

TRENDS

Labor Market Churn in the U.S. and Wyoming

by: *David Bullard, Senior Economist*

Labor market churn is the sum of hires and separations (quits, layoffs, discharges, or other separations) across the economy. The amount of churn is much higher than the net job gains reported each month. Normally, when the economy is growing, hires are greater than separations. When compared to the U.S., Wyoming tends to have greater hire and separation rates, which is likely because the state has many seasonal industries, such as leisure & hospitality and construction.

Each month the Current Employment Statistics (CES) program reports on the number of new jobs created in the U.S. This figure represents the number of net new jobs, or in other words, the number of new jobs minus the number of job losses.

Another way of looking at the labor market is by examining job losses and job gains separately. The Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey (JOLTS) program produces estimates of the number of hires and the number of total separations each month. Total separations are defined as “all employees separated from [their employers’] payroll during the month.” Total separations includes employees who quit,

those who are laid off, those who are fired, and those who retire or die (BLS, 2023).

Using the month of May 2023 for an example shows that the CES program reported a net gain of 281,000 jobs nationally (seasonally adjusted over-the-month change in total nonfarm employment). Separately, the JOLTS program estimates indicated that there were 6,231,000 hires and 5,925,000 total separations.

Subtracting JOLTS estimates of total separations from hires indicates net job growth (according to JOLTS) of 306,000 jobs. While the CES estimates do not exactly

(Text continued on page 3)

HIGHLIGHTS

- There are 98 occupations in Wyoming that require a license and 46 licensing boards that oversee the administration of these licenses. A new directory includes information for all 98 licensed occupations. ... page 11
- The number of building permits issued for new single family homes in Wyoming decreased 17.9% from a year earlier. ... page 16

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match those from JOLTS, they are close, and there are several reasons why one should not expect them to match. First, the reference periods for the two surveys are different. The CES program has a reference period of the pay period of the 12th of the month. On the other hand, the JOLTS reference period for hires and total separations is the entire calendar month. Additionally, both programs produce estimates from sample-based surveys of employers, and therefore the estimates are subject to sampling error.

Again, while the estimates do not match, they are similar in magnitude. It is important to note that the number of hires and the number of separations each month are much larger than the net change. In other words, there is a lot more movement in the labor market each

month than is reflected in the net new jobs estimate produced by the CES program.

Churn in the labor market is defined as hires plus total separations. It represents the movement in and out of employment. This article focuses on the churn rate and breaks it down into its component parts for the U.S. and Wyoming.

Figure 1 shows the churn rate and the unemployment rate for the U.S. from December 2000 to July 2023. During the Great Recession (December 2007 to June 2009) it is clear that unemployment increased and churn decreased (NBER, 2023). The U.S. unemployment rate rose from 4.4% in May 2007 to 10.0% in October 2009 and churn fell from 8.1 in September 2005 to 6.0 in June 2009. During recessions, churn typically falls as employers hire fewer people and workers tend to stay put and

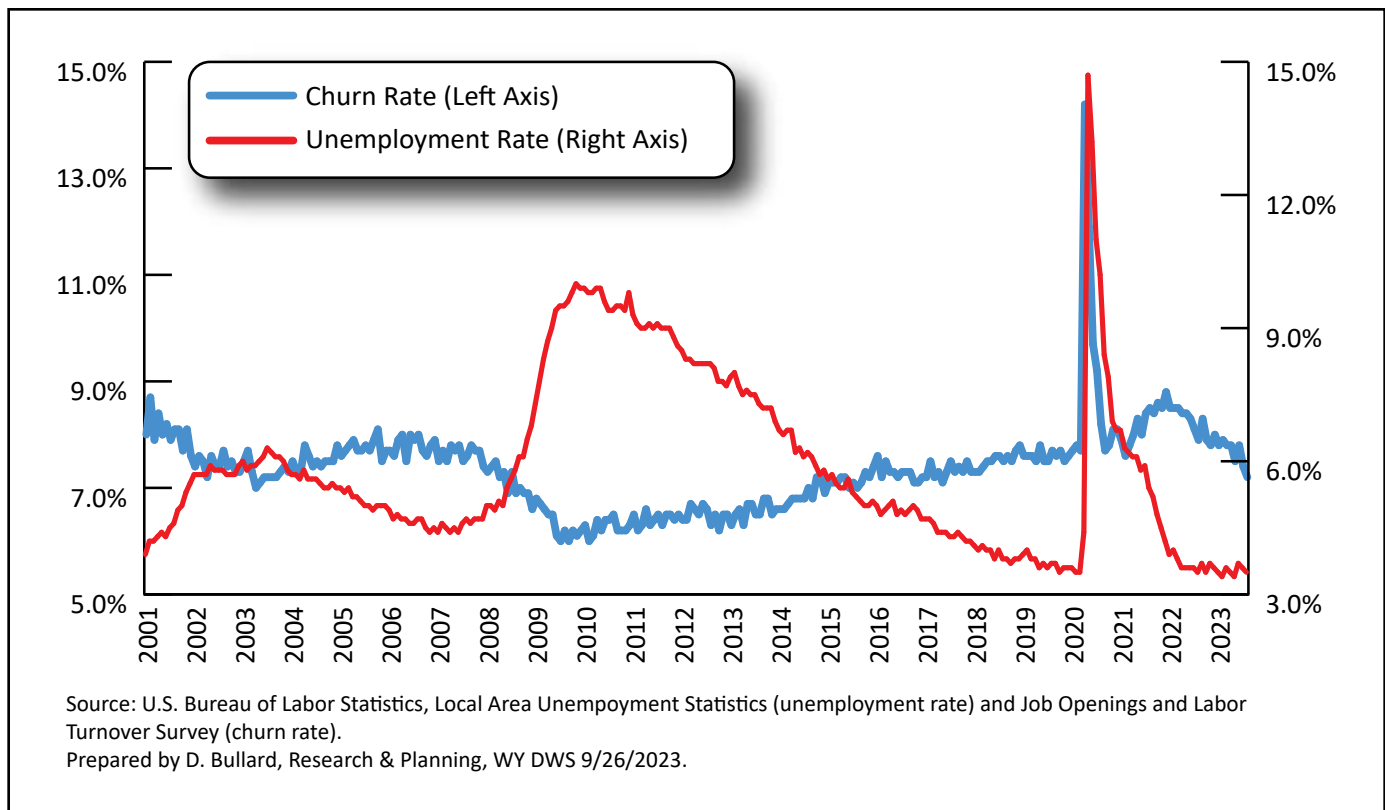


Figure 1: U.S. Churn Rate and Unemployment Rate, December 2000 to July 2023

not change jobs. During times of strong economic growth, churn usually increases. The pandemic period looks different from earlier recessions and from expansions, because both churn and unemployment increased. The churn rate shot up to 14.2 in March 2020 and the unemployment rate rose to 14.7% in April 2020.

Figure 2 breaks out the churn rate into its two components: the hires rate and the total separations rate. During most of the time shown in the figure, hires exceeded total separations. This indicates that employment was growing. However, every month from April 2008 to October 2009, the total separations rate was greater than the hires rate and employment fell. During and following the Great Recession, the CES program estimated that approximately 8.7 million jobs were lost.

Similarly, during the height of the Covid-19 pandemic, the total separations rate rose to 10.8 in March 2020 and the hire rate very briefly fell to 3.1 in April 2020.

In order to get a close-up view of hires and separations, Figure 3 (see page 5) is limited to the pre-pandemic period. It is remarkable how closely these two series move, and how most of the time hires exceed total separations. The Great Recession stands out in the graph as the hires rate trended downward, but the total separations rate held steady at 3.6 for nine months of 2008 and 2009.

Total separations are broken out into the quits rate, layoffs & discharges rate, and the other separations rate in Figure 4 (see page 5). The BLS (2023) defines *quits*

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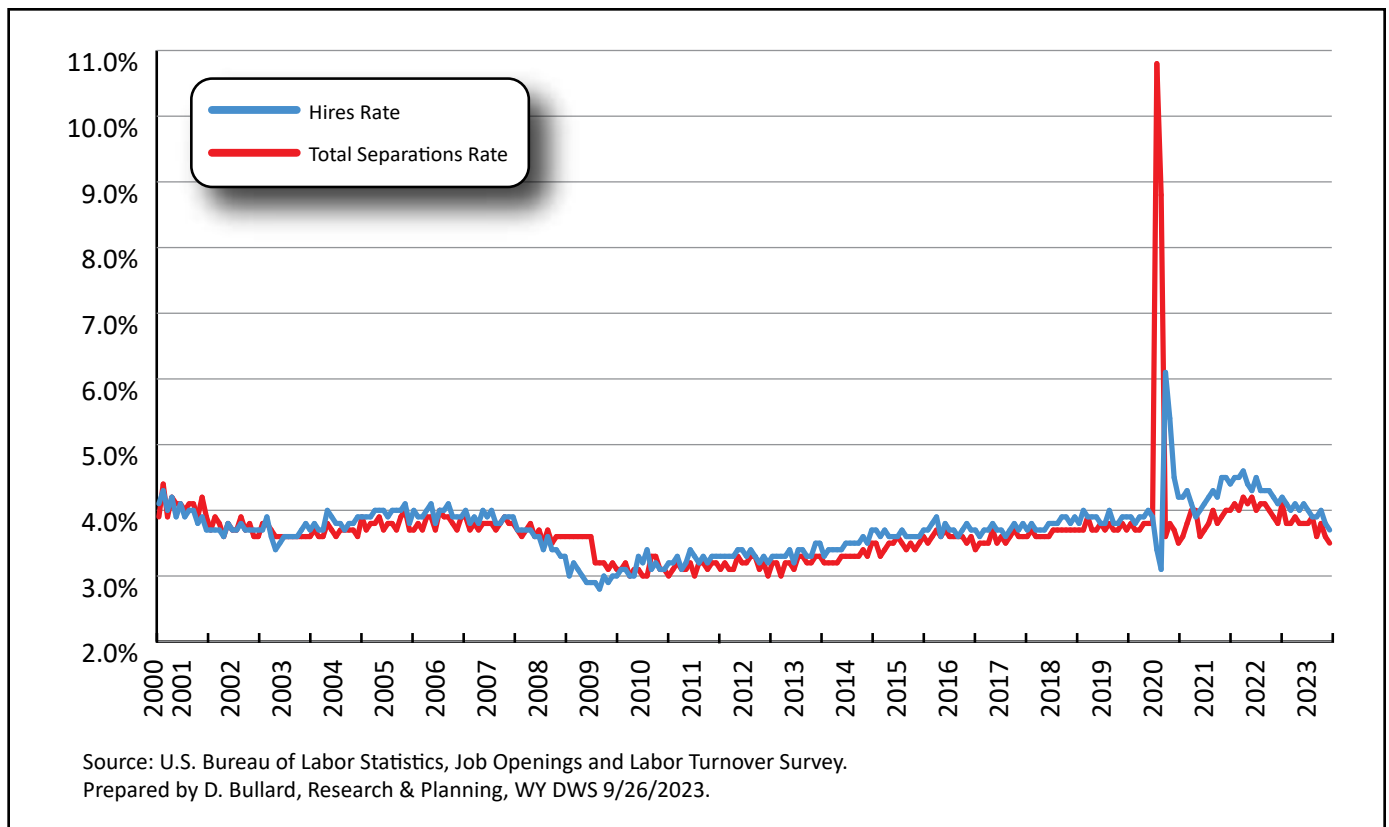


