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TRENDS

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How Economic Downturns Reshaped Wyoming's Labor Market

by: Michael Moore, Research Supervisor

Over the last 15 years, Wyoming has endured three periods of economic downturn, which have left lasting marks on the state's labor market. This article examines two of those changes: the decline in teenager workers following the national Great Recession, and the outflow of millennials following the economic downturn of 2015-2016.

Wyoming's economy often has been described as "boom or bust" based on supply and demand of energy and the state's natural resources (Roberts, 2026). That boom and bust cycle has been evident over the last 25 years. After rapid economic growth spurred on by increased demand for coal, oil, and natural gas in the early 2000s, Wyoming has endured three periods of economic downturn. The Research & Planning (R&P) section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services has defined an *economic downturn* as a period of at least two consecutive quarters of over-the-year decrease in average monthly employment and total wages based on data from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW).

The three economic downturns are illustrated in Figure 1 (see page 3), which shows the over-the-year change in employment and wages from first quarter 2000 (2000Q1) to fourth quarter 2025 (2025Q4). Each downturn is identified by a shaded box in the figures that accompany this article.

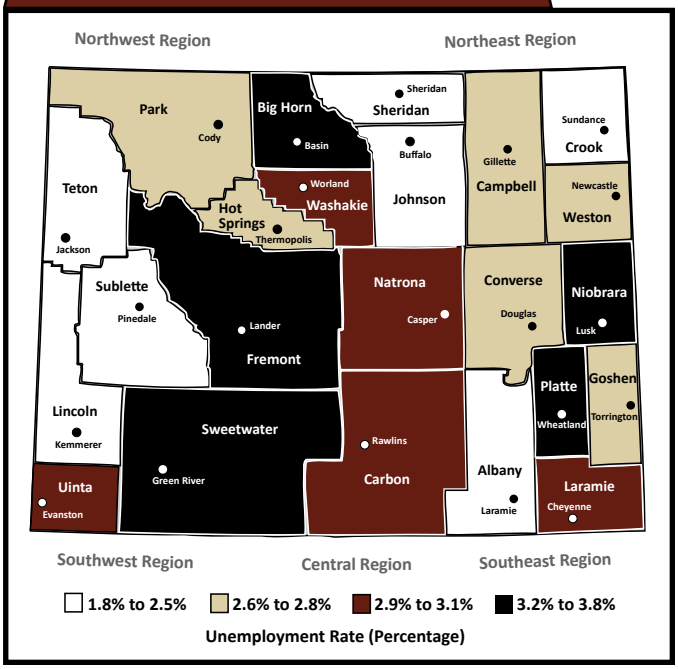
Each downturn had its own unique characteristics and outside pressures, but all three also were preceded by declining energy prices. The first downturn lasted from 2009Q1 to 2010Q1, and was preceded by the global financial crisis and the national Great Recession, which lasted from December 2007 to June 2009 (NBER, 2010). The second downturn lasted from 2015Q2 to 2016Q4 and developed from

(Text continued on page 3)

HIGHLIGHTS

- **From 2023 to 2025, the percentage of people teleworking or working at home for pay in Wyoming increased from 10.8% to 14.0%. … page 16**
- **Most industries saw double-digit over-the-year percentage decreases in Unemployment Insurance continued weeks claimed in September 2026. … page 25**

Unemployment Rate by Wyoming County, September 2026 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



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(Text continued from page 1)

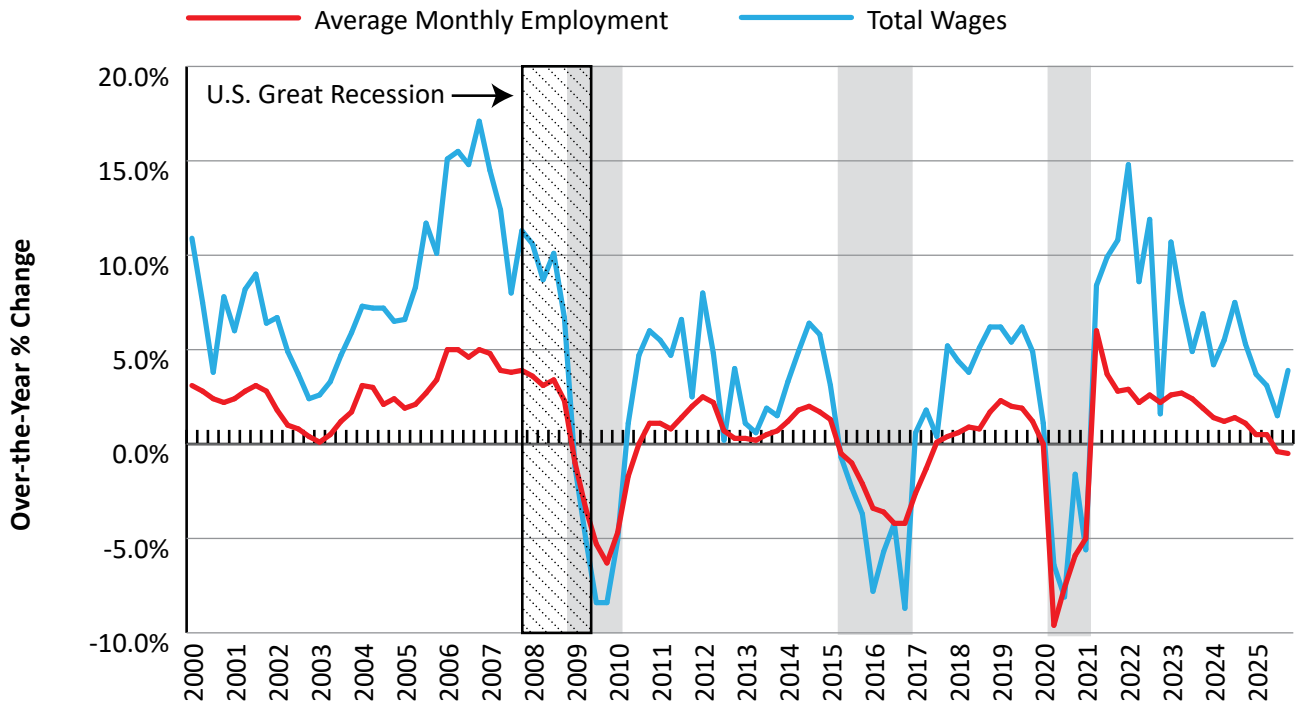
the crashing prices of and demand for Wyoming's natural resources, such as coal, oil, and natural gas. Finally, the third downturn occurred from 2020Q2 to 2021Q1 and largely resulted from the Covid-19 pandemic.

Each downturn lasted between four and seven quarters and had long-lasting effects on Wyoming. This article looks at two of the key impacts these downturns had on Wyoming's labor market over time: a decline in youth working during and after the first downturn, and the exodus of a large number of millennials during and after the second.

For the research discussed in this article, population is based on single-year-of-age population estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau. In contrast, the number of individuals working is an exact count of persons found in Wyoming Wage Records. Throughout this article, the count from Wage Records is sometimes divided by population estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau to determine what percent of the population were working in Wyoming; while this is not a perfect comparison, it does provide some basis for this research.

2009Q1-2010Q1: Fewer Youth Working

Following the national Great Recession and Wyoming's economic downturn of

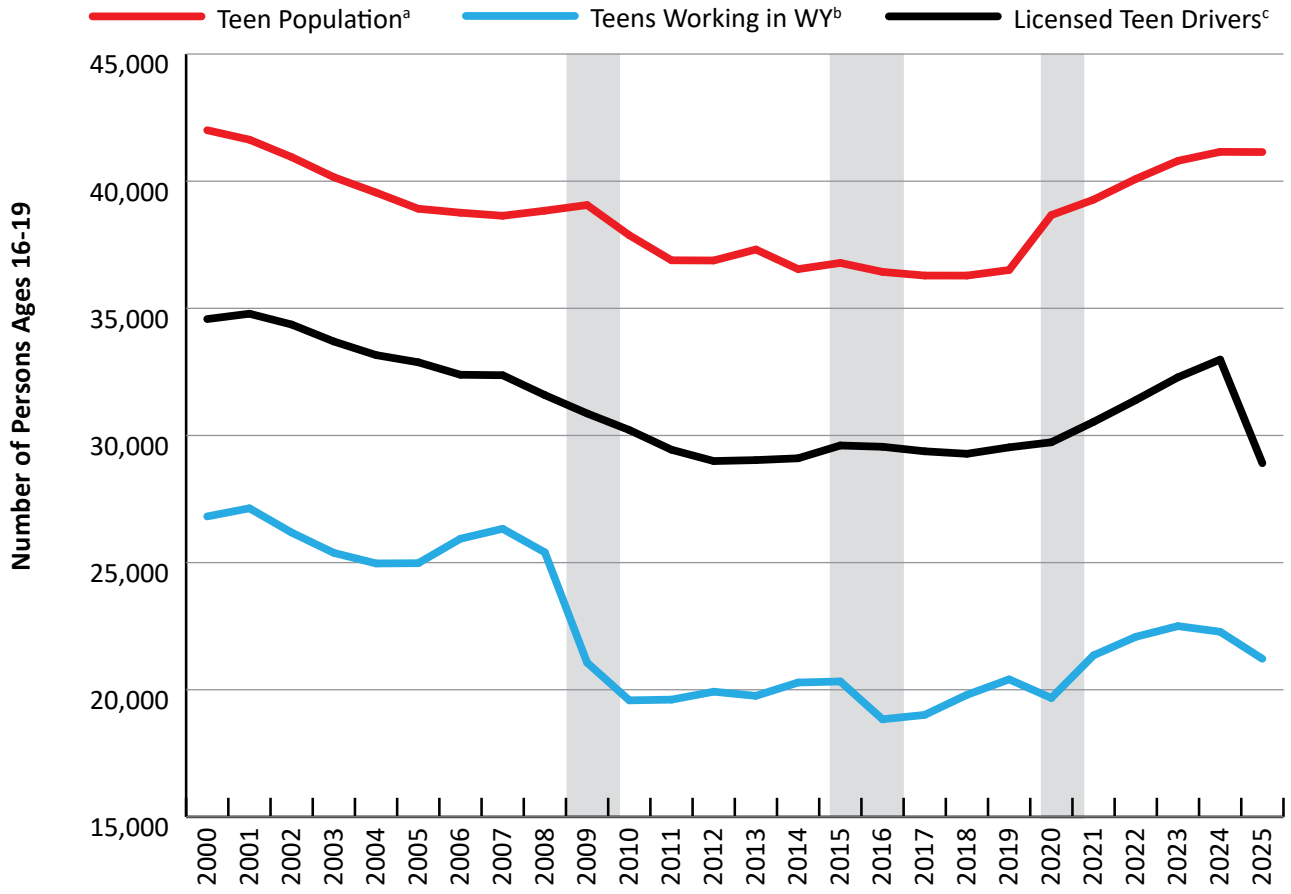


Shaded areas indicate periods of economic downturn: 2009Q1-2010Q1, 2015Q2-2016Q4, and 2020Q2-2021Q1.
Great Recession: December 2007 to June 2009, National Bureau of Economic Research.
Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages.
Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 8/25/26.

Figure 1: Over-the-Year Percent Change in Average Monthly Employment and Total Wages in Wyoming, 2000Q1-2025Q4

2009Q1 to 2010Q1, the number of youth ages 15-19 working in Wyoming (*teens working*) plummeted. Figure 2 shows the estimated Wyoming population of youth ages 15-19 (*teen population*) and the number working in Wyoming from 2000 to 2025, along with the number of licensed teen drivers. While the teen population dropped during the first economic downturn, the decline wasn't nearly as severe as the one seen in teens working. After peaking at 28,912 in 2007, the number of teens working in Wyoming fell to 20,677 by 2010 — a loss of 8,235 individuals, or 28.5%. In contrast, the teen population fell by just 766, or 2.0%.

