

TRENDS

The Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses for 2003

by: Valerie A. Davis, Economist

In 2003 Wyoming's highest nonfatal occupational injury and illness incidence rate in a major industry group occurred in animal production, while couriers & messengers had the highest in the nation as a whole.

Research & Planning (R&P) conducts the annual Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Wyoming-specific data assist local employers and safety awareness groups in identifying trends and areas where additional safety training may be beneficial. In this article, we present incidence rates of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses in Wyoming for 2003.

Background

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) requires a sample of private industry employers to track work-related injuries and illnesses by maintaining OSHA 300 forms. At the end

of the year, employers use selected data from these OSHA forms to complete the annual survey. A work-related injury or illness is considered recordable on the OSHA 300 form if it results in one or more of the following:

- Death
- Days away from work
- Restricted work or transfer to another job
- Medical treatment beyond first aid
- Loss of consciousness
- A significant injury or illness diagnosed by a physician or other licensed health care professional

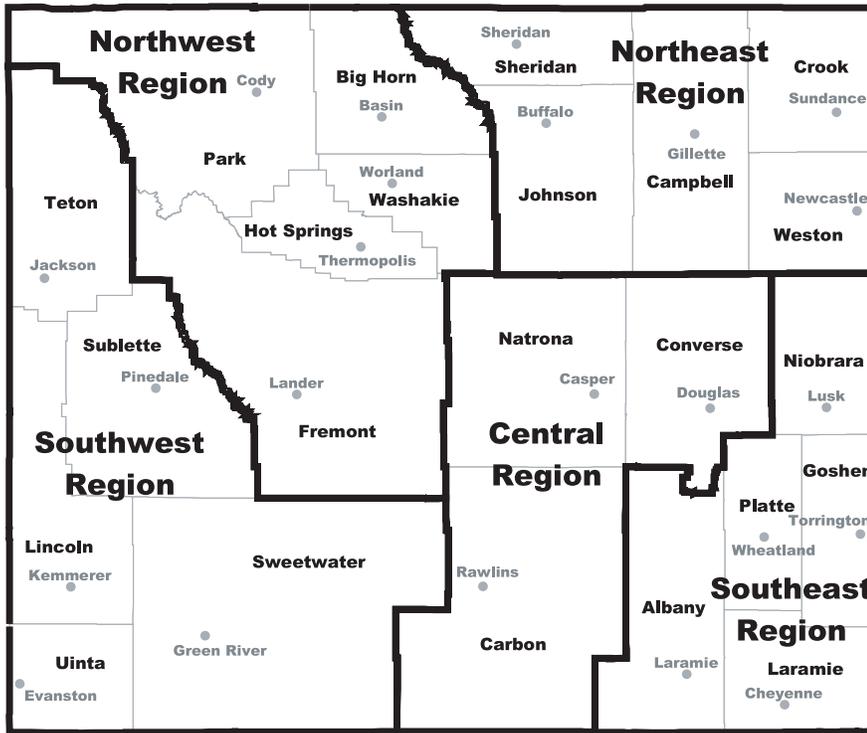
The Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses is required by law. However,

(Text continued on page 3)

HIGHLIGHTS

- **A new report by Research & Planning examines Wyoming's healthcare/health coverage problem as part of a feasibility study for a proposal under development by the Wyoming Healthcare Commission called Wyo-Care....page 7**
- **Research & Planning presents ANSWERS, a new interactive website for Wyoming Labor Market Information....page 10**
- **The goods producing sector continued to drive the overall decline in continued claims, particularly in Construction....page 19**

Wyoming Regions, Counties, and County Seats



Wyoming Labor Force Trends

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

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ISSN 0512-4409

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only a portion of Wyoming's employers are selected to participate. Approximately 2,500 companies were randomly selected to participate in the 2003 Annual Survey.

While the sample selection was random, the structure of Wyoming's industry composition may have influenced the types of firms surveyed. For example, three-quarters of Wyoming's firms have fewer than 10 employees (Leonard, 2005). Therefore, the survey sample included many small companies. The 2003 survey included 1,404 firms with fewer than 10 employees (or just over 56% of the total number of companies surveyed). In addition, the survey samples companies based on industry. Consequently, the more employees an establishment has, and the fewer firms within its industry, the greater the likelihood of being surveyed.

R&P surveyed employers regarding their 2003 workplace injury data in early 2004. Of selected Wyoming employers, 98 percent completed the mandatory survey by the August 2004 deadline. To provide customers with more timely data, the BLS has moved up deadlines and release dates in 2005.

The data utilized in this report are the summary data. The case and demographic data, published by the BLS, are details on case characteristics (nature of the injury or illness, part of body affected, event or exposure, and primary and secondary sources of the injury or illness) of the workers and the demographic characteristics (occupation, age, gender, race, and length of service) of the more seriously injured and ill workers. *More seriously* is defined as involving days away from work.

Methodology

The BLS determines incidence rates from the gathered data. Incidence rates by industry record the number of illnesses or injuries per 100 employees. National rates are also determined from standard surveys conducted throughout the country. Through the states' efforts, the BLS gathers employer data including the number of days away from work an employee took for a work-related accident or illness. The day of injury and the day the person returned to work are not counted. Also, days beyond 180 (per case) are not counted. Another data element is the Other Recordable case. This type of injury or illness did not require days away from work, days of job transfer, or restriction, but did require medical treatment beyond first aid.

Every year the BLS strives to conduct the survey in the same way. However, changes in recordkeeping requirements, like the classification codes for occupations or industries and additional columns on the forms such as for hearing loss (in 2004), may occur.

For 2003, survey results were based on the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) codes. Prior to 2003, Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes were used. The source used to code the occupations in 2003 was the Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) system, now used by most federal statistical programs. Prior to 2003, the Occupational Injury and Illness Occupational Coding Manual was used. These changes, along with changes in 2002 recordkeeping requirements, represent a time-series break in the data preventing over-the-year comparisons

from 2001 to 2003. However, same-year comparisons between Wyoming, other states, and the U.S. are possible.

Findings

From the collection results for the year 2003, Wyoming’s highest nonfatal occupational injury and illness incidence rate in a major industry group occurred in animal production (18.4 per 100 full-time employees). For the United States, couriers & messengers had the highest incidence rate at 12.1 (see Figure).

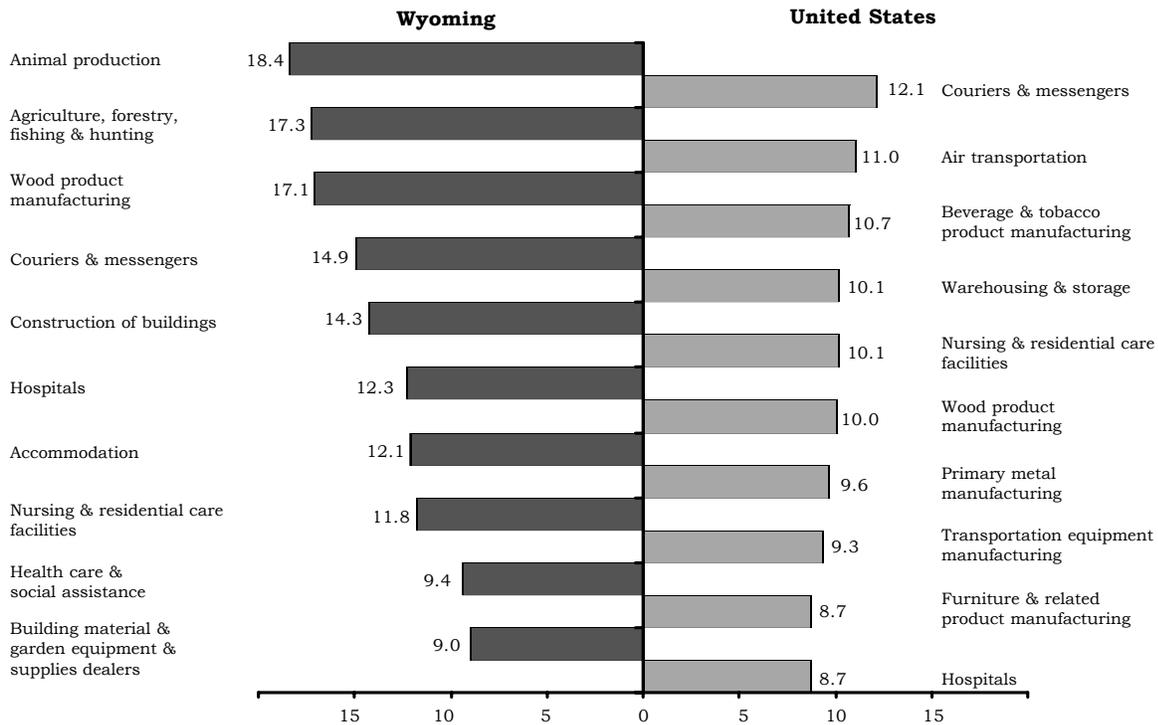
Five of the ten industry groups with the highest incidence rates in the U.S. are associated with various types of manufacturing. The 10 industry groups with the highest incidence rates in Wyoming are associated with a much

wider range of industries such as Agriculture, Health Services, and Construction. The low rate of incidences in Wyoming’s Manufacturing industry is likely due to Wyoming’s underrepresentation of employment in Manufacturing compared to the U.S. (Harris, 2002).

