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Forecasting Oil & Gas Employment for the State of Wyoming

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

"An increase of one operating rig in Wyoming is associated with an increase in oil & gas employment of almost 20 (19.417) individuals over the previous month."

Employment in the oil & gas industry is very important to Wyoming's economy. In 2001, this industry accounted for an average of 11,800 jobs (4.8% of total nonfarm employment). In contrast, the oil & gas industry only accounted for 0.3 percent of U.S. nonfarm employment. In Wyoming, the 2001 average annual wage for oil & gas jobs was $48,000, well above the statewide average wage of $28,000. Using data from 1992[1] to the present, this article presents a model which can be used to predict monthly employment in Wyoming's oil & gas industry. We expect employment to rise with energy prices and drilling activity within Wyoming.

Employment in Wyoming's oil & gas industry varies greatly from month to month and year to year. It rose from only 6,700 jobs in April 1996 to 12,700 during late 2001. Understanding and predicting oil & gas employment is important for understanding state tax revenues[2] as well as Wyoming's economy as a whole.

For purposes of this analysis, the oil & gas industry is defined as firms in Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) 13. It includes firms engaged in crude petroleum and natural gas production, drilling oil and gas wells, oil and gas exploration, and all other oil and gas field services. Other employment related to oil and gas activity is found in Manufacturing (oil refineries); Transportation, Communications, & Public Utilities (oil and gas pipelines);

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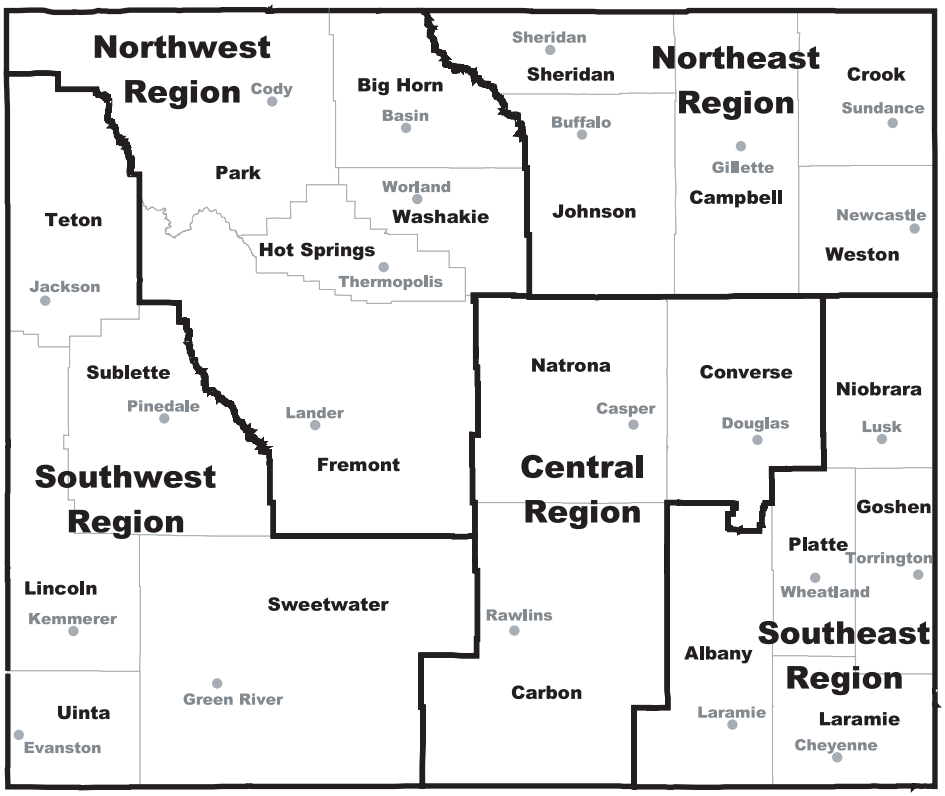

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Research & Planning Section, P.O. Box 2760 Casper, WY 82602-2760
Tom Gallagher, Manager e-mail: tgalla@state.wy.us 307-473-3801
Krista R. Shinkle, Editor e-mail: kshink@state.wy.us 307-473-3808

Contributors to **Wyoming Labor Force Trends** this month: Nancy Brennan, David Bullard, Tony Glover, Mark A. Harris, and Brad Payne.

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and Wholesale Trade (oilfield equipment sales and service). However, those industries are outside the scope of the present analysis.

Research & Planning (R&P) publishes monthly employment data for the oil & gas industry. This month's employment estimates are located on page 15. Employment data are estimated from the establishment survey[3] and contain sampling error. However, through the benchmarking process, employment data are revised based on a near-universe count using administrative data from Unemployment Insurance (UI) tax reports.[4]

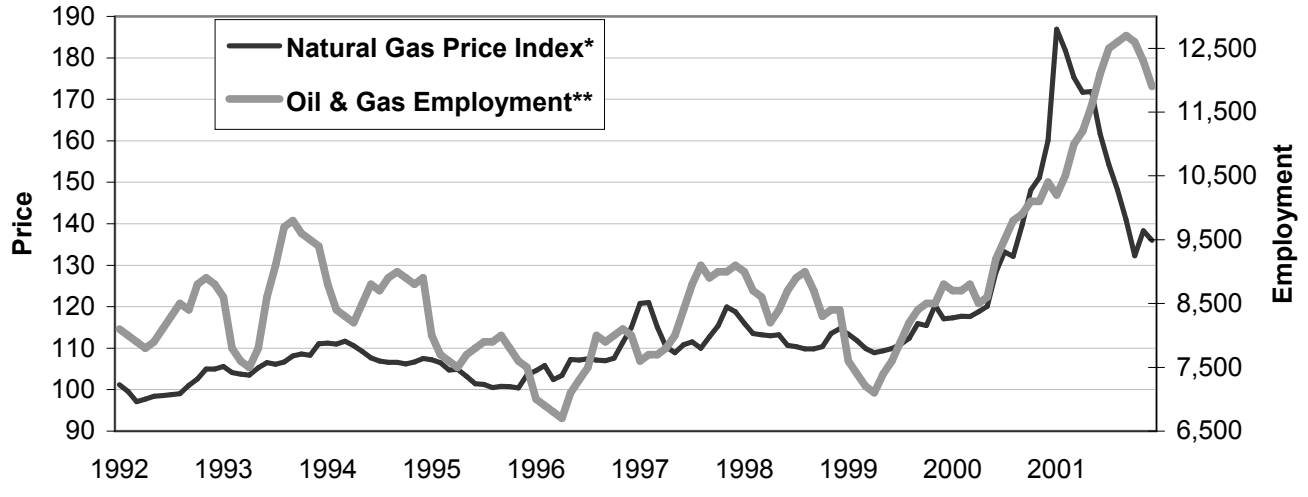
Data Model

According to a regression model,[5] the level of oil & gas employment in Wyoming is strongly and positively associated with national energy prices, the reported rig count in the state, and additive seasonal factors. Monthly data on energy prices and drilling activity are readily available from various sources to use in our analysis.

Our price variable is the Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumers (CPI-U) index for utility natural gas service. This index is published monthly by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and is available at a one-month time lag (i.e., May data are available in mid-June).[6] Price is measured as an index where 1982-1984 prices=100. During the period in question (1992-present), the index ranged in value from 97.1 in March 1992 to 186.9 in January 2001, with a mean value of 116.24. Figure 1 shows the behavior of this price index and oil & gas employment from 1992-2001. Notice the large run-up in prices in late 2000 and early 2001, which returned to lower levels by October 2001.[7]

For the reported rig count, we use the

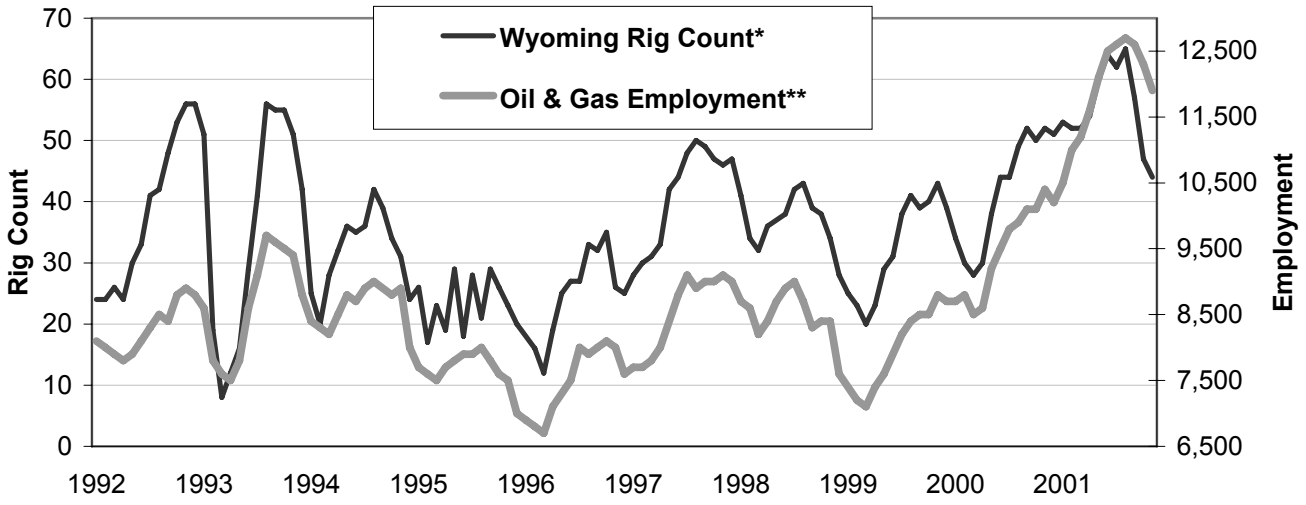
Figure 1: Natural Gas Price Index and Wyoming Oil & Gas Employment, 1992-2001



* Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumers (CPI-U) index for utility natural gas service.

** Research & Planning, Current Employment Statistics.

Figure 2: Rig Count and Wyoming Oil & Gas Employment, 1992-2001



* Baker Hughes North American Rotary Rig Count (Wyoming).
** Research & Planning, Current Employment Statistics.

