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TRENDS

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Tracking Workers' Re-Employment After Job Loss

*by: **Douglas W. Leonard, Senior Economist***

This article examines the probability workers will be re-employed following their entry into the UI system (job loss). The statewide claimant re-employment rate for men fell to 57.8% in 2009, compared to 77.2% in 2005. Results also show that during the current economic downturn, men were less likely to be re-employed than women. Non-resident workers were less likely than resident workers to be found working in Wyoming in subsequent quarters following job loss. Workers with greater educational attainment (master's degrees and greater) were less likely to be re-employed should they lose their jobs. However, the data also show that highly educated workers are much less likely to become unemployed than workers with lesser amounts of formal education.

The unemployment insurance (UI) system provides partial temporary replacement of income in the event of job loss, supports the search for new jobs, and sustains consumer spending when the economy is contracting (Leonard, 2010). While an understanding of the UI system and its effects on the economy is important, it is also important to track the employment status of unemployed workers after they receive benefits. Re-employment allows workers to more fully support themselves and their families, and enables these workers to re-establish eligibility for UI benefits should another job loss occur.

Recent research (Aaronson et. al, 2010) showed that long periods of unemployment can be more problematic for workers with highly specialized skill sets and reduce

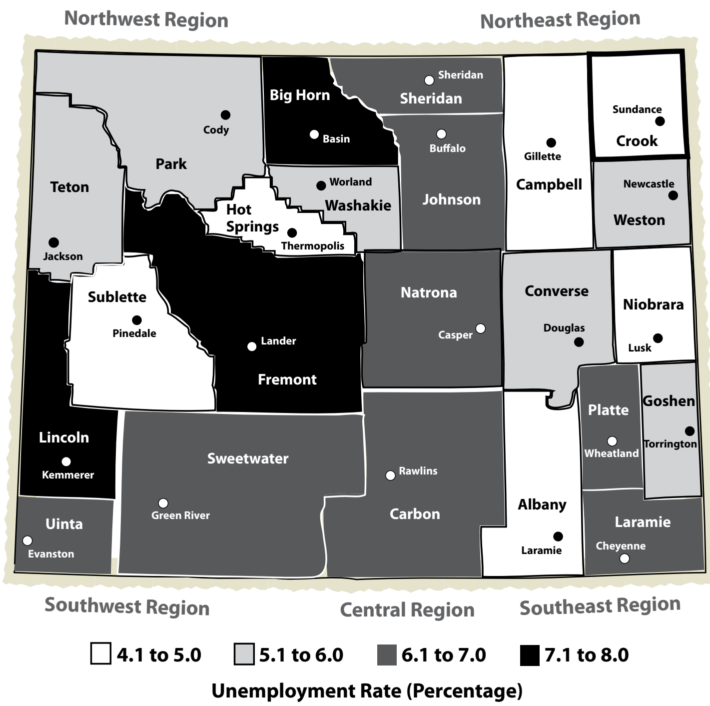
(Text continued on page 3)

SEE PAGE 14

New Business Formation in Wyoming

- New business formation in Wyoming has been in decline for seven straight quarters, beginning in third quarter 2008
- In health care & social assistance, the number of new firms has continued to increase
- The southwest region of Wyoming continues to be the fastest growing region in the state

Unemployment Rate by Wyoming County, September 2010 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



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Now online: The revised Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries news release is now available on the Web at http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/CFOI/CFOI_09/news_release.htm

Wyoming Labor Force Trends

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(Text continued from page 1)

the probabilities workers may find new jobs, creating a downward spiral effect: "… in any given month, individuals with longer unemployment spells are less likely to be employed in the following month." The inability to find work also affects a household's ability to meet its debt obligations such as mortgages, automobiles, consumer credit cards, health care expenses, and student loans. As household savings are depleted (if the household has such assets when unemployment begins), choices must be made as to which creditors are paid and which are not.

Methodology

The data used in the current analysis are from the UI claims database (Wyoming Department of Employment, Research & Planning, 2010). We began by extracting an unduplicated list of all claimant social security numbers (SSNs) for each calendar year from 2005 through 2009. Workers were included in the analysis if they filed an initial claim, regardless of their eligibility to receive UI benefits. This group of claim-filers is different from those described by Wen (2010), which only included eligible claimants. Re-employment status was determined by whether those claimants were paid wages from any employer in the first or second quarter of the following year (see Figure 1). If a claimant from the previous year received any wages from a UI covered employer during the first or second quarter of the following year, they were classified as working. We calculated the probability of not working in a UI-covered job as the count of those not working divided by the total number of UI claimants. Claimant characteristics such as age, gender, industry at the time of separation, educational attainment, and physical location when the claim was filed are contained in the UI database.

Results

The figures shown in the report are summaries of statistical tables that can be found at http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/1110/toc.htm. The tables contain three columns:

- working-same employer
- working-different employer, and
- not working.

The proportions highlighted in the charts are the sum of the two "working" columns.

From 2005 to 2007, the probability of working in a UI-covered job by the first or second quarter of the following year was greater for men than for women (see Figure 2, page 4). Although rates for both genders declined considerably beginning in 2008, the probability of men working in a UI covered job was lower than the rate for women. The probability of men finding a UI covered job after filing a claim

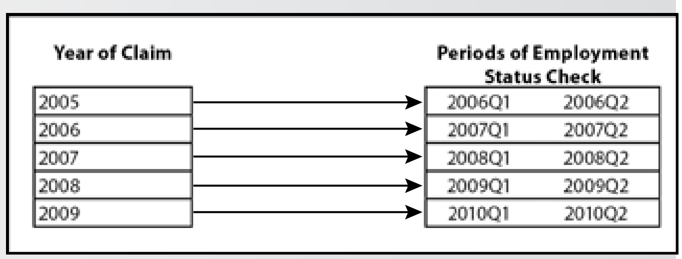

Figure 1: Data Analysis Method

declined from 75.1%, in 2007 to 57.8% in 2009.

In 2009, men had a lower probability of finding work than women if they were less than 20 years old (67.7% compared to 67.9%; see Figure 3, page 5) or between 25 and 54 years old. Among workers 55 and older, women were less likely than men to be working (e.g., 44.3% for women compared to 50.0% for men 65 and older). The differences in rates of re-employment between men and women were generally greatest during prime earning years (25 to 54). This may in part explain why the gender wage gap decreased in Wyoming (WYDOE, Research & Planning, 2010).

In order to examine re-employment rates by educational attainment, the likelihood of unemployment occurring for workers by education level needs to be determined. Results show that 82.6% of claimants (32,677; see Figure 4, page 6) in 2009 had an educational attainment of a high school diploma/GED or less, with the remainder (17.4%) those with greater educational attainment. Therefore, if job retraining is offered, it should be geared primarily to the largest claimant cohort, that being those with high school education or less (see Table, page 5).

The data in Figure 5 (see page 6) contrasts the distribution of jobs by typical education in 2009. The typical education distribution is the combination of the Occupational Employment Statistics program data of employment by occupation and the O*NET data for

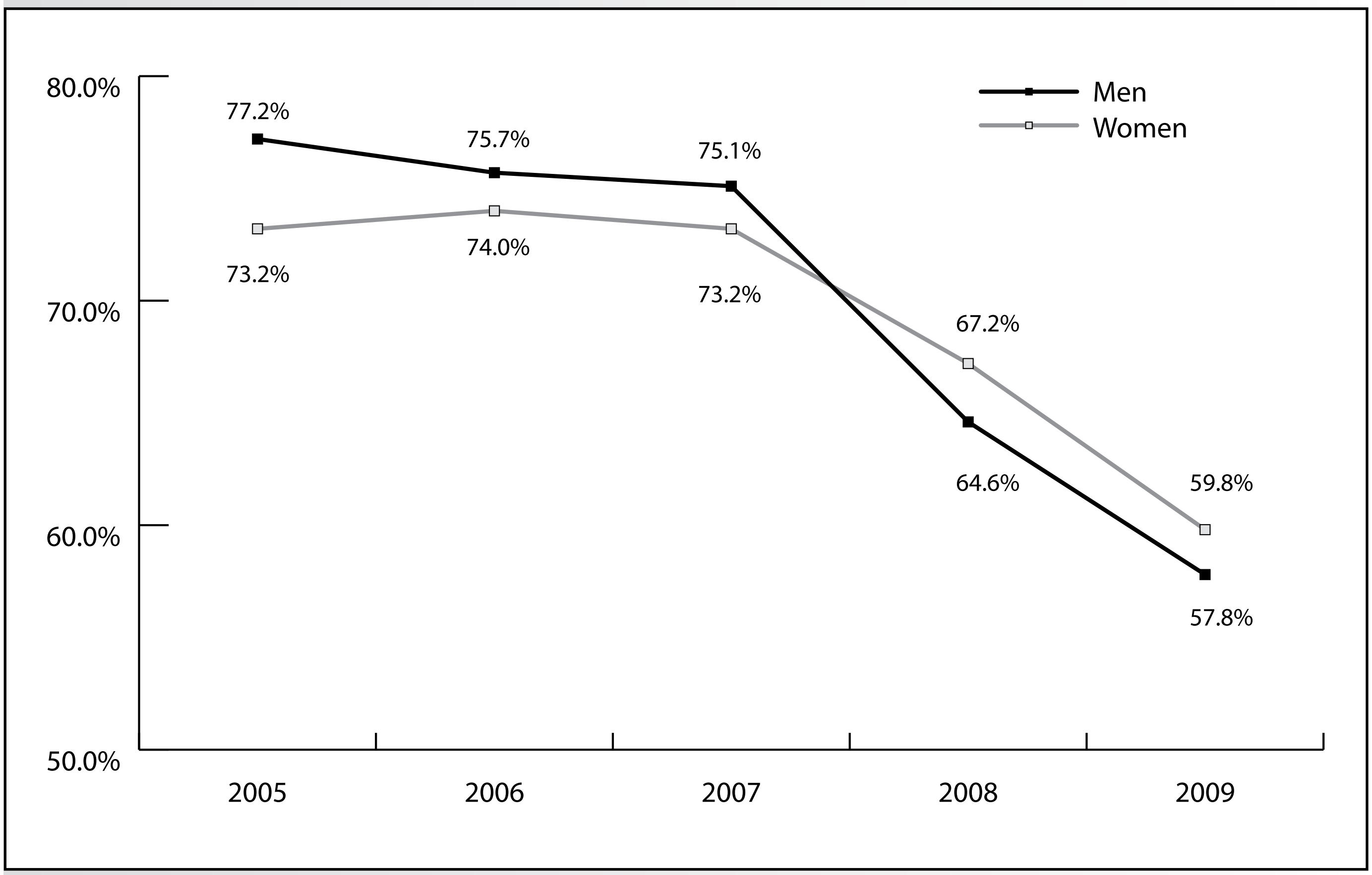

Figure 2: **Re-Employment Rate of Wyoming Unemployment Insurance Claimants by Gender, 2005-2009**

the typical education by occupation. The percent distribution demonstrates that those with an associate's degree or less are a higher percentage of the unemployed than would be expected from examining the distribution of employment in Wyoming. Figure 5 also shows that a person is less likely to become unemployed as his or her educational attainment reaches the level of a bachelor's degree or higher.

When workers file UI claims, they are asked to state their highest level of educational attainment, so

Table: Employment Status of 2009 Unemployment Insurance Claimants by Educational Attainment in First or Second Quarter 2010

Educational Level		Status: Working — Same Employer	Status: Working — Different Employer	Status: Not Working	Total
Less than High School	Claimants	1,543	2,260	3,095	6,898
	Row %	22.37	32.76	44.87	100
High School Diploma or GED	Claimants	5,802	9,521	10,456	25,779
	Row %	22.51	36.93	40.56	100
Associate's Degree	Claimants	644	1,323	1,491	3,458
	Row %	18.62	38.26	43.12	100
Bachelor's Degree	Claimants	752	933	1,115	2,800
	Row %	26.86	33.32	39.82	100
Master's Degree or Higher	Claimants	110	189	297	596
	Row %	18.46	31.71	49.83	100
Unknown	Claimants	1	2	4	7
	Row %	14.29	28.57	57.14	100
Total		**8,852**	**14,228**	**16,458**	**39,538**

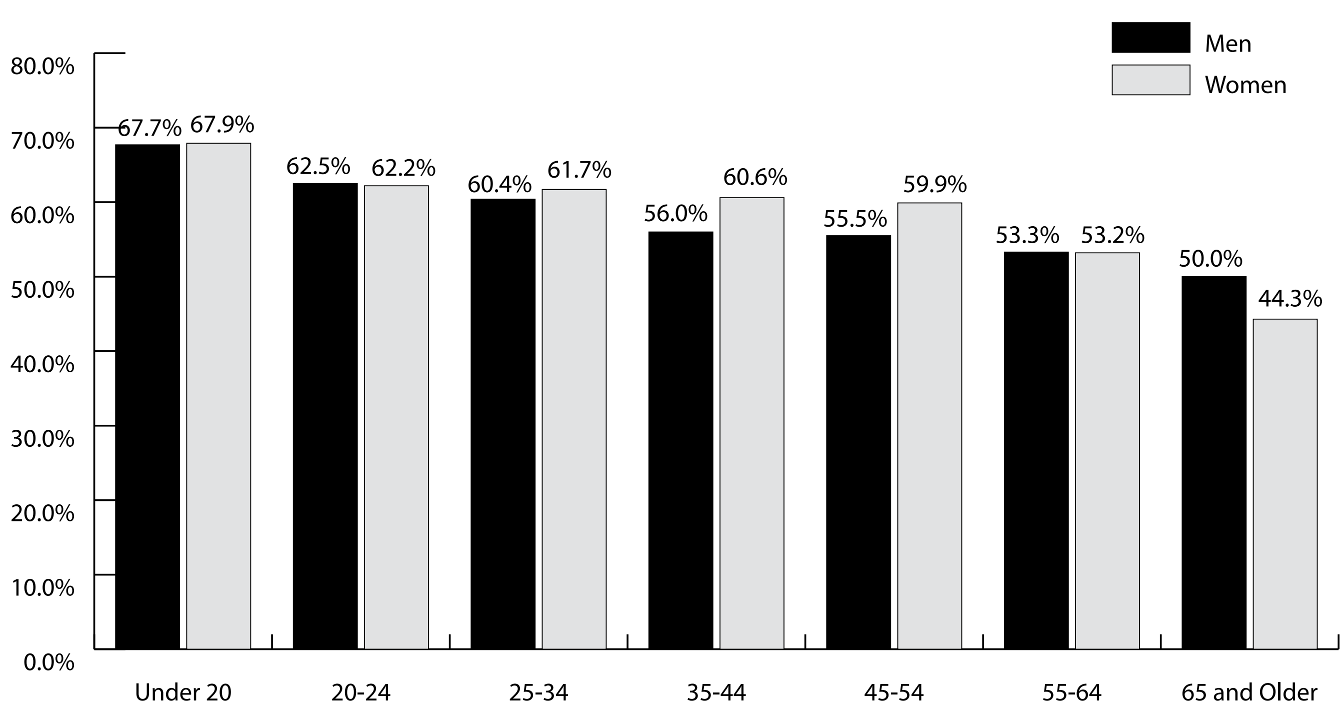

Figure 3: **Re-Employment Rates by Age and Gender for 2009 Wyoming Unemployment Insurance Claimants**