The Table (see pages 5 and 6) shows the incidence rates for Wyoming and the U.S. for the major industries and some selected sub-industries. Data corresponding to the U.S. industries shown in the Figure are not listed separately in the Table because Wyoming had no publishable data at the same level of industry detail as the U.S. However, comparing total recordable cases for the

(Text continued on page 6)

Figure: Major Industry Groups With the Highest Nonfatal Occupational Injury and Illness Incidence Rates, Wyoming and the United States, 2003



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses in cooperation with participating state agencies.

Table: Incidence Rates^a of Nonfatal Occupational Injuries and Illnesses by Selected Industries and Case Types, 2003

Industry ^b	U.S.	Wyoming				
	Total recordable cases	Total recordable cases	Cases with days away from work, job transfer, or restriction			Other recordable cases
			Total	Cases with days away from work ^c	Cases with job transfer or restriction	
Private industry^d	5.0	6.0	3.1	2.5	0.6	2.9
Agriculture, forestry, fishing & hunting^d	6.2	17.3	6.9	5.1	--	10.4
Animal production ^d	8.2	18.4	6.0	3.7	--	12.3
Mining^e	3.3	4.5	3.0	1.9	1.1	1.5
Oil & gas extraction	1.8	4.6	3.2	2.4	0.7	1.5
Mining (except oil & gas) ^f	4.6	3.3	2.1	1.5	0.6	1.2
Coal mining ^f	6.2	1.7	0.9	0.6	^h	0.8
Nonmetallic mineral mining & quarrying ^f	3.7	5.6	3.8	2.7	1.1	1.8
Other nonmetal. mineral min. & quar. ^f	3.9	5.4	4.1	2.5	1.6	1.3
Drilling oil & gas wells	4.0	6.2	3.3	2.1	1.2	--
Construction	6.8	8.7	3.9	3.1	0.8	4.8
Construction of buildings	5.7	14.3	6.2	5.1	--	8.1
Residential building construction	5.3	16.2	6.5	--	--	9.7
Heavy & civil engineering construction	6.5	7.3	3.3	2.1	1.3	--
Highway, street, & bridge construction	7.6	9.7	6.8	--	--	--
Specialty trade contractors	7.3	7.4	3.4	3.0	--	4.0
Building equipment contractors	7.1	11.1	4.0	3.3	--	7.1
Electrical contractors	6.2	9.3	3.3	3.2	^h	6.1
Manufacturing	6.8	8.0	4.7	4.1	--	3.2
Wood product manufacturing	10.0	17.1	9.6	7.6	^h	7.6
Trade, transportation, & utilities^g	5.5	6.0	3.4	2.8	0.6	2.6
Wholesale trade	4.7	5.7	3.3	3.1	^h	2.4
Merchant wholesalers, durable goods	4.3	6.5	3.6	3.3	^h	2.8
Merch. whls., machinery, equip., & supplies	4.6	6.7	3.6	3.3	^h	3.1
Retail trade	5.3	6.1	3.1	2.4	0.7	2.9
Motor vehicle & parts dealers	5.1	4.4	1.7	--	^h	2.7
Furniture & home furnishings stores	5.2	5.3	^h	^h	^h	--
Bldg. material, garden equip. & supply dealers	6.4	9.0	5.1	--	^h	3.9
Food & beverage stores	6.8	6.9	2.5	2.2	--	4.4
Sporting goods, hobby, book, & music stores	3.6	2.7	^h	^h	^h	^h
General merchandise stores	7.2	7.8	4.5	2.9	1.5	3.4
Transportation & warehousing^g	7.8	6.3	4.8	4.1	--	1.5
Rail transportation ^g	2.9	3.5	2.8	2.6	^h	^h
Truck transportation	6.8	7.0	5.5	--	--	--
Couriers & messengers	12.1	14.9	9.1	8.2	^h	5.8
Utilities	4.4	5.2	0.9	^h	^h	4.3
Electric power generation, trans. & dist.	4.1	5.7	1.0	^h	^h	4.7
Finance & insurance	1.1	0.6	0.3	0.3	^h	0.4
Real estate	3.6	2.8	^h	^h	^h	2.1
Professional, scientific, & technical services	1.3	1.9	1.2	--	--	--
Administrative & waste services	4.0	5.3	2.4	2.3	^h	--
Ambulatory health care services	3.3	3.3	1.1	1.1	^h	2.2
Hospitals	8.7	12.3	6.3	5.0	1.3	6.0
Nursing & residential care facilities	10.1	11.8	7.3	5.7	--	4.5
Accommodation & food services	5.0	7.3	3.3	2.7	--	3.9
Accommodation	6.7	12.1	5.7	5.1	--	6.3

See footnotes at end of table.

Table: Incidence Rates^a of Nonfatal Occupational Injuries and Illnesses by Selected Industries and Case Types, 2003 (Continued)

Industry ^b	U.S.	Wyoming				
	Total recordable cases	Total recordable cases	Cases with days away from work, job transfer, or restriction			Other recordable cases
			Total	Cases with days away from work ^c	Cases with job transfer or restriction	
Other services, except public administration	3.4	4.9	2.3	2.0		2.6
Repair & maintenance	4.2	6.6	2.8	2.4		3.7
Automotive repair & maintenance	4.3	7.8	3.8	3.3		3.9
Personal & laundry services	2.8	3.2	^h	^h		2.1
Religious, civic, & professional organizations	2.9	3.3	2.4	2.4		^h

^aIncidence rates represent the number of injuries and illnesses per 100 full-time workers and were calculated as:

$(N/EH) \times 200,000$ where

N = number of injuries and illnesses

EH = total hours worked by all employees during the calendar year

200,000 = base for 100 equivalent full-time workers (working 40 hours per week, 50 weeks per year).

^bNorth American Industry Classification System Manual, 2002 Ed.

^cDays-away-from-work cases include those which result in days away from work with or without job transfer or restriction.

^dExcludes farms with fewer than 11 employees.

^eData for Mining (Sector 21 in the North American Industry Classification System, 2002 edition) include establishments not governed by the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) rules and reporting, such as those in oil & gas extraction.

Data for mining operators in coal, metal, and nonmetal mining are provided to BLS by the Mine Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor. Independent mining contractors are excluded from the coal, metal, and nonmetal mining industries. These data do not reflect the changes OSHA made to its recordkeeping requirements effective January 1, 2002; therefore

estimates for these industries are not comparable to estimates in other industries.

^fData for mining operators in this industry are provided to BLS by the Mine Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor. Independent mining contractors are excluded. These data do not reflect the changes OSHA made to its recordkeeping requirements effective January 1, 2002; therefore estimates for these industries are not comparable to estimates in other industries.

^gData for employers in rail transportation are provided to BLS by the Federal Railroad Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation. These data do not reflect the changes OSHA made to its recordkeeping requirements effective January 1, 2002; therefore estimates for these industries are not comparable to estimates in other industries.

^hFewer than 15 cases.

-- Indicates data not available.

Note: Components may not add to totals due to rounding.

SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses in cooperation with participating state agencies.

U.S. and Wyoming, the incidence rates of nonfatal injuries and illnesses is higher for Wyoming in animal production (18.4 incidences per 100 employed in Wyoming compared to 8.2 for the U.S.); agriculture, forestry, fishing, & hunting (17.3 in Wyoming compared to 6.2 in the U.S.); and wood product manufacturing (17.1 in Wyoming compared to 10.0 in the U.S.). The two industries with the highest incidence rates in Wyoming are typically associated with more rural economies.

In mining (except oil & gas), Wyoming has a smaller incidence rate (3.3) compared to the U.S. (4.6). The difference

in incidence rates is likely due to the difference in how mining is performed (primarily surface mining in Wyoming compared to more underground mining in other areas of the U.S.), but it could also imply that Wyoming companies in this industry use more safeguards than other firms outside Wyoming.

Within Wyoming's service-providing sub-industries, the accommodation industry had an incidence rate of 12.1 per 100 full-time workers, well above the 6.7 reported for the U.S. The BLS

(Text continued on page 10)

Joining Forces to Secure Health Insurance Coverage in Wyoming

by: *Krista R. Shinkle, Senior Economist*

Recently, Research & Planning (R&P) joined in the Wyoming Healthcare Commission's efforts to lower the number of uninsured in Wyoming. Through the Wyoming Department of Health and with funding provided by the Health Resources and Services Administration State Planning Grant 93-256, the Healthcare Commission contracted with R&P to ascertain the feasibility of a proposal called Wyo-Care.