The percentage of teens working in Wyoming largely declined for another decade (see Figure 3, page 5). Prior to the downturn from 2000 to 2008, an average of 70.7% of the state's estimated teen population worked in Wyoming; this was calculated by dividing the number of teens working by the estimated population. From 2010 to 2019, that percentage dropped to 57.2%. Since 2020, Wyoming has seen an increase in the teen population and the



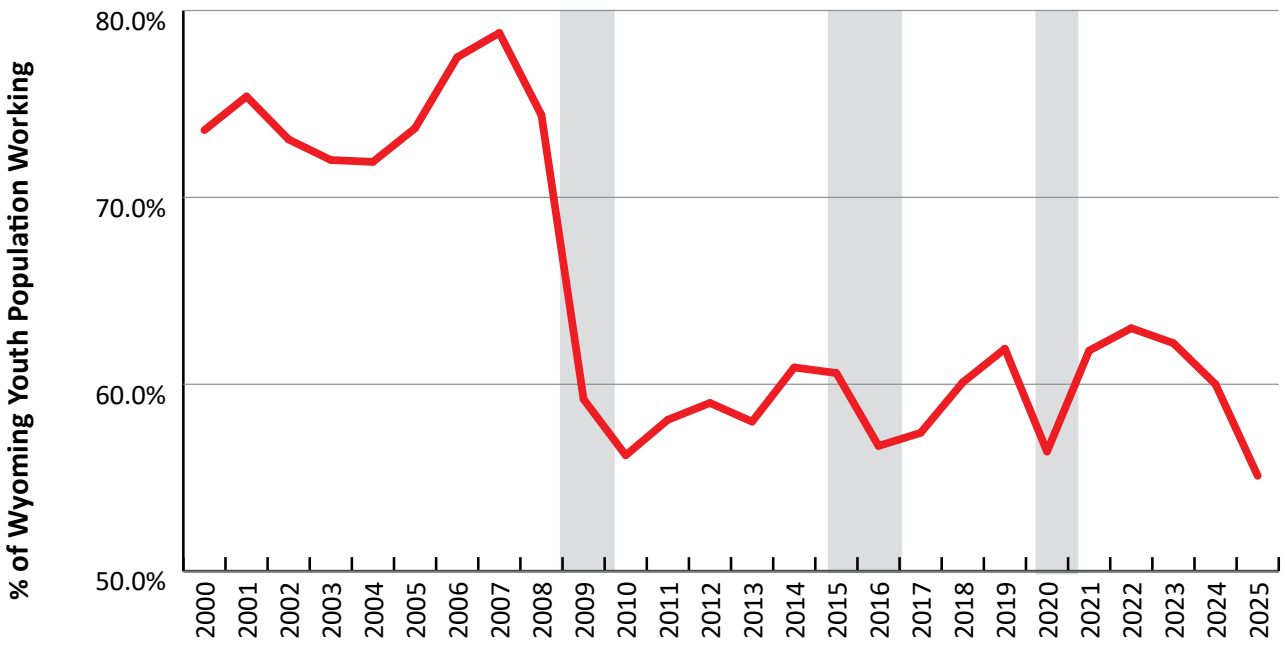
Shaded areas indicate periods of economic downturn: 2009Q1-2010Q1, 2015Q2-2016Q4, and 2020Q2-2021Q1.
[a]Source: Single-year-of-age population estimates, U.S. Census Bureau.
[b]Source: Demographics of Wyoming's Workforce, 2000-2025.
[c]Source: Wyoming Driver's License File.
Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 8/19/26.

Figure 2: Estimated Population, Number Working, and Number of Licensed Drivers Ages 16-19 in Wyoming, 2000-2025

number of teens working, at least through 2023. However, while the teen population in 2025 was nearly equal to that of 2000, the number of teens working remains much smaller compared to the early-2000s, before the first economic downturn. An average of 58.8% of the teen population worked in Wyoming each year from 2021 to 2025.

The decline in teens working following the national Great Recession was not unique to Wyoming. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the teen labor force participation rate dropped from 52.0% in 2000 to 34.1% by 2011 (Morisi, 2017). The teen labor force participation rate typically peaks in July when summer employment is at its highest. Figure 4 (see page 6) shows the U.S. labor force participation rate for teens ages 16-19 each July from 2000 to 2026. The rate gradually trended upward following its low point of 31.0% in July 2011, but remains considerably lower than pre-2009 levels (BLS, 2026). In July 2026, the labor force participation rate for teens ages 16-19 in the U.S. was 36.5%.

Several reasons have been identified for the decline in young workers since the Great Recession. Morisi (2017) identified factors such as a greater focus on education and extracurricular activities, along with unpaid internships specific to career goals. Coreen (2025) cited factors like automation, online shopping, and the gig economy that have reshaped many occupations once held by teens. Coreen also noted that "social and digital engagement — from gaming to content creation — provides alternative ways for young people to spend time and even earn income informally."

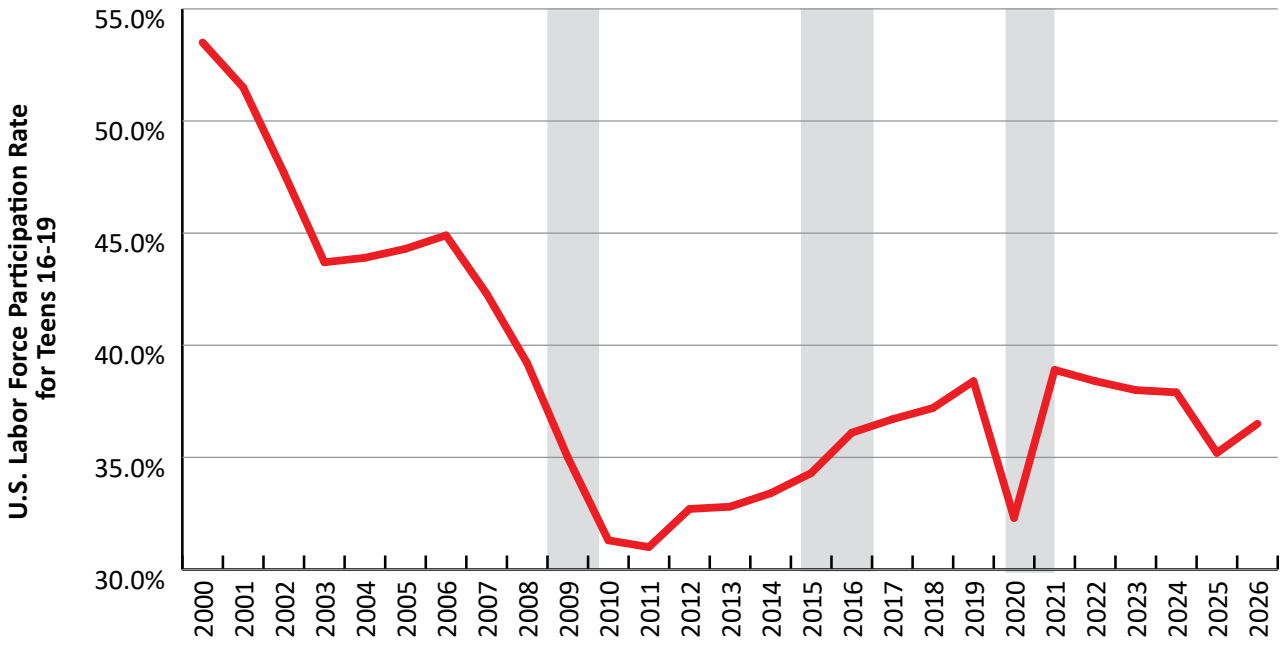


Shaded areas indicate periods of economic downturn: 2009Q1-2010Q1, 2015Q2-2016Q4, and 2020Q2-2021Q1.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau single year-of-age population estimates divided by youth found in WY Wage Records.
Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 9/15/26.

Figure 3: Percent of Wyoming Youth Population Working any Time During the Year, 2000-2025

A decline in teen drivers may also contribute to fewer teens working in Wyoming. As Fryer (2021) stated, there are several reasons for fewer teens obtaining a driver's license: "Some prefer more environmentally friendly transportation options, some found driving too stressful and some just don't care about cars." Moore (2014) noted that the number of licensed teen drivers in Wyoming decreased from 36,412 in 2000 to 27,873 in 2013. In 2021, there were 30,731 licensed teen drivers in Wyoming (Halama, 2023). Wyoming saw a substantial decline in teen drivers from 32,983 in 2024 to 28,909 in 2025 (-4,074, or -12.4%). The reason for this recent decline is not known, but is consistent with the decline in teens working during that period (see Figure 2, page 4).

In Wyoming, teens have seen increased competition from workers in other age groups and nonresident workers. Workers from other states have historically played a big role in Wyoming's economy, working seasonal jobs in industries like construction and leisure & hospitality. In the years since the Covid-19 pandemic, Wyoming has seen an influx of nonresident workers (see Figure 5, page 7), as older workers retire and other workers leave the labor market. Research & Planning defines the term *nonresidents* as individuals for whom demographic data are not available; these are usually people who do not have a Wyoming driver's license or have not worked in Wyoming long enough for R&P to identify any characteristics, such as age, sex, or place of residence. The dashed black line in Figure 5 (see page 7) represents the count of nonresidents during each year when data were originally published, while the blue line represents the count of data



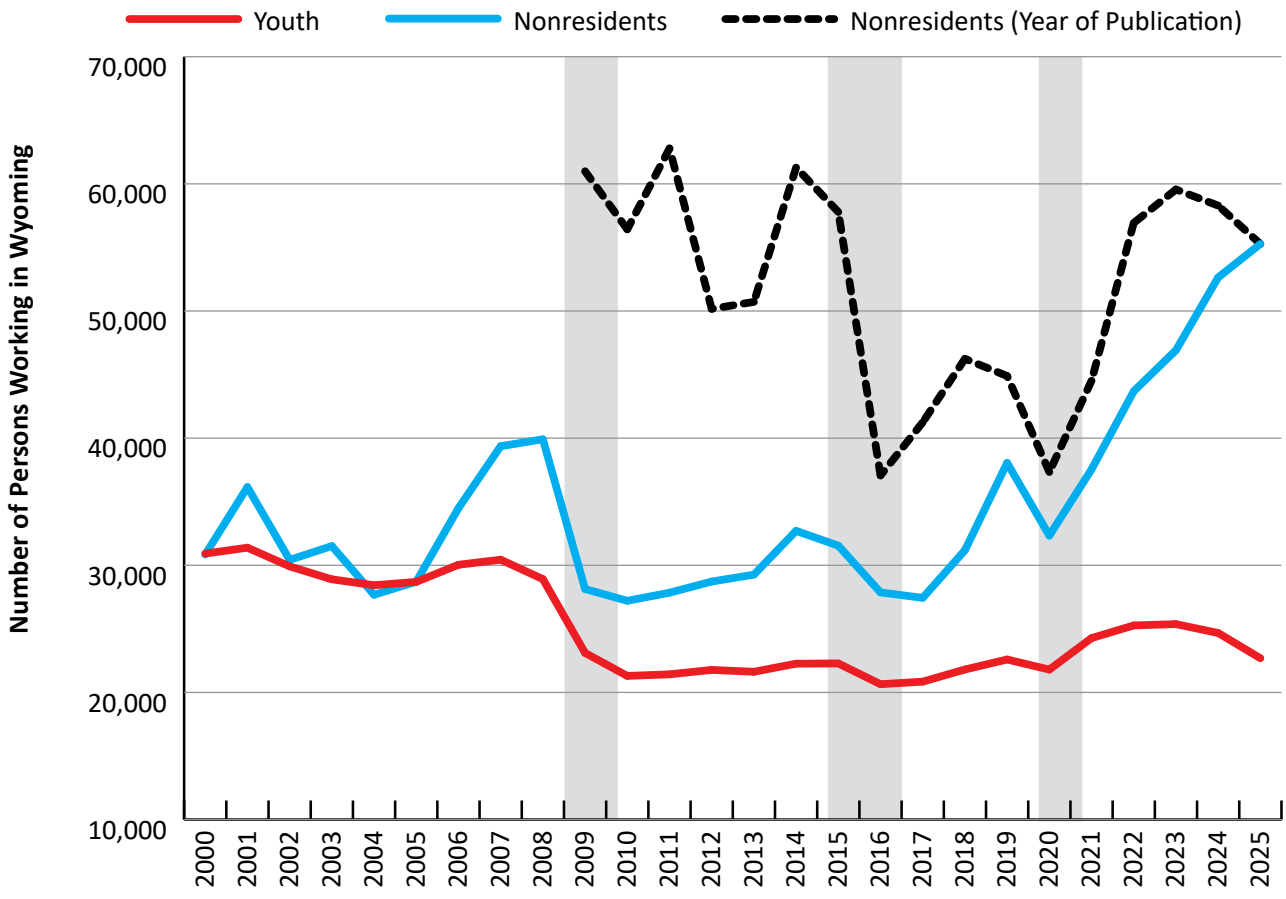
Shaded areas indicate periods of economic downturn: 2009Q1-2010Q1, 2015Q2-2016Q4, and 2020Q2-2021Q1.
Source: Current Population Survey.
Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 9/15/26.

Figure 4: Labor Force Participation Rate for Teens Ages 16-19 in the U.S. for the Month of July, 2020-2026

for each year as of 2026. As R&P gathers more data on individuals who first appear in Wage Records as nonresidents over time, they are transferred to the appropriate sex and age categories and the number of nonresidents shrinks. The number of nonresidents working in Wyoming was relatively low from 2016 to 2020, but has increased substantially since the pandemic.

