusetts	3.6
Montana	3.6
Tennessee	3.6
Arkansas	3.5
Florida	3.5
Indiana	3.5
Oklahoma	3.5
Kansas	3.3
Maine	3.3
South Carolina	3.3
Missouri	3.2
Utah	3.2
Colorado	3.1
South Dakota	3.0
Wisconsin	3.0
Vermont	2.9
Virginia	2.9
Minnesota	2.8
Nebraska	2.8
Idaho	2.7
New Hampshire	2.7
North Dakota	2.7
Iowa	2.5
Hawaii	2.2

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

	Employment in Thousands			% Change Total Employment	
	Sep 18	Aug 18	Sep 17	Aug 18	Sep 17
	Sep 18	Aug 18	Sep 17	Sep 18	Sep 18
CAMPBELL COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	25.8	25.8	25.0	0.0	3.2
TOTAL PRIVATE	20.6	20.9	19.9	-1.4	3.5
GOODS PRODUCING	8.7	8.8	8.1	-1.1	7.4
Natural Resources & Mining	6.0	6.1	5.9	-1.6	1.7
Construction	2.2	2.2	1.8	0.0	22.2
Manufacturing	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.0	25.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	17.1	17.0	16.9	0.6	1.2
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	5.2	5.3	5.1	-1.9	2.0
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	1.6	1.7	1.6	-5.9	0.0
Educational & Health Services	1.1	1.1	1.1	0.0	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality	2.3	2.3	2.4	0.0	-4.2
Other Services	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.0	14.3
GOVERNMENT	5.2	4.9	5.1	6.1	2.0
SWEETWATER COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	23.3	23.3	23.1	0.0	0.9
TOTAL PRIVATE	18.7	18.9	18.4	-1.1	1.6
GOODS PRODUCING	7.6	7.5	7.4	1.3	2.7
Natural Resources & Mining	4.7	4.7	4.6	0.0	2.2
Construction	1.6	1.5	1.5	6.7	6.7
Manufacturing	1.3	1.3	1.3	0.0	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	15.7	15.8	15.7	-0.6	0.0
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	4.6	4.6	4.5	0.0	2.2
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	1.1	1.2	1.2	-8.3	-8.3
Educational & Health Services	1.3	1.4	1.4	-7.1	-7.1
Leisure & Hospitality	2.5	2.6	2.4	-3.8	4.2
Other Services	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.0	16.7
GOVERNMENT	4.6	4.4	4.7	4.5	-2.1
TETON COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	22.8	24.5	22.8	-6.9	0.0
TOTAL PRIVATE	20.1	22.1	20.1	-9.0	0.0
GOODS PRODUCING	2.3	2.3	2.4	0.0	-4.2
Natural Resources, Mining & Construction	2.1	2.1	2.2	0.0	-4.5
Manufacturing	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	20.5	22.2	20.4	-7.7	0.5
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	3.1	3.4	3.1	-8.8	0.0
Information	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	1.1	1.1	1.1	0.0	0.0
Professional & Business Services	2.1	2.2	2.1	-4.5	0.0
Educational & Health Services	1.2	1.3	1.2	-7.7	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality	9.5	11.0	9.4	-13.6	1.1
Other Services	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0
GOVERNMENT	2.7	2.4	2.7	12.5	0.0