Figure 2: U.S. Hires Rate and Total Separations Rate, December 2000 to July 2023

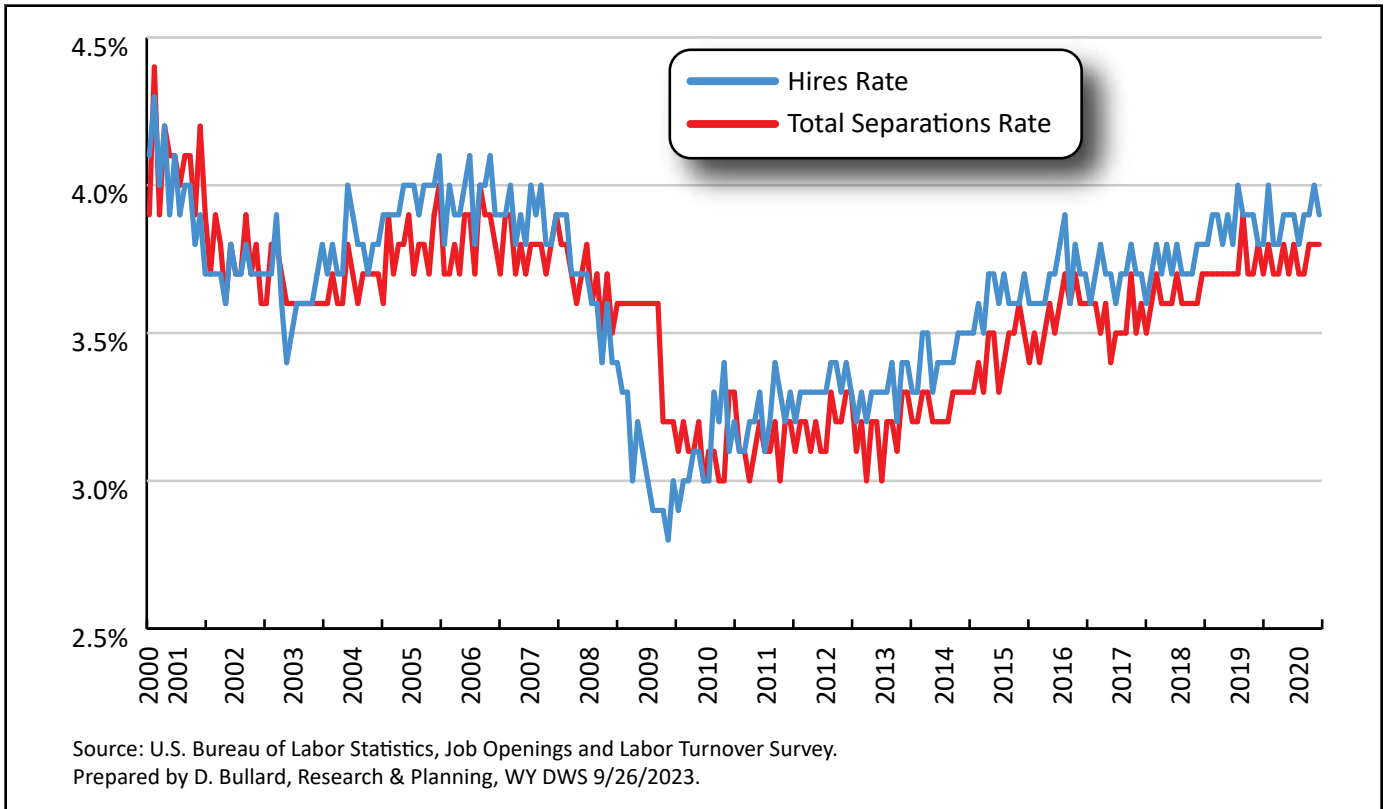


Figure 3: U.S. Hires Rate and Total Separations Rate, December 2000 to February 2020

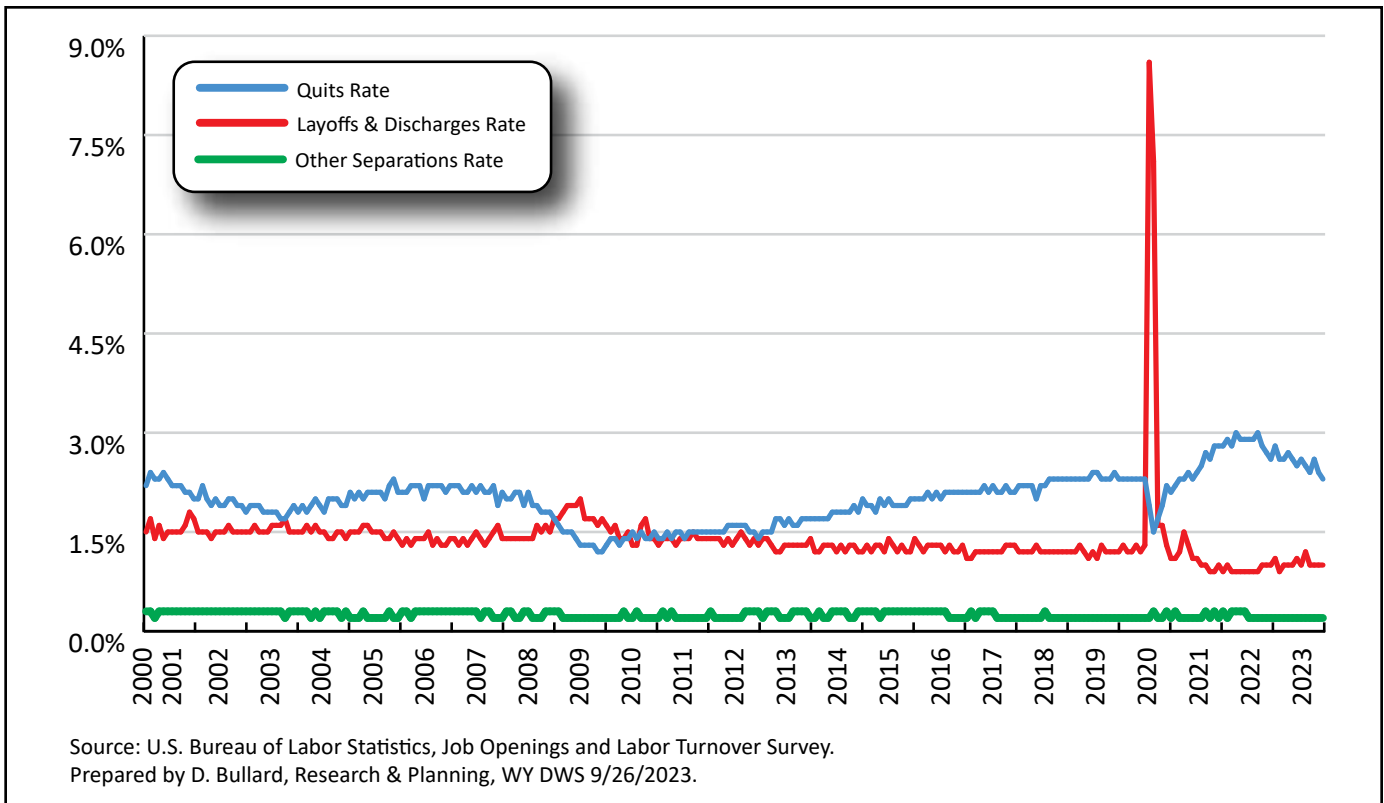


Figure 4: U.S. Quits Rate, Layoffs & Discharges Rate, and Other Separations Rate, December 2000 to July 2023

(Text continued from page 4)

as “employees who left voluntarily, with the exception of retirements or transfers to other locations.” *Layoffs & discharges* “includes involuntary separations initiated by the employer, such as layoffs, ... discharges resulting from mergers, downsizing, or closings; firings or other discharges for cause; terminations of permanent or short-term employees; and terminations of seasonal employees (whether or not they are expected to return the next season).” *Other separations* is a very small category. It includes “retirements, transfers to other locations, separations due to employee disability; and deaths.”

For most of the period shown in Figure 4 (see page 5), the quits rate is higher than the layoffs & discharges rate. The

exceptions are the Great Recession and a few months during the pandemic. This suggests that when the economy is growing, it is more likely that an employee will quit, rather than being laid off. The other separations rate appears very low and stable during the entire period, ranging from 0.2 to 0.3.

Figure 5 focuses on the pre-pandemic period and shows that the quits rate generally increased from 2010 to early 2020. When the economy is growing, workers are more willing to quit their jobs because they believe they can easily find other employment. The layoffs and discharges rate decreased from a peak of 2.0 in April 2009 to 1.1 in January 2019.

