

TRENDS

Comparisons of Employment and Enrollment Outcomes Based on TANF Eligibility in Casper College’s Adult Basic Education/General Educational Development Program

by: *Mark A. Harris, Ph.D. Sociologist, Research & Planning; Bev Potter, B.S., and Lisa Mixer, B.A., Co-Directors of Casper College ABE/GED Center; and Rick Burgin, M.S., Occupational & Adult Education Specialist, Casper College.*

TANF eligible participants progressing in their educational level but with fewer than twelve hours of program participation experience employment and enrollment difficulties at a higher rate than participants who are not TANF eligible. A smaller percentage of TANF eligible participants experienced negative outcomes after GED completion than TANF ineligible participants.

The Casper College ABE/GED Center provides instruction in Adult Basic Education (ABE), General Educational Development (GED), English as a Second Language (ESL), U.S. citizenship, employability skills, and educational assessment services to individuals 16 and older who are out of school. The overall objective of these services is to help improve academic functioning and increase employability skills. The typical goal of Casper College ABE/GED participants is to earn their GED certificate.

The Casper College ABE/GED program's primary funding source originates from the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act within the Workforce Investment Act (1998). Outcome reporting for this funding source follows National Reporting System guidelines (National Reporting System, 2001). The U.S. Department of Education uses the outcome results provided by the NRS to justify federal investment in adult education programs. The core outcome measures focus on employment acquisition and retention, educational gain, placement in postsecondary education or training, and receipt of a secondary diploma or GED.

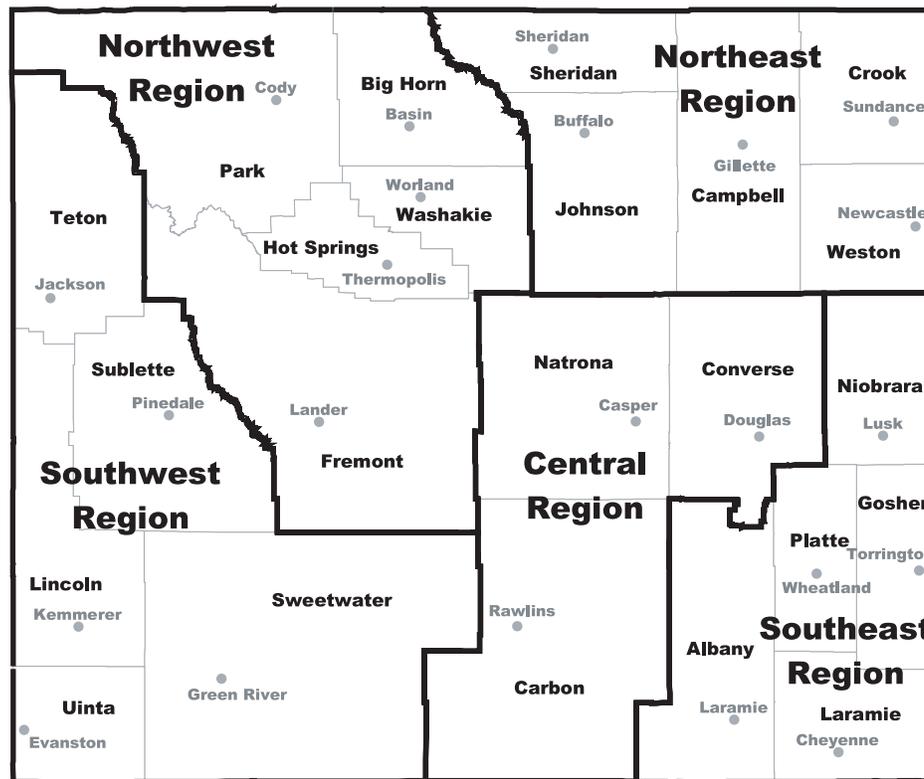
The other major funding source for the Casper College ABE/GED program is a grant from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Education and Training for Self-Sufficiency (ETSS; Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act, 1996). Funding from this source targets families who earn less than

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Research & Planning Section, P.O. Box 2760 Casper, WY 82602-2760

Tom Gallagher, Manager e-mail: tgalla@state.wy.us 307-473-3801

Krista R. Shinkle, Co-Editor e-mail: kshink@state.wy.us 307-473-3808

Susan J. Murray, Co-Editor e-mail: smurra1@state.wy.us 307-473-3835

Editorial Committee: David Bullard, Valerie A. Davis, Mark A. Harris, Susan J. Murray, and Brad Payne.

Contributors to **Wyoming Labor Force Trends** this month: David Bullard, Mark A. Harris, Douglas W. Leonard, Susan Murray, Brad Payne, and Sara Saulcy.

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185 percent of the federal poverty guidelines (\$34,040 for a family of four in 2003; U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2003). An ETSS grant provides funding to the Casper College ABE/GED program for extended hours, additional sites, and support to accommodate this targeted population. The performance goals of TANF are closely aligned with the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (1998).

Study Purpose

Past research indicates that high school graduates have substantially lower unemployment rates than those with only some high school education (Cantu, 2003). According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the 2003 unemployment rate for persons 25 years and older with less than a high school diploma or GED was 8.8 percent compared to 5.5 percent of persons with a high school diploma or GED, 4.8 percent for persons with some college, and 3.1 percent of persons with a Bachelor's degree or higher (2003). Completion of a GED also increases the probability of employment for high school dropouts (Tyler, n.d.). These data provide evidence that educational attainment is strongly associated with employment. In addition to increased employment, another indicator of program success is whether participants become enrolled in postsecondary education subsequent to ABE/GED involvement.

The purpose of this study is to determine whether Casper College ABE/GED participants who are eligible for TANF have employment and postsecondary enrollment outcomes similar to those who are not eligible for TANF at various levels of program progression, including the completion of a GED.

Study Methods

In the past, ABE/GED staff relied upon telephone interviews to determine program outcomes for Casper College ABE/GED

participants. Unfortunately, telephone interviews have historically resulted in low response rates, which prevent accurate outcome evaluations.

To better gauge whether the program has reached desired outcome goals, Casper College ABE/GED administrators contracted with Research & Planning (R&P) to merge ABE/GED participant data with Wage Records employment data and Casper College postsecondary enrollment data to determine the employment and postsecondary enrollment outcomes of the 581 ABE/GED participants from program year 2001-2002. Postsecondary data available to R&P contain all students enrolled in postsecondary education at Casper College. Wage Records data represent a census of nearly all persons employed in the state (Gosar, 1995).

The following outcomes for TANF eligible and TANF ineligible participants were developed by Casper College's ABE/GED co-directors and staff:

- **Employment Difficulty and No Enrollment (negative outcome).**

Includes participants who did not obtain employment in the year after program exit or worked fewer quarters in the year after program exit than the year prior to program participation and were not enrolled in postsecondary education at Casper College during the two semesters after program exit.

- **Employment Stability/Increase or Enrollment (positive outcome).**

Includes participants who either: (1) maintained employment stability (i.e., worked the same number of quarters before and after program participation), (2) worked more quarters in the year after program exit, (3) were enrolled in postsecondary education at Casper College during the two semesters after program exit, or, (4) maintained

employment stability or worked more quarters in the year after program exit and were enrolled in postsecondary education at Casper College.¹

For purposes of this research, the TANF eligible group is defined as ABE/GED participants whose family income did not exceed 185 percent of the federal poverty guidelines. The other group, TANF ineligible, is composed of ABE/GED participants who did not meet TANF eligibility criteria.

ABE/GED participants in correctional programs were excluded from the analysis because they do not have the same ability to pursue educational or employment goals as

the general ABE/GED population. Participants in English as a Second Language were also removed.

All ABE/GED Participants

Approximately one-third (186) of the 581 program year 2001 to 2002 ABE/GED participants were TANF eligible (see Table) at time of program enrollment. Overall, employment and enrollment outcomes were very similar for ABE/GED participants who were TANF eligible and those ineligible for TANF. Specifically, 55.4 percent of TANF eligible participants and 54.2 percent of TANF ineligible participants experienced a positive employment or enrollment outcome.

Table: Employment and Educational Enrollment Outcomes for Casper College Adult Basic Education/General Educational Development (ABE/GED) Participants by TANF Eligibility, Program Year 2001-2002

	Minimal Program Contact ^a	Within Education Level		Completed or Increased One Educ. Level	Completed GED	Total
		<12 hrs of participation	>=12 hrs of participation			
TANF Eligible Participants	38	77	19	5	47	186
Number with a Positive Outcome ^b	22	33	10	4	34	103
Percent ^b	57.9%	42.9%	52.6%	80.0%	72.3%	55.4%
Number with a Negative Outcome ^c	16	44	9	1	13	83
Percent ^c	42.1%	57.1%	47.4%	20.0%	27.7%	44.6%
TANF Ineligible Participants	50	177	34	16	118	395
Number with a Positive Outcome ^b	23	92	17	11	71	214
Percent ^b	46.0%	52.0%	50.0%	68.8%	60.2%	54.2%
Number with a Negative Outcome ^c	27	85	17	5	47	181
Percent ^c	54.0%	48.0%	50.0%	31.2%	39.8%	45.8%
All Participants (TANF Eligible & TANF Ineligible)	88	254	53	21	165	581
Number with a Positive Outcome ^b	45	125	27	15	105	317
Percent ^b	51.1%	49.2%	50.9%	71.4%	63.6%	54.6%
Number with a Negative Outcome ^c	43	129	26	6	60	264
Percent ^c	48.9%	50.8%	49.1%	28.6%	36.4%	45.4%

^aIncludes participants who exited the program prior to the assessment of education level (i.e., requires at least four hours of program participation) or who exited the program prior to completion of the assessed education level.