State Unemployment Rates September 2018 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	8.6
District of Columbia	6.0
Alaska	5.6
Louisiana	5.0
Arizona	4.9
New Mexico	4.6
Mississippi	4.5
West Virginia	4.5
Nevada	4.4
Kentucky	4.3
Delaware	4.1
New Jersey	4.1
Ohio	4.1
California	3.9
Maryland	3.9
Pennsylvania	3.9
Washington	3.9
Alabama	3.8
Connecticut	3.8
Illinois	3.8
New York	3.8
Tennessee	3.7
Texas	3.7
Wyoming	3.7
Oregon	3.6
United States	3.6
Michigan	3.5
Rhode Island	3.5
Arkansas	3.3
South Carolina	3.3
Georgia	3.2
Massachusetts	3.2
Montana	3.2
Colorado	3.1
North Carolina	3.1
Florida	3.0
Indiana	3.0
Maine	3.0
Oklahoma	3.0
Utah	3.0
Kansas	2.9
Vermont	2.8
Virginia	2.8
Missouri	2.6
Nebraska	2.6
South Dakota	2.6
Wisconsin	2.6
Hawaii	2.5
New Hampshire	2.3
Minnesota	2.2
North Dakota	2.2
Idaho	2.1
Iowa	2.1

Economic Indicators

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

The amount of benefits paid by Wyoming Unemployment Insurance fell by 32.6% from September 2017 to September 2018.

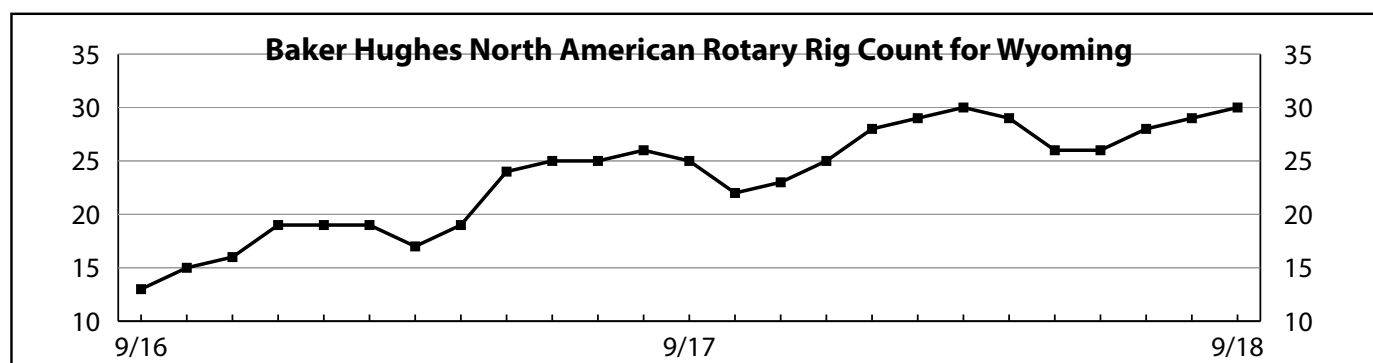
	Sep 2018 (p)	Aug 2018 (r)	Sep 2017 (b)	Percent Change Month	Year
Wyoming Total Nonfarm Employment	294,100	295,900	287,900	-0.6	2.2
Wyoming State Government	15,100	14,000	15,300	7.9	-1.3
Laramie County Nonfarm Employment	47,100	47,300	46,700	-0.4	0.9
Natrona County Nonfarm Employment	39,300	39,200	39,100	0.3	0.5
Selected U.S. Employment Data					
U.S. Multiple Jobholders	7,670,000	7,540,000	7,359,000	1.7	4.2
As a percent of all workers	4.9%	4.8%	4.8%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Discouraged Workers	383,000	434,000	421,000	-11.8	-9.0