Baker Hughes North American Rotary Rig Count data for Wyoming.[8] Data are available on a weekly basis, with about a one-week lag. We use the monthly averages for our model. From 1992-2001, the rig count ranged from 8 in March 1993 to 65 in September 2001, with a mean value of 36.4. This variable is measured as the number of operating rigs in the State. At its peak, 65 different drilling rigs were operating within Wyoming. Figure 2 shows the rig count and oil & gas employment from 1992-2001. It illustrates how oil & gas employment rises and falls with each large change in the rig count.

We expect that the coefficients[9] for both the gas price index and rig count will be positive. Increases in energy prices tend to spur exploration and production which increases employment. Similarly, expanded drilling activity (i.e., the number of rigs operating) also increases employment.

It may be necessary to justify the use of both price and rig count, because they are correlated with each other (r=.559). Regardless of how high national energy prices go, employment in Wyoming could remain low if proven reserves[10] within the State were low or if environmental regulations made exploration and drilling difficult. Similarly, not all oil & gas activity within the state is captured by the Baker Hughes rig count. A significant share of coalbed methane drilling uses rigs too small to be counted in the Baker Hughes series.[11]

Wyoming's severe winter weather tends to hold employment down. Employment tends to peak during the late summer when weather is not a factor affecting outdoor work. Therefore, we expect the

Table 1: Over-the-Month Employment Change in Oil & Gas Regressed on Rig Count, Gas Price, and Seasonal Factors

Variable	Coefficient (SE)	T-Value
Intercept	-805.273**	-6.993
	(115.16)	
Change in Rig Count for Wyoming	19.417**	6.328
	(3.07)	
CPI-U for Utility Natural Gas Service	3.811**	4.592
	(0.83)	
February (dummy†)	290.966**	3.862
	(75.34)	
March (dummy)	408.612**	5.433
	(75.21)	
April (dummy)	258.091**	3.371
	(76.57)	
May (dummy)	559.966**	7.158
	(78.24)	
June (dummy)	601.704**	7.339
	(81.99)	
July (dummy)	571.999**	7.346
	(77.87)	
August (dummy)	556.075**	7.018
	(79.24)	
September (dummy)	311.605**	3.981
	(78.26)	
October (dummy)	375.502**	4.952
	(75.82)	
November (dummy)	348.614**	4.620
	(75.46)	
December (dummy)	394.929**	5.247
	(75.28)	

(DW=2.046)
(Adjusted R squared=0.676)
(n=119)
(F=19.921)

** Significant at the 99 percent level (p<.01).

† The term dummy variable is a standard statistical term in which the members of the group of interest are coded as 1 and the members of the comparison or "dummy" group are coded as 0.

seasonal factors to be positive (the month of January is the base case).

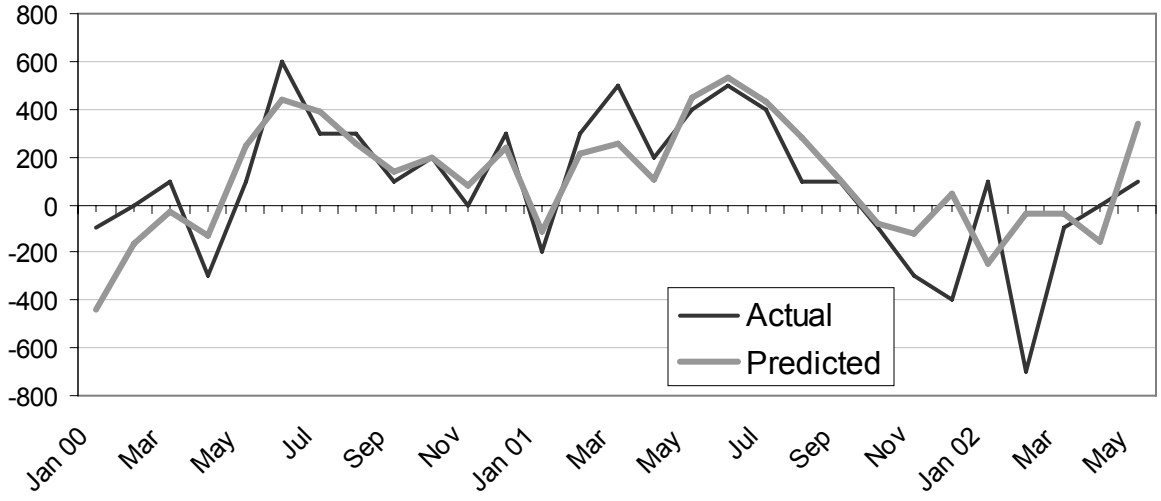
Results

We use Ordinary Least Squares (OLS) regression to estimate the effect of changes in prices and rig count on oil & gas employment in Wyoming. Linear regression is a commonly used statistical technique in which researchers are able to estimate the effect of one independent variable on a dependent variable, while holding the other independent variables constant. Table 1 summarizes results of the regression model.[12] The adjusted R^2 is 0.676, suggesting that the model explains over two-thirds of the over-the-month change in oil & gas employment.

The results of the model indicate that, holding energy prices and seasonal factors constant, an increase of one operating rig in Wyoming is associated with an increase in oil & gas employment of almost 20 (19.417) individuals over the previous month. Similarly, holding the change in rig count and seasonal factors constant, a one-point increase in the CPI-U for utility natural gas service will increase Wyoming oil & gas employment by approximately 4 (3.811) individuals over the previous month. The seasonal factors show that holding prices and the change in rig count constant, the change in employment is higher in the summer months and lower during the winter. January is the lowest month and the peak is in June, when the change in employment is 602 (601.704) individuals higher than in January.

Figure 3 (see page 6) shows the actual change in oil & gas employment compared to the predicted changes for January 2000 through May 2002. Readers should remember that the actual series will be revised again in

Figure 3: Actual and Predicted Over-the-Month Change in Oil & Gas Employment in Wyoming, January 2000-May 2002



March 2003 through the benchmarking process.

Conclusion

Oil & gas employment is an important variable because of its significance to Wyoming's economy and tax revenues. This model uses national energy prices, a rig count for the state, and seasonal factors to predict employment. Results using actual data from 1992 through 2001 show that the model has significant predictive power.

[1]We start the model with 1992 because that is the first year for which Baker Hughes published a monthly rig count by state.

[2]Oil & gas severance taxes account for roughly 10 percent of general fund revenues. See the Consensus Revenue Estimating Group (CREG) monthly report at <http://eadiv.state.wy.us/creg/cregbrief.pdf>.

[3]The establishment survey, also known as the Current Employment Statistics (CES) program, is a joint federal-state cooperative survey which asks employers to report the number of employees on their payrolls each month. These data are used to estimate employment by industry for the nation, all 50 states, and a large number of metropolitan areas.

[4]The revised employment figures are released in March of the following year. Thus, while January through May 2002 employment data are used to test the model, we expect that these numbers will be revised (in March 2003).

[5]We use statistical models to explain and/or predict economic phenomena. In this case, we want to explain and predict employment in the oil & gas industry. Thus, oil & gas employment is the dependent variable, meaning it is dependent upon other factors. The factors that we use to explain employment (natural gas price and rig count) are called independent variables. In our model, natural gas price and rig count are the inputs and an estimate of oil & gas employment is the output.

[6]U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, "Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumer (CPI-U) utility natural gas service," ***Consumer Price Indexes***, n.d., <http://stats.bls.gov/cpi/home.htm> (July 26, 2002).

[7]Readers interested in producing a longer-term forecast for employment might use price data available in the ***Annual Energy Outlook 2002 with Projections to 2020***, available from the Energy Information

Administration at <http://www.eia.doe.gov/oiaf/aeo/index.html>.

[8]Baker Hughes, North American Rotary Rig Count, ***Rig Counts***, n.d., <http://www.bakerhughes.com/investor/rig/rig_na.htm> (July 26, 2002).

[9]The unstandardized regression coefficient (b) can be interpreted as increases or decreases in employment (depending on a positive or negative sign) for a one-unit increase in the variable of interest.

[10]Proven reserves refer to oil or gas that is still in the ground and has not been extracted. In contrast, oil which has been extracted and is being stored in tanks is known as inventory.

[11]"The Baker Hughes Rotary Rig count includes only those rigs that are significant consumers of oilfield services and supplies and does not include cable tool rigs, very small truck mounted rigs or rigs that can operate without a permit." Baker Hughes, "North American Rotary Rig Counts," ***Rig Counts***, n.d., <http://www.bakerhughes.com/investor/rig/rig_na.htm> (July 26, 2002). Often, coalbed methane is drilled using truck mounted rigs.

[12]The Durbin-Watson statistic indicated that positive serial correlation was present in the original model (DW=.222), so we took first differences of the rig count and the employment series to arrive at an adjusted model. Because of the transformation to first differences, the adjusted model predicts the monthly change in employment based on the price level, the change in rig count, and the seasonal factors. The Durbin-Watson statistic for the adjusted model (2.046) is within the 1 percent range to accept the null hypothesis that no serial correlation is present.

Regional Employment and Wages in Wyoming's Oil & Gas Industry

by: Tony Glover, Senior Research Analyst

"The lower wages of oil & gas jobs in the Northeast region may be a by-product of the occupational composition of the oil & gas industry."