How does Wyoming compare to the U.S. in terms of labor market churn and its components? Figure 6 (see page 7)

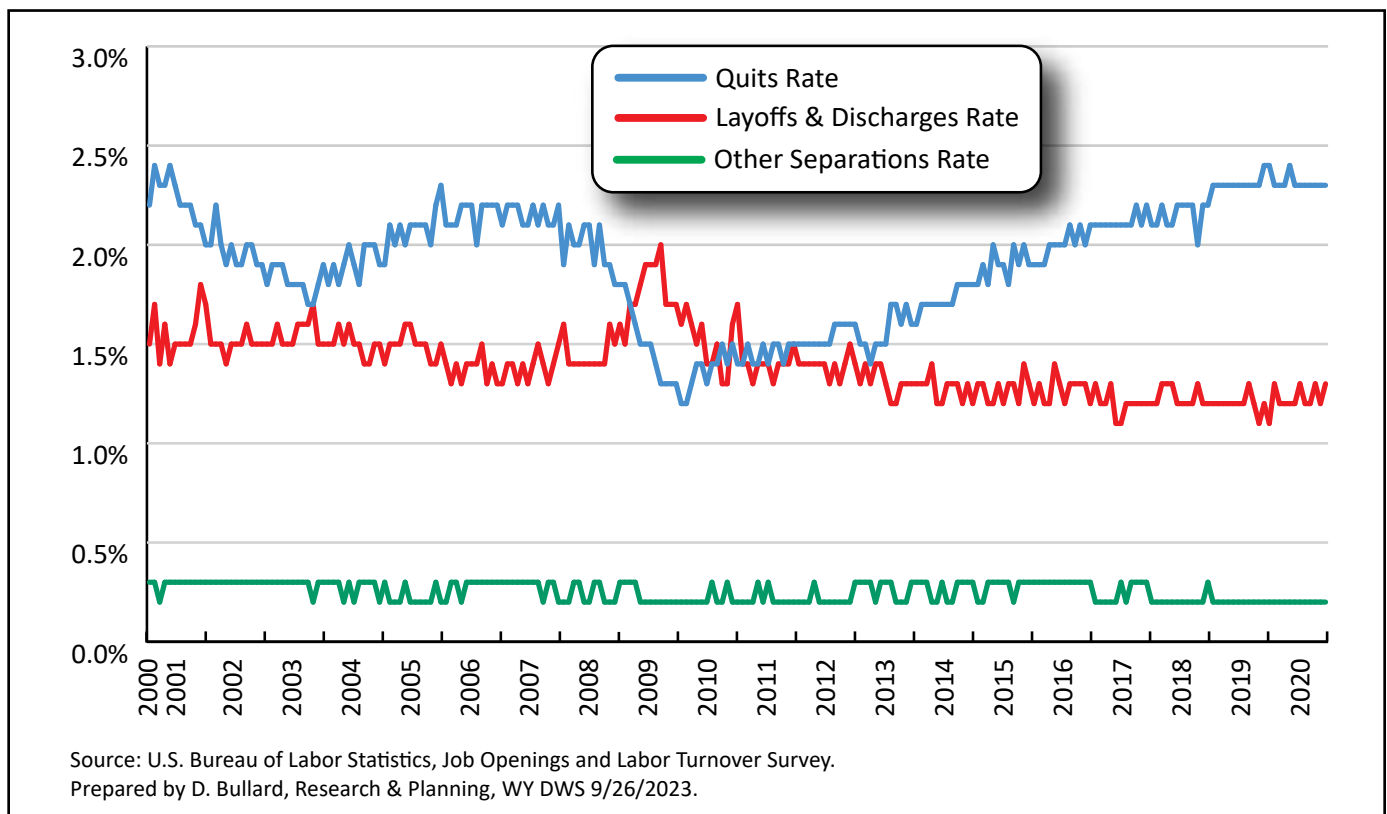


Figure 5: U.S. Quits Rate, Layoffs & Discharges Rate, and Other Separations Rate, December 2000 to February 2020

shows the unemployment rate and the churn rate for Wyoming. When comparing Figure 1 (page 3) to Figure 6 (page 9), there are both similarities and differences. In both charts, the unemployment rate peaked during the Great Recession and the pandemic. One key difference is the rise in Wyoming’s unemployment rate in 2015-2016. While the U.S. unemployment rate steadily decreased from 2009 to early 2020, Wyoming’s jobless rate rose in 2016 because of a decrease in energy prices and a slowdown in the state’s economy.

Wyoming’s hires rate and total separations rate are shown in Figure 7 (see page 8). One feature that differs between Wyoming (Figure 7, page 8) and the U.S. (Figure 2, page 4) is that between 2012 and 2019, Wyoming’s total separations rate was often higher than the state’s hires rate. When total

separations are greater than hires, employment decreases. As noted earlier, Wyoming’s economy went through a period of job losses in 2015 and 2016, with large layoffs in the natural resources & mining sector.

Figure 8 (see page 8) focuses on the pre-pandemic period. Comparing Wyoming (Figure 8, page 8) to the U.S. (Figure 3, page 5) reveals that Wyoming has both a greater total separations rate than the U.S. and a greater hires rate than the U.S. Wyoming’s total separations rate ranged from 3.1 to 6.9, while the corresponding U.S. rate ranged from 3.0 to 4.2. Similarly, Wyoming hires rate ranged from 3.8 to 7.5 while the U.S. rate ranged from 2.8 to 4.1.

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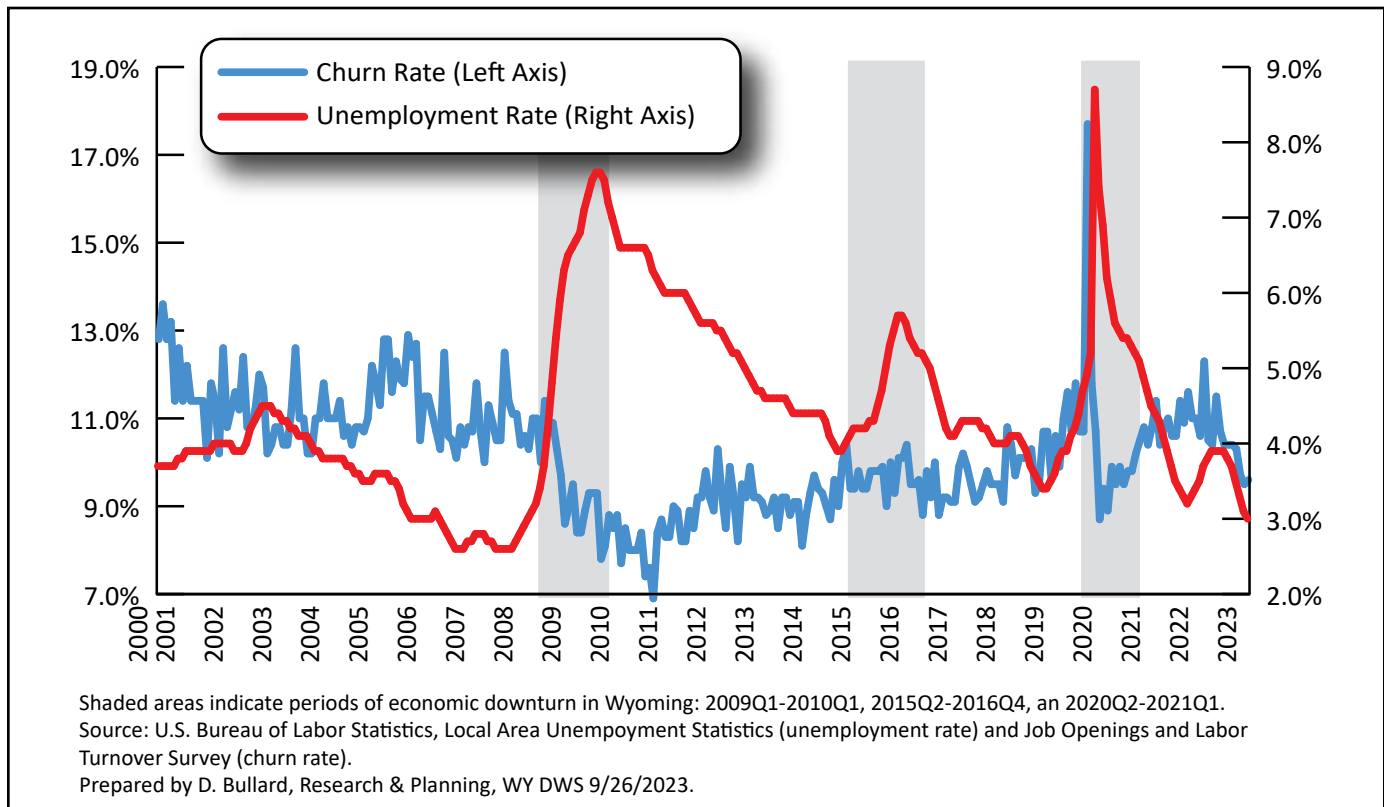


Figure 6: Wyoming Churn Rate and Unemployment Rate, December 2000 to July 2023

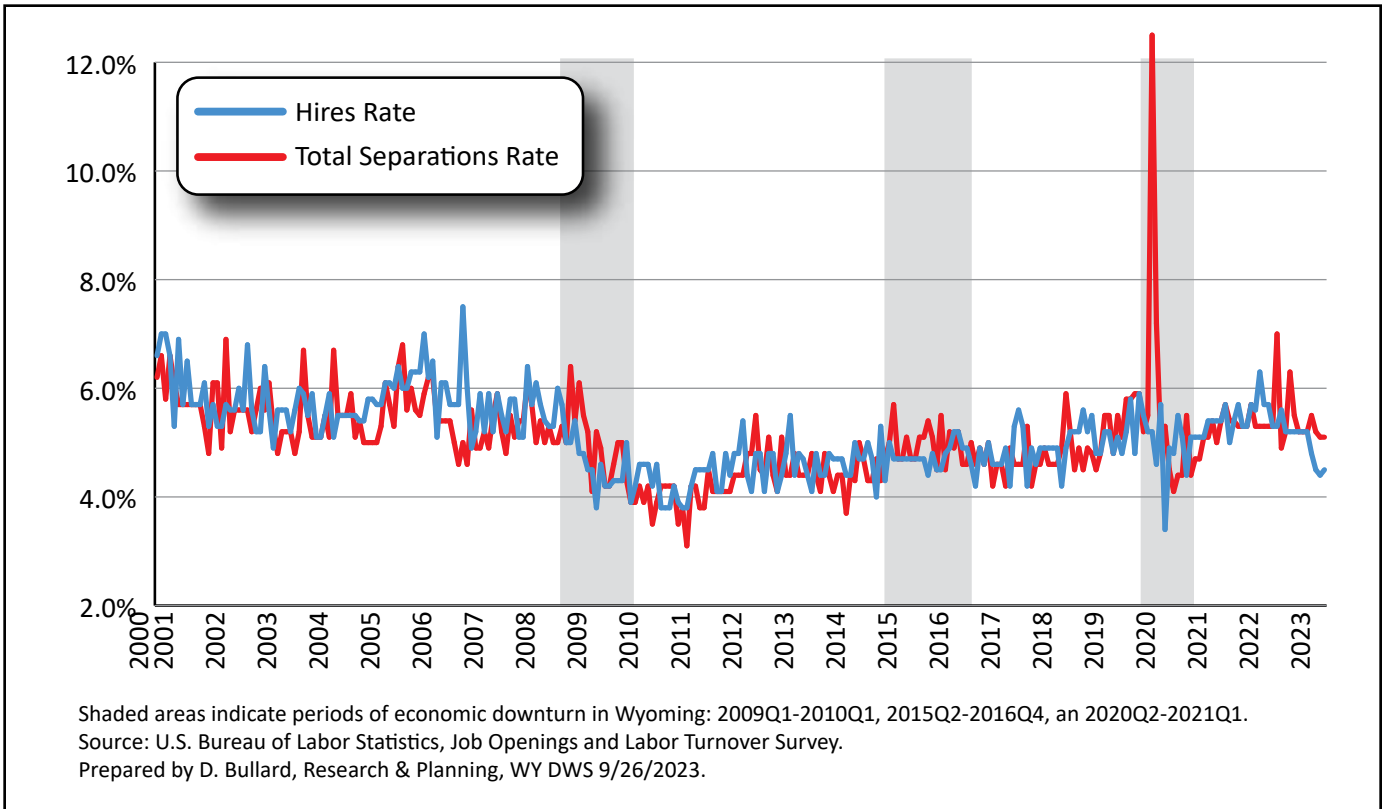


Figure 7: Wyoming Hires Rate and Total Separations Rate, December 2000 to July 2023