^bIncludes participants who either: (1) maintained employment stability (i.e., worked the same number of quarters before and after program participation), (2) worked more quarters in the year after program exit, (3) were enrolled in postsecondary education at Casper College during the two semesters after program exit, or, (4) maintained employment stability or worked more quarters in the year after program exit and were enrolled in postsecondary education at Casper College.

^cIncludes participants who did not obtain employment in the year after program exit or worked fewer quarters in the year after program exit and were not enrolled in postsecondary education at Casper College during the two semesters after program exit.

ABE/GED Participants with Minimal Program Contact

Participants with minimal program contact are those who exited the program prior to assessment to determine educational level (most in this category had fewer than 4 hours of program participation). Eighty-eight participants (15.1% of total) had minimal program contact (see Figure 1, page 6). A higher percentage of TANF eligible participants (20.4%) had minimal program contact compared to TANF ineligible participants (12.7%) in program year 2001-2002 (see Figure 2, page 6).

ABE/GED Participants Progressing in Educational Level with Less Than 12 Hours

Participants progressing in an educational level (see companion article, page 8) that have less than twelve hours of program participation comprise the largest segment of program year 2001-2002 participants (254 or 43.7%, see Figure 1, page 6). Although the number of TANF eligible participants (77) and TANF ineligible participants (177) seem vastly different (see Table, page 4), the percentages of TANF eligible and TANF ineligible participants in this category are within 3.4 percentage points of each other (41.4% and 44.8%, respectively). However, the data indicate that TANF eligible participants progressing in their educational level but with fewer than twelve hours of program participation experience employment and enrollment difficulties at a higher rate than participants who are TANF ineligible (57.1% compared to 48.0%).

ABE/GED Participants Progressing in Educational Level with More Than 12 Hours

Fifty-three (9.1%) program participants progressed in their educational level and had more than twelve hours of program participation (see Figure 1, page 6). About an

equal percentage of TANF eligible and TANF ineligible participants (52.6% and 50.0%, respectively) in this category experienced a positive employment or enrollment outcome (see Table, page 4).

ABE/GED Participants Completing or Increasing One Educational Level

Few (21 or 3.6%) of the participants completed or increased one educational level (see Figure 1, page 6). This excludes the 165 participants who had already earned their GED (see Table, page 4). Because of the small number of participants in this category, it is difficult to draw conclusions about the nature of the employment or enrollment outcomes among TANF eligible and TANF ineligible participants. However, the marginal totals seem to indicate that a higher percentage of participants who completed or increased one educational level had a positive employment or enrollment outcome (71.4%) in comparison to participants who progressed within their educational level and had more than twelve hours of participation (50.1%).

ABE/GED Participants Completing Their GED

GED completion is the primary goal of most Casper College ABE/GED participants. Of the 581 ABE/GED participants, 165 or (28.4%) completed their GED (see Figure 1, page 6). Results indicate that GED completion appears effective in reducing the number of participants with negative outcomes. More than half of all GED recipients (63.6%) experience a positive employment or enrollment outcome during the year after GED completion (see Table, page 4). Additionally, the effect of obtaining a GED on reducing the number of participants with negative outcomes appears to be even stronger among TANF eligible participants. Specifically, a smaller percentage of TANF eligible participants (27.7%) experienced negative outcomes after GED completion

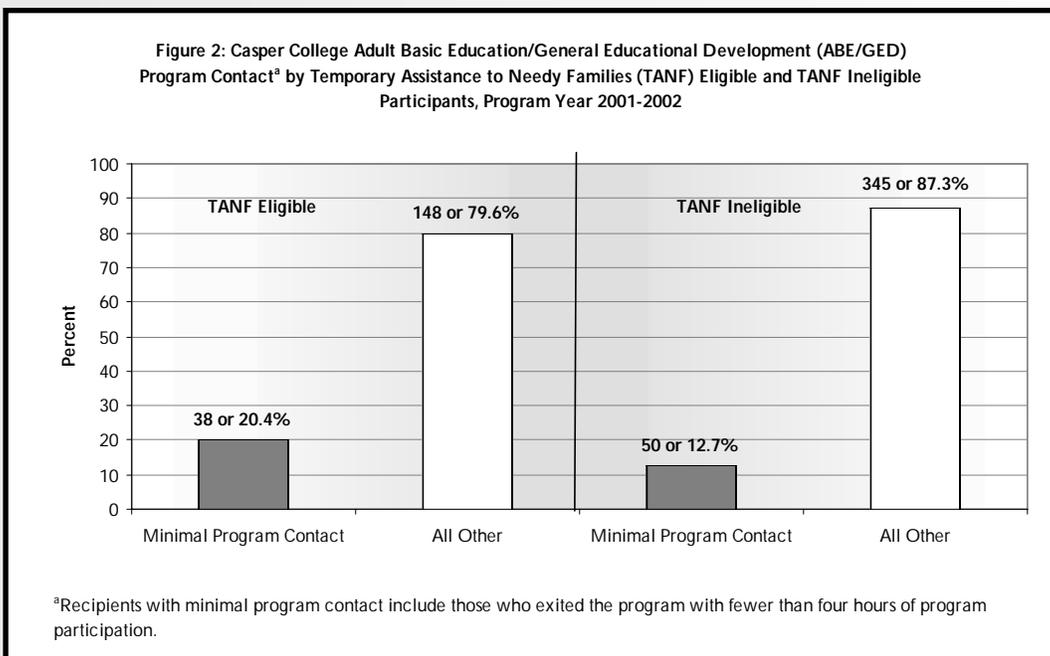
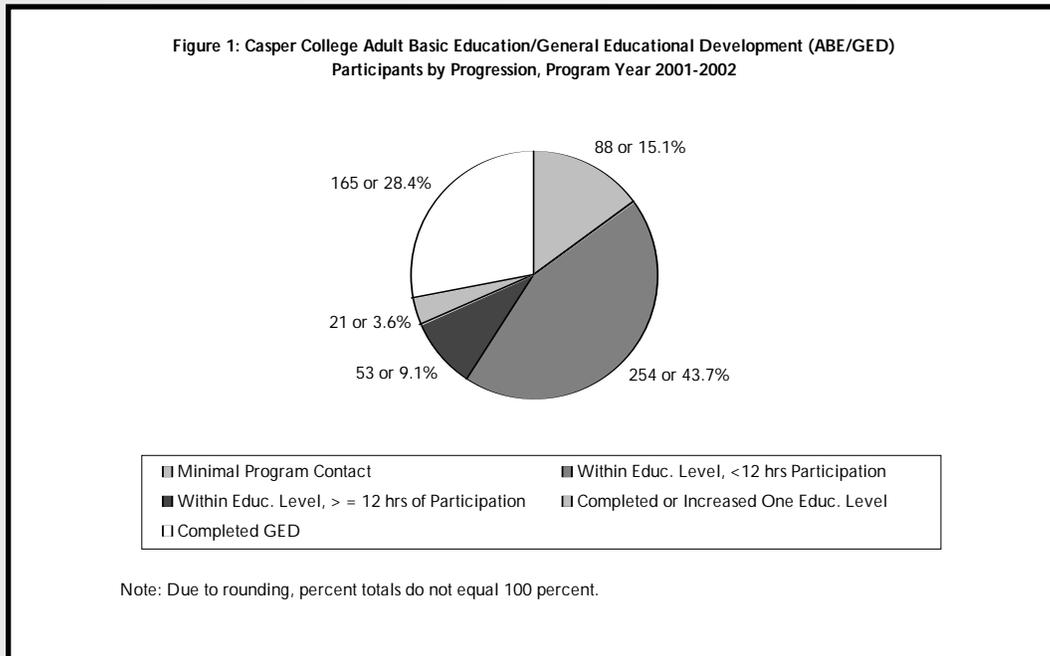
than TANF ineligible participants (39.8%; see Figure 3, page 7).

participants who are TANF ineligible. The effect appears to be particularly strong among TANF eligible participants who have earned their GED.

Conclusions

According to results presented in this study, Casper College ABE/GED program participation appears to assist TANF eligible participants in achieving positive employment and enrollment outcomes relative to

Participation in the initial stages (i.e., those making progress within an education level but who accumulate less than 12 hours of participation) appears to be associated with negative outcomes (most likely



employment difficulty at this stage) among TANF eligible participants. The rigors of program participation may necessitate a temporary withdrawal from or reduction in labor market activity for TANF eligible participants. TANF eligible participants may have less family and social network support to balance the requirements of work and school. This may also explain why TANF eligible participants are more likely to experience minimal program contact.