U.S. Part Time for Economic Reasons	4,306,000	4,319,000	4,818,000	-0.3	-10.6
Wyoming Unemployment Insurance					
Weeks Compensated	5,144	6,649	7,599	-22.6	-32.3
Benefits Paid	\$1,934,852	\$2,417,591	\$2,871,275	-20.0	-32.6
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	\$376.14	\$363.60	\$377.85	3.4	-0.5
State Insured Covered Jobs ¹	267,682	266,672	264,060	0.4	1.4
Insured Unemployment Rate	1.0%	1.2%	2.1%	N/A	N/A
Consumer Price Index (U) for All U.S. Urban Consumers (1982 to 1984 = 100)					
All Items	252.4	252.1	246.8	0.1	2.3
Food & Beverages	254.2	253.8	250.7	0.2	1.4
Housing	259.9	259.9	253.0	0.0	2.7
Apparel	127.4	122.4	128.2	4.1	-0.6
Transportation	212.4	213.5	204.8	-0.5	3.7
Medical Care	484.7	484.2	476.5	0.1	1.7
Recreation (Dec. 1997=100)	119.2	119.0	118.9	0.2	0.2
Education & Communication (Dec. 1997=100)	137.9	137.3	136.2	0.4	1.2
Other Goods & Services	443.4	442.9	434.1	0.1	2.2
Producer Prices (1982 to 1984 = 100)					
All Commodities	203.2	203.0	194.8	0.1	4.3
Wyo. Bldg. Permits (New Privately Owned Housing Units Authorized)					
Total Units	139	155	191	-10.3	-27.2
Valuation	\$30,235,000	\$55,738,000	\$48,882,000	-45.8	-38.1
Single Family Homes	114	132	131	-13.6	-13.0
Valuation	\$27,340,000	\$52,784,000	\$41,066,000	-48.2	-33.4
Casper MSA ² Building Permits	10	17	19	-41.2	-47.4
Valuation	\$1,208,000	\$3,178,000	\$4,816,000	-62.0	-74.9
Cheyenne MSA Building Permits	55	40	61	37.5	-9.8
Valuation	\$9,151,000	\$6,609,000	\$7,976,000	38.5	14.7
Baker Hughes North American Rotary Rig Count for Wyoming	30	29	25	3.4	20.0