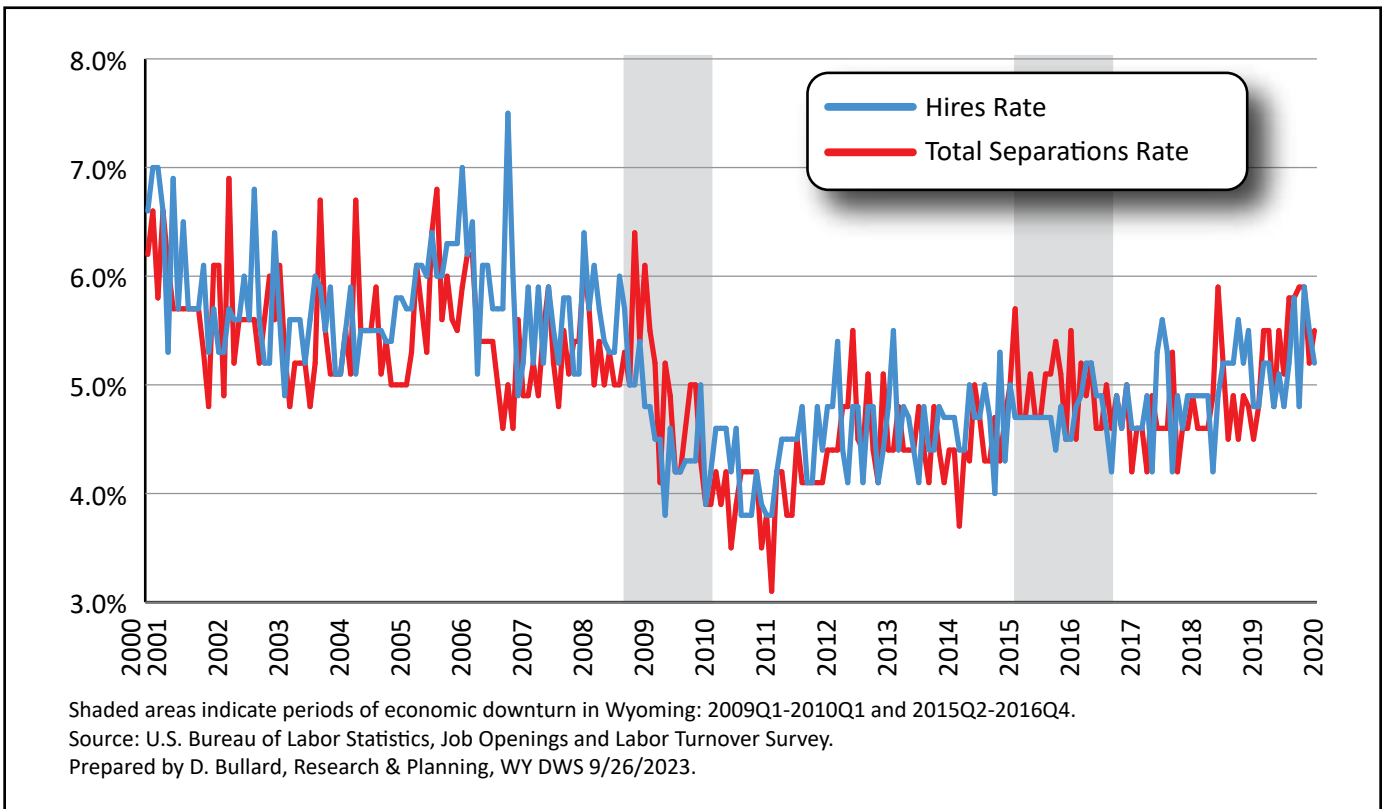


Figure 8: Wyoming Hires Rate and Total Separations Rate, December 2000 to February 2020

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Detailed, industry-level JOLTS data are published for the U.S., but are not available for Wyoming, so it is not possible to make comparisons between Wyoming and the U.S. at the industry level. However, one might guess that Wyoming has higher total separations and hires rates because of the highly seasonal industries in the state, such as leisure & hospitality and construction. All else equal, states with large seasonal industries will likely have more hires and total separations during the course of a year. It is also possible that the age distribution of a state’s labor force could affect turnover measures such as hires and separations. It would seem reasonable that young people would have less job attachment and higher turnover than prime-age workers.

Wyoming’s total separations rate is broken out into the quits rate and the layoffs & discharges rate in Figure 9. Data on other separations are not available for Wyoming. Wyoming’s quits rate ranged from 1.1 to 4.2, which is higher than the U.S. quits rate, which ranged from 1.2 to 3.0. Wyoming’s quits rate seems to generally follow the same pattern as the U.S. quits rate, trending upward from 2010 to 2022.

Figure 10 (see page 10) focuses on the pre-pandemic period in Wyoming and is similar to Figure 5 (see page 6). Wyoming’s quits rate hit its highest point in November 2005, when Wyoming’s economy was expanding rapidly. Wyoming’s layoffs & discharges rate reached its highest point in December 2008 when energy prices had fallen steeply.

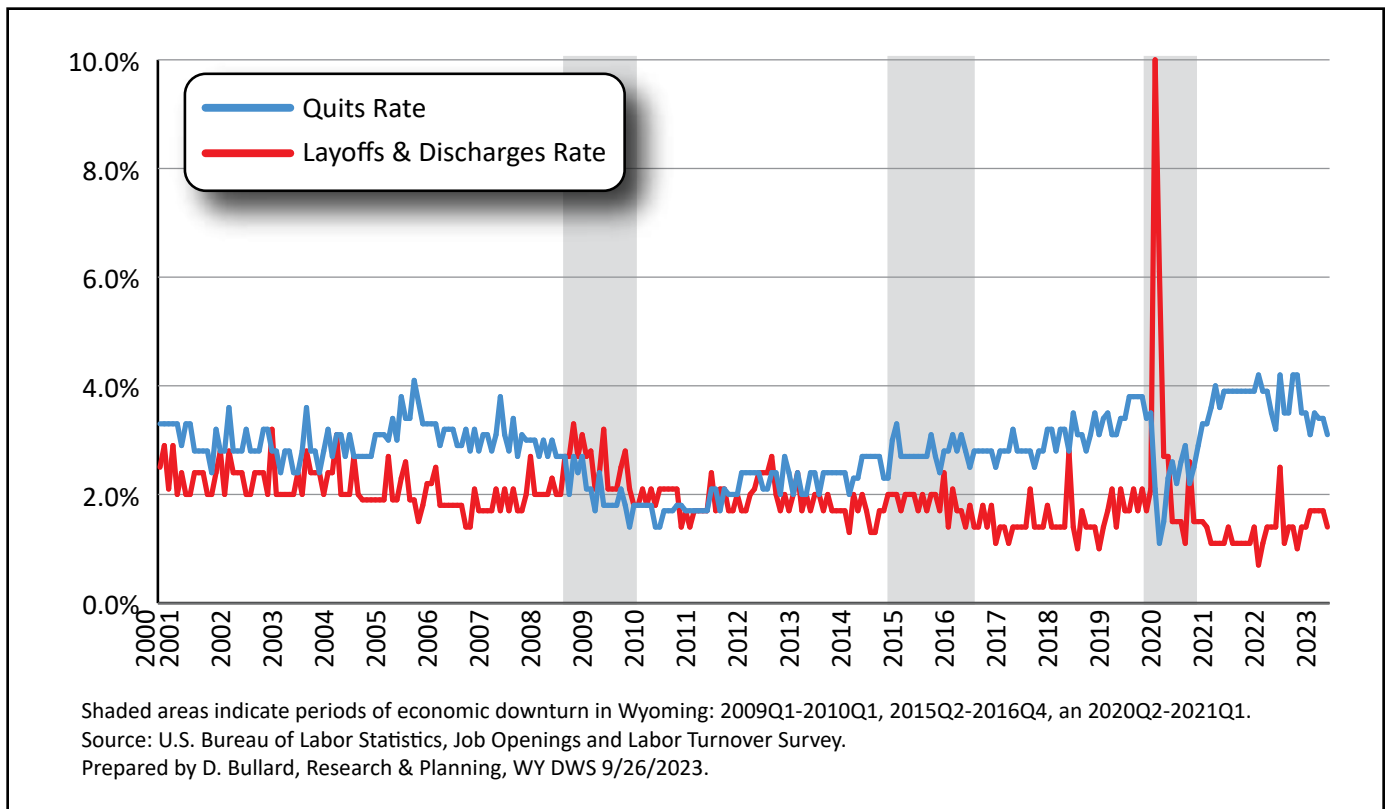


Figure 9: Wyoming Quits Rate and Layoffs & Discharges Rate, December 2000 to July 2023

Conclusion

In summary, the amount of churn in the labor market is much larger than the net job gains reported every month. Churn is the sum of hires and total separations. When the economy is growing hires exceed separations. Separations can be broken out into quits, layoffs & discharges, and other separations. Most of the time, quits are higher than any other type of separations.