Implications and Future Research

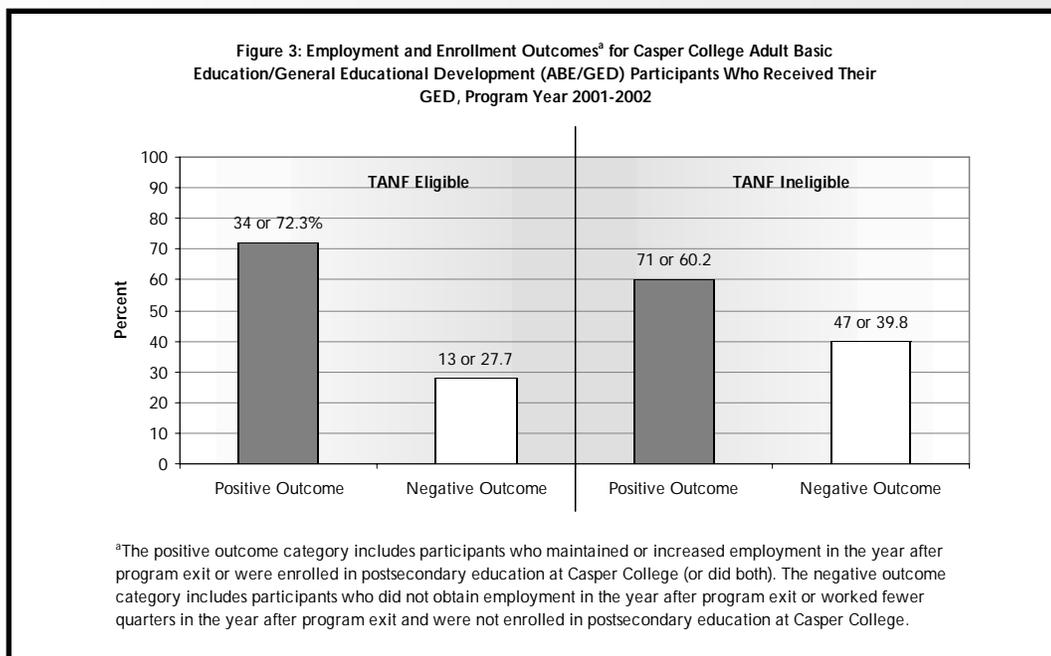
Positive benefits for TANF eligible participants appear to accrue with more ABE/GED program contact. Additional monetary and staff resources devoted to the retention of TANF eligible participants may reduce the number who "drop out" of the program with only minimal program contact. Casper College ABE/GED staff desire to test whether monetary incentives may increase the length of time that TANF eligible participants remain in the program.

Another potential research question is whether TANF eligible participants who participate in ABE/GED programs are less

likely to become TANF recipients (or spend less time on TANF) than those who do not participate in ABE/GED programs. The empirical demonstration of saving TANF dollars would represent one solid justification for the continuation or expansion of TANF funded ABE/GED participation. The positive outcomes shown for TANF eligible participants in the current study, particularly among those who received their GED, increase participants' self-sufficiency, decreasing their need for TANF assistance. Merging of ABE/GED and Department of Family Services administrative data would allow us to definitively answer these additional questions.

Note

¹The findings from this study will be presented in greater detail in a larger R&P occasional paper. Specifically, positive outcome results will be broken into positive and *unexpected positives*. Unexpected positives are those listed in as the fourth type of positive (maintained employment stability or worked more quarters in the year after program exit *and* were enrolled in postsecondary education at Casper College.



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Adult Basic Education (ABE) Program Educational Functioning Levels

by: Susan Murray, Information Specialist/Desktop Publisher

The feature article in this month's issue of *Wyoming Labor Force Trends* compares (by TANF eligibility) employment and enrollment outcomes for participants in Casper College's Adult Basic Education/General Educational Development (ABE/GED) program. This article describes the process the participants go through when entering Casper College's ABE program.

The first steps to program participation are registering and completing a test of basic education. The assessment determines the participants' functioning level in educational subject areas including Reading, Math, and Language. The Educational Functioning Level (EFL) is a measure of adult educational progress, and is not the same as a grade level typically found in public schools.

The functioning level, as defined by the National Reporting System for Adult Education (2001), is comprised of four levels of Adult Basic Education and two levels of Adult Secondary Education (see text box, below). When the feature article refers to progress or progressing “within an educational level” that means a participant is obtaining the skills identified within one of the six EFL levels.

After discussing the goals of the participant, the ABE staff use the results from the EFL assessment as a guideline to determine which educational subjects participants should concentrate on. The individualized program for a participant whose goal is to earn their GED would be different than a student of a culinary program. A particular GED participant may need to work within several subjects, but a culinary participant may need to concentrate on mathematics. The typical goal of Casper College ABE/GED participants is to earn their GED certificate (Harris, 2004). By the

time a participant completes the High Adult Secondary Education level (see text box), they should be able to reach their goal of successfully completing their GED.

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National Reporting System for Adult Education. (2001). *Measures and methods for the national reporting system for adult education: Implementation guidelines*. Retrieved February 13, 2004, from <http://www.nrsweb.org/reports/implement.pdf>



Abbreviated Descriptions of the Lowest and Highest Educational Functioning Levels

At the level of **Beginning ABE Literacy**, an individual: has no or minimal reading and writing skills; has little or no recognition of numbers or simple counting skills, or may have only minimal skills, such as ability to add or subtract single digit numbers; has little or no ability to read basic signs or maps; can handle routine entry level jobs that require little or no basic written communication or computational skills, or no knowledge of computers or other technology.

Among other skills, participants of the final program level, **High Adult Secondary Education**, can comprehend, explain, and analyze information from a variety of literacy works; use context cues and higher order processes to interpret meaning of written material; write in a cohesive manner while clearly expressing ideas supported by relevant detail; make mathematical estimates of time and space; apply principles of geometry to measure angles, lines, and surfaces; apply trigonometric functions; read technical information and complex manuals; function in most job situations involving higher order thinking; use common software and learn new software applications, or adapt use of software or technology to new situations.

Reference: National Reporting System for Adult Education. (2001). *Measures and methods for the national reporting system for adult education: Implementation guidelines*. Retrieved February 13, 2004, from <http://www.nrsweb.org/reports/implement.pdf>

Occupational Staffing Patterns Across Industries: A Demonstration

by: Sara Saulcy, Economist
and Tony Glover, Research Analyst

Occupational staffing patterns are a useful analytical tool to assist firms, workers, economic developers, and others to make informed staffing decisions. In particular, occupational staffing patterns show the types of occupations and prevailing wages usually found within an industry. They also show prevailing wages in a particular industry. Using an example, we illustrate how an economic developer can decide between two firms looking to locate to a specific area. Based on the information in the occupational staffing patterns, she can target her efforts towards firms that will meet community goals.

Established employers generally know the occupations required to staff their businesses. For example, existing Retail Trade employers opening new stores know they will need cashiers. For those outside of or not familiar with a particular industry, however, evaluating an industry's occupational needs presents more of a challenge.

Consider the example of an economic developer, Jamie, who knows of two firms interested in locating to her area. One firm drills oil wells, while the other firm is a home improvement store. Both firms plan to employ approximately 125 workers. Jamie wants to focus her recruiting efforts on the employer that provides jobs which pay the highest average wages. Even though she has prior experience with both potential firms' industries, it is beneficial to review more objective measures, such as occupational staffing patterns which can serve both those lacking occupation/industry specific knowledge and those desiring hard data to confirm or refute their speculation. This article demonstrates how to use occupational staffing pattern data for decision making and informational purposes.

Occupational Staffing Patterns

Tables 1 and 2 (see pages 11 and 12) demonstrate how occupational requirements vary by industry. Each table illustrates one firm with 125 workers. Table 1 shows a firm in Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) 13, oil & gas extraction. Table 2 shows a firm in SIC 52, building materials, hardware, garden supply, & mobile home dealers. As the tables show, firms in SIC 13 typically require a more diverse set of occupations and related skills than do firms in SIC 52. Furthermore, only two occupations, Bookkeeping, Accounting, & Auditing and General & Operations Managers, are common to both industries.

Wages among the occupations typically found in the two industries also differ. Occupations represented in SIC 13 pay a statewide annual average of \$37,753 annually, while occupations in SIC 52 pay \$22,672. Additionally, the proportion of high-wage jobs (paying more than \$23,920; 130% of the 2003 federal poverty guideline) is much higher in SIC 13 (91.3% of jobs) than in SIC 52 (23.2% of jobs; U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2003).

To build your own occupational staffing patterns, visit our website at:
<http://doe.state.wy.us/lmi/staffing/Staffing.htm>
Any questions? Please call R&P at (307) 473-3807.

Considering only her goal of recruiting a high-paying firm, Jamie should direct her efforts toward the oil and gas firm.