(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 <http://www.bls.gov/eag/eag.wy.htm>.



Wyoming County Unemployment Rates

by: Carola Cowan, BLS Programs Supervisor

in September, the lowest unemployment rates were found in Teton (2.2%), Crook (2.9%), and Goshen (3.0%) counties.

REGION County	Labor Force			Employed			Unemployed			Unemployment Rates		
	Sep 2018	Aug 2018	Sep 2017	Sep 2018	Aug 2018	Sep 2017	Sep 2018	Aug 2018	Sep 2017	Sep 2018	Aug 2018	Sep 2017
	(p)	(r)	(b)	(p)	(r)	(b)	(p)	(r)	(b)	(p)	(r)	(b)
NORTHWEST	46,004	46,347	47,294	44,187	44,513	45,506	1,817	1,834	1,788	3.9	4.0	3.8
Big Horn	5,279	5,192	5,473	5,070	4,991	5,284	209	201	189	4.0	3.9	3.5
Fremont	18,614	18,564	19,210	17,780	17,689	18,340	834	875	870	4.5	4.7	4.5
Hot Springs	2,167	2,234	2,301	2,097	2,168	2,226	70	66	75	3.2	3.0	3.3
Park	15,917	16,392	16,230	15,357	15,844	15,717	560	548	513	3.5	3.3	3.2
Washakie	4,027	3,965	4,080	3,883	3,821	3,939	144	144	141	3.6	3.6	3.5
NORTHEAST	49,546	49,515	50,124	47,723	47,749	48,249	1,823	1,766	1,875	3.7	3.6	3.7
Campbell	22,386	22,733	22,741	21,478	21,830	21,765	908	903	976	4.1	4.0	4.3
Crook	3,796	3,667	3,765	3,685	3,559	3,661	111	108	104	2.9	2.9	2.8
Johnson	4,223	4,233	4,271	4,081	4,091	4,129	142	142	142	3.4	3.4	3.3
Sheridan	15,438	15,319	15,601	14,904	14,820	15,081	534	499	520	3.5	3.3	3.3
Weston	3,703	3,563	3,746	3,575	3,449	3,613	128	114	133	3.5	3.2	3.6
SOUTHWEST	58,433	59,819	59,858	56,444	57,916	57,926	1,989	1,903	1,932	3.4	3.2	3.2
Lincoln	8,825	8,752	8,871	8,546	8,479	8,597	279	273	274	3.2	3.1	3.1
Sublette	4,345	4,478	4,397	4,182	4,324	4,241	163	154	156	3.8	3.4	3.5
Sweetwater	20,466	20,795	21,279	19,642	19,983	20,428	824	812	851	4.0	3.9	4.0
Teton	15,842	17,028	16,235	15,487	16,709	15,924	355	319	311	2.2	1.9	1.9
Uinta	8,955	8,766	9,076	8,587	8,421	8,736	368	345	340	4.1	3.9	3.7
SOUTHEAST	78,946	77,512	80,936	76,192	74,709	78,447	2,754	2,803	2,489	3.5	3.6	3.1
Albany	20,152	18,238	20,556	19,507	17,591	20,028	645	647	528	3.2	3.5	2.6
Goshen	6,732	6,500	6,942	6,529	6,278	6,765	203	222	177	3.0	3.4	2.5
Laramie	45,974	46,858	47,242	44,268	45,116	45,640	1,706	1,742	1,602	3.7	3.7	3.4
Niobrara	1,342	1,287	1,349	1,301	1,249	1,319	41	38	30	3.1	3.0	2.2
Platte	4,746	4,629	4,847	4,587	4,475	4,695	159	154	152	3.4	3.3	3.1
CENTRAL	52,936	53,135	54,462	50,716	50,989	52,162	2,220	2,146	2,300	4.2	4.0	4.2
Carbon	7,814	7,696	8,079	7,555	7,444	7,818	259	252	261	3.3	3.3	3.2
Converse	7,416	7,304	7,391	7,152	7,040	7,103	264	264	288	3.6	3.6	3.9
Natrona	37,706	38,135	38,992	36,009	36,505	37,241	1,697	1,630	1,751	4.5	4.3	4.5
STATEWIDE	285,863	286,327	292,678	275,261	275,875	282,292	10,602	10,452	10,386	3.7	3.7	3.5
Statewide Seasonally Adjusted										4.1	3.9	4.1
U.S.										3.6	3.9	4.1
U.S. Seasonally Adjusted										3.7	3.9	4.2

Prepared in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Benchmarked 03/2018. Run Date 10/2018.

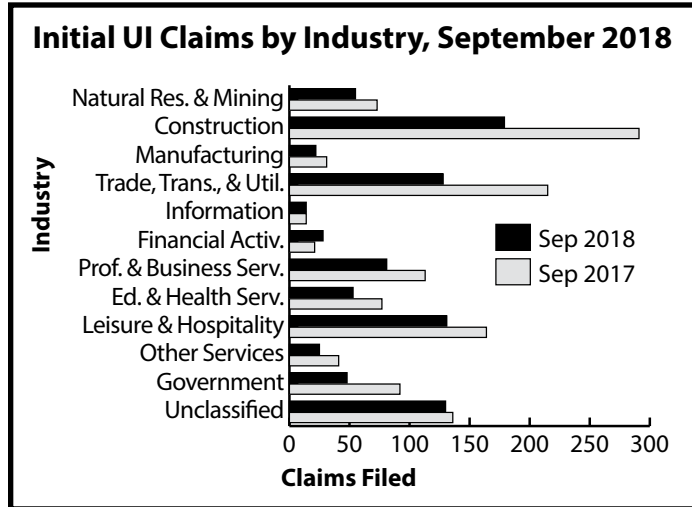
Data are not seasonally adjusted except where otherwise specified.