The primary goal of Wyo-Care is to introduce a means of providing health coverage for employed persons without current health insurance through individual health savings accounts. Wyo-Care accounts are envisioned as a way for employers, employees, and others to share the cost of health insurance coverage.

The following pages (pages 8 and 9) show a reproduction of an informational flyer produced in conjunction with a publication entitled *Private Sector Employee Access to Health Insurance and the Potential Wyo-Care Market*. The flyer and the publication present the findings of the Wyo-Care feasibility study conducted by R&P.

The first objective of the study was to examine Wyoming's economic profile and determine which firm characteristics were likely to increase the probability of any particular firm offering health insurance to its employees.

Research indicated that large firms with low turnover and high wages provided health coverage to their

employees most often. Consequently, smaller firms with high turnover and low wages might find a program such as Wyo-Care beneficial.

The second objective was to gather employers' opinions about healthcare and health insurance and to identify their level of willingness to participate in a program like Wyo-Care. R&P used both focus group discussions and a mail survey of random employers to obtain the information.

Based on the survey responses, many Wyoming employers appear to be searching for alternative solutions to the problem of providing health insurance coverage to their employees amid rising insurance costs.

This publication represents an example of what can be accomplished through the integration of multiple research techniques: administrative databases, focus groups, and survey research.

For a hard copy of the publication and flyer, contact R&P. Information about Wyo-Care is available from the Wyoming Healthcare Commission at www.wyominghealthcarecommission.org. An electronic version of this publication is also available on either the R&P or Healthcare Commission websites.



Employee Access to Health Insurance in Wyoming

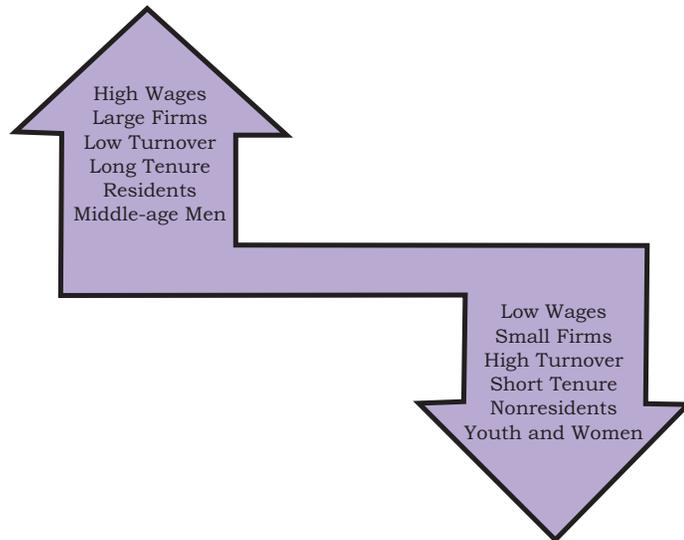
Introduction

In conjunction with their efforts to reduce the number of uninsured, the Wyoming Healthcare Commission requested an analysis of the employer health benefits market. With funding from the Health Resources and Services Administration's State Planning Grant Program, the Healthcare Commission partnered with the Departments of Health and Employment, Research & Planning. Employer focus groups and surveys were conducted to assess the potential market for a personal health savings account model the Healthcare Commission calls "Wyo-Care."

Wyo-Care is envisioned as a cost sharing vehicle to provide insurance coverage to small employer/low income employees. Still under development by the Healthcare Commission, the goal of Wyo-Care is to lower the number of uninsured by maximizing the dollars contributed by employers, employees and, perhaps, Medicaid.

Insurance Accessibility

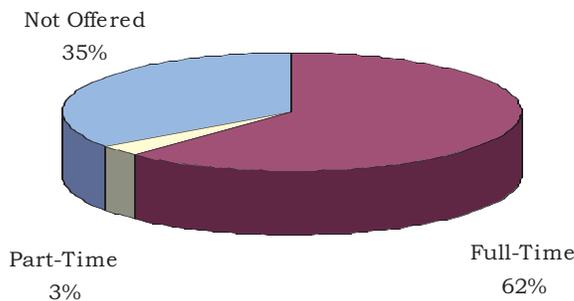
Greater Access to Employer-Provided Health Insurance



Lesser Access to Employer-Provided Health Insurance

Insurance Benefits

Percentage of Employees Offered Health Insurance



Source: Wyoming Department of Employment, Research & Planning, <http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI>

Firm Size

Percentage of Employees Offered Health Insurance by Firm Size

<10 Employees	39%
10-19 Employees	55%
20-49 Employees	56%
50+ Employees	81%
Total	65%

For More Info

The report, *Private Sector Employee Access to Health Insurance and the Potential Wyo-Care Market*, is available in the Reports section of the Wyoming Healthcare Commission website. Hard copy versions can be requested from the Healthcare Commission at (307) 473-3839 or whcc@state.wy.us.

The Context

Employer-provided benefits represent a key component of employee compensation. During the summer of 2004, unemployment in the state reached historic lows. Wyoming's favorable labor market conditions take place in a context where competition for labor and pressure on compensation may change course as the national economy improves. If we are to understand pressures on compensation, we need to understand the economic and demographic context within which employers and workers establish mutually beneficial relationships.

The niche for Wyo-Care depends upon the structure of the market. Structural conditions persist over time. For example, industries characterized by seasonality are likely to have similar highly seasonal employment patterns at both the beginning and end of a decade. Seasonal employment and turnover prevents workers from establishing health insurance eligibility.

Market Structure: Turnover Rates



Source: Wyoming Department of Employment, Research & Planning, <http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI>

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Primary Findings

- At the core of Wyoming's private sector workforce is a stable segment of the population that is highly tenured, paid an average of \$8,000 per quarter, and has access to health insurance. Outside of this core, however, worker/employer relationships become much more tenuous. Industry of employment, firm size, turnover, part-time work, and residency, age, and gender of the workforce divides the two worker segments.
- Rapidly increasing benefits costs appear to constrain salary growth and are associated with long-term effects on worker retirement income and employer profitability.
- A growing share of Wyoming's workforce are nonresidents lacking employment tenure and are often ineligible for insurance.
- The estimated 19% of full-time and 88% of part-time workers who were not offered health insurance may benefit from Wyo-Care.
- There does not appear to be a consensus among employers regarding the reasons for current prices or rising costs of health insurance. But there is a strong sense that something is very, very wrong.
- Some private sector employers are changing their compensation strategies and searching for alternatives to current health insurance.
- Wyo-Care is put forth as an answer to a problem faced by uncovered employees. However, employer participation may depend upon presenting the proposal in a manner demonstrating a business advantage.
- Employers expressed interest in Wyo-Care for covered and uncovered employees. Extension of Wyo-Care to covered employees may help solve a number of problems.
- More than a third of all employers' suggested solutions to the healthcare problem were based on greater governmental involvement.

ANSWERS Now Available... Research & Planning is proud to present a new interactive website for Wyoming Labor Market Information. ANSWERS (A National and State Workforce and Employment Research System) integrates statistical and other labor market information for Wyoming and the U.S. in a user-friendly format. Users can explore occupations, wages, labor markets, geographic areas, industry projections, and more.

ANSWERS allows users to select individual data sets and display them in table or graphic formats. Each user can create a personal Web page in ANSWERS, saving the information on a convenient personalized page that will automatically update to reflect the most recent data available.

ANSWERS also features a Career Center, a great source of information to make well-informed career decisions based on up-to-date information for over 800 occupations.

Access ANSWERS at <http://doe.state.wy.us/ANSWERS>

(Continued from page 6) reported that Wyoming hospitals showed an incidence rate of 12.3 compared to 8.7 for the U.S.

Future Research

Linking the Occupational Injuries and Illnesses Survey data with other administrative databases such as Wage Records would provide new avenues for labor market research. For example, we could study the relationship between access to employer-provided healthcare benefits, Worker's Compensation claims by firm, and work-related injuries and illnesses. This area of study would allow us to determine whether there are more Worker's Compensation claims among firms that do not offer health insurance.

Conclusion

The results of the survey may provide employers with an indication of the effectiveness of their safety programs. By using several years of survey data, Wyoming employers and safety awareness

organizations could target problem areas and customize training programs.

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Ask an Economist*

by: David Kaiser

adapted for *Wyoming Labor Force Trends* by: Krista R. Shinkle, Senior Economist

What is the difference between seasonally adjusted and not seasonally adjusted data?