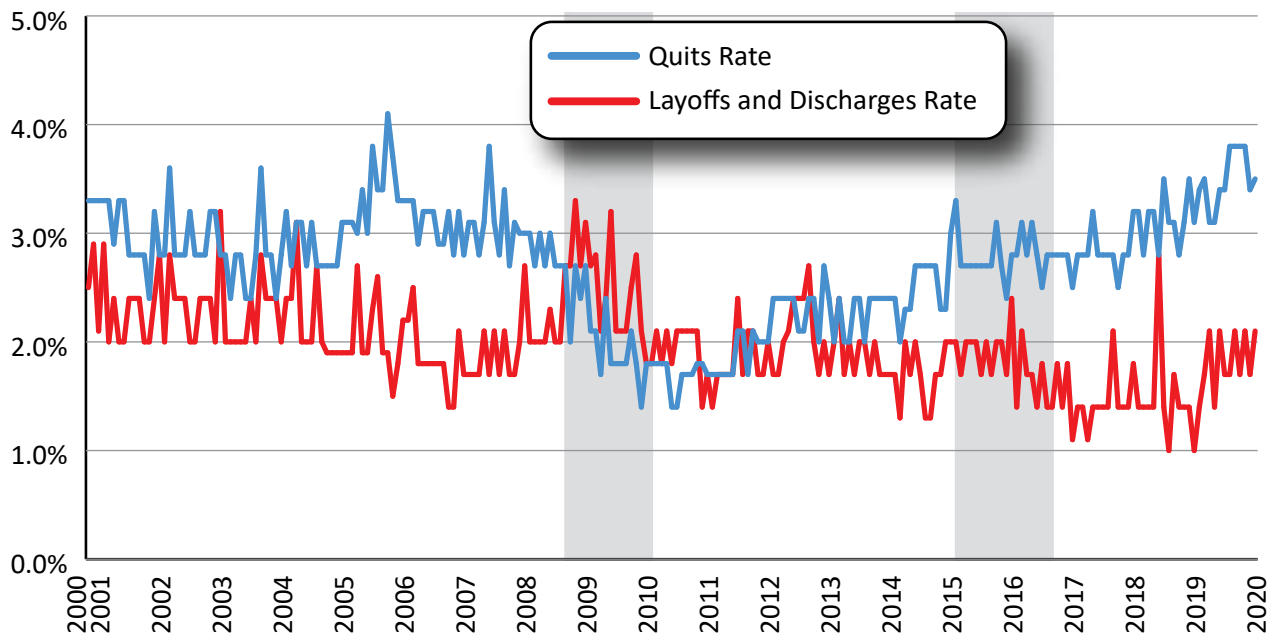
Wyoming's hires rate and its quits rate have been generally higher than the corresponding U.S. rates. This could be related to the many highly seasonal industries (such as leisure & hospitality and construction) that are found in

Wyoming. It is also possible that differences in hires rates and quits rates could be related to the age structure of Wyoming's labor force.

References

National Bureau of Economic Research. (2023). U.S. business cycle expansions and contractions. Retrieved September 27, 2023, from <https://www.nber.org/research/data/us-business-cycle-expansions-and-contractions>

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. (2023). Job Openings and Labor Turnover. Retrieved September 27, 2023, from <https://stats.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/jolts.pdf>



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

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey.

Prepared by D. Bullard, Research & Planning, WY DWS 9/26/2023.

Figure 10: Wyoming Quits Rate and Layoffs & Discharges Rate, December 2000 to February 2020

R&P Publishes New Directory of Licensed Occupations

Excerpted from the 2023 Directory of Licensed Occupations in Wyoming

By: Lisa Knapp, Senior Research Analyst, and Michael Moore, Research Supervisor

Professional job licenses or certificates are awarded by governmental licensing agencies to people who have specific education, knowledge, and skills to perform particular jobs. These licenses or certificates, which give workers legal authority to work in specific occupations, may require a predetermined amount of education or training and passing scores on mandatory exams (Torpey, 2016). Licensing requirements may vary by state and there might be fees associated with obtaining and maintaining a license (Kleiner & Kruger, 2011).

Every other year, the Research & Planning (R&P) section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services publishes a directory of licensed occupations in the state. The newest iteration of the publication, the *2023 Directory of Licensed Occupations in Wyoming*, contains a wealth of information on licensed occupations in the state, including job descriptions, requirements, restrictions, licensing fees, schools located in Wyoming, examinations, fees, the licensing agency, and additional resources.

There are 98 occupations in Wyoming that require a license and 46 licensing boards that oversee the administration of these licenses. The 2023 directory includes information for all 98 licensed occupations.

This article provides an excerpt from the directory on nursing assistants and nurse aides to illustrate the type of information that can be found in the directory. Individuals who obtain this license do so in order to work as

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2023 Directory of Licensed Occupations in Wyoming

https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/licensed_occupations.htm

certified nursing assistants, which has the Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) code 31-1014. The entry hourly wage for this occupation in Wyoming is \$15.56, and the average (median) salary is \$16.15.

As noted in the job description in the directory:

"Nursing assistants, under the supervision of a licensed nurse, may perform delegated tasks including basic nursing skills, personal care skills, basic restorative skills, using communication skills and nursing team member skills, for clients in hospitals and nursing homes."

Nursing assistants must meet four requirements:

1. Graduate from a board-approved CNA training and competency evaluation program.
2. Submit completed application and fee.
3. Submit CBS fingerprint cards and fee.
4. Successfully pass NATCEP or similar national exam.

Also, while there are no set continuing education requirements for nursing assistants or aides in Wyoming, these individuals must meet specific continuing competency requirements for license renewal.

These include:

- Completion of at least 400 hours of CNA activity during the previous two years; or
- Completion of 200 hours of CNA employment and 15 hours of continuing education during the previous two years; or
- Completion of 30 hours of continuing education during the previous two years; or
- Successfully passing the NATCEP exam during the prior two years.

In order to be registered as a nursing assistant or aide, individuals must not have been convicted of any act of sexual molestation. In addition, all applications are reviewed by the Wyoming State Board of Nursing. All certified nursing assistants in Wyoming must be certified by the Wyoming State Board of Nursing, and licenses and certificates expire on even-numbered years.

Most Wyoming community colleges have nursing programs, and local nursing homes can provide the necessary training. Examinations schedules for community colleges throughout the state are listed on the Wyoming State Board of Nursing website, but may not be given at each community college every month.

The following fees may apply to nursing assistants or aides:

- Certification by Endorsement: \$60
- Certification by Examination: \$60
- Examination: \$60
- Renewal: \$50
- Background check: \$60

More information on the State Board of Nursing is available at <https://wsbn.wyo.gov/>. More information on the occupation can be found at <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/nursing-assistants.htm>.

The information discussed in this article is available for all 98 licensed occupations in Wyoming in R&P's *2023 Directory of Licensed Occupations in Wyoming*, which is available online at https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/licensed_occupations.htm.

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- Torpey, E. (2016). Will I need a license or certification for my job? U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics: Washington D.C. Retrieved August 3, 2023, from <https://www.bls.gov/careeroutlook/2016/article/will-i-need-a-license-or-certification.htm>

Wyoming Unemployment Unchanged at 2.9% in September 2023

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 remained unchanged from August to September at 2.9%. Wyoming’s unemployment rate was much lower than its year-ago level of 3.8% and lower than the current U.S. rate of 3.8%. Seasonally adjusted employment of Wyoming residents fell slightly (-403 individuals, or -0.1%) from August to September. However, compared to a year ago, employment was up by 7,745 people (2.7%).

From August to September, most county unemployment rates followed their normal seasonal pattern and fell modestly. The largest decreases occurred in Fremont (down from 3.2% to 2.7%), Big Horn (down

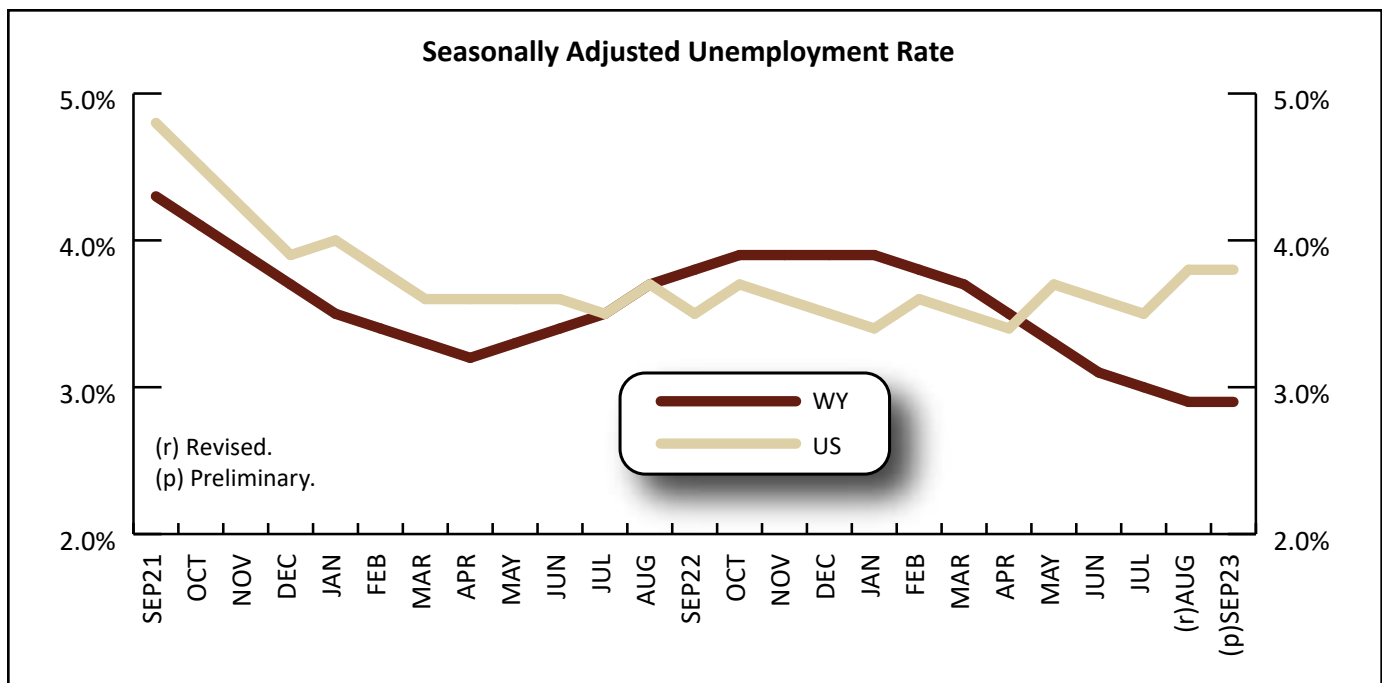
from 3.2% to 2.7%), Platte (down from 2.9% to 2.5%), and Crook (down from 2.3% to 1.9%) counties.

In September 2023, unemployment rates were lower than their year-ago levels in every county of the state. Large decreases were seen in Carbon (down from 3.5% to 2.4%), Washakie (down from 3.6% to 2.6%), and Niobrara (down from 2.9% to 2.0%) counties.

The highest unemployment rates in September 2023 were found in Sublette and Sweetwater counties, each at 2.9%. The lowest unemployment rates were reported in Teton County at 1.5% and Weston and Crook counties, each at 1.9%.

Total nonfarm employment in Wyoming (not seasonally adjusted and measured by place of work) rose from 290,800 in September 2022 to 297,800 in September 2023, an increase of 7,000 jobs (2.4%).