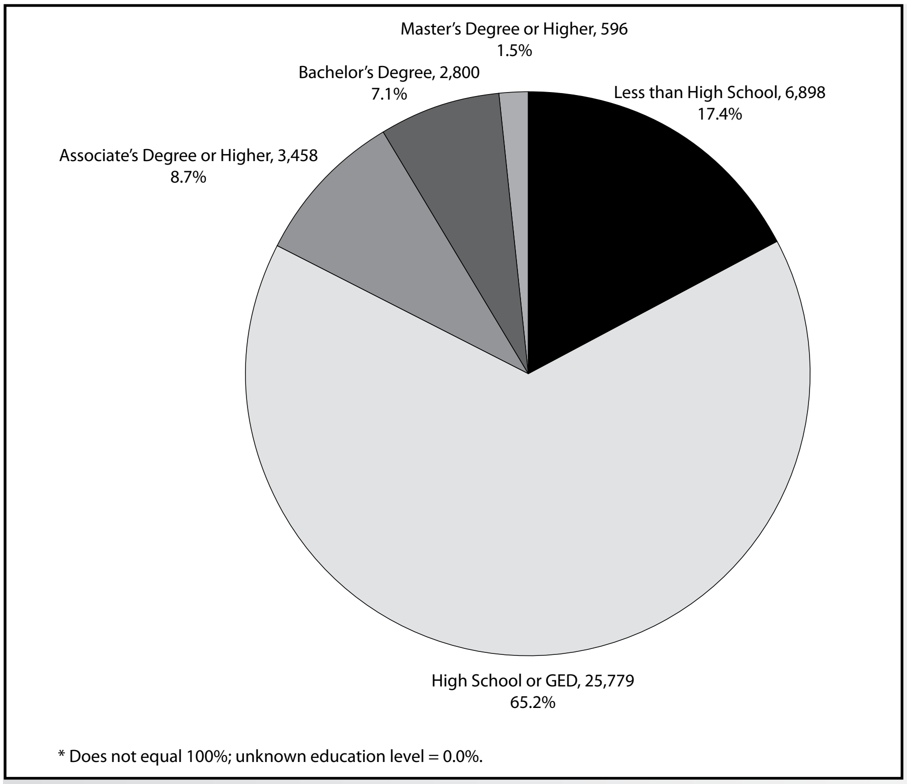

Figure 4: Distribution of 2009 Unemployment Insurance Claimants by Educational Attainment

this value is self-reported. Displaced workers in 2009 with master's degrees or greater are the least likely to be re-employed (50.0%; see Figure 6, page 7), although this cohort is the smallest by educational attainment, and workers in this group are the least likely to become unemployed. The re-employment rate for 2009 claimants with bachelor's degrees was 60.1%. The rates of re-employment declined for all groups beginning in 2008, even though some began declining earlier (less than high school and master's degrees or greater). Prior to the economic downturn,

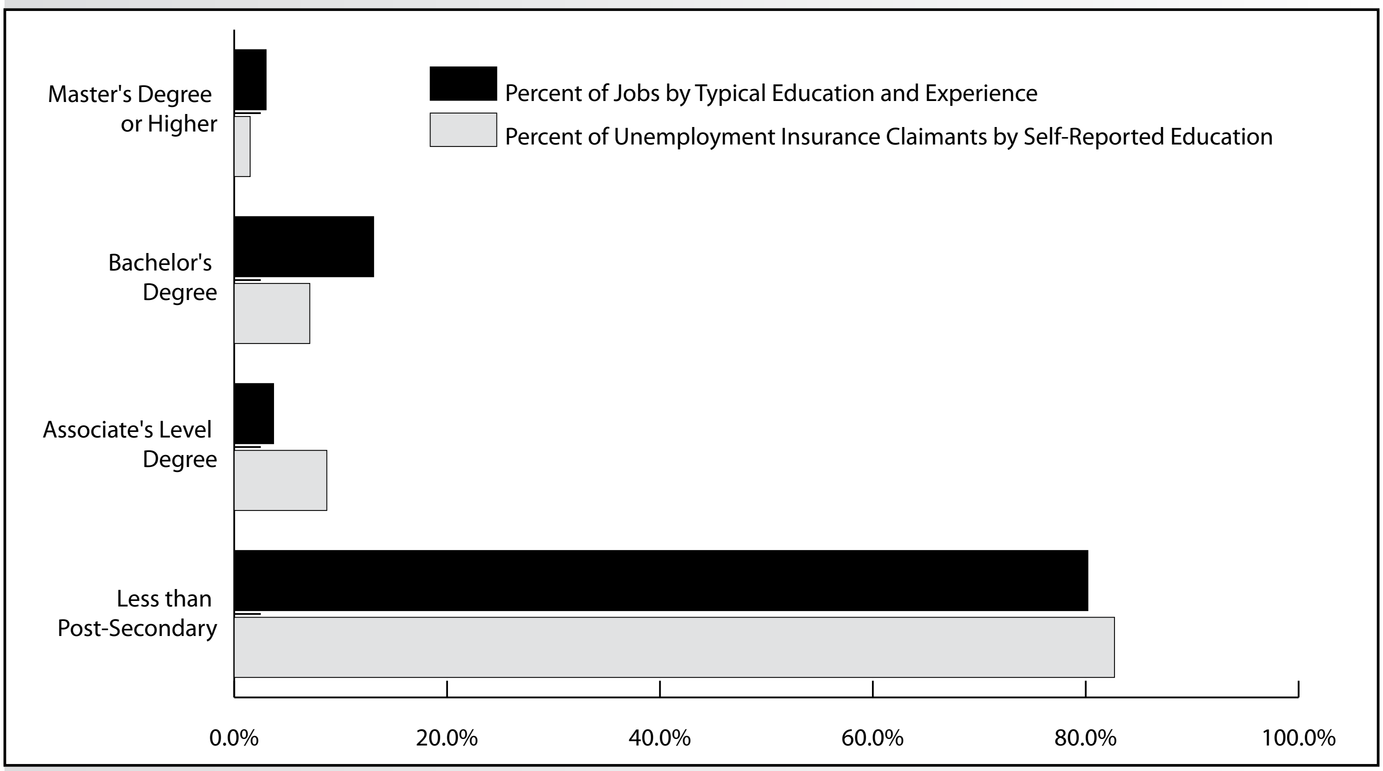

Figure 5: Distribution of Typical Education and Experience of All Jobs in Wyoming Compared to the Educational Level of Unemployment Insurance Claimants

workers with less than a high school education had the greatest probability of re-employment (2006 re-employment rate of 76.7%), but by 2009 their re-employment rate (55.1%) surpassed only workers with master's degrees or greater (50.2%).

When a claim is filed, the UI system captures information regarding the physical address of claimants that can be used to determine if the claimant is still living in the state. In 2005, the re-employment rate for workers with Wyoming addresses was 79.7% compared to 41.0% for those with out of state addresses (see Figure 7, page 8). By 2009, the Wyoming address re-employment rate fell to 66.0% while the re-employment rate of individuals with an out-of-state address declined to 26.1%. The differences in rates are indicative of how workers establish themselves in the state once they have work. Those whose attachments to the state are more tentative are less likely to return to work in Wyoming should a job separation occur.

Information about claimants' employment history, also captured by the UI system, allows analysis of re-employment rates by industry. Prior to the economic downturn, construction claimants were among the most likely unemployed workers to be re-employed (83.0% in 2005, 80.8% in 2007; see Figure 8, page 9). However, this changed in 2008 – 2009, when re-employment rates for construction workers fell rapidly to 67.9% and 63.0%, respectively. An almost identical pattern of decline was found in natural resources & mining.

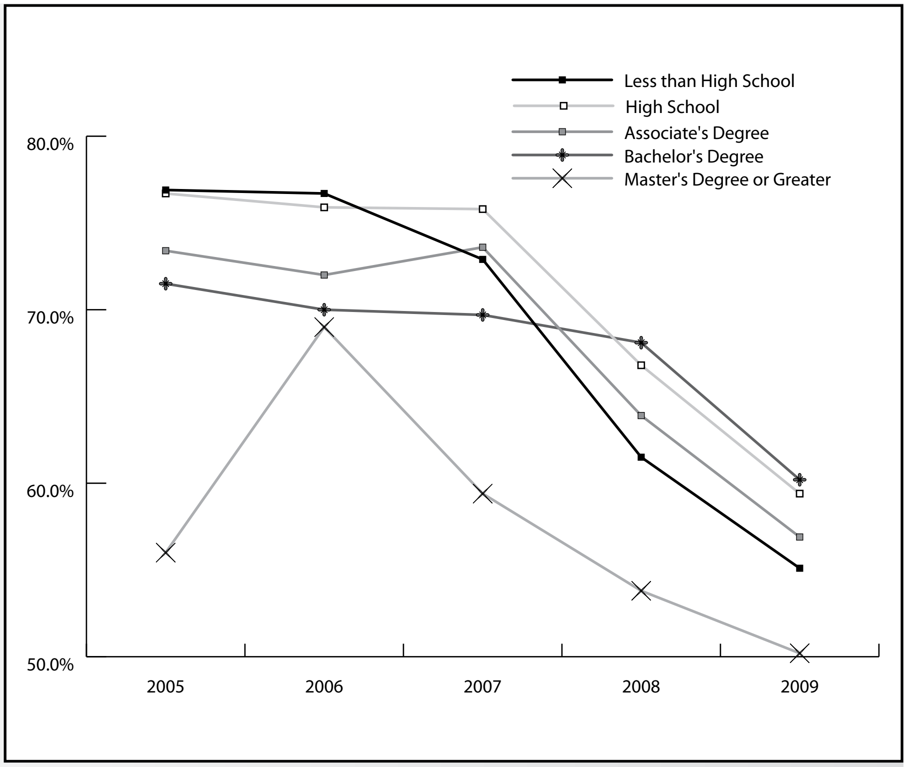

Figure 6: **Re-Employment Rates of Wyoming Unemployment Insurance Claimants by Educational Attainment, 2005-2009**

Discussion

Some re-employment rates in Wyoming may have been early indicators of the economic downturn. For example, the rates for those with less than a high school diploma and those with master's degrees appeared to decline earlier than those with other levels of educational attainment (see Figure 6). Additionally, the re-employment rate of displaced workers with out-of-state addresses began its decline earlier than for claimants with Wyoming addresses (see Figure 7). As a final example, the re-employment rate for state & local government and construction workers began to decline earlier than for the other industries shown (see Figure 8). If further investigation proves the validity of these variables as early indicators of a downturn, they may also be used as early predictors of expansion as well.

The differences between resident and nonresident claimants further demonstrate the way in which Wyoming's labor market operates. During times of expansion, the state first exhausts its local labor supply, then imports the labor it needs. During dowturns or contractions, the imported labor that arrived during the expansion is generally the first group to be negatively impacted. Such an effect can be seen in the Commuting Pattern Data Model (Leonard, 2010). These data show a rapid increase of workers with out-of-state drivers' licenses during expansion periods and a rapid decline in numbers of the same workers during contraction periods.

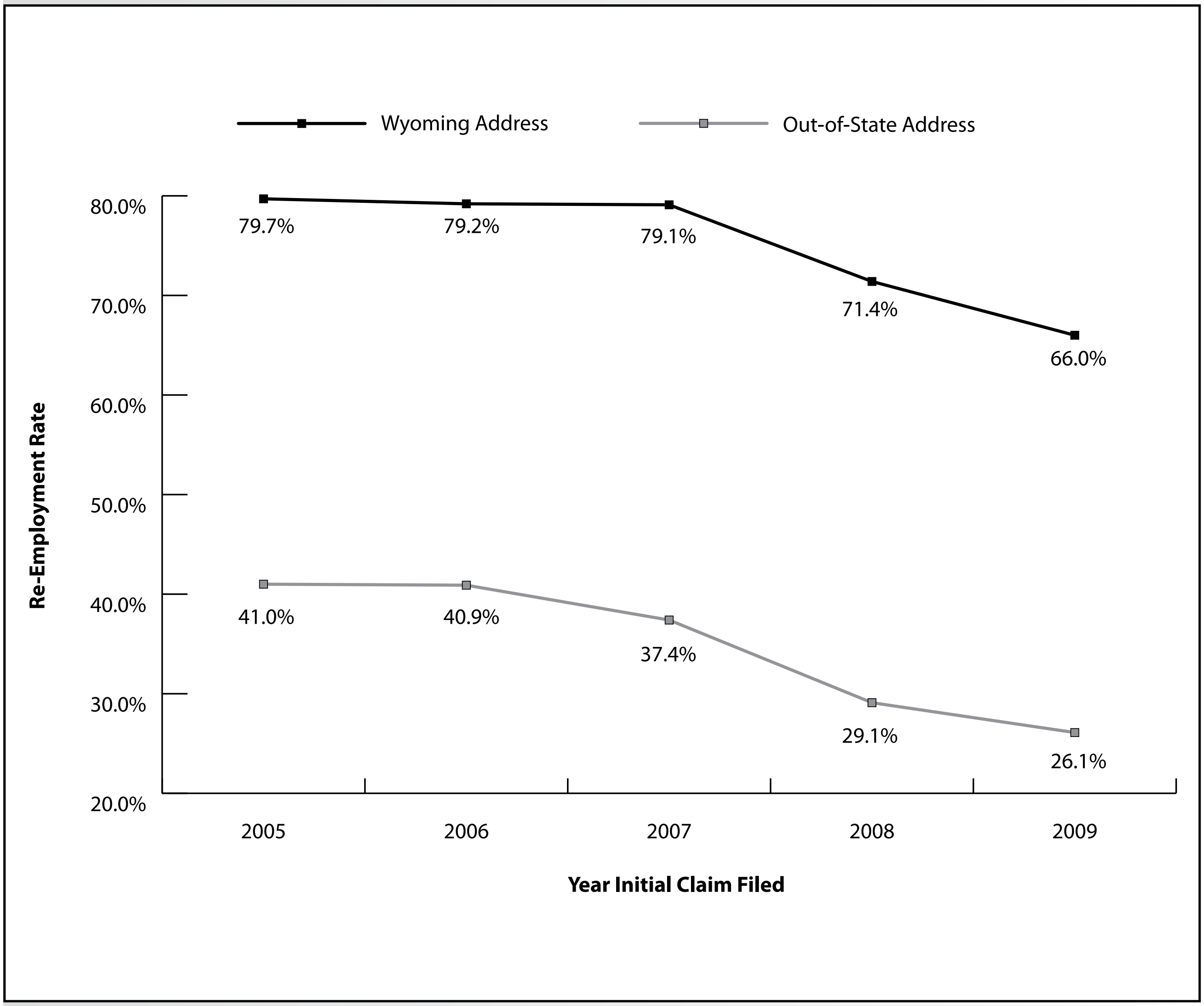

Figure 7: **Re-Employment Rates of Wyoming Unemployment Insurance Claimants by Physical Address Location, 2005-2009**

Conclusion

While aggregate rates provide general information, the wealth of demographic data available in the UI system can reveal patterns that might otherwise go unnoticed. Re-employment rates for displaced workers are not equal. Factors such as age, gender, educational attainment, and residency status are all related to claimants' ability to regain employment. Currently, Wyoming UI claimants can receive a maximum of 73 weeks of benefits (WYDOE, 2010). Under current state and federal law, all extended benefits expire on April 30, 2011. If workers exhaust all their benefits and are unable to re-establish employment for a sufficient amount of time, they have no safety net should another separation occur. This not only negatively affects the displaced workers but also the businesses and individuals in other areas of the economy that depend upon their economic activity.