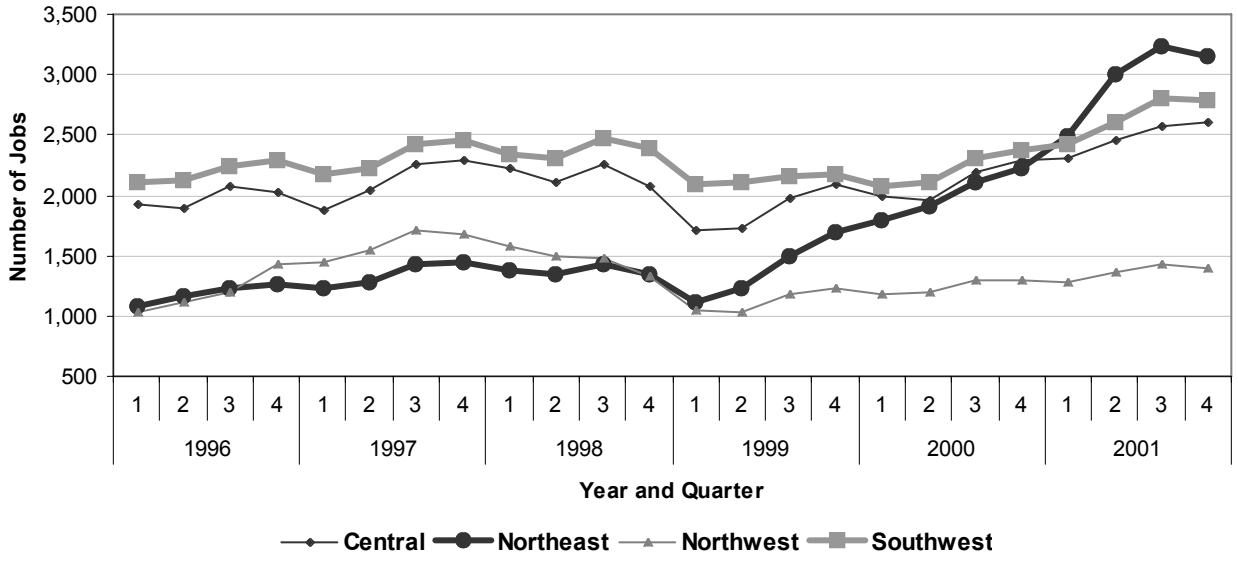
The feature article in this month's issue of ***Wyoming Labor Force Trends***, "Forecasting Oil & Gas Employment for the State of Wyoming," analyzes oil & gas employment from a statewide perspective. This article looks at the impact coalbed methane has on different regions of the State.

Figure 1 (see page 8) represents average quarterly employment (the number of jobs) from first quarter 1996 to fourth quarter 2001 for the oil & gas industry (SIC[1] 13) for four of Wyoming's five regions (see the map on page 2). Data for Wyoming's Southeast region were omitted because employment levels throughout the study period remained below 100 jobs.

Most regions experienced some seasonal changes in oil & gas employment, but job levels in all regions remained fairly stable from first quarter 1996 to first quarter 1999. After third quarter 1999, all regions experienced job growth with the exception of the Northwest. The Northeast region, in particular, experienced dramatic growth, as employment doubled from less than 1,500 jobs in third quarter 1999 to more than 3,000 jobs by third quarter 2001. Anecdotal evidence suggests the bulk of this increase in oil & gas employment is related to increases in coalbed methane drilling and exploration in this area.

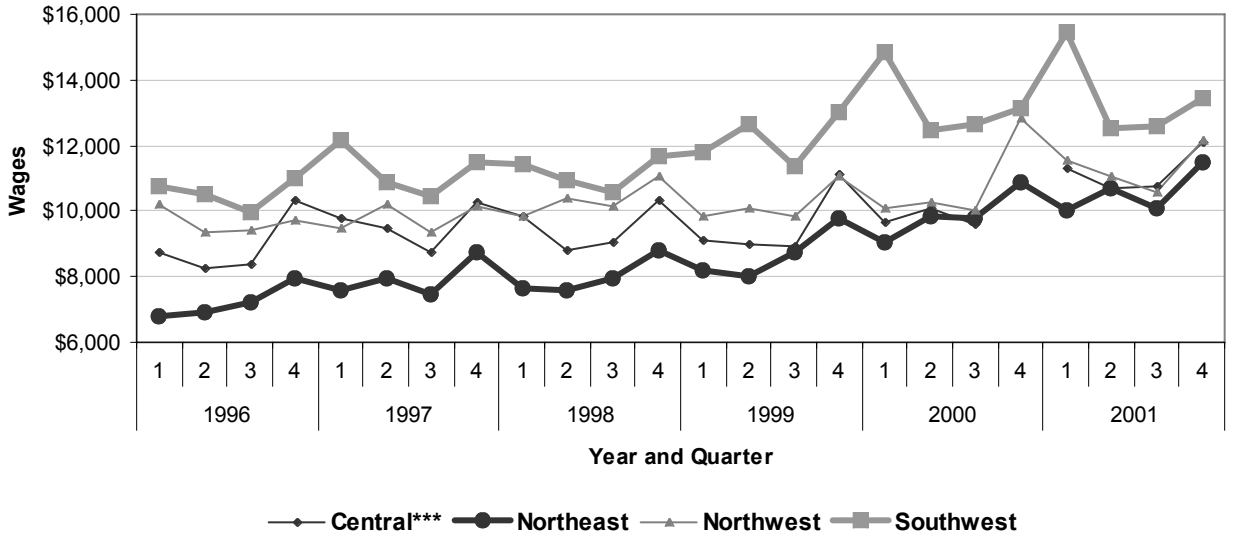
Figure 2 (see page 8) shows average quarterly wages from first quarter 1996

Figure 1: Average Quarterly Jobs for Wyoming's Oil & Gas Extraction Industry* by Year, Quarter, and Region**



* For purposes of this analysis, the oil & gas industry is defined as firms in Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) 13.
** Data for the Southeast region have been omitted because employment levels throughout the study period remained below 100 jobs. Nonclassified county data are not included because they do not provide a meaningful economic comparison to the known regions. In fourth quarter 2001, the average employment for the nonclassified county was approximately 2,500.

Figure 2: Average Quarterly Wage for Wyoming's Oil & Gas Extraction Industry* by Year, Quarter, and Region**



* For purposes of this analysis, the oil & gas industry is defined as firms in Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) 13.
** Data for the Southeast region have been omitted because employment levels throughout the study period remained below 100 jobs. Nonclassified county data are not included because they do not provide a meaningful economic comparison to the known regions. In fourth quarter 2001, the average quarterly wage for the nonclassified county was approximately $15,000.
*** The average quarterly wage for the Central region in fourth quarter 2000 was $45,332 due to an employer bonus. This outlier is not included in the Figure.

to fourth quarter 2001 for Wyoming's oil & gas industry. Again, data for the Southeast region have been omitted. Average quarterly wages have increased over time for all regions. However, wages for the Northeast region are generally lower than the other regions.

The lower wages of oil & gas jobs in the Northeast region may be a by-product of the occupational composition of the oil & gas industry. Because the coal in the Northeast region lies at shallow depths, coalbed methane wells in this region are relatively easy to drill.[2] The ease of drilling requires a less experienced, and thus lower paid, extraction labor force. Possibly more influential to the average wage of oil & gas jobs is the low number of exploration jobs (e.g., geologists) required for coalbed methane extraction.[3] Methane occurs in most coals, and the location of coal in the Northeast region is already known. Most occupations involved in exploration require post-secondary education and pay relatively large salaries. Having fewer skilled exploration jobs in the Northeast may cause average wages to be lower.

Coalbed methane drilling and exploration has had a positive impact on employment levels throughout Wyoming, especially in the Northeast region. However, due to the lower wage occupations and reduced need for exploration associated with coalbed methane drilling, average wages have not increased as dramatically as employment.

[1]For purposes of this analysis, the oil & gas industry is defined as firms in Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) 13. It includes firms engaged in crude petroleum and natural gas production, drilling oil and gas wells, oil and gas exploration, and all other oil and gas field services.

[2]U.S. Department of the Interior, ***U.S. Geological Survey***, "Coal-Bed Methane: Potential and Concerns," USGS Fact Sheet FS-123-00, November 22, 2000, <http://pubs.usgs.gov/factsheet/fs123-00/> (July 22, 2002).

[3]U.S. Department of the Interior, ***U.S. Geological Survey***, "Coal-Bed Methane: Potential and Concerns," USGS Fact Sheet FS-123-00, November 22, 2000, <http://pubs.usgs.gov/factsheet/fs123-00/> (July 22, 2002).

Covered Employment and Wages for Fourth Quarter 2001

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist
tables by: Nancy Brennan, Economist

"Gas plant construction helped push employment in the Construction industry up by 1,513 jobs or 8.6 percent."

Unemployment Insurance (UI) covered employment[1] increased by 7,048 jobs or 3.0 percent during fourth quarter of 2001 compared to fourth quarter 2000. Fourth quarter's employment increase is significantly higher than the five-year average growth of 1.8 percent (see Table 1, page 10). Total payroll increased by 6.5 percent, slightly below the five-year average of 6.7 percent. Average weekly wage increased by $19 or 3.3 percent, below its five-year

Table 1: Percent Change in Wyoming Covered Employment and Wages for Fourth Quarter, 1997-2001

	Average Monthly Employment		Total Wages		Average Weekly Wage	
	Over the Previous Year	Over the Previous Quarter	Over the Previous Year	Over the Previous Quarter	Over the Previous Year	Over the Previous Quarter
97Q4	-0.1	-3.3	6.7	5.8	4.9	9.4
98Q4	1.2	-3.6	6.2	6.5	4.9	9.9
99Q4	2.6	-2.4	6.5	5.4	3.9	8.1
00Q4	2.2	-2.6	7.8	9.5	5.5	12.4
01Q4	3.0	-2.9	6.5	6.7	3.3	9.9
5 Year Average for Q4	**1.8**	**-3.0**	**6.7**	**6.8**	**4.5**	**9.9**

Table 2: Wyoming Average Monthly Employment, Total Payroll, and Average Weekly Wage for Fourth Quarter 2001 by Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) Industry