Conclusion

Our hypothetical two-industry evaluation illustrates how occupational staffing patterns can help determine a course of action. While our example represents the standpoint of an economic developer, many other entities may also benefit from this type of analysis. New or relocating firms may obtain wage information for a given area to determine whether the prevailing wages are within their ability to pay. Additionally, firms may research

alternate ways firms of their type are staffed. An entrepreneur can determine the occupational needs of a given industry and choose to open or expand a business. Workers can learn which occupations offer opportunities for the transferability of skills across various industries (for further information about skills needs across occupations, see O*NET Online at <<http://online.onetcenter.org/>>. For many situations, occupational staffing patterns can help make informed decisions.

References

U.S. Department of Health and Human

Table 1: Wyoming Sample Oil & Gas Extraction (SIC^a 13) Staffing Pattern Assuming 125 Employees in the Firm

SOC ^b Code and Occupation Title	Staffing Level		2001 Average Wage ^c		
	% of Employment	Number of Workers	Hourly	Annual	% of Poverty ^d
53-7073 Wellhead pumpers	14.7%	18	\$17.30	\$35,620	194%
53-3032 Truck drivers, heavy & tractor-trailer	11.6%	15	\$14.69	\$30,550	166%
47-5099 Extraction workers, all other	9.7%	12	\$14.02	\$29,160	158%
47-5081 Helpers -- extraction workers	9.3%	12	\$14.55	\$30,270	165%
49-9098 Helpers -- installation, maintenance, & repair workers	6.5%	8	\$13.03	\$27,100	147%
51-8093 Petroleum pump system operators, refinery operators, & gaugers	5.7%	7	\$22.50	\$46,800	254%
17-2171 Petroleum engineers	5.1%	6	\$33.47	\$69,630	378%
47-1011 First-line supervisors/managers of construction trades & extraction workers	4.8%	6	\$22.98	\$47,790	260%
11-1021 General & operations managers	3.8%	5	\$28.18	\$58,620	319%
43-3031 Bookkeeping, accounting, & auditing clerks	3.6%	5	\$10.68	\$22,220	121%
43-9061 Office clerks, general	3.4%	4	\$8.95	\$18,620	101%
43-6011 Executive secretaries & administrative assistants	2.9%	4	\$13.27	\$27,590	150%
49-9041 Industrial machinery mechanics	1.9%	2	\$22.05	\$45,870	249%
11-3031 Financial managers	1.9%	2	\$26.86	\$55,870	304%
43-1011 First-line supervisors/managers of office & administrative support workers	1.9%	2	\$16.13	\$33,560	182%
13-1199 Business operations specialists, all other	1.9%	2	\$20.82	\$43,320	235%
43-6014 Secretaries, except legal, medical, & executive	1.7%	2	\$9.99	\$20,790	113%
19-2042 Geoscientists, except hydrologists & geographers	1.7%	2	\$30.63	\$63,700	346%
17-3099 All other drafters, engineering, & mapping technicians	1.7%	2	\$20.28	\$42,180	229%
19-4041 Geological & petroleum technicians	1.3%	2	\$19.58	\$40,730	221%
47-2111 Electricians	1.3%	2	\$18.63	\$38,750	211%
49-1011 First-line supervisors/managers of mechanics, installers, & repairers	1.1%	1	\$22.92	\$47,670	259%
11-9041 Engineering managers	0.8%	1	\$34.82	\$72,420	394%
17-2199 Engineers, all other	0.6%	1	\$25.70	\$53,460	291%
49-2095 Electrical & electronics repairers, powerhouse, substation, & relay	0.4%	1	\$24.58	\$51,130	278%
11-9199 Managers, all other	0.4%	1	\$26.34	\$57,790	314%
Total	100.0%	125	\$18.17	\$37,753	205%

^aStandard Industrial Classification.

^bStandard Occupational Classification.

^cAverage wage for the occupation in Wyoming; not industry-specific.

^dBased on \$18,400 annually for a family of four (100% of the 2003 federal poverty guideline).

Note: Totals may not sum due to rounding.

Table 2: Wyoming Sample Building Materials, Hardware, Garden Supply, and Mobile Home Dealers (SIC^a 52) Staffing Pattern Assuming 125 Employees in the Firm

SOC ^b Code and Occupation Title	Staffing Level		2001 Average Wage ^c		
	% of Employment	Number of Workers	Hourly	Annual	% of Poverty ^d
41-2031 Retail salespersons	41.1%	51	\$8.72	\$18,130	99%
41-2011 Cashiers	15.5%	19	\$7.41	\$15,410	84%
41-1011 First-line supervisors/managers of retail sales workers	10.1%	13	\$13.53	\$28,140	153%
41-4012 Sales representatives, wholesale & manufacturing, except technical & scientific products	8.5%	11	\$17.20	\$35,780	194%
43-5081 Stock clerks & order fillers	7.8%	10	\$10.13	\$21,080	115%
43-3031 Bookkeeping, accounting, & auditing clerks	6.2%	8	\$10.68	\$22,220	121%
11-1021 General & operations managers	4.6%	6	\$28.18	\$58,620	319%
53-7062 Laborers & freight, stock, & material movers, hand	4.6%	6	\$9.16	\$19,060	104%
43-5071 Shipping, receiving, & traffic clerks	1.6%	2	\$10.62	\$22,080	120%
Total	100.0%	125	\$10.90	\$22,672	123%

^aStandard Industrial Classification.

^bStandard Occupational Classification.

^cAverage wage for the occupation in Wyoming; not industry-specific.

^dBased on \$18,400 annually for a family of four (100% of the 2003 federal poverty guideline).

Services. (2003). 2003 HHS poverty guidelines. Retrieved July 8, 2003, from <http://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty/03poverty.htm>.

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Wyoming Job Growth Increases in January

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

Job growth increased in January as 5,300 new jobs were created (2.2%) in Wyoming. On the other hand, U.S. nonfarm employment was essentially unchanged from a year earlier (6,000 jobs or 0.0%). Job gains in Natural Resources & Mining (including oil & gas) were especially strong (2,000 jobs or 11.7%). The state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell to 3.9 percent from 4.3 percent in December.

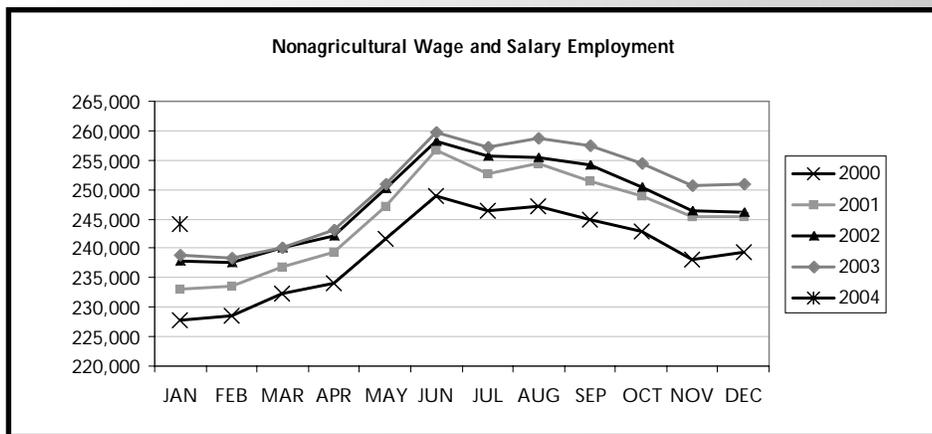
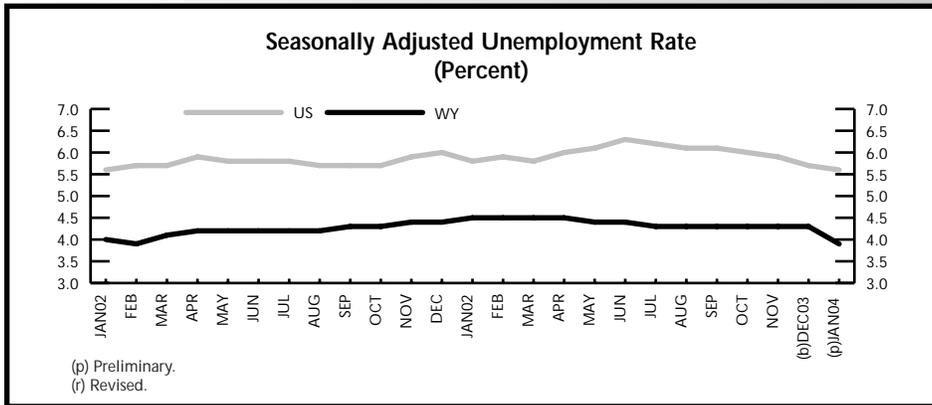
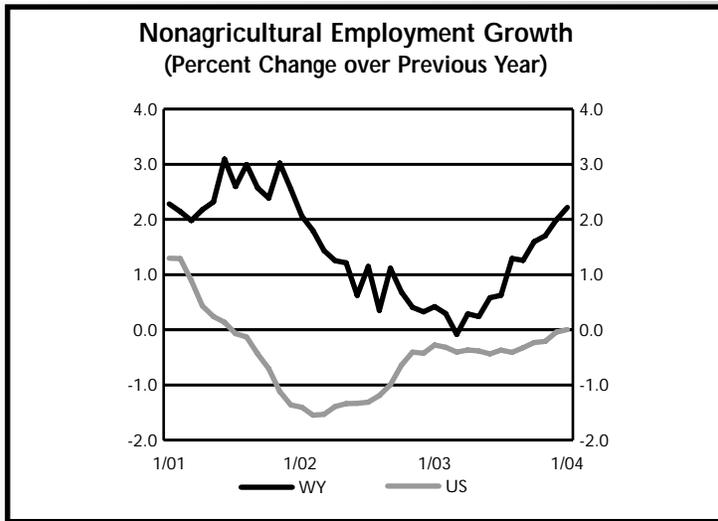
As expected, employment fell by 6,800 jobs or 2.7 percent from December to January. This decrease is similar to the seasonal employment decreases seen in previous years. Large job losses occurred in Construction (-1,800 jobs or -9.4%), Retail Trade (-1,300 jobs or -4.3%), Leisure & Hospitality (-900 jobs or -3.2%), and Government (-1,200 jobs or -1.8%).