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

Wyoming Normalized^a Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Initial Claims

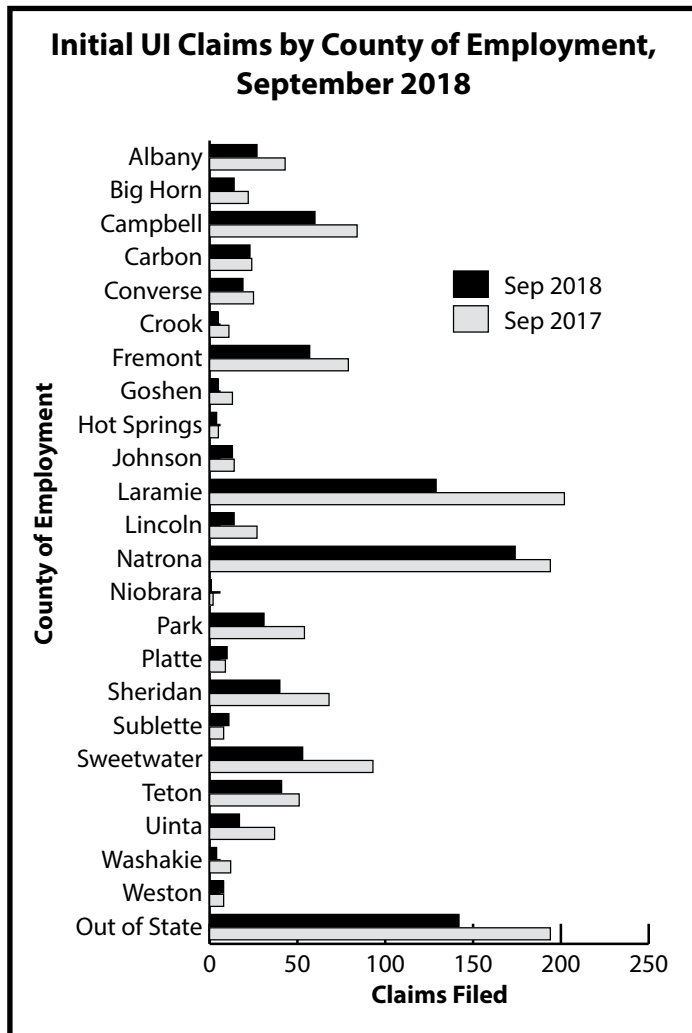
by: Patrick Manning, Principal Economist

There were 906 initial claims in September 2018, down 29.1% compared to September 2017.



Initial Claims

	Claims Filed		Percent Change		
	Sep 18	Aug 18	Sep 18	Sep 17	
Wyoming Statewide	906	860	1,278	5.3	-29.1
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED					
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	258	218	397	18.3	-35.0
Natural Res. & Mining	55	35	73	57.1	-24.7
Mining	47	32	64	46.9	-26.6
Oil & Gas Extraction	8	5	7	60.0	14.3
Construction	179	161	291	11.2	-38.5
Manufacturing	22	19	31	15.8	-29.0
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	467	435	652	7.4	-28.4
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	128	126	215	1.6	-40.5
Wholesale Trade	21	32	30	-34.4	-30.0
Retail Trade	72	62	132	16.1	-45.5
Transp., Warehousing & Utilities	35	32	53	9.4	-34.0
Information	14	18	14	-22.2	0.0
Financial Activities	28	27	21	3.7	33.3
Prof. and Business Svcs.	81	104	113	-22.1	-28.3
Educational & Health Svcs.	53	71	77	-25.4	-31.2
Leisure & Hospitality	131	59	164	122.0	-20.1
Other Svcs., exc. Public Admin.	25	23	41	8.7	-39.0
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	48	65	92	-26.2	-47.8
Federal Government	4	2	24	100.0	-83.3
State Government	11	12	21	-8.3	-47.6
Local Government	32	50	45	-36.0	-28.9
Local Education	8	21	11	-61.9	-27.3
UNCLASSIFIED	130	141	136	-7.8	-4.4



Laramie County

	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	128	169	202	-24.3	-36.6
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	37	27	68	37.0	-45.6
Construction	35	25	57	40.0	-38.6
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	70	111	110	-36.9	-36.4
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	23	20	25	15.0	-8.0
Financial Activities	1	4	7	-75.0	-85.7
Prof. & Business Svcs.	18	44	23	-59.1	-21.7
Educational & Health Svcs.	8	18	18	-55.6	-55.6
Leisure & Hospitality	8	6	20	33.3	-60.0
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	4	11	12	-63.6	-66.7
UNCLASSIFIED	16	19	10	-15.8	60.0