2015Q2-2016Q4: Exit of Millennials

This section focuses on selected generations as defined by the Pew Research Center (archived). The term *millennials* refers to individuals born from 1981 to 1996; these individuals were between the ages of 29 and 44 in 2025 (see Figure 6, page 8). *Baby boomers* refers to individuals born from 1946 to 1964, and these individuals were ages 61 to 79 in 2025. The populations of each of these two generations outnumbers the smaller *generation x* population, or those born from 1965 to 1980. Finally, *generation z* refers to individuals born between 1997 and 2012; these individuals are currently the youngest segment of the workforce, between the ages of 13 and 28 in 2025.



Shaded areas indicate periods of economic downturn: 2009Q1-2010Q1, 2015Q2-2016Q4, and 2020Q2-2021Q1.
Source: Demographics of Wyoming's Workforce, 2000-2025.
Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 8/19/26.

Figure 5: Number of Youth Ages 16-19 and Nonresidents Working in Wyoming at Any Time During the Year, 2000-2025

Wyoming's second economic downturn from 2015Q2 to 2016Q4 resulted from "a substantial decline in the prices of oil, an extended period of low natural gas prices, and the erosion in the price of coal" (Gallagher, 2016). This downturn was unique in that it occurred during a period of job growth for the U.S. and all of Wyoming's surrounding states. Figure 7 (see page 9) shows over-the-year percentage change in employment for the U.S., Wyoming, and surrounding states for 2005Q1 to 2025Q4. The same general pattern can be seen across all states, with the exception of the thick red line that represents Wyoming going negative for an extended time during that second downturn. Because of this difference between the downturns, people who lost their jobs in Wyoming in 2015 and 2016 likely had more opportunities to find work in another state. That was not the case during the other two economic downturns, when all of Wyoming's surrounding states lost jobs as well.

R&P has consistently demonstrated that during Wyoming's economic downturns, young workers are usually the first to lose their jobs, as employers are more likely to retain older, more experienced workers (Harris, 2013, and Moore, 2017). In 2015, individuals in Wyoming's millennial population were between the ages of 19 and 34, the ages at which many individuals enter the workforce or start on a path to a career. As millennials (and other individuals) lost jobs or were unable to find work in Wyoming, many were likely able to find work in surrounding states with growing economies.

As illustrated in Figure 8 (see page 10), an extended departure of millennials from Wyoming began in 2025, as the state's millennial population decreased substantially each year from 2016 to 2020. Wyoming's millennial population somewhat leveled off by 2020, and grew moderately each year through 2025, but remained noticeably lower than pre-2015 levels. From 2015 to 2025, Wyoming's millennial population fell from 131,281 to 120,277 (-11,044 individuals, or -8.4%).

The number of millennials working in Wyoming declined at an even greater rate, falling from 121,187 in 2015 to 98,092 (-23,095 individuals, or -19.1%). While Wyoming's millennial population increased slightly each year from 2020 to 2025, the number of millennials working continued

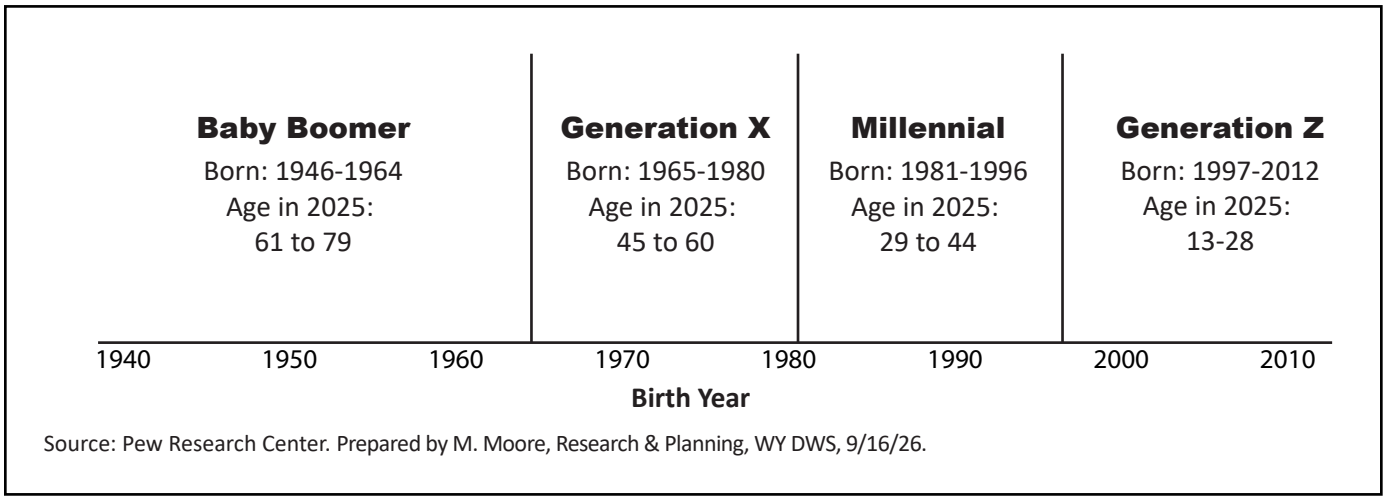
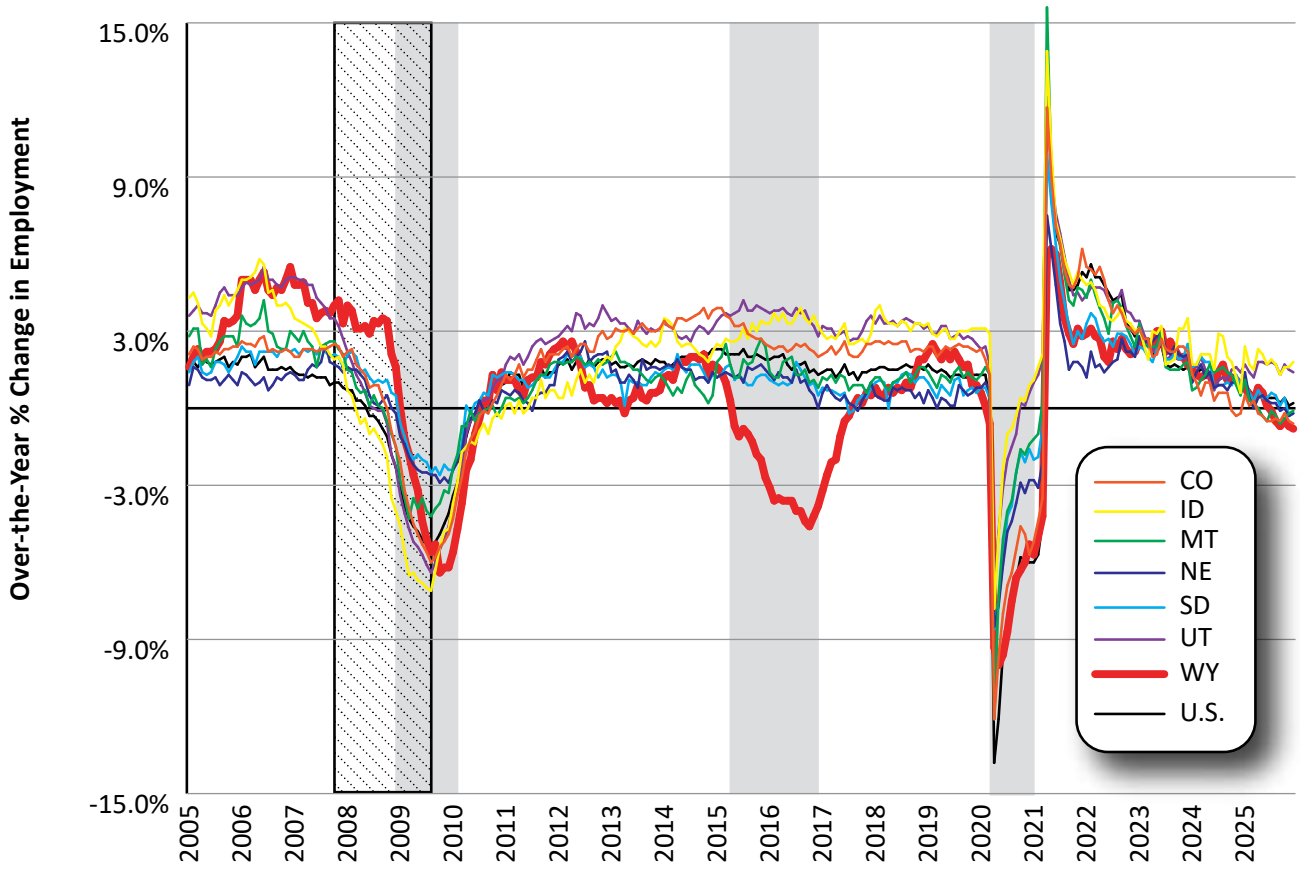


Figure 6: Defining the Generations of Wyoming's Workforce

to decline. The 98,092 millennials working in Wyoming at any time during the year in 2025 was a 16-year low: The last time there were fewer millennials working was 2009, when millennials were all ages 28 or younger. In addition, from 2009 to 2011, several thousand millennials were younger than 16 and likely not working in Wyoming.

With the decline in millennials working in Wyoming outpacing the shrinking millennial population, it is important to consider that millennials living in Wyoming may be working in a way not captured by Wage Records; for example, they may be self-employed, commuting to another state for employment, working gig-type jobs, or earning money online. In 2025, millennials were between the ages of 29 and 44, and technological know-how and advancements could have created more opportunities to earn a living.

While Wyoming's millennial population declined over the last 10 years, many surrounding states experienced rapid growth in their millennial populations.

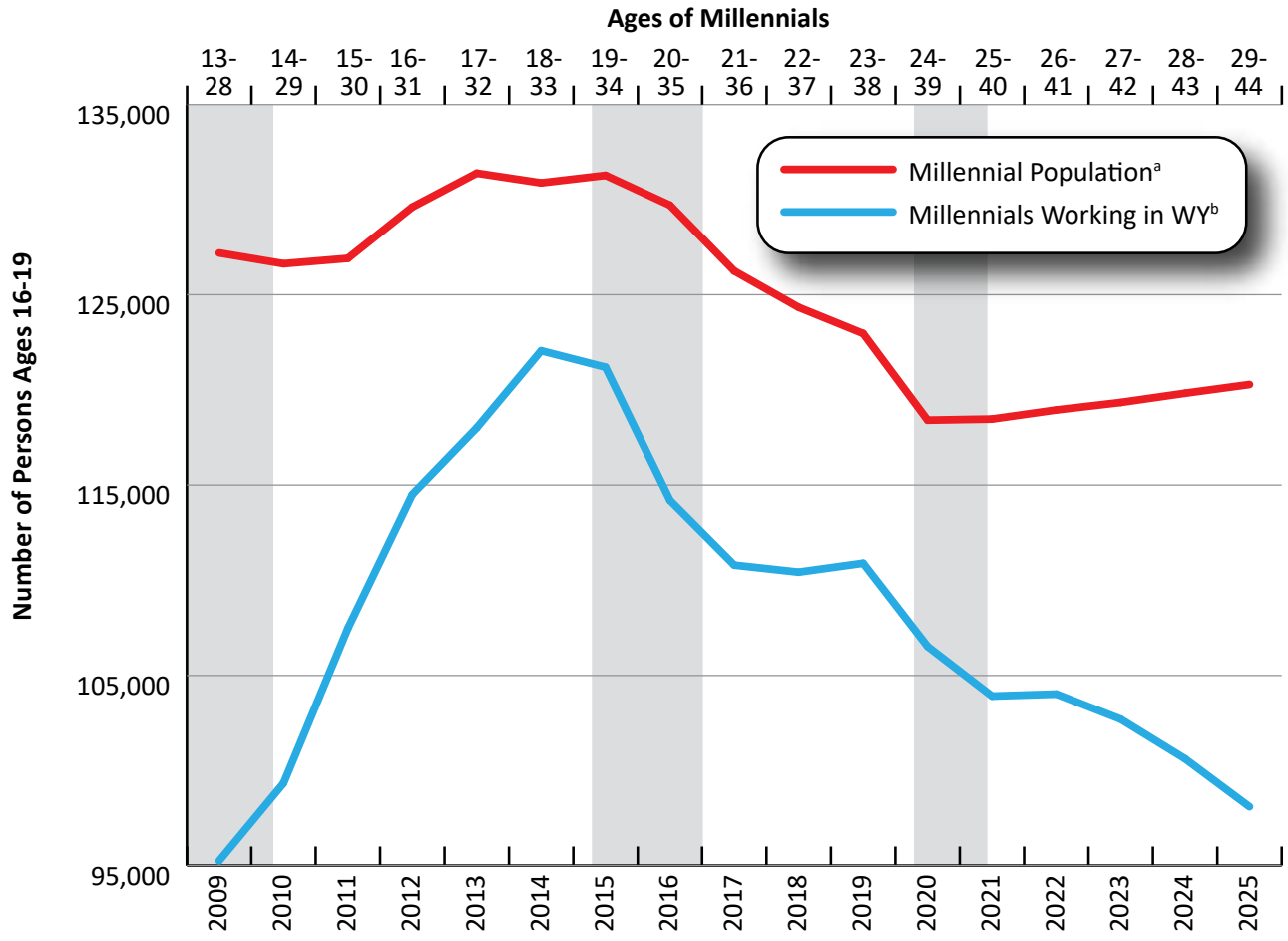


Shaded areas indicate periods of economic downturn: 2009Q1-2010Q1, 2015Q2-2016Q4, and 2020Q2-2021Q1.
Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages.
Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 8/19/26.