	Average Monthly Employment				Total Payroll				Average Weekly Wage		
	Fourth Quarter		Change		Fourth Quarter		Change		Fourth Quarter		Ch
	2000	2001	No.	Percent	2000	2001	Amount	Percent	2000	2001	Amount
Total, All Industries	**231,485**	**238,533**	**7,048**	**3.0**	**$1,688,481,655**	**$1,797,669,957**	**$109,188,302**	**6.5**	**$561**	**$580**	**$19**
Private	**175,506**	**180,737**	**5,231**	**3.0**	**$1,297,946,257**	**$1,364,027,038**	**$66,080,781**	**5.1**	**$569**	**$581**	**$12**
Agriculture	3,363	3,585	222	6.6	20,365,481	20,381,672	16,191	0.1	466	437	-29
Mining	17,691	20,439	2,748	15.5	307,663,105	274,322,700	-33,340,405	-10.8	1,338	1,032	-305
Construction	17,653	19,166	1,513	8.6	140,412,457	165,817,884	25,405,427	18.1	612	666	54
Manufacturing	11,626	11,150	-476	-4.1	101,807,944	102,167,341	359,397	0.4	674	705	31
TCPU*	11,524	11,292	-232	-2.0	106,699,818	108,441,455	1,741,637	1.6	712	739	26
Wholesale Trade	7,757	8,057	300	3.9	67,675,372	78,270,168	10,594,796	15.7	671	747	76
Retail Trade	46,920	46,338	-582	-1.2	177,620,019	185,838,775	8,218,756	4.6	291	309	17
FIRE**	8,024	8,410	386	4.8	67,374,265	82,793,315	15,419,050	22.9	646	757	111
Services	50,947	52,300	1,353	2.7	308,327,796	345,993,728	37,665,932	12.2	466	509	43
Total Government	**55,979**	**57,796**	**1,817**	**3.2**	**$390,535,398**	**$433,642,919**	**$43,107,521**	**11.0**	**$537**	**$577**	**$41**
Federal Government	7,020	7,346	326	4.6	72,640,953	78,195,023	5,554,070	7.6	796	819	23
State Government	11,731	12,063	333	2.8	92,132,723	103,270,601	11,137,878	12.1	604	659	54
Local Government	37,228	38,386	1,158	3.1	225,761,722	252,177,295	26,415,573	11.7	466	505	39

* Transportation, Communications, & Public Utilities.

** Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate.

average of 4.5 percent.

Statewide Employment and Wages by Industry

Table 2 shows that Mining, Construction, Services, and Local Government created the largest number of jobs in fourth quarter. Mining added 2,748 jobs or 15.5 percent as a result of strong gains in oil & gas extraction and coal mining. Employment was down slightly in other areas of Mining (metal mining and nonmetallic mineral mining). Gas plant construction helped push employment in the Construction industry up by 1,513 jobs or 8.6 percent. Services gained 1,353 jobs or 2.7 percent, including 400 jobs in miscellaneous repair services, 500 jobs in health

services, 400 jobs in private social services, and 500 jobs in engineering & management services. Employment growth in private sector Services would have been greater without a change in the classification of firms owned by American Indian Tribes to the public sector. Local Government grew by 1,158 jobs or 3.1 percent, but part of this employment increase is related to the reclassification of Indian Tribal Councils from private sector Services to Local Government.[2] Job gains in local hospitals (200 jobs) also helped increase Local Government employment during fourth quarter.

Wholesale Trade grew significantly during fourth quarter, adding 300 jobs or 3.9 percent. The majority of these job gains was in durable goods and may be related to increased oil & gas activity in the State.

Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate (FIRE) added 386 jobs or 4.8 percent in fourth quarter. Depository institutions and holding companies each added 100 jobs. Insurance employment was flat.

Manufacturing and Retail Trade both lost jobs when compared with fourth quarter 2000. Manufacturing employment decreased by 476 jobs or 4.1 percent because of job losses in food processing, chemicals, and petroleum refining. Within Retail Trade, large job losses occurred in food stores and general merchandise stores. However, employment grew in building materials & garden supply stores and eating & drinking places.

Average weekly wage increased $19 or 3.3 percent. The largest increase in average weekly wage occurred in FIRE, a gain of $111 per week or 17.3 percent. Part of this increase was related to a bonus paid in fourth quarter in Teton County. Wholesale Trade's average weekly wage increased by $76 or 11.3 percent during fourth quarter.

The average weekly wage in Mining decreased by $305 or 22.8 percent, in part because a large bonus paid in Natrona County in fourth quarter 2000 was not repeated in 2001.

Employment and Wages by County

As shown in Table 3 (see page 12), employment increased in 15 of Wyoming's 23 counties during fourth quarter. Campbell County was the fastest growing area of the State, adding 1,773 jobs or 9.5 percent. About half of the job gains in Campbell County were in Mining (including oil & gas extraction). Employment in Construction; Transportation Communications, & Public Utilities (TCPU); and Services also grew rapidly.

Fremont County grew by 959 jobs or 6.8 percent during fourth quarter. A large part of this increase was Construction employment related to a new gas plant.

Job gains in Construction helped push up Uinta County employment by 554 jobs or 6.8 percent.

Sweetwater County added 279 jobs or 1.5 percent during fourth quarter. Strong gains in oil & gas extraction and Construction were partially offset by job losses in TCPU, Manufacturing, and Retail Trade.

Natrona County grew by 269 jobs or

Table 3: Wyoming Average Monthly Employment, Total Payroll, and Average Weekly Wage for Fourth Quarter 2001 by Region and County

REGION/ County	Average Monthly Employment				Total Payroll				Average Weekly Wage			
	Fourth Quarter		Change		Fourth Quarter		Change		Fourth Quarter		Change	
	2000	2001	Number	Percent	2000	2001	Amount	Percent	2000	2001	Amount	Percent
Total	**231,485**	**238,533**	**7,048**	**3.0**	**$1,688,481,655**	**$1,797,669,957**	**$109,188,302**	**6.5**	**$561**	**$580**	**$19**	**3.3**
NORTHWEST	**35,139**	**36,279**	**1,140**	**3.2**	**$219,679,632**	**$234,092,556**	**$14,412,924**	**6.6**	**$481**	**$496**	**$15**	**3.2**
Big Horn	4,101	4,194	94	2.3	29,450,142	29,919,615	469,473	1.6	552	549	-4	-0.7
Fremont	14,016	14,975	959	6.8	83,098,317	94,538,338	11,440,021	13.8	456	486	30	6.5
Hot Springs	1,974	2,011	37	1.9	11,009,282	12,004,189	994,907	9.0	429	459	30	7.0
Park	11,374	11,563	189	1.7	72,235,070	73,809,442	1,574,372	2.2	489	491	3	0.5
Washakie	3,674	3,536	-137	-3.7	23,886,821	23,820,972	-65,849	-0.3	500	518	18	3.6
NORTHEAST	**36,236**	**38,263**	**2,027**	**5.6**	**$267,202,481**	**$310,107,841**	**$42,905,360**	**16.1**	**$567**	**$623**	**$56**	**9.9**
Campbell	18,696	20,469	1,773	9.5	161,038,503	193,747,342	32,708,839	20.3	663	728	66	9.9
Crook	1,888	1,862	-26	-1.4	11,165,175	11,947,265	782,090	7.0	455	493	39	8.5
Johnson	2,532	2,722	190	7.5	13,216,251	15,270,134	2,053,883	15.5	402	431	30	7.5
Sheridan	10,951	10,940	-11	-0.1	67,469,645	73,689,542	6,219,897	9.2	474	518	44	9.3
Weston	2,169	2,270	101	4.7	14,312,907	15,453,558	1,140,651	8.0	508	524	16	3.2
SOUTHWEST	**49,502**	**50,497**	**995**	**2.0**	**$377,636,814**	**$425,577,189**	**$47,940,375**	**12.7**	**$587**	**$648**	**$61**	**10.5**
Lincoln	5,050	5,221	171	3.4	33,363,500	36,168,412	2,804,912	8.4	508	533	25	4.8
Sublette	2,165	2,426	261	12.0	14,857,238	16,750,749	1,893,511	12.7	528	531	3	0.6
Sweetwater	19,013	19,292	279	1.5	164,922,182	178,591,707	13,669,525	8.3	667	712	45	6.7
Teton	15,128	14,857	-270	-1.8	113,560,696	135,062,602	21,501,906	18.9	577	699	122	21.1
Uinta	8,147	8,701	554	6.8	50,933,198	59,003,719	8,070,521	15.8	481	522	41	8.5
SOUTHEAST	**59,517**	**59,401**	**-115**	**-0.2**	**$381,251,316**	**$408,700,625**	**$27,449,309**	**7.2**	**$493**	**$529**	**$37**	**7.4**
Albany	14,445	14,683	238	1.6	86,784,610	92,912,074	6,127,464	7.1	462	487	25	5.3
Goshen	4,340	4,201	-139	-3.2	23,039,064	23,276,052	236,988	1.0	408	426	18	4.4
Laramie	36,841	36,575	-266	-0.7	248,763,127	268,531,393	19,768,266	7.9	519	565	45	8.7
Niobrara	768	753	-15	-2.0	3,695,153	3,901,211	206,058	5.6	370	399	29	7.7
Platte	3,122	3,189	66	2.1	18,969,362	20,079,895	1,110,533	5.9	467	484	17	3.7
CENTRAL	**42,583**	**42,885**	**302**	**0.7**	**$371,675,861**	**$318,302,907**	**-$53,372,954**	**-14.4**	**$671**	**$571**	**-$100**	**-15.0**
Carbon	6,219	6,306	87	1.4	38,792,247	41,259,646	2,467,399	6.4	480	503	23	4.9
Converse	4,393	4,338	-55	-1.2	29,176,367	30,724,052	1,547,685	5.3	511	545	34	6.6
Natrona	31,972	32,241	269	0.8	303,707,247	246,319,209	-57,388,038	-18.9	731	588	-143	-19.6
Nonclassified*	**8,508**	**11,207**	**2,699**	**31.7**	**$71,035,551**	**$100,888,839**	**$29,853,288**	**42.0**	**$642**	**$692**	**$50**	**7.8**

* The employer may be located statewide or in more than one county.

0.8 percent as a result of job gains in oil & gas extraction and Manufacturing. Employment fell in Retail Trade and TCPU.

Employment fell in Teton County by 270 jobs or 1.8 percent during fourth quarter 2001. Modest gains in FIRE and Agriculture were not enough to offset job losses in TCPU, Retail Trade, and Services. Within Services, job losses appear concentrated in tourist-related industries such as hotels & other lodging places and amusement & recreation services. These job losses may be related to a decrease in travel because of the events of September 11, 2001.