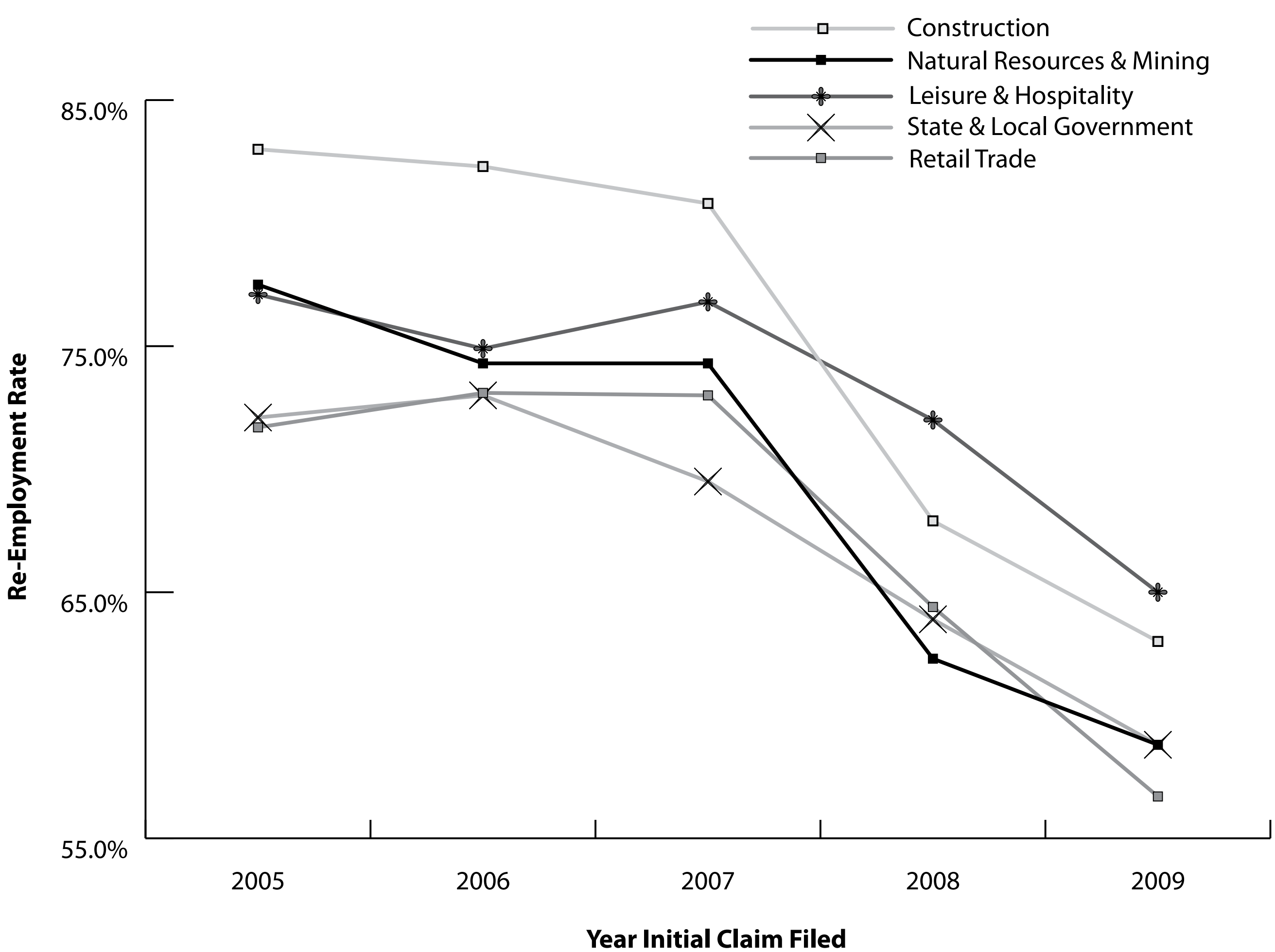

Figure 8: Re-Employment Rates of Wyoming Unemployment Insurance Claimants by Industry, 2005-2009

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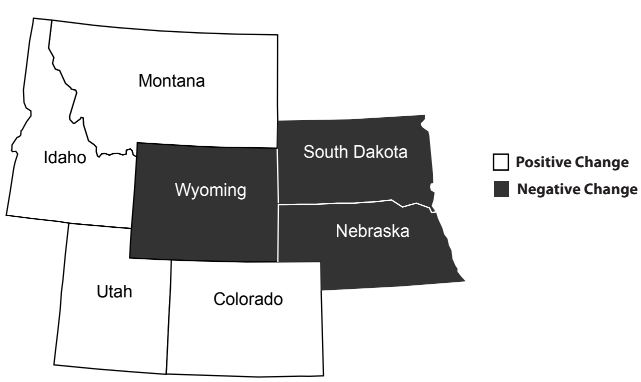
Unemployment Rates and Over-the-Year Change for Wyoming and Surrounding States, September 2009 to September 2010



State	September 2009	September 2010	Over-the-Year % Change
Wyoming	7.3	6.8	-0.5
Colorado	7.7	8.2	0.5
Idaho	8.7	9.0	0.3
Montana	6.5	7.4	0.9
Nebraska	4.8	4.6	-0.2
South Dakota	4.7	4.4	-0.3
Utah	6.7	7.5	0.8

Workplace Safety: Analysis Using Workers' Compensation Data in Wyoming

by: Patrick Manning, Principal Economist

Workers' Compensation (WC) records represent some of the most comprehensive information about workplace injures and illnesses in Wyoming. These records can be used to analyze the circumstances surrounding injuries, provide prevention guidance, and prepare first responders. This article introduces the reader to the incidence of claims information by type of claim and the industry of occurrence in Wyoming.

Previous research using the WC dataset has yielded useful conclusions. For example, Leonard found that "injuries occurring in winter, spring and summer led to greater wage loss than those occurring in the fall" (Leonard, 2009). A tabular analysis of workplace safety for nurses in Wyoming used WC data to indicate the rate at which nurses filed claims (see http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/dashboard/toc.htm). Further research using the datasets could yield beneficial insight into the effects of workplace injury on the dynamics of Wyoming's economy.

All claims from the Wyoming WC database with a status other than denied, duplicate, or potential duplicate are included in the tabulations in this article.

For a given quarter, an initial claim is defined as a claim where the date of injury occurred in that quarter. A continued claim is defined as one that was initiated prior to the reference quarter and is still an active claim. Continued claims may cover long periods of time. Therefore, changes in

Table 1: **Wyoming Workers' Compensation Initial Claims, 2010Q2**

	Claims Filed			Percent Change Claims Filed	
	2010Q2	2010Q1	2009Q2	2010Q2 2010Q1	2010Q2 2009Q2
Wyoming Statewide					
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	**2,273**	**2,335**	**2,327**	**-2.7**	**-2.3**
Total Unique Claimants	**2,245**	**2,311**	**2,299**	**-2.9**	**-2.3**
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	592	556	570	6.5	3.9
Natural Res. & Mining	202	218	192	-7.3	5.2
Mining	168	189	156	-11.1	7.7
Oil & Gas Extraction	23	17	29	35.3	-20.7
Construction	248	222	270	11.7	-8.1
Manufacturing	142	116	108	22.4	31.5
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	1,003	1,025	1,048	-2.1	-4.3
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	337	346	398	-2.6	-15.3
Wholesale Trade	69	86	87	-19.8	-20.7
Retail Trade	178	145	214	22.8	-16.8
Transp., Warehousing & Utilities	90	115	97	-21.7	-7.2
Information	22	23	22	-4.3	0.0
Financial Activities	26	36	23	-27.8	13.0
Prof. and Business Svcs.	92	71	104	29.6	-11.5
Educational & Health Svcs.	229	233	217	-1.7	5.5
Leisure & Hospitality	233	252	220	-7.5	5.9
Other Svcs., Exc. Public Admin.	64	64	64	0.0	0.0
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	542	598	570	-9.4	-4.9
State Government	108	103	100	4.9	8.0
Local Government	434	495	470	-12.3	-7.7
Local Education	90	109	84	-17.4	7.1
UNCLASSIFIED	136	156	139	-12.8	-2.2

Table 2: **Wyoming Workers' Compensation Continued Claims, 2010Q2**

	Claims Filed			Percent Change Claims Filed	
	2010Q2	2010Q1	2009Q2	2010Q2 2010Q1	2010Q2 2009Q2
Wyoming Statewide					
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	**8,068**	**7,979**	**8,317**	**1.1**	**-3.0**
Total Unique Claimants	**7,740**	**7,621**	**7,975**	**1.6**	**-2.9**
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	2,362	2,391	2,545	-1.2	-7.2
Natural Res. & Mining	954	971	1058	-1.8	-9.8
Mining	844	858	954	-1.6	-11.5
Oil & Gas Extraction	68	101	113	-32.7	-39.8
Construction	983	1,007	1,044	-2.4	-5.8
Manufacturing	425	413	443	2.9	-4.1
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	3,198	3,210	3,341	-0.4	-4.3
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	1,260	1,258	1,287	0.2	-2.1
Wholesale Trade	269	259	286	3.9	-5.9
Retail Trade	506	529	515	-4.3	-1.7
Transp., Warehousing & Utilities	485	470	486	3.2	-0.2
Information	51	54	50	-5.6	2.0
Financial Activities	107	107	124	0.0	-13.7
Prof. and Business Svcs.	278	285	316	-2.5	-12.0
Educational & Health Svcs.	670	695	696	-3.6	-3.7
Leisure & Hospitality	629	603	660	4.3	-4.7
Other Svcs., Exc. Public Admin.	203	208	208	-2.4	-2.4
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	1,467	1,427	1,474	2.8	-0.5
State Government	260	253	273	2.8	-4.8
Local Government	1,207	1,174	1,201	2.8	0.5
Local Education	271	264	256	2.7	5.9
UNCLASSIFIED	1,041	951	957	9.5	8.8

Table 3: Wyoming Workers' Compensation Initial Claims, 2010Q1

	Claims Filed			Percent Change Claims Filed	
	2010Q1	2009Q4	2009Q1	2010Q1 2009Q4	2010Q1 2009Q1
Wyoming Statewide					
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	**2,335**	**2,167**	**2,629**	**7.8**	**-11.2**
Total Unique Claimants	**2,311**	**2,149**	**2,599**	**7.5**	**-11.1**
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	556	542	639	2.6	-13.0
Natural Res. & Mining	218	193	254	13.0	-14.2
Mining	189	165	226	14.5	-16.4
Oil & Gas Extraction	17	18	24	-5.6	-29.2
Construction	222	225	274	-1.3	-19.0
Manufacturing	116	124	111	-6.5	4.5
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	1,025	967	1,182	6.0	-13.3
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	346	335	425	3.3	-18.6
Wholesale Trade	86	79	118	8.9	-27.1
Retail Trade	145	149	189	-2.7	-23.3
Transp., Warehousing & Utilities	115	107	118	7.5	-2.5
Information	23	20	19	15.0	21.1
Financial Activities	36	28	41	28.6	-12.2
Prof. and Business Svcs.	71	74	105	-4.1	-32.4
Educational & Health Svcs.	233	226	280	3.1	-16.8
Leisure & Hospitality	252	207	241	21.7	4.6
Other Svcs., Exc. Public Admin.	64	77	71	-16.9	-9.9
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	598	541	671	10.5	-10.9
State Government	103	106	142	-2.8	-27.5
Local Government	495	435	529	13.8	-6.4
Local Education	109	103	101	5.8	7.9
UNCLASSIFIED	156	117	137	33.3	13.9

Table 4: Wyoming Workers' Compensation Continued Claims, 2010Q1

	Claims Filed			Percent Change Claims Filed	
	2010Q1	2009Q4	2009Q1	2010Q1 2009Q4	2010Q1 2009Q1
Wyoming Statewide					
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	**7,979**	**8,262**	**8,465**	**-3.4**	**-5.7**
Total Unique Claimants	**7,621**	**7,934**	**8,106**	**-3.9**	**-6.0**
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	2,391	2,512	2,691	-4.8	-11.1
Natural Res. & Mining	971	1,005	1,087	-3.4	-10.7
Mining	858	879	992	-2.4	-13.5
Oil & Gas Extraction	101	109	115	-7.3	-12.2
Construction	1,007	1,097	1,141	-8.2	-11.7
Manufacturing	413	410	463	0.7	-10.8
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	3,210	3,333	3,357	-3.7	-4.4
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	1,258	1,313	1,346	-4.2	-6.5
Wholesale Trade	259	270	296	-4.1	-12.5
Retail Trade	529	581	543	-9.0	-2.6
Transp., Warehousing & Utilities	470	462	507	1.7	-7.3
Information	54	56	58	-3.6	-6.9
Financial Activities	107	115	118	-7.0	-9.3
Prof. and Business Svcs.	285	308	313	-7.5	-8.9
Educational & Health Svcs.	695	661	639	5.1	8.8
Leisure & Hospitality	603	687	663	-12.2	-9.0
Other Svcs., Exc. Public Admin.	208	193	220	7.8	-5.5
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	1,427	1,465	1,402	-2.6	1.8
State Government	253	260	251	-2.7	0.8
Local Government	1,174	1,205	1,151	-2.6	2.0
Local Education	264	251	226	5.2	16.8
UNCLASSIFIED	951	952	1015	-0.1	-6.3

the number of continued claims are likely to be less volatile than changes in the number of initial claims.

Figure 1 (see page 13) demonstrates the change in both initial and continued claims from fourth quarter 2007 through third quarter 2010. The drop in initial claims starting in third quarter 2008 through second quarter 2009 may be correlated with a drop in overall employment levels in Wyoming.

Each of the four tables shown has a reference quarter, the quarter previous to the reference quarter, and the quarter one year previous to reference quarter. This allows a comparison of the changes in the number of claims over a short period. Each table includes both the count of claims and claimants. Tables 1 and 3 describe initial claims, while Tables 2 and 4 portray continued claims. For the most recent quarter available (second quarter 2010; Table 1), there were 2,245 people filing 2,273 claims. This represents a 2.7% and 2.3% decrease in claims from the previous quarter and the previous year, respectively. By comparison, the number of initial claims in first quarter 2010 increased 7.8% from the previous quarter and decreased 11.2% from the previous year (see Table 3). For continued claims (Tables 2 and 4), the change in number of claims was less volatile, as expected. For example, during second quarter 2010, the number of continued claims increased 1.1% from the previous quarter and decreased 3.0% from the prior year (see Table 2).

Workplace safety is important for many reasons, including the stability of the nation's health, social, and economic institutions. Wyoming's Workers' Compensation database is one of the most complete of any state in the country. Wyoming is one of only four states that have exclusive Workers' Compensation state insurance programs. North Dakota, Ohio, and Washington are the others (National Academy of Sciences).

Further research using these data could potentially yield substantial benefits without incurring additional data collection costs (Utterback and Schnorr, 2010).

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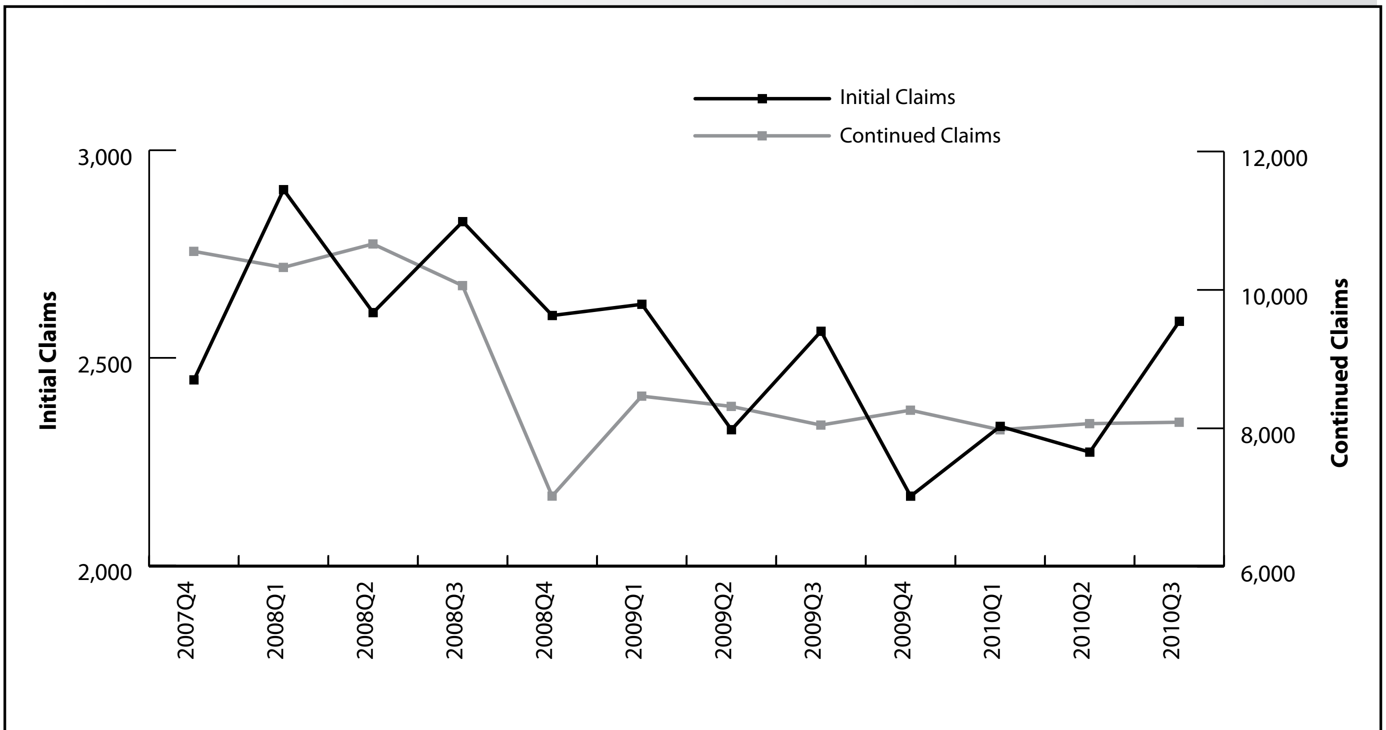

Figure 1: **Wyoming Workers' Compensation Claims, 2007Q4 to 2010Q3**

Recent Developments in Wyoming New Business Formation

by: Sherry Wen, Senior Economist

New business formation in Wyoming has been in decline for seven quarters, the longest period in the 16 years comparable data have been collected. From 2007 to 2009, only health care & social assistance continued an increase in the number of new firms. In 2009, this industry also became the third largest creator of jobs associated with new businesses and added the largest share of related wages among all industries.