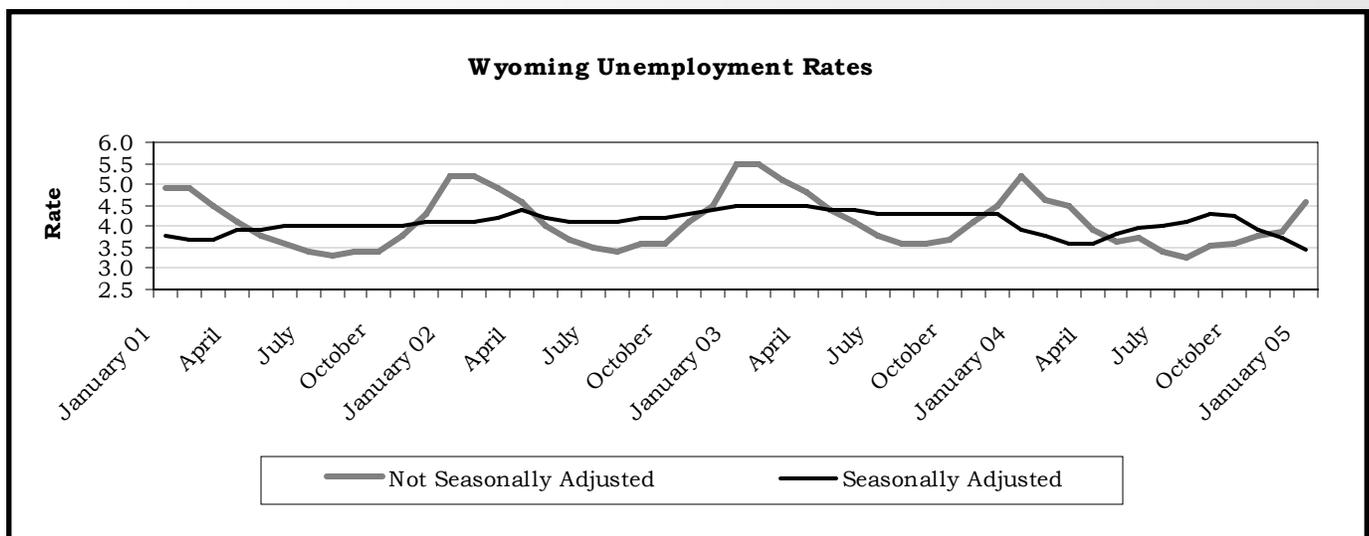
If a person were to look at a chart displaying the raw data of employment levels for a given geographic area over a period of time, that person would see that employment tends to rise and fall significantly at different times of the year. These peaks and valleys correspond with seasonal hiring and layoff patterns associated with certain industries.

For example, retail businesses tend to hire additional workers for the holiday shopping season. These workers raise employment levels in the last quarter of each year, peaking in December. By January, employment levels have fallen significantly as the seasonal workers are let go. Seasonal trends can also be seen in agricultural industries as additional workers are hired to assist during planting and harvesting seasons.

Since there is such seasonality in employment, data users often have a difficult time identifying any short-term trends in the employment levels. To allow for better short-term analysis, economists often use statistical programs to adjust the monthly data to remove the effect of seasonal influences — a process referred to as smoothing.

Monthly data that is not adjusted to smooth seasonal patterns is considered not seasonally adjusted and would show the large increases and decreases throughout the year. Likewise, data that has undergone a smoothing adjustment would be considered seasonally adjusted.

The chart illustrates the differences between Wyoming's seasonally adjusted and not seasonally adjusted unemployment data. The gray line shows not seasonally adjusted data, whereas the black line shows employment after seasonal patterns are removed.



So which data series is more valuable to the user? That depends on what you want to analyze. If you want to look at general employment trends throughout the year, without seasonal effects, you would want to use seasonally adjusted data. Seasonally adjusted data should show the true direction of monthly employment growth. On the other hand, if you want to know how much employment has grown in the retail industry from October to December due to the holidays or how big of an influence weather has had on the construction

industry, you would want to view not seasonally adjusted data.

When comparing data across areas (states, regions, etc.), it is important to compare seasonally adjusted data to seasonally adjusted data and not seasonally adjusted data to not seasonally adjusted data.

*Originally published in the December 2004 issue of *Economic Trends*, a monthly publication produced by the Nebraska Workforce Development, Labor Market Information Center.



Wyoming Unemployment Down Slightly in December

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

Wyoming's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell from 3.5 percent in November to 3.3 percent in December and remained well below the U.S. rate of 5.4 percent. Wyoming's labor force (the sum of employed and unemployed individuals) also decreased slightly from December 2003 (-1,252 individuals or -0.4%). Labor force decreases of this magnitude are not unusual in the state. Job growth continued at a moderate pace (5,200 jobs or 2.1%).

From November to December, Wyoming gained 100 jobs (0.0%). Seasonal job losses in Construction (-1,300 jobs or -6.4%) were offset by gains in Retail Trade (200 jobs or 0.7%) and Leisure & Hospitality (1,100 jobs or 3.9%).

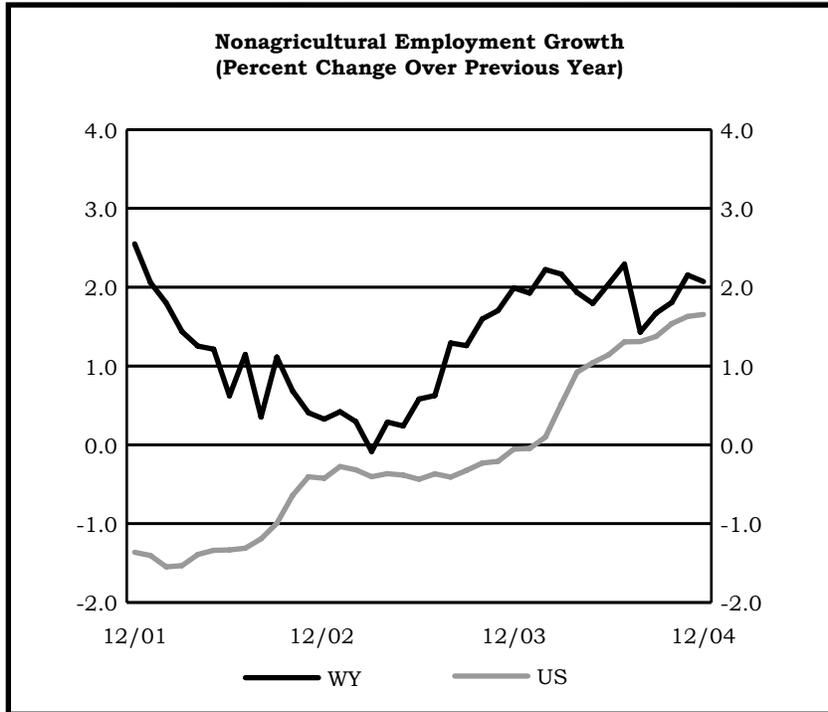
Aided by relatively high energy prices, employment continued to grow in Wyoming. From December 2003, Wyoming added 5,200 jobs or 2.1 percent. Increased oil & gas drilling

contributed to job gains in Natural Resources & Mining (1,900 jobs or 10.0%). Other growing industries included Wholesale Trade (500 jobs or 7.1%), Transportation & Utilities (300 jobs or 2.6%), Education & Health Services (500 jobs or 2.3%), Leisure & Hospitality (1,000 jobs or 3.6%), and Government (600 jobs or 0.9%).

Compared to December 2003, employment fell in Construction (-200 jobs or -1.0%), Manufacturing (-100 jobs or -1.0%), and Professional & Business Services (-200 jobs or -1.3%).

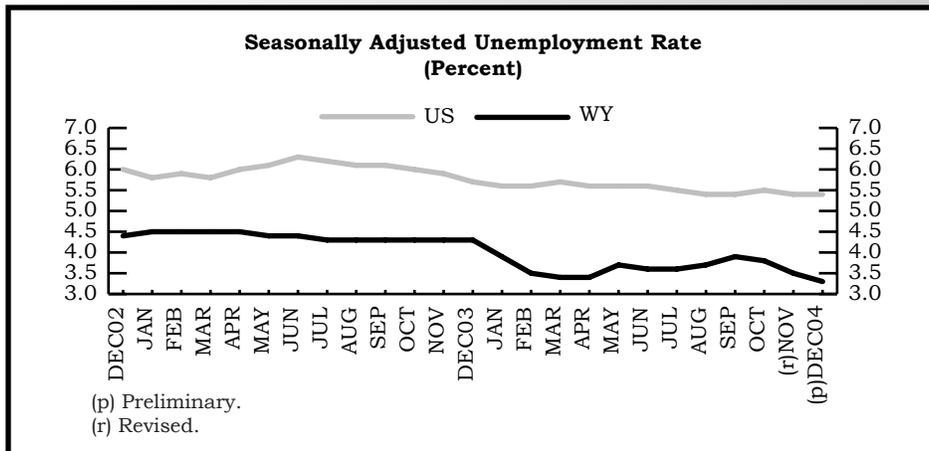
As expected, most county unemployment rates increased from November to December. Platte County posted the highest unemployment rate (5.7%), while Albany and Sublette counties tied for the lowest (1.7%). Teton County's unemployment rate fell from 5.7 percent in November to 3.1 percent in December.