Laramie County experienced a decrease in employment of 266 jobs or 0.7 percent during fourth quarter 2001. Employment in Retail Trade and Services was lower than expected because two large statewide employers with worksites

in Laramie County stopped reporting at the county level and now only submit statewide employment reports. Manufacturing and TCPU each fell by about 100 jobs. Significant job gains were seen in Construction, FIRE, and State Government.

Average weekly wage increased in all but two of Wyoming's counties. Wages fell by $143 or 19.6 percent in Natrona County because a bonus paid in the oil & gas industry in fourth quarter 2000 was not repeated in 2001. Big Horn County's average weekly wage decreased by $4 or 0.7 percent as a bonus from fourth quarter 2000 was not repeated in 2001.

Teton County had the largest increase in average weekly wage, a gain of $122 or 21.1 percent. Part of this increase was related to bonuses paid in Manufacturing and FIRE.

More detailed tables on fourth quarter 2001 covered employment and wages are located on our Internet site at <http://LMI.state.wy.us/01Q4_202/toc.htm>.

[1]Approximately 85-90 percent of all workers in Wyoming are covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI). Some exceptions include the self-employed and many agricultural workers.

[2]This reclassification was necessitated by a change in federal Unemployment Insurance law, which now treats Indian Tribal Councils similarly to state and local governments. Previously, Indian Tribal Councils were classified as privately owned membership organizations.

Now Available on our Website

The 2002 Directory of Licensed Occupations
<http://LMI.state.wy.us/DIR_LIC/TOC.htm>

The directory includes some of the more prevalent occupations that require licensing, certification, or registration prior to working in Wyoming. It is designed as an aid in helping counselors, students, and job seekers involved in career decision-making. The directory lists occupational salaries, job descriptions, restrictions, schools located in Wyoming, the type of license/certificate required, examination information, fees, the licensing agency, and additional sources of information.

State Unemployment Rates
May 2002
(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	12.2
Washington	6.9
Mississippi	6.8
Oregon	6.8
North Carolina	6.7
District of Columbia	6.0
Illinois	6.0
West Virginia	6.0
California	5.9
Michigan	5.9
New Mexico	5.9
Alaska	5.8
Louisiana	5.8
New York	5.8
Texas	5.8
Arizona	5.7
Pennsylvania	5.6
South Carolina	5.6
United States	**5.5**
Ohio	5.4
Utah	5.3
Alabama	5.2
New Jersey	5.2
Kentucky	5.1
Nevada	5.1
Arkansas	5.0
Colorado	4.9
Florida	4.9
Idaho	4.8
Indiana	4.8
Maryland	4.6
Georgia	4.5
Missouri	4.5
Wisconsin	4.5
Oklahoma	4.4
Tennessee	4.4
Rhode Island	4.3
Hawaii	4.2
Massachusetts	4.2
Kansas	4.1
New Hampshire	4.1
Virginia	4.1
Connecticut	3.9
Wyoming	**3.9**
Delaware	3.7
Maine	3.7
Minnesota	3.7
Montana	3.7
Nebraska	3.6
Vermont	3.6
Iowa	3.0
North Dakota	2.9
South Dakota	2.7

State Unemployment Rates
May 2002
(Seasonally Adjusted)

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	12.4
Oregon	7.3
Washington	7.1
North Carolina	6.8
Mississippi	6.6
District of Columbia	6.5
Louisiana	6.5
California	6.3
Illinois	6.3
Michigan	6.2
Texas	6.2
West Virginia	6.2
New York	6.1
Alaska	6.0
New Mexico	6.0
Ohio	5.8
United States	**5.8**
Alabama	5.7
Arizona	5.7
Pennsylvania	5.7
Nevada	5.5
South Carolina	5.5
New Jersey	5.4
Arkansas	5.3
Kentucky	5.3
Utah	5.3
Colorado	5.2
Florida	5.1
Idaho	5.0
Indiana	5.0
Tennessee	4.9
Missouri	4.8
Wisconsin	4.8
Georgia	4.7
Maryland	4.7
Rhode Island	4.7
Oklahoma	4.5
Massachusetts	4.4
Kansas	4.3
Wyoming	**4.3**
Hawaii	4.2
Minnesota	4.2
New Hampshire	4.2
Delaware	4.1
Montana	4.1
Virginia	4.1
Vermont	4.0
Connecticut	3.7
Maine	3.7
Nebraska	3.7
Iowa	3.5
North Dakota	3.5
South Dakota	3.0

Wyoming Unemployment Falls in May

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

Wyoming's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased from 4.4 percent in April 2002 to 4.3 percent in May, and over-the-year job growth held steady at 1.5 percent. U.S. unemployment fell from 6.0 percent in April 2002 to 5.8 percent in May.

From April to May 2002, Wyoming gained 8,600 jobs or 3.5 percent. This level of over-the-month growth is consistent with the historical series, which increased 8,700 jobs in May 2001 and 7,300 jobs in May 2000. From April to May 2002, Construction employment increased by 1,400 jobs, Retail Trade increased by 1,800 jobs, Services added 3,200 jobs, and Government added 1,300 jobs. Among the very few industries which shed jobs were Manufacturing (-100 jobs or -0.9%), amusement & recreation services (-300 jobs or -8.3%) and health services (-100 jobs or -0.8%).

When compared to May 2001, Wyoming nonagricultural employment grew by 3,600 jobs or 1.5 percent. Mining employment was unchanged from May 2001, as strong job gains in coal mining (400 jobs or 8.7%) were offset by modest losses in oil & gas extraction (-300 jobs or -2.6%) and other areas of Mining. Construction added 600 jobs (or 3.3%) and Wholesale Trade grew by 500 jobs or 6.3 percent. Services employment continued to grow at a relatively rapid pace, adding 2,100 jobs or 3.6 percent. Within Services, growth was seen in hotels & lodging places, auto & miscellaneous repair, health services, and private social services.

On an over-the-year basis, job losses were seen in Manufacturing (-200 jobs or -1.8%), Transportation, Communications, & Public Utilities (-100 jobs or -0.7%), and Retail Trade (-300 jobs or -0.6%).

As expected, most county unemployment rates fell from April to May 2002. The only three which increased were Washakie County (up from 6.0% to 6.8%), Niobrara County (up from 3.9% to 4.4%), and Uinta County (up from 5.9% to 6.0%). Crook County experienced a large decrease in unemployment, falling from 5.1 percent to 3.0 percent.

Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment[1]

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

"Services employment continued to grow at a relatively rapid pace, adding 2,100 jobs or 3.6 percent."

WYOMING STATEWIDE*

	Employment in Thousands			Percent Change Total Employment	
	MAY02(p)	APR02(r)	MAY01	APR 02 MAY 02	MAY 01 MAY 02
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	**251.1**	**242.5**	**247.5**	**3.5**	**1.5**
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	48.8	47.1	48.4	3.6	0.8
Mining	19.2	18.8	19.2	2.1	0.0
Coal Mining	5.0	4.9	4.6	2.0	8.7
Oil & Gas Extraction	11.3	11.2	11.6	0.9	-2.6
Crude Petrol-Natural Gas	3.4	3.4	3.3	0.0	3.0
Oil & Gas Field Services	7.9	7.8	8.3	1.3	-4.8
Nonmetallic Minerals	2.6	2.5	2.7	4.0	-3.7
Construction	18.9	17.5	18.3	8.0	3.3
General Building Contractors	4.3	3.9	4.1	10.3	4.9
Heavy Construction	5.7	5.3	5.4	7.5	5.6
Special Trade Construction	8.9	8.3	8.8	7.2	1.1
Manufacturing	10.7	10.8	10.9	-0.9	-1.8
Durable Goods	5.0	5.0	5.0	0.0	0.0
Nondurable Goods	5.7	5.8	5.9	-1.7	-3.4
Printing & Publishing	1.6	1.6	1.7	0.0	-5.9
Petroleum & Coal Products	1.2	1.2	1.2	0.0	0.0
TOTAL SERVICE PRODUCING	202.3	195.4	199.1	3.5	1.6
Transportation & Public Utilities	14.0	13.8	14.1	1.4	-0.7
Transportation	9.2	9.1	9.3	1.1	-1.1
Railroad Transportation	3.0	3.0	3.0	0.0	0.0
Trucking & Warehousing	3.7	3.6	3.8	2.8	-2.6
Communications	2.1	2.0	2.1	5.0	0.0
Telephone Communications	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0
Electric, Gas & Sanitary Services	2.7	2.7	2.7	0.0	0.0
Electric Services	1.9	1.9	1.9	0.0	0.0
Trade	55.7	53.7	55.5	3.7	0.4
Wholesale Trade	8.5	8.3	8.0	2.4	6.3
Durable Goods	5.0	5.0	4.7	0.0	6.4
Nondurable Goods	3.5	3.3	3.3	6.1	6.1
Retail Trade	47.2	45.4	47.5	4.0	-0.6
Building Materials & Garden Supply	2.2	2.2	2.2	0.0	0.0
General Merchandise Stores	6.0	5.4	6.0	11.1	0.0
Department Stores	4.7	4.6	4.7	2.2	0.0
Food Stores	5.0	4.9	5.3	2.0	-5.7
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	8.2	8.1	8.3	1.2	-1.2
Gas Stations	4.1	4.0	4.3	2.5	-4.7
Apparel & Accessory Stores	1.1	1.1	1.2	0.0	-8.3
Furniture & Home Furnishing Stores	1.6	1.6	1.6	0.0	0.0
Eating & Drinking Places	17.3	16.6	17.1	4.2	1.2
Miscellaneous Retail	5.8	5.5	5.8	5.5	0.0
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	8.5	8.3	8.3	2.4	2.4
Depos-Nondepos & Security Brokers	4.4	4.3	4.3	2.3	2.3
Depository Institutions	3.5	3.4	3.4	2.9	2.9
Insurance	1.8	1.8	1.8	0.0	0.0
Services	60.0	56.8	57.9	5.6	3.6
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	10.1	7.4	9.6	36.5	5.2
Personal Services	2.1	2.1	2.0	0.0	5.0
Business Services	8.6	8.5	8.7	1.2	-1.1
Automotive & Misc. Repair Services	3.5	3.4	3.2	2.9	9.4
Amusements (Rec Services & Mot. Pics.)	3.3	3.6	3.2	-8.3	3.1
Health Services	11.8	11.9	11.4	-0.8	3.5
Offices of Doctors of Medicine	2.9	2.9	2.7	0.0	7.4
Legal Services	1.2	1.2	1.2	0.0	0.0
Social Services	6.9	6.8	6.4	1.5	7.8
Membership Organizations	3.8	3.7	3.7	2.7	2.7
Engineering & Management	4.6	4.5	4.4	2.2	4.5
Government	64.1	62.8	63.3	2.1	1.3
Total Federal Government	7.3	6.8	7.2	7.4	1.4
Department of Defense	0.9	0.8	0.9	12.5	0.0
Total State Government	14.5	14.4	14.4	0.7	0.7
State Education	5.6	5.6	5.4	0.0	3.7
Total Local Government	42.3	41.6	41.7	1.7	1.4
Local Hospitals	5.5	5.5	5.3	0.0	3.8
Local Education	23.5	23.4	23.2	0.4	1.3

[1]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.