New business formation represents new sources of jobs, wages, and tax revenues for the state and local communities. This research examines new businesses that opened and the jobs they created in Wyoming during the recession years 2008 and 2009, as well as the relationship between new business formation and the national and state business cycle. It also reviews the industries and locations of the new firms, and compares business survival rates by industry and location.

For purposes of this research, a *new business* is defined as a business that did not exist previously but now hires employees, and pays wages. New branches of existing firms or the reopening of firms after temporary closures are not considered new firms.

The figures shown in the report are summaries of statistical tables that can be found at http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/1110/toc.htm.

New Business Formation History and Business Cycle

With quarterly historical data available from the Department of Employment's Unemployment Insurance Tax Division, it is possible to examine the relationship between new business formation and the business cycle. In general, new business formation has a seasonal pattern with a larger number of new firms opening in the second and third quarter each year and smaller numbers in the first and fourth quarter (see Figure 1a, page 15). Over-the-year changes of new firm formation vary from quarter to quarter, with no obvious pattern (see Figure 1b, page 15). From 1995Q1 to 2010Q1, there were two national recessions: 2001Q1 to 2001Q4 and 2007Q4 to 2009Q2 (National Bureau of Economic Research, 2010). Wyoming's economy lagged the national downturn in both of these recession periods. For the first recession, Wyoming's economy started to experience a downturn after the nation's recession was already over. The state average employment saw near-zero rates of growth (between 0.2% and 0.7%) in 2002Q2 and the following five quarters (see Figure 1b). In the most recent recession, Wyoming lagged the national trend by five quarters, with a negative growth rate on average employment starting in 2009Q1 and continuing for five quarters thus far (2010Q1, the most recent available data). New business formation was in decline two quarters before the employment growth rate turned flat and declined in both of these recessions. This may indicate that business formation is more sensitive to some underlying economic factors than employmen. During the first recession, over-the-year growth of new business formation started to decline in 2001Q4 (-5.9%) and continued for two quarters, then had small growth (2.2%) in 2002Q2, followed by another two-quarter decline. During the recent recession, new business formation began to decline in 2008Q3 and has continued for seven quarters, including the most recent quarter for which data are available (2010Q1).

In addition to the two national recessions, Wyoming's new business formation had two other continuous periods of decline lasting four quarters: 1996Q2 to 1997Q1 and 1998Q4 to 1999Q3. During these two periods, Wyoming experienced slow employment growth of 0.7% and 1.0%, respectively (Gallagher 2006). This suggests that new business formation may be affected negatively when the state's economy slows, even if the national economy is not in recession.

Demographic Analysis of New Business Formation

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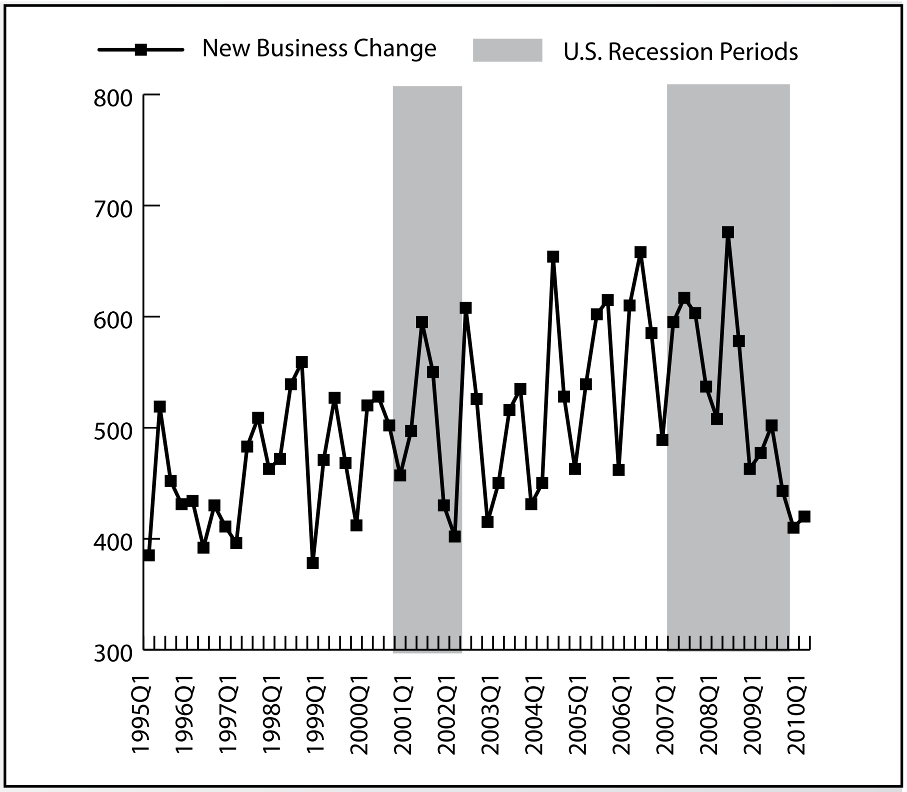

Figure 1a: **Wyoming New Business Formation, 1995Q1-2010Q1**

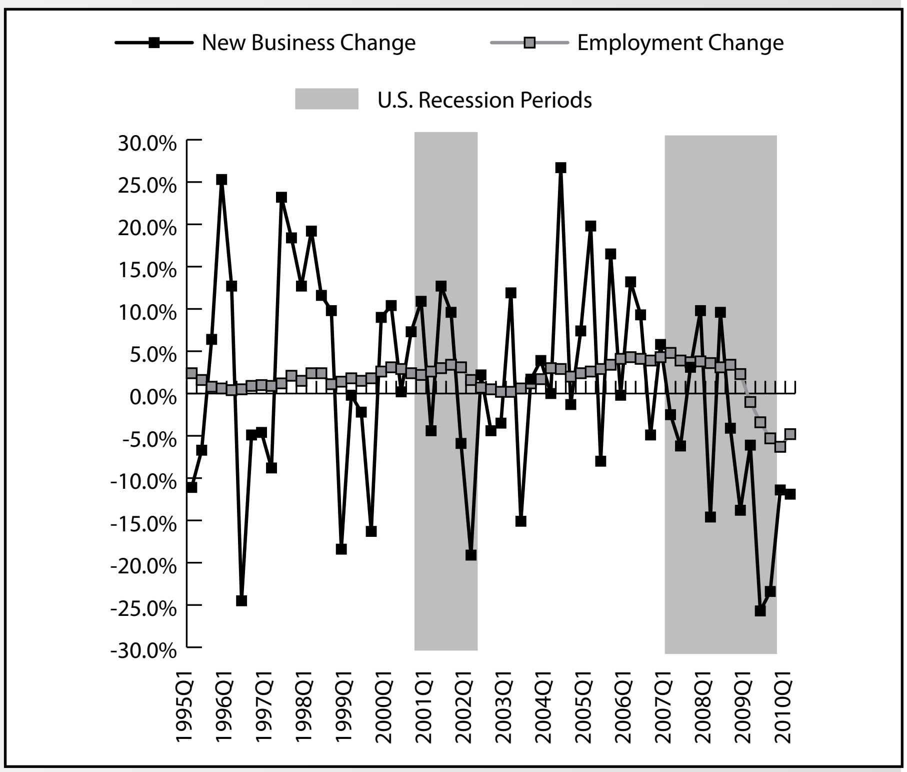

Figure 1b: **Over-the-Year Changes in New Business Formation and Employment in Wyoming, 1995Q1-2010Q1**

and still provide detailed demographic analysis, annual data was used in this research. The focus of this article is 2009 data; 2007 and 2008 data are included in the tables for comparison purposes. New business formation in Wyoming has grown every year since 2004 and peaked in 2007 with 2,352 new firms (see Figure 2). It started to decline in 2008 with 2,225 new firms. In 2009, the number dropped to 1,832 new firms, 520 (-22.1%) firms less than the peak year of 2007. The decline is not surprising, in light of the long national economic contraction and the sharp decline in annual average employment growth in the state in 2009 (-4.0%). A total of 6,588 jobs and $126.3 million in wages were due to new business formation in 2009, and accounted for 2.4% of state average employment and 1.1% total wages.

The formation rate (number of new firms divided by total firms) remained relatively stable over the past 14 years, ranging from 8.8% to 9.8% (see Figure 2). In 2009, it dropped to 7.3%, a record low. This low rate may reflect how the most recent recession has affected new business formation. Furthermore, the housing and financial crises may have limited borrowers' ability to get loans to start businesses.

Business Formation by Industry

From 2000 to 2009, some industries' formation rates fluctuated substantially

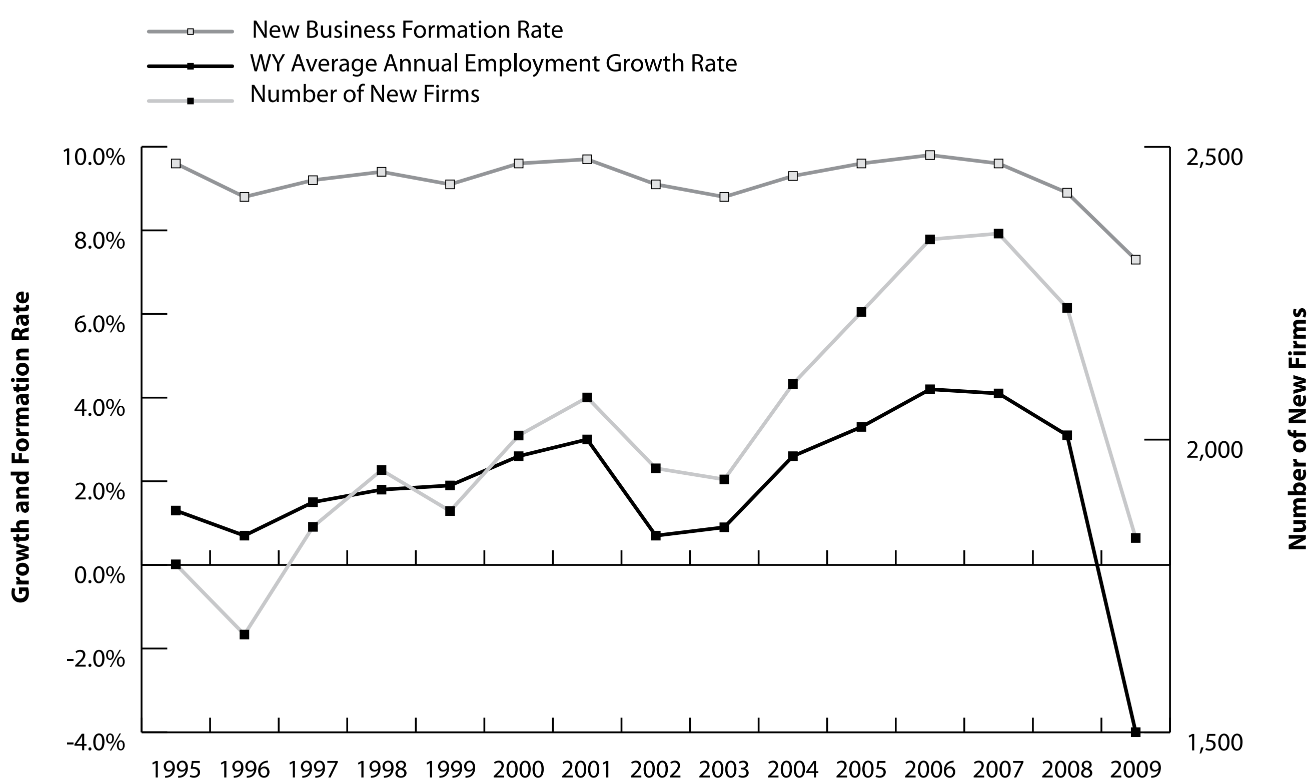

Figure 2: **Wyoming New Business Formation and Annual Average Employment Growth Rates, 1995-2009**

from year to year, such as mining (19.2% in 2001, compared to 5.8% in 2009), but a majority of the industries had relatively stable formation rates over that period. In general, educational services, administrative & waste services, and construction had higher business formation rates than other industries.

For the past nine years, the southwest region of Wyoming was the fastest growing region for new firms in the state (see Figure 3). New business formation continued to be highest in the southwest in 2009 with a total of 498 new firms added (27.2%). The southeast was second with 409 firms (22.3%), followed by the northeast, which gained 321 firms (17.5%). The central region expanded by 293 firms (16.0%), and the northwest by 249 (13.6%). All regions showed a significant decline in the number of new firms in 2009 compared with the previous two years. For example, the northwest region decreased 27.4% and the southwest was down 23.7% from 2007 levels. In general, initial jobs associated with new businesses were distributed similarly among regions. Of the 6,588 jobs created by new firms in 2009, 26.9% were in the southwest region; 19.2% were in the southeast; and the northeast had 17.9%. The central region was fourth in terms of the number of job gains (17.8%), but shared the second largest portion of new business-associated wages ($30.2 million, or 23.6%), following the southwest, which shared more than one-fourth (25.6% or $32.8 million). This suggests that the central region gained a larger proportion

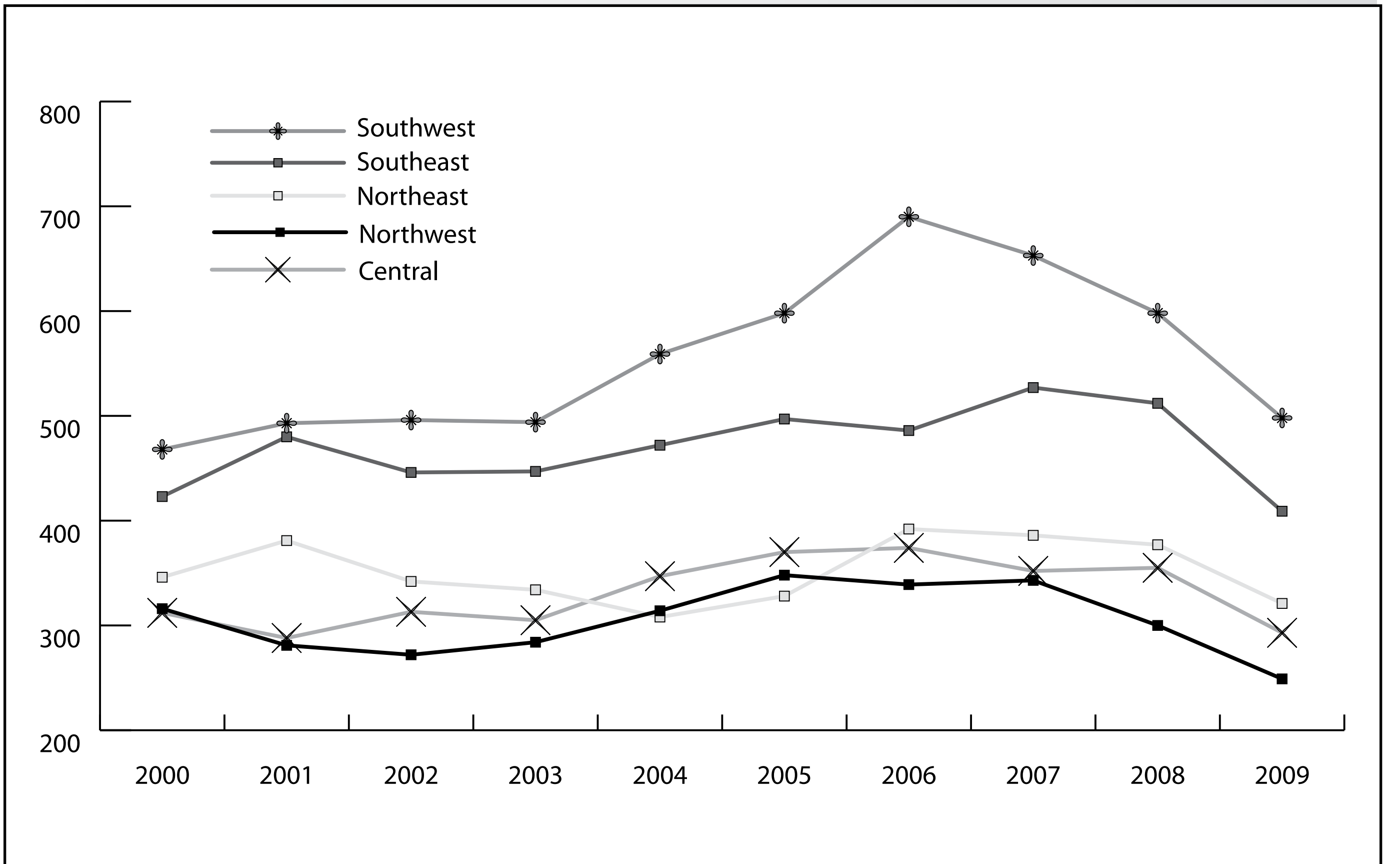

Figure 3: **Wyoming New Business Formation by Region, 2000-2009**

of high-paying jobs than other regions in 2009.