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



Current Employment Statistics (CES) Estimates and Research & Planning's Internal Estimates, September 2023

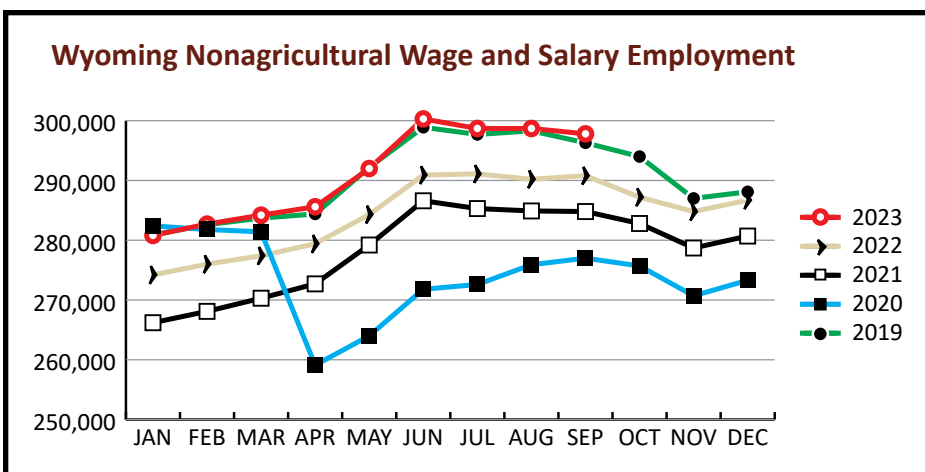
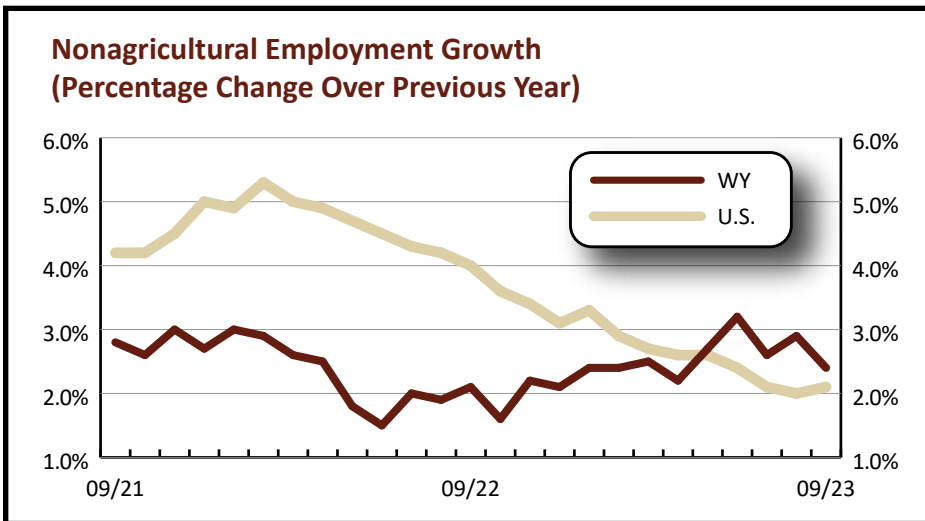
by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

Industry Sector	Research & Planning's Internal Estimates	Current Employment Statistics (CES) Estimates	N Difference	% Difference
Total Nonfarm	299,223	297,800	-1,423	-0.5%
Natural Resources & Mining	17,459	16,800	-659	-3.9%
Construction	24,145	24,400	255	1.0%
Manufacturing	10,697	10,600	-97	-0.9%
Wholesale Trade	8,042	7,400	-642	-8.7%
Retail Trade	30,600	30,600	0	0.0%
Transportation & Utilities	14,607	14,400	-207	-1.4%
Information	3,163	3,000	-163	-5.4%
Financial Activities	11,711	11,500	-211	-1.8%
Professional & Business Services	21,752	21,600	-152	-0.7%
Educational & Health Services	29,629	30,500	871	2.9%
Leisure & Hospitality	41,585	40,800	-785	-1.9%
Other Services	16,450	17,000	550	3.2%
Government	69,383	69,200	-183	-0.3%

Research & Planning's Internal Estimates were run in August 2023 and based on QCEW data through March 2023.

State Unemployment Rates September 2023 (Seasonally Adjusted)

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	6.0
Nevada	5.4
District of Columbia	5.0
California	4.7
Illinois	4.4
New Jersey	4.4
Alaska	4.1
Delaware	4.1
Kentucky	4.1
Texas	4.1
Arizona	4.0
New York	4.0
Michigan	3.9
United States	3.8
West Virginia	3.8
New Mexico	3.7
Indiana	3.6
Washington	3.6
Connecticut	3.5
Oregon	3.5
Georgia	3.4
North Carolina	3.4
Ohio	3.4
Pennsylvania	3.4
Louisiana	3.3
Colorado	3.2
Mississippi	3.2
Tennessee	3.2
Idaho	3.1
Minnesota	3.1
Wisconsin	3.1
Iowa	3.0
Oklahoma	3.0
Arkansas	2.9
Missouri	2.9
South Carolina	2.9
Wyoming	2.9
Florida	2.8
Hawaii	2.8
Kansas	2.8
Maine	2.7
Montana	2.7
Massachusetts	2.6
Rhode Island	2.6
Utah	2.6
Virginia	2.5
Alabama	2.2
Nebraska	2.1
New Hampshire	2.0
North Dakota	1.9
South Dakota	1.9
Vermont	1.9
Maryland	1.6



Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

State Unemployment Rates September 2023 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	Employment in Thousands			% Change Total Employment	
	Sep 23	Aug 23	Sep 22	Aug 23 Sep 23	Sep 22 Sep 23
CAMPBELL COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	26.4	26.3	25.4	0.4	3.9
TOTAL PRIVATE	21.5	21.7	20.6	-0.9	4.4
GOODS PRODUCING	8.9	9.0	8.1	-1.1	9.9
Natural Resources & Mining	6.1	6.2	5.6	-1.6	8.9
Construction	2.3	2.3	2.0	0.0	15.0
Manufacturing	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	17.5	17.3	17.3	1.2	1.2
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	5.2	5.2	5.2	0.0	0.0
Information	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
Professional & Business Services	1.6	1.6	1.6	0.0	0.0
Educational & Health Services	1.4	1.4	1.3	0.0	7.7
Leisure & Hospitality	2.5	2.6	2.5	-3.8	0.0
Other Services	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.0	0.0
GOVERNMENT	4.9	4.6	4.8	6.5	2.1

	Employment in Thousands			% Change Total Employment	
	Sep 23	Aug 23	Sep 22	Aug 23 Sep 23	Sep 22 Sep 23
SWEETWATER COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	21.7	21.7	21.5	0.0	0.9
TOTAL PRIVATE	17.4	17.6	17.1	-1.1	1.8
GOODS PRODUCING	6.8	6.7	6.6	1.5	3.0
Natural Resources & Mining	3.4	3.4	3.2	0.0	6.2
Construction	2.0	1.9	2.0	5.3	0.0
Manufacturing	1.4	1.4	1.4	0.0	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	14.9	15.0	14.9	-0.7	0.0
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	4.5	4.6	4.4	-2.2	2.3
Information	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0
Professional & Business Services	1.1	1.2	1.1	-8.3	0.0
Educational & Health Services	1.3	1.3	1.3	0.0	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality	2.4	2.5	2.4	-4.0	0.0
Other Services	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0
GOVERNMENT	4.3	4.1	4.4	4.9	-2.3

	Employment in Thousands			% Change Total Employment	
	Sep 23	Aug 23	Sep 22	Aug 23 Sep 23	Sep 22 Sep 23
TETON COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	24.9	26.6	24.1	-6.4	3.3
TOTAL PRIVATE	22.1	23.8	21.3	-7.1	3.8
GOODS PRODUCING	3.1	3.1	3.0	0.0	3.3
Natural Resources, Mining & Construction	2.9	2.9	2.8	0.0	3.6
Manufacturing	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	21.8	23.5	21.1	-7.2	3.3
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	3.1	3.3	2.9	-6.1	6.9
Information	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	1.5	1.5	1.5	0.0	0.0
Professional & Business Services	2.7	2.8	2.6	-3.6	3.8
Educational & Health Services	1.3	1.3	1.3	0.0	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality	9.7	11.0	9.3	-11.8	4.3
Other Services	0.5	0.6	0.5	-16.7	0.0
GOVERNMENT	2.8	2.8	2.8	0.0	0.0

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	5.6
Nevada	5.4
District of Columbia	5.3
California	4.9
Illinois	4.9
New Jersey	4.6
Arizona	4.3
Delaware	4.1
Kentucky	4.1
Texas	4.1
Alaska	4.0
New York	4.0
Michigan	3.9
West Virginia	3.8
Louisiana	3.6
United States	3.6
Washington	3.6
New Mexico	3.5
Ohio	3.5
Oregon	3.5
Georgia	3.4
Oklahoma	3.4
Tennessee	3.4
Hawaii	3.3
Indiana	3.3
Arkansas	3.2
Colorado	3.2
North Carolina	3.2
Wisconsin	3.2
Mississippi	3.1
Pennsylvania	3.1
Connecticut	3.0
Florida	3.0
Virginia	3.0
Idaho	2.9
Iowa	2.9
Kansas	2.8
Minnesota	2.6
Missouri	2.6
South Carolina	2.6
Utah	2.6
Maine	2.5
Massachusetts	2.5
Wyoming	2.5
Alabama	2.4
Montana	2.4
New Hampshire	2.4
Rhode Island	2.3
Nebraska	2.0
Vermont	2.0
Maryland	1.8
South Dakota	1.7
North Dakota	1.3

Economic Indicators

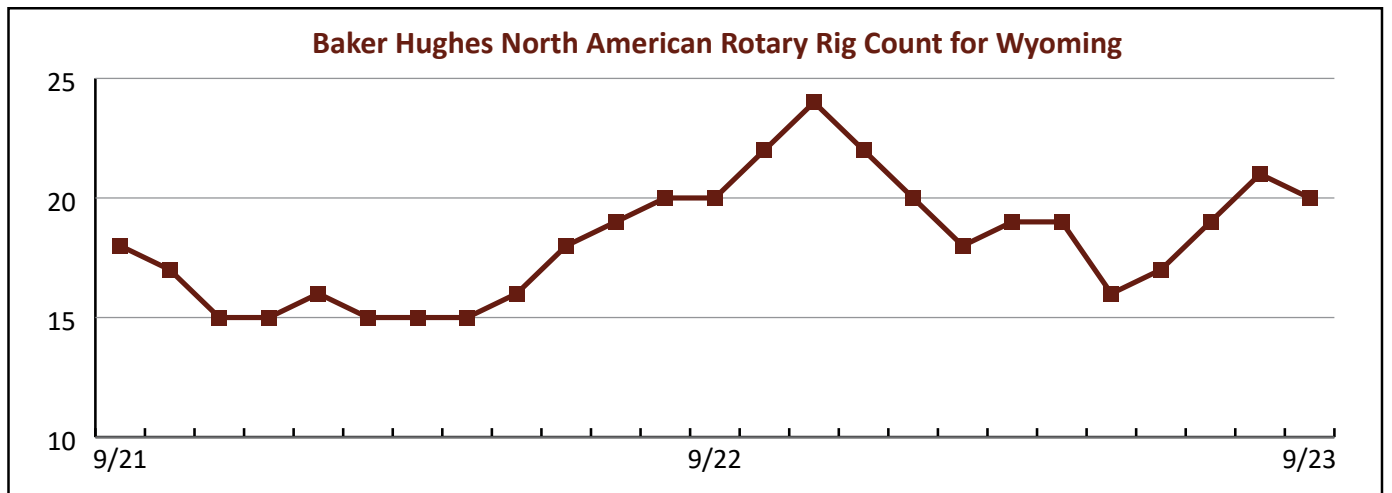
by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

The number of building permits issued for new single family homes in Wyoming decreased 17.9% from a year earlier.