Figure 7: Over-the-Year Percent Change in Average Monthly Employment for the U.S., Wyoming, and Surrounding States, 2005Q1-2025Q4

From 2015 to 2025, the greatest increases were seen in the millennial populations in Idaho and Colorado, with 18.9% and 17.1%, respectively (see Figure 9, page 11). Increases in millennial populations were seen in varying degrees in all of Wyoming's neighboring states. The U.S. millennial population increased by 3.0% from 2015 to 2025, due to international migration.

Nationally, the millennial population first surpassed the baby boomer population in 2020, and has continued to do so ever since (see Table 1, page 11, and Figure 10, page 12). In 2025, there were an estimated 73.1 million millennials in the U.S. (21.4% of the total) compared to 66.6 million baby boomers (19.5% of the total). In Wyoming, however, baby boomers continue to outnumber millennials; in 2025 there were an estimated 126,663 baby boomers in Wyoming (21.5% of the total) compared to 120,277 millennials (20.4%). In addition, the younger generation Z (those born between 1997 and 2012) has outnumbered millennials in Wyoming since 2019. In 2025, millennials



Shaded areas indicate periods of economic downturn: 2009Q1-2010Q1, 2015Q2-2016Q4, and 2020Q2-2021Q1.
[a]Source: Single-year-of-age population estimates, U.S. Census Bureau.
[b]Source: Wyoming Wage Records linked to other administrative data.
Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 9/16/26.

Figure 8: Millennial Population and Number of Millennials Working in Wyoming at Any Time During the Year, 2000-2025

outnumbered baby boomers in each of Wyoming's surrounding states, with the exception of Montana.

What's to Come?

Wyoming is projected to add more than 28,000 new jobs from 2024 to 2034, with substantial growth projected in industries like health care & social assistance, accommodation & food services, construction, educational services, and transportation & warehousing (Yetter, 2026a). However, new jobs make up just a

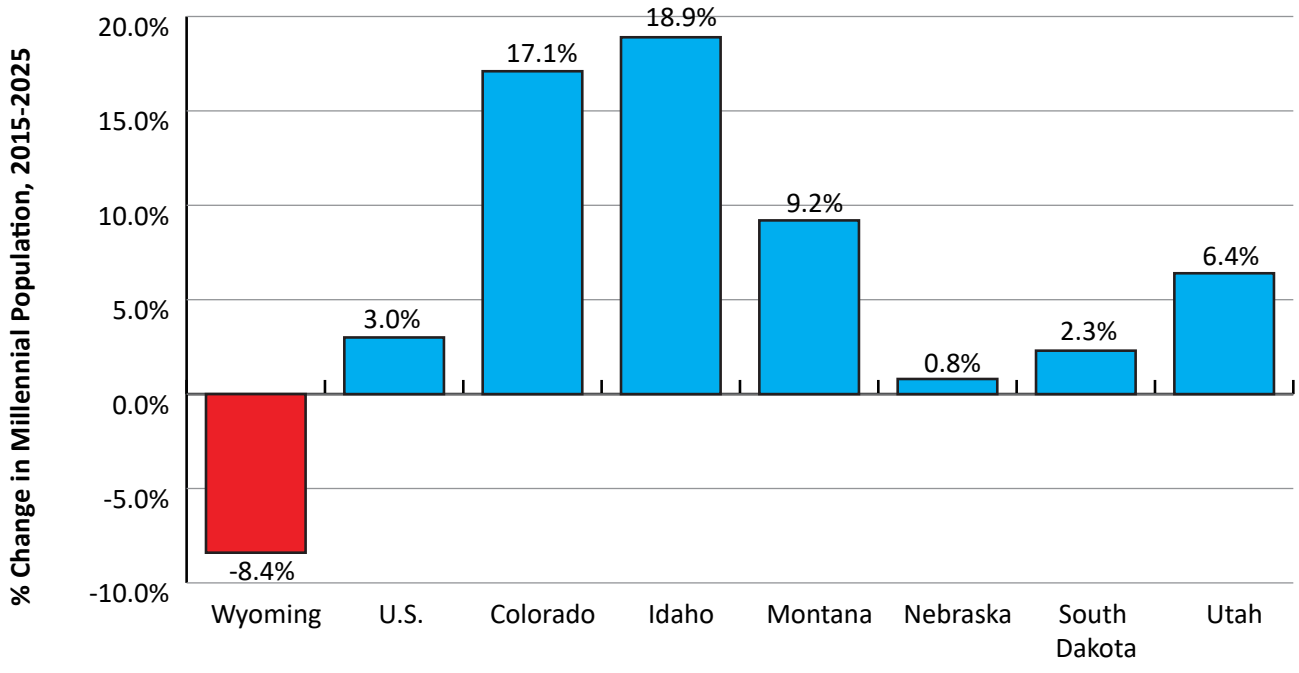
(Text continued on page 13)

Table 1: Population by Selected Generation for the U.S., Wyoming, and Surrounding States, 2025

	Baby Boomers (Ages 61-79)		Generation X (Ages 45-60)		Millennials (Ages 29-44)		Generation Z (Ages 13-28)		Total*	
State	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
WY	126,663	21.5	105,291	17.9	120,277	20.4	124,090	21.1	588,753	100.0
U.S.	66,559,500	19.5	64,412,742	18.8	73,054,093	21.4	72,180,782	21.1	341,784,857	100.0
CO	1,077,879	17.9	1,101,047	18.3	1,467,572	24.4	1,290,108	21.5	6,012,561	100.0
ID	388,345	19.1	357,378	17.6	413,677	20.4	459,410	22.6	2,029,733	100.0
MT	258,209	22.6	202,143	17.7	235,769	20.6	232,656	20.3	1,144,694	100.0
NE	378,258	18.7	349,115	17.3	418,222	20.7	449,733	22.3	2,018,006	100.0
SD	187,110	20.0	160,522	17.2	187,536	20.1	202,143	21.6	935,094	100.0
UT	482,912	13.6	591,160	16.7	778,331	22.0	947,915	26.8	3,538,904	100.0

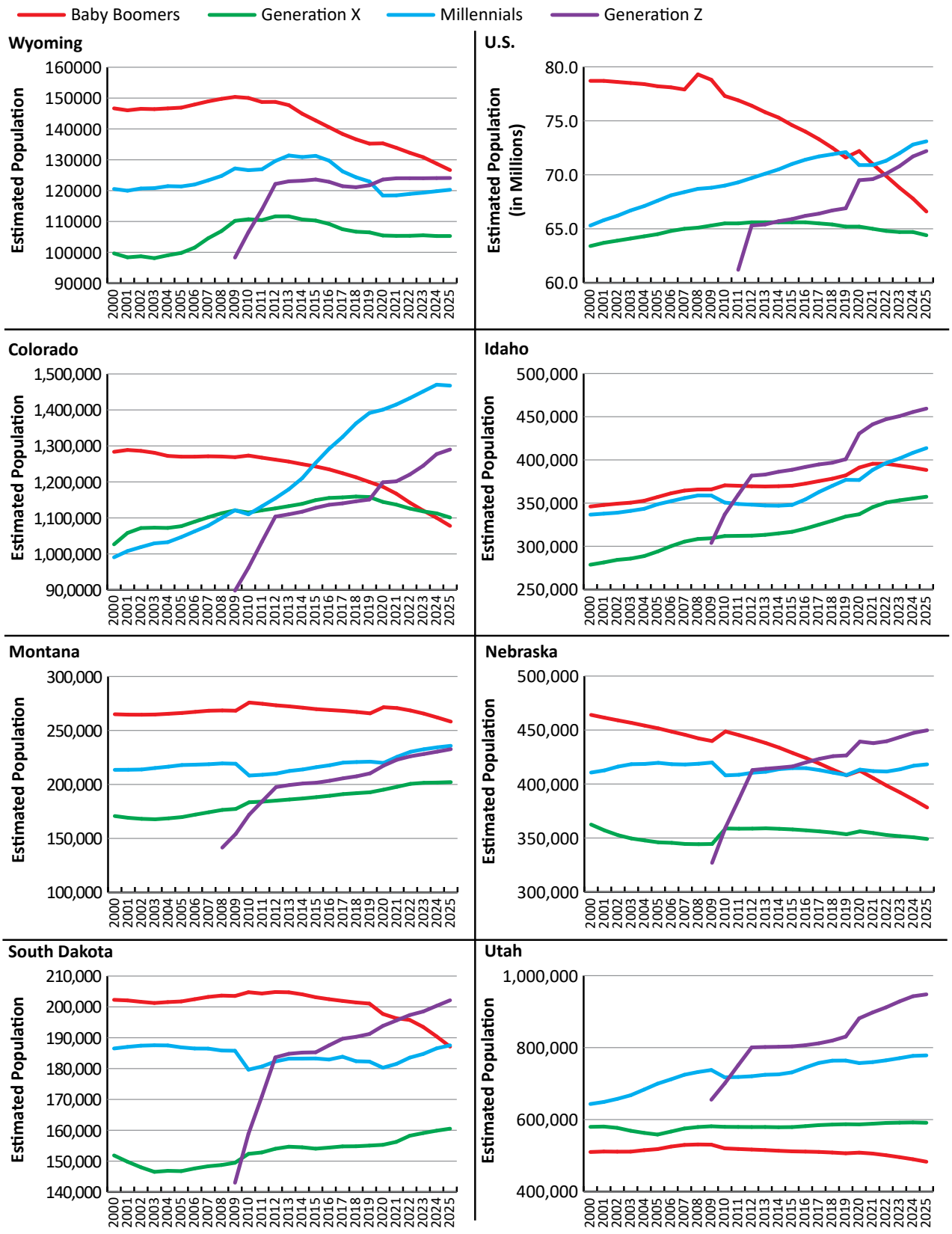
*Total includes individuals older than baby boomers and younger than generation Z.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau single-year-of-age population estimates.
Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Plannnig, WY DWS, 9/16/26.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau single year-of-age population estimates.
Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 9/16/26.

Figure 9: Percentage Change in Millennial Populations for the U.S., Wyoming, and Surrounding States, 2015-2025



Source: Single-year-of-age population estimates, U.S. Census Bureau.
Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 11/2/26.

Figure 10: Estimated Population by Selected Generation for the U.S., Wyoming, and Surrounding States, 2000-2025

(Text continued from page 11)

small portion of total job openings; Wyoming is projected to have more than 365,000 total job openings from 2024 to 2034; this number takes into account growth, people leaving the workforce (*exits*), and people changing occupations (*transfers*).

The majority of the total projected openings are for occupations that require no more than a high school diploma; however, plenty of job openings are projected for occupations that require licensure, a post-secondary certificate, a bachelor's degree or higher, or an apprenticeship. For example, heavy & tractor-trailer truck drivers requires a post-secondary certificate, with a projected 8,345 total openings in that 10-year period. Other occupations that require some post-secondary education and have a large number of total projected openings include general & operations managers (bachelor's degree), nursing assistants (post-secondary certificate), registered nurses (bachelor's degree), teachers (bachelor's degree), and accountants & auditors (bachelor's degree), among others.

In addition, Wyoming is projected to have more than 9,000 total openings in jobs requiring an apprenticeship (Yetter, 2026b). These include such jobs as electricians, carpenters, plumbers, and more. As illustrated by Halama (2026), these trades occupations are relatively high paying and may be attractive to younger workers who may otherwise look at leaving Wyoming to work elsewhere.

Wyoming has several large construction projects on the horizon, which will require a substantial workforce, many of whom will likely come from another state. Employers often turn to out-of-state workers when they have exhausted the resident labor market, or when the demand has outpaced the supply. As previously mentioned, there were more than 55,000 nonresident workers in Wyoming during the year in 2025, making up 15.9% of the total. Employers in charge of these construction projects will likely rely on both Wyoming residents and out-of-state workers.

Finally, the ongoing retirement of baby boomers will likely continue into 2026 and beyond, increasing the need for more qualified, younger workers. Currently, individuals are able to collect Social Security benefits as early as age 62 (SSA, n.d.). The oldest baby boomers turned 62 in 2008, and the youngest will all turn 62 by the end of 2026. In 2025, there were approximately 38,000 baby boomers working in Wyoming. As those individuals retire or leave the workforce, employers will need to hire younger workers to fill their vacancies.