*Published in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

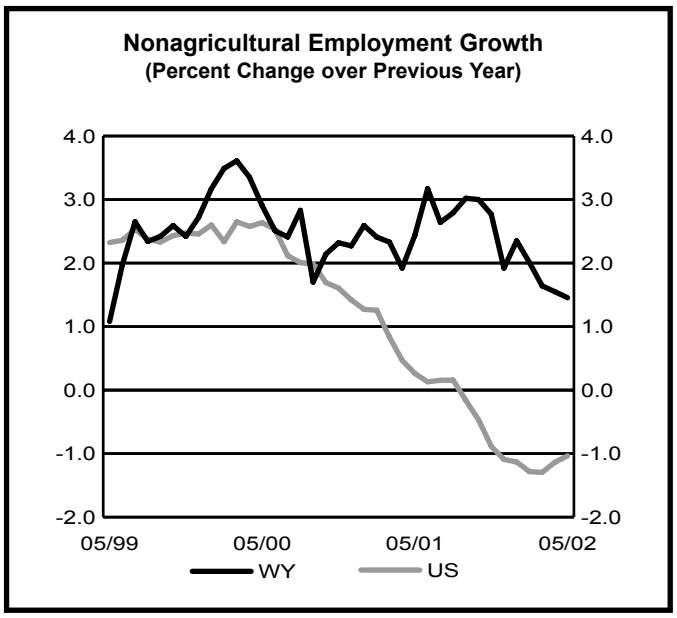
(p) Subject to revision. (r) Revised.

LARAMIE COUNTY

	Employment in Thousands			Percent Change Total Employment	
	MAY02(p)	APR02(r)	MAY01	APR 02 MAY 02	MAY 01 MAY 02
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	**38.4**	**37.8**	**37.9**	**1.6**	**1.3**
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	4.0	3.9	3.9	2.6	2.6
Mining & Construction	2.4	2.3	2.3	4.3	4.3
Manufacturing	1.6	1.6	1.6	0.0	0.0
TOTAL SERVICE PRODUCING	34.4	33.9	34.0	1.5	1.2
Transportation & Public Utilities	2.8	2.9	2.9	-3.4	-3.4
Trade	9.1	8.8	8.9	3.4	2.2
Wholesale Trade	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.0	0.0
Retail Trade	8.2	7.9	8.0	3.8	2.5
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	1.9	1.8	1.8	5.6	5.6
Services	8.5	8.4	8.3	1.2	2.4
Total Government	12.1	12.0	12.1	0.8	0.0
Federal Government	2.4	2.4	2.5	0.0	-4.0
State Government	3.7	3.6	3.6	2.8	2.8
Local Government	6.0	6.0	6.0	0.0	0.0

NATRONA COUNTY*

TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	**33.2**	**32.7**	**32.9**	**1.5**	**0.9**
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	5.7	5.7	5.8	0.0	-1.7
Mining	2.1	2.1	2.2	0.0	-4.5
Construction	2.0	1.9	1.9	5.3	5.3
Manufacturing	1.6	1.7	1.7	-5.9	-5.9
TOTAL SERVICE PRODUCING	27.5	27.0	27.1	1.9	1.5
Transportation & Public Utilities	1.6	1.6	1.5	0.0	6.7
Transportation	1.2	1.2	1.1	0.0	9.1
Communications & Public Utilities	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.0	0.0
Trade	8.7	8.6	8.8	1.2	-1.1
Wholesale Trade	2.4	2.4	2.4	0.0	0.0
Retail Trade	6.3	6.2	6.4	1.6	-1.6
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	1.3	1.3	1.2	0.0	8.3
Services	10.2	9.9	9.9	3.0	3.0
Personal & Business Services	2.4	2.1	2.2	14.3	9.1
Health Services	3.0	3.0	3.0	0.0	0.0
Government	5.7	5.6	5.7	1.8	0.0
Federal Government	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0
State Government	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
Local Government	4.4	4.3	4.4	2.3	0.0
Local Education	3.1	3.0	3.1	3.3	0.0



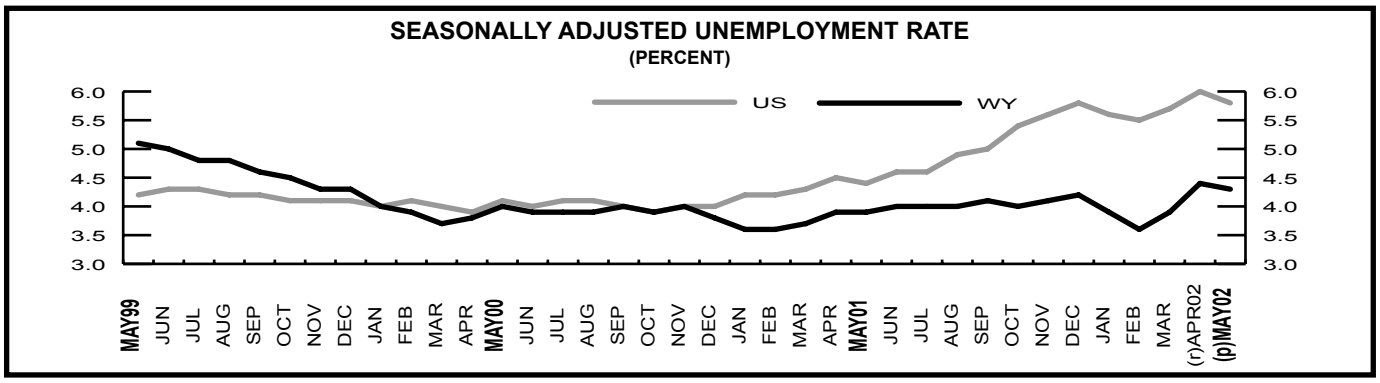
Economic Indicators

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

"The number of unemployed Wyoming residents increased 10.9 percent from May 2001 to May 2002."

	May 2002 (p)	April 2002 (r)	May 2001 (b)	Percent Change Month	Percent Change Year
Wyoming Total Civilian Labor Force(1)	270,801	270,949	268,988	-0.1	0.7
Unemployed	10,694	12,187	9,644	-12.3	10.9
Employed	260,107	258,762	259,344	0.5	0.3
Wyoming Unemployment Rate/Seas. Adj.	3.9%/4.3%	4.5%/4.4%	3.6%/3.9%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Unemployment Rate/Seas. Adj.	5.5/5.8%	5.7%/6.0%	4.1%/4.4%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Multiple Jobholders	7,161,000	7,265,000	7,482,000	-1.4	-4.3
As a percent of all workers	5.3%	5.4%	5.5%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Discouraged Workers	407,000	317,000	325,000	28.4	25.2
U.S. Part Time for Economic Reasons	3,856,000	3,927,000	3,270,000	-1.8	17.9
Hours & Earnings for Production Workers					
Wyoming Mining					
Average Weekly Earnings	$888.25	$930.31	$829.33	-4.5	7.1
Average Weekly Hours	42.5	43.8	40.2	-3.0	5.7
U.S. Mining Hours & Earnings					
Average Weekly Earnings	$758.47	$747.86	$768.22	1.4	-1.3
Average Weekly Hours	42.9	42.3	44.1	1.4	-2.7
Wyoming Manufacturing Hours & Earnings					
Average Weekly Earnings	$621.00	$634.07	$625.07	-2.1	-0.7
Average Weekly Hours	37.5	37.9	37.7	-1.1	-0.5
U.S. Manufacturing Hours & Earnings					
Average Weekly Earnings	$622.91	$620.16	$600.33	0.4	3.8
Average Weekly Hours	40.9	40.8	40.7	0.2	0.5
Wyoming Unemployment Insurance					
Weeks Compensated (2)	13,154	18,034	10,447	-27.1	25.9
Benefits Paid	$2,949,194	$4,061,577	$2,140,362	-27.4	37.8
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$224.21	$225.22	$204.88	-0.4	9.4
State Insured Covered Jobs (1)	225,046	217,184	221,706	3.6	1.5
Insured Unemployment Rate	1.7%	2.2%	1.1%	N/A	N/A
Consumer Price Index for All U.S. Urban Consumers (CPI-U) (1982 to 1984 = 100)					
All Items	179.8	179.8	177.7	0.0	1.2
Food & Beverages	176.4	176.7	172.9	-0.2	2.0
Housing	179.7	179.5	175.9	0.1	2.2
Apparel	127.1	128.8	129.8	-1.3	-2.1
Transportation	153.8	153.7	159.2	0.1	-3.4
Medical Care	284.1	283.2	271.4	0.3	4.7
Recreation (Dec. 1997=100)	106.4	106.5	105.0	-0.1	1.3
Education & Communication (Dec. 1997=100)	106.6	106.2	104.0	0.4	2.5
Other Goods & Services	291.5	292.9	280.2	-0.5	4.0
Producer Prices (1982 to 1984 = 100)					
All Commodities	131.0	131.0	136.8	0.0	-4.2
Wyoming Building Permits					
New Privately Owned Housing Units Authorized	229	228	286	0.4	-19.9
Valuation	$39,987,000	$31,820,000	$35,864,000	25.7	11.5

(p) Preliminary. (r) Revised. (b) Benchmarked. (1) Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program Estimates. (2) Not Normalized.