Laramie County added the most new firms (260) and associated jobs (832) of all counties in 2009. Natrona County was second, with 205 new firms and 783 related jobs. Teton County followed with 186 new firms and 565 jobs. However, Campbell County had the third highest number of associated jobs (667).

While Laramie County added more new firms and jobs than Natrona County, new firms in Natrona County contributed more new business-related wages, $22.8 million (17.8%). Laramie, Teton, and Campbell counties were second, third, and fourth, respectively, generating $15.2 million, $11.6 million, and $10.8 million in wages.

All but three counties in Wyoming had much slower paces in new business formation in 2009 than in 2007. The exceptions were Weston and Washakie counties, which had increases of 15.4% and 12.0%, respectively, while Converse County remained at the same level as in 2007.

Construction has led all industries in business formation for years (see Figure 4, page 19). In 2009, it again contributed the largest share of new businesses (400 new firms, or 21.0% of the state total); associated jobs (1,465 jobs, or 22.2%); and the second largest share in wages ($25.4 million, or 19.8%). However, construction business formation was much lower in 2009 than in the previous two years. Compared with the 2007 level, construction in 2009 had 214 fewer new firms (- 34.9%), 2,293 fewer associated jobs (- 61.0%), and $66.6 million less in wages (- 72.4%).

Professional & technical services had the second largest number of new firms with 237 (12.9%) in 2009, followed by administrative & waste services with 188 firms (10.3%). Accommodation & food services contributed the second largest number of jobs at 1,087 (16.5%).

Health care & social assistance was the only industry that showed continuous increases in the number of new firms from 2007 to 2009, regardless of economic expansion or contraction. In 2009, it brought in 151 new firms (32 more, or a 26.9% increase from 2007). This industry also led the state in wages related to new business in 2009, with $25.5 million (19.9% of the state total; more than triple its 2007 level, $8.4 million), and provided the third-largest number of jobs (880 or 13.4%; a 58.3% increase from 2007).

After peaking in 2006, new business formation in mining slowed in recent years. Only 66 new firms were created in 2009, a drop of 35.9% from 2007 (103 firms). The number of jobs created also dropped from 691 in 2007 to 322 in 2009 (-53.4%), while associated wages fell from $23.6 million to $11.4 million.

About half of the 4,057 new firms in 2008 and 2009 went to two regions in the state: the southwest (27.0%) and southeast (22.7%). However, the industry distribution by location was quite different. Natural resources, transportation conditions, geographic location, population, and special projects such as pipeline, wind farm construction, and highway construction are among the main factors that caused large, uneven industry distributions. Nearly

(Text continued on page 20)

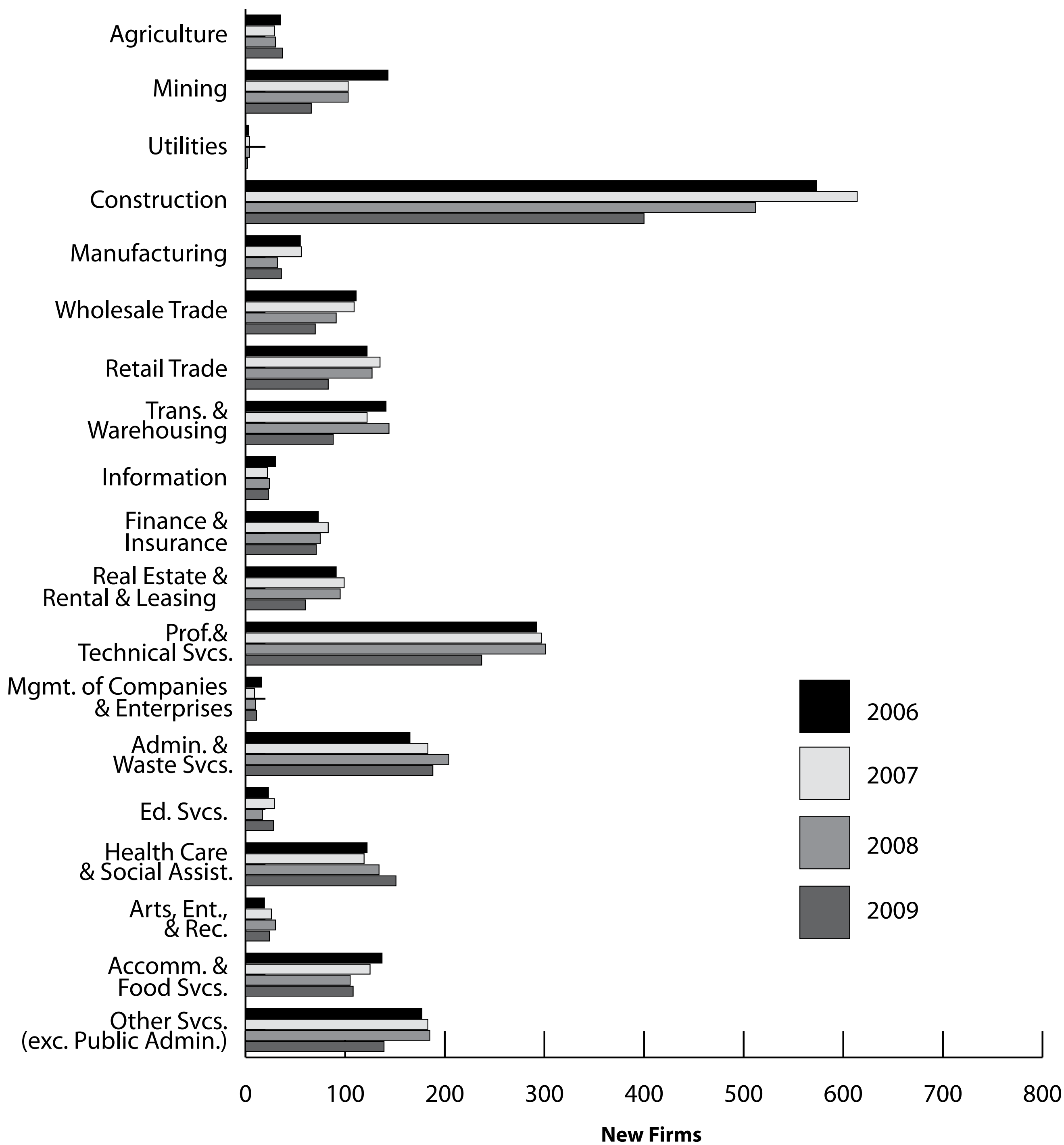

Figure 4: **Wyoming New Firms by Industry, 2006-2009 (Private Sector)**

(Text continued from page 18)

one-third (32.0%) of new mining firms were located in the southwest region and another 26.6% were located in the central region. Only 4.7% of mining firms opened in the southeast region. However, the southeast region had the largest share of new firms from industries not related to natural resources & mining, such as 37.8% in educational services, 32.7% in professional & technical services, 29.8% in information, 29.5% in finance & insurance, and 28.4% in health care & social assistance. As the fastest growth region in Wyoming, the southwest gained the largest share of new firms from a wide range of industries, not just mining. For example, the southwest region accounted for two-thirds of new utilities firms, and between 30% and 40% of new firms in real estate & rental & leasing, management, transportation & warehousing, and arts, entertainment, & recreation.

New Business Survival Rate

Analysis of new business formation also needs to include an examination of survival rates. Due to limited information on business transitions such as sale, merging, and dividing, we only consider firm survival relative to the original owners.

If a firm is still reporting its employment and wage information to the Department of Employment Tax Division one year after opening, it is considered to have survived one year. The one-year survival rate is the result of one year survivals divided by the total number of new firms established during that year. The same method is used to define survivals and survival rates of two, three, or more years.

Several factors could impact a firm's survivability, such as the supply and demand for a specific product or service the firm provides, competition from similar businesses, government policies, supply of required labor, and location. Information about the prospects of a business surviving in a given industry and location would help individuals who are planning to open businesses. It may also help the Wyoming Business Council and other public and private funding sources for new ventures to develop practical strategies that may ensure a greater return on investment when establishing a new firm.

Research shows that survival rates decrease as the years firms have been in business increase (see Figure 5, page 21). Statewide, over two-thirds (68.8%) of new firms survived 1 year after opening and more than one-third (34.0%) were still active after 5 years. Health care & social assistance was the only industry that had more than 80% of new firms still in business 1 year after opening. Firms in agriculture had the second highest 1-year survival rate (78.1%), followed by firms in real estate & rental & leasing with 76.6%. Construction showed the worst 1-year rate, with only 57.9% firms still active. This may directly relate to the large proportion of temporary projects such as roads, oil and gas pipelines, buildings, etc. For the long term (5 years or 10 years), firms in utilities had the highest survival rates, with over half

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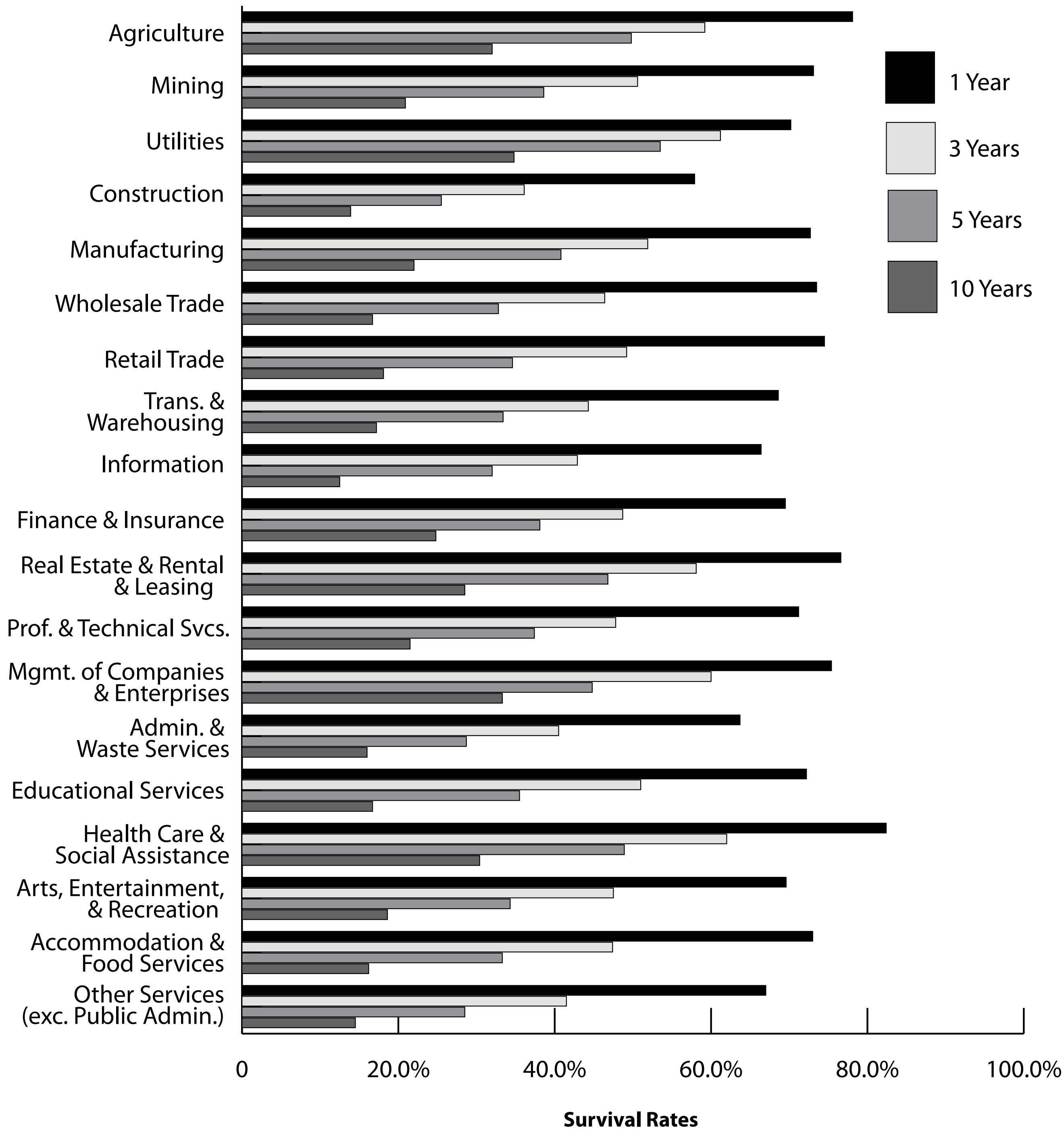

Figure 5: **Wyoming New Business Survival Rates By Industry (Private Sectors)**

(Text continued from page 20)

(53.5%) surviving 5 years and over one-third (34.8%) still active after 10 years in business.

Even in the same industry, a firm's likelihood of survival could vary largely by location. For example, 100% of firms in utilities survived one year in business in the northwest region, but only half survived one year in the central region. On the other hand, firms in agriculture in the central region showed a higher one-year survival rate (87.7%) than in all other regions. Some industries had very similar one-year survival rates in all five regions of the state; health care & social assistance had rates across all regions that ranged from 82.1% to 83.2%.

Would firms that opened during the most recent recession be less likely to survive because they faced a tough market for their products and services when they started? To answer this question, this research used new firms in 2008 as a cohort. These firms opened at the start of the national recession and went through part of Wyoming's economic downturn in 2009. More than half of the new firms in private industry sectors in 2008 had lower one-year survival rates than all firms since 1992Q4 (see Figure 6, page 23).

Firms in management had the largest difference, with only 50% of new firms in 2008 still active one year after, compared with the overall firms rate of 75.4%. There were no significant rate decreases in professional & technical services (71.1% compared to 71.2%) and health care & social assistance (82.1% compared to 82.4%). Surprisingly, seven other industry sectors showed higher one-year survival rates for 2008 than for firms overall. For example, all firms in utilities, 93.3% of firms in agriculture, and 81.3% of firms in wholesale were still active one year after their openings in 2008, compared with the overall rates of 70.2%, 78.1%, and 73.5%, respectively. This may suggest that some of the new firms were well prepared before entering this tough market. They may have developed or adopted new technologies to reduce costs or applied more efficient ways to operate their businesses.

Summary

This study shows that new business formation appeared more sensitive to some underlying economic factors than employment growth in Wyoming during the national recession periods. The current seven-quarters period of contraction in business formation is unlike any other period since new business formation data have been collected.

New business formation had been in decline since the third quarter 2008 and reached the third-lowest annual level in 2009 with 1,832 new firms. New firms boost the economy by creating jobs and wages, and may replace older, less efficient firms.

Regardless of economic conditions, health care & social assistance was the only industry that increased the number of new firms in the past three years. The southwest region remained the fastest growing in the state in 2009 with the largest share of new businesses, related jobs and wages.