	Sep 2023 (p)	Aug 2023 (r)	Sep 2022 (b)	Percent Change Month	Year
Wyoming Total Nonfarm Employment	297,800	298,700	290,800	-0.3	2.4
Wyoming State Government	14,500	13,600	14,300	6.6	1.4
Laramie County Nonfarm Employment	48,200	48,400	47,300	-0.4	1.9
Natrona County Nonfarm Employment	40,100	39,800	39,200	0.8	2.3
Selected U.S. Employment Data					
U.S. Multiple Jobholders	8,146,000	7,778,000	7,739,000	4.7	5.3
As a percent of all workers	5.0%	4.8%	4.9%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Discouraged Workers	351,000	364,000	462,000	-3.6	-24.0
U.S. Part Time for Economic Reasons	3,742,000	4,143,000	3,523,000	-9.7	6.2
Wyoming Unemployment Insurance					
Weeks Compensated	4,668	6,434	4,185	-27.4	11.5
Benefits Paid	\$2,192,066	\$2,920,683	\$1,819,998	-24.9	20.4
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	\$469.59	\$453.95	\$434.89	3.4	8.0
Consumer Price Index (U) for All U.S. Urban Consumers (1982 to 1984 = 100)					
All Items	307.8	307.0	296.8	0.2	3.7
Food & Beverages	322.2	321.6	310.7	0.2	3.7
Housing	323.6	321.9	306.5	0.5	5.6
Apparel	133.2	131.3	130.1	1.4	2.3
Transportation	272.5	274.2	266.1	-0.6	2.4
Medical Care	548.4	548.1	556.3	0.1	-1.4
Recreation (Dec. 1997=100)	136.7	136.1	131.6	0.4	3.9
Education & Communication (Dec. 1997=100)	145.6	145.2	144.1	0.3	1.0
Other Goods & Services	543.4	540.3	512.6	0.6	6.0
Producer Prices (1982 to 1984 = 100)					
All Commodities	259.2	257.8	267.9	0.5	-3.3
Wyo. Bldg. Permits (New Privately Owned Housing Units Authorized)					
Total Units	130	157	187	-17.2	-30.5
Valuation	\$69,915,000	\$93,912,000	\$80,294,000	-25.6	-12.9
Single Family Homes	115	142	140	-19.0	-17.9
Valuation	\$67,202,000	\$90,657,000	\$73,816,000	-25.9	-9.0
Casper MSA ¹ Building Permits	20	13	10	53.8	100.0
Valuation	\$3,246,000	\$3,240,000	\$1,930,000	0.2	68.2
Cheyenne MSA Building Permits	13	10	44	30.0	-70.5
Valuation	\$3,594,000	\$2,851,000	\$6,957,000	26.1	-48.3
Baker Hughes North American Rotary Rig Count for Wyoming	20	21	20	-4.8	0.0

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

¹Metropolitan Statistical Area.



Wyoming County Unemployment Rates

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

Unemployment rates decreased from their year-ago levels in every county of the state.

REGION County	Labor Force			Employed			Unemployed			Unemployment Rates		
	Sep 2023 (p)	Aug 2023 (r)	Sep 2022 (b)	Sep 2023 (p)	Aug 2023 (r)	Sep 2022 (b)	Sep 2023 (p)	Aug 2023 (r)	Aug 2022 (b)	Sep 2023 (p)	Aug 2023 (r)	Sep 2022 (b)
NORTHWEST	46,741	47,409	46,584	45,567	46,036	45,068	1,174	1,373	1,516	2.5	2.9	3.3
Big Horn	5,159	5,198	5,216	5,019	5,034	5,036	140	164	180	2.7	3.2	3.5
Fremont	19,233	19,292	19,090	18,705	18,666	18,417	528	626	673	2.7	3.2	3.5
Hot Springs	2,263	2,299	2,292	2,208	2,236	2,233	55	63	59	2.4	2.7	2.6
Park	16,219	16,749	16,139	15,869	16,342	15,674	350	407	465	2.2	2.4	2.9
Washakie	3,867	3,871	3,847	3,766	3,758	3,708	101	113	139	2.6	2.9	3.6
NORTHEAST	51,886	51,980	51,176	50,703	50,669	49,650	1,183	1,311	1,526	2.3	2.5	3.0
Campbell	23,405	23,307	22,808	22,838	22,684	22,077	567	623	731	2.4	2.7	3.2
Crook	3,875	3,902	3,949	3,800	3,812	3,850	75	90	99	1.9	2.3	2.5
Johnson	4,347	4,402	4,335	4,249	4,292	4,206	98	110	129	2.3	2.5	3.0
Sheridan	16,341	16,516	16,274	15,973	16,113	15,791	368	403	483	2.3	2.4	3.0
Weston	3,918	3,853	3,810	3,843	3,768	3,726	75	85	84	1.9	2.2	2.2
SOUTHWEST	60,949	62,285	60,130	59,486	60,722	58,310	1,463	1,563	1,820	2.4	2.5	3.0
Lincoln	9,951	9,902	9,827	9,715	9,663	9,532	236	239	295	2.4	2.4	3.0
Sublette	3,937	3,965	3,967	3,824	3,839	3,830	113	126	137	2.9	3.2	3.5
Sweetwater	19,938	20,004	19,795	19,358	19,376	19,064	580	628	731	2.9	3.1	3.7
Teton	17,934	19,136	17,519	17,657	18,841	17,179	277	295	340	1.5	1.5	1.9
Uinta	9,189	9,278	9,022	8,932	9,003	8,705	257	275	317	2.8	3.0	3.5
SOUTHEAST	83,285	82,778	82,810	81,193	80,526	80,178	2,092	2,252	2,632	2.5	2.7	3.2
Albany	21,953	20,977	21,618	21,447	20,448	20,973	506	529	645	2.3	2.5	3.0
Goshen	6,397	6,405	6,511	6,252	6,252	6,328	145	153	183	2.3	2.4	2.8
Laramie	49,488	49,994	49,051	48,175	48,571	47,416	1,313	1,423	1,635	2.7	2.8	3.3
Niobrara	1,166	1,146	1,222	1,143	1,121	1,187	23	25	35	2.0	2.2	2.9
Platte	4,281	4,256	4,408	4,176	4,134	4,274	105	122	134	2.5	2.9	3.0
CENTRAL	55,297	55,508	54,752	53,834	53,921	52,863	1,463	1,587	1,889	2.6	2.9	3.5
Carbon	7,327	7,409	7,531	7,152	7,215	7,267	175	194	264	2.4	2.6	3.5
Converse	7,866	7,818	7,691	7,703	7,645	7,481	163	173	210	2.1	2.2	2.7
Natrona	40,104	40,281	39,530	38,979	39,061	38,115	1,125	1,220	1,415	2.8	3.0	3.6
STATEWIDE	298,159	299,961	295,451	290,783	291,874	286,069	7,376	8,087	9,382	2.5	2.7	3.2
Statewide Seasonally Adjusted										2.9	2.9	3.8
U.S.										3.6	3.9	3.3
U.S. Seasonally Adjusted										3.8	3.8	3.5

Prepared in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Benchmarked 03/2023. Run Date 10/2023.

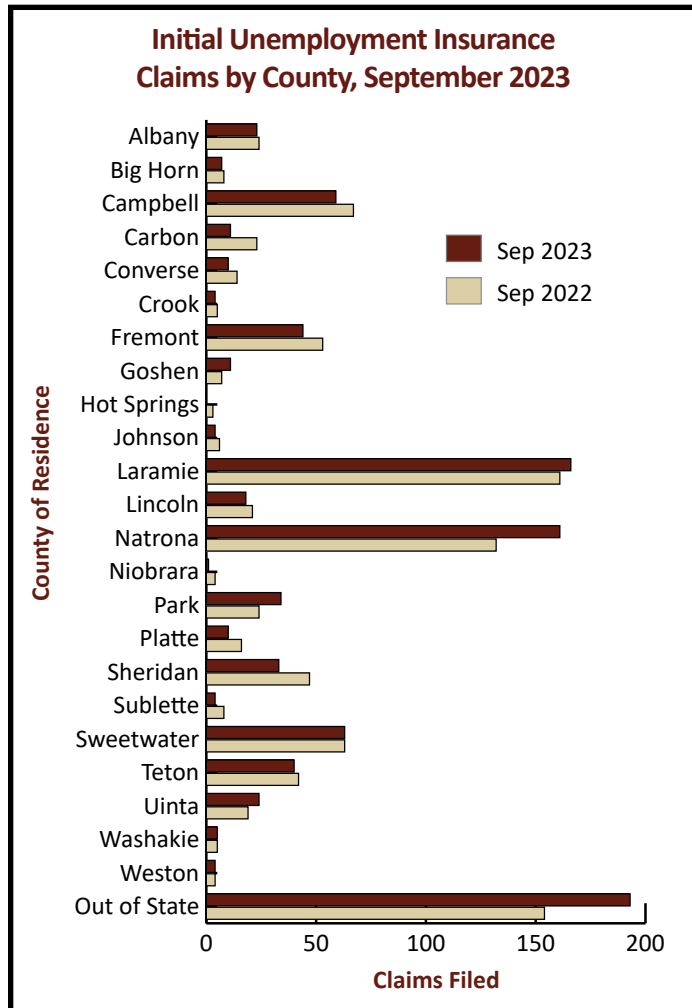
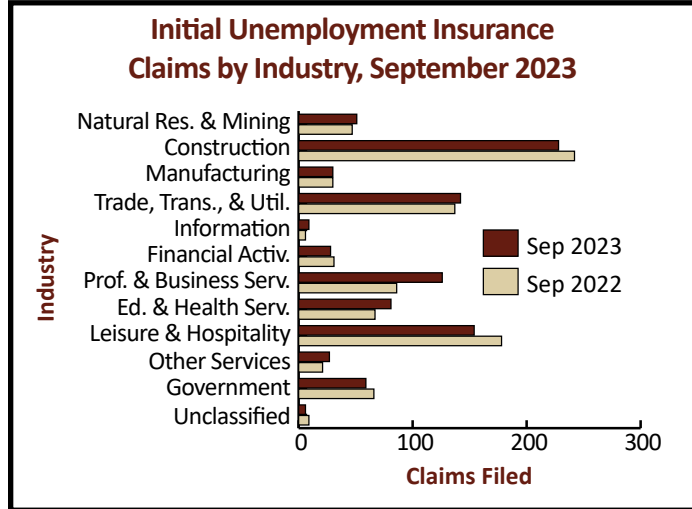
Data are not seasonally adjusted except where otherwise specified.