Wyoming County Unemployment Rates

by: Brad Payne, Economist

"Crook County experienced a large decrease in unemployment, falling from 5.1 percent to 3.0 percent."

REGION County	Labor Force			Employed			Unemployed			Unemployment Rate		
	May 2002 (p)	Apr 2002 (r)	May 2001 (b)	May 2002 (p)	Apr 2002 (r)	May 2001 (b)	May 2002 (p)	Apr 2002 (r)	May 2001 (b)	May 2002 (p)	Apr 2002 (r)	May 2001 (b)
NORTHWEST	**47,710**	**46,897**	**47,046**	**45,343**	**44,174**	**44,650**	**2,367**	**2,723**	**2,396**	**5.0**	**5.8**	**5.1**
Big Horn	5,875	5,816	5,916	5,580	5,500	5,661	295	316	255	5.0	5.4	4.3
Fremont	19,019	19,148	18,574	18,004	17,955	17,443	1,015	1,193	1,131	5.3	6.2	6.1
Hot Springs	2,455	2,444	2,439	2,345	2,322	2,340	110	122	99	4.5	5.0	4.1
Park	15,831	15,036	15,526	15,194	14,211	14,846	637	825	680	4.0	5.5	4.4
Washakie	4,530	4,453	4,591	4,220	4,186	4,360	310	267	231	6.8	6.0	5.0
NORTHEAST	**46,804**	**46,927**	**45,951**	**45,266**	**45,030**	**44,602**	**1,538**	**1,897**	**1,349**	**3.3**	**4.0**	**2.9**
Campbell	22,502	22,747	21,674	21,740	21,926	21,112	762	821	562	3.4	3.6	2.6
Crook	2,953	2,842	3,002	2,865	2,697	2,905	88	145	97	3.0	5.1	3.2
Johnson	4,065	3,908	3,885	3,953	3,786	3,788	112	122	97	2.8	3.1	2.5
Sheridan	13,931	14,072	14,103	13,471	13,411	13,621	460	661	482	3.3	4.7	3.4
Weston	3,353	3,358	3,287	3,237	3,210	3,176	116	148	111	3.5	4.4	3.4
SOUTHWEST	**53,803**	**53,068**	**53,475**	**51,364**	**50,315**	**51,450**	**2,439**	**2,753**	**2,025**	**4.5**	**5.2**	**3.8**
Lincoln	6,669	6,544	6,709	6,320	6,114	6,419	349	430	290	5.2	6.6	4.3
Sublette	3,455	3,294	3,294	3,373	3,181	3,226	82	113	68	2.4	3.4	2.1
Sweetwater	20,456	20,661	20,464	19,578	19,707	19,623	878	954	841	4.3	4.6	4.1
Teton	12,078	11,589	12,089	11,615	10,977	11,749	463	612	340	3.8	5.3	2.8
Uinta	11,145	10,980	10,919	10,478	10,336	10,433	667	644	486	6.0	5.9	4.5
SOUTHEAST	**72,944**	**74,046**	**72,940**	**70,755**	**71,597**	**70,942**	**2,189**	**2,449**	**1,998**	**3.0**	**3.3**	**2.7**
Albany	19,352	20,059	19,143	19,003	19,625	18,819	349	434	324	1.8	2.2	1.7
Goshen	6,233	6,262	6,419	6,046	6,031	6,204	187	231	215	3.0	3.7	3.3
Laramie	41,576	42,172	41,469	40,115	40,617	40,161	1,461	1,555	1,308	3.5	3.7	3.2
Niobrara	1,238	1,162	1,240	1,184	1,117	1,212	54	45	28	4.4	3.9	2.3
Platte	4,545	4,391	4,669	4,407	4,207	4,546	138	184	123	3.0	4.2	2.6
CENTRAL	**49,543**	**50,013**	**49,577**	**47,378**	**47,647**	**47,702**	**2,165**	**2,366**	**1,875**	**4.4**	**4.7**	**3.8**
Carbon	8,147	8,031	8,090	7,796	7,614	7,776	351	417	314	4.3	5.2	3.9
Converse	6,430	6,413	6,492	6,204	6,141	6,253	226	272	239	3.5	4.2	3.7
Natrona	34,966	35,569	34,995	33,378	33,892	33,673	1,588	1,677	1,322	4.5	4.7	3.8
STATEWIDE	**270,801**	**270,949**	**268,988**	**260,107**	**258,762**	**259,344**	**10,694**	**12,187**	**9,644**	**3.9**	**4.5**	**3.6**
Statewide Seasonally Adjusted										4.3	4.4	3.9
U.S.										5.5	5.7	4.1
U.S. Seasonally Adjusted										5.8	6.0	4.4

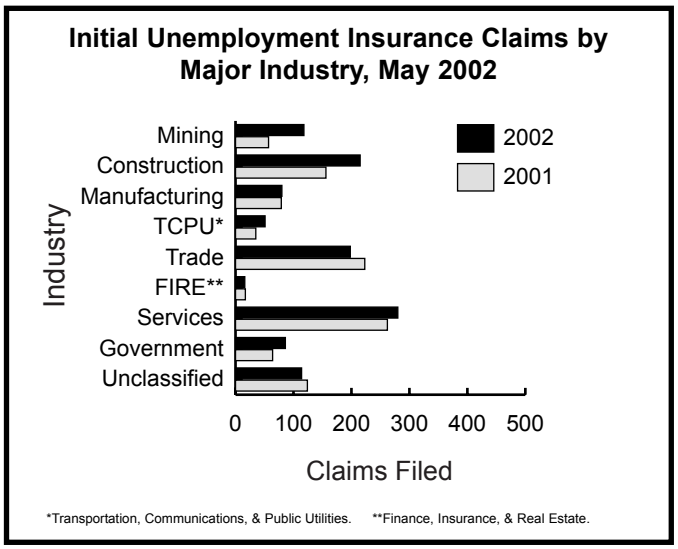
Prepared in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Benchmarked 02/02. Run Date 06/02.
Data are not seasonally adjusted except where otherwise specified.

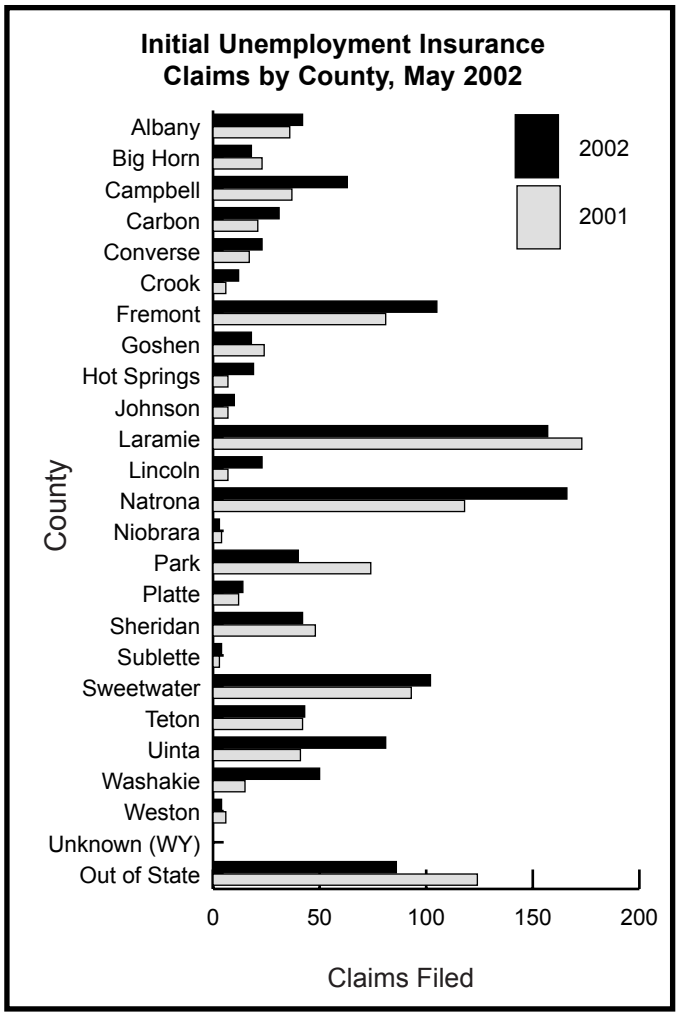
(p) Preliminary. (r) Revised. (b) Benchmarked.
NOTE: The Current Population Survey (CPS) estimated the 2001 annual average Wyoming unemployment rate at 3.9 percent.
The 90 percent confidence interval for this estimate suggests that in 9 of 10 cases, the interval 3.4 to 4.4 percent would contain the actual rate.

Wyoming Normalized Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Initial Claims

by: Mark A. Harris, Sociologist, Ph.D.

"Total statewide initial claims for May 2002 are up by 141 claims (13.9%) over the previous year."