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R&P Publishes New Licensed Health Care Occupations Data

The Research & Planning (R&P) section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services recently published data on licensed health care workers in first quarter 2026 (2026Q1). This article includes data on registered nurses in Wyoming as an example. The full tables are available at https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/dir_lic/2026Q1/toc.htm

As shown in Table 1, there were 9,083 licensed nurses in Wyoming in 2026Q1, although only 5,800 (63.9%) were found working in Wyoming in that quarter. Individuals licensed in health care occupations often maintain their licensure even if they are not currently employed in that state.

Of the 5,800 registered nurses working in Wyoming, the vast majority were females (5,207, or 89.8%; see Table 2). There were 508 males working in this occupation (8.8%), and 85 others (1.5%) for whom demographic data were not available. Data are also by age (see Table 3) and by sub-state region (see Table 4).

Table 1: Total Number of Licensed Registered Nurses in Wyoming Wage Records, 2026Q1

Working in Wyoming	N	%
In Wage Records	5,800	63.9
Not in Wage Records	3,283	36.1
Total, All Licenses	**9,083**	**100.0**

N/D = Not discloseable due to confidentiality.
Note: Counts may not sum to total in all tables.
Source: Wyoming Wage Records database and licensed occupation files.
Prepared by L. Knapp, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 9/11/26.

Table 2: Number and Percent of Licensed Registered Nurses in Wyoming Wage Records by Sex, 2026Q1

Sex	N	%
Male	508	8.8
Female	5,207	89.8
Unknown	85	1.5
Total in Wage Records	**5,800**	**100.0**

N/D = Not discloseable due to confidentiality.
Note: Counts may not sum to total in all tables.
Source: Wyoming Wage Records database and licensed occupation files.
Prepared by L. Knapp, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 9/11/26.

Table 3: Number and Percent of Licensed Registered Nurses in Wyoming Wage Records by Age, 2026Q1

Sex	N	%
18-24	180	3.1
25-34	1,179	20.3
35-44	1,714	29.6
45-54	1,349	23.3
55-64	901	15.5
65+	392	6.8
Unknown	85	1.5
Total	**5,800**	**100.0**

N/D = Not discloseable due to confidentiality.
Note: Counts may not sum to total in all tables.
Source: Wyoming Wage Records database and licensed occupation files.
Prepared by L. Knapp, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 9/11/26.

Table 4: Number and Percent of Licensed Registered Nurses in Wyoming Wage Records by Sub-State Region, 2026Q1

Sex	N	%
Northwest Region	978	16.9
Southwest Region	1,007	17.4
Northeast Region	963	16.6
Central-Southeast Region	701	12.1
Casper MSA	1,052	18.1
Cheyenne MSA	1,055	18.2
Unknown	44	0.8
Total	**5,800**	**100.0**

N/D = Not discloseable due to confidentiality.
Note: Counts may not sum to total in all tables.
Source: Wyoming Wage Records database and licensed occupation files.
Prepared by L. Knapp, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 9/11/26.

Telework Rates in the U.S. and Wyoming, 2023-2025

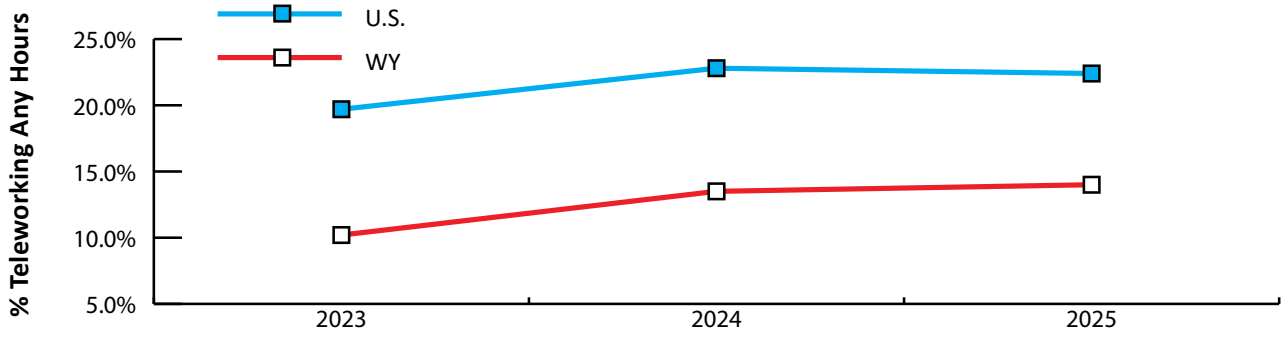
by: Carola Cowan, BLS Programs Supervisor

In October 2022, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) added new questions regarding telework or work at home for pay to the Current Population Survey (CPS). These questions appear at the end of the basic monthly labor force questions and can be found in Figure 2 (see page 17). This article will look at telework rates for the U.S., all 50 States, and the District of Columbia.

In 2023, 19.7% of all people working in the U.S. teleworked or worked at home for pay (see Table 1, page 18, and Figure 1 below). Of those, 9.4% teleworked some hours and 10.3% teleworked all hours. In comparison, only 10.2% of workers in Wyoming teleworked or worked at home for pay — 5.1% teleworked some hours, and 5.1% teleworked all hours. The District of Columbia had the highest percentage of teleworkers (56.5%), followed by Colorado (31.7%), and Massachusetts (29.4%). The states with the lowest telework rates were Mississippi (4.7%) and Alabama (7.7%). Wyoming's telework rate of 10.2% was among the lowest in nation at 45th.

Telework rates changed only slightly over the year in 2024. The percentage of U.S. teleworkers increased 3.1% to 22.8%, with 11.9% teleworking some hours, and 10.9% teleworking all hours. The increase in Wyoming was larger with 3.3% and 13.5% of workers teleworking. Of those, 6.4% teleworked some hours and 7.1% teleworked all hours. The District of Columbia continued to have the highest telework rate by far with 56.8%. Colorado and Massachusetts followed with 32.4% and 31.4%, respectively. Mississippi and Alabama continued to have the lowest telework rates with 7.3% and 10.7%, respectively. Wyoming ranked 46th in the U.S.

In 2025, telework rates decreased slightly for the U.S. to 22.4%. Rates for those who teleworked some hours remained the same at 11.9%, but the rate for those who teleworked all hours decreased to 10.5%. Wyoming's telework rate continued to increase to 14.0%, with 6.7% of workers teleworking some hours, and 7.3% teleworking all hours. The rate for the District of Columbia dropped by 7.3 percentage points to 49.5%, but remained among the highest in the nation. Massachusetts moved to number two with 31.6%, which was a slight increase of



Source: Current Population Survey.
Prepared by M. Moore, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 9/30/26.

Figure 1: Percentage of Workers Teleworking Any Hours in Wyoming and the U.S., 2023-2025

0.2%. Colorado's telework rate decreased to 29.5%. Mississippi continued to have the lowest rate in the nation with 8.4%, followed by Alabama at 10.4%. Wyoming remained 45th in the nation with 14.0%.

Overall, while all states increased their telework rates from 2023 to 2024, telework rates dropped from 2024 to 2025 in 26 states, remained the same in two, and increased in 23. From 2023 to 2025, only four states had a decline in their telework rates, while one remained the same and 46 states saw an increase.

Introduction. I now have some questions related to how the COVID-19 pandemic affected where people work.
Beginning in December 2023, the introduction was changed to:

Introduction. I now have some questions related to where people work.
(Asked about all people who worked last week)

Q1. At any time LAST WEEK, did you telework or work at home for pay?

- Yes
- No (go to Q3)
  (Asked about all people who teleworked or worked at home last week)

Q2. Last week, you worked [fill: person's total hours worked last week] hours [fill for multiple jobholders: total, at all jobs]. How many of these hours did you telework or work at home for pay?

- _____ hours

(Asked about all people who worked last week) (Question discontinued after November 2023)

Q3. Did you telework or work at home for pay in February 2020 before the COVID-19 pandemic started?

- Yes (If Q1 = Yes, go to Q4)
- No
  (Asked about all people who teleworked or worked at home both last week and in February 2020) (Question discontinued after November 2023)

Q4. LAST WEEK, did you do more, less, or the same amount of telework or work at home for pay as in February 2020 (before the COVID-19 pandemic)?

- More
- Less
- About the same

Figure 2: Current Population Survey Questions Regarding Telework

Table 1: Percentage of Persons Who Teleworked or Worked at Home for Pay by State, 2023-2025

	2025				2024				2023			
	% Who Teleworked or Worked at Home				% Who Teleworked or Worked at Home				% Who Teleworked or Worked at Home			
State	Rank	Total	Some Hours	All Hours	Rank	Total	Some Hours	All Hours	Rank	Total	Some Hours	All Hours
U.S.		**22.4**	**11.9**	**10.5**		**22.8**	**11.9**	**10.9**		**19.7**	**9.4**	**10.3**
Alabama	50	10.4	4.6	5.7	50	10.7	4.4	6.3	50	7.7	3.0	4.6
Alaska	37	17.4	10.2	7.2	38	16.8	9.5	7.2	37	13.9	7.8	6.1
Arizona	10	25.6	12.5	13.1	8	27.5	12.6	14.9	11	23.9	10.0	13.9
Arkansas	49	12.1	6.1	5.9	49	11.6	6.0	5.6	49	9.0	3.9	5.1
California	15	24.3	13.8	10.5	15	25.5	14.1	11.4	13	22.6	11.5	11.1
Colorado	3	29.5	14.5	15.0	2	32.4	16.6	15.7	2	31.7	16.0	15.8
Connecticut	17	24.0	13.7	10.4	16	25.2	16.2	9.0	9	25.1	14.4	10.7
Delaware	19	23.6	12.8	10.9	21	22.4	11.6	10.7	19	20.6	10.5	10.0
D.C.	1	49.5	31.2	18.3	1	56.8	36.0	20.8	1	56.5	33.1	23.4
Florida	34	18.5	7.4	11.1	33	19.0	7.7	11.3	33	15.3	5.3	10.0
Georgia	25	21.5	10.9	10.6	22	22.3	10.6	11.6	26	17.8	6.9	10.9
Hawaii	42	15.8	9.5	6.3	40	15.8	8.9	6.8	41	12.8	6.5	6.4
Idaho	33	18.7	8.5	10.2	31	19.7	9.1	10.6	34	15.1	7.2	8.0
Illinois	9	26.6	15.5	11.1	12	26.3	14.5	11.8	18	20.9	11.2	9.7
Indiana	35	18.0	10.2	7.8	34	18.2	10.3	7.9	35	14.8	7.4	7.4
Iowa	40	16.4	9.0	7.3	41	15.7	8.9	6.8	42	12.2	5.6	6.6
Kansas	32	19.3	11.4	7.9	30	20.3	11.3	9.0	30	16.4	8.0	8.5
Kentucky	41	16.2	8.0	8.2	42	15.6	8.1	7.5	38	13.2	6.6	6.6
Louisiana	47	13.0	6.1	6.9	47	12.8	6.5	6.3	46	9.5	4.0	5.5
Maine	16	24.3	12.6	11.8	18	23.5	11.9	11.6	16	21.7	10.1	11.6
Maryland	5	28.3	16.0	12.3	5	30.4	16.3	14.1	5	27.6	13.0	14.6
Massachusetts	2	31.6	19.7	11.9	3	31.4	18.9	12.6	3	29.4	16.1	13.3
Michigan	24	21.8	12.7	9.0	27	21.2	11.9	9.3	20	20.5	10.2	10.3
Minnesota	12	25.2	14.6	10.6	14	25.9	14.5	11.4	8	25.2	12.7	12.4
Mississippi	51	8.4	3.5	4.8	51	7.3	2.9	4.4	51	4.7	1.6	3.1
Missouri	30	20.2	11.5	8.7	25	21.8	11.7	10.0	28	16.9	7.6	9.3
Montana	29	20.3	9.5	10.7	29	20.6	10.6	10.0	31	16.0	7.2	8.8
Nebraska	36	18.0	10.1	8.0	35	18.2	9.6	8.7	27	17.2	8.5	8.7
Nevada	38	17.4	7.2	10.3	39	16.1	6.5	9.7	39	13.1	5.1	7.9
New Hampshire	11	25.4	13.2	12.2	13	26.0	12.8	13.2	14	22.4	10.4	12.0
New Jersey	8	27.5	16.5	11.1	9	27.1	15.9	11.2	10	24.3	13.1	11.2
New Mexico	39	17.0	8.6	8.5	37	17.4	8.5	8.9	40	13.0	5.8	7.2
New York	26	21.5	12.8	8.7	28	21.2	12.8	8.4	21	19.3	10.7	8.6
North Carolina	22	22.8	11.3	11.5	23	22.0	10.7	11.3	24	18.5	8.2	10.4
North Dakota	46	13.2	7.1	6.1	45	14.3	7.9	6.5	43	11.3	5.3	6.0
Ohio	27	21.2	11.3	10.0	26	21.3	11.4	9.9	23	18.7	9.4	9.3
Oklahoma	44	14.5	7.9	6.6	43	14.7	7.6	7.1	44	11.0	5.7	5.3
Oregon	4	29.3	14.5	14.9	6	29.3	14.1	15.3	7	26.2	12.1	14.1
Pennsylvania	14	24.4	12.4	12.0	17	23.8	12.3	11.5	17	21.1	10.2	11.0
Rhode Island	20	23.5	14.0	9.5	19	23.4	14.1	9.2	22	19.2	9.4	9.9
South Carolina	28	20.5	9.3	11.2	36	18.2	8.7	9.6	36	14.1	5.8	8.3
South Dakota	43	14.9	7.7	7.2	44	14.6	7.7	6.8	47	9.4	4.0	5.5
Tennessee	31	19.7	9.0	10.7	32	19.5	9.0	10.5	32	15.3	6.8	8.5
Texas	23	22.0	11.0	11.0	20	22.5	10.8	11.7	25	18.4	7.7	10.7
Utah	13	25.1	13.2	11.9	10	26.8	13.2	13.6	15	21.8	9.8	12.0
Vermont	18	23.9	13.7	10.2	11	26.3	14.0	12.3	12	22.7	10.8	11.8
Virginia	6	28.1	14.2	13.9	7	28.6	15.1	13.5	6	27.3	13.3	13.9
Washington	7	27.6	14.1	13.5	4	30.8	16.3	14.5	4	28.5	14.0	14.5
West Virginia	48	12.4	5.7	6.7	48	12.3	5.9	6.5	48	9.4	4.2	5.2
Wisconsin	21	23.4	13.0	10.4	24	21.9	11.8	10.1	29	16.5	8.0	8.4
Wyoming	**45**	**14.0**	**6.7**	**7.3**	**46**	**13.5**	**6.4**	**7.1**	**45**	**10.2**	**5.1**	**5.1**