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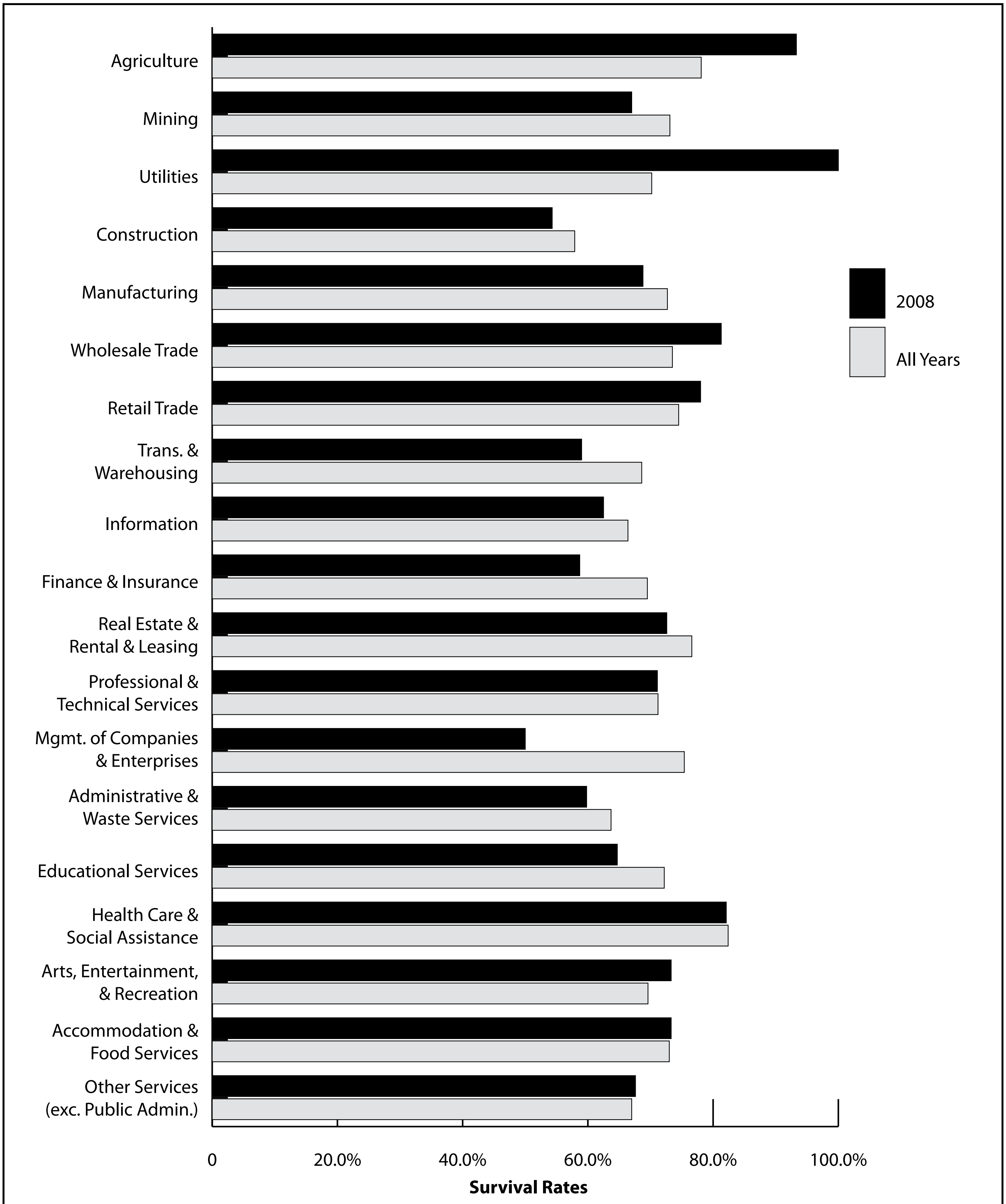

Figure 6: **Comparison of One-Year Survival Rates in Wyoming by Private Industry Sectors for the New Firms of 2008 and All Firms Since 1992Q4**

(Text continued from page 22)

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Modest Job Growth Continues in September 2010

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

The Research & Planning section of the Wyoming Department of Employment has reported that job growth continued in September as employment increased by 800 jobs (0.3%) from a year earlier. September was the third consecutive month of over-the-year job gains. The state's seasonally adjusted[1] unemployment rate stood at 6.8% in September, unchanged from August, but down from 7.3% a year earlier. Wyoming's unemployment rate remained significantly lower than the U.S. unemployment rate of 9.6%.

Over the year, Wyoming added 800 jobs (0.3%). Natural resources & mining (including oil & gas) gained 2,500 jobs (10.3%). Employment also increased in government (including public schools, colleges, & hospitals; 700 jobs, or 1.0%), wholesale trade (600 jobs, or 7.1%), educational & health services (500 jobs, or 2.0%), transportation & utilities (400 jobs, or 2.8%), and manufacturing (100 jobs, or 1.1%).

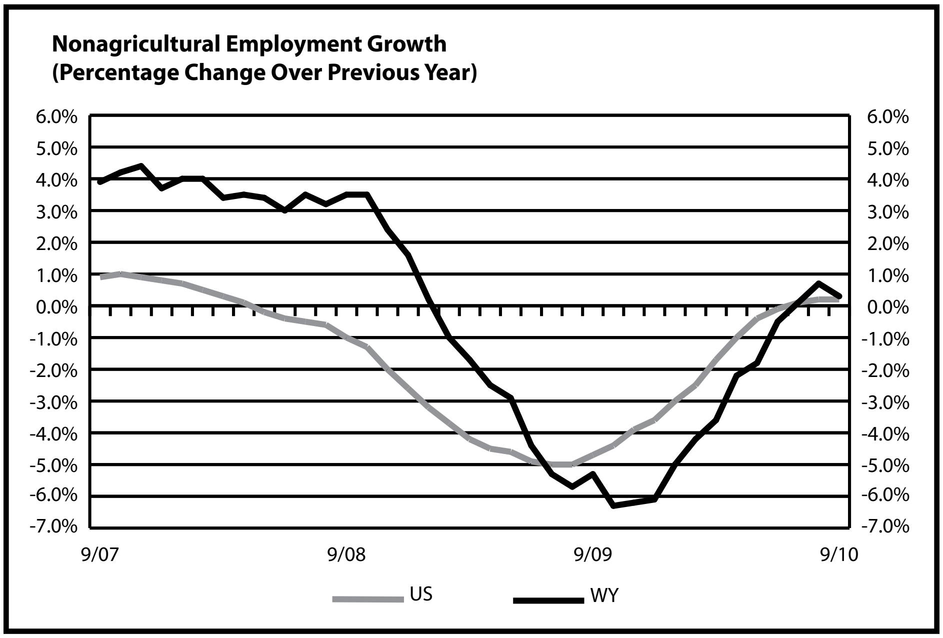
Job losses were seen in retail trade (-1,200 jobs, or -3.9%), construction (-1,000 jobs, or -4.0%), leisure & hospitality (-700 jobs, or -2.0%), and other services (-400 jobs, or -3.4%).

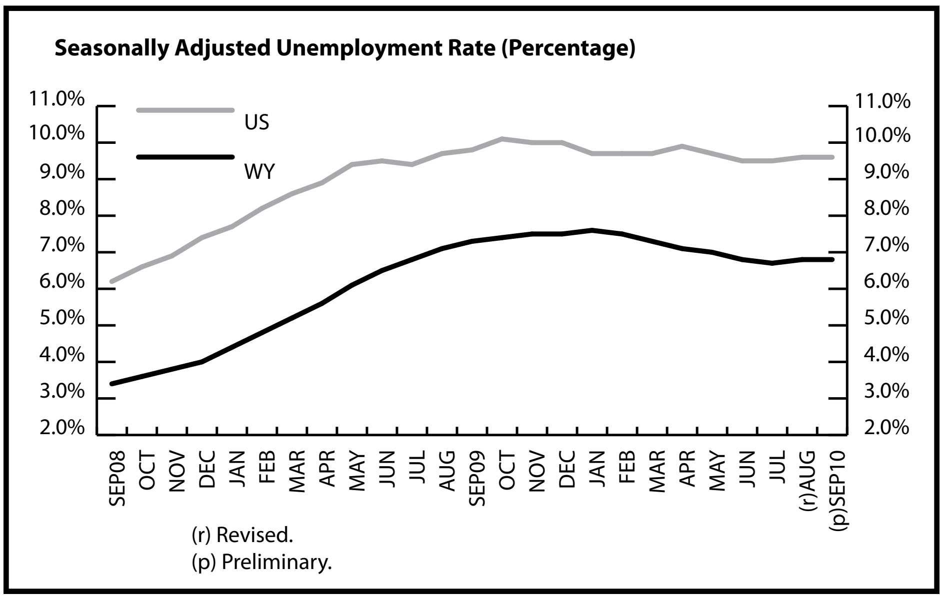
From August to September, employment rose by 1,200 jobs (0.4%). This level of increase is consistent with normal seasonal patterns. Seasonal job gains in government (6,700 jobs, or 10.0%) and natural resources & mining (300 jobs, or 1.1%) were partially offset by seasonal job losses in leisure & hospitality (-3,100 jobs, or -8.1%), professional & business services (-1,200 jobs, or -6.6%), retail trade (-800 jobs, or -2.6%), and construction (-400 jobs, or -1.6%). Seasonal job growth in government was related to the start of the fall semester at public schools and colleges.

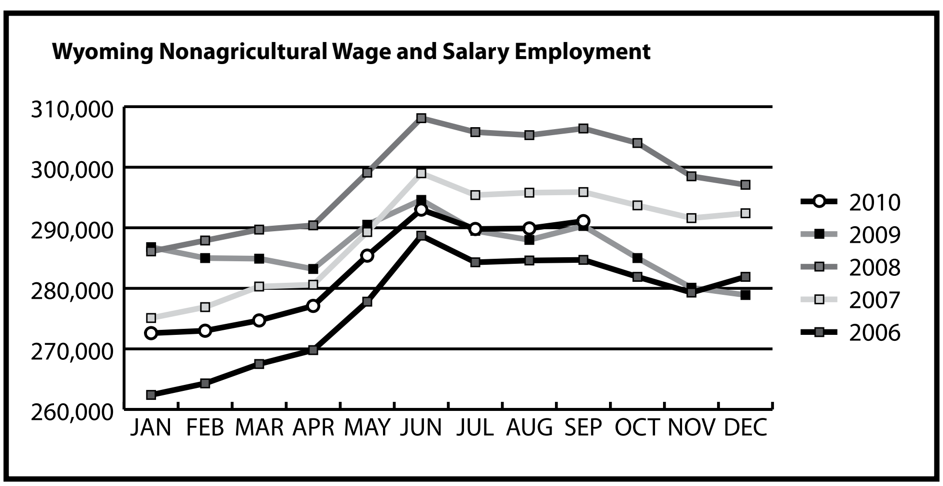
Across Wyoming's 23 counties, most unemployment rates followed their normal seasonal pattern and decreased slightly from August to September. The highest unemployment rates were found in Lincoln (7.6%) and Big Horn and Fremont counties (both 7.1%). Sublette County posted the lowest unemployment rate (3.7%), followed by Albany (4.4%) and Crook (4.6%) counties.

R & P

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







State Unemployment Rates September 2010 (Seasonally Adjusted)

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	16.0
Nevada	14.4
Michigan	13.0
California	12.4
Florida	11.9
Rhode Island	11.5
South Carolina	11.0
Oregon	10.6
Indiana	10.1
Kentucky	10.1
Georgia	10.0
Ohio	10.0
Illinois	9.9
District of Columbia	9.8
Mississippi	9.8
Arizona	9.7
North Carolina	9.6
United States	**9.6**
New Jersey	9.4
Tennessee	9.4
Missouri	9.3
West Virginia	9.2
Connecticut	9.1
Idaho	9.0
Pennsylvania	9.0
Washington	9.0
Alabama	8.9
Delaware	8.4
Massachusetts	8.4
New York	8.3
Colorado	8.2
New Mexico	8.2
Texas	8.1
Alaska	7.8
Louisiana	7.8
Wisconsin	7.8
Arkansas	7.7
Maine	7.7
Maryland	7.5
Utah	7.5
Montana	7.4
Minnesota	7.0
Oklahoma	6.9
Iowa	6.8
Virginia	6.8
Wyoming	**6.8**
Kansas	6.6
Hawaii	6.3
Vermont	5.8
New Hampshire	5.5
Nebraska	4.6
South Dakota	4.4
North Dakota	3.7

Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

by: David Bullard, Senior Economist

Compared to a year earlier, natural resources & mining (including oil & gas) gained 2,500 jobs (10.3%).

	Employment in Thousands			% Change Total Employment	
	Sep 10(p)	Aug 10(r)	Sep 09	Aug 10 Sep 10	Sep 09 Sep 10
WYOMING STATEWIDE					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	**291.1**	**289.9**	**290.3**	**0.4**	**0.3**
TOTAL PRIVATE	**217.7**	**223.2**	**217.6**	**-2.5**	**0.0**
GOODS PRODUCING	**60.1**	**60.2**	**58.5**	**-0.2**	**2.7**
Natural Resources & Mining	26.7	26.4	24.2	1.1	10.3
Mining	26.5	26.2	24.2	1.1	9.5
Oil & Gas Extraction	4.3	4.3	4.1	0.0	4.9
Mining Except Oil & Gas	9.7	9.8	9.6	-1.0	1.0
Coal Mining	7.0	7.0	7.0	0.0	0.0
Support Activities for Mining	12.5	12.1	10.5	3.3	19.0
Support Act. for Oil & Gas	8.5	8.3	8.1	2.4	4.9
Construction	24.1	24.5	25.1	-1.6	-4.0
Construction of Buildings	3.9	4.1	4.4	-4.9	-11.4
Heavy & Engineering Constr.	7.9	7.8	8.1	1.3	-2.5
Specialty Trade Contractors	12.3	12.6	12.6	-2.4	-2.4
Manufacturing	9.3	9.3	9.2	0.0	1.1
Durable Goods	4.7	4.8	4.6	-2.1	2.2
Nondurable Goods	4.6	4.5	4.6	2.2	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	**231.0**	**229.7**	**231.8**	**0.6**	**-0.3**
Trade, Trans., Warehousing, & Util.	53.4	54.3	53.6	-1.7	-0.4
Wholesale Trade	9.1	9.1	8.5	0.0	7.1
Merch. Wholesalers, Durable	5.3	5.3	5.4	0.0	-1.9
Retail Trade	29.8	30.6	31.0	-2.6	-3.9
Motor Vehicle & Parts Dealers	4.0	4.1	4.2	-2.4	-4.8
Food & Beverage Stores	4.6	4.7	4.7	-2.1	-2.1
Grocery Stores	4.0	4.0	4.0	0.0	0.0
Gasoline Stations	3.7	3.8	4.0	-2.6	-7.5
General Merchandise Stores	6.6	6.7	7.0	-1.5	-5.7
Miscellaneous Store Retailers	1.8	1.9	1.8	-5.3	0.0
Trans., Warehousing, & Utilities	14.5	14.6	14.1	-0.7	2.8
Utilities	2.5	2.4	2.5	4.2	0.0
Transp. & Warehousing	12.0	12.2	11.6	-1.6	3.4
Truck Transportation	3.9	3.9	3.9	0.0	0.0
Information	3.8	3.9	3.9	-2.6	-2.6
Financial Activities	10.8	10.9	11.1	-0.9	-2.7
Finance & Insurance	6.8	6.9	7.0	-1.4	-2.9
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	4.0	4.0	4.1	0.0	-2.4
Professional & Business Services	17.1	18.3	17.4	-6.6	-1.7
Prof., Scientific, & Tech. Services	8.9	9.3	9.1	-4.3	-2.2
Architect., Engineering, & Rel.	2.8	2.9	2.7	-3.4	3.7
Mgmt. of Co.s & Enterprises	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.0	14.3
Admin., Support, & Waste Svcs.	7.4	8.2	7.6	-9.8	-2.6
Educational & Health Services	26.1	26.2	25.6	-0.4	2.0
Educational Services	2.8	2.9	2.7	-3.4	3.7
Health Care & Social Assistance	23.3	23.3	22.9	0.0	1.7
Ambulatory Health Care	8.6	8.7	8.5	-1.1	1.2
Offices of Physicians	3.1	3.2	3.1	-3.1	0.0
Hospitals	3.3	3.3	3.3	0.0	0.0
Nursing & Res. Care Facilities	4.6	4.6	4.5	0.0	2.2
Social Assistance	6.8	6.7	6.6	1.5	3.0
Leisure & Hospitality	35.1	38.2	35.8	-8.1	-2.0
Arts, Entertainment, & Rec.	3.2	3.5	3.3	-8.6	-3.0
Accommodation & Food Svcs.	31.9	34.7	32.5	-8.1	-1.8
Accommodation	12.6	14.5	12.9	-13.1	-2.3
Food Svcs. & Drinking Places	19.3	20.2	19.6	-4.5	-1.5
Other Services	11.3	11.2	11.7	0.9	-3.4
Repair & Maintenance	3.8	3.8	3.7	0.0	2.7
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	**73.4**	**66.7**	**72.7**	**10.0**	**1.0**
Federal Government	8.0	8.3	8.1	-3.6	-1.2
State Government	17.2	15.8	16.8	8.9	2.4
State Government Education	7.7	6.1	7.4	26.2	4.1
Local Government	48.2	42.6	47.8	13.1	0.8
Local Government Education	24.1	17.4	24.2	38.5	-0.4
Hospitals	6.7	6.8	6.7	-1.5	0.0