Natrona County

	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	174	135	193	28.9	-9.8
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	63	36	67	75.0	-6.0
Construction	47	25	49	88.0	-4.1
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	94	85	112	10.6	-16.1
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	25	25	44	0.0	-43.2
Financial Activities	6	7	2	-14.3	200.0
Prof. & Business Svcs.	14	12	17	16.7	-17.6
Educational & Health Svcs.	19	19	19	0.0	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality	16	9	22	77.8	-27.3
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	2	3	8	-33.3	-75.0
UNCLASSIFIED	14	10	5	40.0	180.0

^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

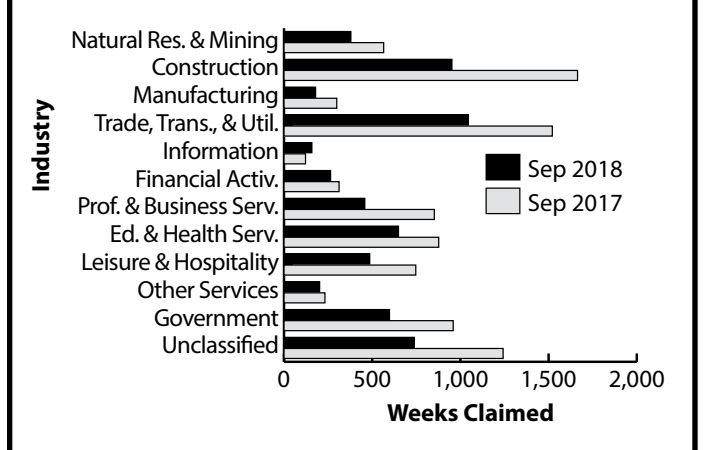
by: Patrick Manning, Principal Economist

Over the year, the number of unique claimants with continued claims decreased by 30.9% (833 fewer individuals).