Source: U.S. Deaprtment of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey.
Prepared by C. Cowan, Research & Planning, WY DWS, 9/23/26.

Wyoming Unemployment Unchanged at 3.0% in September 2026

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 remained unchanged from August to September at 3.0%. Wyoming's unemployment rate was lower than its year-ago level of 3.4% and much lower than the current U.S. rate of 4.2%.

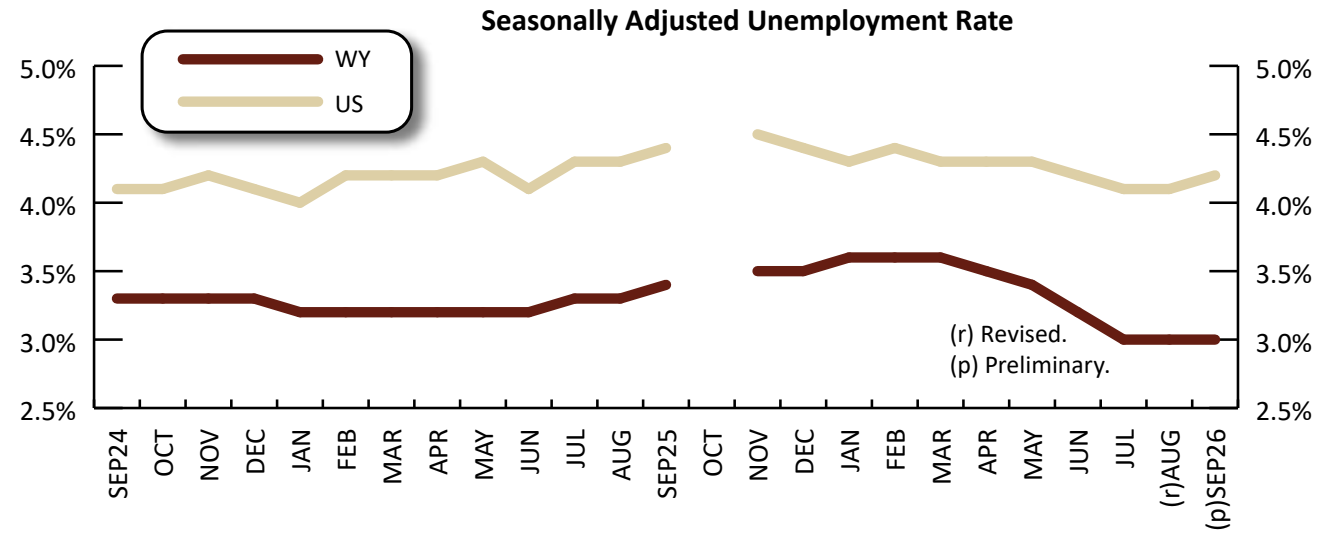
From August to September, most county unemployment rates changed very little. Modest increases were seen in Uinta (up from 2.7% to 3.0%) and Converse (up from 2.4% to 2.6%) counties. Unemployment rates fell in Weston (down from 2.9% to 2.6%), Platte (down from 3.5% to 3.3%), Niobrara (down from 4.0% to 3.8%), Hot Springs (down from 2.9% to 2.7%), Fremont (down from 3.4% to 3.2%), and Crook (down from 2.4% to 2.2%) counties.

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.

From September 2025 to September 2026, unemployment rates fell in most counties. The largest decreases occurred in Goshen (down from 3.1% to 2.7%) and Big Horn (down from 3.6% to 3.2%) counties. Slight increases were seen in Johnson (up from 2.2% to 2.4%), Niobrara (up from 3.6% to 3.8%), and Teton (up from 1.6% to 1.8%) counties.

In September, the highest unemployment rates were reported in Niobrara County at 3.8%, Sweetwater County at 3.4%, and Platte County at 3.3%. The lowest rates were found in Teton County at 1.8%, Crook County at 2.2%, and Albany County at 2.2%.

Current Employment Statistics (CES) estimates show that total nonfarm employment in Wyoming (not seasonally adjusted and measured by place of work) rose from 298,400 in September 2025 to 299,700 in September 2026, an increase of 1,300 jobs, or 0.4%.



*Data for October 2025 were not collected due to the federal government shutdown.

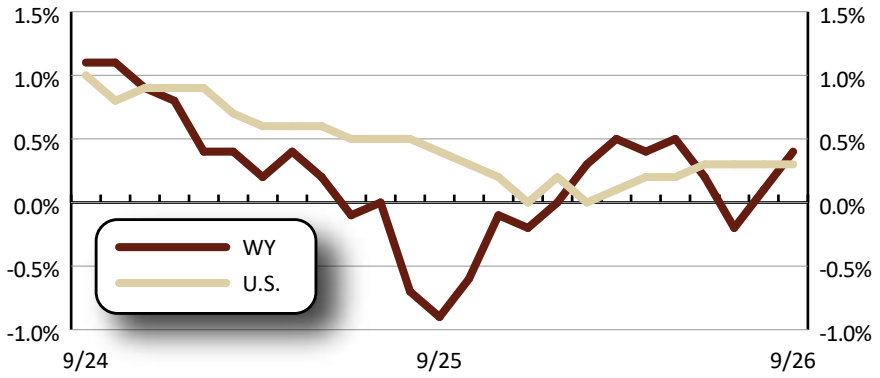
Current Employment Statistics (CES) Estimates and Research & Planning's Internal Estimates, September 2026

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

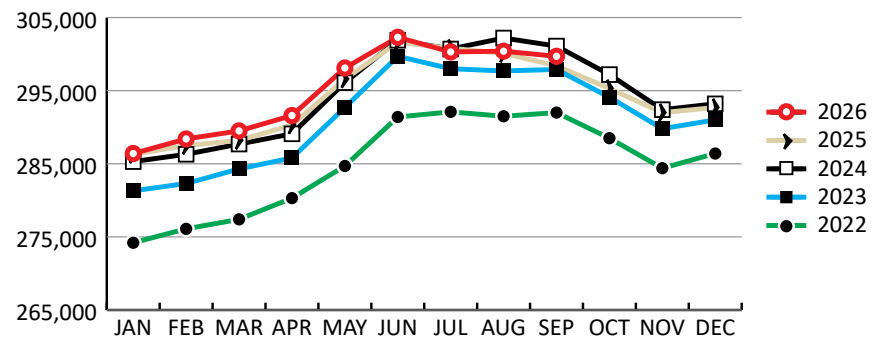
Industry Sector	Research & Planning's Internal Estimates	Current Employment Statistics (CES) Estimates	N Difference	% Difference
Total Nonfarm	300,169	299,700	-469	-0.2%
Natural Resources & Mining	14,887	15,600	713	4.6%
Construction	25,393	25,200	-193	-0.8%
Manufacturing	10,478	10,400	-78	-0.8%
Wholesale Trade	7,963	8,000	37	0.5%
Retail Trade	30,405	30,100	-305	-1.0%
Transportation & Utilities	14,262	14,300	38	0.3%
Information	3,377	2,900	-477	-16.4%
Financial Activities	11,430	11,400	-30	-0.3%
Professional & Business Services	22,598	22,500	-98	-0.4%
Educational & Health Services	30,237	29,700	-537	-1.8%
Leisure & Hospitality	41,154	41,800	646	1.5%
Other Services	16,623	16,100	-523	-3.2%
Government	71,362	71,700	338	0.5%

Internal Estimates were run in October 2026 and based on QCEW data through March 2026.

Nonagricultural Employment Growth (Percentage Change Over Previous Year)



Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment



State Unemployment Rates September 2026 Seasonally Adjusted

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	6.2
District of Columbia	5.6
California	5.1
Connecticut	5.1
Michigan	5.0
Oregon	5.0
Arizona	4.9
Washington	4.8
Kentucky	4.7
Nevada	4.7
New Mexico	4.7
Delaware	4.6
Illinois	4.6
Minnesota	4.5
Florida	4.4
Texas	4.4
Alaska	4.3
Massachusetts	4.3
New York	4.3
New Jersey	4.2
Oklahoma	4.2
United States	**4.2**
Colorado	4.1
Louisiana	4.0
South Carolina	4.0
West Virginia	4.0
Arkansas	3.9
Maryland	3.9
Kansas	3.8
Idaho	3.6
Missouri	3.6
Pennsylvania	3.6
Rhode Island	3.6
Virginia	3.6
Alabama	3.5
Utah	3.5
Indiana	3.4
North Carolina	3.4
Ohio	3.4
Tennessee	3.4
Georgia	3.3
Maine	3.3
Mississippi	3.3
Iowa	3.2
Wisconsin	3.2
Montana	3.1
Wyoming	**3.0**
Nebraska	2.9
Hawaii	2.8
New Hampshire	2.6
Vermont	2.6
North Dakota	2.2
South Dakota	2.0

Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

	Employment in Thousands			Percent Change Total Employment	
	Sep 26	Aug 26	Sep 25	Aug 26 Sep 26	Sep 25 Sep 26
CAMPBELL COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	**25.4**	**25.4**	**25.4**	**0.0**	**0.0**
TOTAL PRIVATE	20.0	20.2	20.1	-1.0	-0.5
GOODS PRODUCING	7.3	7.4	7.4	-1.4	-1.4
Natural Resources & Mining	4.5	4.5	4.7	0.0	-4.3
Construction	2.3	2.4	2.2	-4.2	4.5
Manufacturing	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	18.1	18.0	18.0	0.6	0.6
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	5.0	5.1	5.2	-2.0	-3.8
Information	0.2	0.3	0.3	-33.3	-33.3
Financial Activities	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
Professional & Business Services	1.6	1.6	1.5	0.0	6.7
Educational & Health Services	1.7	1.7	1.6	0.0	6.2
Leisure & Hospitality	2.6	2.6	2.5	0.0	4.0
Other Services	0.9	0.8	0.9	12.5	0.0
GOVERNMENT	5.4	5.2	5.3	3.8	1.9

	Employment in Thousands			Percent Change Total Employment	
	Sep 26	Aug 26	Sep 25	Aug 26 Sep 26	Sep 25 Sep 26
SWEETWATER COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	**20.8**	**21.0**	**21.1**	**-1.0**	**-1.4**
TOTAL PRIVATE	16.3	16.6	16.6	-1.8	-1.8
GOODS PRODUCING	5.9	5.9	6.0	0.0	-1.7
Natural Resources & Mining	3.0	3.1	3.3	-3.2	-9.1
Construction	1.5	1.4	1.3	7.1	15.4
Manufacturing	1.4	1.4	1.4	0.0	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	14.9	15.1	15.1	-1.3	-1.3
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	4.3	4.4	4.4	-2.3	-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	1.2	-8.3	-8.3
Educational & Health Services	1.4	1.4	1.4	0.0	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality	2.3	2.4	2.3	-4.2	0.0
Other Services	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0
GOVERNMENT	4.5	4.4	4.5	2.3	0.0