From January 2003 to January 2004, Wyoming added 5,300 jobs or 2.2 percent. This is the highest level of over-the-year

employment growth seen since December 2001. Many of the job gains appear related to increased drilling for natural gas. Natural Resources & Mining (including oil & gas) added 2,000 jobs or 11.7 percent. Other industries with significant job growth include Construction (700 jobs or 4.2%), Transportation & Utilities (400 jobs or 3.5%), Financial Activities (700 jobs or 7.1%), Education & Health Services (800 jobs or 3.9%), and Government (800 jobs or 1.3%). Leisure & Hospitality fell by 400 jobs or 1.5 percent.

As expected, most county unemployment rates increased from December to January. The largest increases occurred in Goshen (up from 3.2% in December to 4.8% in January), Big Horn (4.7% in December, 6.0% in January), Hot Springs (4.0% in December, 5.1% in January), and Johnson counties (3.3% in December, 4.3% in January).





State Unemployment Rates January 2004 (Seasonally Adjusted)

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	11.7
Oregon	7.7
Alaska	7.3
Michigan	6.6
New York	6.5
Washington	6.5
District of Columbia	6.3
South Carolina	6.3
Texas	6.3
Illinois	6.2
Ohio	6.2
California	6.1
Louisiana	6.1
Alabama	6.0
Mississippi	5.8
North Carolina	5.8
New Mexico	5.7
Colorado	5.6
Massachusetts	5.6
United States	5.6
New Jersey	5.5
Pennsylvania	5.3
Arizona	5.2
Arkansas	5.2
Kentucky	5.2
Rhode Island	5.2
West Virginia	5.2
Indiana	5.0
Oklahoma	5.0
Utah	5.0
Wisconsin	5.0
Maine	4.9
Tennessee	4.9
Idaho	4.8
Connecticut	4.7
Kansas	4.7
Missouri	4.7
Minnesota	4.6
Montana	4.6
Nevada	4.5
Florida	4.3
Georgia	4.3
Maryland	4.3
Iowa	4.1
New Hampshire	4.1
Hawaii	3.9
Nebraska	3.9
Wyoming	3.9
Vermont	3.8
Virginia	3.6
Delaware	3.4
North Dakota	3.0
South Dakota	2.9

What's New?

Occupational Projections: 2010 is available at:
<http://doe.state.wy.us/lmi/out/TOC.htm>

Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

From January 2003 to January 2004, Wyoming added 5,300 jobs or 2.2 percent. This is the highest level of over-the-year employment growth seen since December 2001.

WYOMING STATEWIDE	Employment in Thousands		Percent Change Total Employment			LARAMIE COUNTY	Employment in Thousands		Percent Change Total Employment		
	Jan04(p)	Dec03(b)	Jan03(b)	Jan04	Jan04		Jan04(p)	Dec03(b)	Jan03(b)	Jan04	Jan04
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	244.2	251.0	238.9	-2.7	2.2	TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	38.9	39.9	38.9	-2.5	0.0
TOTAL PRIVATE	180.1	185.7	175.6	-3.0	2.6	TOTAL PRIVATE	26.8	27.5	26.7	-2.5	0.4
GOODS PRODUCING	45.5	47.9	42.9	-5.0	6.1	GOODS PRODUCING	3.7	3.8	3.6	-2.6	2.8
Natural Resources & Mining	19.1	19.0	17.1	0.5	11.7	Nat. Res., Mining, & Construction	2.2	2.3	2.2	-4.3	0.0
Mining	18.8	19.0	17.0	-1.1	10.6	Manufacturing	1.5	1.5	1.4	0.0	7.1
Oil & Gas Extraction	3.3	3.2	3.0	3.1	10.0	SERVICE PROVIDING	35.2	36.1	35.3	-2.5	-0.3
Mining Except Oil & Gas	7.3	7.5	7.4	-2.7	-1.4	Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	8.2	8.5	8.4	-3.5	-2.4
Coal Mining	4.8	4.9	4.8	-2.0	0.0	Wholesale Trade	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
Support Activities for Mining	8.2	8.3	6.6	-1.2	24.2	Retail Trade	5.3	5.5	5.5	-3.6	-3.6
Support Activities for Oil & Gas	5.7	5.7	4.8	0.0	18.8	Information	1.0	1.0	1.1	0.0	-9.1
Construction	17.3	19.1	16.6	-9.4	4.2	Financial Activities	2.1	2.1	1.9	0.0	10.5
Construction of Buildings	4.0	4.2	4.0	-4.8	0.0	Professional & Business Services	3.1	3.2	3.1	-3.1	0.0
Heavy & Civil Engineering Constr.	4.3	5.3	3.8	-18.9	13.2	Educational & Health Services	3.1	3.1	2.9	0.0	6.9
Specialty Trade Contractors	9.0	9.6	8.8	-6.3	2.3	Leisure & Hospitality	4.0	4.2	4.1	-4.8	-2.4
Manufacturing	9.1	9.8	9.2	-7.1	-1.1	Other Services	1.6	1.6	1.6	0.0	0.0
Durable Goods	4.8	5.0	4.9	-4.0	-2.0	TOTAL GOVERNMENT	12.1	12.4	12.2	-2.4	-0.8
Non-Durable Goods	4.3	4.8	4.3	-10.4	0.0	Federal Government	2.6	2.7	2.5	-3.7	4.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	198.7	203.1	196.0	-2.2	1.4	State Government	3.8	3.8	3.9	0.0	-2.6
Trade, Trans., Warehousing, & Util.	47.8	48.9	47.1	-2.2	1.5	Local Government	5.7	5.9	5.8	-3.4	-1.7
Wholesale Trade	7.1	7.0	6.9	1.4	2.9	NATRONA COUNTY					
Merchant Whlsr.s., Durable Goods	4.1	4.1	4.1	0.0	0.0	TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	33.6	34.7	32.9	-3.2	2.1
Retail Trade	28.9	30.2	28.8	-4.3	0.3	TOTAL PRIVATE	28.0	28.9	27.3	-3.1	2.6
Motor Vehicle & Parts Dealers	4.1	4.1	4.1	0.0	0.0	GOODS PRODUCING	6.5	6.6	5.5	-1.5	18.2
Bldg. Material & Garden Supplies	2.3	2.4	2.3	-4.2	0.0	Natural Resources & Mining	2.6	2.7	2.0	-3.7	30.0
Food & Beverage Stores	4.7	4.9	4.8	-4.1	-2.1	Construction	2.3	2.3	2.0	0.0	15.0
Grocery Stores	3.8	3.9	3.9	-2.6	-2.6	Manufacturing	1.6	1.6	1.5	0.0	6.7
Gasoline Stations	4.0	4.1	3.9	-2.4	2.6	SERVICE PROVIDING	27.1	28.1	27.4	-3.6	-1.1
General Merchandise Stores	5.6	6.1	5.4	-8.2	3.7	Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	7.7	7.9	7.7	-2.5	0.0
Miscellaneous Store Retailers	1.7	1.8	1.8	-5.6	-5.6	Wholesale Trade	2.1	2.1	2.1	0.0	0.0
Transportation, Warehouse, & Util.	11.8	11.7	11.4	0.9	3.5	Retail Trade	4.5	4.7	4.5	-4.3	0.0
Utilities	2.2	2.2	2.1	0.0	4.8	Transportation, Warehouse, & Util.	1.1	1.1	1.1	0.0	0.0
Transportation & Warehousing	9.6	9.5	9.3	1.1	3.2	Information	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.0
Truck Transportation	3.3	3.3	3.2	0.0	3.1	Financial Activities	1.8	1.8	1.8	0.0	0.0
Information	4.1	4.2	4.1	-2.4	0.0	Professional & Business Services	2.6	2.9	2.8	-10.3	-7.1
Financial Activities	10.5	10.5	9.8	0.0	7.1	Educational & Health Services	4.3	4.4	4.3	-2.3	0.0
Finance & Insurance	7.1	7.1	6.6	0.0	7.6	Leisure & Hospitality	3.0	3.1	3.0	-3.2	0.0
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	3.4	3.4	3.2	0.0	6.2	Other Services	1.6	1.7	1.7	-5.9	-5.9
Professional & Business Services	14.6	15.3	14.3	-4.6	2.1	TOTAL GOVERNMENT	5.6	5.8	5.6	-3.4	0.0
Prof., Scientific & Technical Services	7.4	7.6	7.3	-2.6	1.4	Federal Government	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
Architectural, Engineering & Rel.	2.1	2.2	2.0	-4.5	5.0	State Government	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
Mngt. of Companies & Enterprises	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.0	Local Government	4.2	4.4	4.2	-4.5	0.0
Admin. & Support & Waste Svcs.	6.7	7.2	6.5	-6.9	3.1	Local Education	3.0	3.1	2.9	-3.2	3.4
Educational & Health Services	21.2	21.4	20.4	-0.9	3.9	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.					
Educational	2.1	2.1	1.9	0.0	10.5						
Health Care & Social Assistance	19.1	19.3	18.5	-1.0	3.2						
Ambulatory Health Care	7.1	7.2	6.9	-1.4	2.9						
Offices of Physicians	2.9	3.0	2.9	-3.3	0.0						
Hospitals	2.8	2.8	2.7	0.0	3.7						
Nursing & Residential Care Fac.	4.4	4.5	4.3	-2.2	2.3						
Social Assistance	4.8	4.8	4.6	0.0	4.3						
Leisure & Hospitality	27.1	28.0	27.5	-3.2	-1.5						
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	2.0	2.0	2.1	0.0	-4.8						
Accommodation & Food Services	25.1	26.0	25.4	-3.5	-1.2						
Accommodation	8.7	9.0	9.0	-3.3	-3.3						
Food Serv. & Drinking Places	16.4	17.0	16.4	-3.5	0.0						
Other Services	9.3	9.5	9.5	-2.1	-2.1						
Repair & Maintenance	2.9	3.0	3.0	-3.3	-3.3						
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	64.1	65.3	63.3	-1.8	1.3						
Federal Government	7.3	7.4	7.1	-1.4	2.8						
State Government	15.5	15.5	14.9	0.0	4.0						
State Govt. Education	6.3	6.3	5.7	0.0	10.5						
Local Government	41.3	42.4	41.3	-2.6	0.0						
Local Govt. Education	21.9	22.7	21.7	-3.5	0.9						
Hospitals	5.6	5.5	5.6	1.8	0.0						