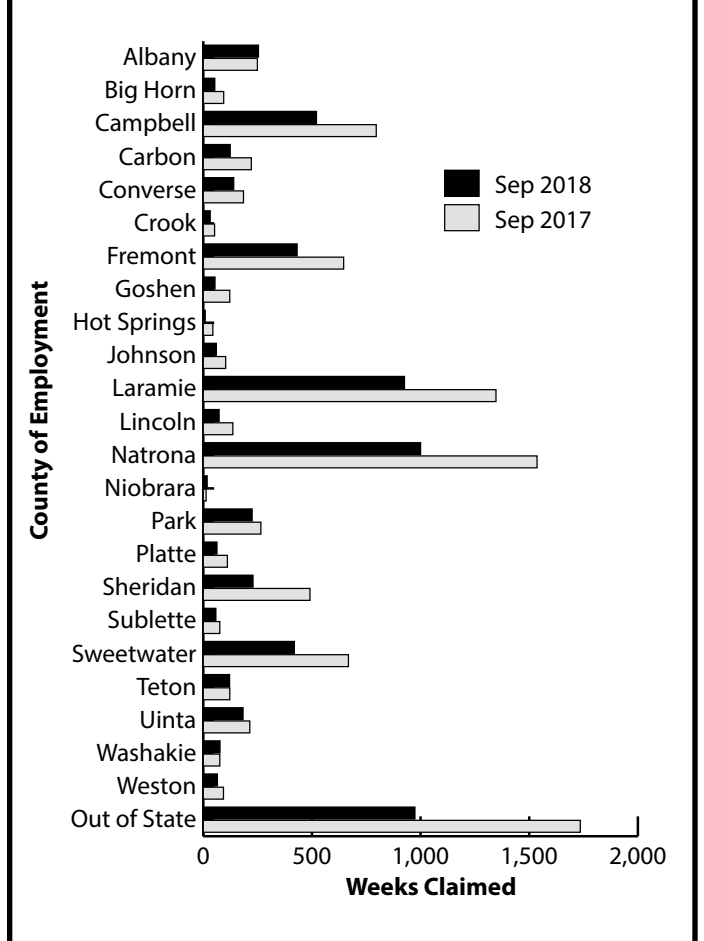
Continued Claims

	Claims Filed		Percent Change		
	Sep 18	Aug 18	Sep 18	Sep 18	
	Sep 17	Aug 18	Sep 17	Sep 17	
Wyoming Statewide					
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	6,121	7,531	9,403	-18.7	-34.9
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	1,864	1,955	2,697	-4.7	-30.9
Benefit Exhaustions	190	232	217	-18.1	-12.4
Benefit Exhaustion Rates	10.2%	11.9%	8.0%	-1.7%	2.1%
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	1,512	1,842	2,530	-17.9	-40.2
Natural Res. & Mining	379	451	565	-16.0	-32.9
Mining	342	420	518	-18.6	-34.0
Oil & Gas Extraction	31	22	94	40.9	-67.0
Construction	952	1,110	1,664	-14.2	-42.8
Manufacturing	179	281	299	-36.3	-40.1
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	3,271	3,916	4,670	-16.5	-30.0
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	1,045	1,095	1,521	-4.6	-31.3
Wholesale Trade	180	155	261	16.1	-31.0
Retail Trade	582	653	903	-10.9	-35.5
Transp., Warehousing & Utilities	283	287	357	-1.4	-20.7
Information	158	146	122	8.2	29.5
Financial Activities	264	298	312	-11.4	-15.4
Prof. & Business Svcs.	458	625	852	-26.7	-46.2
Educational & Health Svcs.	649	877	877	-26.0	-26.0
Leisure & Hospitality	486	636	747	-23.6	-34.9
Other Svcs., exc. Public Admin.	202	230	232	-12.2	-12.9
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	598	812	959	-26.4	-37.6
Federal Government	55	73	140	-24.7	-60.7
State Government	114	109	111	4.6	2.7
Local Government	428	628	706	-31.8	-39.4
Local Education	176	178	246	-1.1	-28.5
UNCLASSIFIED	739	960	1,242	-23.0	-40.5
Laramie County					
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	925	1,162	1,346	-20.4	-31.3
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	272	309	397	-12.0	-31.5
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	150	201	264	-25.4	-43.2
Construction	115	157	206	-26.8	-44.2
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	618	775	932	-20.3	-33.7
Trade, Transp., and Utilities	221	245	300	-9.8	-26.3
Financial Activities	58	71	90	-18.3	-35.6
Prof. & Business Svcs.	90	162	225	-44.4	-60.0
Educational and Health Svcs.	103	133	152	-22.6	-32.2
Leisure & Hospitality	58	95	76	-38.9	-23.7
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	94	94	90	0.0	4.4
UNCLASSIFIED	62	90	59	-31.1	5.1
Natrona County					
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	1,000	1,069	1,536	-6.5	-34.9
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	287	279	436	2.9	-34.2
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	214	220	407	-2.7	-47.4
Construction	126	119	271	5.9	-53.5
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	700	765	985	-8.5	-28.9
Trade, Transp., and Utilities	226	198	372	14.1	-39.2
Financial Activities	41	46	56	-10.9	-26.8
Professional & Business Svcs.	58	70	123	-17.1	-52.8
Educational & Health Svcs.	197	262	253	-24.8	-22.1
Leisure & Hospitality	119	140	157	-15.0	-24.2
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	19	24	95	-20.8	-80.0
UNCLASSIFIED	66	58	48	13.8	37.5

Continued UI Claims by Industry, September 2018



Continued UI Claims by County of Employment, September 2018



^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.

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