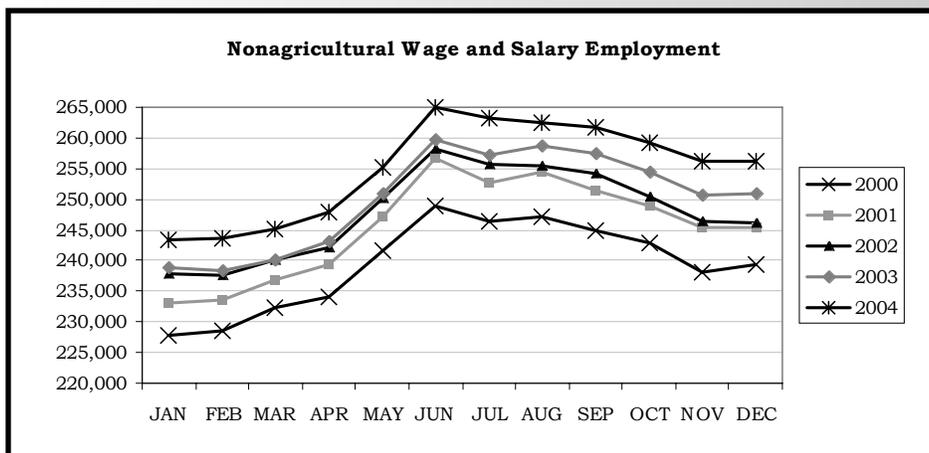


**State Unemployment Rates
December 2004
(Seasonally Adjusted)**

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	11.2
District of Columbia	9.0
Alaska	7.3
Michigan	7.3
Oregon	6.8
South Carolina	6.7
Mississippi	6.4
Ohio	5.9
California	5.8
Illinois	5.8
Texas	5.8
Washington	5.8
Arkansas	5.6
Louisiana	5.6
Pennsylvania	5.6
Missouri	5.5
Alabama	5.4
United States	5.4
New York	5.3
New Mexico	5.2
North Carolina	5.2
Tennessee	5.2
Colorado	5.1
Indiana	5.1
West Virginia	4.9
Iowa	4.7
Maine	4.7
Kansas	4.6
Massachusetts	4.6
Rhode Island	4.6
Wisconsin	4.6
Florida	4.5
Kentucky	4.5
Georgia	4.4
Minnesota	4.4
Utah	4.4
Connecticut	4.3
Arizona	4.2
New Jersey	4.2
Oklahoma	4.2
Delaware	4.1
Idaho	4.0
Maryland	4.0
Nevada	3.8
Montana	3.7
Nebraska	3.6
Vermont	3.4
New Hampshire	3.3
South Dakota	3.3
Virginia	3.3
Wyoming	3.3
North Dakota	3.2
Hawaii	3.0



(p) Preliminary.
(r) Revised.



Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

Seasonal job losses in Construction (-1,300 jobs or -6.4%) were offset by gains in Retail Trade (200 jobs or 0.7%) and Leisure & Hospitality (1,100 jobs or 3.9%).

WYOMING STATEWIDE	Employment in Thousands					Percent Change Total Employment		LARAMIE COUNTY	Employment in Thousands					Percent Change Total Employment	
	Dec04(p)	Nov04(r)	Dec03(b)	Dec04	Dec04	Nov04	Dec03		Dec04(p)	Nov04(r)	Dec03(b)	Dec04	Dec04	Nov04	Dec03
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	256.2	256.1	251.0	0.0	2.1			TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	40.6	40.9	39.9	-0.7	1.8		
TOTAL PRIVATE	190.3	190.4	185.7	-0.1	2.5			TOTAL PRIVATE	28.3	28.6	27.5	-1.0	2.9		
GOODS PRODUCING	49.5	50.9	47.9	-2.8	3.3			GOODS PRODUCING	4.2	4.3	3.8	-2.3	10.5		
Natural Resources & Mining	20.9	21.0	19.0	-0.5	10.0			Nat. Res., Mining, & Construction	2.6	2.7	2.3	-3.7	13.0		
Mining	20.8	20.9	19.0	-0.5	9.5			Manufacturing	1.6	1.6	1.5	0.0	6.7		
Oil & Gas Extraction	3.7	3.6	3.2	2.8	15.6			SERVICE PROVIDING	36.4	36.6	36.1	-0.5	0.8		
Mining Except Oil & Gas	7.4	7.4	7.5	0.0	-1.3			Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	9.0	9.0	8.5	0.0	5.9		
Coal Mining	4.9	4.9	4.9	0.0	0.0			Wholesale Trade	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0		
Support Activities for Mining	9.7	9.9	8.3	-2.0	16.9			Retail Trade	5.8	5.8	5.5	0.0	5.5		
Support Act. for Oil & Gas	6.5	6.5	5.7	0.0	14.0			Information	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0		
Construction	18.9	20.2	19.1	-6.4	-1.0			Financial Activities	1.9	2.0	2.1	-5.0	-9.5		
Construction of Buildings	4.2	4.2	4.2	0.0	0.0			Professional & Business Services	3.1	3.2	3.2	-3.1	-3.1		
Heavy & Engineering Constr.	4.9	5.8	5.3	-15.5	-7.5			Educational & Health Services	3.1	3.1	3.1	0.0	0.0		
Specialty Trade Contractors	9.8	10.2	9.6	-3.9	2.1			Leisure & Hospitality	4.3	4.4	4.2	-2.3	2.4		
Manufacturing	9.7	9.7	9.8	0.0	-1.0			Other Services	1.7	1.6	1.6	6.2	6.2		
Durable Goods	4.9	5.0	5.0	-2.0	-2.0			TOTAL GOVERNMENT	12.3	12.3	12.4	0.0	-0.8		
Non-Durable Goods	4.8	4.7	4.8	2.1	0.0			Federal Government	2.7	2.6	2.7	3.8	0.0		
SERVICE PROVIDING	206.7	205.2	203.1	0.7	1.8			State Government	3.8	3.8	3.8	0.0	0.0		
Trade, Trans., Warehouse, & Util.	50.0	49.8	48.9	0.4	2.2			Local Government	5.8	5.9	5.9	-1.7	-1.7		
Wholesale Trade	7.5	7.4	7.0	1.4	7.1			NATRONA COUNTY							
Merchant Whslsrs., Durable	4.4	4.3	4.1	2.3	7.3			TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	35.5	35.6	34.7	-0.3	2.3		
Retail Trade	30.5	30.3	30.2	0.7	1.0			TOTAL PRIVATE	29.7	30.0	28.9	-1.0	2.8		
Motor Vehicle & Parts Dealers	4.4	4.3	4.1	2.3	7.3			GOODS PRODUCING	6.8	6.9	6.6	-1.4	3.0		
Bldg. Material & Garden Sup.	2.4	2.5	2.4	-4.0	0.0			Natural Resources & Mining	2.9	2.9	2.7	0.0	7.4		
Food & Beverage Stores	4.8	4.9	4.9	-2.0	-2.0			Construction	2.3	2.4	2.3	-4.2	0.0		
Grocery Stores	3.9	3.9	3.9	0.0	0.0			Manufacturing	1.6	1.6	1.6	0.0	0.0		
Gasoline Stations	4.2	4.2	4.1	0.0	2.4			SERVICE PROVIDING	28.7	28.7	28.1	0.0	2.1		
General Merchandise Stores	5.9	5.9	6.1	0.0	-3.3			Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	8.3	8.3	7.9	0.0	5.1		
Miscellaneous Store Retailers	1.8	1.9	1.8	-5.3	0.0			Wholesale Trade	2.3	2.3	2.1	0.0	9.5		
Transport., Warehouse, & Util.	12.0	12.1	11.7	-0.8	2.6			Retail Trade	4.9	4.9	4.7	0.0	4.3		
Utilities	2.2	2.2	2.2	0.0	0.0			Transport., Warehouse, & Util.	1.1	1.1	1.1	0.0	0.0		
Transportation & Warehousing	9.8	9.9	9.5	-1.0	3.2			Information	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.0		
Truck Transportation	3.4	3.4	3.3	0.0	3.0			Financial Activities	1.8	1.8	1.8	0.0	0.0		
Information	4.2	4.1	4.2	2.4	0.0			Professional & Business Services	2.6	2.8	2.9	-7.1	-10.3		
Financial Activities	10.7	10.7	10.5	0.0	1.9			Educational & Health Services	4.7	4.7	4.4	0.0	6.8		
Finance & Insurance	7.1	7.1	7.1	0.0	0.0			Leisure & Hospitality	3.3	3.3	3.1	0.0	6.5		
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	3.6	3.6	3.4	0.0	5.9			Other Services	1.7	1.7	1.7	0.0	0.0		
Professional & Business Services	15.1	15.4	15.3	-1.9	-1.3			TOTAL GOVERNMENT	5.8	5.6	5.8	3.6	0.0		
Prof., Scientific & Tech. Services	7.9	7.8	7.6	1.3	3.9			Federal Government	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0		
Architect., Engineering & Rel.	2.2	2.2	2.2	0.0	0.0			State Government	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0		
Mgmt. of Companies & Enterpr.	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.0	20.0			Local Government	4.4	4.2	4.4	4.8	0.0		
Admin., Support & Waste Svcs.	6.6	7.0	7.2	-5.7	-8.3			Local Education	3.0	2.9	3.1	3.4	-3.2		
Educational & Health Services	21.9	22.1	21.4	-0.9	2.3										
Educational	2.1	2.1	2.1	0.0	0.0										
Health Care & Social Assistance	19.8	20.0	19.3	-1.0	2.6										
Ambulatory Health Care	7.6	7.6	7.2	0.0	5.6										
Offices of Physicians	3.1	3.1	3.0	0.0	3.3										
Hospitals	2.8	2.8	2.8	0.0	0.0										
Nursing & Res. Care Facilities	4.4	4.4	4.5	0.0	-2.2										
Social Assistance	5.0	5.2	4.8	-3.8	4.2										
Leisure & Hospitality	29.0	27.9	28.0	3.9	3.6										
Arts, Entertainment, & Rec.	2.2	2.1	2.0	4.8	10.0										
Accommodation & Food Services	26.8	25.8	26.0	3.9	3.1										
Accommodation	9.5	8.4	9.0	13.1	5.6										
Food Serv. & Drinking Places	17.3	17.4	17.0	-0.6	1.8										
Other Services	9.9	9.5	9.5	4.2	4.2										
Repair & Maintenance	2.9	3.0	3.0	-3.3	-3.3										
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	65.9	65.7	65.3	0.3	0.9										
Federal Government	7.4	7.6	7.4	-2.6	0.0										
State Government	15.8	15.6	15.5	1.3	1.9										
State Govt. Education	6.5	6.4	6.3	1.6	3.2										
Local Government	42.7	42.5	42.4	0.5	0.7										
Local Govt. Education	22.6	22.8	22.7	-0.9	-0.4										
Hospitals	5.6	5.6	5.5	0.0	1.8										