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		
	Jan04(p)	Dec03(b)	Jan03(b)	Dec03 Jan03	
				Jan04	Jan04
CAMPBELL COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	21.0	21.1	20.6	-0.5	1.9
TOTAL PRIVATE	17.2	17.4	17.0	-1.1	1.2
GOODS PRODUCING	8.1	8.3	8.2	-2.4	-1.2
Natural Resources & Mining	6.0	6.0	5.8	0.0	3.4
Construction	1.6	1.8	1.9	-11.1	-15.8
Manufacturing	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	12.9	12.8	12.4	0.8	4.0
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	4.0	4.0	3.8	0.0	5.3
Information	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.0
Professional & Business Services	1.3	1.3	1.2	0.0	8.3
Educational & Health Services	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality	1.6	1.6	1.6	0.0	0.0
Other Services	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	3.8	3.7	3.6	2.7	5.6
SWEETWATER COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	20.1	20.5	19.2	-2.0	4.7
TOTAL PRIVATE	15.7	16.2	14.8	-3.1	6.1
GOODS PRODUCING	6.0	6.5	5.7	-7.7	5.3
Natural Resources & Mining	3.6	3.6	3.3	0.0	9.1
Construction	1.2	1.7	1.2	-29.4	0.0
Manufacturing	1.2	1.2	1.2	0.0	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	14.1	14.0	13.5	0.7	4.4
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	4.3	4.3	4.2	0.0	2.4
Information	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.0	16.7
Professional & Business Services	1.0	1.0	0.8	0.0	25.0
Educational & Health Services	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.0	12.5
Leisure & Hospitality	2.0	2.0	1.9	0.0	5.3
Other Services	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	4.4	4.3	4.4	2.3	0.0
TETON COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	15.6	14.3	16.0	9.1	-2.5
TOTAL PRIVATE	13.3	12.1	13.7	9.9	-2.9
GOODS PRODUCING	2.3	2.4	2.7	-4.2	-14.8
Nat. Res., Mining & Construction	2.1	2.2	2.4	-4.5	-12.5
Manufacturing	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.0	-33.3
SERVICE PROVIDING	13.3	11.9	13.3	11.8	0.0
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	2.5	2.3	2.5	8.7	0.0
Information	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.0
Professional & Business Services	1.5	1.6	1.4	-6.3	7.1
Educational & Health Services	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality	4.8	3.6	4.9	33.3	-2.0
Other Services	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.0	0.0
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	2.3	2.2	2.3	4.5	0.0

State Unemployment Rates January 2004 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	11.3
Alaska	8.9
Oregon	8.9
Michigan	7.6
New York	7.2
Washington	7.2
Louisiana	7.0
Ohio	7.0
Illinois	6.9
California	6.7
South Carolina	6.7
Texas	6.7
District of Columbia	6.6
Mississippi	6.3
North Carolina	6.3
United States	6.3
Arkansas	6.2
Idaho	6.2
Massachusetts	6.2
Kentucky	6.1
Pennsylvania	6.1
Rhode Island	6.1
West Virginia	6.1
Alabama	6.0
Colorado	6.0
Wisconsin	6.0
New Mexico	5.9
Maine	5.8
New Jersey	5.8
Indiana	5.6
Montana	5.6
Tennessee	5.6
Minnesota	5.5
Missouri	5.4
Oklahoma	5.4
Kansas	5.3
Connecticut	5.2
Utah	5.2
Iowa	5.1
Nevada	5.1
Arizona	5.0
Wyoming	4.9
Vermont	4.8
Maryland	4.7
Florida	4.6
New Hampshire	4.5
Nebraska	4.3
Delaware	4.1
Georgia	4.1
North Dakota	4.1
Virginia	3.9
Hawaii	3.8
South Dakota	3.7

Economic Indicators

by: *David Bullard, Senior Economist*

Benefits paid by Wyoming unemployment insurance fell 12.9 percent from January 2003 to January 2004, signaling improvement in the labor market.

	Jan 2004 (p)	Dec 2003 (b)	Jan 2003 (b)	Percent Change Month	Year
Wyoming Total Civilian Labor Force	273,031	279,518	268,528	-2.3	1.7
Unemployed	13,348	12,523	14,789	6.6	-9.7
Employed	259,683	266,995	253,739	-2.7	2.3
Wyoming Unemployment Rate/Seasonally Adjusted	4.9%/3.9%	4.5%/4.3%	5.5%/4.5%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Unemployment Rate/Seasonally Adjusted	6.3%/5.6%	5.4%/5.7%	6.5%/5.8%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Multiple Jobholders	7,123,000	7,260,000	7,180,000	-1.9	-0.8
As a percent of all workers	5.2%	5.2%	5.3%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Discouraged Workers	432,000	433,000	449,000	-0.2	-3.8
U.S. Part-Time for Economic Reasons	5,270,000	4,833,000	5,135,000	9.0	2.6
Hours & Earnings for Production Workers					
Wyoming Mining					
Average Weekly Earnings	\$989.17	\$1,006.36	\$943.46	-1.7	4.8
Average Weekly Hours	42.6	44.1	43.1	-3.4	-1.2
U.S. Mining Hours & Earnings					
Average Weekly Earnings	\$814.23	\$819.25	\$769.44	-0.6	5.8
Average Weekly Hours	44.3	44.5	43.3	-0.4	2.3
Wyoming Manufacturing Hours & Earnings					
Average Weekly Earnings	\$617.69	\$643.92	\$713.59	-4.1	-13.4
Average Weekly Hours	38.2	40.6	39.6	-5.9	-3.5
U.S. Manufacturing Hours & Earnings					
Average Weekly Earnings	\$649.98	\$663.28	\$625.96	-2.0	3.8
Average Weekly Hours	40.7	41.3	40.1	-1.5	1.5
Wyoming Unemployment Insurance					
Weeks Compensated	21,155	20,689	24,794	2.3	-14.7
Benefits Paid	\$4,981,712	\$4,791,202	\$5,718,278	4.0	-12.9
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	\$235.49	\$231.58	\$230.63	1.7	2.1
State Insured Covered Jobs	221,965	228,145	217,602	-2.7	2.0
Insured Unemployment Rate	2.5%	2.1%	2.8%	N/A	N/A
Consumer Price Index (U) for All U.S. Urban Consumers (1982 to 1984 = 100) - All Items					
Food & Beverages	185.2	184.3	181.7	0.5	1.9
Housing	184.3	184.1	178.1	0.1	3.5
Apparel	186.3	185.1	182.3	0.6	2.2
Transportation	115.8	119.0	118.1	-2.7	-1.9
Medical Care	157.0	154.7	155.5	1.5	1.0
Recreation (Dec. 1997=100)	303.6	302.1	292.6	0.5	3.8
Education & Comm. (Dec. 1997=100)	107.9	107.7	106.9	0.2	0.9
Other Goods & Services	111.1	110.9	109.7	0.2	1.3
Other Goods & Services	301.4	300.2	296.5	0.4	1.7
Producer Prices (1982 to 1984 = 100) - All Commodities	143.0	139.4	135.3	2.6	5.7
Wyoming Building Permits (New Privately Owned Housing Units Authorized)					
Total Units	134	124	93	8.1	44.1
Valuation	\$23,333,000	\$21,020,000	\$14,055,000	11.0	66.0
Single Family Homes	72	117	88	-38.5	-18.2
Valuation	\$15,462,000	\$20,596,000	\$13,761,000	-24.9	12.4
Baker Hughes North American Rotary Rig Count for WY	69	62	33	11.3	109.1

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

Wyoming County Unemployment Rates

by: *Brad Payne, Economist*

Wyoming's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell from 4.3 percent in December to 3.9 percent in January.