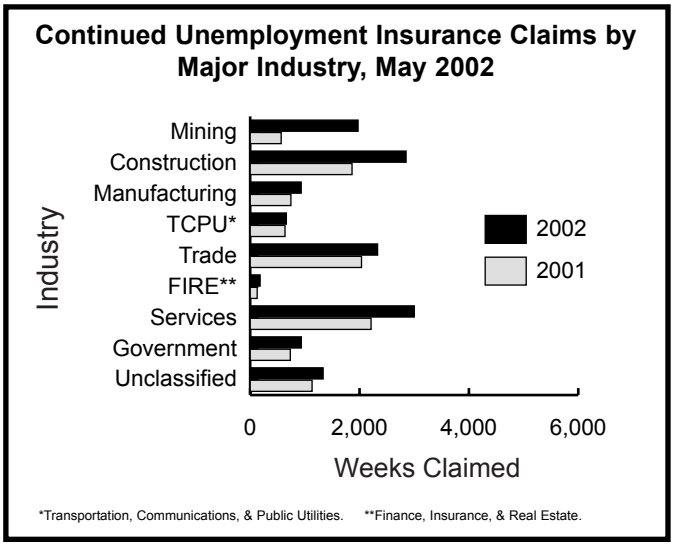
	Claims Filed			Percent Change Claims Filed	
WYOMING STATEWIDE	May 02	Apr 02	May 01	Apr 02 May 02	May 01 May 02
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	1,158	1,828	1,017	-36.7	13.9
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	413	669	292	-38.3	41.4
Mining	118	241	57	-51.0	107.0
Oil & Gas Extraction	110	226	45	-51.3	144.4
Construction	215	327	156	-34.3	37.8
Manufacturing	80	101	79	-20.8	1.3
TOTAL SERVICES PRODUCING	631	1,013	601	-37.7	5.0
Transportation, Comm., & Pub. Utilities	51	84	35	-39.3	45.7
Transportation	40	67	29	-40.3	37.9
Communications & Public Utilities	11	17	6	-35.3	83.3
Trade	198	342	223	-42.1	-11.2
Wholesale Trade	35	37	34	-5.4	2.9
Retail Trade	163	305	189	-46.6	-13.8
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	16	24	17	-33.3	-5.9
Services	280	447	262	-37.4	6.9
Personal & Business Services	83	109	69	-23.9	20.3
Health Services	29	42	28	-31.0	3.6
Government	86	116	64	-25.9	34.4
Local Government	55	63	32	-12.7	71.9
Local Education	17	13	16	30.8	6.3
UNCLASSIFIED	114	146	124	-21.9	-8.1
LARAMIE COUNTY					
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	157	145	174	8.3	-9.8
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	38	40	44	-5.0	-13.6
Mining	1	0	0	0.0	0.0
Oil & Gas Extraction	1	0	0	0.0	0.0
Construction	34	32	27	6.3	25.9
Manufacturing	3	8	17	-62.5	-82.4
TOTAL SERVICES PRODUCING	109	90	120	21.1	-9.2
Transportation, Comm., & Pub. Utilities	15	10	12	50.0	25.0
Transportation	7	2	11	250.0	-36.4
Communications & Public Utilities	8	8	1	0.0	700.0
Trade	23	26	43	-11.5	-46.5
Wholesale Trade	6	4	5	50.0	20.0
Retail Trade	17	22	38	-22.7	-55.3
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	1	3	6	-66.7	-83.3
Services	56	37	49	51.4	14.3
Personal & Business Services	16	14	11	14.3	45.5
Health Services	11	5	10	120.0	10.0
Government	14	14	10	0.0	40.0
Local Government	4	2	3	100.0	33.3
Local Education	3	0	1	0.0	200.0
UNCLASSIFIED	10	15	10	-33.3	0.0
NATRONA COUNTY					
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	168	268	119	-37.3	41.2
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	58	105	34	-44.8	70.6
Mining	23	33	9	-30.3	155.6
Oil & Gas Extraction	23	28	8	-17.9	187.5
Construction	27	53	16	-49.1	68.8
Manufacturing	8	19	9	-57.9	-11.1
TOTAL SERVICES PRODUCING	102	151	76	-32.5	34.2
Transportation, Comm., & Pub. Utilities	11	15	4	-26.7	175
Transportation	10	14	3	-28.6	233.3
Communications & Public Utilities	1	1	1	0.0	0.0
Trade	38	44	29	-13.6	31.0
Wholesale Trade	14	8	10	75.0	40.0
Retail Trade	24	36	19	-33.3	26.3
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	5	4	2	25.0	150.0
Services	42	76	36	-44.7	16.7
Personal & Business Services	18	27	12	-33.3	50.0
Health Services	4	14	4	-71.4	0.0
Government	6	12	5	-50.0	20.0
Local Government	5	10	4	-50.0	25.0
Local Education	2	1	2	100.0	0.0
UNCLASSIFIED	8	12	9	-33.3	-11.1

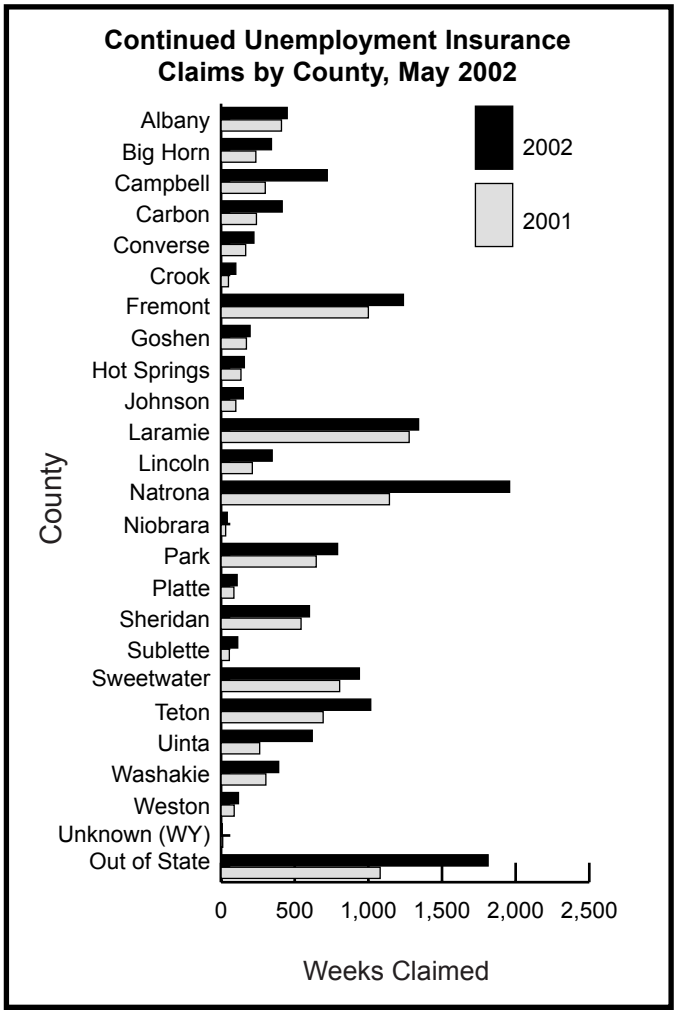
Wyoming Normalized Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Continued Claims

by: Mark A. Harris, Sociologist, Ph.D.

"Total statewide continued claims for oil & gas in May 2002 were up 1,465 (393.8%) weeks over the previous year."

	Weeks Claimed			Percent Change Weeks Claimed	
WYOMING STATEWIDE	May 02	Apr 02	May 01	Apr 02 May 02	May 01 May 02
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	14,202	18,910	10,053	-24.9	41.3
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	4,003	6,171	2,915	-35.1	37.3
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	5,757	8,720	3,175	-34.0	81.3
Mining	1,973	2,674	567	-26.2	248.0
Oil & Gas Extraction	1,837	2,492	372	-26.3	393.8
Construction	2,851	4,930	1,863	-42.2	53.0
Manufacturing	933	1,116	745	-16.4	25.2
TOTAL SERVICES PRODUCING	7,111	8,666	5,746	-17.9	23.8
Transportation, Comm., & Pub. Utilities	662	854	637	-22.5	3.9
Transportation	488	668	459	-26.9	6.3
Communications & Public Utilities	174	186	178	-6.5	-2.2
Trade	2,330	2,494	2,036	-6.6	14.4
Wholesale Trade	356	391	315	-9.0	13.0
Retail Trade	1,974	2,103	1,721	-6.1	14.7
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	182	161	128	13.0	42.2
Services	3,002	3,727	2,211	-19.5	35.8
Personal & Business Services	920	1,114	583	-17.4	57.8
Health Services	247	228	210	8.3	17.6
Government	935	1,430	734	-34.6	27.4
Local Government	383	470	265	-18.5	44.5
Local Education	87	104	100	-16.3	-13.0
UNCLASSIFIED	1,334	1,524	1,132	-12.5	17.8
LARAMIE COUNTY					
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	1,341	1,840	1,280	-27.1	4.8
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	373	596	375	-37.4	-0.5
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	342	588	357	-41.8	-4.2
Mining	2	11	3	-81.8	-33.3
Oil & Gas Extraction	2	9	0	-77.8	0.0
Construction	281	504	274	-44.2	2.6
Manufacturing	59	73	80	-19.2	-26.3
TOTAL SERVICES PRODUCING	872	1,102	818	-20.9	6.6
Transportation, Comm., & Pub. Utilities	134	161	186	-16.8	-28.0
Transportation	73	94	83	-22.3	-12.0
Communications & Public Utilities	61	67	103	-9.0	-40.8
Trade	259	334	262	-22.5	-1.1
Wholesale Trade	43	57	34	-24.6	26.5
Retail Trade	216	277	228	-22.0	-5.3
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	24	18	19	33.3	26.3
Services	322	404	269	-20.3	19.7
Personal & Business Services	169	231	139	-26.8	21.6
Health Services	34	31	29	9.7	17.2
Government	133	185	82	-28.1	62.2
Local Government	26	53	25	-50.9	4.0
Local Education	3	9	9	-66.7	-66.7
UNCLASSIFIED	127	150	105	-15.3	21.0
NATRONA COUNTY					
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	1,959	2,338	1,143	-16.2	71.4
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	526	760	325	-30.8	61.8
TOTAL GOODS PRODUCING	816	1,161	338	-29.7	141.4
Mining	315	441	63	-28.6	400.0
Oil & Gas Extraction	299	417	49	-28.3	510.2
Construction	359	554	191	-35.2	88.0
Manufacturing	142	166	84	-14.5	69.0
TOTAL SERVICES PRODUCING	1,054	1,101	742	-4.3	42.0
Transportation, Comm., & Pub. Utilities	101	114	61	-11.4	65.6
Transportation	73	86	51	-15.1	43.1
Communications & Public Utilities	28	28	10	0.0	180.0
Trade	344	386	276	-10.9	24.6
Wholesale Trade	81	82	82	-1.2	-1.2
Retail Trade	263	304	194	-13.5	35.6
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	30	31	29	-3.2	3.4
Services	517	523	316	-1.1	63.6
Personal & Business Services	209	231	103	-9.5	102.9
Health Services	46	37	78	24.3	-41.0
Government	62	47	60	31.9	3.3
Local Government	50	32	28	56.3	78.6
Local Education	12	9	7	33.3	71.4
UNCLASSIFIED	89	76	63	17.1	41.3





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