	Employment in Thousands			Percent Change Total Employment	
	Sep 26	Aug 26	Sep 25	Aug 26 Sep 26	Sep 25 Sep 26
TETON COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	**26.2**	**27.8**	**25.9**	**-5.8**	**1.2**
TOTAL PRIVATE	23.1	24.7	22.9	-6.5	0.9
GOODS PRODUCING	3.1	3.1	3.1	0.0	0.0
Natural Resources, Mining & Construction	2.9	2.9	2.9	0.0	0.0
Manufacturing	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	23.1	24.7	22.8	-6.5	1.3
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	3.1	3.3	3.0	-6.1	3.3
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	2.7	-3.6	0.0
Educational & Health Services	1.3	1.3	1.3	0.0	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality	10.6	11.9	10.5	-10.9	1.0
Other Services	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0
GOVERNMENT	3.1	3.1	3.0	0.0	3.3

State Unemployment Rates
September 2026
Not Seasonally Adjusted

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	6.4
District of Columbia	5.3
California	5.1
Connecticut	5.1
Michigan	4.8
New Mexico	4.8
Arizona	4.7
Delaware	4.6
Kentucky	4.5
Nevada	4.5
New York	4.5
Colorado	4.4
Minnesota	4.4
Oregon	4.3
Texas	4.3
Washington	4.3
Florida	4.2
Illinois	4.2
Massachusetts	4.1
New Jersey	4.1
United States	**4.0**
Alaska	3.9
Oklahoma	3.9
Kansas	3.8
Louisiana	3.8
Alabama	3.7
Arkansas	3.7
Indiana	3.7
South Carolina	3.7
Virginia	3.6
Georgia	3.5
Maryland	3.5
West Virginia	3.5
Idaho	3.3
Mississippi	3.3
Missouri	3.3
Ohio	3.3
Tennessee	3.3
Hawaii	3.2
Iowa	3.2
Pennsylvania	3.2
Utah	3.2
Maine	3.1
North Carolina	3.1
Rhode Island	2.9
Wisconsin	2.9
Wyoming	**2.7**
Vermont	2.6
Montana	2.5
Nebraska	2.5
New Hampshire	1.9
North Dakota	1.8
South Dakota	1.7

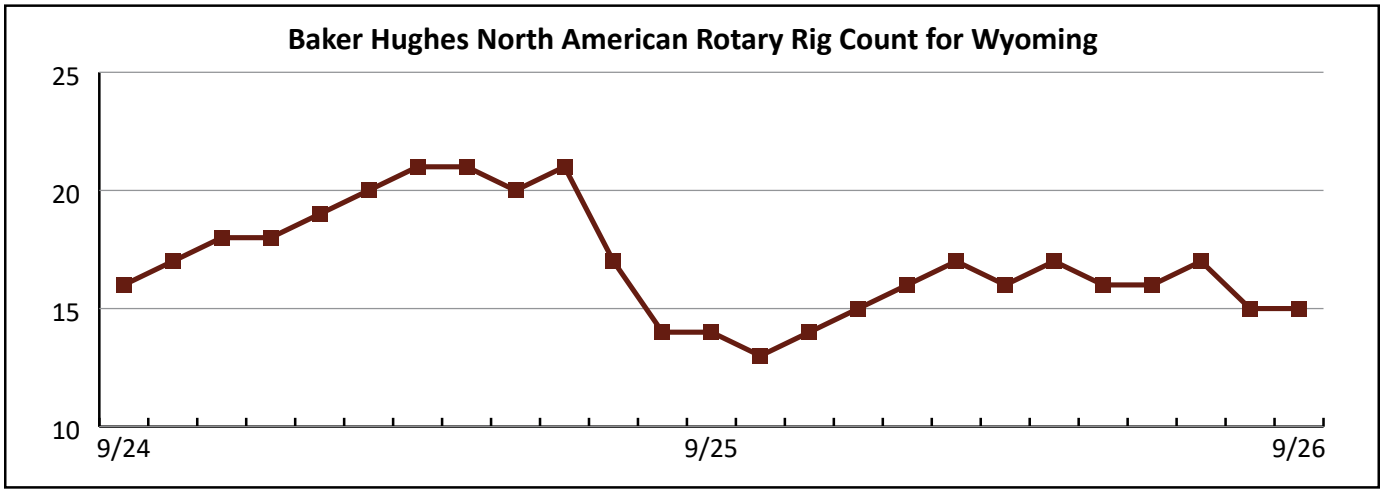
Economic Indicators

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

The Producer Price Index rose 12.8% from September 2025 to September 2026.

	Sep 2026 (p)	Aug 2026 (r)	Sep 2025 (b)	Percent Change Month	Percent Change Year
Wyoming Total Nonfarm Employment	**299,700**	**300,400**	**298,400**	**-0.2**	**0.4**
Wyoming State Government	15,700	14,700	15,700	6.8	0.0
Laramie County Nonfarm Employment	49,100	49,100	49,800	0.0	-1.4
Natrona County Nonfarm Employment	39,900	40,400	40,800	-1.2	-2.2
Selected U.S. Employment Data					
U.S. Multiple Jobholders	9,000,000	8,505,000	8,794,000	5.8	2.3
As a percent of all workers	5.5%	5.2%	5.4%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Discouraged Workers	394,000	411,000	537,000	-4.1	-26.6
U.S. Part Time for Economic Reasons	4,159,000	4,316,000	4,247,000	-3.6	-2.1
Wyoming Unemployment Insurance					
Weeks Compensated	5,929	5,770	7,131	2.8	-16.9
Benefits Paid	$3,170,636	$2,985,179	$3,748,014	6.2	-15.4
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$534.77	$517.36	$525.59	3.4	1.7
Consumer Price Index (U) for All U.S. Urban Consumers					
(1982 to 1984 = 100)					
All Items	336.9	335.0	324.8	0.6	3.7
Food & Beverages	347.7	347.2	339.4	0.1	2.4
Housing	361.4	360.2	349.8	0.3	3.3
Apparel	140.0	136.8	135.4	2.4	3.4
Transportation	295.9	290.8	274.3	1.7	7.9
Medical Care	593.7	593.0	584.9	0.1	1.5
Recreation (Dec. 1997=100)	145.9	145.2	141.8	0.5	2.8
Education & Communication (Dec. 1997=100)	150.9	150.3	147.5	0.4	2.3
Other Goods & Services	610.2	608.0	585.9	0.4	4.1
Producer Prices (1982 to 1984 = 100)					
All Commodities	295.7	287.7	262.1	2.8	12.8
Wyo. Bldg. Permits (New Privately Owned Housing Units Authorized)					
Total Units	132	183	146	-27.9	-9.6
Valuation	54,022,000	111,730,000	$60,049,000	-51.6	-10.0
Single Family Homes	113	132	138	-14.4	-18.1
Valuation	51,397,000	53,222,000	$58,491,000	-3.4	-12.1
Casper MSA[1] Building Permits	14	18	15	-22.2	-6.7
Valuation	5,402,000	5,950,000	$5,423,000	-9.2	-0.4
Cheyenne MSA Building Permits	32	16	29	100.0	10.3
Valuation	7,057,000	3,619,000	$6,184,000	95.0	14.1
Baker Hughes North American Rotary Rig Count for Wyoming	**15**	**15**	**14**	**0.0**	**7.1**

(p) Preliminary. (r) Revised. (b) Benchmarked.
[1]Metropolitan Statistical Area.



Wyoming County Unemployment Rates

by: Carola Cowan, BLS Programs Supervisor

From September 2025 to September 2026, unemployment rates fell in most counties.

	Labor Force			Employed			Unemployed			Unemployment Rates		
REGION County	Sep 2026 (p)	Aug 2026 (r)	Sep 2025 (b)	Sep 2026 (p)	Aug 2026 (r)	Sep 2025 (b)	Sep 2026 (p)	Aug 2026 (r)	Sep 2025 (b)	Sep 2026 (p)	Aug 2026 (r)	Sep 2025 (b)
NORTHWEST	**43,059**	**43,002**	**42,983**	**41,792**	**41,691**	**41,622**	**1,267**	**1,311**	**1,361**	**2.9**	**3.0**	**3.2**
Big Horn	5,091	4,942	4,988	4,926	4,783	4,807	165	159	181	3.2	3.2	3.6
Fremont	17,082	16,922	17,187	16,538	16,350	16,598	544	572	589	3.2	3.4	3.4
Hot Springs	2,143	2,134	2,193	2,085	2,072	2,128	58	62	65	2.7	2.9	3.0
Park	14,893	15,211	14,823	14,503	14,806	14,415	390	405	408	2.6	2.7	2.8
Washakie	3,850	3,793	3,792	3,740	3,680	3,674	110	113	118	2.9	3.0	3.1
NORTHEAST	**50,673**	**50,321**	**50,282**	**49,369**	**49,012**	**48,937**	**1,304**	**1,309**	**1,345**	**2.6**	**2.6**	**2.7**
Campbell	23,416	23,423	23,351	22,779	22,798	22,692	637	625	659	2.7	2.7	2.8
Crook	3,903	3,746	3,814	3,818	3,656	3,728	85	90	86	2.2	2.4	2.3
Johnson	4,368	4,301	4,352	4,263	4,196	4,256	105	105	96	2.4	2.4	2.2
Sheridan	15,946	15,883	15,701	15,548	15,481	15,281	398	402	420	2.5	2.5	2.7
Weston	3,040	2,968	3,064	2,961	2,881	2,980	79	87	84	2.6	2.9	2.7
SOUTHWEST	**60,869**	**61,607**	**62,078**	**59,249**	**60,024**	**60,440**	**1,620**	**1,583**	**1,638**	**2.7**	**2.6**	**2.6**
Lincoln	10,497	10,336	10,593	10,249	10,093	10,340	248	243	253	2.4	2.4	2.4
Sublette	4,178	4,055	4,296	4,072	3,950	4,181	106	105	115	2.5	2.6	2.7
Sweetwater	19,196	19,208	19,710	18,544	18,557	19,043	652	651	667	3.4	3.4	3.4
Teton	17,252	18,318	17,481	16,933	17,995	17,198	319	323	283	1.8	1.8	1.6
Uinta	9,746	9,690	9,998	9,451	9,429	9,678	295	261	320	3.0	2.7	3.2
SOUTHEAST	**79,465**	**78,808**	**79,871**	**77,283**	**76,633**	**77,616**	**2,182**	**2,175**	**2,255**	**2.7**	**2.8**	**2.8**
Albany	22,949	22,438	22,140	22,439	21,934	21,624	510	504	516	2.2	2.2	2.3
Goshen	5,325	5,132	5,240	5,183	4,989	5,080	142	143	160	2.7	2.8	3.1
Laramie	46,833	47,046	48,133	45,451	45,668	46,711	1,382	1,378	1,422	3.0	2.9	3.0
Niobrara	847	781	843	815	750	813	32	31	30	3.8	4.0	3.6
Platte	3,511	3,411	3,515	3,395	3,292	3,388	116	119	127	3.3	3.5	3.6
CENTRAL	**52,665**	**53,062**	**53,633**	**51,181**	**51,584**	**52,036**	**1,484**	**1,478**	**1,597**	**2.8**	**2.8**	**3.0**
Carbon	6,270	6,278	6,065	6,091	6,092	5,880	179	186	185	2.9	3.0	3.1
Converse	6,656	6,579	6,499	6,485	6,420	6,315	171	159	184	2.6	2.4	2.8
Natrona	39,739	40,205	41,069	38,605	39,072	39,841	1,134	1,133	1,228	2.9	2.8	3.0
STATEWIDE	**286,733**	**286,796**	**288,848**	**278,875**	**278,942**	**280,651**	**7,858**	**7,854**	**8,197**	**2.7**	**2.7**	**2.8**
Statewide Seasonally Adjusted										3.0	3.0	3.4
U.S.										4.0	4.3	4.3
U.S. Seasonally Adjusted										4.2	4.1	4.4

Prepared in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Benchmarked 3/2026. Run Date 10/2026.

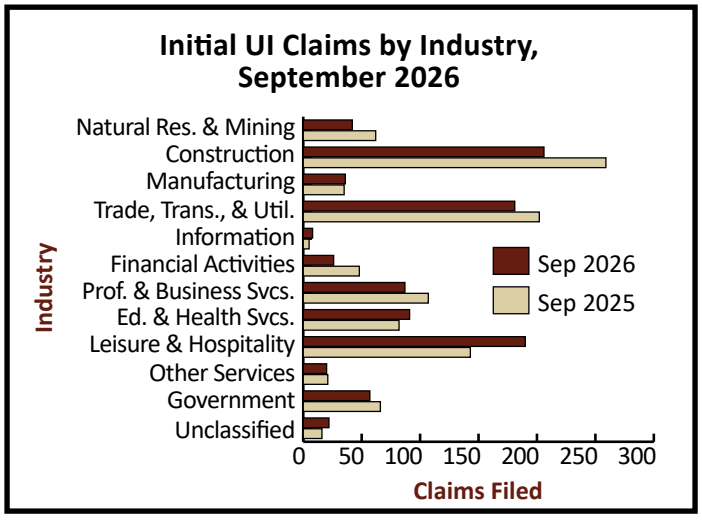
Data are not seasonally adjusted except where otherwise specified.