REGION County	Labor Force			Employed			Unemployed			Unemployment Rate		
	Jan 2004 (p)	Dec 2003 (b)	Jan 2003 (b)									
NORTHWEST	46,058	46,988	44,820	43,142	44,375	41,499	2,916	2,613	3,321	6.3	5.6	7.4
Big Horn	5,816	5,832	5,649	5,467	5,555	5,238	349	277	411	6.0	4.7	7.3
Fremont	18,624	18,973	18,107	17,194	17,692	16,522	1,430	1,281	1,585	7.7	6.8	8.8
Hot Springs	2,163	2,252	2,132	2,053	2,161	2,022	110	91	110	5.1	4.0	5.2
Park	14,905	15,301	14,391	14,074	14,496	13,463	831	805	928	5.6	5.3	6.4
Washakie	4,550	4,630	4,541	4,354	4,471	4,254	196	159	287	4.3	3.4	6.3
NORTHEAST	47,308	48,094	46,619	45,199	46,172	44,270	2,109	1,922	2,349	4.5	4.0	5.0
Campbell	22,814	23,011	22,522	21,905	22,161	21,497	909	850	1,025	4.0	3.7	4.6
Crook	2,868	2,936	2,805	2,706	2,793	2,646	162	143	159	5.6	4.9	5.7
Johnson	3,919	3,992	3,799	3,751	3,861	3,607	168	131	192	4.3	3.3	5.1
Sheridan	14,594	14,966	14,412	13,838	14,277	13,602	756	689	810	5.2	4.6	5.6
Weston	3,113	3,189	3,081	2,999	3,080	2,918	114	109	163	3.7	3.4	5.3
SOUTHWEST	54,159	55,547	53,276	51,711	53,139	50,178	2,448	2,408	3,098	4.5	4.3	5.8
Lincoln	7,359	7,508	7,133	6,907	7,075	6,525	452	433	608	6.1	5.8	8.5
Sublette	3,666	3,770	3,376	3,569	3,654	3,258	97	116	118	2.6	3.1	3.5
Sweetwater	20,207	20,784	20,209	19,335	19,968	19,049	872	816	1,160	4.3	3.9	5.7
Teton	11,726	11,903	11,688	11,308	11,463	11,270	418	440	418	3.6	3.7	3.6
Uinta	11,201	11,582	10,870	10,592	10,979	10,076	609	603	794	5.4	5.2	7.3
SOUTHEAST	74,914	76,795	74,231	71,630	73,828	71,056	3,284	2,967	3,175	4.4	3.9	4.3
Albany	19,744	20,429	19,542	19,264	19,980	19,096	480	449	446	2.4	2.2	2.3
Goshen	6,035	6,227	6,014	5,746	6,030	5,665	289	197	349	4.8	3.2	5.8
Laramie	43,797	44,754	43,344	41,611	42,723	41,294	2,186	2,031	2,050	5.0	4.5	4.7
Niobrara	1,098	1,109	1,140	1,053	1,066	1,064	45	43	76	4.1	3.9	6.7
Platte	4,240	4,276	4,191	3,956	4,029	3,937	284	247	254	6.7	5.8	6.1
CENTRAL	50,589	52,097	49,580	47,999	49,482	46,736	2,590	2,615	2,844	5.1	5.0	5.7
Carbon	7,751	7,993	7,768	7,271	7,487	7,309	480	506	459	6.2	6.3	5.9
Converse	6,287	6,408	6,328	5,960	6,122	5,952	327	286	376	5.2	4.5	5.9
Natrona	36,551	37,696	35,484	34,768	35,873	33,475	1,783	1,823	2,009	4.9	4.8	5.7
STATEWIDE	273,031	279,518	268,528	259,683	266,995	253,739	13,348	12,523	14,789	4.9	4.5	5.5
Statewide Seasonally Adjusted										3.9	4.3	4.5
U.S.										6.3	5.4	6.5
U.S. Seasonally Adjusted.....										5.6	5.7	5.8

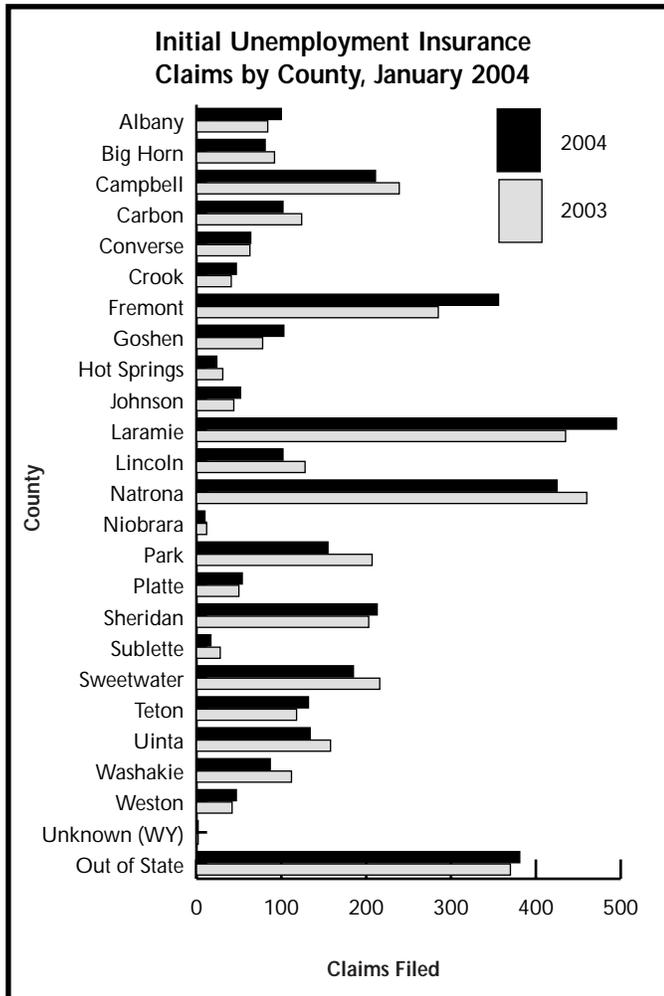
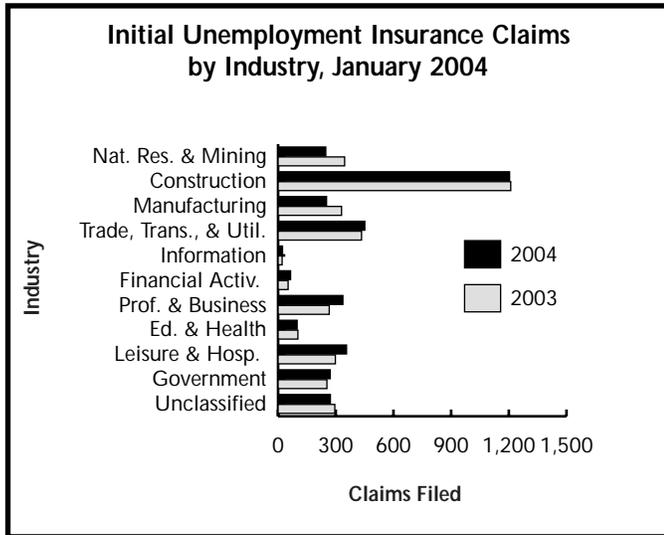
Prepared in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Benchmarked 03/04. Run Date 03/04.
Data are not seasonally adjusted except where otherwise specified.

(p) Preliminary. (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

Claims in goods-producing industries fell by 9.7 percent compared to January 2003, while claims increased by 11.7 percent in the services-providing industries over-the-year.