Note: Current Employment Statistics (CES) estimates include all full- and part-time wage and salary workers in nonagricultural establishments who worked or received pay during the week which includes the 12th of the month. Self-employed, domestic services, and personnel of the armed forces are excluded. Data are not seasonally adjusted. Wyoming and Natrona County are published in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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

Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment (Continued)

	Employment in Thousands			Percent Change Total Employment	
	Dec04(p)	Nov04(r)	Dec03(b)	Nov04	Dec03
				Dec04	Dec04
CAMPBELL COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	21.7	21.8	21.2	-0.5	2.4
TOTAL PRIVATE	17.8	17.9	17.5	-0.6	1.7
GOODS PRODUCING	8.6	8.7	8.4	-1.1	2.4
Natural Resources & Mining	6.3	6.3	6.1	0.0	3.3
Construction	1.8	1.9	1.8	-5.3	0.0
Manufacturing	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	13.1	13.1	12.8	0.0	2.3
Trade, Transport., & Utilities	4.0	4.0	4.0	0.0	0.0
Information	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.0
Professional & Bus. Services	1.3	1.3	1.3	0.0	0.0
Educational & Health Serv.	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.0	-11.1
Leisure & Hospitality	1.6	1.6	1.5	0.0	6.7
Other Services	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.0	14.3
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	3.9	3.9	3.7	0.0	5.4
SWEETWATER COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	21.4	21.4	20.4	0.0	4.9
TOTAL PRIVATE	17.0	17.1	16.1	-0.6	5.6
GOODS PRODUCING	7.0	7.1	6.4	-1.4	9.4
Natural Resources & Mining	4.4	4.3	3.7	2.3	18.9
Construction	1.5	1.7	1.5	-11.8	0.0
Manufacturing	1.1	1.1	1.2	0.0	-8.3
SERVICE PROVIDING	14.4	14.3	14.0	0.7	2.9
Trade, Transport., & Utilities	4.4	4.4	4.3	0.0	2.3
Information	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
Professional & Bus. Services	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.0	11.1
Educational & Health Serv.	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.0	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality	2.2	2.2	2.1	0.0	4.8
Other Services	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	4.4	4.3	4.3	2.3	2.3
TETON COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	16.2	14.6	15.6	11.0	3.8
TOTAL PRIVATE	13.9	12.4	13.5	12.1	3.0
GOODS PRODUCING	2.2	2.3	2.1	-4.3	4.8
Nat. Res., Mining & Const.	2.0	2.1	1.9	-4.8	5.3
Manufacturing	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	14.0	12.3	13.5	13.8	3.7
Trade, Transport., & Utilities	2.5	2.3	2.4	8.7	4.2
Information	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.0
Professional & Bus. Services	1.6	1.6	1.5	0.0	6.7
Educational & Health Serv.	0.8	0.7	0.7	14.3	14.3
Leisure & Hospitality	5.3	4.0	5.3	32.5	0.0
Other Services	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.0	0.0
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	2.3	2.2	2.1	4.5	9.5

State Unemployment Rates December 2004 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	9.8
District of Columbia	8.7
Alaska	7.6
Michigan	6.9
Oregon	6.5
South Carolina	6.4
Mississippi	5.9
Washington	5.8
Illinois	5.7
Ohio	5.6
Louisiana	5.5
Arkansas	5.4
California	5.4
Missouri	5.4
Texas	5.4
New York	5.2
Pennsylvania	5.1
United States	5.1
Alabama	5.0
Colorado	5.0
Indiana	5.0
North Carolina	5.0
New Mexico	4.8
Tennessee	4.8
Iowa	4.7
Maine	4.7
West Virginia	4.7
Idaho	4.4
Rhode Island	4.4
Kansas	4.2
Kentucky	4.2
Minnesota	4.2
Oklahoma	4.2
Wisconsin	4.2
Florida	4.1
Georgia	4.1
Massachusetts	4.1
Montana	4.1
Connecticut	3.9
New Jersey	3.9
Utah	3.9
Arizona	3.7
Maryland	3.7
Delaware	3.6
Nevada	3.6
Wyoming	3.6
South Dakota	3.5
Nebraska	3.3
North Dakota	3.3
Vermont	3.2
New Hampshire	3.1
Virginia	3.0
Hawaii	2.7

Economic Indicators

by: Margaret Hiatt, Administrative/Survey Support Specialist

Wyoming's labor force (the sum of employed and unemployed individuals) fell slightly in December.

	Dec 2004 (p)	Nov 2004 (r)	Dec 2003 (b)	Percent Change Month	Year
Wyoming Total Civilian Labor Force	278,266	279,274	279,518	-0.4	-0.4
Unemployed	9,932	9,372	12,523	6.0	-20.7
Employed	268,334	269,902	266,995	-0.6	0.5
Wyoming Unemp. Rate/Seasonally Adjusted	3.6%/3.3%	3.4%/3.5%	4.5%/4.3%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Unemployment Rate/Seasonally Adjusted	5.1%/5.4%	5.2%/5.4%	5.4%/5.7%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Multiple Jobholders	7,834,000	7,648,000	7,260,000	2.4	7.9
As a percent of all workers	5.6%	5.4%	5.2%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Discouraged Workers	442,000	392,000	433,000	12.8	2.1
U.S. Part-Time for Economic Reasons	4,516,000	4,398,000	4,833,000	2.7	-6.6
Hours & Earnings for Production Workers					
Wyoming Mining					
Average Weekly Earnings	\$1,028.30	\$1,035.90	\$1,006.36	-0.7	2.2
Average Weekly Hours	44.4	45.0	44.1	-1.3	0.7
U.S. Mining Hours & Earnings					
Average Weekly Earnings	\$857.44	\$864.44	\$817.47	-0.8	4.9
Average Weekly Hours	46.0	46.5	44.5	-1.1	3.4
Wyoming Manufacturing Hours & Earnings					
Average Weekly Earnings	\$638.16	\$664.68	\$637.57	-4.0	0.1
Average Weekly Hours	38.7	39.4	40.2	-1.8	-3.7
U.S. Manufacturing Hours & Earnings					
Average Weekly Earnings	\$678.56	\$666.26	\$662.87	1.8	2.4
Average Weekly Hours	41.2	40.8	41.3	1.0	-0.2
Wyoming Unemployment Insurance					
Weeks Compensated	16,229	13,440	20,689	20.8	-21.6
Benefits Paid	\$3,823,514	\$3,102,747	\$4,791,202	23.2	-20.2
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	\$235.60	\$230.86	\$231.58	2.1	1.7
State Insured Covered Jobs	232,509	232,449	228,145	0.0	1.9
Insured Unemployment Rate	1.7%	1.3%	2.1%	N/A	N/A
Consumer Price Index (U) for All U.S. Urban Consumers (1982 to 1984 = 100) - All Items					
Food & Beverages	190.3	191.0	184.3	-0.4	3.3
Housing	188.9	188.6	184.1	0.2	2.6
Apparel	190.7	190.8	185.1	-0.1	3.0
Transportation	118.8	123.0	119.0	-3.4	-0.2
Medical Care	164.8	167.2	154.7	-1.4	6.5
Recreation (Dec. 1997=100)	314.9	314.1	302.1	0.3	4.2
Education & Comm. (Dec. 1997=100)	108.5	108.7	107.7	-0.2	0.7
Other Goods & Services	112.6	112.7	110.9	-0.1	1.5
Other Goods & Services	307.8	307.0	300.2	0.3	2.5
Producer Prices (1982 to 1984 = 100) - All Commodities	150	151	140	-0.8	7.6
Wyoming Building Permits (New Privately Owned Housing Units Authorized)					
Total Units	201	211	124	-4.7	62.1
Valuation	\$24,373,000	\$29,020,000	\$21,020,000	-16.0	16.0
Single Family Homes	163	179	117	-8.9	39.3
Valuation	\$21,657,000	\$26,637,000	\$20,596,000	-18.7	5.2
Baker Hughes North American Rotary Rig Count for WY	75	73	62	2.7	21.0

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

Wyoming County Unemployment Rates

by: Brad Payne, Senior Economist

Platte County posted the highest unemployment rate (5.7%), while Albany and Sublette counties tied for the lowest (1.7%).