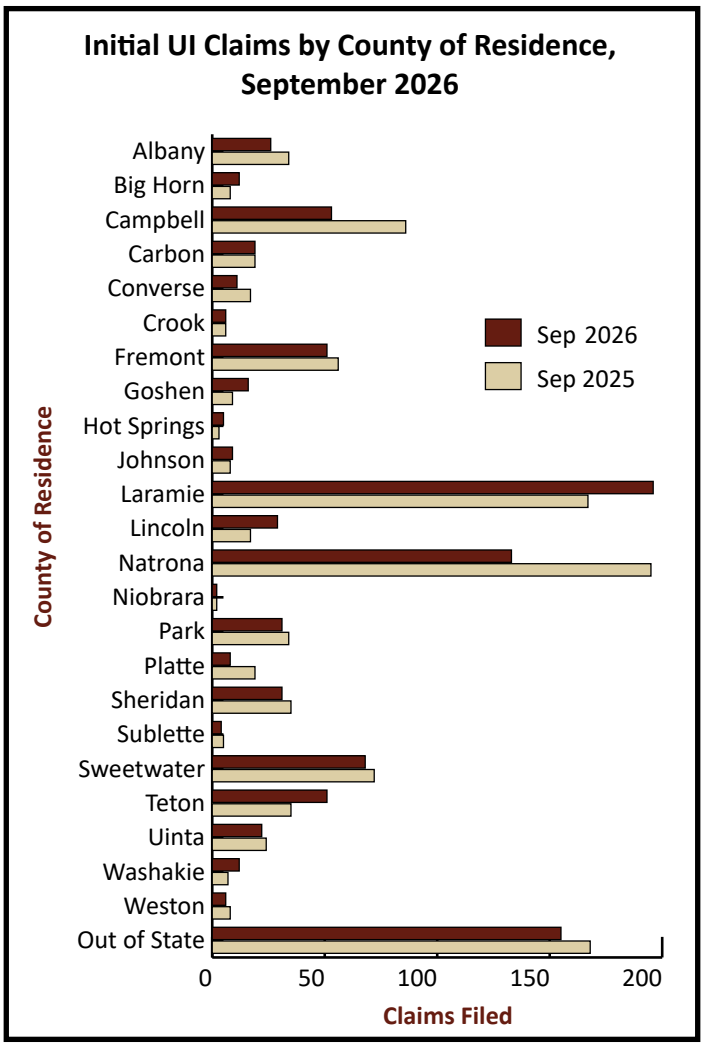
(p) Preliminary. (r) Revised. (b) Benchmarked.

Wyoming Normalized[a] Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Initial Claims

by: Laura Yetter, Senior Economist

There were 972 initial claims in September 2026, down from 1,052 in September 2025 (-80, or -7.6%).





Initial Claims	Claims Filed			% Change	
	Sep 26	Aug 26	Sep 25	Over the Month	Over the Year
Wyoming Statewide					
Total Claims Filed	**972**	**855**	**1,052**	**13.7**	**-7.6**
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	284	293	358	-3.1	-20.7
Natural Resources & Mining	42	54	62	-22.2	-32.3
Mining	37	49	56	-24.5	-33.9
Construction	206	195	259	5.6	-20.5
Manufacturing	36	43	35	-16.3	2.9
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	607	500	611	21.4	-0.7
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	181	139	202	30.2	-10.4
Wholesale Trade	21	23	31	-8.7	-32.3
Retail Trade	121	77	95	57.1	27.4
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities	38	37	75	2.7	-49.3
Information	8	3	5	166.7	60.0
Financial Activities	26	28	48	-7.1	-45.8
Professional & Business Services	87	117	107	-25.6	-18.7
Educational & Health Services	91	96	82	-5.2	11.0
Leisure & Hospitality	190	96	143	97.9	32.9
Other Services, except Public Admin.	20	18	21	11.1	-4.8
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	57	48	66	18.8	-13.6
Federal Government	8	8	7	0.0	14.3
State Government	13	5	10	160.0	30.0
Local Government	34	34	47	0.0	-27.7
Local Education	8	10	9	-20.0	-11.1
UNCLASSIFIED	22	12	16	83.3	37.5
Laramie County					
Total Claims Filed	**196**	**174**	**167**	**12.6**	**17.4**
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	81	56	55	44.6	47.3
Construction	74	48	49	54.2	51.0
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	104	105	95	-1.0	9.5
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	44	20	31	120.0	41.9
Financial Activities	6	7	7	-14.3	-14.3
Professional & Business Services	23	37	14	-37.8	64.3
Educational & Health Services	8	19	20	-57.9	-60.0
Leisure & Hospitality	19	14	11	35.7	72.7
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	6	10	12	-40.0	-50.0
Natrona County					
Total Claims Filed	**133**	**138**	**195**	**-3.6**	**-31.8**
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	42	56	66	-25.0	-36.4
Construction	28	38	43	-26.3	-34.9
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	83	77	124	7.8	-33.1
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	25	24	45	4.2	-44.4
Financial Activities	5	5	10	0.0	-50.0
Professional & Business Services	9	6	19	50.0	-52.6
Educational & Health Services	19	20	16	-5.0	18.8
Leisure & Hospitality	18	18	21	0.0	-14.3
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	5	3	3	66.7	66.7

N/D = Not discloseable due to confidentiality.

[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.

The full UI claims report for September 2026 is available at https://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/UI/0926_UI.pdf.

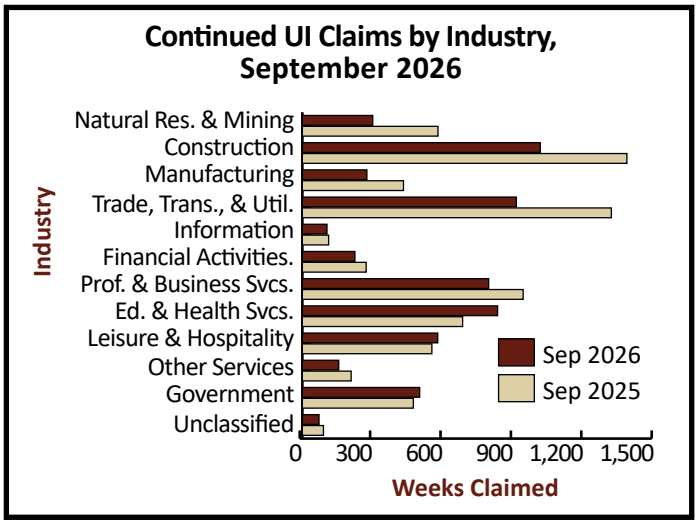
Wyoming Normalized[a] Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Continued Claims

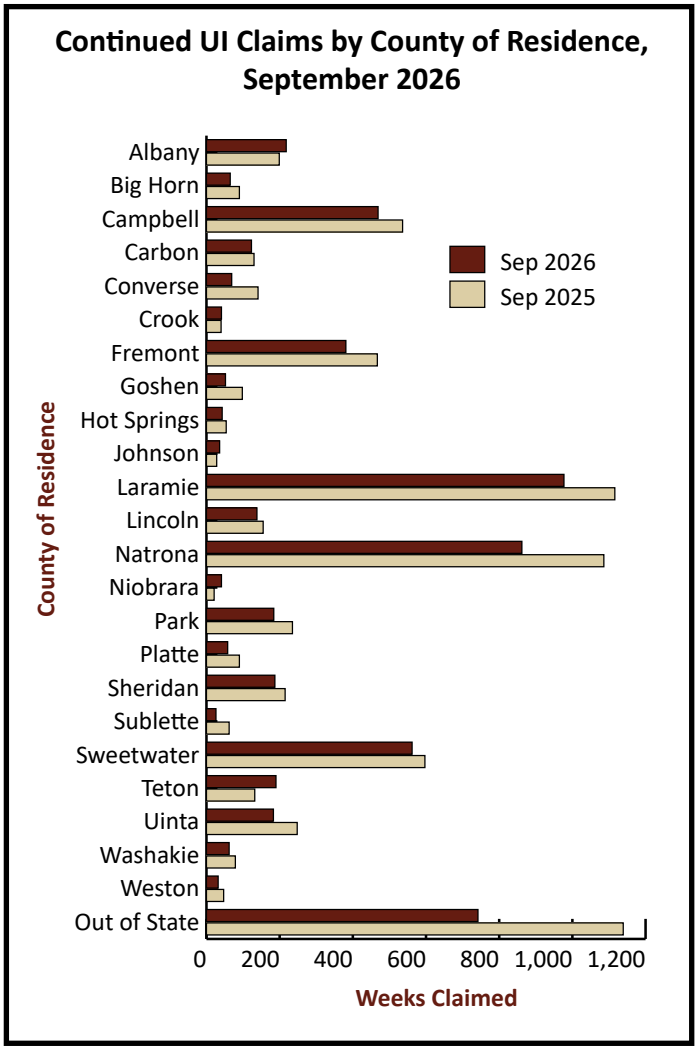
by: Laura Yetter, Senior Economist

The total number of continued weeks claimed decreased from 7,045 in September 2025 to 5,766 in September 2026 (-1,279, or -18.2%).

Continued Claims	Claims Filed			% Change	
	Sep 26	Aug 26	Sep 25	Over the Month	Over the Year
Wyoming Statewide					
Total Weeks Claimed	**5,766**	**6,642**	**7,045**	**-13.2**	**-18.2**
Total Unique Claimants	**1,778**	**2,303**	**2,433**	**-22.8**	**-26.9**
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	1,590	1,681	2,393	-5.4	-33.6
Natural Resources & Mining	300	334	578	-10.2	-48.1
Mining	277	316	565	-12.3	-51.0
Oil & Gas Extraction	12	15	45	-20.0	-73.3
Construction	1,014	1,017	1,383	-0.3	-26.7
Manufacturing	275	329	431	-16.4	-36.2
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	3,603	4,278	4,088	-15.8	-11.9
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	912	925	1,317	-1.4	-30.8
Wholesale Trade	198	198	264	0.0	-25.0
Retail Trade	477	494	591	-3.4	-19.3
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities	237	232	462	2.2	-48.7
Information	105	115	112	-8.7	-6.3
Financial Activities	224	284	272	-21.1	-17.6
Professional & Business Services	794	969	941	-18.1	-15.6
Educational & Health Services	832	1,142	683	-27.1	21.8
Leisure & Hospitality	577	654	552	-11.8	4.5
Other Services, except Public Admin.	155	185	208	-16.2	-25.5
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	500	604	473	-17.2	5.7
Federal Government	26	18	57	44.4	-54.4
State Government	65	67	48	-3.0	35.4
Local Government	407	518	366	-21.4	11.2
Local Education	144	178	81	-19.1	77.8
UNCLASSIFIED	71	79	90	-10.1	-21.1
Laramie County					
Total Weeks Claimed	**977**	**1,078**	**1,116**	**-9.4**	**-12.5**
Total Unique Claimants	**306**	**382**	**395**	**-19.9**	**-22.5**
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	278	233	215	19.3	29.3
Construction	254	207	171	22.7	48.5
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	571	709	814	-19.5	-29.9
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	142	149	247	-4.7	-42.5
Financial Activities	45	68	71	-33.8	-36.6
Professional & Business Services	166	228	254	-27.2	-34.6
Educational & Health Services	122	147	123	-17.0	-0.8
Leisure & Hospitality	63	66	67	-4.5	-6.0
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	108	107	67	0.9	61.2
UNCLASSIFIED	19	28	19	-32.1	0.0
Natrona County					
Total Weeks Claimed	**862**	**975**	**1,086**	**-11.6**	**-20.6**
Total Unique Claimants	**264**	**334**	**383**	**-21.0**	**-31.1**
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	215	232	335	-7.3	-35.8
Construction	110	90	151	22.2	-27.2
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	610	706	719	-13.6	-15.2
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	170	176	246	-3.4	-30.9
Financial Activities	38	36	43	5.6	-11.6
Professional & Business Services	118	146	136	-19.2	-13.2
Educational & Health Services	164	208	98	-21.2	67.3
Leisure & Hospitality	83	97	106	-14.4	-21.7
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	29	31	22	-6.5	31.8
UNCLASSIFIED	6	4	8	50.0	-25.0

[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.





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