	Claims Filed			Percent Change	
	Jan04	Dec03	Jan03	Dec03 Jan04	Jan03 Jan04
WYOMING STATEWIDE					
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	3,578	3,196	3,621	12.0	-1.2
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	1,704	1,796	1,886	-5.1	-9.7
Natural Resources and Mining	248	187	346	32.6	-28.3
Mining	232	160	318	45.0	-27.0
Oil & Gas Extraction	25	22	24	13.6	4.2
Construction	1,204	1,386	1,210	-13.1	-0.5
Manufacturing	252	223	330	13.0	-23.6
TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING	1,385	935	1,240	48.1	11.7
Trade, Trans., Warehousing, & Util.	451	275	434	64.0	3.9
Wholesale Trade	52	34	49	52.9	6.1
Retail Trade	274	157	272	74.5	0.7
Trans., Warehousing, & Utilities	125	84	113	48.8	10.6
Information	23	15	21	53.3	9.5
Financial Activities	65	39	52	66.7	25.0
Professional & Business Services	337	235	266	43.4	26.7
Educational & Health Services	99	94	103	5.3	-3.9
Leisure & Hospitality	356	244	298	45.9	19.5
Other Services	54	33	66	63.6	-18.2
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	271	237	254	14.3	6.7
Federal Government	131	119	107	10.1	22.4
State Government	27	18	16	50.0	68.8
Local Government	113	100	131	13.0	-13.7
Local Education	21	21	34	0.0	-38.2
UNCLASSIFIED	218	228	241	-4.4	-9.5

LARAMIE COUNTY					
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	494	477	433	3.6	14.1
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	246	282	203	-12.8	21.2
Construction	207	229	162	-9.6	27.8
TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING	206	150	185	37.3	11.4
Trade, Trans., Warehousing, & Util.	68	47	71	44.7	-4.2
Financial Activities	19	7	9	171.4	111.1
Professional & Business Services	65	55	50	18.2	30.0
Educational & Health Services	17	13	13	30.8	30.8
Leisure & Hospitality	26	17	33	52.9	-21.2
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	26	16	24	62.5	8.3
UNCLASSIFIED	16	29	21	-44.8	-23.8

NATRONA COUNTY					
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	425	449	461	-5.3	-7.8
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	176	296	238	-40.5	-26.1
Construction	137	251	146	-45.4	-6.2
TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING	220	126	196	74.6	12.2
Trade, Trans., Warehousing, & Util.	50	44	60	13.6	-16.7
Financial Activities	8	5	12	60.0	-33.3
Professional & Business Services	92	33	51	178.8	80.4
Educational & Health Services	21	13	24	61.5	-12.5
Leisure & Hospitality	40	26	36	53.8	11.1
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	16	15	13	6.7	23.1
UNCLASSIFIED	13	12	14	8.3	-7.1

Wyoming Normalized Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Continued Claims

by: Douglas W. Leonard, Research Analyst

Statewide continued weeks claimed fell 7.6 percent compared to January 2003. Continued weeks claimed in oil & gas extraction were 49.9% lower over-the-year.

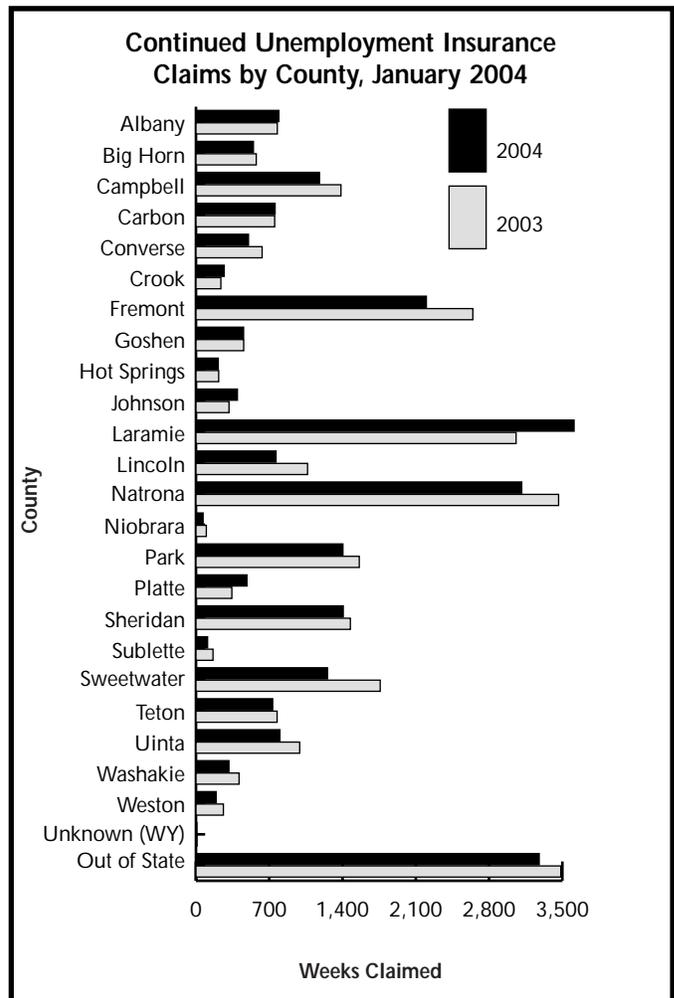
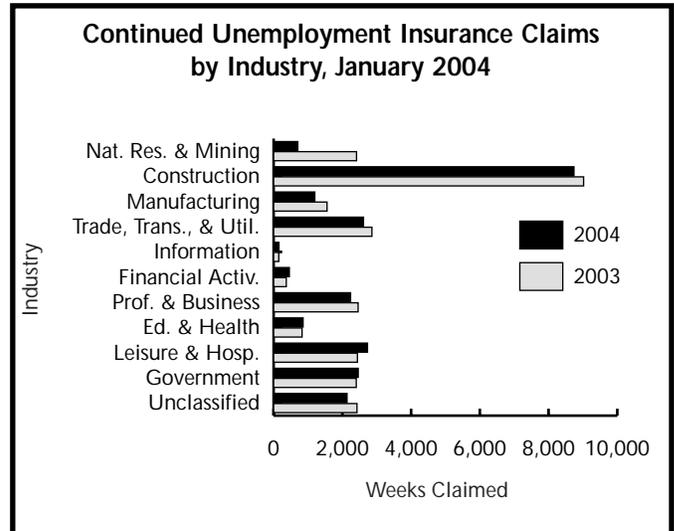
	Weeks Claimed			Percent Change	
	Jan04	Dec03	Jan03	Dec03	Jan04
WYOMING STATEWIDE					
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	24,867	20,768	26,916	19.7	-7.6
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	7,839	5,548	7,086	41.3	10.6
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	11,217	7,776	12,986	44.3	-13.6
Natural Resources and Mining	1,280	901	2,412	42.1	-46.9
Mining	1,039	716	2,074	45.1	-49.9
Oil & Gas Extraction	159	121	185	31.4	-14.1
Construction	8,739	6,237	9,020	40.1	-3.1
Manufacturing	1,198	638	1,554	87.8	-22.9
TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING	9,400	9,008	9,615	4.4	-2.2
Trade, Trans., Warehousing, & Util.	2,615	2,231	2,860	17.2	-8.6
Wholesale Trade	390	399	359	-2.3	8.6
Retail Trade	1,528	1,247	1,703	22.5	-10.3
Trans., Warehousing, & Utilities	697	585	798	19.1	-12.7
Information	154	133	150	15.8	2.7
Financial Activities	457	435	368	5.1	24.2
Professional & Business Services	2,239	1,935	2,458	15.7	-8.9
Educational & Health Services	857	820	827	4.5	3.6
Leisure & Hospitality	2,731	3,137	2,438	-12.9	12.0
Other Services	347	317	514	9.5	-32.5
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	2,461	2,365	2,404	4.1	2.4
Federal Government	1,241	1,190	1,217	4.3	2.0
State Government	260	253	281	2.8	-7.5
Local Government	960	922	906	4.1	6.0
Local Education	173	183	254	-5.5	-31.9
UNCLASSIFIED	1,789	1,619	1,911	10.5	-6.4

LARAMIE COUNTY

TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	3,612	2,818	3,056	28.2	18.2
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	1,142	760	805	50.3	41.9
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	1,727	1,166	1,412	48.1	22.3
Construction	1,488	1,044	1,179	42.5	26.2
TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING	1,437	1,216	1,306	18.2	10.0
Trade, Trans., Warehousing, & Util.	449	382	390	17.5	15.1
Financial Activities	90	69	81	30.4	11.1
Professional & Business Services	417	329	449	26.7	-7.1
Educational & Health Services	162	146	125	11.0	29.6
Leisure & Hospitality	182	164	151	11.0	20.5
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	307	325	193	-5.5	59.1
UNCLASSIFIED	141	111	145	27.0	-2.8

NATRONA COUNTY

TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	3,112	2,648	3,462	17.5	-10.1
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	1,026	715	933	43.5	10.0
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	1,606	1,302	1,803	23.3	-10.9
Construction	1,356	1,089	1,273	24.5	6.5
TOTAL SERVICE PROVIDING	1,300	1,119	1,402	16.2	-7.3
Trade, Trans., Warehousing, & Util.	396	357	450	10.9	-12.0
Financial Activities	69	73	77	-5.5	-10.4
Professional & Business Services	396	310	453	27.7	-12.6
Educational & Health Services	174	179	152	-2.8	14.5
Leisure & Hospitality	204	137	169	48.9	20.7
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	124	135	162	-8.1	-23.5
UNCLASSIFIED	82	92	95	-10.9	-13.7



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