REGION County	Labor Force			Employed			Unemployed			Unemployment Rate		
	Dec 2004 (p)	Nov 2004 (r)	Dec 2003 (b)									
NORTHWEST	46,408	46,824	46,988	44,445	45,056	44,375	1,963	1,768	2,613	4.2	3.8	5.6
Big Horn	5,835	5,944	5,832	5,579	5,724	5,555	256	220	277	4.4	3.7	4.7
Fremont	18,596	18,707	18,973	17,664	17,900	17,692	932	807	1,281	5.0	4.3	6.8
Hot Springs	2,153	2,177	2,252	2,092	2,134	2,161	61	43	91	2.8	2.0	4.0
Park	15,230	15,361	15,301	14,655	14,797	14,496	575	564	805	3.8	3.7	5.3
Washakie	4,594	4,635	4,630	4,455	4,501	4,471	139	134	159	3.0	2.9	3.4
NORTHEAST	47,851	48,250	48,094	46,354	46,899	46,172	1,497	1,351	1,922	3.1	2.8	4.0
Campbell	22,842	22,919	23,011	22,199	22,295	22,161	643	624	850	2.8	2.7	3.7
Crook	2,962	3,069	2,936	2,845	2,966	2,793	117	103	143	4.0	3.4	4.9
Johnson	4,066	4,134	3,992	3,949	4,048	3,861	117	86	131	2.9	2.1	3.3
Sheridan	14,836	14,912	14,966	14,318	14,471	14,277	518	441	689	3.5	3.0	4.6
Weston	3,145	3,216	3,189	3,043	3,119	3,080	102	97	109	3.2	3.0	3.4
SOUTHWEST	56,393	55,900	55,547	54,540	53,930	53,139	1,853	1,970	2,408	3.3	3.5	4.3
Lincoln	7,696	7,764	7,508	7,368	7,474	7,075	328	290	433	4.3	3.7	5.8
Sublette	3,937	4,012	3,770	3,871	3,950	3,654	66	62	116	1.7	1.5	3.1
Sweetwater	21,440	21,415	20,784	20,791	20,859	19,968	649	556	816	3.0	2.6	3.9
Teton	11,879	11,197	11,903	11,513	10,557	11,463	366	640	440	3.1	5.7	3.7
Uinta	11,441	11,512	11,582	10,997	11,090	10,979	444	422	603	3.9	3.7	5.2
SOUTHEAST	76,482	76,917	76,795	73,686	74,307	73,828	2,796	2,610	2,967	3.7	3.4	3.9
Albany	20,119	20,200	20,429	19,773	19,869	19,980	346	331	449	1.7	1.6	2.2
Goshen	6,247	6,472	6,227	6,034	6,274	6,030	213	198	197	3.4	3.1	3.2
Laramie	44,742	44,733	44,754	42,776	42,891	42,723	1,966	1,842	2,031	4.4	4.1	4.5
Niobrara	1,117	1,184	1,109	1,088	1,151	1,066	29	33	43	2.6	2.8	3.9
Platte	4,257	4,328	4,276	4,015	4,122	4,029	242	206	247	5.7	4.8	5.8
CENTRAL	51,134	51,384	52,097	49,310	49,710	49,482	1,824	1,674	2,615	3.6	3.3	5.0
Carbon	7,636	7,814	7,993	7,372	7,577	7,487	264	237	506	3.5	3.0	6.3
Converse	6,382	6,503	6,408	6,102	6,256	6,122	280	247	286	4.4	3.8	4.5
Natrona	37,116	37,067	37,696	35,836	35,877	35,873	1,280	1,190	1,823	3.4	3.2	4.8
STATEWIDE	278,266	279,274	279,518	268,334	269,902	266,995	9,932	9,372	12,523	3.6	3.4	4.5
Statewide Seasonally Adjusted										3.3	3.5	4.3
U.S.....										5.1	5.2	5.4
U.S. Seasonally Adjusted.....										5.4	5.4	5.7

Prepared in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Benchmarked 03/04. Run Date 1/05.

Data are not seasonally adjusted except where otherwise specified.

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

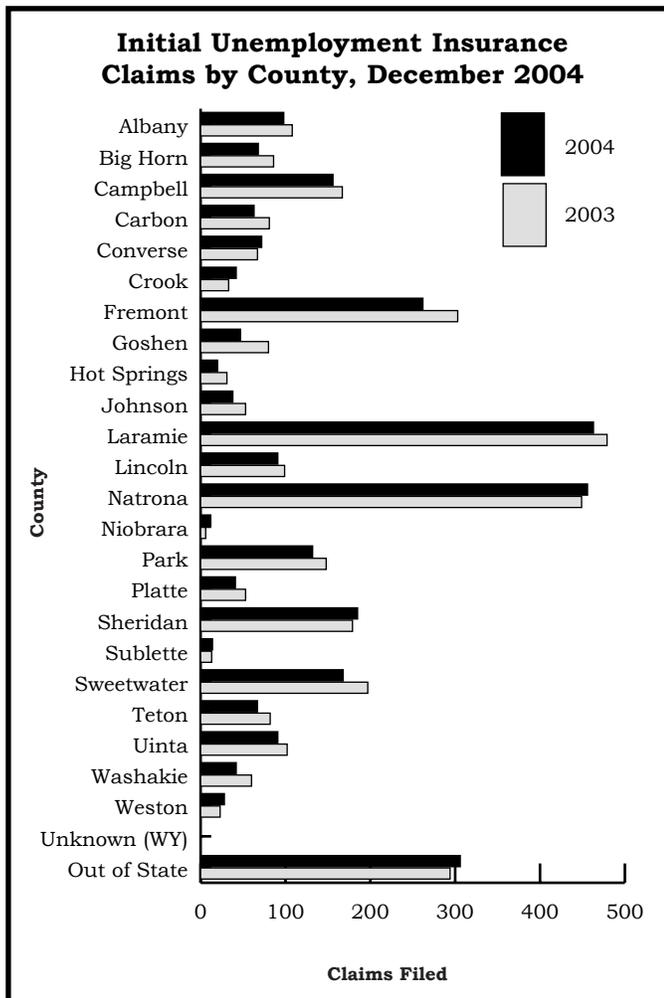
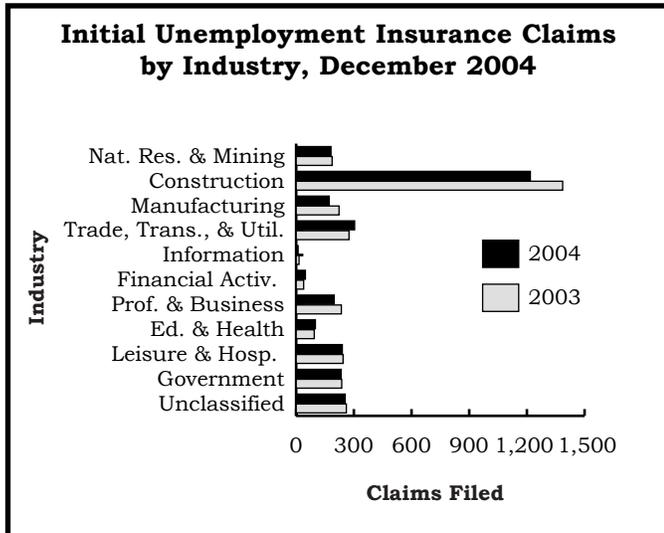
NOTE: The Current Population Survey (CPS) estimated the 2003 annual average Wyoming unemployment rate at 4.4 percent.

The 90 percent confidence interval for this estimate suggests that in 9 of 10 cases, the interval 3.9 to 4.9 percent would contain the actual rate.

Wyoming Normalized Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Initial Claims

by: Douglas W. Leonard, Research Analyst

December initial claims declined by 7.4 percent over the year, led by declines in Construction and Manufacturing. Over-the-year claims in Other Services were flat.