	Employment in Thousands			% Change Total Employment	
	Sep 10(p)	Aug 10(r)	Sep 09	Aug 10 Sep 10	Sep 09 Sep 10
LARAMIE COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	**43.6**	**43.6**	**44.4**	**0.0**	**-1.8**
TOTAL PRIVATE	**29.7**	**30.2**	**30.4**	**-1.7**	**-2.3**
GOODS PRODUCING	**4.3**	**4.3**	**4.7**	**0.0**	**-8.5**
Natural Res., Mining, & Const.	2.9	2.9	3.2	0.0	-9.4
Manufacturing	1.4	1.4	1.5	0.0	-6.7
SERVICE PROVIDING	**39.3**	**39.3**	**39.7**	**0.0**	**-1.0**
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	9.0	9.2	9.1	-2.2	-1.1
Wholesale Trade	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.0
Retail Trade	5.2	5.3	5.3	-1.9	-1.9
Trans., Warehousing, & Utilities	3.0	3.1	3.0	-3.2	0.0
Information	1.1	1.1	1.1	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	2.2	2.2	2.2	0.0	0.0
Professional & Business Services	3.2	3.3	3.2	-3.0	0.0
Educational & Health Services	4.0	4.0	4.0	0.0	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality	4.3	4.5	4.5	-4.4	-4.4
Other Services	1.6	1.6	1.6	0.0	0.0
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	**13.9**	**13.4**	**14.0**	**3.7**	**-0.7**
Federal Government	2.6	2.7	2.7	-3.7	-3.7
State Government	4.0	4.1	4.1	-2.4	-2.4
Local Government	7.3	6.6	7.2	10.6	1.4
Local Education	3.8	3.2	3.7	18.8	2.7
NATRONA COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	**38.6**	**38.0**	**38.4**	**1.6**	**0.5**
TOTAL PRIVATE	**32.5**	**32.6**	**32.3**	**-0.3**	**0.6**
GOODS PRODUCING	**7.4**	**7.3**	**7.1**	**1.4**	**4.2**
Natural Resources & Mining	3.1	3.1	2.7	0.0	14.8
Construction	2.7	2.7	2.8	0.0	-3.6
Manufacturing	1.6	1.5	1.6	6.7	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	**31.2**	**30.7**	**31.3**	**1.6**	**-0.3**
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	8.3	8.3	8.5	0.0	-2.4
Wholesale Trade	2.3	2.3	2.3	0.0	0.0
Retail Trade	4.9	4.9	5.1	0.0	-3.9
Trans., Warehousing, & Utilities	1.1	1.1	1.1	0.0	0.0
Information	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	1.9	1.9	1.9	0.0	0.0
Professional & Business Services	2.7	2.8	2.7	-3.6	0.0
Educational & Health Services	5.7	5.7	5.5	0.0	3.6
Leisure & Hospitality	4.0	4.1	4.1	-2.4	-2.4
Other Services	2.0	2.0	2.0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	**6.1**	**5.4**	**6.1**	**13.0**	**0.0**
Federal Government	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
State Government	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
Local Government	4.7	4.0	4.7	17.5	0.0
Local Education	3.1	2.3	3.1	34.8	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 that includes the 12th of the month. Self-employed, domestic services, and personnel of the armed forces are excluded. Data are not seasonally adjusted. Data for Wyoming, Laramie County, and Natrona County are published in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics.
(p) Preliminary. (r) Revised.

Wyoming Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

(Continued)

	Employment in Thousands			% Change Total Employment	
	Sep 10	Aug 10	Sep 09	Aug 10 Sep 10	Sep 09 Sep 10
CAMPBELL COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	**28.8**	**28.5**	**29.4**	**1.1**	**-2.0**
TOTAL PRIVATE	**24.4**	**24.9**	**25.1**	**-2.0**	**-2.8**
GOODS PRODUCING	**12.4**	**12.6**	**12.7**	**-1.6**	**-2.4**
Natural Resources & Mining	8.2	8.3	7.8	-1.2	5.1
Construction	3.7	3.8	4.3	-2.6	-14.0
Manufacturing	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.0	-16.7
SERVICE PROVIDING	**16.4**	**15.9**	**16.7**	**3.1**	**-1.8**
Trade, Transport., & Utilities	5.5	5.6	5.5	-1.8	0.0
Information	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
Professional & Bus. Services	1.7	1.8	1.9	-5.6	-10.5
Educational & Health Serv.	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality	2.0	2.1	2.1	-4.8	-4.8
Other Services	0.9	0.9	1.0	0.0	-10.0
GOVERNMENT	**4.4**	**3.6**	**4.3**	**22.2**	**2.3**

	Employment in Thousands			% Change Total Employment	
	Sep 10	Aug 10	Sep 09	Aug 10 Sep 10	Sep 09 Sep 10
SWEETWATER COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	**23.8**	**23.7**	**24.1**	**0.4**	**-1.2**
TOTAL PRIVATE	**19.0**	**19.2**	**19.4**	**-1.0**	**-2.1**
GOODS PRODUCING	**8.1**	**8.1**	**8.0**	**0.0**	**1.3**
Natural Resources & Mining	4.9	5.0	5.0	-2.0	-2.0
Construction	1.9	1.8	1.7	5.6	11.8
Manufacturing	1.3	1.3	1.3	0.0	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	**15.7**	**15.6**	**16.1**	**0.6**	**-2.5**
Trade, Transport., & Utilities	4.7	4.8	5.0	-2.1	-6.0
Information	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.0	12.5
Professional & Bus. Services	1.1	1.1	1.0	0.0	10.0
Educational & Health Serv.	1.0	1.0	1.1	0.0	-9.1
Leisure & Hospitality	2.2	2.3	2.5	-4.3	-12.0
Other Services	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.0
GOVERNMENT	**4.8**	**4.5**	**4.7**	**6.7**	**2.1**

	Employment in Thousands			% Change Total Employment	
	Sep 10	Aug 10	Sep 09	Aug 10 Sep 10	Sep 09 Sep 10
TETON COUNTY					
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	**18.1**	**19.5**	**19.0**	**-7.2**	**-4.7**
TOTAL PRIVATE	**15.7**	**17.3**	**16.6**	**-9.2**	**-5.4**
GOODS PRODUCING	**1.8**	**1.9**	**2.3**	**-5.3**	**-21.7**
Nat. Res., Mining & Const.	1.6	1.7	2.1	-5.9	-23.8
Manufacturing	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
SERVICE PROVIDING	**16.3**	**17.6**	**16.7**	**-7.4**	**-2.4**
Trade, Transport., & Utilities	2.4	2.5	2.5	-4.0	-4.0
Information	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.0	-11.1
Professional & Bus. Services	1.6	1.7	1.7	-5.9	-5.9
Educational & Health Serv.	1.0	1.1	0.9	-9.1	11.1
Leisure & Hospitality	7.4	8.6	7.6	-14.0	-2.6
Other Services	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.0
GOVERNMENT	**2.4**	**2.2**	**2.4**	**9.1**	**0.0**

State Unemployment Rates September 2010 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

State	Unemp. Rate
Puerto Rico	16.3
Nevada	14.5
Michigan	12.3
California	12.2
Florida	12.0
South Carolina	10.7
Rhode Island	10.6
Georgia	10.0
Oregon	9.9
Kentucky	9.8
Arizona	9.7
Mississippi	9.6
Ohio	9.6
District of Columbia	9.5
Illinois	9.5
Indiana	9.5
Tennessee	9.2
United States	**9.2**
Alabama	9.1
North Carolina	9.1
Missouri	9.0
New Jersey	8.9
Connecticut	8.8
Washington	8.6
West Virginia	8.6
Delaware	8.3
Idaho	8.3
Pennsylvania	8.1
Colorado	8.0
Massachusetts	8.0
New Mexico	8.0
New York	8.0
Texas	7.9
Louisiana	7.8
Arkansas	7.4
Alaska	7.3
Maryland	7.3
Utah	7.1
Wisconsin	7.0
Kansas	6.7
Minnesota	6.7
Maine	6.5
Montana	6.5
Oklahoma	6.5
Virginia	6.5
Hawaii	6.3
Iowa	6.3
Wyoming	**6.2**
Vermont	5.3
New Hampshire	5.1
Nebraska	4.5
South Dakota	4.0
North Dakota	3.0

Economic Indicators

by: Margaret Hiatt, Administrative/Survey Support Specialist

The number of unemployed people in Wyoming decreased by 8.3% from September 2009 to September 2010.

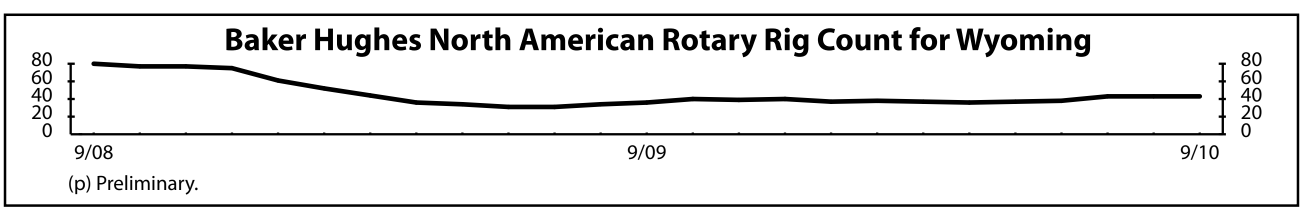
	Sep 2010 (p)	Aug 2010 (r)	Sep 2009 (b)	Percent Change Month	Percent Change Year
Wyoming Total Civilian Labor Force[1]	**293,615**	**295,040**	**294,574**	**-0.5**	**-0.3**
Unemployed	18,075	18,949	19,706	-4.6	-8.3
Employed	275,540	276,091	274,868	-0.2	0.2
Wyoming Unemployment Rate/Seas. Adj.	6.2%/6.8%	6.4%/6.8%	6.7%/7.3%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Unemployment Rate/Seas. Adj.	9.2%/9.6%	9.5%/9.6%	9.5%/9.8%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Multiple Jobholders	6,681,000	6,515,000	7,098,000	2.5	-5.9
As a percent of all workers	4.8%	4.7%	5.1%	N/A	N/A
U.S. Discouraged Workers	1,209,000	1,110,000	706,000	8.9	71.2
U.S. Part Time for Economic Reasons	8,628,000	8,628,000	8,255,000	0.0	4.5
Hours & Earnings for Production Workers					
Wyoming Manufacturing Hours & Earnings					
Average Weekly Earnings	$833.81	$829.37	$844.83	0.5	-1.3
Average Weekly Hours	39.8	40.3	40.5	-1.2	-1.7
U.S. Manufacturing Hours & Earnings					
Average Weekly Earnings	$771.48	$765.70	$737.20	0.8	4.7
Average Weekly Hours	41.3	41.3	40.0	0.0	3.2
Wyoming Unemployment Insurance					
Weeks Compensated	18,524	24,040	37,687	-22.9	-50.8
Benefits Paid	$6,103,667	$7,921,332	$13,341,108	-22.9	-54.2
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$329.50	$329.51	$354.00	0.0	-6.9
State Insured Covered Jobs[1]	269,869	268,875	267,700	0.4	0.8
Insured Unemployment Rate	2.0%	2.3%	2.6%	N/A	N/A
Consumer Price Index (U) for All U.S. Urban Consumers					
(1982 to 1984 = 100)					
All Items	218.4	218.3	216.0	0.1	1.1
Food & Beverages	220.6	219.9	217.6	0.3	1.4
Housing	216.6	217.0	217.2	-0.2	-0.3
Apparel	121.0	116.7	122.5	3.7	-1.2
Transportation	192.4	193.5	183.9	-0.5	4.6
Medical Care	390.6	388.5	377.7	0.6	3.4
Recreation (Dec. 1997=100)	113.1	113.5	114.6	-0.4	-1.3
Education & Communication (Dec. 1997=100)	131.2	130.6	129.0	0.4	1.6
Other Goods & Services	383.7	383.7	374.2	0.0	2.5
Producer Prices (1982 to 1984 = 100)					
All Commodities	185.1	184.5	174.1	0.3	6.3
Wyo. Bldg. Permits (New Privately Owned Housing Units Authorized)					
Total Units	134	108	146	24.1	-8.2
Valuation	$27,028,000	$29,760,000	$34,400,000	-9.2	-21.4
Single Family Homes	106	91	122	16.5	-13.1
Valuation	$24,694,000	$28,686,000	$28,541,000	-13.9	-13.5
Casper MSA[2] Building Permits	16	27	16	-40.7	0.0
Valuation	$2,533,000	$3,237,000	$2,026,000	-21.7	25.0
Cheyenne MSA Building Permits	36	13	15	176.9	140.0
Valuation	$4,105,000	$2,095,000	$1,707,000	95.9	140.5
Baker Hughes North American Rotary Rig Count for Wyoming	43	43	36	0.0	19.4

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

[1]Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program estimates.

[2]Metropolitan Statistical Area.

Note: Hours and earnings data for mining have been dropped from the Economic Indicators page as data for Wyoming mining are no longer available.



(p) Preliminary.

Wyoming County Unemployment Rates

by: Carola Cowan, BLS Programs Supervisor

Most county unemployment rates followed their normal seasonal patterns and decreased slightly from August to September.