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

Wyoming Normalized^a Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Initial Claims

by: *Laura Yetter, Senior Economist*

Wyoming had 947 initial claims in September 2023, up 6.3% compared to August. Initial claims typically begin increasing in September as seasonal summer employment comes to an end.



Initial Claims	Claims Filed			% Change	
	Sep 23	Aug 23	Sep 22	Over the Month	Over the Year
Wyoming Statewide					
Total Claims Filed	947	891	925	6.3	2.4
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	310	266	320	16.5	-3.1
Natural Resources & Mining	51	45	47	13.3	8.5
Mining	48	43	43	11.6	11.6
Construction	228	170	242	34.1	-5.8
Manufacturing	30	50	30	-40.0	0.0
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	570	545	529	4.6	7.8
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	142	176	137	-19.3	3.6
Wholesale Trade	20	22	17	-9.1	17.6
Retail Trade	64	93	79	-31.2	-19.0
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities	57	60	41	-5.0	39.0
Information	9	18	6	-50.0	50.0
Financial Activities	28	38	31	-26.3	-9.7
Professional & Business Services	126	107	86	17.8	46.5
Educational & Health Services	81	80	67	1.3	20.9
Leisure & Hospitality	154	101	178	52.5	-13.5
Other Services, except Public Admin.	27	23	21	17.4	28.6
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	59	61	66	-3.3	-10.6
Federal Government	21	6	15	250.0	40.0
State Government	6	12	8	-50.0	-25.0
Local Government	31	43	42	-27.9	-26.2
Local Education	7	7	18	0.0	-61.1
UNCLASSIFIED	6	18	9	-66.7	-33.3
Laramie County					
Total Claims Filed	166	180	161	-7.8	3.1
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	48	41	67	17.1	-28.4
Construction	38	29	58	31.0	-34.5
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	109	127	84	-14.2	29.8
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	29	32	24	-9.4	20.8
Financial Activities	6	7	4	-14.3	50.0
Professional & Business Services	37	43	22	-14.0	68.2
Educational & Health Services	18	12	12	50.0	50.0
Leisure & Hospitality	11	18	12	-38.9	-8.3
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	6	6	8	0.0	-25.0
Natrona County					
Total Claims Filed	161	158	132	1.9	22.0
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	53	47	36	12.8	47.2
Construction	34	24	22	41.7	54.5
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	102	99	87	3.0	17.2
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	32	26	30	23.1	6.7
Financial Activities	5	6	5	-16.7	0.0
Professional & Business Services	17	14	14	21.4	21.4
Educational & Health Services	20	22	14	-9.1	42.9
Leisure & Hospitality	17	24	18	-29.2	-5.6
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	4	6	4	-33.3	0.0

N/D = Not discloseable due to confidentiality.
^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.

The full UI claims report for September 2023 is available at https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/UI/0923_UI.pdf.

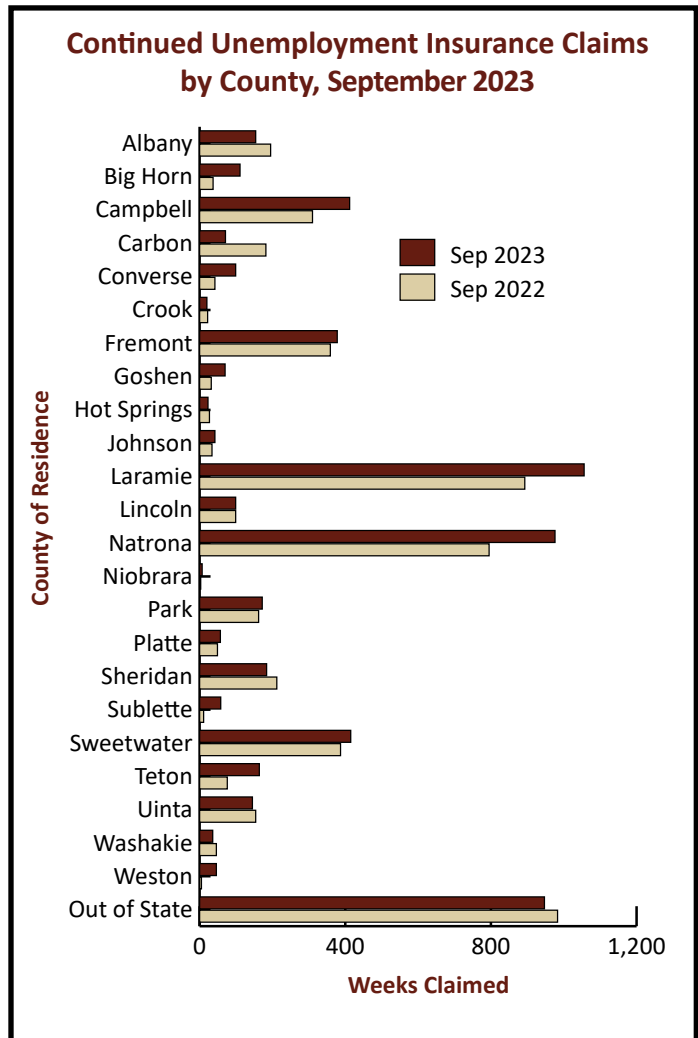
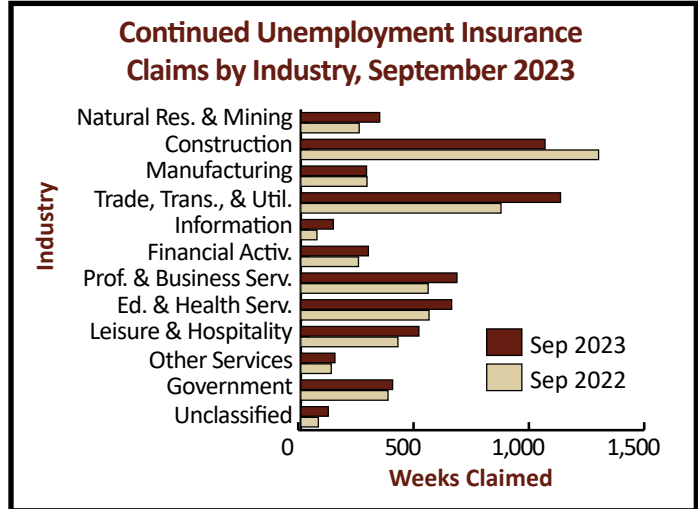
Wyoming Normalized^a Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Continued Claims

by: *Laura Yetter, Senior Economist*

There were 5,759 total continued weeks claimed in September, up 12.1% over the year but down 10.7% compared to August.

Continued Claims	Claims Filed			% Change	
	Sep 23	Aug 23	Sep 22	Over the Month	Over the Year
Wyoming Statewide					
Total Weeks Claimed	5,759	6,452	5,138	-10.7	12.1
Total Unique Claimants	1,957	1,842	1,767	6.2	10.8
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	1,687	1,922	1,832	-12.2	-7.9
Natural Resources & Mining	342	351	253	-2.6	35.2
Mining	327	341	219	-4.1	49.3
Oil & Gas Extraction	27	20	37	35.0	-27.0
Construction	1,059	1,212	1,291	-12.6	-18.0
Manufacturing	285	358	287	-20.4	-0.7
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	3,554	3,975	2,850	-10.6	24.7
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	1,126	1,193	868	-5.6	29.7
Wholesale Trade	188	203	156	-7.4	20.5
Retail Trade	542	613	510	-11.6	6.3
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities	396	376	200	5.3	98.0
Information	141	120	70	17.5	101.4
Financial Activities	293	299	250	-2.0	17.2
Professional & Business Services	677	766	552	-11.6	22.6
Educational & Health Services	654	917	556	-28.7	17.6
Leisure & Hospitality	512	529	421	-3.2	21.6
Other Services, except Public Admin.	148	148	132	0.0	12.1
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	398	420	378	-5.2	5.3
Federal Government	20	22	19	-9.1	5.3
State Government	99	84	57	17.9	73.7
Local Government	278	314	302	-11.5	-7.9
Local Education	63	80	150	-21.3	-58.0
UNCLASSIFIED	119	133	76	-10.5	56.6
Laramie County					
Total Weeks Claimed	1,056	1,165	893	-9.4	18.3
Total Unique Claimants	353	316	305	11.7	15.7
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	180	192	298	-6.3	-39.6
Construction	138	122	233	13.1	-40.8
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	778	884	515	-12.0	51.1
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	245	260	156	-5.8	57.1
Financial Activities	60	56	38	7.1	57.9
Professional & Business Services	191	271	116	-29.5	64.7
Educational & Health Services	145	175	105	-17.1	38.1
Leisure & Hospitality	68	56	62	21.4	9.7
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	66	61	47	8.2	40.4
UNCLASSIFIED	31	27	31	14.8	0.0
Natrona County					
Total Weeks Claimed	976	950	795	2.7	22.8
Total Unique Claimants	330	279	270	18.3	22.2
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	268	227	179	18.1	49.7
Construction	151	121	99	24.8	52.5
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	655	671	572	-2.4	14.5
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	224	232	181	-3.4	23.8
Financial Activities	62	71	49	-12.7	26.5
Professional & Business Services	69	81	120	-14.8	-42.5
Educational & Health Services	136	150	119	-9.3	14.3
Leisure & Hospitality	113	108	64	4.6	76.6
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	28	26	42	7.7	-33.3
UNCLASSIFIED	23	24	1	-4.2	22.0

^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.



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