WYOMING STATEWIDE	Claims Filed		Percent Change	
	Dec04	Nov04	Dec03	Dec04
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	2,960	2,889	3,196	2.5 -7.4
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	1,571	1,118	1,796	40.5 -12.5
Natural Resources and Mining	181	158	187	14.6 -3.2
Mining	152	122	160	24.6 -5.0
Oil & Gas Extraction	17	16	22	6.3 -22.7
Construction	1,218	884	1,386	37.8 -12.1
Manufacturing	172	76	223	126.3 -22.9
TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING	933	1,211	935	-23.0 -0.2
Trade, Trans., Storage, & Util.	304	287	275	5.9 10.5
Wholesale Trade	35	44	34	-20.5 2.9
Retail Trade	182	176	157	3.4 15.9
Trans., Storage, & Utilities	87	67	84	29.9 3.6
Information	10	21	15	-52.4 -33.3
Financial Activities	48	38	39	26.3 23.1
Professional & Business Serv.	198	253	235	-21.7 -15.7
Educational & Health Services	100	84	94	19.0 6.4
Leisure & Hospitality	240	489	244	-50.9 -1.6
Other Services	33	39	33	-15.4 0.0
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	234	350	237	-33.1 -1.3
Federal Government	131	251	119	-47.8 10.1
State Government	20	21	18	-4.8 11.1
Local Government	83	78	100	6.4 -17.0
Local Education	13	11	21	18.2 -38.1
UNCLASSIFIED	222	210	228	5.7 -2.6

LARAMIE COUNTY

TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	464	424	477	9.4	-2.7
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	277	247	282	12.1	-1.8
Construction	223	224	229	-0.4	-2.6
TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING	140	137	150	2.2	-6.7
Trade, Trans., Storage, & Util.	51	36	47	41.7	8.5
Financial Activities	9	7	7	28.6	28.6
Professional & Business Serv.	41	51	55	-19.6	-25.5
Educational & Health Services	13	16	13	-18.8	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality	18	19	17	-5.3	5.9
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	25	27	16	-7.4	56.3
UNCLASSIFIED	22	13	29	69.2	-24.1

NATRONA COUNTY

TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	458	343	449	33.5	2.0
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	300	179	296	67.6	1.4
Construction	249	143	251	74.1	-0.8
TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING	131	136	126	-3.7	4.0
Trade, Trans., Storage, & Util.	40	41	44	-2.4	-9.1
Financial Activities	14	6	5	133.3	180.0
Professional & Business Serv.	26	38	33	-31.6	-21.2
Educational & Health Services	17	11	13	54.5	30.8
Leisure & Hospitality	28	29	26	-3.4	7.7
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	12	17	15	-29.4	-20.0
UNCLASSIFIED	15	11	12	36.4	25.0

Wyoming Normalized Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Continued Claims by: Douglas W. Leonard, Research Analyst

Continued claims fell by 31.5 percent over the month and 10.5 percent over the year. The goods producing sector continued to drive the overall decline, particularly in Construction.

WYOMING STATEWIDE	Percent Change Claims Filed			
	Dec04	Nov04	Dec03	Dec04
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	18,595	14,146	20,768	31.5 -10.5
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	4,965	4,535	5,548	9.5 -10.5
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	6,134	3,484	7,776	76.1 -21.1
Natural Resources and Mining	990	744	901	33.1 9.9
Mining	705	536	716	31.5 -1.5
Oil & Gas Extraction	101	67	121	50.7 -16.5
Construction	4,631	2,347	6,237	97.3 -25.7
Manufacturing	513	393	638	30.5 -19.6
TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING	8,714	7,898	9,008	10.3 -3.3
Trade, Trans., Storage, & Util.	1,951	1,681	2,231	16.1 -12.6
Wholesale Trade	378	303	399	24.8 -5.3
Retail Trade	1,091	958	1,247	13.9 -12.5
Trans., Storage, & Utilities	482	420	585	14.8 -17.6
Information	447	441	133	1.4 236.1
Financial Activities	388	323	435	20.1 -10.8
Professional & Business Serv.	1,828	1,498	1,935	22.0 -5.5
Educational & Health Serv.	685	651	820	5.2 -16.5
Leisure & Hospitality	3,134	3,041	3,137	3.1 -0.1
Other Services	281	263	317	6.8 -11.4
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	2,340	1,730	2,365	35.3 -1.1
Federal Government	1,418	942	1,190	50.5 19.2
State Government	233	231	253	0.9 -7.9
Local Government	689	557	922	23.7 -25.3
Local Education	126	142	183	-11.3 -31.1
UNCLASSIFIED	1,407	1,034	1,619	36.1 -13.1

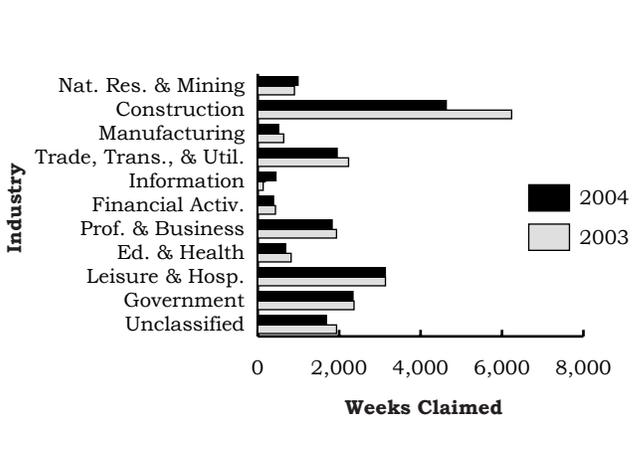
LARAMIE COUNTY

TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	2,999	2,268	2,818	32.2 6.4
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	802	706	760	13.6 5.5
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	1,101	439	1,166	150.8 -5.6
Construction	1,001	367	1,044	172.8 -4.1
TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING	1,536	1,508	1,216	1.9 26.3
Trade, Trans., Storage, & Util.	390	369	382	5.7 2.1
Financial Activities	97	107	69	-9.3 40.6
Professional & Business Serv.	448	488	329	-8.2 36.2
Educational & Health Services	158	126	146	25.4 8.2
Leisure & Hospitality	130	102	164	27.5 -20.7
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	275	261	325	5.4 -15.4
UNCLASSIFIED	87	60	111	45.0 -21.6

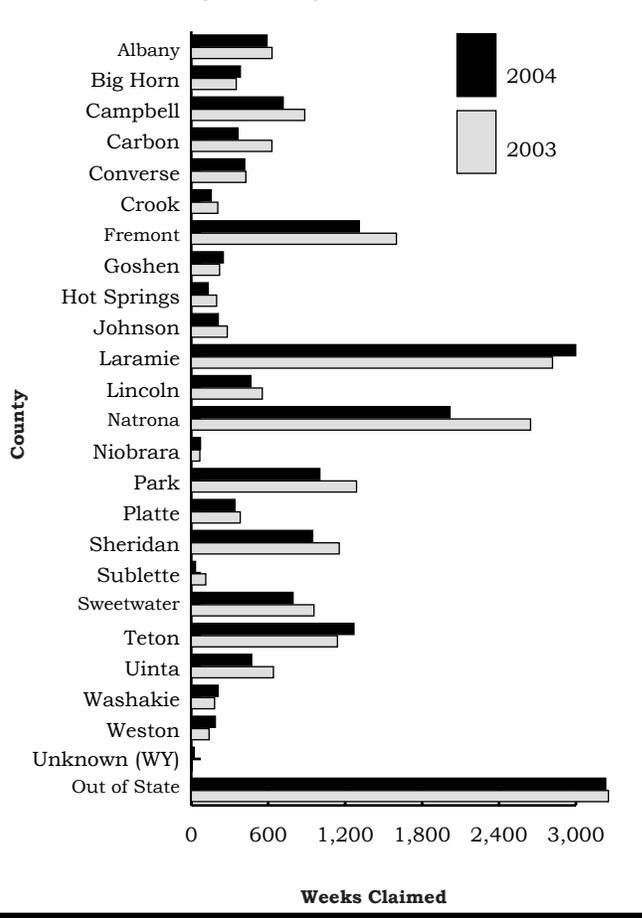
NATRONA COUNTY

TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	2,017	1,378	2,648	46.4 -23.8
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	558	447	715	24.8 -22.0
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	863	429	1,302	101.2 -33.7
Construction	695	294	1,089	136.4 -36.2
TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING	958	804	1,119	19.2 -14.4
Trade, Trans., Storage, & Util.	302	259	357	16.6 -15.4
Financial Activities	87	67	73	29.9 19.2
Professional & Business Serv.	282	240	310	17.5 -9.0
Educational & Health Services	98	89	179	10.1 -45.3
Leisure & Hospitality	144	103	137	39.8 5.1
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	114	85	135	34.1 -15.6
UNCLASSIFIED	82	60	92	36.7 -10.9

Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by Industry, December 2004



Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by County, December 2004



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