	Labor Force			Employed			Unemployed			Unemployment Rates		
REGION County	Sep 2010 (p)	Aug 2010 (r)	Sep 2009 (b)	Sep 2010 (p)	Aug 2010 (r)	Sep 2009 (b)	Sep 2010 (p)	Aug 2010 (r)	Sep 2009 (b)	Sep 2010 (p)	Aug 2010 (r)	Sep 2009 (b)
NORTHWEST	**46,050**	**46,821**	**46,060**	**43,107**	**43,714**	**42,883**	**2,943**	**3,107**	**3,177**	**6.4**	**6.6**	**6.9**
Big Horn	5,048	5,009	5,111	4,689	4,652	4,680	359	357	431	7.1	7.1	8.4
Fremont	18,969	18,845	18,939	17,631	17,399	17,452	1,338	1,446	1,487	7.1	7.7	7.9
Hot Springs	2,515	2,539	2,489	2,390	2,409	2,335	125	130	154	5.0	5.1	6.2
Park	15,246	16,148	15,235	14,363	15,237	14,398	883	911	837	5.8	5.6	5.5
Washakie	4,272	4,280	4,286	4,034	4,017	4,018	238	263	268	5.6	6.1	6.3
NORTHEAST	**54,409**	**54,328**	**54,837**	**51,328**	**51,096**	**51,315**	**3,081**	**3,232**	**3,522**	**5.7**	**5.9**	**6.4**
Campbell	27,704	27,592	28,015	26,307	26,116	26,310	1,397	1,476	1,705	5.0	5.3	6.1
Crook	3,519	3,521	3,519	3,357	3,345	3,331	162	176	188	4.6	5.0	5.3
Johnson	3,899	3,974	4,020	3,629	3,683	3,729	270	291	291	6.9	7.3	7.2
Sheridan	15,962	16,002	16,088	14,904	14,899	14,956	1,058	1,103	1,132	6.6	6.9	7.0
Weston	3,325	3,239	3,195	3,131	3,053	2,989	194	186	206	5.8	5.7	6.4
SOUTHWEST	**63,435**	**65,182**	**64,521**	**59,608**	**61,214**	**59,989**	**3,827**	**3,968**	**4,532**	**6.0**	**6.1**	**7.0**
Lincoln	8,228	8,276	8,296	7,601	7,625	7,680	627	651	616	7.6	7.9	7.4
Sublette	6,831	6,943	7,062	6,575	6,658	6,704	256	285	358	3.7	4.1	5.1
Sweetwater	22,985	23,307	23,384	21,575	21,794	21,537	1,410	1,513	1,847	6.1	6.5	7.9
Teton	14,054	15,299	14,406	13,222	14,519	13,593	832	780	813	5.9	5.1	5.6
Uinta	11,337	11,357	11,373	10,635	10,618	10,475	702	739	898	6.2	6.5	7.9
SOUTHEAST	**74,020**	**72,768**	**73,832**	**69,459**	**67,971**	**69,513**	**4,561**	**4,797**	**4,319**	**6.2**	**6.6**	**5.8**
Albany	19,473	17,877	19,659	18,617	16,942	18,867	856	935	792	4.4	5.2	4.0
Goshen	6,313	6,264	6,104	5,944	5,871	5,764	369	393	340	5.8	6.3	5.6
Laramie	42,734	43,202	42,747	39,727	40,092	39,888	3,007	3,110	2,859	7.0	7.2	6.7
Niobrara	1,302	1,293	1,277	1,239	1,224	1,217	63	69	60	4.8	5.3	4.7
Platte	4,198	4,132	4,045	3,932	3,842	3,777	266	290	268	6.3	7.0	6.6
CENTRAL	**55,700**	**55,939**	**55,324**	**52,038**	**52,097**	**51,167**	**3,662**	**3,842**	**4,157**	**6.6**	**6.9**	**7.5**
Carbon	7,943	7,999	7,808	7,425	7,474	7,234	518	525	574	6.5	6.6	7.4
Converse	7,553	7,571	7,454	7,162	7,149	6,990	391	422	464	5.2	5.6	6.2
Natrona	40,204	40,369	40,062	37,451	37,474	36,943	2,753	2,895	3,119	6.8	7.2	7.8
STATEWIDE	**293,615**	**295,040**	**294,574**	**275,540**	**276,091**	**274,868**	**18,075**	**18,949**	**19,706**	**6.2**	**6.4**	**6.7**
Statewide Seasonally Adjusted										6.8	6.8	7.3
U.S.										9.2	9.5	9.5
U.S. Seasonally Adjusted										9.6	9.6	9.8

Prepared in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Benchmarked 03/2010. Run Date 10/2010.

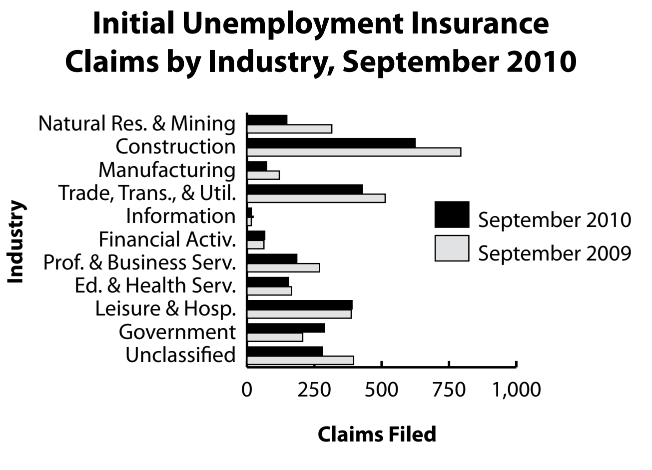
Data are not seasonally adjusted except where otherwise specified.

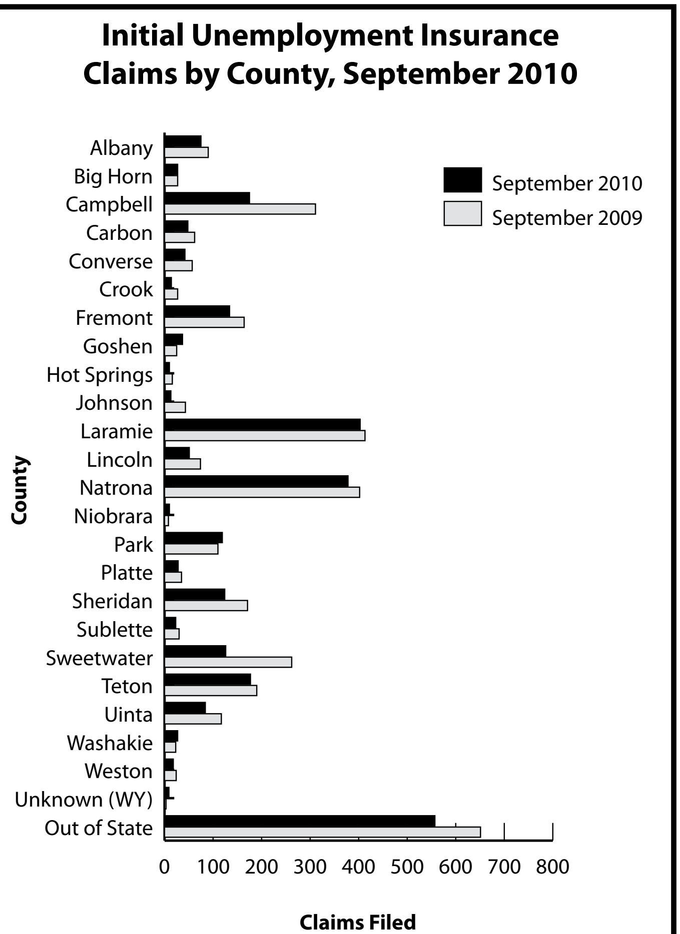
(p) Preliminary. (r) Revised. (b) Benchmarked.

Wyoming Normalized[a] Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Initial Claims

by: Douglas W. Leonard, Senior Economist

Statewide initial claims declined by 18.9% compared to last year and increased slightly (0.7%) over the month. Claims continued to be sharply lower over the year in many sectors.





Initial Claims

	Claims Filed Sep 10	Claims Filed Aug 10	Claims Filed Sep 09	Percent Change Claims Filed Sep 10 Aug 10	Percent Change Claims Filed Sep 10 Sep 09
Wyoming Statewide					
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	2,707	2,687	3,337	0.7	-18.9
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	845	844	1,229	0.1	-31.2
Natural Res. & Mining	148	173	315	-14.5	-53.0
Mining	140	154	302	-9.1	-53.6
Oil & Gas Extraction	16	8	22	100.0	-27.3
Construction	624	578	794	8.0	-21.4
Manufacturing	73	93	120	-21.5	-39.2
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	1,294	1,304	1,505	-0.8	-14.0
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	428	583	513	-26.6	-16.6
Wholesale Trade	108	162	77	-33.3	40.3
Retail Trade	239	346	285	-30.9	-16.1
Transp., Warehousing & Utilities	81	75	151	8.0	-46.4
Information	16	18	16	-11.1	0.0
Financial Activities	66	76	63	-13.2	4.8
Prof. and Business Svcs.	185	164	269	12.8	-31.2
Educational & Health Svcs.	154	173	165	-11.0	-6.7
Leisure & Hospitality	390	220	387	77.3	0.8
Other Svcs., exc. Public Admin.	55	70	92	-21.4	-40.2
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	288	277	207	4.0	39.1
Federal Government	158	116	70	36.2	125.7
State Government	29	26	19	11.5	52.6
Local Government	101	135	118	-25.2	-14.4
Local Education	27	52	34	-48.1	-20.6
UNCLASSIFIED	280	262	396	6.9	-29.3
Laramie County					
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	403	354	414	13.8	-2.7
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	144	102	157	41.2	-8.3
Construction	120	92	140	30.4	-14.3
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	178	191	212	-6.8	-16.0
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	62	70	73	-11.4	-15.1
Financial Activities	7	18	10	-61.1	-30.0
Prof. & Business Svcs.	33	33	45	0.0	-26.7
Educational & Health Svcs.	32	31	31	3.2	3.2
Leisure & Hospitality	32	26	35	23.1	-8.6
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	65	45	31	44.4	109.7
UNCLASSIFIED	16	16	14	0.0	14.3
Natrona County					
TOTAL CLAIMS FILED	377	462	401	-18.4	-6.0
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	121	78	133	55.1	-9.0
Construction	78	48	87	62.5	-10.3
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	225	341	238	-34.0	-5.5
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	115	227	80	-49.3	43.8
Financial Activities	9	10	10	-10.0	-10.0
Prof. & Business Svcs.	25	25	39	0.0	-35.9
Educational & Health Svcs.	24	34	29	-29.4	-17.2
Leisure & Hospitality	38	29	45	31.0	-15.6
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	26	34	17	-23.5	52.9
UNCLASSIFIED	5	9	13	-44.4	-61.5

[a]An average month is considered 4.33 weeks. If a month has four weeks, the normalization factor is 1.0825. If the month has five weeks, the normalization factor is 0.866. The number of raw claims is multiplied by the normalization factor to achieve the normalized claims counts.

Wyoming Normalized[a] Unemployment Insurance Statistics: Continued Claims

by: Douglas W. Leonard, Senior Economist

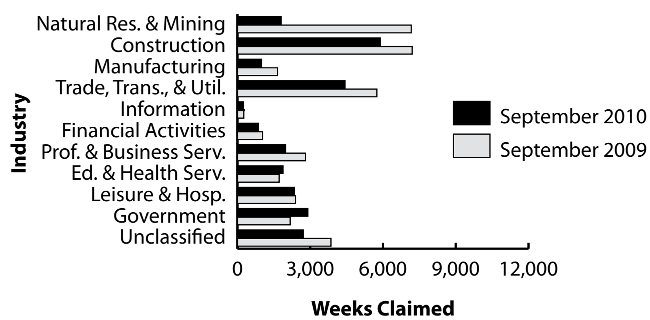
Although statewide continued claims declined compared to last year (-27.7%), the number of extended benefit weeks claimed continued to increase over the year (24.2%).

Continued Claims

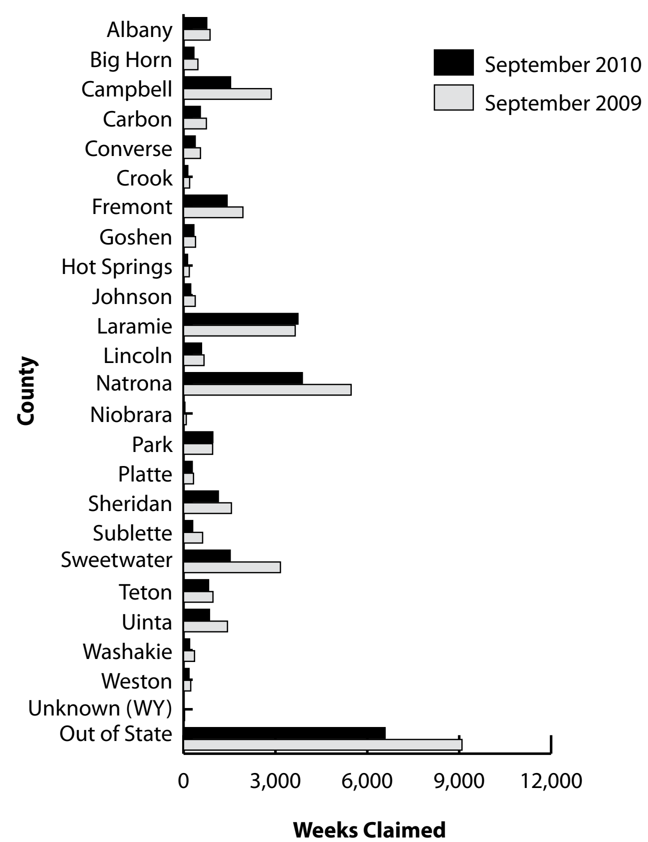
	Continued Weeks Claimed			Percent Change Weeks Claimed	
				Sep 10	Sep 10
	Sep 10	Aug 10	Sep 09	Aug 10	Sep 09
Wyoming Statewide					
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	**26,920**	**31,422**	**37,215**	**-14.3**	**-27.7**
EXTENDED WEEKS CLAIMED	**15,426**	**19,456**	**12,420**	**-20.7**	**24.2**
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS[b]	6,617	8,552	8,875	-22.6	-25.4
Benefit Exhaustions	1,064	1,204	1,249	-11.6	-14.8
Benefit Exhaustion Rates	16.1%	14.1%	14.1%	2.0%	2.0%
TOTAL GOODS-PRODUCING	8,677	10,170	16,016	-14.7	-45.8
Natural Res. & Mining	1,799	2,296	7,164	-21.6	-74.9
Mining	1,637	2,086	6,964	-21.5	-76.5
Oil & Gas Extraction	115	160	359	-28.1	-68.0
Construction	5,883	6,686	7,201	-12.0	-18.3
Manufacturing	995	1,188	1,651	-16.2	-39.7
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	12,632	14,723	15,172	-14.2	-16.7
Trade, Transp., & Utilities	4,433	4,942	5,748	-10.3	-22.9
Wholesale Trade	821	998	1,431	-17.7	-42.6
Retail Trade	2,766	3,071	2,733	-9.9	1.2
Transp., Warehousing & Utilities	846	873	1,584	-3.1	-46.6
Information	249	289	263	-13.8	-5.3
Financial Activities	860	973	1,035	-11.6	-16.9
Prof. & Business Services	1,989	2,280	2,812	-12.8	-29.3
Educational & Health Svcs.	1,878	2,400	1,718	-21.8	9.3
Leisure and Hospitality	2,341	2,740	2,395	-14.6	-2.3
Other Svcs., exc. Public Admin.	882	1,099	1,201	-19.7	-26.6
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	2,903	3,135	2,172	-7.4	33.7
Federal Government	1,085	1,014	478	7.0	127.0
State Government	326	350	382	-6.9	-14.7
Local Government	1,492	1,771	1,312	-15.8	13.7
Local Education	511	578	456	-11.6	12.1
UNCLASSIFIED	2,708	3,394	3,855	-20.2	-29.8
Laramie County					
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	**3,734**	**4,150**	**3,645**	**-10.0**	**2.4**
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	**928**	**1,146**	**897**	**-19.0**	**3.5**
Total Goods-Producing	876	903	964	-3.0	-9.1
Construction	728	735	689	-1.0	5.7
Total Service-Providing	2,172	2,495	2,198	-12.9	-1.2
Trade, Transp., and Utilities	758	889	824	-14.7	-8.0
Financial Activities	176	210	155	-16.2	13.5
Prof. & Business Svcs.	372	360	422	3.3	-11.8
Educational and Health Svcs.	389	503	356	-22.7	9.3
Leisure & Hospitality	256	303	268	-15.5	-4.5
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	582	603	329	-3.5	76.9
UNCLASSIFIED	104	149	154	-30.2	-32.5
Natrona County					
TOTAL WEEKS CLAIMED	**3,875**	**4,385**	**5,470**	**-11.6**	**-29.2**
TOTAL UNIQUE CLAIMANTS	**973**	**1,270**	**1,253**	**-23.4**	**-22.3**
Total Goods-Producing	1,024	1,265	2,320	-19.1	-55.9
Construction	532	641	681	-17.0	-21.9
TOTAL SERVICE-PROVIDING	2,482	2,788	2,837	-11.0	-12.5
Trade, Transp., and Utilities	965	1,061	1,145	-9.0	-15.7
Financial Activities	153	191	198	-19.9	-22.7
Professional & Business Svcs.	357	335	361	6.6	-1.1
Educational & Health Svcs.	394	489	281	-19.4	40.2
Leisure & Hospitality	415	467	347	-11.1	19.6
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	312	271	199	15.1	56.8
UNCLASSIFIED	57	61	114	-6.6	-50.0

[a]An average month is considered 4.33 weeks. If a month has four weeks, the normalization factor is 1.0825. If the month has five weeks, the normalization factor is 0.866. The number of raw claims is multiplied by the normalization factor to achieve the normalized claims counts.
[b]Does not included claimants receiving extended benefits.

Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by Industry, September 2010



Continued Unemployment Insurance Claims by County, September 2010



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